

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](mailto:office@rejoicelc.org)  
[www.rejoicelc.org](http://www.rejoicelc.org)

### church council

Bethany Bryant  
Tim Boebel  
Liz Franke  
Pete Moore  
Chris Wisbar

bulletin and  
newsletter  
[office@rejoicelc.org](mailto: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



"RING AROUND THE ROSEY, POCKETS FULL OF POSIES, ASHES, ASHES,  
WE ALL FALL DOWN."

Generations of children, have joined hands and danced in a circle, chanting that rhyme. I know I did - early elementary age before it got to be "not cool". Ashes, ashes, WE ALL FALL DOWN," -- remember collapsing on the floor with those words, giggling and shrieking with great delight.

But like many so-called children's rhymes, "Ring around the rosey" some scholars say, had its origin in serious stuff. Some have conjectured that its words are thought to be a reference to the great and terrible outbreaks of bubonic plague that raged throughout Europe and Asia in the 14th through 17th centuries.

As many as one out of three people in Western Europe died of an epidemic of *the plague*. The disease struck swiftly and with deadly force, and no one was immune. A person could be well one day, and dead the next. People in the prime of life died right along with the very old and the very young -- the wealthy and the poor alike -- dukes and duchesses, peasants and professionals; "ashes, ashes, **WE ALL FALL DOWN.**"

I don't know if this rhyme had its origins here or not but in a way it does make sense. It is sort of childlike "whistle in the dark", sung with youthful energy and gusto mocking death and decline and mortality.

The ancient symbol of ashes begins our season of Lent., a solemn time in Christian year. The ashes with which we are marked on Ash Wednesday call us to an awareness that in the midst of life, we are in death -- that, ashes, ashes, we do "ALL fall down." Beginning on Ash Wednesday and for the next 40 days we are called to drop what we've been doing, the various busy-ness of our lives and come chanting "ashes, ashes, we all fall down."

It is important for us as Church to acknowledge the fearful uncertainties of human life, the reality of illness, of tragedy, of death, striking swiftly or creeping up slowly, but coming to us all. These past two years have certainly raised that awareness among us. We gather as Church during this Lenten-tide not to mock the pandemic of Covid but the pandemic of our human sinfulness.

*Continued on page 2....*

### From the Pastor, *continued from pg 1*

“Ashes, ashes, we all fall down...” But for the baptized child of God, the rhyme does not end there, and Ash Wednesday is only the beginning -- the beginning of a season, of a story, the ending of which, thanks be to God, we know already as we begin.

It is because we know whose children we are, because we know the acceptance we receive from God our Father, that we dare to fall down before our Lord God Almighty; and be marked with ashes -- and to fall down on our knees and receive into our sinful, mortal selves the grace, the power, the very life of Almighty God in the Body and Blood of His Son.

“Ashes, Ashes, we all fall down”; and in so doing, we too laugh in the face of death and despair; but not as children when they’re whistling in the dark. Rather, as sons and daughters of God, with a deep and blessed assurance, trusting in His power and His promise of healing, of reconciliation, of the hope of life and love continually renewed, throughout the rest of our earthly days, and in the eternal Easter which is to come. Lent is acknowledging our broken sinful lives -that leads to death. But Easter is coming and the end of the story is always God reaching out to us to rescue and redeem. God’s Got This- God’s Got You!

Pastor Doug

### President’s Report

As spring and Lent approach, we are reminded of the sacrifices of our Lord Jesus and the new life he gave to us.

We have started off the year strong making headway on our ongoing initiatives, solid financial giving, and an increase in worship attendance. Your leaders have been engaged in a number of items. The synod has hosted a number of workshops to share how we might continue to embrace digital and hybrid worship. As we shift from handling Covid as an endemic, we know digital experiences will continue to be part of how a church engages with its members.

Many thanks to our fellowship committee for hosting the Chili cook-off in conjunction with Community of St. John. We look forward to engaging in more in-person events to reconnect with each other more frequently. Many thanks to the Outreach committee for providing containers of soup for our Acts of Rejoice Kindness. I hope you had the opportunity to share some with your neighbors or one of our members that could use a brief visit and a cup of warmth.

As always if you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Bethany Bryant

### Ash Wednesday

Wednesday March 2nd is **Ash Wednesday**: There will be a joint worship led by Pastor Brian of Community of St. John and Pastor Doug of Rejoice. Worship begins at 7pm. This is a non-communion service, but we will conclude with the imposition of ashes.



### Fellowship—Easter Breakfast

Rejoice’s Fellowship committee is considering organizing an Easter Breakfast Potluck. This year Easter is on April 17th. Watch for more details in upcoming bulletins and the April newsletter.



