

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

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church council

Bethany Bryant
Tim Boebel
Liz Franke
Pete Moore
Chris Wisbar

bulletin and
newsletter
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Sunday Worship
at
Rejoice! Lutheran Church
Worship: Sundays
10:00am
(In-person, FaceBook Live, or
posted later on our website)

Sunday School: (TBD)

Autumn and its Lone Reference in the Bible

My childhood autumns in Ohio hold precious memories—back to school, unpacking warmer clothing, hot cocoa, harvest moons, fires in the hearth, a well-stocked pantry, and best of all—FOOTBALL! I loved it.

The autumn of life is a strange mixture of nostalgia, blessings, and potential. It yields the harvest of seeds we've sown throughout life and braces us for colder days to come.

When life's autumn arrives, we look back and better understand the way God led us; but we still have work to do—the best and fullest. It's a good transition time.

"Autumn" only occurs once in the Bible. In [Jude 1:12](#), false teachers are compared to "autumn trees without fruit," implying that autumn should be a fruitful season, the most abundant of the year. How can we take advantage of the "autumn of life"?

The Unchanging Nature of God

The seasons come and go, so focus on the God who remains unchanged and unchanging. "LORD, You have been our dwelling place in all generations. Before the mountains were brought forth, forever You had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting, You are God" ([Psalm 90:1-2](#)).

There's a lot of unwelcome change in our world. Moral and societal changes bother us most when we turn on our television or glance at the magazines. We're painfully aware our kids are growing up in a world far different from the one we knew as children.

And personal changes—children leaving home, the passing of dear friends, and the slow, steady decline in our vitality and health. Sometimes we feel outdated at work. But amid all the changes, one thing, one person, never changes—our eternal God. Remember this verse from "Abide with Me"?

J. I. Packer points out that God does not change. His life is always the same. His character is always dependable. His truth, ways, and purposes do not change. His Son does not change. He's the same yesterday, today, and forever ([Hebrews 13:8](#)).

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His children will enjoy His fellowship a million years from now. The world may fade, the stars may fall, the seasons may change, and winter may come. But the God who has been our help in ages past is our hope for years to come. In Him we have permanence, stability, joy unshakable, and life unending.

The Wonderful Blessings of God

The autumn of life is a great time to focus on God's wonderful blessings—family, friends, strength, shelter, provision, guidance, care, fruitful ministry, opportunities to serve, more time to pray and study His Word, and eternal life still to come.

During life's autumn, we have a richer perspective and can count more blessings than ever before.

A Renewed Commitment to God

Autumn is a good time to focus on your commitment to God. Remember to remain close to Him during the shifting seasons of life. During autumn, we all know that winter lies ahead, but if winter comes, can spring be far behind?

This article was excerpted from Turning Points, Dr. David Jeremiah's devotional magazine. Used with permission.

President's Report

Dear Rejoice,

As we enter autumn we are reminded of the beautiful and changing landscape around us, the flowers in the garden dying replaced by the vibrance of the color on the trees. We settle into new routines of the cooler season, with summer barbecues behind us and the holidays ahead of us.

We have much planned over the next several months. Thank you to those who attended our first conversation in September regarding our shared ministry opportunities. We will continue those conversations in subsequent meetings in October, November and again at our annual meeting in December. If you missed this first conversation, there will be others or feel free to reach out individually. The next one is on October 30 (*note change in date*)

Also In October we have a mix of Pastor Richard Seaks and Pastor Brian leading worship. We also have loads of celebrations and opportunities to connect including the blessing of the quilts, Women's retreat, bible studies, Brown's game "watch party", and several other fellowship activities.

Lastly we will be celebrating several new families joining Rejoice on Sunday, October 23 during a new member service. If you have been attending and are interested in formally becoming a member, we would love to welcome you to join on that celebratory day. Please reach out to me or Carla. Everyone is invited to help celebrate and welcome these new families immediately after the worship service.

Prayers and blessings to you and our entire congregation!
Bethany Bryant
President

Hudson Food Pantry

Imagine waking up one morning and looking into an empty refrigerator with no milk, eggs, cheese, butter or meat. That is a very real scenario for some of our Hudson neighbors. Food insecurity is happening more frequently lately especially with the recent spike in food prices. Some working families are now having to make tough choices about changing their eating habits as the family budget is being stretched too thin for eating out or buying beef, seafood or other more expensive items.

The Hudson Food Pantry is able to help fill that gap for qualifying Hudson neighbors experiencing food insecurity. Thanks to the refrigerators and freezers in the pantry we are able to buy and accept donations of milk, eggs, cheese, produce, butter and meat to make available to our neighbors. In collaboration with the Akron Canton Regional Food-bank we can purchase these items at discounted prices. We can even purchase meat for as low as 10-20 cents a pound. This month we were able to distribute over 400 pounds of frozen meat to our neighbors experiencing food insecurity.

