

# THE PARISH CONNECTION

June 2025

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

## June 2025 Lectionary Readings

JUNE 01 | 7th Sunday of Easter;  
Ascension Sunday (White or Gold)  
Acts 16:16-34; Ps 97 (UMH 816);  
Rev 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21; John 17:20-26

JUNE 08 | Pentecost (Red)  
Acts 2:1-21; Ps 104:24-34, 35b (UMH 826);  
Rom 8:14-17; John 14:8-17 (25-27)

JUNE 15 | Trinity Sunday; Peace with Justice  
Sunday; Father's Day (White or Gold)  
Prov 8:1-4, 22-31; Ps 8 (UMH 743);  
Rom 5:1-5; John 14:8-17, 25-27

JUNE 22 | 2nd Sunday after Pentecost (Green)  
1 Kings 19:1-15a; Ps 42 (UMH 777);  
Gal 3:23-29; Luke 8:26-39

JUNE 29 | 3rd Sunday after Pentecost (Green)  
2 Kings 2:1-2, 6-14; Ps 77:1-2, 11-20 (UMH 798);  
Gal 5:1, 13-25; Luke 9:51-62

**Zoom:** Please use the following information to join us on Sundays for worship at **8:30 a.m.**  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88613652777?pwd=UlpSVhGN0g1Qnc3VDV5T0Jhci83UT09>  
Meeting ID: 886 1365 2777 Passcode: 421072

**Wisconsin Annual Conference:** June 5-8 @ Middleton Marriott West Hotel  
*Pulpit Supply: Barbara Hill (June 8th)*

**Pastor's Vacation:** June 10th - June 26th;  
*Pulpit Supply: Rev. Paul Webster (June 15th) & Dan Van Brunt (June 22nd)*

## IN OUR PRAYERS:

**Joys**—Beautiful Spring, Stryder is going to school!

**Concerns**— Charlie Clark, Tim Dreier, Debbie, Penny, Ruth, Meghan, Vern, Jan, all countries with wars—Ukraine, Gaza—especially the children, Betty, Sheldon, migrants, immigrants, and refugees under the threat of forced deportation, Lon, and Dennis Cress

**Remembering**—The family of Steve Benson, Catherine's family as her brother passed away, The family of Dylan Schwerdtfeger and the family of Jacob Paulson



## Willow River Facebook Page

<https://www.facebook.com/Willow-River-Parish-103076225619623/>. Please send any information you would like posted to Heather Greene [mr.mrs.greene5@gmail.com](mailto:mr.mrs.greene5@gmail.com) or Gail Kuhl [kuhlg@cltcomm.net](mailto:kuhlg@cltcomm.net)

## Save the Dates

June 5-8	Annual Conference @ Middleton Marriott West Hotel
June 7	Pastor's Ordination Service @ 3PM
June 26-29	Clear Lake Days
August 11-14	Vacation Bible School

**UMC Special Sundays:** Listed below are the remaining special Sundays for 2025. Donation envelopes will be at the back of the churches.

- Peace with Justice Sunday ~ June 15
- World Communion Sunday ~ October 5
- United Methodist Student ~ November 30

July Newsletter Deadline is June 26th

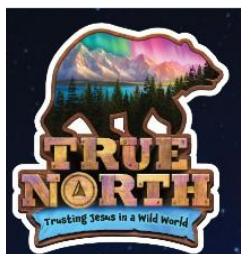
## June Birthdays

Laurie Moore	6/2
Lucas Olson	6/3
Greg Wilson	6/4
Chris Larson	6/5
Wyatt Reindahl	6/11
Arlene Althoff	6/16
Mandy Sharpe	6/18
Debbie Frank	6/21
Roger La Blanc	6/30

## June Anniversaries

Dave & Becky Reindahl	6/6
Robert & Rachel Zimmer	6/12
Stan & Sue Larson	6/16
George & Nancy Stutter	6/25

**Ruby's Pantry** distributes food at Pop-Up Pantry locations across MN & WI. There is no income or residency requirement and for a \$25 bundle donation you will receive an abundance of groceries. One food distribution will take place **June 14th** in the **SMC LTD** parking lot at 9000 Griffin Street E in Amery. This is a drive-thru distribution from **7:30 am to 9:00 am**. Volunteers are greatly appreciated and should arrive at **6:45 am**. If you would like to volunteer or if you would like more information, please contact 715-268-7390 or email [office.ameryucc@gmail.com](mailto:office.ameryucc@gmail.com).



