

THE PARISH CONNECTION

February 2022

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



Lectionary Readings for February

Feb 6th – 5th Sunday after Epiphany (green)

Isaiah 6:1-8, (9-13) - Psalm 138
1 Corinthians 15:1-11 - Luke 5:1-11

Feb 13th – 6th Sunday after Epiphany (green)

Jeremiah 17:5-10 - Psalm 1
1 Corinthians 15:12-20 - Luke 6:17-26

Feb 20th – 7th Sunday after Epiphany (green)

Genesis 45:3-11, 15 - Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40
1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50 - Luke 6:27-38

Feb 27th – Transfiguration Sunday (white)

Exodus 34:29-35 - Psalm 99
2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2 - Luke 9:28-36, (37-43a)



Lent Schedule

Ash Wednesday is March 2nd this year. Due to Covid-19, how the placing of the ashes will be handled this year is yet to be determined.

We will have a Lenten service every Wednesday evening at 7pm during the season of Lent. Whether it will be via zoom or in-person will be determined at a later date. Look for details in the March newsletter.



Please use the following information to join us for worship and bible study.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88613652777?pwd=Ui paSVhGN0g1Qnc3VDV5T0Jhci83UT09>

Meeting ID: 886 1365 2777
Passcode: 421072

During winter, when harsh weather comes due to too low temperatures or heavy snow and each church decides to close, we will have a Zoom worship at 10 a.m.

Prayer Concerns

Joys—Baby Eva, safe travels,

Concerns—Neil Lillie, Melissa, Jude, Debi A, Norm Reed, Situation in the Ukraine, Bill and Mary Ouellette

Remembering—Family and friends of Donny Warner, Allen Wienke

Happy Birthday

Nathan Thompson	2/05
Ron Boe	2/05
Laura Drinkman	2/09
Ruth Severson	2/16
Catherine Benoy	2/17
Debbie Stevens	2/21
John Koerper	2/24
Bernice Goodrich	2/25
Brandon Pederson	2/25

Pet of the Month:

Meet Miss Winifred; her owner is Penny Warner. Because of zoom worship, Miss Winifred is able to enjoy the warmth of her mama's lap during church and bible study. Occasionally Miss Winifred (aka Winnie) does make an appearance on the screen, but most of the time she finds a basket or warm spot to nestle into. She loves naps, treats, and snuggles with her mom. She tolerates her poodle Tera. Winnie also has a motto which she would like to share with others. She would like to remind others to "anticipate happiness" as she has taken it upon herself to show others to purr as she enters the room with anticipation of being pet (anticipating happiness). We can all learn from a cat and "anticipate happiness" in our lives as we enter new phases of our lives.



SPRC Highlights

Happy New Year!

With the New Year, we have had some changes to the Staff Parish Relations Committee and members have taken on new roles.

Jennie Keller will be a new member for Clear Lake.

WRP Zoom Bible Study

The Wesley Prayer Challenge By Chris Folmsbee

Our Zoom bible study is Wednesday at 5:30 pm on our regular zoom connection. Feel free to join us even if you don't have the book but would like to join in our discussions. This is a study of John Wesley's Covenant Prayer. Penny created a heart of the words we generated for ways we experience God's Agape Love January 19th.



...Because you eat

Ruby's Pantry distributes food at Pop-Up Pantry

locations across MN & WI. There is no income or residency requirement and for a \$20 bundle donation you will receive an abundance of groceries. One food distribution will take place February 12th in the AmTec parking lot at 241 Venture Drive Amery. This is a drive-thru distribution from 8am to 10am. Volunteers are greatly appreciated and should arrive at 7:15am. If you would like to volunteer or if you would like more information, please contact 715-268-7390 or email office.ameryucc@gmail.com.

Another Ruby's Pantry location is: 1245 County Highway CC, New Richmond, Wisconsin 54017, which distributes on the 3rd Thursday of the Month. Registration begins at 5:00 PM. Food bundles available 5:00-7:00 PM. Hosted by: Faith Community Church. Check out their website www.rubyspantry.org to find a location and time that works for you.

