

Rejoice Lutheran Church

1155 County Rd 75
P O Box 307
Clearwater, MN
55320

Worship Schedule

8:30 am Worship
9:30 Fellowship
10:30 Worship

Holy Communion
is served the Second &
Fourth Sundays

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Lenten Wednesdays

Soup Supper 5:30pm
Worship 7:00pm
Mentoring 7:30pm



From Pastor Scott

I Thank God for You

I just want to say ‘Thank You’ for the past 11 plus years. These have been some of the happiest years of our lives. This is our home. Thank you.

I have enjoyed the bread making, the fall festivals, the men’s breakfasts , Sunday worship, dinner theaters, trips to MX, youth events, the community garden, and more. The only hard part was constantly being shadowed by Donald! He was right there on my first day telling me about the sound system and I learned quickly to just let Donald finish my sentences. Just kidding Donald; you are one of a kind. You have achieved what few people in life achieve: Like Cher, Madonna, and Elvis you need only one name. Donald has helped our church and community in so many ways. Just make sure he shaves come summer. Thank you.

Carol is the greatest person in the world to work with. I can’t say enough about her. Coffee with Wally and Carol every Friday morning will be missed. In addition, working with Tim has been a pleasure. He is the detail person that I am not, and his talents and gifts were a great compliment. Steve has brought a great love for the flow of worship and music and I thank Steve for being such a good colleague. Leigh and Dave recently came on to help with custodial stuff, and I really appreciate all they do. Danielle was raised in Rejoice. She knows first-hand how important adults are in the shaping of a child’s faith, and she can be an important part of continuing that. Thank you.

I’ll look for you at McDonald’s, eager to help you with whatever carnivorous cravings you may have. May I suggest, as summer approaches, that you keep your eyes open for what is usually an in-store special only: Prime sirloin. It’s not always there so call ahead, or better yet, just come in weekly and shop. The prime sirloin is great for a crowd and I’ll tell you how to prepare it. Promise that you’ll never put steak sauce on it! Just like you never put ketchup – this is Bob Monk, now speaking through me — on a hotdog, NEVER EVER COVER UP PRIME BEEF! THANK YOU.

Rejoice Church Council —

Council President: Becky Brzinski

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Clearwater MN 55320
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Secretary: Denise Kantor

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Worship: Ruthie Seidenkranz

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First Communion classes will begin on March 8th, and go until Easter. First Communion will take place on April 12th during 10:30 service. Third grade families will be receiving a letter. If you have an older child who hasn't yet had their First Communion and would like to do so, please contact Sara Miller at saramiller4@yahoo.com



A Message from your Church Council

Since learning of Pastor Scott's resignation from Rejoice as Lead Pastor, the Church Council has taken the necessary steps to follow the ELCA protocol and procedure for calling a lead pastor. Throughout the coming months we will do our best to keep you informed as we move forward in this process. We ask for your prayers. At our Tuesday, February 10th meeting, Pastor Larry Streng and Signe Gray from the ELCA Southwest Minnesota Synod met with the Church Council. During the meeting the Council received detailed information about the pastoral selection process. As early as next week, the Church Council, which is serving as our Transition Team, could begin interviewing candidates for an Intentional Lead Pastor Interim. An Interim Pastor is trained and specializes in helping congregations during the 12-18 month long call process. If you have any input for the Council regarding the Interim Pastor selection, please contact any of the Council members. We are grateful for the support and knowledge provided by the Synod and the Council will work closely with the Synod in the selection of an Interim Pastor.

At the appropriate time in this well-established process, a Call Committee will be formed. The goal of the Call Committee is to represent the congregation as it searches for a Lead Pastor. Details regarding this process are available on the Synod website (www.swmnelca.org) for those of you who wish further information.

Congregational members interested in participating on the Call Committee may submit their names to Becky Brzinski, Council President, via e-mail (becky.brzinski@isd728.org). We are urged to be patient and to trust the long established call process set forth by the Synod.

We ask that you pray for our church and the spiritual guidance of all our members as we begin this journey together.

Welcome Nicole Heberling

We welcome Nicole Heberling as our Music Coordinator for the next several months. Nicole has played for us often and was nurtured by our Rejoice community growing up and as a long time member. Her role in music will be more clearly defined as we experience each other. Please welcome her on board.