## Rejoice Head Gardener Retires

After 11 years of volunteering in Rejoice's garden, I am hanging up my hat, my trowel and my clippers. No doubt some younger people who love to dig in the dirt will step up to the task. My age is catching up with me, and my aching back is no longer what it used to be. Thanks to all who have helped me over the years with the weeding, watering, trimming and mulching.

Can't wait for spring. If winter comes, can spring be far behind?

Marilyn Olzmann

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## Pastor Doug's Thursday Bible Study

A new study will be beginning on Thursday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>:

*"Honoring our Neighbors Faith"*

3/3- Judaism

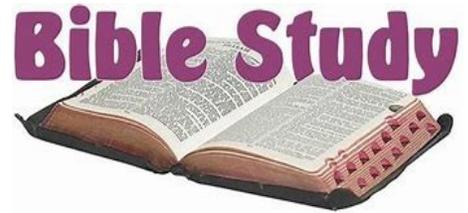
3/10- Islam

3/17- Buddhism & Hinduism

3/24- Jehovah Witness & Latter Day Saints

3/31- Unitarian Universalist & Christian Science

4/7- Different Christian traditions: Roman, Orthodox, Protestant <sup>a)</sup> Lutheran, Anglican, mainline <sup>b)</sup> anabaptist, evangelical



We will look at these other faiths and see how they compare with our Lutheran beliefs. Knowing our neighbors helps us to find common ground, but also what lines we cannot cross.

It would be great to have a fair number of folks join us on Zoom. Wherever 2 or 3 are gathered our Lord is certainly with us, but for my time let's aim to have at least a 10th of the congregation on line each week [that would be 7 people] but more than that is welcome!

Here's the link: [https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86751292678?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86751292678?pwd=KzRYdzIEUC9vRnVOQm5xd3J2azB0Zz09)

[pwd=KzRYdzIEUC9vRnVOQm5xd3J2azB0Zz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86751292678?pwd=KzRYdzIEUC9vRnVOQm5xd3J2azB0Zz09) Meeting ID: 867 5129 2678

Passcode: 873888

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## Aspire Ladies' Night Out

Aspire is a ladies' night out full of laughter, learning, stories, and music. It's 1 night and 3 hours full of fellowship and fun. We hope you are making plans to join us on May 1st on North Canton, OH. Tickets are on sale, so now is a great time to invite some friends and plan a ladies' night out. General tickets range from \$20 - \$25 and can be bought online or over the phone.

We hope you can make it!

Holy Cross Lutheran Church  
7707 Market Ave. N  
North Canton, OH 44721  
Sunday, May 1, 2022 5:00PM

See Carla Maurer for more details, or email [office@rejoicelc.org](mailto:office@rejoicelc.org)



Brian Pillsbury buying "tickets" from Marisa McLelland



Chris & Ellen Wisbar and Pr. Doug and his wife, Pr. Deborah



### Chili Cook-off

A few pics from our Chili cook-off on Feb. 26. Several friends from COSJ joined us. Tickets were used to "vote" for your favorite chili. Winners were Carla Maurer for traditional chili and Janet Juliano for alternative chili. Besides chili, attendees enjoyed corn bread, rolls and a variety of desserts and beverages. A special dessert, brought by Sue Carter, was a Mardi Gras style "King cake". According to my google research, a King Cake is more like a bread or cinnamon pastry with yellow, purple and green sugar on top. A plastic "baby" is baked into the dough and represents baby Jesus. Whoever gets the "baby Jesus" in their slice, is "King" and gets to host the next party or celebration. We think Pr. Doug got it, but mysteriously, that was never proven!



Image of a "King Cake"

NOTE: Updated information about Senior Transportation

**DISCOUNTED\*\* TRANSPORTATION**

FOR HUDSON SENIORS 60 yrs + and travel within a mile of Hudson School District Borders

- Medical appointments
- Grocery
- Errands
- Religious service/events
- Social events
- Personal visits



- \*\*Only pay pick-up fee of \$10 per round trip; mileage covered by grant below
- \*\*Pick-up fee waived for religious events (within mile of Hudson) and trips to Hudson Food Panty;  
Call Hudson Community Resource Coordinator 234-380-9303 to qualify for waiving \$10 fee if low income
- Up to 5 round trips per senior, including one round trip of up to 70 miles for medical appointment
- Services available until grant funds (or 5 round trips) exhausted
- Grant funding does not cover any wait-time by driver
- Contact [paigegiannetti@roadrunner.com](mailto:paigegiannetti@roadrunner.com) with any questions

24-hour notice strongly recommended;  
available 7 days/week; 7 am-8pm

Grant sponsored by Evangelical Lutheran Church of America through Rejoice! Lutheran Church, Hudson

## Women's Retreat—Save the Date!

To all Rejoice ladies and friends. We are on the calendar! Mark your calendar for October 7-9<sup>th</sup> for our Women's Retreat at the Chautauqua Lake Lutheran Center on Chautauqua Lake in western New York! We are on their calendar and looking forward to another fantastic weekend together with Pastor Pam Kelly. Pass along any theme ideas to Ginny Pillsbury and invite your friends. Also, the Women's Bible Study is studying Jesus' Final Week and it is very interesting. Some of the ladies from our Retreat are joining us on Wednesday evenings at 8:00 and we would love to have you join us too.

