

our mission
"To rejoice in, and share
the good news of Jesus Christ
with all people"

Rejoice Voice

Rejoice! Lutheran Church
7855 Stow Road
Hudson, OH 44236

interim pastor
Rev. Doug Fidler

contact Rejoice!
330-653-5980
office@rejoicelc.org
www.rejoicelc.org

church council

Bethany Bryant
Janet Juliano
Tim Boebel
Liz Franke
Paige Giannetti
Lisa Ramsey
Chris Wisbar

bulletin and
newsletter
office@rejoicelc.org

Sunday Worship
at
Rejoice! Lutheran Church

Worship: Sundays
10:00am
(In-person, FaceBook Live, or
posted later on our website)

Sunday School: (TBD)

From the Pastor



*Lord, let my heart be good soil, open to the seed of your word.
Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow,
and peace is understood.
When my heart is hard, break the stone away. When my heart is cold,
warm it with the day.
When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.
Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord,
let my heart be good soil.*

As I write this, I am with my father at the Cleveland Clinic main campus for his geriatric cardiology appointments. My father will be 90 in September. His heart is old. It is weak. We are blessed we are to have the medical science available to us to assist with this beating heart. The team of medical people in the place have done well.

As always this is a very busy place! Some in this cardiology unit are much younger than my father. Some have more serious conditions. But everyone here, believe it or not, including myself is terminal. There will come a point when the heart says enough and life as we know it will end. I don't think too much about it myself. I just turned 65 and would hope there are a couple more decades remaining, God willing. But my life, in a sense is terminal and so is yours.

Maybe it is the fact that I'm sitting here not far from the main entrance, as literally thousands of people pass by that I begin thinking about health. What has brought these people to this place, the young and the old, some in wheelchairs like dad, some walking fast and intent on where they are going, some shuffling and many with a "where-do-I-go-from-here" look. There are a variety of ethnicities, and dress. Medical staff and other hospital employees are all intermingled in the mass of people. Everyone, whether or not they are thinking about it are terminal patients. It's not really a message that a world-renowned hospital wants to publicize but that's the truth. Those like my father are here to prolong the approach of that end date and many like me who have put that time in the far distance. But all our hearts beat with the gift of life that God has given us. What a blessing that is!

So, sitting here listening to names called out to come back for a procedure, watching people sit and wait, watching folk move about I tied to look at each person that passed by as a child of God, one whose heart was beating with the love of God their creator and redeemer. It is an inspiring way to see people. I don't know their condition. I don't know what brought them to this place, but I do know in whose hand they were formed. Isaiah says, "Yet, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter we are all the work of your hand." (64:8)

Continued on page 2....

From the Pastor, *continued from pg 1*

How is my heart condition? Physically, as far as I know it is okay for its age. My father has the routine EKG, echocardiogram, blood work to monitor his heart function. Again, praise God for medical science. But how many of the tens of thousands of people ambling through the halls of this massive medical complex are thinking about their heart? The hundreds having heart procedures done today probably were. But how many were thinking about the spiritual condition of their heart? What procedures are needed to maintain and improve the function of my spiritual heart?

My father can come for checkups, take his medication, be aware of activity but ultimately it is out of his hands. So too with our spiritual heart function. In the end it is all God's doing. I need those checkups of worship, prayer, study. I need the sacraments and the fellowship of other believers. And I need to be called to account when I wander from those heart healthy routines of faith. But first and foremost I need to know that my heart beats with God. When I began viewing the multitude of people around me in that way – I saw God present. When I stop and listen to my heart, I hear God. When I check my pulse, I feel God.

Lord, let my heart be good soil, open to the seed of your word. Lord, help me see your love for each person. Open my eyes to see your life flowing in everyone. May my heart begin to beat with yours in harmony with all creation. Lord bless me to be a blessing to those around me.

People of Rejoice, I hold you in my heart and pray for a healthy spirit/cardio function among us.

Blessings,

Pastor Doug

President's Report

Summer has arrived and we have returned to much normalcy. Did you ever think you would miss the traffic and hustle and bustle of life? We have so much to rejoice in. Our building is in active use during the weekends and weekdays and our in-person worship continues to increase. Council continues to work on both our short term and long term goals and is making significant progress. Our new website is being designed and we are working to engage better technology to continue our virtual worship services. We continue to share in our ministry with Teammates and the Food Pantry continues to expand its monthly offering beyond food with toiletries, breads, produce and other staples. We can also rejoice in our committed members for raising over \$50,000 towards our parking lot campaign. We have less than \$7,500 to go! We have so much happening at Rejoice! Our vision is "To be love in the World". We rejoice in and share the good news of Christ. This only happens if we share with others what Christ has done for us; why we believe Rejoice is a place to worship, to pray, to learn, to mourn, to believe, to ask for help, and to forgive. Share His love with those around you!

