

# THE PARISH CONNECTION

May 2023

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

## Lectionary Readings

### May 7th–5th Sunday of Easter (White or Gold)

Acts 7:55-60; Ps 31:1-5, 15-16 (UMH 764);  
1 Pet 2:2-10; John 14:1-14

### May 14th –6th Sunday of Easter (White or Gold)

*Mother's Day*

Acts 17:22-31; Ps 66:8-20 (UMH 790);  
1 Pet 3:13-22; John 14:15-21

### May 21st–7th Sunday of Easter (White or Gold)

*Heritage Sunday; Ascension Sunday*

Acts 1:6-14; Ps 68:1-10, 32-35 (UMH 792);  
1 Pet 4:12-14, 5:6-11; John 17:1-11  
Ascension of the Lord Lections: Acts 1:1-11; Ps 47  
(UMH 781); Eph 1:15-23; Luke 24:44-53

### May 28th–Pentecost (Red)

Acts 2:1-21; Ps 104:24-34, 35b (UMH 826);  
1 Cor 12:3b-13; John 7:37-39

## IN OUR PRAYERS

*Joys*— Covid restrictions lifted at local hospitals.

*Concerns*— Esther Mae,

Savanna, Graham, Millermon

Family, Gary and Debbie Stevens, Michael's great aunt Jeannie, travel mercies, Greene Family, Tasha's friend, Bernice, Hank, Jim (Linda's husband, Deer Park), Don Weber

*Remembering*—Family and friends of fallen officers, family of Rodney Fall and the Family of Craig Benware.



## We will be honoring our graduate on Sunday, May 21st

Wyatt Reindahl, son of Dave & Becky Reindahl, graduates from CLHS on Friday, May 19th.

**UMC Special Sundays:** Listed below are the remaining special Sundays for 2023. Please watch for pew cards describing the upcoming special Sunday in the worship bulletin a week before each special Sunday. Donation envelopes will be at the back of the churches.

- Peace with Justice Sunday-June 4
- World Communion Sunday-October 1
- UM Student Day Sunday-November 26

**Zoom:** Please use the following information to join us on Sundays for worship at 9:45 a.m.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88613652777?pwd=Ulp aSVhGN0g1Qnc3VDV5T0Jhcn83UT09>

Meeting ID: 886 1365 2777

Passcode: 421072

## Save the Dates

April 30-May	Provisional Workshop @ Pine Lake
June 9-12	Annual Conference @ Green Bay
June 22-25	Clear Lake Days
August 13-16	Vacation Bible School

## Family House Polk/Barron Shelter

Just a reminder that: The Salvation Army is housing 10 people at this time in Hotels in the area. The needs they have for housing at this time are paper towels, toilet paper, tissues, personal care items and food. The food can be anything that can be heated/cooked in a microwave, single serve soups/mac and cheese and anything in a can with a pop top of lid as they have no can openers. This is the limit to their cooking abilities in hotel rooms. Please feel free to donate in the basket in CL at the back of the church. I will deliver what we have the first part of April. Thanks to all who have donated and you can still donate!

## May Birthdays

Sheldon Simonson	5/2
Renea Boe	5/3
Mardell Anderson	5/9
Mitch Thompson	5/10
Linda Fouks	5/11
Ardys Warner	5/11
Scott Warner	5/16
Carla La Blanc	5/17
Josh Severson	5/17
Elijah Millermon	5/18
Holly Malack	5/19
Cassie Pietz	5/20
John Reed	5/22
Samantha Thaemert	5/25
Jennie Keller	5/26
Chad Lillie	5/27
Diane Pietz	5/28

## May Anniversaries

Steve & Jennie Keller	5/4
Greg & Kristi Severson	5/8
John & Jewel Severson	5/13

**Clear Lake Community VBS**  
**Sunday, August 13th-Wednesday, August 16th**  
**6-8 pm evenings**  
**Please put this on your calendars**  
**Attend, donate, work a night or two**

## WRP YOUTH GROUP

Our WRP Youth Group did an amazing Son Rise Service. Thank you to our youth for an amazing service and breakfast. Youth Group also has a District Youth Group multicultural event on April 29th.



