



Joy Community Church  
301 Summer Haven Ct.  
O'Fallon, MO 63368

# Joy Community Connections

January 2012



## Sr. Pastor

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## Church Phone

636-248-1557

## Church Website

www.joycommunity.com

## From The Pastor



In May of 1997, I met with a small core of eight Joy leaders in the basement of my home. We prayed, worshipped, and sought God's will for our very small congregation. At the time we had about 35 people in worship every Sunday. After a period of worship, I asked the question, "What business is the church in?" After prayer and much discussion, we concluded that we were in the business of helping people come into a relationship with Jesus and then helping people grow in that relationship. This concept was taken from Matthew 28:19, where right before Jesus ascended into heaven he said, "Go make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them everything that I have commanded." We recently shortened the phrase so that everyone could remember that we exist, "To connect our community to Christ". This became the mission statement of Joy.

The second item of business at that meeting in May of 1997, was to discuss how we saw ourselves achieving that mission. What kind of church was God calling us to be? We came up with a statement that included four elements. We called these elements 3 P's and an E. The first element was that of prayer. We wanted to be a church so rooted in prayer, that we would constantly hear the voice of God for Joy. We acknowledged that the battle to win souls for Christ was a battle that first and foremost waged on our knees. The second element was to be purpose driven. We wanted our mission to drive every aspect of our ministry. Everything that was to be done in the name of Joy was to be done for the purpose of connecting our community to Christ. The third element was being a church that celebrates the priesthood of all believers. This was a "Lutheran term" that meant that when God looks at us, he does not put some people in important ministries and other people in small ministries. He calls all of us equally, and he equips all of us equally to do the work of ministry so His kingdom is advanced. The final element was excellence. We believed that because God always deserves our very best, we would never use the phrase, "good enough". It was only "good enough" if it was our very best, because God deserves our best.

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## PASTOR'S ARTICLE

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I recently spent an extended time in prayer seeking God's will for 2012. I felt a very clear impression from God, that in 2012 we needed to refocus on this mission and this vision. It is almost as if God said, "I have not changed my mind about Joy Community Church, this is still who I am calling you to be."

I am not sure why I was surprised, but I must confess that I was. I guess I was looking for something fresh, new and exciting for the New Year. But clearly God's mission has not changed. Throughout the past 13 years there have been many changes at Joy. Changes in worship style, changes in staff, changes in ministry locations, changes in leadership, but the one thing that never changes is God's word and His mission for the church. We have had seasons of ministry where we have clearly focused on this mission and there have been other seasons where we have lost our passion for this mission and vision. 2012 is the time for your pastor and our partners to recommit to this mission and vision like never before. When we do this together, we will make a tremendous Kingdom impact in our community, and God will be glorified. Get ready, God is about to do a new thing through Joy as we focus on Him and his mission for our church in 2011. I am excited about the 2011 journey and I know the best is yet to come for all of us!

Wishing You God's Very Best,  
Rev. David Rispoli

## OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE



### H.O.P.E. FOOD PANTRY

January's focus item is diapers. They also have a big need for **paper** grocery bags. Bring your items to the altar with your offering during worship on H.O.P.E. Food Pantry Sunday, January 15th (the 3rd Sunday of the month). Let's fill the altar with our donations! You can also make donations of food anytime in the H.O.P.E. cart in the lobby. For more info contact Gayle Hampson.

### SOUTH AFRICA MISSION TRIP HERE'S HOW YOU CAN HELP:

Seven Joy partners are preparing to go on the mission trip to South Africa in February. There are three ways you can help support the trip.

1. Please pray for the folks going.
2. Please consider making a financial donation to the trip. We still need to raise \$5,000 to cover the cost. Donations can be given to Pastor Dave or Matt Cesare
3. Help us bring some supplies to the AIDS orphans! We are collecting crayons, markers, coloring books with out words, jump ropes, and **deflated** soccer balls or playground balls. Bring your items to church and place them in the donation box in the lobby any Sunday in January. See Patsy Cesare with questions.

### NURSERY HELP NEEDED

We have a big need for new volunteers to serve in the nursery just one Sunday every other month. This is a great ministry to parents who can hear the morning message without the distraction of their children. Please sign up in the lobby today! See Barb Chatman for more info.

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH AND KIDS

### JOY COMMUNITY TEENS (JCT) THE JUNCTION

**Sunday, January 8, 5:00-7:00pm**

Sunday Night Live at Pastor Dave's house.  
Topic to be announced. Dinner provided.

