

**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

Brian Suntken, Vicar

**Contact Rejoice!**

330-653-5980

[office@rejoiceelc.org](mailto:office@rejoiceelc.org)

[www.rejoiceelc.org](http://www.rejoiceelc.org)

**Church Council**

Chris Wisbar

Jake Biltz

Tim Boebel

Pete Moore

Mike Procop

**Bulletin and  
Newsletter**

[office@rejoiceelc.org](mailto:office@rejoiceelc.org)

**Sunday Worship**

10:30am

(In-person, Face Book Live,  
or posted later on our  
website)

**Adult Formation Class**

9:30am on Sunday

**Bible Studies**

Tuesdays at 1:00PM  
at Rejoice

Wednesdays

8:00pm

on zoom

Thursday

7:00pm

on zoom

*"In the Jewish tradition, joy is something that happens when God finally does something that people have been waiting for."*

**N.T. Wright, retired Anglican Bishop of Durham**

*"I look at joy as an act of resistance against despair and its forces. ... Joy in that regard is a work, that can become a state, that can become a way of life."*

**Willie James Jennings, Professor of Theology at Yale University**

Dear Friends:

Our Adult Education Forum has begun a series entitled, "Count it all Joy" based on the biblical verse found in the Epistle of James. How does a Christian find joy in the inevitable highs and lows of life? What is Joy? Is Joy an emotion or a way of being? Does the difficulty of language make it ultimately inadequate to capture the concept fully?

These questions have challenged and been debated by philosophers, psychologists, song-writers, theologians, and poets for millennia. Some people have distinguished happiness from joy, although in scriptures and prophetic teachings those terms are sometimes used interchangeably. Others argue that joy is not merely a temporary emotion but rather a more permanent and constant condition: the origins of joy have nothing to do with materialism or status and everything to do with our state of mind.

In a recent blog post at ***Psychology Today***, Christine Louise Hohlbaum asked: "How can anyone even entertain the notion of joy in such a tumultuous time in human history? Geopolitical tensions, social media trash-mouthing, global inflation, and post-pandemic trauma have us all a wee bit on edge, to say the least. And while the drama of relentless incendiary political complication splashes across our screens, we seem to have forgotten to pay attention to the quiet, less-racy aspects of life. But those very still moments in which we feel present and alive are what make life worth living. Taking a step back to excavate our innate sense of joy is a worthwhile pursuit. To paraphrase Kurt Vonnegut Jr., it is the small things that make life great."

*Continued on page 2...*

*Continued from page 1...*

Let me close this all too brief “tease” to encourage you to participate in our Sunday Forum with the following questions for your discernment and reflection.

What is Joy?

What brings you Joy?

What brings you Joy at Church?

What brings you Joy in your faith?

I look forward to being in ministry with you. Brian.

## Lent Goes to the Movies

Film is a parable we contemplate. It is a way for God to speak to us. Parables do not tell us what to do; they present a story that mirrors our concerns and so brings us face to face with ourselves. For the final three weeks of the Lenten Season, the Rejoice community invites you to bring a friend and come along for an adventure of discovery and reflection. We will have the popcorn and drinks ready for you. All three presentations begin at 7:00 pm on Wednesday nights in March.

### **March 6 – Babette’s Feast (1 hour and 43 minutes) Rated: G English Subtitles**

At once a rousing paean to artistic creation, a delicate evocation of divine grace, and the ultimate film about food, the Oscar-winning BABETTE’S FEAST is a deeply beloved cinematic treasure. Directed by Gabriel Axel and adapted from a story by Isak Dinesen, this is the layered tale of a French housekeeper with a mysterious past who brings quiet revolution in the form of one exquisite meal to a circle of starkly pious villagers in late nineteenth-century Denmark. BABETTE’S FEAST combines earthiness and reverence in an indescribably moving depiction of pleasure that goes to your head like fine champagne.