**Community Vacation Bible School:** Trusting Jesus in a Wild World. This year local youth will take an ultimate Alaskan Adventure. As they explore the wild they'll learn Jesus is a faithful friend we can ALWAYS TRUST.

SAVE THE DATES: Aug 11th-Aug 14th, 6-8 p.m.  
MORE DETAILS TO COME!



**BackPack Bash**  
**@ Amery Firehall**  
**4:30-7pm June 6th**

**Willow River Parish Youth** held a parish work day to assist people that could use help with their yards. On May 7th they began at 3:00 and traveled to get several yards worked on, Elden's and Ruth and Sheldon Simonsens, and then met at Blanchard's for supper.



## Hope aLive

On Tuesday, June 3rd, Hope aLive will be held at Michael Park in Amery. It is hosted by Amery and Clear Lake Churches. Everything is free, food, games and music and all are welcome to attend. The youth will be sponsoring ...

## American Cancer Society 'Relay For Life'--June 13-14, 2025

Our family and friends will be accepting donations for the American Cancer Society "Relay for Life" walk at New Richmond, WI in 'Memory' and 'Honor' of family members as well as many others who have been touched by cancer. Anyone wishing to donate or participate is welcome to do so. I have appreciated your generosity in the past and know that together, 'We Can Make a Difference' in striving to find a cure for cancer. If you'd like to donate, my address is:  
Ruth Severson, 221 3rd St. N, Deer Park, WI 54007  
Phone is 715-269-5322  
Thank you!

## WORSHIP MINISTRIES

### Clear Lake

June 1st Reader: John Koerper  
Acolyte/PwrPt: Jordan Blanchard  
Potluck/Coffee: Ryan Blanchard Family

June 8th Reader: Ben Avery, Jr  
Acolyte/PwrPt: Oliver Wood  
Coffee: Roger & Carla La Blanc

June 15th Reader: Andrea Jilek  
Acolyte/PwrPt: Lily Avery  
Coffee: Camilla P

June 22nd Reader: Alison Blanchard  
Acolyte/PwrPt: Ben Avery, Jr  
Coffee: Debi A

June 29th Reader: Diane Blanchard  
Acolyte/PwrPt: Oliver Gorres  
Potluck/Coffee: COMBINED SERVICE

July 6th Reader: Debi Ahrens  
Acolyte/PwrPt: Vidalia Gorres  
Potluck/Coffee: Linda Jurisch

Counters for June: Linda & John  
Counters for July: Joan & Roger L

### Faith Family

June 1st Michael Clark  
June 8th Paul Webster  
June 15th Terri Wilson  
June 22nd Debbie Stevens  
June 29th Combined worship at CL  
July 6th Michael Clark



### **Grace Place Salvation Army**

We are in need of a few items at the shelter. Please help if you are able. Drop off at the shelter anytime of day. We are now needing help with food with some

of our government support ending. Below is what we are in need of for food:

- Ground beef, Tortillas, Mayo/miracle whip, chicken bouillon, butter, MILK, jelly

### Shelter needs:

- COPY PAPER, latex gloves, bathroom wash cloths, 9V batteries, AA Batteries, men's and women's new/gently used basketball shorts-all sizes, cleaning supplies, toilet bowl cleaner

Below is the amazon list if you would like to send directly to shelter: <https://a.co/7KSor5C>  
THANK YOU!

## Letter from Bishop Schwerin

Dear Siblings in Christ of the Wisconsin Conference,

Greetings in the name and love of the Risen Christ!

On May 1, 2025, the Council of Bishops and the Connectional Table proudly unveiled a new vision for The United Methodist Church—a vision that reflects our deep commitment to embodying God's dream for the world. A world where every person encounters the transformative grace of Jesus Christ, where communities flourish, and where all creation is made whole.

*"The United Methodist Church forms disciples of Jesus Christ, who are empowered by the Holy Spirit, love boldly, serve joyfully, and lead courageously in local communities and worldwide connections."*

This renewed vision is more than words—it is an invitation to embrace joy and hope as we live God's mission. It also provides a clear, Christ-centered framework for missional unity and collaboration across the Northern Illinois-Wisconsin Episcopal Area and our worldwide connection.