**Saturday, January 21**

Winter Jam! Cost will be \$10. More details to come. See Jill Carlson for details.

**Sunday, February 12, 5:00-7:00pm**

Sunday Night Live at Pastor Dave's house.  
Topic to be announced. Dinner provided.

**Sunday, February 26, 11:30am-3:00pm**

Sledding at Legacy Park in Cottleville

#### TEEN TALK:

Every Sunday our teens meet during the Sunday School hour at 9:00am for a discussion of current topics and Bible study. All are invited!

#### JCT BLOG:

And check out the youth blog at [youthofjoy.blogspot.com](http://youthofjoy.blogspot.com).

### CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

Calling all kids 3 years old through 5th grade! We are saving a seat for you in Sunday School. Please join us at 9am on Sunday mornings. We have singing, games, crafts and all while we learn about Jesus and how much he loves us.

#### Class Groups:

Juniors for Jesus: 3-5yr old - Tracy Schaff  
Jesus and Me: K-2nd grd - Debbie Lodge  
Life Lines: 3rd-5th grd - Jean Moorman

## WORSHIP WHEN YOU ARE NOT WITH US

### THREE WAYS TO WORSHIP WITH JOY THROUGH TECHNOLOGY

Worship attendance is very important to our Christian life, but sometimes we all have to miss a Sunday because we are out of town or because we are ill. Now you can join Joy's worship three different ways even when you can't be with us.

**BY PHONE:** "Joy Nation" conference call! The music may be hard to hear but the sermon comes through loud and clear. Simply dial 218-862-1300 and enter the conference code: 845612.

**BY RADIO:** Joy is on the radio Sunday mornings at 9:30am on 94.1FM. We have a 30 minute spot that will feature the previous week's message from Pastor Dave and an invitation to come to Joy. Share it with your friends!

**BY INTERNET:** Watch our live broadcast on [joycommunity.com](http://joycommunity.com). We will also have a link to past weeks broadcasts. Share it with your friends!

Share these resources with your friends and family too!

## FOCUS ON FASTING

Last year we started the year off with a focus on spiritual renewal through the spiritual disciplines of prayer and fasting. We are beginning this new year with the same focus as we strive to make 2012 a year of spiritual growth for all our Joy partners!

### Fasting:

You will have the opportunity to fast at any time through out January, but we will have a main fasting focus week Jan 29-Feb 5. Please pray about how God is challenging you to fast during this time. A packet of fasting information and resources will be given out on Sunday, January 15.

### Prayer:

- Wednesdays January 18, January 25, and February 5 we will meet at 6:00am at the school for a time of prayer with your other Joy partners. We will pray for our community, our church, and our partners.
- Watch for more info about a midweek prayer and worship service.

### Message Series:

January 15-February 5 we will have a series of Sunday morning messages on prayer and fasting

### Daily Devotions:

A packet of daily devotions will be given out on January 15th and available on our Joy website to help you read God's word and pray during our month of fasting and prayer.

## OPPORTUNITIES TO GET INVOLVED



### BRUNCH CLUB

January's Brunch Club will meet at Babylon Restaurant on Mid Rivers Mall Dr. in St. Peters right after worship on Sunday, January 15. They Have some food and fellowship with your Joy family! Everyone is welcome!

### ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

We will be holding our annual congregational meeting on Sunday, January 29 immediately after worship. We will have our 2011 year end financial report, ministry updates, and Pastor Dave will share our vision and direction for 2012.



### MEN'S MINISTRY BOWLING

All men are invited to go bowling on Saturday, January 21st. Details are to be announced. Mark your calendars and see Glenn Lodge or Bill Helt for more info.

### NEW PARTNER CLASS

Pastor Dave will be conducting a new partner class for anyone interested in learning more about Joy and becoming a partner. This is a two session class that meets from 9:00am-9:45am on Sundays, February 12 and 19. Please see Pastor Dave if you would like to participate or if you have any questions.

## OPPORTUNITIES TO LEARN AND GROW

### ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

We've saved you a seat in Sunday School! Please join us at 9:00am each Sunday. Whether you are a new Christian or have been one for years, there is room to grow in Sunday School. There are two different classes to choose from. Don't be shy, join a class today.

### BIBLE STUDY AND DISCUSSION

Pastor Paul Beahmann leads a discussion based study of the New Testament

### OUR DAILY BREAD

Cathy Rispoli and Don Telge lead a discussion group using the devotional Our Daily Bread.

### FREE BIBLES AVAILABLE

If you or someone you know needs a Bible, then please take one of the FREE yellow Bibles available each week in the lobby.

