

Rejoice Lutheran Church

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

rejoice@rejoicelutheranchurch.org

Worship Schedule:

Sunday:

9:30 am in person worship
at Rejoice, as well as on-line.
Communion offered
2nd & 4th Sunday

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April 2024

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.

April 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."
- ❖ Women's Bible Study will meet Tuesday, April 16th at 10:00am.
- ❖ April 18th, Keys to Living Light with Young @Heart. Doors open at 10:30am Music, good food & fellowship. Lunch will be served at 11:30am.

Pastor's Message

God's House or God's Workspace?



We are accustomed to thinking of our church buildings as “God’s House,” but the rich conversations at church council this month got me wondering if it’s time for a different metaphor, one that helps us reshape our expectations. What if our church buildings are God’s Workplace? Church is where God comes to do God’s work, and we come to join whatever God is already doing. God’s currency is relationships, and relationships are a messy business.

I’ve decided I like a metaphor that moves us away from beautiful, quiet retreats in favor of a metaphor urging us to join the messy work God is already doing. The more God works through the property of Rejoice, the more resources it will take to keep it safe, clean and inviting. But isn’t that far more exciting and inspiring than tending a tidy but empty building?

In April, Clearwater Cast of Characters will bring over 1000 people (cast, crew, caterers, volunteers, and audience) into Rejoice across three weekends of dinner theater. This is taking tremendous effort! Please thank all the Rejoice folks who are working so hard to make this happen. Please join us in making God’s Workspace as inviting, safe and Rejoice-FULL as possible this month. Look for the sign-up sheets by the worship space to volunteer for the CCC performances, and look for more amazing ways God’s Workspace can be used!

See you at worship,
Interim Pastor Susan

Dinner Church Thank Yous:

- McKenna Benson, Addy Charboneau, and Lucy Sand—our wonderful confirmation class who organized, led and worked every Wednesday
- The families of McKenna Benson, Addy Charboneau and Lucy Sand who also showed up every week and pitched in
- The meal-providers: Charboneaus, Bensons, Scharmiers, Ahrenholtzs, Laneses, Brzinskis, Bissels, and everyone who brought treats or helped with chores for the meals
- Everyone who joined us for a meal and worship, who sent prayers around us as we gathered, who invited friends or family along

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!!!

Rejoice Church Council Update

Your church council met on Sunday, March 17. God is up to great things in our church community and this was evident in our discussion about where and how we've seen our core values at work in the last month. Where do you see Courageous Service, Extravagant Hospitality, Transformational Worship, Compassionate Justice, Joyful Generosity and Purposeful Community?

Did you ever wonder what the Rejoice Endowment Fund is for and how it's used? New leaders are being sought for the committee responsible for administration of the Endowment Fund and this is a great way to learn about this important ministry here at Rejoice. Please prayerfully consider this opportunity when you are asked.

Welcome Sara Nelson! We are so happy you are here as our new office coordinator! Sara is a quick learner but please be patient as she learns the many facets of her new job.

When was the last time you visited the library at Rejoice? The Library Team (Pam Bender, Audrey Lidberg and Becky Bryzinski) invites you to a month-long party in the library during the month of April! The party celebrates the 33rd birthday of the library here at Rejoice and it's a great time to check out many new books which will be of interest to members young and old. Be sure to enter a drawing for fabulous prizes each time you visit the library in April!

The food shelf is preparing to start construction next door and the council passed a motion to allow water from the food shelf property to drain into our retaining pond and to allow earthwork for their utility access which may impact a few trees on the corner of our property. Impacted trees will be removed and the landscape will be returned to a similar condition upon completion. We continue to have issues with the sprinkler system and in the course of working to resolve air leak issues, we have discovered that the fire monitoring system has failed and needs to be replaced. Paul Amundson is working on bids for replacing the panel and based on the first bid the council passes a motion to complete this panel replacement at a cost up to \$3500. We are thankful for the members who paid the \$980 bill last month incurred in looking for the air leak in the sprinkler system! Thank you! Paul is also continuing work on replacing our sign and is getting a quote from Scenic Signs in St. Cloud. Please contact him if you want to be part of the team to make that sign pop for all driving by our church!

We are looking forward to the Cast of Characters production at Rejoice this month? Isn't it wonderful that we'll have so many people in our facility over the course of those three weekends? We will be selling beverages with dinner and snacks at intermission, and we are still in need of ambassadors from the congregation to help with these tasks. Please contact Kent Asheim or the church office if you are available to help the weekends of April 12, 19 or 26.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Chwalek
Council President

So how many of you are thinking Spring Cleaning? You all have had a warmer than usual winter so this may not be on your 'To Do List' just yet. Help is on the way with this month's program. Julie Starke of 'Keys to Living Light' is from the Annandale area and has lots of good ideas and tips to share with you. Julie is going to 'get you in the groove' with ideas and help to 'Declutter and Organize', making your spring cleaning easier. This is for you men also and I look for a lot of well-organized garages. So, join us to see if Julie's tips and ideas can make your Spring Cleaning easier.



Give the Rejoice Office 320-558-6851 so we may get an accurate count for dinner.

Gratitude:

"How lucky am I to have something that makes saying goodbye so hard."

- Winnie the Pooh



Ryan and I are grateful to all of you for the Memories and Love that has been shared with us.