Now, more than ever, the world needs to experience God's boundless love. We may soon see the most vulnerable struggle even more—how might this vision remind us how we can love practically? How might we demonstrate love greater than our differences?

What a wonderful statement to use as a mirror for decisions made at an administrative council, or as a budget is made. What a great tool for teaching: how is God calling your congregation to love boldly, serve joyfully, and lead courageously? Perhaps this is a moment you could be personally challenged by this vision. How might you live in this vision prayerfully?

We still have a mission to 'make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.' This new vision offers direction and challenge. I am grateful to be reminded that vision takes us into our communities and world to live the vision of Jesus with those God has given us to love.

Thank you for your faithfulness.





Dear WRP Family,

The nature of Wisconsin is truly remarkable and beautiful. Even until early May, many trees still had no leaves, but within just two or three weeks, green leaves began to sprout as if the bare branches had never existed, filling the trees lushly and signaling the arrival of a beautiful season.

As I observed these rapidly growing leaves, I was reminded of God's timing and the Day of the Lord. The Bible, through various passages, tells us that God's timing and the Day of the Lord will come when we least expect it. For instance, Matthew 24:44 says, "Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect." Similarly, 1 Thessalonians 5:2 states, "For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night."

Since we do not know when the Day of the Lord will come, we must always be awake and prepared for that day. I also pondered how these leaves grew so quickly. Though they began sprouting in May, their ability to flourish in just a few weeks likely stems from the trees' careful storage of nutrients during the cold winter, preparing for the moment when conditions would allow the leaves to bloom. This reminds me of the Parable of the Talents. The servants who received five and two talents were prepared even before they received their tasks. When the opportunity came, they put their preparations into action and bore good fruit. However, the servant who received one talent had made no preparations. He likely thought, "I don't know if the master will entrust me with anything, so I'll start preparing when he does." As a result, when the opportunity arrived, he was unprepared, floundering, and ultimately did nothing but bury his talent in the ground.

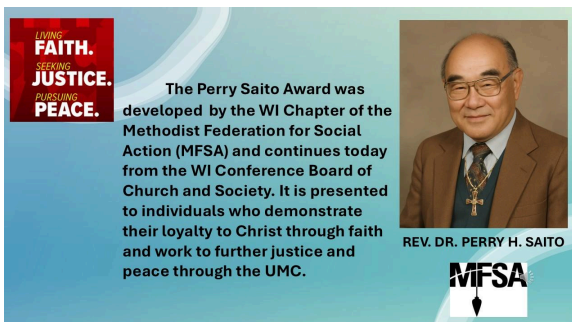
Friends, no one knows when the Lord's time and day will come. I pray that we may all keep this in mind, prepare diligently, and live out the Lord's commandment to love one another.

On a pastoral update, my parents arrived in Wisconsin on Memorial Day to celebrate my ordination.

I can't imagine how much they must have missed their grandson. Whenever they get the chance, they hold Evan, read books to him, and spend time together. We will attend the Annual Conference together. My Ordination Service is scheduled for Saturday, June 7, at 3:00 PM. Additionally, I received joyful news that the Wisconsin Board of Church and Society will be presenting me with the Perry Saito Award. This came as quite a surprise, and it still doesn't feel real. I believe this recognition is likely due to the positive regard and support of my fellow pastors for my ministry. All of this is by the grace of God.

After the Annual Conference, I plan to take a vacation to spend time with my family. We will spend about a week in San Diego, and I ask for your prayers for a safe journey. My parents will return to S. Korea on June 26. Please pray that they have a peaceful and enriching experience while in the U.S. and a safe return home.

You will have the chance to meet them at the June 1 worship service. The worship services on June 8, 15, and 22 will be covered by Barbara, Rev. Paul, and Dan, with Pastor Tim (715.702.2061) serving as the emergency contact during that time.



I am always grateful for your prayers and love.

Blessings, Pastor Hakki





# Clear Lake UMC News

- Coffee and pot luck **BEFORE** church at 10:15
- Potluck-1st Sunday of each month BEFORE church.
- Food shelf donations any Sunday

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**Send Offering to:** Josy Wood, 260 40th Avenue, Clear Lake, WI 540045

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## **CL Noisy Cans:**

2nd Qtr-Clear Lake Community Center  
3rd Qtr.- Family House (Polk/Barron Shelter)  
4th Qtr- Salvation Army

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**Dorcas Piecemakers Work Days:** On Monday, June 2nd we will meet at Irma's for lunch at noon and then sew from 1-3. On Monday, June 16th we will meet at Irma's for lunch at noon then sew from 1:00 -3:00. All are welcome to join us just for lunch or lunch and sewing, ironing, and putting fabrics together.