**Youth Night - Wednesday, May 24th**  
**Games, fun, food and study**  
**Blanchard's Home 6-8:30**

Watch for 2023 Church Camp info at your church!

**Deadline for June Newsletter**  
**is May 25th.**

PET OF THE MONTH:



Greene Acres is revived and ready for spring with our new babies. Spring is a time for fresh starts. Take time to do something that revives your soul this month.

## MAY WORSHIP MINISTRIES

### Clear Lake

May 7th	Reader: Alison Blanchard Acolyte/PwrPt: Lily Avery Brunch: Avery Family
May 14th	Reader: Debi Ahrens Acolyte/PwrPt: Oliver Wood Coffee: Jennie
May 21st	Reader: Dawn Cress Acolyte/PwrPt: Ben Avery Coffee: Dawn
May 28th	Reader: Diane Blanchard Acolyte/PwrPt: Jordan Blanchard Coffee: Gail

*Counters for May: Debi & John*

### Faith Family

May 7th	Cindy Warner
May 14th	Debbie Stevens
May 21st	Terri Wilson
May 28th	Millermon Family

**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 **May 13th** 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).

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](http://www.rubyspantry.org) to find a location and time that works for you.

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### 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 [kuhlq@cltcomm.net](mailto:kuhlq@cltcomm.net)

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### Ingathering at Annual Conference 2023

Each year at our Annual Conference, churches are asked to donate items for people in need or people suffering from disasters. This year the conference Mission Motivation Committee is again working with Midwest Mission Distribution Center to collect items for the Personal Dignity Kits and Home Care Kits. Midwest Mission distributes the kits locally, nationally and internationally to those in need during times of crisis. All supplies are given free of charge regardless of gender, race or religion.

Kits and items that make up those kits, should be brought to Annual Conference at the KI Center in Green Bay. The Midwest Mission truck will be there for collection on June 9th & 10th. If you are not able to make it to Green Bay this year you can bring donations to one of the [Ingathering 2023 drop off sites](#). Monetary donations can be brought to Annual Conference or mailed to The Wisconsin Conference, 750 Windsor Street, Suite 104, Sun Prairie, WI 53590 - please note Ingathering 2023 in the memo. To process donations efficiently and get them where needed quickly, we ask for a list of the items donated. You can help the person who delivers the items -and save everyone some time- by filling out the [Donation Form](#) ahead of time. All items should be NEW – and all kits should have only the items requested. Thanks! [View kit details](#)

Volunteers are needed to check in and load donations at Annual Conference in Green Bay anytime during our drop off hours: Friday, June 9th 10am-4pm and Saturday, June 10th 8am-2pm. Contact [bonnieclement05@gmail.com](mailto:bonnieclement05@gmail.com) to help.

Here is the link to the many things that they need: <https://www.midwestmission.org/kits>

Birthing Kit	Tornado Kit	Feminine Hygiene Kit
Layette Kit	Student Kit	Personal Dignity Kit
Bed Pack	Home Care Kit	
UMCORE Cleaning Kit	UMCOR Hygiene Kit	
UmcOR Feminine Hygiene Kit		

### Urgent needs include the following:

- Shampoo (in bulk), 12-19 oz.
- 100-150 oz. EMPTY liquid laundry detergent containers. We can use containers of any size up to 150 oz. (we are collecting full or empty liquid laundry detergent containers)
- Sewing machines, electric and treadles (they don't have to be new; *we accept sewing machines that need a little tuning up; we cannot accept the computerized ones.*)
- Medical equipment -folding walkers, wheelchairs, crutches, canes, walking boots, slings
- Blankets- new or gently used for disaster response
- Non electric tools specifically shovels, brooms, rakes

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## Deer Park UMC News:

Spring greetings from Deer Park!

We are happy to have Pastor Hakki and his family back from vacation; sorry the weather wasn't warm and sunny for them--maybe next time.

May is the month to honor mothers and grandmothers with flowers, cards, hugs and gifts to show them how much we appreciate all they have done for us.

Memorial Day is another time to show appreciation for all the sacrifices family, friends, and service personnel have given.

