

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@rejoiceclc.org
www.rejoiceclc.org

church council

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

bulletin and
newsletter
office@rejoiceclc.org

Sunday Worship
at
Rejoice! Lutheran Church

Worship: Sundays
10:00am
(Indoors—face masks and
social distancing required,
Facebook Live, or posted later
on our website)

Sunday School: (TBD)

From the Pastor



A couple weeks ago Deborah and I toured Stan Hywet and walked the grounds once again. I don't know how many times I've been out there but it's always interesting. I've also performed a number of weddings out on the grounds. Each time in a different location, and of course quite memorable.

One of the things I truly enjoy about this time of year is being outside in creation, walking the well-manicured gardens of a mansion, hiking the trails, biking the tow path or simply working out in my yard. I spent a year between college and seminary working for landscaping company. While in seminary I was hired to maintain the lawns there.

Petitti's loves to see me walk in the door because I cannot leave without purchasing more flowers. The other seasons have their color and beauty, but summer is my favorite. The beauty of God's creation is in bloom and I cannot help but to do my part to tend to God's garden. Years ago, when my father-in-law was still active farming, I would spend a couple weeks of my vacation with him walking the fields hoeing out weeds, cultivating, doing chores. The neighboring farmers thought I was crazy to spend my "down time" doing the mundane work of the crop farmer. But I enjoyed the ordinary time in the dirt of God's creation.

In June we enter the long "green" season of the Church year. The altar paraments will be green until the blue of Advent. This season is normally referred to as the Sundays *after* Pentecost. But I do not think that's truly accurate. *After Pentecost* gives the meaning that Pentecost is over. The Acts 2 miracle is something to be remembered but it's over and done, in the past. I like to refer to this season as "Ordinary time." Ordinary in the sense that what we are about as Church, as disciples of Jesus is learning to grow (thus the green color). We hear the stories of Jesus' ministry and how we are rooted in Him and now beginning to blossom in the vibrant colors of His love and grace. Ordinary because we are not celebrating the festivals of the nativity or resurrection along with the preparatory seasons of Advent and Lent. Ordinary because we are not confined but out and about, driven by the Spirit into the world God so loves. We are planted in this community to be the voice, the hands, the heart of God. All the colors of God's love burst forth and we are there to witness and proclaim God's colorful presence in all things.

Continued on page 2....

From the Pastor, *continued from pg 1*

So, as you are enjoying these summer months and you see a rose opening up, a field of flowers, a lovely garden, ivy coloring a wall or wrapping a tree, birds in flight, a rainbow vested across the blue sky, a vibrant sunrise and a colorful orange sunset- think of God's love bubbling over on you and find a way to share that with someone.

I love summer because it is a way to say God loves you and so do I.

Pastor Doug

President's Report

What a joy it is to hear additional voices singing in the sanctuary and the chatter in the church after worship!

This past month has been a BUZZ of activity with Teammates settling into our building, including a festive social gathering with their young adults. Council met this month and discussed progress on our short term goals. These include engaging with members to increase worship attendance and bring members back to in-person worship, adding equipment to enhance the quality of our online worship service, engaging a firm to assist with our website design and online media, engaging in outreach and fellowship activities to re-engage with members, and continue to balance the budget and raise funds for deferred maintenance on the property.

During this summer as we start to return to some normal activity levels, we will look to align our COVID practices with CDC guidelines. More to come after the worship committee next meets. Several of our AA and Al-anon groups will be returning to the building for evening meetings.

As always, please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions.

Bethany Bryant
President

Rejoice Updated Covid Guidelines—adapted from CDC guidelines

The Worship Committee met and came up with the following:

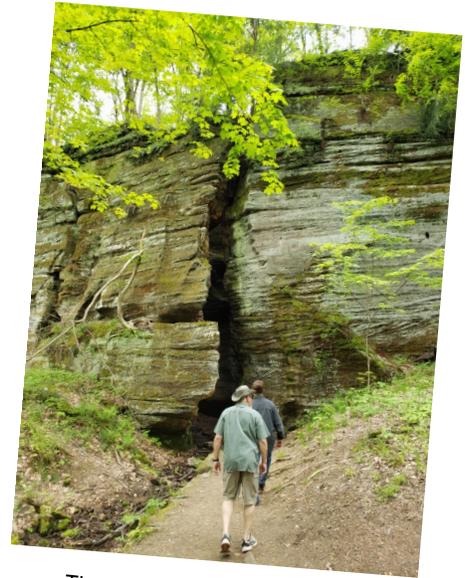
1. If you are fully vaccinated against Covid and are 14 days beyond your last shot, you do not have to mask or maintain 6 feet, but may if you wish. You no longer have to sit in a designated row.
2. If you are not fully vaccinated or are not beyond 14 days of the final shot, please continue to mask and 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

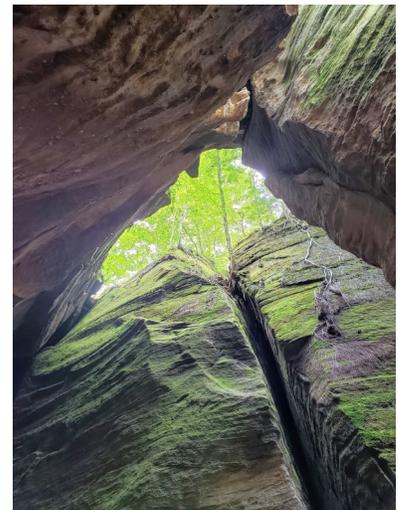
A few pics from our May 23rd Fellowship Hike at Liberty Park in Twinsburg



L to R: Ellen Wisbar, Marisa McLelland, Chris Wisbar, Carla Maurer and Pastor Doug



The cave at the ledges



This guy wanted to be our mascot



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.