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**United Women in Faith:**UWF ladies met at Ridgeview for potluck on Wed. May 14th.

## DISTRICT BUSINESS:

1. Letter from Robin Burke, our sister to UWF.
- 2.Social Action Day Misses.
- 3.Must have a Mission Pin each year.
- 4.Spring Day of Enrichment attended by Joan, Jennie, Betty. Very enjoyable. Songs, speeches and activities.
5. Note sent to Arlene.
6. Graduation Sunday May 18. \$10 and card for Jordan Blanchard, cards to Blake Anderson, Wyatt Reindahl and Megan Zimmer.

## NEW BUSINESS:

1. 150-year Anniversary put off planning till fall. Possible date August 30,2026.
- 2.July 16, trip to Harbor House with donations.
3. June 11, Bingo at Golden Age start playing at 1:30.
4. Thrift Sale 10 % from April, \$130, given to Clear Lake Food Pantry.
5. Church Cleaners, Jeff Wahlberg Family \$120, deep cleaning first time. UWF and Dorcas Piecemakers will split the cost as long as they can.
6. Prayer and Self Denial collected at meetings; send in Feb.
7. Diane gave 3 interesting book reports.
8. **NEXT MEETING AUGUST 13**, 2:00 Ridgeview with Pot Luck.

*Submitted by Linda Jurisch*

## **Holy Socks**

The United Women of Faith are gathering clean, mismatched, old, worn out holy socks for a cash donation to Northcott Neighborhood House in Milwaukee. We'd love to have anyone's donations.

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## **CL UMC May Ad Council Minutes**

### Old Business:

\*Jennie Walberg has been hired for church cleaning. The UMF and Dorcas circles will pay the cleaning bill. Jennie will give her Betty Rake's address for billing purposes.

\*The insurance adjuster was here and will give a bid for insurance after completing his check list.

### New Business:

\*The Safe Sanctuary documentation needs updating.

\*Hope Alive is scheduled for June 3 in Michael Park in Amery. Discussed serving Nachos and cheese.

\*Trying to decide on a date for the 150th Church Anniversary Celebration in the summer of 2026. Looking to hold it during a 5th Sunday service. No date has been set yet.

### Pastor's Notes:

\*Pastor Hakki will be attending the District Training May 17, 2025 in Menominee. The topic will be Re-engaging in Person Worship, Sermon.

\*We will be having a potluck on May 25 in honor of Pastor Hakki's parents.

\*Pastor Hakki will be on vacation June 10 - 26.

\*We will be honoring the graduates May 18, 2025. \*Congratulations to our High School graduate Jordan Blanchard and Tech School graduates Wyatt Reindahl and Megan Zimmer.

*\*Next meeting Sunday June 1, 2025 after church.*



## 2025 Graduates



**Jordan Blanchard** graduated from Clear Lake High School. He plans to work at Nextgen for a year and attend CVTC in the fall of 2026.



**Clear Lake Heritage Days–June 26-29th:** The Clear Lake Church will be selling their Stuffed Baked Potatoes on Friday and Saturday of CL Heritage Days. We

begin on Friday evening at 4 till sold out and begin Saturday, selling at 10 am and will continue through the parade till sold out. We will need lots of help, prep, set up, serving in the kitchen and outside and cleaning up. We will serve inside. Please set parts of these days aside to help out, this is a big fundraiser for our church.

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## Deer Park UMC News

Greetings from Deer Park!

We are doing ok--small group of us but we are keeping our obligations up to date so all is well.

On this Memorial Day, I want to share a happy story with you. About 38 years ago on a nice sunny afternoon we were painting and a call came from our daughter, crying and very frantic. She said Chris, her son has been hit by a car riding his bike. The ambulance is here and he will be going to the city hospital as he is bleeding out of his ear. Pete was very slow at getting ready and I said, "Why are you so slow?" His answer was, "Of all the accidents I have taken care of when the patient was bleeding from their ear, they didn't make it."

Chuck Mehls was there, and of course he was a long-time medical person. Pete worked for St. Croix County as the captain of the patrol and he was also the mayor of Deer Park. He wrote for a grant; it was awarded with five new medical bags to start the first responders.