Graduation, a time in the lives of young and sometimes older people that need to be recognized and honored. We do not have a graduate here in Deer Park except for a special graduate in our family. Our granddaughter Danielle has achieved something she has hoped for maybe in 10 years. In April she finished a year as a sub professor at St. Thomas. At the same time after she was awarded her Doctorate degree, offered the position full time then offered the associate Dean position. Congratulations Danielle you deserve all the honors!

We had the joy of seeing Ann and having lunch with her on her 95th birthday. We miss you Ann.

Get well wishes to Jim Fouks, as he is having health issues.



We need to do a little spring cleaning and repairs in our Church yard; we will have a short meeting for the project.

God Bless and good health and happiness everyone!

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

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**2nd Quarter Noisy Can--Grace Place**

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## Clear Lake UMC News

- Coffee after church
- Potluck-1st Sunday of each Month after church.
- Food shelf donations any Sunday
- Collecting for shelter residents staying in hotels at this time, canned goods w/pop tops or single serve items to cook in the microwave.

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

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**CL Midweek Church School:** Midweek church school continues with 3:15 pick up at school and lessons until 5:00 pm on Wed. May 3rd. A big **Thanks** to all who helped the kids make snacks and treats and all those church members that brought treats to sell. Kids will be choosing their mission project on the 3rd. **Our last day will be Wed. May 10th.** They will be delivering their mission projects and eating out. If each child can bring \$10 towards their meal that would be great! We will be done at **6pm** on that last night!



Kids working hard making snacks for mission money at the thrift sale!

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## **Clear Lake March. Ad. Co. Highlights**

### Old Business:

1. Third signer - after discussing with Carla LaBlanc, it is decided that Jennie will be the 3rd signer.
2. Snow blower - have decided to wait on the purchase of the snow blower. Several people have been helping Roger with the shoveling. Thank you to all for the shoveling!
3. Clarified that prayer concerns will be given to Anitra weekly so she can put the bulletin.
4. The host church will furnish envelopes for offering for the 5th Sunday joint church services.
5. Bandstand festivities - No date has been set at this time. The Bell Choir will be playing. Unknown if we will be serving food, will discuss later after the date has been decided.

### New Business:

1. Need to place an ad in the Clear Lake and Amery papers with times for the Easter and Christmas services. Need to designate someone who will do this. Discuss further at the next meeting.
2. Methodist Church disaffiliation was the topic for the Bishop's Day. Discussed how many churches will be leaving.
3. Clear Lake Days Potato Stand - we will be serving in the church basement. Will discuss further at the next meeting.
4. Bell Tower - the bell Tower is in need of repairs. Will discuss further at the next meeting.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

***Next meeting May 3rd @ 4pm.***

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**Noisy Can:** 2nd qtr. Backpack Program, 3rd qtr. Christmas for Children, 4th qtr. Food Pantry.

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**Shop with RaiseRight (formerly Scrip):** If you want to place a Raise Right order, please contact Andrea Jilek 263-2575. Nilssen's gift cards can be ordered at any time, too.

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**Bell Choir:** Our Community Bell Choir is practicing on Wed. at 7:00 pm. We are working on a spring concert to be held on Wed. May 3rd, save the date!

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**Dorcas Piecemakers :** Our Circle group will be meeting the first and third Mondays of May from 1-3. We are also going to put together a few baby quilts for missions in May.

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**UWF:** The Clear Lake Methodist United Women in Faith took candy and lemon cake to Amery Memory Care and played Bingo with the residents. We had a great time!



Jennie Keller , Lori Cross, Bingo Caller, Joan Lillie behind Bev Klatt, Linda Jurisch, Uncle Bob's and in front Jennie's Great Granddaughter Suri. She even helped do the calling.

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**BackPack Bash Amery Firehall 4-8pm June 9th**  
Hundreds of families in our communities struggle to provide food for their families. The backpack program helps feed hungry kids in Polk County and Clear Lake too. They are collecting baskets for silent auction and baked goods for bake sale.

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**Clear Lake Heritage Days—June 22-25:** The Clear Lake Church will be selling their Stuffed Baked Potatoes on Saturday of CL Heritage Days, June 24th. We begin selling at 10 am and will continue through the parade and after. We will need lots of help, prep, set up, serving in the kitchen and outside and clean up. We will follow some new guidelines and serve all outside as of what we know now. Please set part of this day aside to help out, this is a big fundraiser for our church.

