

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



*Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, so that they also may be sanctified in truth. John 17:17-19*

This Easter season we've been hearing from John's Gospel account, Jesus' last words with His disciples; 'that they may be one', 'peace I leave with you', 'love one another'. Those are high ideals and we as modern day disciples and so many before us have failed time and again, to be one, to be peaceful, to love. In light of the school massacre in Uvalde, Texas we pause to ask ourselves once again, "Why?" "When will it stop?" "What do we do so that this doesn't happen again?"

Well, in the world of politics there are many responses from many different directions. Each blaming the other side for not really caring. So much for love and unity and peace. But that's the way the world operates. The world operates on the theme of 'what makes me look good' not necessarily what is the ultimate good for all. And that's because we as human beings can not truly ascertain what is the ultimate good. We are in bondage to sin and that will cloud our perspective, our judgment, the way we operate every time. Martin Luther said, "God creates out of nothing. Therefore, until man (sic) is nothing, God can make nothing out of him." Our sinful human nature is flawed in solving human problems.

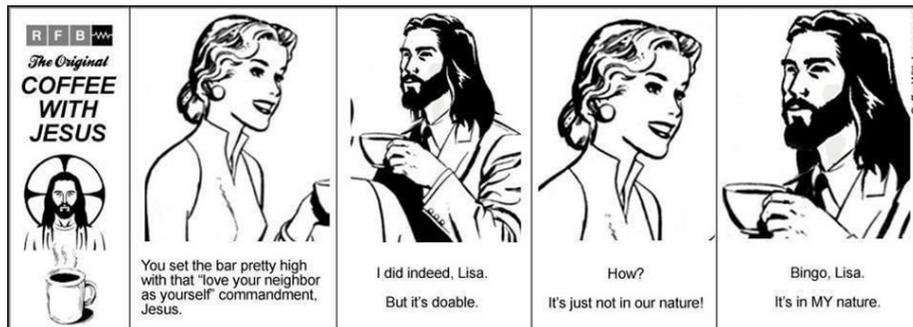
In our Easter faith, we are called to live in a way that at times seems almost impossible. When the odds seem overwhelming, we are invited back to the upper room. How good to hear those words again, spoken directly to us and FOR US, echoing over and over: Sanctify them.... sanctify them..." Suddenly we are able to see our suffering and sorrows for others in a new way.

I've mentioned before that I grew up in mission congregations. We met in school gyms. The Church office and meetings were in our home. People were thrilled to be part of something new, something different, something 'good.' I look back upon those early years of my Church life fondly. I felt that I was part of a community, a people who were excited about being Christian, who openly shared their joy in living a dedicated life to God. But as I grew older and tried to emulate that behavior, I quickly discovered that the rest of the world didn't give a darn about the Church, about Jesus. That was 50 plus years ago. Our society has grown more apart from community cohesiveness. Churches, civic organizations, groups continue but all struggle to keep people connected. In John 17 Jesus prays for us! Prays that we may be one as He and God the Father are one and in that oneness, there is peace, there is love, there is joy and fullness of life.

*Continued on page 2....*

That's why *Rejoice!* is SO important. We need one another. We need to gather every week. We need to sing our alleluias in a world gone crazy because underneath it all we are promised that God's Got This (meaning I don't.) We need to gather to hear the stories of God's salvific work among us, of God's love being poured into us. We need to gather to pray in that oneness so that we are changed to be the people God has called us, created us to be. We need Rejoice! to remind us that life is not all about "me" because here we learn how to love and support and strengthen one another. Here we live in community and in communion with the almighty so that, so that we can be a holy people in the world in which we live and move and breathe. That's what it means to BE Church – Easter People.

So, how do we respond to the massacre in Uvalde? What do we do about gun violence? What do we do about ... it begins with prayer- connecting with our God and Savior so that we can address the world with a love, with a peace, with a unity that is true and lasting. It begins with prayer, opening ourselves up to the flow of God to us so that we are changed to be a holy people.



Blessings,  
Pastor Doug

## President's Report

Dear Rejoice Members,

As spring gives us new life, I wanted to provide an update on our pastoral leadership and ministry.

Pastor Doug has shared in his Tuesday Tidings that he will be ending his time with us as interim pastor this summer. Pastor Doug joined us in May 2020 in the midst of the pandemic and has been a blessing to Rejoice for over 2 years. His guidance both in and outside of the pulpit have helped to bind us during the crisis and helped prepare us for the next phase of our pastoral leadership. His last Sunday will be July 10, and we will celebrate his time with us with a farewell service.

We will welcome a new interim immediately thereafter. Deacon Erin Bodenstab has been officially called and will join us beginning July 11. Her first Sunday in the pulpit will be July 17. She has served a number of part time roles as well as leading worship as a supply minister. Her strengths lie in leading worship, preaching and teaching, and family ministry and counseling. Many of us are not familiar with the difference between a pastor and a deacon. Their training is the same length and very similar; pastors are ministers of "word and sacrament" and deacons are ministers of "word and service". Deacons do not generally administer communion but Bishop Barbins has granted Deacon Erin the ability to do so at Rejoice. She and her husband will be relocating to the nearby suburbs this summer, moving from their home in Sandusky, Ohio. Erin's husband is also a pastor and has just accepted a full time call at Trinity Lutheran, Kent. They have a 5 year old daughter who will begin Kindergarten in the fall. We are excited to welcome Deacon Erin and her family to Rejoice!