Wally, congratulations on your retirement!

Nine years have passed and now it is time for you to enjoy the next chapter in your life. We would like to thank you for your continuous hard work over the years, your loyalty to Rejoice and the great working relationship we have had. You will be missed and we wish you a long, happy and healthy retirement.

Best wishes from your Rejoice Family

Augsburg Choir

Join us for a musical treat on Sunday March 15

They will be performing at both services

Financial Recap

January 2015 Financial Recap GENERAL FUND

General Fund Income	Expenses	Gain/Loss (-)
January \$23,670.24	\$35,087.43	-\$11,417.19
YTD \$23,670.24	\$35,087.43	-\$11,417.19

MORTGAGE FUND

Mortgage Fund Income	Expenses	Gain/Loss (-)
January \$5,751.00	\$7,845.00	-\$2,094.00
YTD \$5,751.00	\$7,845.00	-\$2,094.00

Our January General Fund giving looks worse than it is. January was a three payroll month, so expenses are higher than usual. We usually have two three-payroll months during the year. This year there are three. Our next three-payroll month occurs in July. These are always months that make our expenses seem high. Please be assured that we are as frugal as ever. Please remain faithful in your giving and we will show improvement!

Our Mortgage Fund giving really hit a low in January. I hope we didn't confuse anyone during our Stewardship drive last fall. In 2012, we asked for a three-year commitment to our Mortgage Fund. This commitment expires this year. New members have also participated. Since this campaign was not yet over, we did not specifically ask for a new or different mortgage fund pledge last fall. Please continue with your mortgage fund giving as you have been so faithfully, and there will be a new Stewardship drive later this year. Thanks for your understanding – sorry about any confusion.

During this time of transition at our church it's important to remember that this is our church and we are responsible for it. Each of us has a role to play in the ministries of Rejoice. Each of us is important. We must stay strong and committed for all of us and for our community in Christ.

Rhoda Senkler, Treasurer

Thank You

The Clearwater-Clear Lake Food Shelf thanks Rejoice for its contribution of 33 pounds of food in January.

March is food shelf awareness month. Thrivent will match all money coming in for the month of March. Please give generously to fill the shelves at Clearwater-Clear Lake Food Shelf.

Steve Kennedy Released

After many months of discussion at council meetings, the personnel committee met on January 5th and a recommendation was made to release Steve Kennedy from the Music Director position. The church council met to consider the recommendation and voted to support and confirm the release. As of February 19th, Steve Kennedy no longer has music director responsibilities at Rejoice Lutheran.

Building and Property

Thank you to the Volunteers, Custodians, and Property Team for a good 2014. It could not be done without your dedication to Rejoice!

2014: Proposed an increase in Headstart rent

Replaced garbage receptacles – saving \$35.00 per billing cycle

Replaced lights in the back of the Cross in the Sanctuary

Cleaned behind the garage

Sanded and repainted Education Wing Hallway

Precision Flooring & Design LLC installed the tile in the Education Wing

Chipped the shrubs that we took out from doors by Headstart, by the sign in front of the church, and island in the parking lot.

Put the chips in place where the shrubs were removed

Mechanical Energy was here to check out the furnaces (they said we have a lot of furnaces)

Tom Allen is contracted again for Rejoice snow plowing

Many thanks to

Simona Samuelson, Curt & Julie Alvesshere, Matthew Damhof, Ray Wilson for their hard work on the walls and floor in the Education Wing.

Youth and Family, and other volunteers for helping pulling rocks by Headstart, cleaning, filling the area with wood chips from the shrubbery that was pulled.

Erv Stute for taking care of the lawn mowing volunteers, keeping gas cans filled, changing oil and filters, mowers and trimmers in working order and much more.

Fred Varner, Stan Luhman, Dayle Meyers, Clint Martell – part of the mowing crew

Brad Johnson for fixing the water leak in the kitchen area, keeping on top of changing, ordering, and replacing furnace filters, working on the outside lights, for keeping Rejoice up and running smoothly.

Brian and Julie Johnson, John Hugo for our beautiful flowers that adorn the outside of Rejoice.

Bill Senkler, whenever I need help large or small, I can count on Bill to give a helping hand.

Denny and Sue Severson for replacing the ceiling fan in fellowship Hall, working on the outside lights and timer and the many other times I call for help.