COMING SOON  
**40 DAYS IN THE WORD**  
FEBRUARY - MARCH 2012  
GET READY  
TO GET INTO THE BIBLE!

### BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

#### NEW: Wed Morning Bible Study

Pastor Rispoli will be starting a Wednesday morning Bible study on December 14th at 7:00am. It is open to men and women and will be meeting at Farmers Insurance on 240 Mid Rivers Center. The group will be going through the Gospel of Luke. Regardless of your experience with the Bible, this is going to be a great study for people desiring to learn more about Jesus and how he still moves in our lives today. Plan on joining us for this great time in God's word! For more information call Pastor Rispoli at 314-606-4272.

#### Young Adult Ministry Bible Study

The young adult ministry meets every week on Tuesday nights at 7:30pm at Matt and Melissa Placatka's house, 411 Morningside in St. Peters. If you would like to join us, contact Lauren Miller at 636-875-0664 or Melissa Placatka at 636-262-0140.

#### Men's Bible Study

All men are invited to join us every Sat. morning at 7:30am for fellowship and Bible study. We meet at the McDonald's at Hwy K & N in front of Dierbergs. For more info contact Glenn Lodge at 636-544-8984.

## SERVING THIS MONTH

### NURSERY

Contact Tracy Schaff: 314-541-7872  
 Jan 8: Dillion Fox & Matt Sumner  
 Jan 15: Amy Kilz & Maryanne Griffin  
 Jan 22: Wendy Wilkerson & Christina Hiatt  
 Jan 29: Sheila Watts & Debbie Lodge

### CHILDREN'S CHURCH

Contact Luanne Waring: 636-379-9793  
 Jan 8: Barb Chatman & Debbie Stygar  
 Jan 15: Chad Humphreys & Gayle Hampson  
 Jan 22: Sandy Bowles & Matt Hiatt  
 Jan 29:

### COMMUNION SERVERS

Contact Bev Jensen: 636-447-9844  
 Jan 8: Jennifer Cruse & Peggy Humphreys  
 Jan 15: Sheri Maddox & Michele Scott  
 Jan 22: Lela Zimmer & Sam Chatman  
           Sandi Bowles & Annette Ravens  
 Jan 29: Steve & Shelly Freant

### LEVITES: SET UP AND TAKE DOWN TEAMS

Contact: Scott Bowles: 636-279-0465  
 Dec 4: Brad Scott, Bruce Fox, Kilz Family, John Szuba, Ted Lindner  
 Jan 8: Matt Hiatt, Paul Rosemann, Glen Lodge, Rick & Adam Berge, Craig Clark, Scott Bowles  
 Jan 15: Nate Cruse, Sam Chatman, Jimmy Frost, Chad Humphreys, Dave Humphreys, Dave & Leslie Marino, Josh Conoyer  
 Jan 22: Jim Ottomeyer, John Buckley, Terry File, Randy Schmidt, Jeff Stygar, Tim & Deanian Gosset, Josh White  
 Jan 29: Brad Scott, Bruce Fox, Kilz Family, John Szuba, Ted Lindner



# JANUARY 2012



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1  Sunday School: 9:00am Worship: 10:00am	2	3  Young Adult Ministry 7:30pm	4  Bible Study 7:00am Celebrate Recovery 7:00pm	5	6	7  Men's Bible Study: 7:30am
8  Sun School: 9:00am New Partner Class 9:00am Worship: 10:00am Youth: 5:00pm	9	10  Young Adult Ministry 7:30pm	11  Bible Study 7:00am Celebrate Recovery 7:00pm	12	13	14  Men's Bible Study: 7:30am
15  Sun School: 9:00am New Partner Class 9:00am Worship: 10:00am Brunch Club: noon	16	17  Young Adult Ministry 7:30pm	18  Morning Prayer 6:00am Bible Study 7:00am Celebrate Recovery 7:00pm	19	20  <b>Middle School Youth Quake</b>	21  Men's Bible Study: 7:30am Men's Bowling Youth: Winter Jam
22  <b>Youth Quake</b>  Sunday School: 9:00am Worship: 10:00am	23	24  Young Adult Ministry 7:30pm	25  Morning Prayer 6:00am Bible Study 7:00am Celebrate Recovery 7:00pm	26	27	28  Men's Bible Study: 7:30am Christmas Eve Worship 6:00pm
29  Sunday School: 9:00am Worship: 10:00am Annual Mtg: 11:30am	30	31  Young Adult Ministry 7:30pm	<b>Churchwide Week Of Fasting</b>			