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#### **Clear Lake Thrift Sale**

Huge thank you to Linda J and Betty R for all their planning, organizing and set up. Big thanks from The Midweek School for the chance to sell snacks and goodies for their mission projects.

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**Pastor's Pen:** There is a plant called "Honeysuckle" among the plants. I'm not sure if these plants are also found in Wisconsin. In Korea, this plant is called the "Winter-enduring shrub".

Unlike other shrubs, Honeysuckles can withstand the cold winter without their leaves and stems withering. After enduring harsh winter, they finally bloom white flowers in the warm spring, which gradually turn yellow. Moreover, these flowers contain a lot of honey, and the flowers, leaves, and stems of Honeysuckles are also used as herbal

medicine. In short, Honeysuckles are beneficial plants.

Many plants stop supplying their energy to the leaves gradually when fall comes and the weather gets cold after blooming in spring and summer. Then, the leaves gradually change color beautifully and fall off from the plant. However, unlike them, Honeysuckles withstand the winter without withering their leaves and stems. Thus, in Korea, people who endure many trials and hardships and bloom the flower of life at the end of their lives are sometimes called "Honeysuckles."



It seems to me that Jesus Christ is also like Honeysuckles. When he was alive, he performed many miracles, healings, and teachings. However, his final journey on this earth, the resurrection, became the flower of life and changed and saved the lives of all who believe in his name. And he also calls us to live a life like Honeysuckles.

If your life is difficult, hard, and discouraging, and if you endure them and live through them, you may also be Honeysuckles. Hold on with the hope of the resurrection of Christ and live with the joy of the resurrection of Christ. The life of living by believing in the resurrection of Christ, living by relying on Christ completely, that is the life of Christians.

Until Pentecost, it is still Easter Season. I pray that during this precious Easter Season, you may live even more intimately and closely with Christ.

Happy Easter Season, Pastor Hakki

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**Cultural Immersion and Education Learning Experience—India; January 12-22, 2024:** The purpose is to have practical exposure to Religions, Cultures, and Social Interactions with People of India in Tamil Nadu

Total Hours of Study and Learning Reading: 20hrs  
Lecture: 25hrs

Documentary viewing and Reflection: 5hrs

Discussion/Practical Exposure: 80hrs **Total: 110hrs**

Continuing Education Credit: 2 CEUs

Total cost per person: \$2,800.00.

# Faith Family Church News:

## FAITH FAMILY AD. BOARD HIGHLIGHTS:

Meeting date 04/27/2023 Song and Pray Led by Penny Warner and Tim McGraw

Attendance: Terri, Jeff, Heather, Gary, Debbie, Joyce, Dennis, Cindy, Penny, Paul, Pastor Hakki.

Reviewed finances and discussed Nextgen putting fiber to the church. Gift card for snow plow driver. Pancake Breakfast update / Next fundraiser -another pancake breakfast- Summer / Fall Sunday morning. Combined service Sunday - We are having communion and potluck. Building updates-Bell Update.-Need to mount and clean bell.

Pastor Hakki update: Multicultural worship service; DST training in Tomah; Provisional Elder Workshop Pine Lake; Thank you for vacation trip; Volunteer to collect prayer request to Anitra- we are concerned about this and not interested in doing this at this time. Anchor of Hope update: Pizza and Proverbs; Saturday Social; ICD Training. Ingather Annual Conference (collection at church for the next two weeks- go to ingathering). 22lbs of food dropped off to WestCap.Bible Study invitation. Suggested different bible version for bible reading.

**NEXT MEETING: June 15th, 2023: 6:00pm**

Penny ended us in prayer.

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## COMMUNITY EVENTS:

Stay tuned for more information:

- Faith Family Game Night/Dinner May 12th @ 6:30pm
- Emerald Community is working on storage opportunities for Emerald Community supplies and cleaning up the park.
- Stay tuned for Emerald Community Park Clean up/ community service work dates.

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## **FUN DAY SCHOOL CORNER:**

Fun Day School is on Wednesdays at 4:30pm. This month we finished up our Lent/Easter Lessons with Adam Hamilton and had a couple special lessons about Bravery and Courage. We were able to watch the Lion King together to understand what it means to be brave.

