

THE PARISH CONNECTION

February 2020

A Community of Faith, Inspired by Christ, Gathered to Grow, Empowered to Serve.



Lectionary Readings for February

Feb 2nd – 4th **Sunday after Epiphany**
(green)

Micah 6:1-8; Psalm 15

1 Corinthians 1:18-31; Matthew 5:1-12

Feb 9th – 5th **Sunday after Epiphany**
(green)

Isaiah 58:1-9a, (9b-12); Psalm 112:1-9 (10)

1 Corinthians 2:1-12 (13-16); Matthew 5:13-20

Feb 16th – 6th **Sunday after Epiphany**
(green)

Deuteronomy 30:15-20; Psalm 119:1-8

1 Corinthians 3:1-9; Matthew 5:21-37

Feb 23rd – **Transfiguration Sunday**
(white)

Exodus 24:12-18; Psalm 99

2 Peter 1:16-21; Matthew 17:1-9

Lent Schedule

Ash Wednesday is February 26th this year. Below will be the Lenten schedule for 2020. All services begin at 7:00 pm. Where indicated, there will be a soup supper.

Feb. 26	Deer Park
March 4	Forest(soup)
March 11	Clear Lake(soup)
March 18	Deer Park
March 25	Forest(soup)
April 1	Clear Lake(soup)



Prayer Concerns

Joys— celebrations with families and friends, sunshine, all those who plow snow, opportunities to enjoy winter, loved ones

Concerns—Craig Longfellow, Doug Ahrens, Steve Keller,

Remembering—

WORSHIP MINISTRIES

February 2020

Clear Lake

Feb 2nd **Reader:** Andrea Jilek
 Potluck: Gail Kuhl & Dawn Cress
 Acolyte/PwrPt: Wyatt Reindahl

Feb 9th **Reader:** Dawn Cress
 Coffee: Don & Arlene Althoff
 Acolyte/PwrPt: Tyson Blanchard

Feb 16th **Reader:** John Koerper
 Coffee: Roger & Carla La Blanc
 Acolyte/PwrPt: Ben Pietz

Feb 23rd **Reader:** Debi Ahrens
 Coffee: Debi Ahrens
 Acolyte/PwrPt: Ivan Ruble

Counters for February Jan Benson & Joan Lillie
Greeter for February Bev Klatt

Deer Park

Feb 2nd *no reader*
Feb 9th Elden Setter
Feb 16th *no reader*
Feb 23rd *no reader*

Forest

Feb 2nd Cindy Warner
Feb 9th Debbie Stevens
Feb 16th Joyce Petersen
Feb 23rd Heather Greene



If you are unable to serve on your designated date,
please find a replacement. Thank you.

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Love for our Troops

This year we are sending treats to our troops. We will be purchasing an assortment of non-perishable treats and personal items. We will be purchasing all items going into these boxes and your monetary donations would be appreciated to cover the cost of the items and postage.. If you know someone who is in the service call Linda Jurisch, [715-263-2288](tel:715-263-2288). These personnel should be from the Clear Lake, Clayton, Reeve, Forest and Deer Park area. Please send donations during January & February to: Luann Hansen, 471 7th Avenue, Clear lake, WI 54005.

Ruby's Pantry has food distributions on February 8th at the Congregational Church in Amery. Food distribution will begin at 9 am. All food shares must be purchased between 7:30 & 8:45 am. Suggested donation of \$20 to help cover cost of the food, its transportation & storage. To volunteer, arrive no later than 6:30 am. Contact info: office.ameryucc@gmail.com or 715.268.7390

Deadline for the March Newsletter is February 18th

College Boxes

Thanks so much for all who donated goodies or money towards mailing the college boxes. We sent out several boxes and had lots of good stuff and a prayer to get our students through their finals. Thanks so much!

Church Sign Theology

- Faith sees the invisible, believes the incredible and receives the impossible!
- When times are dark, let God light the way.
- The task ahead of us is never as great as the power behind us.
- God loves you whether you like it or not!
- Prepare for your finals! Read the Bible!
- Being a believer takes more than just believing.
- A calm sea does not make a skilled sailor.
- Be content with what you have but never with what you are.

CLAY Valentine's Dinner

A Valentine's Day Spaghetti dinner will be served on Sunday, February 9th from 5-7 pm at the First Lutheran Church in Clear Lake. Tickets are \$10, inclusive of three course spaghetti dinner, beverage, and music. Seating is limited so please buy your ticket to reserve your seat. Diane Blanchard, Tyson Blanchard, and Madison Zimmer will be selling tickets. Proceeds will fund future CLAY events.



Christmas for Children

We have had a very busy December. We have just completed our 26th year of Christmas for Children in Clear Lake. On behalf of the Christmas for Children Committee, we would like to say thank you so much for your support to our program. We are so proud to be a part of a community that is so giving.

We could not do this program successfully without the help and support from your donation. We use this money to buy clothes, coats, boots, and other gifts for the children who are in need.

This year we helped 32 families, (93 children). Every child gets clothes (which is only possible with your donations). And, of course, every child receives toys, games, or something fun for them.

Each family also gets a food box from the food shelf. We thank all of you for helping us to make this a better Christmas for these families.

Merry Christmas, and we wish you God's Blessings in 2020

Christmas for Children
Clear Lake United Methodist Church

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• Please start collecting items for the
• spring **Thrift Sale** on **April 16-17**.
• Look for details in the March
• newsletter
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POLK COUNTY SALVATION ARMY HOMELESS SHELTERS

Since Serenity House in Balsam Lake closed, The homeless are now living in houses. We can no longer provide a meal every other month. We can help them by donating paper products like paper towels, toilet paper, Kleenex. Also personal products: toothbrushes, toothpaste, mouthwash, deodorant, floss, soap, shampoo. PLEASE help them out. Bring items to church and put in the tote marked Homeless Shelters. When it is full it will be delivered. THANK YOU!!!