### **March 13 – The Mission (2 hours and 5 minutes) Rated: PG**

"The Mission" is, like 1984's "The Bounty", one of a select few eighties films that is far from forgotten, but still remains somewhat underrated by modern film fans nonetheless. Sweeping and visually resplendent, The Mission is a powerful action epic about a man of the sword (Robert DeNiro) and a man of the cloth (Jeremy Irons) who unite to shield a South American Indian tribe from brutal subjugation by 18th-century colonial empires. Winner of the 1986 Cannes Film Festival Best Picture Award, the film earned seven Academy Award nominations (including Best Picture). The film has also been cited as one of the greatest religious films of all time, appearing in the Vatican film list's "Religion" section and being number one on the Church Times' Top 50 Religious Films list. The Mission is screen storytelling that weaves a haunting spell.

### **March 20 – Up (1 hour and 36 minutes) Rated: PG**

From the revolutionary minds of Pixar Animation Studios and the acclaimed director of MONSTERS, INC. comes a hilariously uplifting adventure where the sky is no longer the limit. Carl Fredrickson, a retired balloon salesman, is part rascal, part dreamer who is ready for his last chance at high-flying excitement. Tying thousands of balloons to his house, Carl sets off to the lost world of his childhood dreams. Unbeknownst to Carl, Russell, an overeager 8-year-old Wilderness Explorer who has never ventured beyond his backyard, is in the wrong place at the wrong time – Carl's front porch! The world's most unlikely duo reach new heights and meet fantastic friends like Dug, a dog with a special collar that allows him to speak, and Kevin, a rare 13-foot tall flightless bird. Stuck together in the wilds of the jungle, Carl realizes that sometimes life's biggest adventures aren't the ones you set out looking for.

## Lent Goes to the Movies



We will explore how God is depicted on the big screen by watching three acclaimed films: “Babette’s Feast” on Wednesday, March 6 at 7:00 pm. “The Mission” on Wednesday, March 13 and “Up” on March 20, all at 7:00PM. Naturally, popcorn will be provided, and AJ Stokes will provide a big screen and sufficient audio. Invite a friend and enjoy the fellowship. Additional detail on page 2.

## Holy Week and Easter

**Palm Sunday**—Process into the sanctuary with palms, worship at 10:30am

**Maundy Thursday**—Joint meal and service with St. Stephens at 6:30PM at Leona Farris Lodge at Silver Springs Park 5027 Stow Rd. Stow, Ohio. *Donations are requested to cover the cost of the meal. Please place in the offering plate with a note “for Maundy Thurs”*

**Good Friday** – Hudson Community Good Friday service at Rejoice at noon. Joint service with St. Stephens at Rejoice at 7:00pm.

**Easter Sunday** – Breakfast 9:15-10:15am, Service with Holy Communion 10:30am at Rejoice Lutheran Church. Sign up at the welcome desk if you can bring a breakfast item to share

## Fellowship Time Hospitality

**Enjoy Coffee and Snacks After Worship?**

Looking for volunteers to bring a snack, make coffee and clean up after. Since everyone likes a snack now and then, weekly volunteers are needed to make Sunday morning coffee, put out the snacks and stay to clean up afterwards. Sign up sheet is at the coffee bar window.



## HCSA Food Pantry News—March 2024

We got a LARGE donation of nearly 600 cans of soup from Seton, so people were able to take several Chunky Soups and Progresso soups, great for this time of year! We also had Girl Scout cookies donated, a special treat for our neighbors. We are busy getting ready for our inspection by the Akron Canton Food Bank, which will happen in the middle of March. Still working on getting the Easter baskets ready for distribution for the EARLY Easter this year.

Women's Bible Study —Via Zoom**Note New Time During Lent!!**

The Women's Bible Study group is now studying —

"The Coming King"

No pressure, no homework!

Just fellowship time

with Christian friends studying God's Word.

