

## Rejoice Lutheran Church

1155 County Rd 75  
PO Box 307  
Clearwater, MN 55320  
320.558.6851

[rejoice@rejoicelutheranchurch.org](mailto:rejoice@rejoicelutheranchurch.org)

### Worship Schedule:

#### Sunday:

9:30 am in person worship  
at Rejoice, as well as on-line.

Communion offered  
2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday

### Inside this Issue:

Sunday Worship Service

January Events

Pastor's Message

Council Update

Young @ Heart

Food Shelf

Youth and Family

January Servants

January Calendar

Celebrations

Gratitude

# REJOICINGS



## 2023

### Sunday Worship Service

Worship will be in person at 9:30am on Sundays,  
at Rejoice Lutheran Church as well as live streamed on the Rejoice  
YouTube channel:

RejoiceLutheranClearwater YouTube.

Join us in Fellowship Hall for coffee and treats after 9:30am Worship.

### January Events

- ❖ Mondays at 7:00pm, Alcoholics Anonymous meets at Rejoice.
- ❖ Library mtgs will be held at 9:30am till noon, Monday mornings.
- ❖ Stitch & Pray meets at 1:00pm Wednesday afternoons.
- ❖ Community Food Rescue is offered Sunday mornings at 10:30am in the Education wing after Sunday Worship. All are welcome.
- ❖ Join us Wednesday mornings at 9:00am for "Yoga for All."
- ❖ Rejoice Church Council will have a Meeting January 17th.
- ❖ Women's Bible Study will meet Tuesday, January 17th at 10:00am.
- ❖ Young @ Heart - January 19th, Mens Mexico group memories and information. Doors open at 10:30am for good food & Fellowship. Lunch will be served at 11:30am.
- ❖ January 8th, Mexico Mission group will be serving for Carmel Rolls for fellowship.
- ❖ Sunday School 3-K Sundays at 9:45 AM (Part of Worship)  
FUNday School Grades K-5. Confirmation Grades 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>  
Wednesdays 5:30 PM Meal, 6:15 – 7:15PM Lesson & Worship  
( 2<sup>nd</sup> Wed. of the month is intergenerational -ALL ARE WELCOME!)

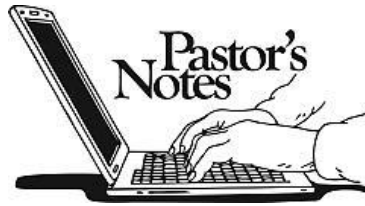
### 2022 Contributions

The last day for your contributions to be  
counted for 2022 is Dec 29<sup>th</sup>

Please drop off at Church as soon as  
possible.

If the Church office is closed, please use  
the mailbox by door 2.





Merry Epiphany Everyone!

Epiphany is tightly connected to the magi coming to bow before the King. Because they come from beyond Israel's borders, Epiphany represents the spreading of the news to all the world that King Jesus has been borne among us.

We believe the magi were scholars trained in reading the spiritual signs. There is so much we do not know about the magi, like, exactly where did they originate from and who did they represent. We are only told that they came from the east.

You may be surprised to know that the story of the magi visiting Jesus only appears in Matthew. No other account of their visit exists. That raises the question, why did Matthew include them in his birth narrative about Jesus? In general, stars often indicated a divine event around kings in ancient literature.

It is surprising that the magi follow the star, and it leads them to King Herod. They ask Herod, where is the king? Herod must have wondered, "What am I? Chopped liver?" Why would they ever go to Herod and ask this knowing it would endanger the true king? Of course, we know that led Herod to slaughter the innocent boys trying to eliminate any rival to his throne. He was ruthless, even eliminating some of his own family as threats.

It seems Matthew is making the claim that Jesus is the true king. Not Herod. Not Caesar. Not any other ruler. This should be an affirmation for us to worship only one ruler, Jesus, and every other ruler is not close. It's an announcement that God has come to rule in this world and spread God's kingdom to all.