From Bishop Jung

Soul Food: This I Pray and Offer as Resolutions for the Church in the New Year

"My people will live in peaceful dwelling places, in secure homes, in undisturbed places of rest." (Isaiah 32:18)

A Threshold for True Harmony

As we pass through the threshold of 2022, we prayerfully and completely entrust this year to the Lord.

From our trust and even through our frailty, may God liberate humankind from the chains of pandemic and restore us to even healthier days.

Health arrives as a gift and a deep reception of our mutual dependence: we must all be saved together to achieve our complete and entire salvation.

As we pass through the eye of this needle into God's newness, we cross humbly, and acknowledge that a world of creation that is dependent on one another requires that we live together by moments of chosen mutuality and into places that can only be pursued on a path of love and harmony.

Honest love and respect for our neighbor exalts them above ourselves. This is the agape of neighborliness proclaimed by the Gospel.

In a world where even one person suffers from their dignity rejected, discrimination chooses evil forces that break the balance of God's intended harmony and damages the beautiful tapestry of life. From this we must repent.

We believe that the church's mission is to fully give and devote itself to this kind of respect and love. This is God's self-giving poured into each moment of creative transformation, Christ in us.

Our Inner Work of Confession and Worship

As we reflect on our inner journey and pass into the threshold of 2022, I would ask us how we might restore such love and respect as a priority for Christians. I hope that we will confess our failings before God completely and worship the Lord with the simple practice of loving and respecting the

lives God presents us, that we might demonstrate our neighborliness in each day.

I trust that our existence can be filled with such love and respect, that we will come to think together that the holiness that illuminates our surroundings is the simple and good life of our choosing.

Let us begin with a critical look at the hubris of our time when the church cared only for the vanity of a false sovereignty, imperialistic mental frames, and the trappings of dominance.

We must remember that Jesus sides with the weak not out of mere sympathy, but God's divine reorganization and reclamation of the creation order.

This gospel has power to lift children, to relieve the pain of the poor—this is a gospel that frees the smallest life from oppression and rejects systems of discrimination and patterns of prejudice.

I believe only pure and humble love is the essence of life.

Walking in Beloved-ness

God, help us to become a church that unites around this strength of meekness.

God, help us bring together a church that does not allow the evil of racism for even a single moment, finds those who are always lost and in trouble. Grant that we may befriend the lonely, and generously serve those in need of help. Make us courageous in our practice of the love of Christ.

May 2022 be a year in which we again focus our attention on God and unite with one another in diligence and watchfulness, that we might leave alienation on the altar and walk in unity as our worship.

I sincerely hope that this year will be a year of wide and generous love in the common dreams and beloved-ness of being children of God, with acceptance and even neighborly respect for differences.

I pray that the Lord's blessings overflow to you.

March Newsletter

Deadline

is February 23rd

Deer Park UMC News

Happy New Year !!!

We at Deer Park have many people to thank for helping us at the church. A neighbor for plowing the parking lot, Ted for clearing the sidewalk, and everyone that helped put up and put away the nice Christmas decorations.

Also we need to let Amanda know how much we appreciate her time and the work taking on the difficult job of Parish treasurer. Thank you so much.

Also thanks to the leaders of Bible study and the participants for this special time together.

Our thoughts and Prayers are with everyone suffering with COVID, being quarantined, those facing surgery, the loss of family and friends and the many difficulties of winter.

We miss Linda, Ann and Bernice, we hope you are well and hope to see you soon. God Bless. This is our wish for a happy, safe and healthy 2022.

From all of us at the Deer Park UMC.