Bethany Bryant
President

Labor Day Fellowship

We're planning an event for Labor Day with Paige and Bob Giannetti. Hudson's Labor Day parade is Monday, Sept. 6th from 10:00-11:30 a.m. A pot-luck cook-out at the Giannetti's (434 N. Main St., Hudson) will follow at 12 noon until approx. 4:00 p.m. (If you're not interested in the parade, just join us for the cook-out.) The parade typically ends on Morning Song Lane (the street south of the Giannetti's), making it convenient for those who plan to watch the parade. More details will follow as we get closer to that date.



CORRECTION: The Hudson Mart (arts, crafts, and creative talents) that we mentioned earlier is Sunday, Sept. 5th from 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. on the Gazebo Green, NOT on Labor Day, Sept. 6th. Sean Giannetti will have a table and will sell his poetry book again for donations to the Center for Autism & Dramatic Arts. Feel free to contact any one of us with questions: Paige Giannetti (paigegiannetti@gmail.com), Ellen Wisbar (ellenwisbar@gmail.com), or Marisa McLelland (mclllandmarisa@gmail.com).

Fall Women's Retreat!

Attention Ladies! We are back!!!

Announcing that the Fall Women's Retreat is on and IN PERSON for:

October 8 - 10, 2021 at Lake Chautauqua Lutheran Center!

Please see the flyer on the Welcome desk (2 pages) for more information.

When you are ready to register please do so on this [registration form](#) by August 31!

You can also access this information at the [Rejoice Lutheran Church website](#) or at <https://www.rejoicelc.org/activities/>

We are so excited to offer this wonderful weekend of study, laughter and fellowship (and of course wonderful food) under the leadership of Pastor Pam Kelly.

We hope you will prayerfully consider joining us!!

Rejoice Updated Covid Guidelines—adapted from CDC guidelines

The Worship Committee met and came up with the following:

1. If you are fully vaccinated against Covid and are 14 days beyond your last shot, you do not have to mask or maintain 6 feet, but may if you wish. You no longer have to sit in a designated row.
2. If you are not fully vaccinated or are not beyond 14 days of the final shot, please continue to mask and remain spacing.
3. If you wish to sit within 6 feet of a non-masked person, please ask first as they may wish to continue to spacing for personal reasons like having family members who have not had their shots.
4. We will continue to have chairs in the Fellowship areas to provide extra spacing opportunities.
5. We will continue to have masks and disinfectant available for those who want them.

Janet Juliano
Worship Committee

FREE Transportation for Seniors*

ARE YOU A **HUDSON SENIOR** IN NEED OF TRANSPORTATION within Hudson? **

If yes, then call Jeff Adelman

(330-256-6422)

Sedan or Van Transportation, Hudson



24-hour notice strongly recommended

Available 7 days/week— 7 am-8pm

Medical appointments, grocery or other shopping, errands, church/religious events, social events/visits

Jeff can load your wheelchair or walker. Must be able to get **into** and **out of** car independently

*Age 60 or over. Funds are being provided as a pilot from a limited **On the Table grant** to Rejoice! Lutheran Church in Hudson through the Akron Community Foundation.

We ask that you simply return a provided, postage-paid postcard with your rating of the service.

Usage is limited to two round-trips per individual to maximize those who benefit from the grant.

**Hudson defined as North of Norton/Seasons Rd, South of Fairway Blvd, West of Stone Rd, and East of State Route 8 or within a mile.

From the Property Board

I want to update everyone on the parking lot fund raising. First, a big thank you to all who have stepped up so generously with your pledges. This has been a true example of what faith can do. The Holy Spirit is truly at work in our midst. But we need the Holy Spirit to write a few more checks! As of this past Sunday's offerings we are \$3,990 short of our goal. That's only 6% left to go! That's like moving the football to the 6 yard line and Baker Mayfield is going to pass it to Odell Beckham Jr! We are so close we can taste it! There are 4 more weeks to raise the rest.

Here is how we are going to finish this up:

July 4th is going to be First Down Sunday; Do we get the touchdown this week?

July 11th will be Second Down Sunday. Let's not fumble.

July 18th is Third Down Sunday. How close can we get?

July 25th is Fourth Down Sunday. Lord, don't let us kick a field goal!