Rejoice! Will Soon Have A Fresh, New Website!

Rejoice Council has approved an expenditure to have our website professionally updated. Bethany Bryant, Liz Franke, and Carla Maurer met recently, via Zoom, with local web designer, Anthony Milia of Milia Marketing. We know that most people looking for a church will use the internet in their search, and we want our new website to be as welcoming and easy to navigate as possible.

REJOICE
Lutheran Church

We have expressed that our goals for Rejoice's website should include:

- An overall feel as a friendly, welcoming congregation
- More photos and less written content
- A "Donate" link to allow single or recurring donations to be processed
- An enhancement that will drive our site to "pop-up" when people use a search engine to locate a congregation/church
- Video testimonials from existing members
- The ability to link to recent services quickly and archive older videos

We will be looking for a few people willing to be photographed and/or videotaped giving your thoughts about why you chose to be a member of Rejoice. See any of us for details!

Hudson Food Pantry Newsletter

The distribution day on 5/22/21 was the best one yet. We continue to provide 3 bags of food and a larger bag of toiletries every month. The produce this month consisted of apples, tomatoes, fresh green beans, lemons, limes, raspberries, mushrooms, oranges, potatoes, grapes, peppers, lettuce and lots and lots of blueberries! We have also begun offering milk, margarine and eggs. Cycles for Christ, which gives bikes to needed families, continues as well.

The following organizations continue to provide items:

Panera Bread and Bruegger's Bagels are providing breads & pastries-Nancy Kralik.

Christ Episcopal Church is providing laundry detergent.

Hudson United Methodist Church is providing the paper towels.

First Congregational Church is providing toiletries.

Christ Community Chapel has organized providing produce.

Rejoice Lutheran Church is providing toilet paper.

Community of St. John's is providing toiletries.

John and Felicia are picking up produce and cheese from AKRFB.

We have continued coffee.

Hudson Food Pantry is working with Twinsburg Food Pantry and Kent Social Services to share any food & perishables we might have left after distribution day.

Thanks to Pastor Doug, Ginny, Judi and Bill and Joyce from Rejoice! stepping in and committing to monthly tasks. John and Felicia are doing a great job with food ordering. We will be moving back to some form of choice pantry later this year.

As you can see, we have been busy. Prayers for continued forward momentum!

Chad Bryant

Hudson Food Pantry Chairman

Call Committee Update

June, 2021

As most of you have probably heard by now, none of the candidates we interviewed this spring ended up being the right person to lead us in future ministries here at Rejoice. The Call Committee met each one via Zoom, learned about their unique gifts in ministry, and will use that experience as we wait and listen for God as he leads us through this process.

There have been big changes at the synod offices, too. Pastor Biermann accepted a new call and moved to Cincinnati in May. Bishop Barbins is in the process of calling a new assistant to fill the role of leading congregations through the call process. She expects to have someone in place and working with us later this summer. Until then she will be our point of contact.

The most helpful thing YOU can do to support the call committee, is to continue to REJOICE this summer! Rejoice through Sunday worship with us and invite friends to worship with you. Rejoice by volunteering with the food pantry! Rejoice through a fellowship event! And most importantly, Rejoice through prayer. Rejoice by keeping Pastor Doug, the call committee, our entire congregation, friends, and our synodical leaders in your prayers this summer. Thank you,

Russ Ackerman
Chris Bryant
Tom Freborg
Felicia Leipzig

Carla Maurer
Marilyn Olzmann
Ellen Wisbar

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



June Birthdays

12	Tyler Wisbar
13	Elizabeth Wisbar
21	Ginny Pillsbury
21	Bill Clothier

June Anniversaries

23	Tim & Judi Boebel
28	Tim & April Yanda
30	Bob & Paige Giannetti

Pastor Doug's Bible Study

Pastor Doug's Zoom 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@rejoicec.org

April 2021 Financial Report

	April Actual	April Budget	April Variance to Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	YTD Variance to Budget	2021 Budget
2021							
INCOME:							
General Revenue	\$6,624	\$7,708	(\$1,084)	\$50,254	\$30,834	\$19,420	\$92,500
Capital Revenue	\$1,645	\$2,667	(\$1,022)	\$18,224	\$10,667	\$7,557	\$32,000
Other	\$3,158	\$1,459	\$1,699	\$8,590	\$5,836	\$2,754	\$17,510
Total Income	\$11,427	\$11,834	(\$407)	\$77,068	\$47,337	\$29,731	\$142,010
EXPENSES:							
General Expense	\$8,778	\$10,550	\$1,772	\$34,398	\$34,732	\$334	\$101,078
Capital Expense	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$0	\$19,250	\$16,000	(\$3,250)	\$48,000
Total Expenses	\$12,778	\$14,550	\$1,772	\$53,648	\$50,732	(\$2,916)	\$149,078
VARIANCE							
Total Variance	(\$1,351)	(\$2,716)		\$23,420	(\$3,395)		(\$7,068)

Benevolence Giving	\$1,250	\$417	\$833	\$1,250	\$1,667	(\$417)	\$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 will resume 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:

June – Hudson Special Olympics

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