Send Offering to:

Janice Thompson
110 North Street E
Deer Park, WI 54007

Noisy Can—1st Quarter to Grace Place

Clear Lake UMC News

Attention Clear Lake Members:

- Coffee before church—we are looking at the decision at each Ad. Council.
- Food shelf donations any Sunday

CL Handbell Choir

We will begin practicing Wed. Jan. 19th at 7pm--taking two weeks off with Virtual/Zoom church

Clear Lake Financial Reports

November

income \$5,840.70
expenses \$8,896.94
-\$3,056.24

December

income \$5,127.49
expenses \$5,301.08
-\$173.59

Clear Lake Church Cancellations

Winter is here-- in the event of bad weather, please contact Roger Blanchard 715-263-2690 to find out if worship services are canceled.

Community Events

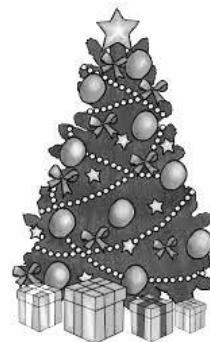
Clear Lake Parents Junior Prom Lock-in Fundraiser-Friday, Feb. 11th, Spaghetti Supper before the Clear Lake/Clayton Basketball Games in the CLHS Commons.

Adopt a Room

Our 'Adopt a Room' project for Salvation Army--We are still on hold with this project but they are ready for us to begin work. We will keep you informed when we get a date to paint and fix up our room! The School students spent their mission money on games, puzzles and some wall decor for the shelter and are looking forward to delivering it to Salvation Army workers.

Thank You

Sending a huge thank you to Don and Arlene Althoff and family for putting up our Christmas tree, decorating it, and taking it down! We greatly appreciate your Christmas Spirit!



Thank You

A huge thank you to the many volunteers at Lifeline Food Pantry and the amazing amount of food supplied and students and volunteers to pack and haul 120 boxes, bags and emergency boxes to support families in the Clear Lake and Clayton areas in Christmas time!



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. These personnel should be from the Clear Lake, Clayton, Reeve, Forest and Deer Park area. Please send donations during January & February to: LouAnn Hansen, 471 7th Avenue, Clear Lake, WI 54005. Checks can be made out to VFW Auxiliary.

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- Please start collecting items for the spring **Thrift Sale** in April. Look for details in the March and April newsletters.
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Clear Lake Ad C Highlights

Old Business:

- We will continue to wear masks during live service.
- Coffee - will not have coffee for the month of January, will readdress at next meeting.

New Business:

- We are starting a Facebook page for the church. Will contact Gail Kuhl for input.
- We are also in the process of updating a brochure to be handed out to visitors in the church. It will be updated every September when the church time changes. Will contact Gail Kuhl for input.
- We are looking in to purchasing a computer with a camera for the church to be used for Zoom services. Will contact Alpha and Heather Greene for input on what needs to be purchased.
- Script cards - Andrea Jilek has volunteered to head. She will get the information on how to proceed. Motion by Debi, Diane 2nd.

Next meeting February 2 at 4:00.

UMW Minutes 12/8/2021

Christmas Party and meeting at Betty Rake's home, well attended. Wonderful pot luck and beverages. No Sec. report. Treasurers report. added \$12 for dishrags sold. \$737.27.

1. Moved to send \$150.00 to Mujila Falls, Africa where Paul Webster was a missionary and taught them so many things. Paul is now retired.
2. Moved to send \$50.00 to Timba in Africa.
3. Signed Christmas cards for Shut-Ins.
4. Prayer Calendar on it's way.
5. Memorials for a Garden and Sanctuary Computer in memory of Charlotte Tellijohn.
6. Next year give to charities, missions and work on a room in the New Homeless Shelter.
7. Jan 12 meeting at Diane Blanchard's Home 2:00 Books read by Joan "Cup of Christmas Tea", Linda "Love you Forever". Books given to Pastor Hakki and Ester along with a framed Picture of the Church. Evan got big legos and enjoyed playing with them throughout the whole party. He especially enjoyed playing with Bev, he stayed close by her side. A big THANK YOU to Betty for hosting in her beautifully decorated home and Santa Curly was with us!!!