It is also a signal that true kingship does not reside in the powers that be in this world, but among those on the margins. Jesus, his family, his friends, his rural community all represent people in the margins. It is a call for us to remember and care for those in the margins, as Jesus' Sermon on the Mount described.

May our 2023 path be illuminated by the star that leads us to embody Jesus and his reign here on earth as our true king!

Pastor Jim

## Rejoice Church Council Update

**Beginning with this newsletter, our Rejoice newsletters will move to digital.**

You will be able to access the newsletters through the website and weekly updates. There will be some printed newsletters available at church for you to pick up if you still like a paper version. We will be putting together a mailing list for those who are homebound or who request a copy mailed to them. Why are we moving in this direction? In an effort to be better stewards of our money and the environment, we feel that this will be a wise move. We have been mailing out 200 copies of newsletters to get the bulk amount for postage and feel that we are sending these to many who are no longer interested in reading them. Printing and mailing this many copies feels wasteful. God has charged us to be better stewards of both the environment and our money. If you have questions, please talk with council members.

The Nominating Committee has begun the work of finding council positions. If you receive a call or request from this group, please prayerfully consider your gifts and whether you are the right candidate for a position on the council.

The council is looking at and discussing a fund raiser regarding annual coupon cards for the congregation to sell. This is a very good opportunity for raising additional funds for our church. There will be further planning in December for a January kick-off. Look forward to additional information.

We have transitioned to new programs upgrading our bookkeeping and financial records. On-line access is being set up for financial reports to be generated. Council has moved their meetings to the third Tuesday of the month, instead of the second Tuesday, to better accommodate our new finance company. During software mergers there are glitches that may create unusual events. Please be patient and understanding with the process and let us know if you have questions or problems.

Becky Brzinski

### Young at Heart:



For years we have had a group of very dedicated men that travel down to the border of Mexico, cross over and work for days at an orphanage fixing whatever needs to be fixed and making lifelong friends with a bunch of young people.

I've often wonder just what they do, haven't you? Well, come and hear Martha and Brad Johnson tell us just that on Thursday January 19. Martha has put together a slide show so everyone may have a little insight as to why it is so important for them to be there. So come join us

Lunch will be served at 11:30 am. Please notify the church office if you can come; we want to have enough food and a seat for everyone. Hope to see you all there!!

Rejoice Office (320-558-6851)

Linda Agre from Deming, NM

## Clearwater/Clear Lake Food Shelf:



Thank you for the support during the Holiday Season. Our food shelf is truly grateful for our community.

Merry Christmas,  
Karie E Monk Gohman

Clearwater-Clear Lake Food Shelf  
PO Box 324, 1100 CR 75, Clearwater, MN 55320  
Open: Mondays 5:30-7pm, Tuesdays 9-11am and 6-8 pm, Wednesdays 3-5pm  
320-558-2954 (answering service)



## Youth and Family:

**Rejoice Kids Participating in the December 18<sup>th</sup> Service.**





\*\*\*WE ARE IN NEED OF VOLUNTEERS FOR WORSHIP SERVANTS  
PLEASE CONTACT LISA IF YOU ARE ABLE TO ASSIST DURING 2023.\*\*\*

[Lisa@rejoicelutheranchurch.org](mailto:Lisa@rejoicelutheranchurch.org)

Thank you.

### Sunday Worship Servants

Sunday Worship	January 1	January 8	January 15	January 22	January 29
Greeters					
Ushers					
Readers					
Communion Setup	<b>X</b>	Sue Severson	<b>X</b>	Sue Severson	<b>X</b>
Power point					
Sound					
Fellowship		Mexico Trip Group			

