

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



*Were you there when they crucified my Lord?  
Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?  
Where you there when they pierced him in the side?  
...Oh, sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble. Were you there?*

This month we enter into the holiest of Holy Weeks recalling the suffering, passion, death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus the Christ. The song is moving us to not just hear the story once again and remember in a passive way what Jesus endured for the sake of the world, but to move us to be there beneath the cross as well as in the Garden of Gethsemane, outside in the courtyard with Peter, in the crowd before Pilate. What would we have said or done? Hindsight prompts us to look at the better side of things, but as we hear this story once again, contemplate what hand you would have had in the proceedings.

As we focus on that story, we see the various men and women who had a HAND in what happened during those few days long ago. Let us run through that story and picture all those many pairs of hands.

- ◆ The soft hands of a woman pouring, rubbing, anointing
- ◆ The hands of someone very precisely counting out 30 coins
- ◆ The hands of a traitor dipping into a bowl alongside the one he would hand over
- ◆ Hands of a disciple making a pillow under a sleepy head
- ◆ Hands clasped in agonizing prayer
- ◆ The hands of Judas moving toward Jesus in an embrace of death
- ◆ The hands of the crowds that grabbed and shoved
- ◆ A hand that drew a sword
- ◆ Hands being warmed over a fire –though unable to transmit that warmth to a chilled heart
- ◆ The hands of the High Priest tearing his robes
- ◆ The hands of captors slapping and punching
- ◆ The hands of Judas knotting a rope into a hangman's noose
- ◆ The hands of Pilate being washed of the whole bloody affair
- ◆ Hands binding the hands of another and grasping a whip
- ◆ Hands braiding thorns into a crown, for a king
- ◆ The hands of an onlooker having handed to him a cross NOT his own
- ◆ The hands of a soldier picking up a hammer and holding a spike
- ◆ Hands throwing dice and offering vinegar to a dying man
- ◆ And the hands of a friend wrapping the dead body and placing it in a tomb.

If we had been there... I wonder what our hands would have been doing? How overwhelming to think that if our hands had been the ones counting out the coins... Jesus' hands would have still broken a loaf of bread for us.

*Continued on page 2....*

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

Even if ours had been the hands that slapped and punched and grabbed...Jesus' hands would have been tied and bound, even for us.

And EVEN if it had been our hands that picked up the hammer and the spike... even then... Jesus' hands would have stretched out to us...Jesus' hands would have been stretched out FOR US.

Blessings,  
**Pastor Doug**

### President's Report

Welcome Spring! Council continues to meet monthly and has a solid list of initiatives we are working to achieve. We split our time on day to day business such as finances, property repairs and other committee items. The other portion of our time is spent on strategic topics such as goal setting, getting members in the right leadership roles, and engaging on our next ministries in the community. Lastly, we have been engaged in discussions regarding our next steps related to pastoral leadership and anchor church arrangements.

We've been partnering with Teammates since May of 2021. They have been using our building to teach life skills to young adults with developmental differences. Over the past year, they have expanded the number of adults they are serving and have outgrown our space. At the end of March, they will be moving to a new location. We feel grateful that we had the opportunity to help their ministry and wish them blessings as they grow.

Additionally, we will take in three new members on Sunday, April 3 and have seen a number of visitors since the pandemic has tempered. Rejoice is known for its welcoming presence so hardly necessary to remind you to introduce yourself if you see someone you don't recognize.

We have a number of outreach and fellowship activities planned. We hope you can attend the upcoming new member reception, Easter breakfast, and wine/beer tasting events.

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

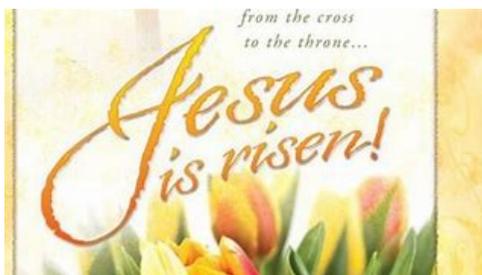
Bethany Bryant



### Holy Week at Rejoice/Community of St. John

- Palm Sunday, April 10th: Worship at 10:00 am celebration of Jesus triumphal entry into Jerusalem amid shouts of Hosanna masking the shouts of crucify.
- Maundy Thursday, April 14th: Worship at 7:00 pm A New Commandment to love one another—Jesus gives us His body and blood.
- Good Friday, April 15th: Worship at 7:00 pm we journey with our Lord on the way to the cross.
- Easter, April 17th: Worship at 10:00 am The Resurrection of our Lord —Christ is alive and so are we in Him.

An Easter breakfast will be available from 9:00-9:45 am. See sign up sheet on welcome table to bring something.



ALL THESE SERVICES ARE COMBINED WITH THE COMMUNITY OF ST. JOHN

## Beer/Wine (and other favorite beverages) Tasting —Fellowship Event

Have a favorite beer, wine or spirit? Or, a non-alcoholic beverage that you enjoy.

Come share your favorite beverage and taste-test others. You might come away with a new favorite!