In addition to securing a new interim, the Call Committee and Council remain engaged in securing the longer term pastoral leadership at Rejoice. We are doing that in two ways, working on multiple paths to help identify the best options available:

*Continued on page 3...*

1. The Call Committee continues to interview part-time candidates that the Synod identifies. The Committee interviewed a number of candidates last fall and over the winter. None were a great fit and they continue to expect additional candidates to surface.
2. The Council is engaged in active dialogue with 2 congregations about shared ministry, one of which is St. Stephen's Lutheran in Stow. We expect to add another 1-2 congregations into our discussions in the next couple of months. Many congregations have not spent much time thinking about shared ministry and we recognize that it takes a fair amount of conversation and mental shift to get others to warm up to the idea in order to actively engage.

As always, please feel free to ask questions. This is an exciting time with more changes to come. Change isn't good or bad, it's just different. I'm encouraged at our ability to embrace change as it comes and adapt to the new leaders God has blessed us with.

Best,

Bethany Bryant  
President

### Synod Assembly Report

Thank you for allowing me to be Rejoices' delegate to this year's Synod Assembly. We were reminded that we should not consider ourselves as delegates, but people of God and that we should at all times be centered on Christ.

The morning speaker was Father Raymond P. Guiao, the President of St. Ignatius High School. Of course there were numerous statements made regarding a Catholic addressing a group of Lutherans. He centered his presentation on the Mary and Martha story. He presented it in an interesting way, using our imaginations. The emphasis was on the fact that "being" is more important than "doing". He encouraged us to pause each and every day to see where God is in our day. Sit at the feet of Jesus and listen. Then rise and go to the "vineyard" or the people.

Throughout the day I heard words that I needed to hear. We naturally want to go back to pre-pandemic—but we are not called to go back, but to go forward and God will be with us. He gives us what we need and provides. We need to now figure out how to do it! There is just no way to go back to the future!

I close with thanks and share an interesting fact with you; there are zero pastors in our synod looking for a call at this time.

Thanks, again for the opportunity and may God continue to bless and be with Rejoice! Lutheran Church.

Ginny Pillsbury

### Pastor Brian's Wednesday Bible Study

Pastor Brian's Bible Study. Join us on Wednesday's at 7:00pm for more Resurrection Stores. Everyone invited:

Here's the zoom link.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3222400299?pwd=eDQ3NlB1WEc0NnhEUCs0cDM3OW9Bdz09>

Meeting ID: 322 240 0299



## Discounted 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
- 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

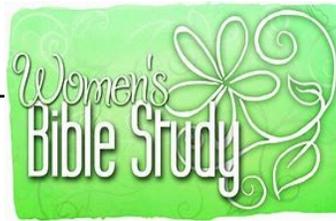
**Evening Women's Bible Study –via Zoom**

The Women's Bible Study group is now studying, "Parables".  
 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



**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

**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*

*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)*

**April 2022 Financial Report**

2022	April Actual	April Budget	April Vari- ance to Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	YTD Vari- ance to Budget	2022 Budget
<b>INCOME:</b>							
General Revenue	\$5,547	\$8,458	(\$2,911)	\$29,378	\$33,833	(\$4,455)	\$101,500
Capital Revenue	\$1,847	\$2,917	(\$1,070)	\$9,073	\$11,667	(\$2,594)	\$35,000
Other	\$1,111	\$2,001	(\$890)	\$16,381	\$8,003	\$8,378	\$24,010
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$8,505</b>	<b>\$13,376</b>	<b>(\$4,871)</b>	<b>\$54,832</b>	<b>\$53,503</b>	<b>\$1,329</b>	<b>\$160,510</b>
<b>EXPENSES:</b>							
General Expense	\$8,299	\$8,883	\$584	\$39,563	\$35,535	(\$4,028)	\$106,605
Capital Expense	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$0	\$16,000	\$16,000	\$0	\$50,500
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$12,299</b>	<b>\$12,883</b>	<b>\$584</b>	<b>\$55,563</b>	<b>\$51,535</b>	<b>(\$4,028)</b>	<b>\$157,105</b>
<b>VARIANCE</b>							
Total Variance	(\$3,794)	\$493		(\$731)	\$1,968		\$3,405

<b>Benevolence Giving</b>	\$0	\$417	(\$417)	\$1,250	\$1,667	(\$417)	\$5,000
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## REJOICE! LUTHERAN CHURCH

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### Hudson Food Pantry News

Hello to our Friends at Rejoice! Did you know that the Hudson Food Pantry served thirty-three families during the May distribution with delivery to four homebound families due to illness, plus one family needing emergency food outside of the normal distribution day. The best part of the food pantry distribution besides helping our neighbors is the wonderful volunteers who assisted in stocking, setting up the pantry site, and those that help on distribution day. We are fortunate to have so many people that want to help and we are grateful for their help for without them we couldn't serve the community.

Something new on the day of distribution is how to use some of the products on our shelves. Our own Chef Anna McLure has been an angel, as she takes what is on our shelves and makes a very delicious dish. She prepares the dish at home for a sample to taste while at the distribution. She tells the neighbors what ingredients are needed and provides a written recipe to follow. Hats off to you Anna for a job well done!

Another group that needs mentioning from this month's distribution is "The Page Turners". They are a group of high schoolers who collect unwanted books and then donate them to different needy organizations around North East Ohio. They decided to offer our neighbors the opportunity to select for FREE, (yes I did say FREE), books, to any of them at the distribution who were interested in a book or two. They set all the books up by age and various interests, then one of the parents who volunteers at our food pantry manned this area during the actual distribution due to confidentiality issues for our neighbors. What a great opportunity of providing some pleasure of reading to the neighbors we serve.

As we continue, as your HCSA Food Pantry team, to provide service to our neighbors please keep us in your prayers as we continue to keep all of you in our prayers as well.

Your Food Pantry Team,  
Linda Arnold, John Bourassa, Lynn Schmidt and Sue Talarcek (Pantry Manager)