



CONTACT:

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

St. Paul's Lutheran Church Rejoicing Spirits Ministry to Celebrate One-Year Anniversary

EXTON, PA, October 25, 2004 – The community is invited to celebrate St. Paul's Lutheran Church's Rejoicing Spirit Ministry's one-year anniversary on **Sunday, November 7, 2004 at 4 p.m.** Special guest, Bishop Roy Almquist, bishop of the Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America will be presiding at the service. In addition, a member of the Rejoicing Spirits community will sing "Amazing Grace" and two members of St. Paul's will be doing a liturgical dance.

The Rejoicing Spirits ministry reaches out to enrich the spiritual lives of individuals with developmental disabilities, their families, caregivers and other supportive community members through an inclusive worship service. The environment is very uplifting and spiritual with lots of music, joyous singing and brief, meaningful messages. Individuals are encouraged to be themselves while actively participating as contributing members of an inclusive faith community.

"We are proud to have had more than 1,200 people attend St. Paul's Rejoicing Spirit worship service over the last year," said Susan Crawford, Rejoicing Spirits Ministry Chairperson. "Our goal is to keep spreading the word about this unique worship service and delivering God's messages to individuals with developmental disabilities."

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To encourage and help other churches start their own Rejoicing Spirits ministry, St. Paul's developed a "How to Start a Rejoicing Spirits Ministry" Guide which can be used by congregations of any faith. Calvary Lutheran Church in West Chester has started a Rejoicing Spirits ministry and St. James Lutheran Church in Pottstown plans to begin their Rejoicing Spirits ministry in April 2005.

Everyone, regardless of their religious background, is welcome to attend the services which are held the first Sunday of each month at 4:00PM. For more information contact Susan Crawford at rejoicingspirits@stpaulslionville.org or the church office at 610.363.6264, or visit www.stpaulslionville.org. St. Paul's Lutheran Church, located at 104 S. Village Avenue, Lionville, is a Christian-based community of believers located in Lionville, Pennsylvania near Routes 100 and 113. The facility is wheelchair accessible and FM receivers are provided for the hearing impaired.

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