

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

Contact Rejoice!

330-653-5980

office@rejoicelc.org
www.rejoicelc.org

Church Council

Tim Boebel
Pete Moore
Mike Procop
Glenn Fasnacht
Kathy Jacobsen
Brian Pillsbury
Kate Hartland

**Bulletin and
Newsletter**

office@rejoicelc.org

Sunday Worship

10:30am
(In-person or Face Book
Live,)

Bible Study

Adult Formation Study
Sundays
9:30am
in person

Women's Bible Study
Wednesdays
8:00pm
on zoom

Merry Christmas!

Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright. One of my all-time favorite songs of the Christmas season. Every time I hear it, I'm taken back to my childhood, singing during a candlelight service—surrounded by family and friends, all gathered for one reason: celebrating the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. My cousin would play the trumpet, and I would play the drums for *The Little Drummer Boy*. The joy, the hugs, and the sound of “Merry Christmas” echoed throughout the sanctuary.

Growing up on a dairy farm, our Christmases looked a little different than most. The cows needed to be milked no matter what day it was. We would all pitch in, finish the chores, and then head to Grandma's house for breakfast. She always made sausage and waffles for everyone. We'd sing Christmas carols while one of my sisters played the piano. That evening, we'd be back in the barn again, milking and feeding for the second time that day. Christmas was one of my favorite times in the barn. Everything felt calm—hard work, yes—but there was a deep sense of peace in caring for the animals.

I hope all of you have memories of Christmas as fond as mine—both from your childhood and from the moments you've created while raising your own families. These cherished memories are what make a great life and what we carry with us throughout the years.

This will be my last newsletter article as council president. It has truly been a pleasure serving in this role. We have new members joining in 2026, and I am confident they will do a wonderful job—maintaining focus and determination to ensure a great year ahead for Rejoice.

Merry Christmas to each and every one of you. I hope this holiday season finds you well, making new memories with those you love and cherish.

Blessings,
Jake Biltz

CHRISTIAN UNITY PRAYER SERVICE AND LUNCHEON SCHEDULED FOR January 22, 2026

In celebration of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, Hudson churches are planning the annual interdenominational prayer service and luncheon scheduled for Thursday, January 22, 2026 at 10:00 AM. Laurel Lake Retirement Center in Hudson, located at 200 Laurel Lake Dr., will host the event. The ecumenical prayer service, led by local clergy, will focus on the theme, *"There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling"* (Ephesians 4:4)

The service was written by a group of Christian clergy and laypeople from Armenia. They concentrated on the whole verse "learn to do good; seek justice, rescue the oppressed, defend the orphan, plead for the widow" when designing the service.

Ticket holders will enjoy a buffet lunch in the Laurel Lake dining room, immediately following the service. The buffet lunch options are:

- Salad:** Arugula, pear shaved parmesan with dried cherries and Balsamic Dressing.
- 2 Entrees:** Classic Lasagna and Balsamic Fig Roasted Chicken.
- Bread:** Assorted rolls
- Dessert:** Cookies and Brownies

Coffee, tea, and water will also be available.

Our featured speaker after the luncheon is Phil Herman, The Impact Group, co-author of *Appreciology: The Art & Science of Appreciation*.

Phil is passionate about helping individuals and organizations become their best selves. With over 25 years of experience in education, Phil has worked as a teacher, coach, principal, director of human resources, assistant superintendent and superintendent for 11 years. As a leader in community engagement, team development, crisis communications, leadership development and leading high-level organizations, Phil focuses on the creation of meaningful relationships to bring community members, staff, administrators, parents and students together to solve problems.

Ticket price is \$20.00 per person for the luncheon and speaker portion of the event. Tickets are available from Ginny Pillsbury. Make checks for tickets payable to First Congregational Church of Hudson. Reservation deadline is January 18, 2026.