OUR FAITH FAMILY YOUTH GROUP KIDS HELPED PACK 75 EASTER BASKETS AND 120 BAGS OF CANDY.



FAITH FAMILY GAME NIGHT WAS A GREAT TIME!



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Thank you for all that helped with our Pancake Breakfast and the Emerald Community Easter Egg Hunt! The Faith Family United Methodist Church (in Emerald, WI) would like to thank Kwik Trip for the \$100 donation toward the supplies for our pancake breakfast we had on 4/8/2023. We got milk, eggs and juice from you. We served 200 people from 8:00-12:00. We are now able to help more missions supported by our church. Your program "Neighbors Helping Neighbors" is wonderful and it helps many groups. Thanks for helping in our community!



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We are excited to be supporting Autism this Month with Noisy Cans and making church more accessible for our Neuro Diverse brothers and sisters in Christ. Thank you for setting up the puzzle for those that need to be doing something while listening. We also have busy bags too.

These little boys are sharing a moment after we prayed for Graham at church after his fall and



hospitalization, Abel wanted to visit to make sure he was ok. It was a time to share God's love with friends even outside the building.



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Noisy Cans--2nd Quarter--Autism

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

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CHECK US OUT ON FACEBOOK:

[Faith Family Church | Facebook](#)

**Anchor of Hope Recovery Ministry** Recovery is for ALL and ALL are welcome. We all have things in our lives we have struggled with—grief, guilt, perfectionism, anxiety, depression, abilities, trauma, drugs/alcohol/food addictions, etc. We work through these areas of our life by laying our burdens down and finding rest in Christ at Anchor of Hope. If you need to connect with someone from Anchor of Hope please reach out via our email, facebook, messenger, or call/text Heather Greene (This is a part-time position and also run by volunteers so if this is an emergency please call 911 or for a mental health crisis call 988).

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#### ANCHOR OF HOPE MAY PRAYER:

God, join us in our blooming faith to have a better understanding of you and let our faith be seen through our actions. Let your love for us be seen through us as it spills over as we go out today and forever more. Amen.

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#### Schedule of Events at Anchor of Hope:

Communion for all the first Monday of the month.

**Saturdays:** Bible App Study 2pm on Facebook

**Mondays in May:** Pizza and Proverbs @ The Billy Goats Saloon @ 5:30pm (Join us to have pizza and build our relationship with God) 7:00pm (In-person @ Faith Family Church & virtual (zoom/facebook))

**Mondays in June:** Bibles and BBQ @ Emerald Community Park @ 5:30pm (Join us for BBQ and to spend time in our Bibles)

**Anchor of Hope Shepherd meeting:**

Monday May 15th @ 5:30pm - virtual



Heather Greene along with this class have been participating in the Wisconsin United Methodist Church Institute of Congregational Development (ICD) class this year. This class is every month for a couple days around the state of Wisconsin with a couple trips to Dayton, Ohio and Kansas City, KS. The Conference and Anchor of Hope is providing this opportunity for Heather so she is able to be more equipped at Anchor of Hope to start A New Church. This process is difficult and most of all we all need to be prayerful and consider where we are able to help. If you are interested in finding out how you could help, please let Heather know. We are in need of some shepherding committee members, musicians, and prayers as we are starting back at the very beginning and looking back at the discerning and visioning process along with being disciples of God to bring the good news to all.



Our website can be found at

<https://anchorofhopeemerald.wixsite.com/my-site>

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**ANCHOR OF HOPE** Facebook Live.

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 830 9477 1703

Passcode: 781739

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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

The Willow River Parish United Methodist Churches  
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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 1-3 pm

Anitra Kaczmariski, Parish Secretary  
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Office Hours: Fridays 1-3 pm

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

Heather Greene, Anchor of Hope Church Planter  
Email: [anchorofhopeemerald@gmail.com](mailto:anchorofhopeemerald@gmail.com)  
Phone: 612-799-6215

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

Church School @ Clear Lake and Faith Family  
3:15 on Wednesdays @ CL  
4:30 pm on Wednesdays @ FF