Mike Heinis for helping out wherever there is a need

Ray Wilson for helping with the Education wing hallway floor. He took out all the carpet and sanded off the glue left behind – what a job!

Marge Varner for her great work in the island in the parking lot, filling holes, cleaning rocks, adding plants, trimming the shrubs.

Pastor Scott for being there to help in so many ways!

I would especially like to thank Leigh Holman, Dave Manning, Donald Clarkson, and Wally Westerberg, our Custodians for the great job they do!

I know I am forgetting so many, may you be blessed as we are blessed by your stepping forward to keep Rejoice looking and running smoothly. The new tile floor in the Education wing looks great and is holding up well with all the youth activity.

Submitted by Jim Eich Property Team – Brad Johnson, Bill Senkler, Denny and Sue Severson, Mike Heinis, Erv Stute

Library News

Good News Library...Has it been awhile since your last visit? We miss you! Because of some very generous donations – thank you! – and a few purchases, we have many new selections to offer you. Novels and series additions by some of your favorite storytellers – Karen Kingsbury, Wanda Brunstetter, Melody Carlson, Beverly Lewis, Thomas Kinkade, Cindy Woodsmall, Jan Karon, Dee Henderson, to name some. New DVDs – *God's Not Dead*, *soul surfer*, and *Heaven is for Real* (and the book, too), a charming and colorful mix of children's books, some meditative works – Kathleen Norris' *Dakota*, and, in time for Lent, Lose's *Making Sense of the Cross*, as well as some very compelling biographies, notably Metaxas' *Bonhoeffer* and Laura Sobiech's poignant *Fly a Little Higher*. Many more too numerous to list! Come in and check them out...



Spring Gathering - Great River Conf.

WHEN: Saturday, April 11, 2015
8:30 - 12:00
Luncheon following (dietary requests accepted)

WHERE: Peace Lutheran
1000 Red River Avenue North, Cold Spring, MN 56320
Phone: 320-685-7656 / www.peacelutherancoldspring.com

SPEAKER: Dawn Reisig, Associate in Ministry from Sauk Centre
“A Day Without Laughter is a Day Without Sunshine”

HOW: Registration is \$8.00
Deadline is Wednesday, April 8th

CONTACT: Melanie Braunberger, Conference Secretary
20724 Becker Lake Circle, Richmond, MN 56368
320-249-7792 / melanieb@granitecommunitybank.com
(Member of Peace Lutheran in Cold Spring)

*“A Day Without Laughter
is a Day Without Sunshine”
Psalm 139:13-14*



Children's
Ministry

Rejoice Lutheran Youth & Family
Team

GROW & GO!

Youth Ministry



Chris Tomlin Concert:

When: Saturday, March 28th

Time: Leave church at 5

NYG Monthly Check-In Meeting

When: Sunday, March 8th @ 9:30 a.m.

Where: Church Library

**Who: For youth and parents of youth
going on NYG Trip**

Cappuccino Bible Study



Every Sunday
@ 9:30 a.m.
Youth Room

Open to all youth in
grades 6-12. Grow your
faith, relationships and
learn how to apply it all
to your life.

Senior High Youth Gathering

When: Friday, March 6-7th

Where: Courtyard Marriott Mankato, MN

Who: Youth grades 9-12

*'Like' the Rejoice Youth Team Facebook page
to keep up-to-date with youth events!*