UMW Minutes 1/12/22

12 present Mission Statement Read Roll Call with Scripture
Sec. Report read and approved Treasurers Report \$569.53
OLD BUSINESS: 1. Deb reported on profits of Cookie/Potato Sale \$2,811.98. 10% given to Anchor of Hope. Bev moved to give \$1,500 to church. Divide rest between circles. UMW Afternoon received \$483.89. Second, by Catherine, carried.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Linda sent website information about UMW to Anitra, also updated Clear Lake Woman's info list, and sent or gave to all.
2. Work on Calendar for 2022
FEB. 9 Valentines for shut-ins, work on History Tote
MARCH 9 10:00 meeting with pot luck lunch, clean cupboards in kitchen and closets.
APRIL 13 Write on Easter envelopes for 3 nursing homes and shut-ins, Easter April 17.
9th District Meeting? Talk about garden Thrift Sale 28&29
MAY 11 work on the prayer garden
JUNE 8 Talk about bags for 3 nursing homes for Christmas in July. Potato Stand Clear Lake Days
JULY 13 fill bags for 3 Nursing Homes Meet at Diane's Garden
AUGUST 10 Day Trip
SEPTEMBER 14 District Meeting?? Thrift Sale 29&30
OCTOBER 12 Discuss Dinner to raise money for church
NOVEMBER 9 Discuss Cookie/Potato Sale Dec. 9th
DECEMBER 14 12:00 Christmas Party Dec 9 cookie/Potato Sale
3. Thank you from Harbor House for our donation. Arlene read prayer from new prayer calendar POT LUCK!!

submitted by Linda Jurisch

Send Offering to: Arlene Althoff, 75 50th Avenue, Clayton, WI 54004

Noisy Can--First Quarter--TBD

Christmas for Children

We have had a very busy and fulfilling December. We have just completed our 28th 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 and humbled to be a part of a community that is so supportive and generous.

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 25 families, (72 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 large food box from the Lifeline Food Pantry. 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 Peace and Blessings in 2022.

Christmas for Children
Clear Lake United Methodist Church

Clear Lake Sunday School

We meet after the children's sermon during regular 11:00 am services. We will meet once a month on Wednesdays after school from 3:30-5:00 pm at the church for a fun night and lesson. On December 15th we practiced our program and shopped for our mission gifts. We made Christmas treats and enjoyed pizza together. On Wednesday evening Jan. 19th we met and studied the Parable of the Lost Sheep, made a little sheep, shared our skit on the Good Samaritan with Pastor and crew, made and addressed cards to send to shut ins and nursing home residents and enjoyed a pizza supper.
Our next Wednesday evening will be February 23rd from 3:15-5pm.



Faith Family Church News

Faith Family Sunday School:

We ended up having a Christmas Program in January due to COVID. It was wonderful to have so many people participate.



Gracie (narrator) and Baylie (the friend)



Gary and Debbie Stevens as Mary and Joseph

Faith Family Ad. Board Highlights:

At our Ad Board meeting we discussed having a service to recognize our new members. We are planning to do our annual valentine boxes for people that are less likely to get out and about. Thank you to those that helped to get them together and distributed. We have a lot to be thankful for this year and we would also like to thank our snow plow fairy along with Greg for plowing. Thank you to those that took down the Christmas tree and everyone that has shoveled. We discussed a worship safety plan to keep our members and pastor safe. The discussion included recommending the use of wearing N95 and KN95 masks as these are recommended by the CDC, socially distancing, masks, pulpit fill options, utilizing zoom, etc. We encouraged our leaders of the church to attend the leadership meeting on January 22nd held by our district on zoom (this has been recorded so others will be able to watch at their convenience). Paul mentioned having Trobby speak to our congregations about his mission work. We

also need to lift up our neighbor who lost heat and her house flooded, those that we have lost in this last year, those suffering with COVID, natural disasters, and the many life changes that this past year has brought. May 2022 be a blessing to all with God in our hearts and minds.

