

THE PARISH CONNECTION

March 2022

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



Lectionary Readings for March

March 6, 2022 (purple) 1st Sunday in Lent
Deuteronomy 26:1-11 - Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16
Romans 10:8b-13 - Luke 4:1-13

March 13, 2022 (purple) 2nd Sunday in Lent
Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18 - Psalm 27
Philippians 3:17-4:1, Luke 13:31-35

March 20, 2022 (purple) 3rd Sunday in Lent
Isaiah 55:1-9 - Psalm 63:1-8
1 Corinthians 10:1-13 - Luke 13:1-9

March 27, 2022 (purple) 4th Sunday in Lent
Joshua 5:9-12 - Psalm 32
2 Corinthians 5:16-21 - Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME

Daylight Savings Time begins on Sunday, March 13th. Please remember to set your clocks ahead one hour on Saturday night before you go to bed.



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

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88613652777?pwd=UIpaSVhGN0g1Qnc3VDV5T0Jhci83UT09>

Meeting ID: 886 1365 2777
Passcode: 421072

Welcome
Spring

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— spring is near, Bev's 90th

Concerns—Neil Lillie, Curly, Situation in the Ukraine, John Tulgren, Tom Brown, Tom Kuhl, Jim and Mona

Remembering—Family and friends of Art Moore, Carole Green, Gary Bill

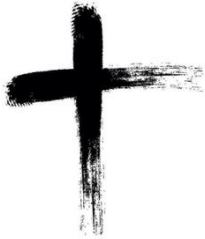
March Birthdays

Bev Klatt	3/2
Oliver Malack	3/4
Esther Kim	3/5
Gracie Perkins Greene	3/8
Dennis Petersen	3/9
Joyce Petersen	3/14
Greg Severson	3/15
George Stutter	3/18
Todd Jilek	3/19
Evan Min	3/19
Elden Setter	3/20
Allen Warner	3/24
Jewel Severson	3/26
Jan Benson	3/27
Tara Hemauer	3/29

March Anniversaries

Roger & Carla La Blanc 3/20

Pastor's Pen



Beloved:

Epiphany, the season of light, is over and Lent, the season of ash, is approaching. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday (Mar 2, 2022) and lasts for 40 days until Holy Saturday

(Apr 16, 2022). The word Lent comes from the Anglo-Saxon word lencten, meaning 'length'. These forty days are a symbolic period of suffering and renewal, such as the time when Jesus overcame Satan's temptations after fasting in the wilderness and the time he prepared for the public ministry. During this time, we confess our sins to God, ask for forgiveness, and fast and prepare for the coming Easter. Lent (40 days) is a one-tenth part of a year, so it is also called spiritual tithe. This period will give vitality to our religious life. I hope that you will actively and faithfully seek the Lord's will during this special season and become more mature Christians.

In the blessings of our Savior,
Pastor Hakki

April Newsletter Deadline

is March 22nd

MARCH WORSHIP MINISTRIES

Clear Lake

March 6th	Reader:	John Koerper
	Acolyte/PwrPt:	Tyson Blanchard
	Coffee:	NA
March 13th	Reader:	Dawn Cress
	Acolyte/PwrPt:	Lily Avery
	Coffee:	NA
March 20th	Reader:	Debi Ahrens
	Acolyte/PwrPt:	Ben Pietz
	Coffee:	NA
March 27th	Reader:	Diane Blanchard
	Acolyte/PwrPt:	Jordan Blanchard
	Coffee:	NA

Counters for March: Dawn C & Diane B

Greeter for March: Linda J

Deer Park Readers

March 6th	<i>no reader</i>
March 13th	Elden Setter
March 20th	<i>no reader</i>
March 27th	<i>no reader</i>

Faith Family Readers

March 6th	Terri Wilson
March 13th	Millermon Family
March 20th	Paul Webster
March 27th	Heather Greene

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

INVITATION

All women in the Willow River Parish may join the Clear Lake UMW; we would love to have you give us some new ideas. We meet on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 2:00 in the CL Methodist Church Basement. When we're finished with the meeting we have potluck lunch.