2015 Lenten Worship Schedule

February 25

5:30p Soup Supper - Hazel Schueler's group

7:00p Worship - Cindy Kirchoff's group

7:30p Mentoring

March 4

5:30p Soup Supper - Cindy Kirchoff's group

7:00p Worship - Men's MX Mission group

7:30p Mentoring

March 11

5:30p Soup Supper - Hope Luberda's group

7:00p Worship - Kristine Sylvester's group

7:30p Mentoring

March 18

5:30p Soup Supper - Kristine Sylvester's group

7:00p Worship - Michelle Fruth's group

7:30p Mentoring

March 25

5:30p Soup Supper - Michelle Fruth's group

7:00p Worship - Hope Luberda's group

7:30p Mentoring

Sunday March 29 ~ Palm Sunday

8:30 Worship

10:30 Worship

Thursday April 2 ~ Maundy Thursday

7:00p Worship with Holy Communion

Friday April 3 ~ Good Friday

7:00p Worship

Sunday April 5 ~ Easter

6:30a Sunrise Service with Holy Communion

7:30a – 10:30a Easter Breakfast

8:30a Worship with Holy Communion

10:30a Worship with Holy Communion

Group Responsibilities

For Soup Suppers

- We begin serving at 5:30, so try to arrive as soon as you can.
- Servers should try to eat right away — before 5:30.
- Bring 1 dozen cookies/bars/dessert of some kind.
- Groups are responsible for set up, serving, keeping tables stocked, and clean up.
- Assist young families and/or elderly as needed.
- Julie Binczik helps facilitate these suppers.
Questions? jbinczik@stcloud.gannett.com

For Ushering at Worship

- Have at least 2 people at both entries.
- Greet worshiper and make them feel welcome.
- Handout bulletins and hymnals (if requested).
- Count how many are in attendance (discretely — you can do this from the back. You don't need to be exact, but close.)
- Collect the offering.

For Faith Mentors

- The person you ask cannot be your parent or your Small Group Guide.
- Faith Mentors must be at least 21 years of age and active members of Rejoice Lutheran Church, worshipping regularly.
- Faith Mentoring will take place following worship on February 25, March 4, 11, 18, and 25. No Faith Mentoring during Holy Week.
- If you need help finding a person, ask any of the guides or a pastor to help you.
- On February 25 you will have a mentoring packet to pick up to guide your discussions.

March 2015

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
1 9:30 Worship 10:30 Luncheon & Roast to Pastor Scott 3:30p CCC 7:00p Y & F mtg.	2 9:30a Library Mtg. 6:30p Boy Scouts	3 9:15a Women's Bible Study 11:00a Staff Mtg.	4 7:00a Men's Bible Study 5:30 Soup Supper 7:00 Worship 7:30 Mentoring	5	6 Sr. High Gathering	7 Sr. High Gathering
8 8:30 Worship/HC 9:30 Fellowship S.S., 1 st Comm. Class, Jr. & Sr. Capp. Bible Study, Adult Ed 10:30 Worship/HC 11:30 Y & F Mtg. 3:30p CCC	9	10 11:00a Staff Mtg. 6:15p Girl Scouts 6:30p Council Mtg.	11 7:00a Men's Bible Study 5:30 Soup Supper 7:00 Worship 7:30 Mentoring	12 7:30a CVBC	13	14 1:00p Baby Shower
15 8:30 Worship 9:30 Fellowship S.S., 1 st Comm. Class, Jr. & Sr. Capp. Bible Study, Adult Ed 10:30 Worship 11:30 WTR 3:30p CCC	16 9:30a Library Mtg. 6:30p Boy Scouts	17 11:00a Staff Mtg.	18 7:00a Men's Bible Study 5:30 Soup Supper 7:00 Worship 7:30 Mentoring	19	20	21 9:00a – noon CCC
22 8:30 Worship/HC 9:30 Fellowship S.S., 1 st Comm. Class, Jr. & Sr. Capp. Bible Study, Adult Ed 10:30 Worship/HC 4:00p CC Concert	23	24 11:00a Staff Mtg. 6:15p Girl Scouts	25 7:00a Men's Bible Study 5:30 Soup Supper 7:00 Worship 7:30 Mentoring	26	27	28 5:00p Chris Tomlin Concert
29 8:30 Worship 9:30 Fellowship S.S., 1 st Comm. Class, Jr. & Sr. Capp. Bible Study, Adult Ed 10:30 Worship 11:30 WTR	30	31 11:00a Staff Mtg.				HC – Holy Communion WTR – Worship Team Rehearsal CVBC – Clear Valley Business Connection CCC – Clearwater Community Choir

