

REJOICINGS

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.

Inside this Issue:

Sunday Worship Service

May Events

Pastor's Message

Additional Events

Rejoice Church Council Update

Young @ Heart

Angels of Maintenance

Library

Garden

May Servants

May Calendar

Celebrations



May 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.

May 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."
- Young @ Heart will host "Heart of the Lakes Weavers" on Thursday, May 16th. Doors open at 10:30am Music, good food & fellowship. Lunch will be served at 11:30am.
- Spring Cleanup Day will be Saturday, May 18th. Starting at 9:00am.
- Women's Bible Study will meet Tuesday, May 21st at 10am.

Pastor's Message



Core Value Camp

Beautiful spring days make me think of Bible camp. I know, camp is a *summer thing*, but when I was a kid I would start dreaming of my week at camp as soon as the summer schedule arrived in the mail, which was in spring. At my college, Bible camp directors would show up on campus in the late winter/early spring to start recruiting summer staff. Beautiful spring days make me think of Bible camp.

This spring, I'm thinking of Bible camp because of our upcoming sermon series, **Core Value Camp**, which begins on May 5. We will use the book of Acts and some fun camp-flavors to work our way through each of Rejoice's six core values:

May 5 Courageous Service Acts 1:1-11

We will also have a baptism this week.

May 12 Compassionate Justice Acts 1:15-17

We will celebrate communion and offer prayers for Mothers' Day.

May 19 Purposeful Community Acts 2:1-21

*We also celebrate **GRADUATION** this Pentecost Sunday—wear red!*

May 26 Extravagant Hospitality Acts 2:42-47

We will celebrate communion.

June 2 Transformational Worship Acts 10:44-48

*We also celebrate **CONFIRMATION** and another baptism this week.*

June 9 Joyful Generosity Acts 11, 12, and 17

*We will have communion and **ANOTHER** baptism this Sunday.*

I feel like a kid getting excited for a great week of camp—and I hope you'll join us for every one of our Core Value Camp Sundays. We've got so much good stuff going on at Rejoice this spring!

See you at worship,
Pastor Susan

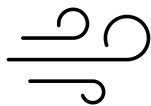
Additional Events



Graduation Blessings will happen in worship on **Sunday, May 19**. If you are connected to Rejoice and celebrating a graduation, please let the office know ASAP so we can include you in the blessing prayers and special coffee hour.

We'd love to have this information to share that morning:

- A favorite picture or two of each graduate
- Where you graduating from (and if it includes a special honor or degree or major, let us know that too)
- What you are looking ahead to—any plans you're willing to share?
- Anything else you'd like us to know about this milestone? 😊



May 19 is Pentecost Sunday—a great day to wear RED or any of the fiery colors in your wardrobe to worship because we will read the story of the Holy Spirit coming to the early Christian church in wind and fire.



Confirmation (Affirmation of Baptism) will be celebrated in worship with McKenna Benson and Addy Charoneau on **Sunday, June 2**. Join us as we thank God for the faith we are all given in baptism and that has been nurtured in beautiful ways in Addy and McKenna.

Rejoice Church Council Update

Your church council met on Sunday, April 14. As is our practice, we reviewed our core values (Courageous Service, Extravagant Hospitality, Transformational Worship, Compassionate Justice, Joyful Generosity, Purposeful Community) and discussed what God is up to at Rejoice in the context of these core values. Pastor Susan was unable to attend the meeting, but she had also prompted us to consider resurrection stories, big and everyday, that also fit with our core values.

Final preparation for the hospitality responsibilities for the Cast of Characters production were discussed.

The council approved a cost up to \$1250 to Summit Fire Protection to replace the fire panel in the education wing.

The council discussed a permanent pictorial poster directory display at Rejoice; item tabled until Sue Severson can be a part of the discussion.

The council discussed developing a memorial garden on our property; item tabled until Paul Amundson can be a part of the discussion.

The council does not have a clear picture of our financial situation at this time for several reasons: several changes in office staff in the last year, several changes in the treasurer position in the last year, some confusion about who is responsible for journal entries and developing reports for council consideration between the bookkeeper, office staff and the treasurer, difficulty reconciling month-end financials using the Shelby software. We have made some changes to the office coordinator and the bookkeeper job descriptions to clear up this confusion. Sara Nelson and Heidi Eckerman will receive training and will report back to Pastor Susan and Mark Ahrenholz about any concerns with changes in responsibilities in order to get on track with reports needed for council action in May. We appreciate your continued generosity and you can be assured that we have been remarkably careful with all spending in the last few months.

Sue Henstein, Linnea Lindquist and Deb Biorn continue to work on revising and updating the Gift/Endowment policy and new Endowment committee members are still being sought. Please connect with any of these people if you are interested.

Linnea Lindquist has completed updates to the Personnel Policy and as noted above, revisions and clarifications have been made to the bookkeeper job description.

Thom Cotton has resigned his council position as chair of Social Concerns and the council is seeking someone to fill his position until the 2025 annual meeting. If you are interested in serving in this position, please contact Susan Chwalek or Pastor Susan. Planning for God's Work, Our Hands Sunday on September 8, 2024 is an important task that should begin soon. If you are interested in being a part of planning this day (but don't necessarily want to be on the church council!), please talk to Susan Chwalek.