**Join us Wednesdays at 8:30pm on Zoom**

<https://johncarrolluniversity.zoom.us/j/628894291>

Contact Lisa Ramsey with questions/problems at [lisaruns1969@gmail.com](mailto:lisaruns1969@gmail.com) or 234.380.2090

March Birthdays

8	Samantha Klukow
20	Pam Rubenstahl
21	Francine McBride
27	Stephanie Klukow
28	Sean Giannetti

March Anniversaries

13	Bob & Catherine Flower
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Celebrating...

**Congratulations,  
Bob and Catherine!**

70  
years

Wednesday Evening Bible Study will be on  
Thursday's until after  
Easter

**Everyone is invited.**

Here's the zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3222400299?pwd=eDQ3NIB1WEcONnhEUCs0cDM3OW9Bdz09>

[j/3222400299?pwd=eDQ3NIB1WEcONnhEUCs0cDM3OW9Bdz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3222400299?pwd=eDQ3NIB1WEcONnhEUCs0cDM3OW9Bdz09)

Meeting ID: 322 240 0299 Pass code: COSJ2020

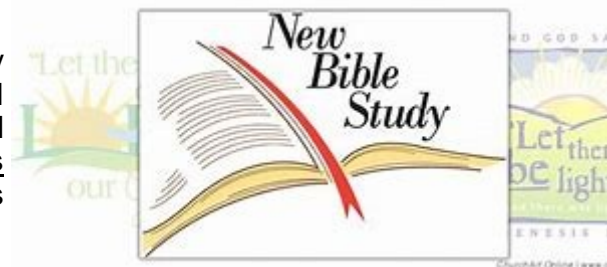
Financial Report - January 2024

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

2024	Jan Actual	Jan Budget	Jan Variance to Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	YTD Variance to Budget	2024 Budget
<b>INCOME:</b>							
General Revenue	\$20,095	\$12,833	\$7,262	\$20,095	\$12,833	\$7,262	\$154,000
Capital Revenue	\$4,410	\$2,917	\$1,493	\$4,410	\$2,917	\$1,493	\$35,000
Other	\$1,407	\$358	\$1,049	\$1,407	\$358	\$1,049	\$4,300
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$25,912</b>	<b>\$16,108</b>	<b>\$9,804</b>	<b>\$25,912</b>	<b>\$16,108</b>	<b>\$9,804</b>	<b>\$193,300</b>
<b>EXPENSES:</b>							
General Expense	\$10,148	\$9,778	(\$370)	\$10,148	\$9,778	(\$370)	\$117,340
Capital Expense	\$5,546	\$5,667	\$121	\$5,546	\$5,667	\$121	\$68,000
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$15,694</b>	<b>\$15,445</b>	<b>(\$249)</b>	<b>\$15,694</b>	<b>\$15,445</b>	<b>(\$249)</b>	<b>\$185,340</b>
<b>Net Total</b>	<b>\$10,218</b>	<b>\$663</b>		<b>\$10,218</b>	<b>\$663</b>		<b>\$7,960</b>
<b>Benevolence Giving</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$667</b>	<b>(\$667)</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$667</b>	<b>(\$667)</b>	<b>\$8,000</b>

## Daytime Bible Study—Simply Good News

Every Sunday we hear the Gospel read – dutifully responding with praise. Why? What makes the Gospel “good news” anyway? So, on Tuesdays at 1:00pm we’ll be reading and discussing the book Simply Good News by N.T. Wright. Led by Dave Denes, we will tackle this central message of Christianity. Please join us.



## Ladies Night Out

Friday, May 3, 7-9PM

**Grace Baptist Church, Laurel Road, Brunswick, OH, USA**

3480 Laurel Road Brunswick, OH 44212

Featuring Nicole Nordeman. Hosted by Sara Carnes from 95.5 the Fish. With special guest, Robin Swoboda. General Admission tickets are \$30 (+\$3.85 fee). Doors open at 6:30PM

Join us for a fabulous evening of music and inspiration with the incredible **Nicole Nordeman**! This in-person event will be held at **Grace Baptist Church** on Laurel Road in Brunswick, OH, USA. Get ready to be uplifted and encouraged as Nicole shares her heartfelt songs and stories. This is a night you won't want to miss! Grab your girlfriends and mark your calendars for a night of laughter, tears, and unforgettable moments. Come as you are and let's celebrate the power of sisterhood together!