It is amazing to see the smiles and hear the thanks and "God Bless You" comments from those neighbors during the food distribution. Now facing an empty refrigerator in the morning is less likely thanks to the food pantry and the generosity of Rejoice Lutheran Church.

John Bourassa, RPh
johnbourassa@gmail.com

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=eDQ3NIB1WEc0NnhEUCs0cDM3OW9Bdz09>

Meeting ID: 322 240 0299

Passcode: COSJ2020



Rejoice Care Committee:

Please let any of the following know if any congregation members experience sickness, surgery, 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



Food Pantry Need

The Food Pantry continues to need feminine hygiene products and other personal hygiene items. There is a basket outside the office and your donations will be greatly appreciated.

Thanks for your help!

Evening Women's Bible Study –via Zoom



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

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



October Birthdays

5	Marilyn Olzmann
31	Bob Treend

October Anniversaries

14	Paul & Monica Leszek
21	Dave & Christina Boehm

New Bible Study Coming in November

Watch for an "Exploring your God given Gifts and Talents" Bible study coming in November after Church. See Janet Juliano for more information.

Fellowship Opportunity with St. Stephen's Stow

Matthew, Mark, Luke and (beers with) John, fellowship night with St. Stephen, Stow @ Hop Tree Brewing. 1297 Hudson Gate Dr Hudson, OH 44236 (off Hudson Dr.).



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@rejoiceclc.org

Discounted Senior Transportation

The ELCA grant funds awarded to Rejoice to provide Senior Transportation have been exhausted for now. If a new grant is awarded, we will publicize the program again.



August 2022 Financial Report

2022	August Actual	August Budget	August Variance to Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	YTD Variance to Budget	2022 Budget
INCOME:							
General Revenue	\$6,937	\$8,458	(\$1,521)	\$76,900	\$67,667	\$9,233	\$101,500
Capital Revenue	\$2,232	\$2,917	(\$685)	\$23,464	\$23,333	\$131	\$35,000
Other	\$2,655	\$2,001	\$654	\$26,689	\$16,007	\$10,682	\$24,010
Total Income	\$11,824	\$13,376	(\$1,552)	\$127,053	\$107,007	\$20,046	\$160,510
EXPENSES:							
General Expense	\$13,670	\$8,883	(\$4,787)	\$82,158	\$71,070	(\$11,088)	\$106,605
Capital Expense	\$8,500	\$4,500	(\$4,000)	\$37,500	\$32,500	(\$5,000)	\$50,500
Total Expenses	\$22,170	\$13,383	(\$8,787)	\$119,658	\$103,570	(\$16,088)	\$157,105
VARIANCE							
Total Variance	(\$10,346)	(\$7)		\$7,395	\$3,437		\$3,405
Benevolence Giving	\$0	\$417	(\$417)	\$2,500	\$3,333	(\$833)	\$5,000

REJOICE! LUTHERAN CHURCH

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October Activities

Sunday, Oct. 2	Blessing of the Quilts, Animal Blessing, bring your pet to Silver Springs Park - CANCELLED
Tuesday, Oct 4	Worship Committee Meeting on Zoom, 7:00pm
Wednesday, Oct. 5	Adult Bible Study 7:00 / Women's Bible Study 8:00
Thursday, Oct. 6	Matthew, Mark, Luke and (beers with) John, fellowship night with St. Stephen, Stow @ Hop Tree Brewing
Sunday, Oct. 9	Stewardship Committee, Annual Stewardship Drive meeting after church.
Wednesday, Oct. 12	Adult Bible Study 7:00 / Women's Bible Study 8:00
Monday, Oct. 17	Council Meeting 7:00
Wednesday, Oct. 19	Adult Bible Study 7:00 / Women's Bible Study 8:00
Sunday, Oct. 23	New Member Sunday, Browns Watch Party Fellowship Event, time TBD
Wednesday, Oct. 26	Adult Bible Study 7:00 / Women's Bible Study 8:00
Sunday, Oct. 30	Reformation Sunday, 1 st Sunday Stewardship Campaign, Shared Ministry congregation discussion meeting 11:00

Hudson Food Pantry

As you may know, the Hudson Food Pantry at Rejoice Lutheran Church is a choice pantry. Our neighbors select their own food, paper goods and toiletries instead of receiving a pre-packed or standard bag (s) of groceries. One of the pantry's offerings are baked goods. We acquire bakery items from four sources. One is the Akron-Canton Foodbank. Each month, on the Friday before our Saturday distribution, we pick up unsold baked goods from both Bruegger's Bagels and Panera Bread (Hudson locations). In addition, Costco donates baked goods with 'best buy' dates expiring on or shortly after our Saturday distribution date. Our neighbors appreciate the variety of breads and pastry items.

We cannot thank you enough for providing a home for the Hudson Food Pantry that our neighbors can rely on.