# January

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 PJ - Off	2 PJ - Off	3 PJ - Off	4 9:00a Yoga for All 1:00p Stitch & Pray 5:30p Youth gathering meal 6:15-7:00 Sunday School Conf, 7:00-7:15 Worship PJ - Off	5 PJ - Off	6 PJ - Off	7 9:00a 7 <sup>th</sup> Day Adventist Church  PJ - Off
8 <b>9:30a Worship</b> 9:45 SS 3yrs-K 10:15 Fellowship	9 9:30-12:00 Library Mtg.  7:00p AA Mtg	10	11 9:00a Yoga for All 1:00p Stitch & Pray 5:30p Youth gathering meal 6:15-7:00 Sunday School Conf, 7:00-7:15 Worship	12	13 Office closed  9:30 PALS 11:30 CVBC	14 9:00a 7 <sup>th</sup> Day Adventist Church
15 <b>9:30a Worship/HC</b> 9:45 SS 3yrs-K 10:15 Fellowship – Mexico Mission	16 9:30-12:00 Library Mtg  7:00p AA Mtg	17 10:00a Women’s Bible Study  6:30p Council Mtg	18 9:00a Yoga for All 1:00p Stitch & Pray 5:30p Multi- Generational gathering meal 6:15-7:00	19 10:30a-Young @ Heart.	20 Office closed	21 9:00a 7 <sup>th</sup> Day Adventist Church
22 <b>9:30a Worship/Noisy Offering</b> 9:45 SS 3yrs-K 10:15 Fellowship	23 9:30-12:00 Library Mtg.  7:00p AA Mtg	24	25 9:00a Yoga for All 1:00p Stitch & Pray 5:30p Youth gathering meal 6:15-7:00 Sunday School Conf, 7:00-7:15 Worship	26	27 Office closed	28 9:00a 7 <sup>th</sup> Day Adventist Church
29 <b>9:30a Worship/HC</b> 9:45 SS 3yrs-K 10:15 Fellowship – Mexico Mission	30	31				HC Holy Communion <b>PALs</b> Pastors & Associated Lay People PJ – Pastor Jim

# January Celebrations

## Birthdays

1/1 Lucy Sand,  
1/3 Joe Fisher  
1/6 Violet Johnson,  
1/9 Bryce VanNurden,  
1/14 John Gohman,  
1/18 Eli Groth,  
1/21 Dianna Jussila,  
1/23 Craig Reid,  
1/27 Quinn Holm,  
1/29 James Kirchenbauer,

1/2 Nancy Hanson,  
1/3 Karie Monk-Gohman  
1/7 Ken Maehren,  
1/12 Marvin Sims IV,  
1/15 Deron Trovall,  
1/19 Tyler Charboneau,  
1/22 Will Hagemeister,  
1/26 Aubree Allen,  
1/28 Owen Holm,  
1/30 Linnea Lindquist,

1/3 Ramona Nielsen  
1/6 Tammy Totz  
1/7 Amber Kirchoff,  
1/14 Pam Bump,  
1/17 Tyler Doering,  
1/19 Patti Jagodzinski,  
1/23 Carson Haug,  
1/27 Kevin Storkamp,  
1/28 Sharon Dupont,  
1/31 Mya Haug,

## Anniversaries

1/16 Charles & Edith Johnson  
1/19 Brian & Lindsey Sand

## Gratitude:

*To my Rejoice family and friends.*

*I have been blessed, loved, and supported by all of you in my 24 years of service. Thank you for your gifts and well wishes on Dec 18<sup>th</sup>.*

*Thank you all sincerely.*

*Carol*



**Rejoice Lutheran Church (ELCA) Non-Profit Org**  
1155 County Road 75  
**(near the water tower)**  
**PO Box 307 (mailing)**  
**Clearwater, MN 55320**

Non-Profit Org  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID Permit No. 17  
Clearwater, MN 55320

**Office Hours**

Monday – Thursday

7:30 am – 4:00 pm

Friday - closed

**Telephone** 320- 558-6851

**Web**

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

**Staff**

**Pastor**

James Bump

**Office Administrator**

Carol Eich

**Music Coordinator**

Nicole Heberling

**Office Assistant**

Lisa Pridgeon