**Anyone interested in getting a group together to go?**

**See Carla**



FRIDAY, MAY 3 GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH

## **LADIES NIGHT OUT**

AN EVENING WITH  
NICOLE NORDEMAN



SPECIAL GUEST  
ROBIN SWOBODA

HOSTED BY SARA CARNES



## **Matthew, Mark, Luke, and (beers with) John**

Thursday, March 7, 7:00pm

Join our St. Stephen friends and family at

Missing Mountain Brewery., 2811 Front St., Cuyahoga Falls

Order your favorite beverage (it doesn't have to be a beer) and snacks and catch up with friends. Missing Mountain offers a full menu including salads, sandwiches, pizza and more



## Helping Hands at Our Church, Spreading the Love of Jesus ...

~ Bill and Sue Holman have been checking and organizing our St. Pauly Clothing shed for some time now. But in recent months it's become more of a chore due to vandalism. Someone has been getting in, tearing up bags and strewing the clothing around. Bill has been working with St. Pauly and the Hudson Police. Hopefully soon we can identify the vandals and it will stop. In the meantime, thank you both for continuing to maintain the shed despite these frequent problems. The shed is a ministry to our community and beyond and St. Pauly sends us a check periodically for maintaining the shed on our property.

*~ I am grateful for the altar guild members who serve each week to make sure that the altar at Rejoice is cared for and set-up for worship every Sunday. They prepare the communion and set the Lord's table, change the banners and the paraments, they maintain the candles, the baptismal font, and arrange the flowers, and they wash the linens, clean the chancel, and they do all this every week quietly and lovingly in the background. They are Dana Biltz, Glenn Fasnacht, Kate Hartland, Kathy Jacobsen, Jenn Lue, Grace Lue, Carla Maurer, Marisa McLelland, Diane Procop, and Sue Simmons.*

*Nancy Fasnacht, Altar Guild Leader*

*Please let the church office know if we missed anyone's good deeds, because we want to recognize all helping hands!*

## Clear Bags Recycled into Park Benches - St. Stephens Collection

The local DAR (Daughters of the American Revolution) chapter is collecting clear plastic bags. The DAR chapter meets at St. Stephen on Saturdays. The clear plastic bags are collected and taken to the Kent Lions Club, who then delivers them to Terex. Terex takes the bags and recycles them into park benches. (see photo) The following clear plastic items are accepted for recycle:

- Grocery bags
- Bread bags
- Bubble wrap
- Ice bags
- Newspaper sleeves
- Case overwrap (drinks)

If you have clear plastic to donate, please place it in the bag in the entryway. It is ok if there is print on the plastic.



<div>  <h1>March</h1>  </div>						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	    				1	2
3 9:30 Adult Formation  <b>10:30</b> <b>Worship &amp; Communion</b>	4 7 PM AA Women's Group	5 6:30 PM Al-Anon Meeting  1:00 PM Simply Good News Bible Study at Rejoice	6 7:00 PM Lent Goes to the Movies  8:30 PM Women's Zoom Bible Study	7 7 PM Brian's Zoom Bible Meeting	8	9
10 9:30 Adult Formation  <b>10:30</b> <b>Worship &amp; Communion</b>	11 6:30 PM <b>Quilting Group</b> 7 pm <b>Church Council Meeting</b> 7 PM AA Women's Group	12 6:30 PM Al-Anon Meeting  1:00 PM Simply Good News Bible Study at Rejoice	<b>13</b> 7:00 PM Lent Goes to the Movies  8:30 PM Women's Zoom Bible Study	14 7 PM Brian's Zoom Bible Meeting	15	16
17 9:30 Adult Formation  <b>10:30</b>  <b>Worship &amp; Communion</b>	18 7 PM AA Women's Group	19 6:30 PM Al-Anon Meeting  1:00 PM Simply Good News Bible Study at Rejoice	20 8:30 PM Women's Zoom Bible Study	21 7 PM Brian's Zoom Bible Meeting	22	23 <b>12 - 2 PM</b> <b>Hudson Food Pantry</b> <b>February Distribution</b>
<b>24 Palm Sunday</b> 9:30 Adult Formation <b>10:30</b> <b>Worship &amp; Communion</b>	<b>25</b> 7 PM AA Women's Group	<b>26</b> 6:30 PM Al-Anon Meeting  1:00 PM Simply Good News Bible Study at Rejoice	<b>27 Holy Wednesday</b> 8:30 PM Women's Zoom Bible Study	<b>28 Maundy Thursday</b> 6:30PM Meal & Service at Leona Farris Lodge at Silver Springs Park in Stow	<b>29 Good Friday</b> Noon - Community Good Friday Service at Rejoice 7:00 PM Joint Service at Rejoice	<b>30 Holy Saturday</b>
<b>31 Easter Sunday</b>  <b>10:30</b> <b>Worship &amp; Communion</b>	<div>  <h2>Happy Easter</h2> </div>					