What to bring:

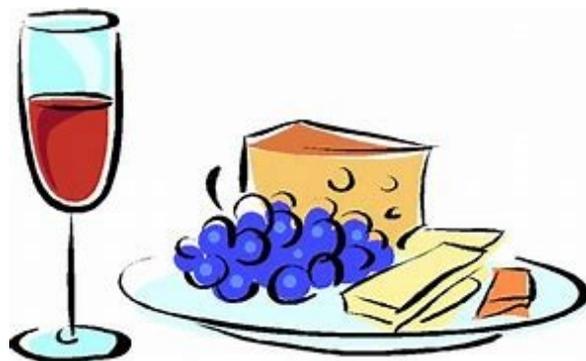
- A bottle of WINE, 6-pack of BEER, or other beverage to share
- Any tasting notes you find online
- An appetizer or dessert

Cheese and crackers will be provided. Spend the first part of the evening taste-testing. Then settle on your new favorite.

This is a perfect opportunity to meet our new members and visitors, and reconnect with others.

Party crashers are welcome. Invite a neighbor or friend to attend with you, and introduce them to the fellowship of Christ!

Saturday, May 14 at 6:30 pm at  
the Bryant residence  
10172 Bissell Drive  
Twinsburg, Ohio 44087



## Pastor Doug's Thursday Bible Study

In April we will continue the series:

*"Honoring our Neighbors Faith"*

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=KzRYdzlEUC9vRnVOQm5xd3J2azB0Zz09)

[pwd=KzRYdzlEUC9vRnVOQm5xd3J2azB0Zz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86751292678?pwd=KzRYdzlEUC9vRnVOQm5xd3J2azB0Zz09)

Meeting ID: 867 5129 2678

Passcode: 873888

## Bible Study



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 (*wait-time charge of \$40/hour, in 15-minute increments of \$10, is not covered by the grant*)
- 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



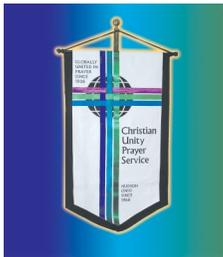
### April Birthdays

5	Chris Wisbar
11	Elizabeth Schafer
15	Juliet Jaeger
19	April Yanda
24	Michael McLelland
28	Christina Boehm

### April Anniversaries

19	John & Felicia Leipzig
	Gordon & Francine
23	McBride

*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](mailto:office@rejoicelc.org)*



**CHRISTIAN UNITY PRAYER SERVICE AND LUNCHEON HAS BEEN RE-SCHEDULED FOR APRIL 28, 2022, 10:00AM —SAVE THE DATE AND WATCH FOR DETAILS**

## Evening Women's Bible Study —via Zoom

The Women's Bible Study group is now studying the book, "Jesus' Final Week".

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



## February 2022 Financial Report

2022	Feb Actual	Feb Budget	Feb Vari- ance to Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	YTD Vari- ance to Budget	2022 Budget
<b>INCOME:</b>							
General Revenue	\$6,745	\$8,458	(\$1,713)	\$18,890	\$16,917	\$1,973	\$101,500
Capital Revenue	\$1,986	\$2,917	(\$931)	\$5,838	\$5,833	\$5	\$35,000
Other	\$2,011	\$2,001	\$10	\$13,120	\$4,002	\$9,118	\$24,010
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$10,742</b>	<b>\$13,376</b>	<b>(\$2,634)</b>	<b>\$37,848</b>	<b>\$26,752</b>	<b>\$11,096</b>	<b>\$160,510</b>
<b>EXPENSES:</b>							
General Expense	\$11,125	\$8,883	(\$2,242)	\$19,529	\$17,767	(\$1,762)	\$106,605
Capital Expense	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$0	\$8,000	\$8,000	\$0	\$50,500
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$15,125</b>	<b>\$12,883</b>	<b>(\$2,242)</b>	<b>\$27,529</b>	<b>\$25,767</b>	<b>(\$1,762)</b>	<b>\$157,105</b>
<b>VARIANCE</b>							
Total Variance	(\$4,383)	\$493		\$10,319	\$985		\$3,405

<b>Benevolence Giving</b>	\$0	\$417	(\$417)	\$0	\$834	(\$834)	\$5,000
---------------------------	-----	-------	---------	-----	-------	---------	---------

## REJOICE! LUTHERAN CHURCH

7855 Stow Rd.  
Hudson, Ohio 44236

Phone: 330-653-5980  
E-mail: [office@rejoicelc.org](mailto:office@rejoicelc.org)



50 Years of Ordained Women

### SAVE THE DATE!

Please save the date for a Festival Eucharist service celebrating the anniversaries of ordained women in the ELCA. Given the original service scheduled for 2020 was cancelled, we are now calling it the "52-42-12."

This special service will celebrate:

The 52nd anniversary of the first ordained woman

The 42nd anniversary of the first ordained woman of color

The 12th anniversary of the ELCA's decision to ordain people in committed same-gender relationships

Friday, May 13, 2022, 7:00PM

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

50 N Prospect St, Akron, Oh 44304

## Another "Save the Date"

LutheranOktoberfest.com

5TH ANNUAL  
OKTOBERFEST  
2022

Family, Friends, & Fellowship  
Food • Biergarten • Live Music • Kids' Activities  
Pastor Dunk Tank • Carnival Games  
Cornhole Tournament

**Saturday, September 10, 2022**  
**Noon - 10:00 PM**

at the Memphis Picnic Area in the Metroparks in Brooklyn

**Admission:**  
Seniors (60+): \$5  
Adults (21-59): \$10 (ID required)  
Youth (11-20): \$5  
Children (10 and under): FREE

**Presented by:**  
Lutheran Churches of  
Northeast Ohio and  
Hofbrauhaus Cleveland

## 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)

## 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*