Heather Greene (Ad Board Chair).

Anchor of Hope Recovery

Ministry is a worship service for individuals that have been impacted by addiction and are seeking recovery through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Anchor of Hope hosts services on Thursday evenings at 5 PM at the Faith Family Church, as well as through Zoom.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83094771703?pwd=OFJic0ZxT3A3eVYwUVAvbDRRenRoQT09>

Meeting ID: 830 9477 1703; Passcode: 781739



Our website can be found at

<https://anchorofhopeemerald.wixsite.com/mysite> and our email address is

anchorofhopeemerald@gmail.com Anchor of Hope believes that we are all in recovery, as we all face struggles that we need to seek the Lord's help with. Since beginning services in March of 2021, we have had speakers discuss addiction to drugs/alcohol, abusive relationships, anxiety, depression, and grief. We would love for you to join us and spread the word about this recovery ministry. If you are in need of assistance, there are some additional resources that may be helpful to you:

Crisis Lines

- NAMI Helpline: 800-950-6264
- National Suicide Prevention Hotline: 800-273-8255
- Northwest Connections: 888-552-6642.

Treatment Facilities

- Burkwood Treatment Center: 866-497-1976
- MN Adult & Teen Challenge: 612-373-3366.

Programs for Change:

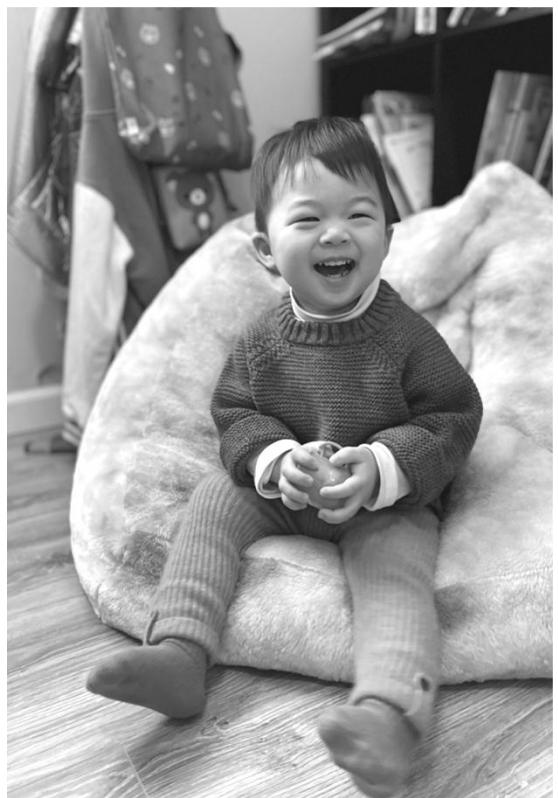
- Amery Behavioral Health: 715-268-0060
- Westfields Hospital & Clinic: 715-243-2900
- Hudson Hospital & Clinic: 715-531-6755.

CHECK US OUT ON FACEBOOK: [Faith Family Church | Facebook](#)

Noisy Cans—1st Qtr to MS Crawl for the Cure

Send Offering to: Terri Wilson, 3127 200th Ave, Glenwood City, WI 54013

Pastor's Daily Life in Wisconsin





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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

The Willow River Parish United Methodist Churches

Parish Office Phone: 715-263-2700
E-Mail: willowriverparish@gmail.com
Website: www.willowriverparish.org

Hakki Min, Pastor
Office Hours: Tues-Friday 1-3 pm

Anitra Kaczmarski, Parish Secretary
Email: wrpsecretary@gmail.com
Office Hours: Fridays 1-3 pm

Amanda Millerman, Parish Treasurer
Email: WRParishconnect@gmail.com

Sunday Worship

Church School @ Clear Lake and Faith Family

Sundays after Young People's time @ CL
Sundays after worship @ Faith Family