## ~~~ March Worship Helpers ~~~

10:30am SERVICE	3-Mar	10-Mar	17-Mar	24-Mar Palm Sunday	31-Mar Easter Sunday
ALTAR GUILD	McLelland/Fasnacht	McLelland/Fasnacht	McLelland/Fasnacht	McLelland/Fasnacht	McLelland/Fasnacht
COMMUNION SET UP	J Lue / G Lue	Dana Biltz	Angie Hagan / K Jacobsen	Marisa McLelland	J Lue / G Lue
LAY READER	Tim Hagan	Sue Holman	Russ Ackerman	Marisa McLelland	Becky Hogue
PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE	Bethany Bryant	Susan Busch	Angie Hagan	Chad Bryant	Bethany Bryant
GREETER / USHER	Paul Mallott	George Arnold	Tim Boebel	George Arnold	Paul Mallott
COUNTERS	N Fasnacht/ W Klukow	N Fasnacht/ C Maurer	Carla Maurer / Bethany Bryant	B Bryant / N Fasnacht	C Maurer / W Klukow
POWER POINT PREP	Bethany Bryant	Carla Maurer	Judi Boebel	Nancy Fasnacht	Bethany Bryant
SOUND BOOTH	TBA	Dan Jacobsen	Wisbar or TBA	Tim Boebel	Dan Jacobsen
VIDEOGRAPHER	D Jacobsen	AJ Stokes or D Jacobsen	AJ Stokes or D Jacobsen	AJ Stokes or D Jacobsen	AJ Stokes or D Jacobsen
FELLOWSHIP	Help Needed	Help Needed	Help Needed	Help Needed	Help Needed

**Lay Reader** – read the Scripture for the day. Readings can be emailed in advance for you to preview.

**Communion Assistant** – help with distribution of the Sacrament holding the wine and juice “The blood of Christ shed for you!”

**Communion Set-up** – cube bread and place in cups/basket, Pour wine into cups using sanitized hands and minimize touch of the communion elements.

**Usher** – make sure everyone has a bulletin, a chair, or any other assistance. Light the candles prior to the worship and extinguish them after worship.

**Offering Counter** – count the Sunday offering and prepare it for deposit.

**Altar Guild** – ensure that altar coverings (paraments), communion cloths and banners are clean and changed seasonally (can be done prior to Sunday) Fill altar candles with oil, as needed.

**Power Point Prep** – using the weekly bulletin as a guide, copy/paste the Order of Worship into a Power Point presentation (can be done at home in advance and emailed to the soundbooth).

**Videographer** – each week we live-stream the worship service. A new system is in place that is user friendly and training is available.

**Sound booth tech and PowerPoint** – sit at the sound booth, advance the power point slides when appropriate, and run the equipment.

**Fellowship**—ensure that someone is signed up to bring a snack, make coffee and clean-up

**Help is needed in all Worship Help areas. Please see Carla to volunteer!**

If you are unable to serve on the scheduled date, please make every effort to find a replacement and contact the church office no later than Wednesday, prior to the date you are scheduled. 330-653-5980



**REJOICE! LUTHERAN CHURCH**

7855 Stow Rd.

Hudson, Ohio 44236

Phone: 330-653-5980

E-mail: [office@rejoicelc.org](mailto:office@rejoicelc.org)

We're on the web!  
[www.rejoicelc.org](http://www.rejoicelc.org)

A few pics from the Chili Cookoff Feb 24, 2024



And the winner is...Francine McBride with her Cactus Chili. (May need to zoom in to see her trophy!)  
Second place was Glenn and Nancy Fasnacht