Get ready to START YOUR ENGINES for Vacation Bible School on August 6, 7, 8! Race cars will be the VBS theme this year and the evening will start with a light supper at 5:30 pm and reach the finish line at 7:30! Let all the kids in your neighborhood and life know these dates - they won't want to miss it!

Paul Amundson continues to work on outdoor sign improvements. The council reviewed his drawing and will follow up on questions raised with Paul at the next council meeting. Please continue to pray for the call committee and the pastor who is meant to be the next settled pastor at Rejoice, for Sara Nelson, Heidi Eckerman and Mark Ahrenholz as they develop a system to clearly report financial information to the council and the congregation, and for Pastor Susan as she continues to make the long commute to Rejoice and leads us with fresh ideas for worship and mission!

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Chwalek
Council President



Young@Heart
May 16, 2024
Linda Agre

Annandale has this small industry who's employees are the happiest and most delightful group of young people that I have ever had the pleasure to meet. The little workroom puts out beautiful woven items all made by this group of weavers. I stopped by last summer to see if I could get some of them to come by and share their talents with Young@Heart and walked in on a birthday party. Their positive attitude on life made my day! So please come to hear their story and enjoy with me the Heart of the Lakes Weavers on May 16.

Please give the Rejoice Office (320-558-6851) a call to let them know you are planning on attending so we may get an accurate count for dinner.

Angels Of Maintenance

Who are these people?

Why are they so.o.o excited?

Because...

**Spring
Cleanup
Day**

is finally here!!



Spring Cleanup Day
Saturday, May 18th, Start 9:00 am
Lunch and Refreshments

*Rejoice will have some tools / supplies available.
Best to bring your own tools also.*

PROJECTS: Replace mulch in flower beds.... Trim hedges Wash exterior windows Playground Cleanup & Repair.... Eat Lunch Ect.

"Mighty Hands Willing to Work to Make Rejoice a Welcoming Place for Members and Guests."

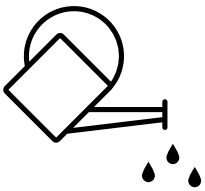
Library

Library News for May

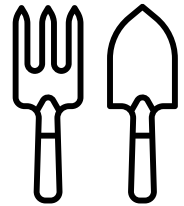


Thank you for visiting the library in April.
We will be drawing names for the prizes and announcing soon.
It's not too late to enter your name and browse.

Garden



If you are interested in a garden spot this year, please reach out to Kathy Langva at 612-309-0582.



Sunday Worship Servants

Sunday Worship	May 5	May 12	May 19	May 26
Greeters		Mary Wilson		
Ushers	Pat D.			
Readers		Thou C	Gladys	Dick Chwalek
Communion Setup	X		X	

May 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 9:00a Yoga for All 1:00p Stitch & Pray	2	3 Office Closed	4 9:00a 7 th Day Adventist Church
5 9:30a Worship & Baptism 10:15 Fellowship	6 9:30a-12:00 Library Mtg. 7:00p AA Mtg.	7	8 9:00a Yoga for All 1:00p Stitch & Pray	9	10 Office Closed	11 9:00a 7 th Day Adventist Church
12 9:30a Worship/HC 10:15 Fellowship	13 9:30a-12:00 Library Mtg. 7:00p AA Mtg.	14	15 9:00a Yoga for All 1:00p Stitch & Pray	16 10:30a-Young @ Heart	17 Office Closed	18 9:00a 7 th Day Adventist Church 9:00a Spring Cleanup Day
19 9:30a Worship/ Noisy Offering 10:15 Fellowship 11:00a Council Meeting	20 9:30a-12:00 Library Mtg. 7:00p AA Mtg.	21 10:00a Women's Bible Study 6-7:30 pm Heritage Days Meeting	22 9:00a Yoga for All 1:00p Stitch & Pray	23	24 Office Closed	25 9:00a 7 th Day Adventist Church
26 9:30a Worship/HC 10:15 Fellowship	27 Memorial Day Office Closed	28	29 9:00a Yoga for All 1:00p Stitch & Pray	30	31 Office Closed	

April Celebrations

Birthdays

Dick Chwalek 5/4	Kayne Doering 5/4	Heidi Graham 5/6	Chris Schill 5/7
Bill Senkler 5/8	Ryan Kellen Jr. 5/10	Paulette Weleski 5/12	Lisa Pidgeon 5/12
Gretchen Laasko 5/14	Laurie Hoff 5/15	Emily Tottz 5/15	Connor Wipper 5/16
Brayden Gohman-Hard 5/18	Jacob Brunson 5/18	Shane Allen 5/21	Gavin Michalski 5/21
Brian Nickolauson 5/22	Lisa Fisher 5/23	Shayla Weleski 5/23	Claire Chwalek 5/25
Sherre Rinkenberger 5/26	Dennis Severson 5/27	Livia Johnson 5/28	

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