...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 March 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.

Silent Messengers

Join us for the presentation of the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ at the Immaculate Conception Church in New Richmond on April 10th. Doors open at 5 pm for soup supper; show starts at 6 pm. Free will offering; proceeds go to Grace Place Shelter. Look for signup sheets at each church.

Pet of the Month

Check out these adorable lambs! They come from Paul Webster's flock. They remind us today and all month that we too are sheep and Jesus is our shepherd.



From Bishop Jung

Soul Food: Godly Grief and Deep Change

"For godly grief produces a repentance that leads to salvation" (2 Cor 7:10 NRSV).

There is a long way to wholeness taken through suffering or loss. It is the spiritual geography of proclamation that once passed through wilderness. When we sense such maps are before us, we often wonder if there is another way. Deep into a pandemic we have much to reckon with: grief, the reminders of unequal health outcomes for persons of color, and the strains of schooling from home to name a few.

Many of us would prefer to practice a faith that did not ask us to face godly sorrow. Yet faith without honest reckoning does not equip us for the long haul, or for a harvest of personal and social holiness.

In his book *The Color of Compromise: The Truth about the American Church's Complicity in Racism*, Jemar Tisby asserts that there are benefits to having a sobering conversation with your doctor, as well as getting honest with the Great Physician. Tisby writes: "The goal of this book is not guilt. The purpose of tracing Christian complicity with racism is not to show white believers how bad they are. It is simply a fact of American history that white leaders and laity made decisions to maintain the racist status quo. Even though the purpose of this work is not to call out any particular racial group, these words may cause some grief, but grief can be good" (p.22). At that point Tisby takes us to Paul's words born of rough patches with the Corinthians: "For godly grief produces a repentance that leads to salvation" (2 Cor 7:10). For Paul, there is a pain that God participates in that brings metanoia. In personal terms, this is a genuine acknowledgment of complicity with harm, coupled with the humble, but strong resolve to change one's behavior. In corporate terms, our psalms of lament teach us that there are times shared suffering is the road to "letting go of former things," as Isaiah terms them, so that we have room in our hands to grasp God's new thing.

Faith without reckoning hurt, harm, loss, more than that—theology without crucifixion—risks being reduced to happy talk, and the nurturance of a false self. Without capacity for being a suffering fellowship, there are too few voices among us that can help mature disciples across their times of pain.

In the Fall of 2019, the Wisconsin Conference began to advance Radical Inclusion and Racial Justice as

Deer Park UMC News

our continuous mission and ministry direction. Our Anti-Racism Task Force and the Bishop's Task Force are working together to explore how we can build beloved community together in the Wisconsin Conference. I will ask you to pray and consider study and reflection on Radical Inclusion and Racial Justice. Bryan Stevenson's 'Four Pillars to Change the World' may be a helpful map. His four principles to create change are:

1. Move toward pain, injury, and harm—it is impossible to address or improve a situation by avoiding it.
2. Create space for the narratives of integrity and truth while resisting narratives of fear and division/othering—the less we know about others, the less we value them.
3. Be willing to be discomforted to be faithful witnesses—remember that our discipleship is obedience to God and gospel, not comfort and security. Disciples are sent, often to places they would not ordinarily choose to go!
4. Live as people of relentless hope—believe the best about others instead of the worst. Live toward a potential for good rather than an avoidance of assumed bad.

I would invite you to practice three specific requests in your life of faith:

1. Engage the work personally through prayerful introspection, vulnerability, and discernment for your own journey of transformation.
2. Listen to stories of pain within your context and share your broader anti-racism work with your colleagues.
3. Integrate the sacred work of anti-racism into everyday ministry engagement and leadership.

