

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

Lent: A Season to Return to the Heart of God

When I was a child, my mother would always say at the beginning of Lent, “Mike, what are you giving up for Lent?” Oh how I hated those words. Being that I was a chubby kid, this meant I had to give up sweets. I loved sweets and still do! To me it was more than a sacrifice, it was a punishment. I just wasn’t aware of the true meaning of Lent.

Each year, the season of Lent invites the Church into a sacred rhythm of reflection, repentance, and renewal. Beginning on Ash Wednesday and continuing for forty days. Lent mirrors Jesus’ forty days in the wilderness—a time of prayer, fasting, and preparation before the joy of Easter morning.

Lent is not meant to be a gloomy season, but a meaningful one. It gives us space to pause and examine our lives honestly before God. The ashes placed on our foreheads remind us of our human frailty—“for you are dust, and to dust you shall return”—but they also point us toward hope. God meets us in our weakness with mercy, grace, and new life.

Traditionally, Lent is marked by three spiritual practices: prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Through prayer, we draw closer to God, listening for His voice and aligning our hearts with His will. Fasting helps us loosen our grip on things that distract or control us, creating room for deeper dependence on God. Almsgiving turns our focus outward, calling us to love our neighbors through generosity, compassion, and acts of service.

Many people choose to “give something up” during Lent, such as a habit, comfort, or indulgence. Others choose to “take something on,” like daily Scripture reading, intentional prayer time, or serving others more regularly. The goal is not self-denial for its own sake, but transformation—allowing God to shape us more fully into the likeness of Christ.

Lent ultimately leads us to the cross. As we walk with Jesus through His suffering and sacrifice, we are reminded of the depth of His love for us. Yet the journey does not end there. Lent prepares our hearts to celebrate the resurrection with greater joy, gratitude, and faith.

As we observe this holy season together, may we embrace Lent not as an obligation, but as an invitation—an invitation to return to the heart of God, to be renewed by His grace, and to experience the hope of Easter more deeply than ever before.

Mike Procop



Chili Cook-Off 2026

Overall Rating: ★★★★★
 Date of Event: February 7, 2026
 Atmosphere: Relaxing, Welcoming



Our Rejoice Lutheran Church Chili Cook-Off was held on Feb 7. It was the perfect remedy for the winter blues! The room was filled with laughter, lively conversation, and great fellowship.

There were four pots of chili cooking away and each was so very delicious in its own way. One was spicy (yum), one had different types of beans (yum), one had veggies, beans, and meat (yum), and one was vegetarian (yum).

Folks came hungry and ready to eat. There was a separate table just for toppings with everything from cheese to crackers to sour cream and more. There were delicious corn muffins (yum) and brownies and sweet treats (yum) too.

Tickets were sold for \$5 each or three for \$10 and were used to vote for your favorite chili. The winning chili award went to the "Father and Son-in-Law" Chili prepared by Glenn Fasnacht and his son-in-law Brian Slone for their Chili "Olè Molè." One of the ingredients was chocolate!

The proceeds from the ticket sale went to the Haven of Rest in the amount of \$135.00. Haven of Rest is a Christ-centered ministry in Akron, Ohio that provides hope, healing, and recovery for men and women facing life-dominating problems, such as homelessness and addiction.

Kathy Jacobsen and the Fellowship Group did a great job of organizing the event and handling the set-up and clean-up.

Thank you, and thank you to everyone who attended this delicious evening.

Attendees (from the top): Ginny & Brian Pillsbury, Kathy & Dan Jacobsen, Dee & Pete Moore, Nancy & Glenn Fasnacht, Brian Slone, Joyce & Bill Clothier and their guests, and Marilyn Olzmann.

Not pictured: Diane & Mike Procop, and Juliet Jager & Frank Pancake.



Martin Luther's Morning Prayer

"I give thanks to you, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ your dear Son, that you have protected me through the night from all harm and danger. I ask that you would also protect me today from sin and all evil, so that my life and actions may please you. Into your hands I commend myself: my body, my soul, and all that is mine. Let your holy angel be with me, so that the wicked foe may have no power over me. Amen."

Women's Bible Study –Via Zoom

Upcoming weeks of Women's Bible Study

New Lenten Study, "Jesus' Final Week"

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



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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Rejoice Congregational Health and Identity Committee

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

The next step in the process is an open meeting on Saturday, March 7, 10:00 to 11:30am to discuss Rejoice's historic timeline and take input from the congregation on questions and concerns.