So far, we have received gifts from 24 member households. We have had quite a large range of gifts from \$50 - \$10,000. If you think your donation isn't going to count for much guess again. It all counts, and you can be a part of it. If you have not participated in pledging towards this, please pray about this; listen to what the Holy Spirit is saying and act accordingly.

You can mail in a gift, just write on the check that it's for the parking lot. Or, if you want to make a pledge call me at 330-620-4684 and I will add you to the list.

See you in The End Zone!

Chris Wisbar
Property Chair

Evening Women's Bible Study Group—Via Zoom

The Women's Bible Study group is currently studying, "Encouraging One Another". No pressure, no homework! Just fellowship time with Christian friends studying God's Word.

Join us Wednesdays **at 8:00p.m.** on Zoom.

The link is

<https://johncarrolluniversity.zoom.us/j/628894291>

Contact Lisa Ramsey with questions/problems at lmramsey@roadrunner.com or 234.380.2090



July Birthdays

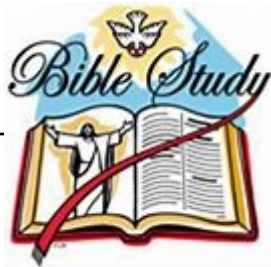
4	Nina Ackerman
7	Dave Boehm
10	John Leipzig
15	Heather Maurer
18	Ben Klukow
19	Frank Pancake
24	Wendy Klukow
27	Chad Bryant
30	Brian Pillsbury
31	Carla Maurer

July Anniversaries

	Juliet Jaeger & Frank Pancake
16	
21	Chris & Hayley Marshall

Pastor Doug's Bible Study

Pastor Doug's Bible Study is on summer break. We will return in late summer with a new study.



If you do not see your birthday or anniversary listed, or it is incorrect, please help us update our info. Contact Carla Maurer at office@rejoicelc.org

May 2021 Financial Report

2021	May Actual	May Budget	May Variance to Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	YTD Variance to Budget	2021 Budget
INCOME:							
General Revenue	\$7,312	\$7,708	(\$396)	\$58,287	\$38,542	\$19,745	\$92,500
Capital Revenue	\$1,649	\$2,667	(\$1,018)	\$19,872	\$13,333	\$6,539	\$32,000
Other	\$3,731	\$1,459	\$2,272	\$11,601	\$7,296	\$4,305	\$17,510
Total Income	\$12,692	\$11,834	\$858	\$89,760	\$59,171	\$30,589	\$142,010
EXPENSES:							
General Expense	\$7,550	\$7,685	\$135	\$40,017	\$42,419	\$2,402	\$101,078
Capital Expense	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$0	\$25,182	\$20,000	(\$5,182)	\$48,000
Total Expenses	\$11,550	\$11,685	\$135	\$65,199	\$62,419	(\$2,780)	\$149,078
VARIANCE							
Total Variance	\$1,142	\$149		\$24,561	(\$3,248)		(\$7,068)

Benevolence Giving	\$0	\$417	(\$417)		\$2,083	(\$2,083)	\$5,000
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REJOICE! LUTHERAN CHURCH

7855 Stow Rd.
Hudson, Ohio 44236

Phone: 330-653-5980
E-mail: office@rejoicelc.org



Paying it Forward

Rejoice has been so blessed by many mission partners. Let us pay it forward to others. out of our blessings!

In June we resumed our practice of sending our 3rd Sunday "loose offering" to a local non-profit/charity. Below is the list of scheduled recipients for the remainder of 2021.

Schedule of 3rd Sunday Loose Offering for 2021:

July –Rejoice Quilting Fund

August – ELCA World Hunger

September – ELCA Lutheran Disaster Response

October – Lake Chautauqua Lutheran Center/ Camp

November – OASIS Youth Program (*either for devotional books or funds to support their program*)

December - Rejoice Samaritan Fund

Food Pantry Collection

Hello Rejoice,

I would like to thank everyone for your monthly toilet paper donations. We have been meeting our goal each month to provide for 35 to 40 families.

I did get a request from the food pantry that 6 or 8 roll packs are preferred. The larger size helps the toilet paper last longer during the month for the clients. Especially our larger families.

Liz Franke
Church Council member

Rejoice Care Committee:

Please let any of the following know if any congregation members experience sickness, a death in the family, new babies, or other situations where we might be of some assistance.

George Arnold, Joyce Clothier, Judi Boebel, Carla Maurer, Chad Bryant, Paige Giannetti

2021 Church Council Leadership

President: Bethany Bryant

Vice President: Janet Juliano

Secretary: Lisa Ramsey

Treasurer: Tim Boebel

Council members: Liz Franke, Paige Giannetti, Chris Wisbar

Pastor: Doug Fidler