Paul was able to say, "Now I rejoice, not because you were grieved, but because your grief led to repentance" (2 Cor 7:9). I pray that the Wisconsin Conference would experience metanoia that brings salvation and newness. May God's Spirit draw us closer to God and to each other. Know that I am praying for you. Peace to you.

Spring is on the horizon and it has been a gorgeous horizon on several days. One of God's many blessings, the beauty of the earth.

With Ash Wednesday only a few days away it reminds me of one of the most wonderful seasons on the Christian calendar. Lent, Easter, spring and newness of life, buds, birds singing and flowers soon appearing. Can we ask for anything more?

The first verse of the song we sang last week, Hymn of Promise speaks to me of the season coming. I am anxious to be able to put flowers in the planter at our Church. Freezing temperatures snuck up on us and the fall ones are still there.

A special thank you to Elden for spending all the time and expenses that he did to find and replace the wiring on our two hanging lights, they have not been working for years and now they do. Great job!

Last month we met one of Penny's pets, a cat. I am sure that anyone who has a four-legged companion will agree that they add so much joy to their life. Along with all the joy, we can't forget to mention the work, toys, and numerous expenses--all worth it. Here is a picture of our three-year-old cocker spaniel, Buddy that we love so much. Thanks to JoJo, our daughter, as she searched and found him for us.



We are so happy Joyce is doing well and we can enjoy the nice music she provides. We also enjoy her chauffeur with his friendliness and humor. Thanks to both of them, we are blessed to have them.

We hope both Ruth and Bernice had a memorable birthday and it was great to see Ann.

We wish everyone a happy, early, warm spring and hope to say "goodbye" to COVID. God Bless.

From your friends in Deer Park

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:

- No coffee before church in March—we are looking at the decision at each Ad. Council.
- Food shelf donations any Sunday

Clear Lake January Financial Report

Income: \$6,169.05
 Expenses: \$7,171.09
 -over \$1,002.85

Clear Lake Church Cancellations

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

Shop with Scrip

Do you like the convenience of gift cards? How about an easy gift for that hard-to-buy-for relative?

The Clear Lake UMC is starting a new fundraising campaign. It is very simple and doesn't require anyone to bake cookies, serve baked potatoes, or sell gently used items!

All you do is buy gift cards for your favorite stores and restaurants and the church earns a percentage back. There are more than 750 brands to choose from. You can do this on an App, which will be more instant, or you can order through the coordinator, Andrea Jilek.

Look for an email to all church families that details the program a little more.

Please see or call Andrea 263-2575 if you have any questions,

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- Please start collecting items for the
- spring **Thrift Sale April 28-29**. Look
- for details in the April newsletter.
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Adopt a Room

Our 'Adopt a Room' project for Salvation Army continues to be held up but only because in working with the state through a grant, the Salvation Army has to have an architect who is now working on the project. We will plan to paint and fix up our room this summer as they have had to extend their opening to the fall. Hopefully we will have youth available to work then. The Sunday 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.

Clear Lake Feb Ad C Highlights

- No coffee for the month of February. Motion by Jennie, 2nd by Arlene.
- We will be updating the church brochure. Information for the brochure needs to be given to Gail Kuhl, who will chair the update.
- Gail Kuhl will also be setting up a Facebook page for the church. Anyone with ideas and/or info for the Facebook page should contact Gail.
- The computer with a camera for Zoom services will cost between \$300-\$400. The computer will be purchased with money from the Memorial Fund. Motion by Dawn, 2nd by Don.
- Ash Wednesday service (March 2) will be held at the Clear Lake Church. The service time will be determined.

Next meeting March 2 at 4:00.

Clear Lake Sunday School

Clear Lake Sunday school meets after the children's sermon during regular 11:00 am services. We also meet once a month on Wednesdays after school from 3:30-5:00 pm at the church for a fun night, lesson and supper.