End of story--today Chris's daughter was awarded (by her grandmother JoJo) a scholarship from those of us that were involved from the Deer Park first responders.

Congratulations Nevaeh and praise the Lord for a wonderful end to this story!

Have a great summer everyone.

With love from your friends in Deer Park

**Send Offering to:** Janice Thompson, 110 North Street E, Deer Park, WI 54007

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**Noisy Can--2nd Quarter to Various Charities**

**Megan Zimmer** graduated from NWTC with an associate degree in nursing. She will be working full-time as a registered nurse on the medical surgical unit at Osceola Medical Center.



**Wyatt Reindahl** graduated from Northwood Technical College in New Richmond on May 16th.  
★ IT Cyber Security Specialist/ IT Network Technician  
★ Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society





## Faith Family Church News:

### 2025 Faith Family Graduate:



**Elijah Millermon** graduated from Glenwood City High school and plans to attend University of Wisconsin River Falls for Accounting.

### Fun Day School Kids:

Funday school kids worked on the Lord's Prayer this month and did a lesson on Moses. Next month we plan to meet at local parks and do a Bible Study called Wonder.



### Community Events:

Next event is **July 3rd** fireworks!

**Noisy Can–Grace Place (Salvation Army)**  
**Send Offering to:**

Terri Wilson: 3127 200<sup>th</sup> Ave  
Glenwood City, WI 54013

CHECK US OUT ON FACEBOOK:

Faith Family Church | Facebook



# Juneteenth

Join us in Rice Lake on June 19<sup>th</sup>

Roux Park - Marshall Street Rice Lake

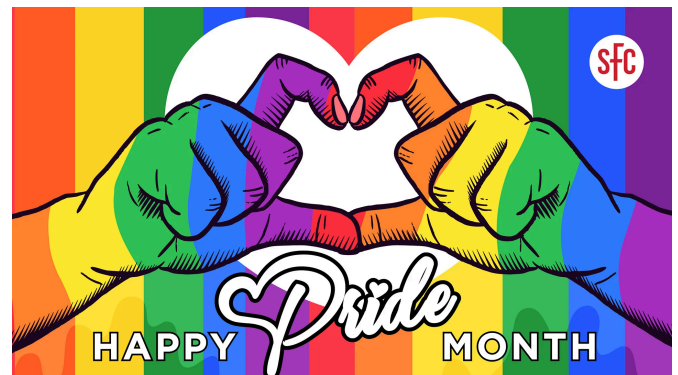
- Free Family Activities
- Rex-Mex Food Truck
- Live Performances
- Vendors
- Cultural Exhibits

6-8 PM

Community Event

SPONSORED BY :

- Rice Lake Chronotype
- Lehman's Supper Club
- Dirty Chai Radio



## PRIDE PRAYER 6.21.20

Creator God, we marvel in awe of the expansiveness of your creation. Your margins of diversity are boundless, and for that, we thank you. Each of our beloved LGBTQIA+, brown, and black siblings are beautifully and wonderfully made, all in Your image. Teach us to love people, just as they are, and embrace their identity fully, as you have embraced us. In your mercy. Hear our prayer.

#RKWSPRIDE  
#BLACKLIVESMATTER

ReconcilingWorks  
LUTHERANS FOR FULL PARTICIPATION





THE WILLOW RIVER PARISH  
CLEAR LAKE, DEER PARK, FAITH FAMILY  
420 4<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE – PO BOX 269  
CLEAR LAKE, WI. 54005-0269

Address Service Requested

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Website: [www.willowriverparish.org](http://www.willowriverparish.org)

Willow River Facebook Page  
<https://www.facebook.com/Willow-River-Parish-103076225619623/>

Hakki Min, Pastor  
Office Hours: Tues-Friday 9-11 am

Anitra Kaczmariski, Parish Secretary  
Email: [wrpsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:wrpsecretary@gmail.com)

Amanda Millermon, Parish Treasurer  
Email: [WRParishconnect@gmail.com](mailto:WRParishconnect@gmail.com)

Sunday Worship  
8:30 a.m. – Faith Family (also Zoom) 9:45 a.m. – Deer Park  
11:00 a.m. – Clear Lake

Church School @ Faith Family & Clear Lake  
“Fun Day” School– Alternate Wednesdays 6 pm @ Faith Family  
Bible in a Binder Sundays @ Clear Lake