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

Financial Report - January 2026


2026	Jan Actual	Jan Budget	Jan Variance to Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	YTD Variance to Budget	2026 Budget
INCOME:							
General Revenue	\$26,380	\$10,542	\$15,838	\$26,380	\$10,542	\$15,838	\$125,000
Capital Revenue	\$2,970	\$2,083	\$887	\$2,970	\$2,083	\$887	\$25,000
Other	\$629	\$500	\$129	\$629	\$500	\$129	\$7,500
Total Income	\$29,979	\$13,125	\$16,854	\$29,979	\$13,125	\$16,854	\$157,500
EXPENSES:							
General Expense	\$8,356	\$6,594	(\$1,762)	\$8,356	\$6,594	(\$1,762)	\$79,124
Capital Expense	\$6,000	\$5,583	(\$417)	\$6,000	\$5,583	(\$417)	\$67,000
Total Expenses	\$14,356	\$12,177	(\$2,179)	\$14,356	\$12,177	(\$2,179)	\$146,124
Net Total	\$15,623	\$948		\$15,623	\$948		\$11,376
Benevolence Giving	\$0	\$500	(\$500)	\$0	\$500	(\$500)	\$6,000

March 2026




Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday



LENT LENT LENT

1 9:30 AM Adult Formation 10:30 AM Worship & Communion 11:30 Care Ministry	2	3 6:30 PM AI-Anon Meeting	4 8 PM Women's Zoom Bible Study	5	6	7 10:00AM Health meeting Set Your Clock Ahead One Hour at 2AM 
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LENT LENT LENT

8 Day Light Savings Begins 9:30 AM Adult Formation 10:30 AM Worship & Communion	8 6:30 PM Quilting Group 	10 6:30 PM AI-Anon Meeting	11 8 PM Women's Zoom Bible Study	12 Lincoln's Birthday	13	14
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LENT LENT LENT

15 9:30 AM Adult Formation 10:30 AM Worship & Communion	16 7:00 PM Church Council 	17 AI-Anon 6:30 St. Patrick's Day 	18 8 PM Women's Zoom Bible Study	19	20	21
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LENT LENT LENT

22 9:30 AM Adult Formation 10:30 AM Worship & Communion Worship Ministry Meeting	23	24 6:30 PM AI-Anon Meeting	25 8 PM Women's Zoom Bible Study	26	27	28 12:00-2:00 Hudson Food Pantry 
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HOLY WEEK

APRIL

29 Passion (Palm) Sunday 9:30 AM Adult Formation 10:30 AM Worship & Communion	30	31	1	2 Holy (Maundy) Thursday	3 Good Friday	4 Easter Day Is Sunday April 5
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March Worship Helpers

10:30am SERVICE	March 1	March 8	March 15	March 22	March 29	April 5 Easter
PRESIDER	Rev. Deborah Michaels	Rev. Deborah Wissner	Rev. John Butchko	Rev. John Butchko	Rev. Richard Seaks	Rev. John Butchko
COMMUNION SET UP	Jenn Lue	Dana Biltz	Kathy Jacobsen	Diane Procop	Kate Hartland	Jenn Lue
LAY READER	Russ Ackerman	Robyn Crane	Bill Holman	Sue Holman	Jenn Lue	Francine McBride
PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE	Sue Holman	Pete Moore	Francine McBride	Brian Pillsbury	Bill Holman	Sue Holman
GREETER / USHER	Paul Mallott	Tim Boebel	Paul Mallott	Russ Ackerman	Tim Boebel	Paul Mallott
COUNTERS	Carla Maurer/ Dave Denes	Brian Pillsbury/ W Klukow	W Klukow / Carla Maurer	Bill Clothier/ Brian Pillsbury	Carla Maurer/ W Klukow	Bill Clothier/ Brian Pillsbury
POWER POINT PREP	Nancy Fasnacht	Carla Maurer	Judi Boebel	Carla Maurer	Nancy Fasnacht	Judi Boebel
SOUND BOOTH	Tim Boebel	Wisbar	Wisbar	Dan Jacobsen	Wisbar	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	G Fasnacht, D Denes, D Jacobsen, or E Wisbar
Communion Pick-up —pick up communion bread from Great Harvest Bread Co. in Stow						

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

REJOICE! LUTHERAN CHURCH

7855 Stow Rd.

Hudson, Ohio 44236

Phone: 330-653-5980

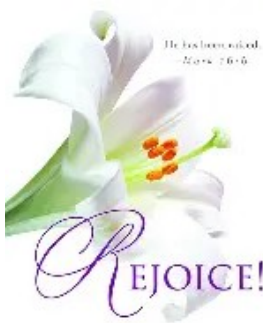
E-mail: office@rejoicelc.org



A Note of Thanks ...

from Gail Bergman and David Underwood

Thank you all for prayers, condolences, and cards.



Easter Plants

Coming soon! Watch for the order form in your bulletin to order spring plants at wholesale prices from Kollman's Greenhouse in Twinsburg.