On Wednesday evening February 23rd we met for a Kindness Night, Feb. 17th was National Random Acts of Kindness Day. **March 23rd will be our next evening gathering.** I will pick up students at 3:15 or they can be dropped off at 3:30.

Faith Family Church News

Faith Family would like to welcome new members. We are welcoming Hank Hurtgen and Liz Larson former members of the Emerald United Methodist Church and Savanna and Elijah Millermon recently confirmed into our congregation! Welcome and May God love shine over you today and always!



UMW Minutes 2/9/22

9 present

Mission Statement Read Roll Call with LOVE Scriptures. Sec. report read and approved. Treasurers Report \$1,053.72. Will pay for Response Magazine.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Thank you from Anchor of Hope Donation.
2. MARCH MEETING 10:00 am, pot luck at 12:00 Clean kitchen & closets

NEW BUSINESS:

1. DAWN CRESS'S Cell phone number is wrong on our Methodist Women's List of Information, should be 715-977-2043.
2. Northwoods Homeless Shelter needs cleaning supplies. We will purchase some.
3. Church Audit Report PERFECT!!!
4. \$100 will be sent to Chronicle for 1 binder approved
5. March 19 Spring Enrichment 9:30-12:30 on ZOOM
6. Anitra is using last year's list for Sunday Worker at Church.
7. We would like Paul Webster to speak on his mission work, maybe in the summer so kids and others can come.
8. Sent Valentines to Shut-Ins
9. Julie Elmer will get a \$50 gas card for her financial help to our church.
10. Round off Prayer and Self Denial to \$50.

Arlene read from the Prayer Calendar "Loving Fellowship"

Luke 5:27-32

Program Joan: "Love, Justice & Service: Answering the Call"

Selfless giving and Love for all

Report on General Conference, They haven't met in 2020 or 2021, will meet in 2022.

Submitted by Linda Jurisch

Send Offering to:

Arlene Althoff,
75 50th Avenue,
Clayton, WI 54004

Faith Family Sunday School:

Our Sunday school presented Jordyn Millermon with a bible during our 3rd Grade Bible Presentation February 20th. Congratulations Jordyn and we hope you enjoy your Bible!



Faith Family Ad. Board Highlights:

Agenda Faith Family Ad. Board Meeting 02/10/2022
Attendance: Gary and Debbie Stevens, Jeff and Terri Wilson, Paul Webster, Heather Greene, Cindy Warner, Dennis and Joyce Petersen, Pastor Hakki Min, Susan Larson,

- I. Pastor Hakki Min opened the meeting with song and prayer.
- II. Treasurer report. Paul moved and Terri Seconded – motion passed for budget as stated.

III. Anchor of Hope updates – taxes paid and update about zoom time.

IV. Construction projects.

1. Update on bell/sign- discussed options for designs and Doug will plan to give a quote.

2. Discussion about stairs

3. Sign for Pastor's parking. Discussed getting a blue sign for pastor.

V. Review Safe Sanctuary policy.

VI. Missions projects

-Valentine's Day project- Thank you from Barbara and Leroy, Prayers for neighbors of the church.

VII. Lenten services: Ash Wednesday March 2nd, in person in Clear Lake UMC at 5 or 7pm, depends on COVID situation at that time. Circuit pastors will do round robin for each week on Video.

VIII. Pastoral updates: Pastor plans to take vacation for 3 days in February. He reports he doesn't need coverage at this time.

IX: Any other business: Prayers request for Greg's co-worker's wife as he passed away from COVID. Travel mercy's for Paul as he travels.

X: Welcome New members this Sunday right after children time.

XI: Next meeting March 10th 6:30pm

XII: End in the Lord's Prayer

Congratulations Savanna Millermon

Savanna went to girls' state wrestling and got 3rd place. Your church family supports you and Jesus loves you! Congratulations!



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



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 Millermon, Parish Treasurer
Email: 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 @ Clear Lake and Faith Family

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