The prayer service is free and open to all; it does not require a ticket to attend. This year's offering will be divided in half. One half going to the Hudson Community Service Association Food Pantry and half to the Akron-Canton Food Bank. Checks should be made payable to First Congregational Church of Hudson with a note on the memo line that it is for CUPS offering.

The week of Prayer for Christian Unity has been celebrated throughout the world since 1908 and it has been celebrated in Hudson since 1968. The Christian Unity Prayer Service brings the churches from our community together through prayer and praise, reflecting the prayer of Jesus Christ, "That all might be one" (John 17:21).

Representatives from the following churches and organizations have participated in planning this event: Christ Church Episcopal, First Congregational Church of Hudson, Hudson United Methodist Church, Laurel Lake Retirement Community, Rejoice! Lutheran Church, and St. Mary Parish.

Ginny Pillsbury and Carla Maurer represent Rejoice on this committee



Women's Bible Study –Via Zoom

Upcoming weeks of Women's Bible Study

Jan 7, will resume the study on "Miracles"

Join us **Wednesdays at 8:00pm on Zoom**

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

Contact Lisa Ramsey with questions/problems at lisaruns1969@gmail.com or 234.380.2090



January Birthdays

8	Sharon Straka
16	Dana Bryant
22	Joyce Clothier
24	Ellen Ackerman

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



Welcome New Council Members

Kate Hartland, Brian Pillsbury and Kathy Jacobsen have been elected to join Tim Boebel, Pete Moore, Glenn Fasnacht and Mike Procop on Rejoice's 2026 Council. Many thanks to outgoing council members, Chris Wisbar and Jake Biltz for their years of service to our congregation.

Rejoice Congregational Health and Identity Committee

Sandy Molnar, Judi Boebel, Dan Jacobsen, Chris Wisbar and Ginny Pillsbury will join together to work on determining Rejoice's path forward. The NE Ohio Synod will provide assistance and guidance as the team discerns what is best for the future of Rejoice.

Financial Report - November 2025

2025	Nov Actual	Nov Budget	Nov Vari- ance to Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	YTD Vari- ance to Budget	2025 Budget
INCOME:							
General Revenue	\$13,388	\$12,708	\$680	\$128,808	\$139,792	(\$10,984)	\$152,500
Capital Revenue	\$2,060	\$2,833	(\$773)	\$24,690	\$31,167	(\$6,477)	\$34,000
Other	\$2,519	\$567	\$1,952	\$11,121	\$6,233	\$4,888	\$6,800
Total Income	\$17,967	\$16,108	\$1,859	\$164,619	\$177,192	(\$12,573)	\$193,300
EXPENSES:							
General Expense	\$16,509	\$9,433	(\$7,076)	\$96,886	\$103,766	\$6,880	\$113,200
Capital Expense	\$5,546	\$5,583	\$37	\$61,006	\$61,417	\$411	\$67,000
Total Expenses	\$22,055	\$15,016	(\$7,039)	\$157,892	\$165,183	\$7,291	\$180,200
Net Total	(\$4,088)	\$1,092		\$6,727	\$12,009		\$13,100
Benevolence Giving	\$0	\$667	(\$667)	\$6,250	\$7,333	(\$1,083)	\$8,000