Ginny Pillsbury



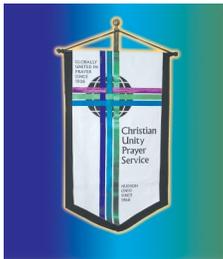
### March Birthdays

4	Lauren Radel
7	Bob Radl
8	Samantha Klukow
9	Victoria Hayes
12	Graicen Radel
20	Pam Rubenstahl
21	Francine McBride
27	Stephanie Klukow
28	Sean Giannetti
31	Ryan Wisniewski

### March Anniversaries

20	Bob & Janice Radl
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*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@rejoice.org](mailto:office@rejoice.org)*



**CHRISTIAN UNITY PRAYER SERVICE AND LUNCHEON HAS BEEN RE-SCHEDULED FOR APRIL 28, 2022—SAVE THE DATE AND WATCH FOR DETAILS**

### Evening Women's Bible Study —via Zoom

The Women's Bible Study group is studying a new book, "Psalms: Prayers of the Heart".

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](mailto:lmramsey@roadrunner.com) or 234.380.2090



### January 2022 Financial Report

2022	Jan Actual	Jan Budget	Jan Variance to Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	YTD Variance to Budget	2022 Budget
<b>INCOME:</b>							
General Revenue	\$12,146	\$8,458	\$3,688	\$12,146	\$8,458	\$3,688	\$101,500
Capital Revenue	\$3,853	\$2,917	\$936	\$3,853	\$2,917	\$936	\$35,000
Other	\$11,106	\$2,001	\$9,105	\$11,106	\$2,001	\$9,105	\$24,010
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$27,105</b>	<b>\$13,376</b>	<b>\$13,729</b>	<b>\$27,105</b>	<b>\$13,376</b>	<b>\$13,729</b>	<b>\$160,510</b>
<b>EXPENSES:</b>							
General Expense	\$8,403	\$8,883	\$480	\$8,403	\$8,883	\$480	\$106,605
Capital Expense	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$0	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$0	\$50,500
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$12,403</b>	<b>\$12,883</b>	<b>\$480</b>	<b>\$12,403</b>	<b>\$12,883</b>	<b>\$480</b>	<b>\$157,105</b>
<b>VARIANCE</b>							
Total Variance	\$14,702	\$493		\$14,702	\$493		\$3,405

<b>Benevolence Giving</b>	\$0	\$417	(\$417)	\$0	\$417	(\$417)	\$5,000
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## REJOICE! LUTHERAN CHURCH

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### Acts of Rejoice Kindness—"ARK'd"

Rejoice Outreach has been promoting "You've been ARK'd" with cards that can be used to let someone know that they are a blessing. We've encouraged members to just give someone an "ARK'd" card, or include the card with a Starbucks gift card or container of soup. Currently we are out of soup, but we'll introduce something else in the coming weeks. Until then, here are some quotes from Rejoice members who have shared how they "ARK'd" someone to let them know that we love and care for them!

"I took 2 Starbucks gift cards and handed them out to 2 workers that were stuck working on Christmas day at my local gas station. They were very happy to be thought of on the holiday." —*Liz Franke, Rejoice member*

"I gave the soup to my sister who is 79 and lives alone. She loved the whole ARK idea and appreciated the meal." —*Liz Franke, Rejoice member*

"I ARK'd a couple at Acme in Hudson who were struggling to get a prescription filled. They were sooo thankful!" —*from a Rejoice member*

"I ARK'd a woman at Acme who was checking out in front of me who had been struggling a bit to get around the grocery. When I told her where Rejoice was located (after she asked), she said I live practically across the street and have been thinking about visiting there." —*from a Rejoice member*



## THE ARK

"It was so fun! I paid for the drive through order behind me at McDonalds and asked the cashier to include the ARK card with her meal. The lady was so appreciative that she followed me across the parking lot to Acme to say thank you! It really made her day and I am not sure whose smile was bigger...hers or mine." —*Ellen Wisbar, Rejoice member*

### Greeting Cards

The Care team is now sending greeting cards to people on our Prayer List. The cards will be available on Sunday morning for all to sign. If you want a card sent to someone, please provide an address to the office.

### 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, Paige Giannetti*