Servants

8:30	March 1 9:30	March 8	March 15	March 22	March 29
Readers	Jan Nairn	Gladys Steiger	Sue Severson	Lee Monk	Elaine Niesche
Ushers	Gladys Steiger Ramona Nielsen Luella Roberts Lorraine Bluhm	Randy & Jodi Pawlicki family	Todd & Cheryl VanNurden family	Nick & Hope Luberda family	Travis & Sarah Miller family
Greeters	Steve & Jean Ziebarth family	James & Megan Wanders family	Gladys Steiger	Gayle Bradford Dianne Stute	Bill & Rhoda Senkler
Setup		Cindy Kirchoff		Sue Severson	
Communion		Chad & Kristine Sylvester, Robert & Jan Nairn, Lori Hanson		Dianne Stute, Gail Bradford, Susan Chwalek, Don & Elaine Niesche	
Power Point	Chuck Sanders (Denise, Hazel)	Chuck Sanders (Denise)	Paul Mueller (Vera, Denise)		
Fellowship		Sharon Sauer, Jerry Lemke, Gladys Steiger	Linnea Lindquist, Jim & Marlys Johnson	Bette Loehr, Erv & Dianne Stute	Jeff & Laurie Hoff, Jeff & Laurie Johnson
10:30	March 1	March 8	March 15	March 22	March 29
Readers		Rosie Weber	Chari Ahrenholz	Mary Bergeron	OPEN
Ushers		Curt & Julie Alveshere			
Greeters		Tom & Jonette Tschida	Kyle & Tracy Peterson family	Dan Long family	Sharon Long family
Setup		Julie Binczik		Greg & Mickey Pierson	
Communion		Denise Kantor Deena & Carlee Kobow Ken & Kris Maehren		Jan Bolster, Amy Brzinski Doris & Scott Scharmer Chari Ahrenholz	
Power Point		Denise Kantor (Chuck)	Vera Lindhorst (Denise)		

Birthdays

Leuthard, Reanna 3/1
Gades, Ava 3/2
Storkamp, Wendy 3/2
Thorson, Marlys 3/4
Kirchoff, Amanda 3/4
Lindhorst, Vera 3/4
Moeller, Janet 3/5
Faust, Sue 3/5
Higgins, Lowell 3/6
Haessly, Marty 3/7
Rondorf, Owen 3/7
Brzinski, John 3/8
Rassier, Brent 3/9
Marx, Tyson 3/9
Hayes, Darin 3/10
Schill, Jack 3/10
Laakso, Gerry 3/10
Rausch, Joan 3/10
Lagerquist, Owen 3/11
Longnecker, Zachery 3/12
Enerson, Clarice 3/13
Smith-Coleman, Romelo 3/15
Woodman, Connor 3/15
Michalski, Stacie 3/15
Martell, Diana 3/16
Loehr, Betty 3/17
Dagner, Gary 3/17
Guggenberger, Pat 3/17
Frahm, Roberta 3/19
Halverson, Robby 3/19
Sanders, Cindy 3/19

Johnson, Jacob 3/19
Sauer, Sharon 3/20
Wipper, Jack 3/21
Allen, Kirkland 3/21
Willis, Todd 3/21
Monk, Rosemary 3/21
Leuthard, Penny 3/22
Johnson, Charles 3/24
Duea, Bonnie 3/25
Kobow, Carlee 3/25
Weber, Tori 3/25
Boie, Derek 3/25
Henkemeyer, Cordyn 3/26
Holme, Kaleb 3/27
Bigalk, Katrina 3/27
Meyer, Dayle 3/28
Wedin, Michael 3/29
Sand, Brian 3/30
Tschida, Tom 3/31

Anniversaries

Storkamp, Kevin & Wendy 3/2
Bender, Richard & Pam 3/15
Hannan, Dave & Mary 3/15
Pawlicki, Randy & Jodi 3/16
Behrendt, Kay & Marilyn 3/17
Lidberg, Pete & Audrey 3/18
Severson, Dennis & Sue 3/18
Hogie, Kevin & Paula 3/21
Feist, Les & Sandy 3/30

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PAID
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Monday – Thursday

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Friday

7:30 am – 12:00 pm

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www.rejoicelutheranchurch.org

STAFF

Pastors

Scott Gjevre

Tim Lindhorst

Office Administrator

Carol Eich

Youth and Family

Danielle Lundquist

OUR MISSION:
To Grow
in Faith, Love and
Service in Response
to the Gospel
of Jesus Christ,
and to Extend
God's Welcome
to All.

Rejoice Family & Friends,

You are invited
to a combined
Worship and Farewell Blessing
for Pastor Scott Gjevre
on March 1, 2015 at 9:30 a.m.

There will be only one worship service followed by a lunch
and a fun “roast” of Pastor Scott.
Please join us for this special day!

“Goodbyes are not the end, but only the start of a new beginning