JANUARY 2026



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																										
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="7">February 2026</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Sunday</th> <th>Monday</th> <th>Tuesday</th> <th>Wednesday</th> <th>Thursday</th> <th>Friday</th> <th>Saturday</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> <td>3</td> <td>4</td> <td>5</td> <td>6</td> <td>7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>8</td> <td>9</td> <td>10</td> <td>11</td> <td>12</td> <td>13</td> <td>14</td> </tr> <tr> <td>15</td> <td>16</td> <td>17</td> <td>18</td> <td>19</td> <td>20</td> <td>21</td> </tr> <tr> <td>22</td> <td>23</td> <td>24</td> <td>25</td> <td>26</td> <td>27</td> <td>28</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		February 2026							Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28			1 New Year's Day	2	3
February 2026																																																
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																										
1	2	3	4	5	6	7																																										
8	9	10	11	12	13	14																																										
15	16	17	18	19	20	21																																										
22	23	24	25	26	27	28																																										
4 9:30 AM Adult Formation 10:30 AM Worship & Communion 11:30 Care	5	6 Epiphany 6:30 AM Al-Anon Meeting	7 8 PM Women's Zoom Bible Study	8	9	10																																										
11 9:30 AM Adult Formation 10:30 AM Worship & Communion	12 6:30 PM Quilting Group 	13 6:30 AM Al-Anon Meeting	14 8 PM Women's Zoom Bible Study	15	16	17																																										
18 9:30 AM Adult Formation 10:30 AM Worship & Communion	19 Martin Luther King Day 7:00 PM  Meeting	20 6:30 AM Al-Anon Meeting	21 8 PM Women's Zoom Bible Study	22 10 AM Christian Unity Prayer Service and Luncheon at Laurel Lake	23	24 12 - 2 PM Hudson Food Pantry Distribution 																																										
25 9:30 AM Adult Formation 10:30 AM Worship & Communion 11:30 AM Worship Ministry	26	27 6:30 AM Al-Anon Meeting	28 8 PM Women's Zoom Bible Study	29	30	31																																										

~ ~ ~ January Worship Helpers ~ ~ ~

10:30am SERVICE	Jan 4	Jan 11	Jan 18		Jan 25	Feb 1
PRESIDER	Rev. Pam Kelly	Rev. Elizabeth Hazelton	Rev. John Butchko		Rev. John Butchko	Rev. Pam Kelly
COMMUNION PICK-UP COMMUNION SET UP	N/A Jenn Lue	N/A Dana Biltz	N/A Kathy Jacobsen		N/A Diane Procop	N/A Jenn Lue
LAY READER	Russ Ackerman	Robyn Crane	Bill Holman		Jenn Lue	Francine McBride
PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE	Sue Holman	Pete Moore	Francine McBride		Bill Holman	Sue Holman
GREETER / USHER	Paul Mallott	Tim Boebel	Paul Mallott		Russ Ackerman	Paul Mallott
COUNTERS	Brian Pillsbury/ Dave Denes	Brian Pillsbury/ W Klukow	W Klukow / Dave Denes		Brian Pillsbury/ W Klukow	Bill Clothier/ Brian Pillsbury
POWER POINT PREP	Nancy Fasnacht	Nancy Fasnacht	Judi Boebel		Judi Boebel	Carla Maurer
SOUND BOOTH	Tim Boebel	Wisbar	Wisbar		Dan Jacobsen	Tim Boebel
FACEBOOK LIVE STREAM	Glenn Fasnacht, Dave Denes, Dan Jacobsen, or Ellen Wisbar	Glenn Fasnacht, Dave Denes, Dan Jacobsen, or Ellen Wisbar	Glenn Fasnacht, Dave Denes, Dan Jacobsen, or Ellen Wisbar		Glenn Fasnacht, Dave Denes, Dan Jacobsen, or Ellen Wisbar	Glenn Fasnacht, Dave Denes, Dan Jacobsen, or Ellen Wisbar

Communion Pick-up—pick up consecrated communion elements from St. Stephens about 9:00am on Sunday

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 members take care all things concerning the altar, including communion preparation (bread & wine), altar linens, candles, paraments, banners, and flowers. They make sure that the altar is set up appropriately for the times and seasons of the church year.

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



Crouse Elementary School

From preparing the gift bags with our friends from St. Stephens, to helping Santa deliver them to the children



REJOICE! LUTHERAN CHURCH

7855 Stow Rd.

Hudson, Ohio 44236

Phone: 330-653-5980

E-mail: office@rejoicelc.org



A few pics from our Christmas Fellowship Dinner at Leo's Italian Social on December 7