Jan UMW Minutes

10 present Led by Pres. Joan Lillie Mission Statement Read Scriptures read for Roll Call Sec.Min read , approved
Treasurers Report read \$811.27 approved

OLD BUSINESS

- 1.Enough money for Christmas for Children
- 2.Pay for 14 families to get newsletter. \$70.00 approved.
3. Same UMW Christmas Party and Sunday before Christmas brunch. Well liked
- 4.Cookie Sale, same 11-6, not selling Christmas items, they can be sold at Fall Thrift Sale. Items not sold will be given to Food Shelf.

NEW BUSINESS

- 1.Made 2020 Calendar
2. June 5-8 Annual Conference.
- 3.Arlene will send greeting cards to members of Clear Lake Church each month, Joan will supply cards and Treasure stamps. Readings from Arlene "Darkness & Light" and Joan "Cold Winter" Prayer, Pot Luck

Youth Group

On February 12th, the youth group will be making and delivering cookies for Valentine's Day.

Lifeline Food Pantry

Volunteers are needed to help during the hours our pantry is open to our clients: Wednesday(1 pm to 5 pm) and Thursday(10 am to 2 pm) **These are new hours for Thursdays.** Help is especially needed during the winter months. If anyone is interested, please have them call the Lifeline Food Pantry at 715-263-3846 and leave their name and telephone number. Gordon Weber, the pantry coordinator will contact them. They are also welcome to stop at the Food Pantry during the above hours and talk with someone in person.

Clear Lake UMW would love to invite women from the Deer Park and Forest Churches to become a member of our UMW. We meet the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 2:00, at the Ridgeview Apts. behind the Covenant Church, across the road from Nilssen's store. Dues are \$12.00. We raise money for many good purposes. Come and visit and you can join at any time.

Recycling Cans

Mr. Meyer will be picking up our cans, but he does not want any tin cans such as; soup, vegetable, etc--nothing tin. Just aluminum like beverage cans. PLEASE REMEMBER!!~

Happy Birthday

Lona DeLong	2/02
Nathan Thompson	2/05
Ron Boe	2/05
Laura Drinkman	2/09
Austin Reed	2/12
Becky Turner	2/12
Chris Ailts	2/12
Ruth Severson	2/16
Catherine Benoy	2/17
Debbie Stevens	2/21
Grace Moore	2/23
John Koerper	2/24
Elizabeth Frank	2/25
Bernice Goodrich	2/25
Nicole Flanum	2/26
Tom Pietz	2/26

Happy Anniversary

Jeremy & Laurie LaBlanc	2/02
Bryan & Melanie Kofal	2/28

Thank You

The Sunday School would like to thank Justin Wood and Wood Valley Farms for hosting our program photos. Also a big thank you to the ladies for hosting a delicious Christmas brunch, All those who furnished food and worked. We also send thanks to Brian Wick for all of his musical talent he so generously shares.

Thank You All for the prayers, cards and well wishes since my recent heart attack. Your thoughtfulness is greatly appreciated. God Bless, Becky Reindahl

Thank you so much for your donation of food, volunteers, and promoting the CLAY Broom-Ball event January 11, 2020. We had approximately 40 students and 10 adults. Jack Tanner was the speaker and encouraged us to share the gospel with our peers. Again, the CLAY Student Leadership and Board thank you for your support and prayers.

Preparation Time



“Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.” (1Thessalonians 5:18)

This is one of the hardest teachings in the Bible. Giving thanks in all circumstances is hard. We experience many things in our lives in which it is hard to give thanks. We experience the death of a loved one, a serious illness, the loss of a job. These are hard events to give thanks.

Or are they?

When we experience the death of a loved one, we will feel sadness. We will feel the loss in our lives. However, we can give thanks that the loved one has gone on to be in the kingdom with Jesus. We can give thanks that our loved one has gone to that place prepared for us by Jesus.

Being diagnosed with an illness is also a hard time to give thanks. We are in pain; we are trying to cope with the illness on our lives. However, we can give thanks for the work of the medical professionals in our lives. We can give thanks for the support of our families and friends.

When we lose a job, we have to find another. We have to update resumes, go through rounds of interviews, and cope with inevitable rejection. There is a lot to go through. Perhaps we could give thanks for the support of family and friends. We can give thanks for each interview granted. We can give thanks for those who read our resumes.

If we look hard enough, we can find things to be thankful for in almost every situation we experience. It helps us to stay focused on the positive things in our lives. It helps us to walk with the love of Christ in our hearts.

Lent starts on February 26. It is tradition that people fast from something during Lent—food, video games, television. I would challenge you to add something to your lives—being thankful would be a good start.

Let us find times to relax with Jesus. Wherever we go, whatever we do, we do and go with Jesus. Jesus is gentle and humble in heart. With Jesus, we can be gentle and humble in heart. Find times to spend with Jesus.

God’s blessings,
Pastor John



THE WILLOW RIVER PARISH
CLEAR LAKE, DEER PARK, FOREST
PO BOX 269 – 420 FOURTH STREET
CLEAR LAKE, WI. 54005-0269

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

The Willow River Parish United Methodist Churches

John Hazen, Pastor

Parish Secretary: Anitra Kaczmariski

Parish Office Phone: 715-263-2700

E-Mail: willowriverparish@gmail.com

Website: www.willowriverparish.org

Sunday Worship

8:30 a.m. – Clear Lake 9:45 a.m. – Forest

11:00 a.m. – Deer Park

Church School @ Clear Lake and Forest

Sundays after Young People's Time