Thank you - Lisa Pridgeon



50
golden
YEARS

Save the date and help celebrate the anniversary of

GRACE & KENT

APRIL | 27 | 2024

open house from 1-4 pm

ASHEIM RESIDENCE

711 1st Ave SW St Joseph MN 56374

You are a special piece of our history, and we hope you can come and celebrate with us. Please no gifts.

Library

Library News for April



Happy 33rd Birthday to the Rejoice Library. That does not mean the books are all that old, as new books have been regularly purchased, and/or donated. Books are added to interest all ages. Not all books are non-fiction, religious subjects, either. There are books for children and adults, fiction, and non-fiction.

You are invited to come in and browse! Books are gifts to everyone! During the month of April, we will be asking youth and adults who stop into the library to sign a guest register. Every time you enter your visit in the register you will be entered into a drawing to be held in May. We have small items to be given as thank you gifts to drawing winners (4), including one for a male visitor.

Remember to sign in; more visits=more entries.

The library is open! Come in and find your next favorite book!

Sunday Worship Servants

Sunday Worship	April 7	April 14	April 21	April 28
Greeters	Carolyn & Ron Stensby	Mary Wilson		
Ushers				
Readers	Thom Cotton			
Communion Setup	X	Laurie Hoff	X	Laurie Hoff

Angels of Maintenance

Thank you to the Mexico Mission Team for taking care the Kitchen Stove repair cost. They have given \$342 to cover the cost.

April 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
HC Holy Communion	1	2	3	4	5 Office Closed	6 9:00a 7 th Day Adventist Church
7 9:30a Worship 10:15 Fellowship	8 9:30a-12:00 Library Mtg. 7:00p AA Mtg.	9	10 9:00a Yoga for All 1:00p Stitch & Pray	11	12 Office Closed 6pm-10pm CCC Dinner & Play	13 9:00a 7 th Day Adventist Church 6pm-10pm CCC Dinner & Play
14 9:30a Worship/HC 9:45 SS 3yrs-K 10:15 Fellowship	15 9:30a-12:00 Library Mtg. 7:00p AA Mtg.	16 10:00a Women's Bible Study 6-7:30 pm Heritage Days Meeting	17 9:00a Yoga for All 1:00p Stitch & Pray	18 10:30a-Young @ Heart.	19 Office Closed 6pm-10pm CCC Dinner & Play	20 9:00a 7 th Day Adventist Church 6pm-10pm CCC Dinner & Play
21 9:30a Worship 10:15 Fellowship Noisy Offering 6:30p Council Meeting	22 9:30a-12:00 Library Mtg 7:00p AA Mtg.	23	24 9:00a Yoga for All 1:00p Stitch & Pray	25	26 Office Closed 6pm-10pm CCC Dinner & Play	27 9:00a 7 th Day Adventist Church 6pm-10pm CCC Dinner & Play
28 9:30a Worship/HC 10:15 Fellowship	29 9:30a-12:00 Library Mtg. 7:00p AA Mtg	30				

April Celebrations

Birthdays

Thom Cotton 4/1,	Jim Jasper 4/4	Diane Prickett 4/13	Michael Allen 4/20
Martha Johnson 4/1,	Jill Charboneau 4/4	JoEllen Amundson 4/15	Shalynn Reid 4/22
Sandy Feist 4/2,	Jean Ziebarth 4/7	Tyler Canon 4/16	Colleen Chwalek 4/22
Deborah Biorn 4/2,	Jen Holm 4/11	Scott Scharmer 4/18	William Rudningen 4/28
Kristen Sanders 4/2,	Jean Meyer 4/11	Lena Heberling 4/19	Jovie Hoops 4/28
Linda Campana 4/3,	Lori Lanes 4/13	Tabitha Allen 4/20	Cheryl VanNurden 4/30
Shaana Allen 4/4			

Anniversaries

Hendricks, Heather & Eric 4/6
 Asheim, Kent & Grace 4/27
 Eckerman, Robert & Heidi 4/29

Clearwater Cast of Character's Presents Ten Little Chipmunks

By Craig Sodaro
Directed by Donna Stai

Dinner Theater Performance Dates are:

April 12,13,19,20,26,27

For Reservations Please call 612-505-6778

Menu Selections

PORK PRIME -Seasoned and slow roasted to perfection. Laced with a merlot demi glaze and topped with Fuji apples. Served with candied carrots, roasted potatoes and dinner roll/butter chips.

SHRIMP ALFREDO- Homemade Alfredo sauce over fettuccine noodles, topped with sauteed garlic shrimp, parmesan cheese and a fresh bakery breadstick on the side

CHICKEN PARMESAN- Tender roasted chicken breast served over fettuccine noodles and marinara sauce, then topped with more marinara and a blend of melted mozzarella/parmesan cheese. Served with a bakery fresh breadstick.

DESSERT - Chocolate Mousse- topped with fresh whipped cream.

\$40.00 per plate Includes Performance
and Meal

Doors open at 6:00,
Dinner served at 6:30,
Performance at 7:30

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

Office Hours

Monday – Thursday

9:00 am – 3:00 pm

Friday - closed

Telephone: 320- 558-6851

Web

www.rejoicelutheranchurch.org

Staff

Interim Pastor

Susan Debner

Office Administrator

Sara Nelson

Music Coordinator

Janelle Rudningen