

THE PARISH CONNECTION

October 2019

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

Lectionary Readings

October 6th [Green]
17th Sunday after Pentecost
Lamentations 1:1-6; Psalm 137
2 Timothy 1:1-14; Luke 17:5-10

October 13th [Green]
18th Sunday after Pentecost
Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7; Psalm 66:1-12
2 Timothy 2:8-15; Luke 17:11-19

October 20th [Green]
19th Sunday after Pentecost
Jeremiah 31:27-34; Psalm 119:97-104
2 Timothy 3:14-4:5; Luke 18:1-8

October 27th [Green]
20th Sunday after Pentecost
Joel 2:23-32; Psalm 65
2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18; Luke 18:9-14

Fall Into God's Word!



Church Cancellations

Winter is fast approaching ☹ In the event of bad weather, please contact Roger Blanchard 715-263-2690 or Don Althoff 715-948-2979 to find out if worship services are canceled.



Prayer and Concerns

Joys— The changing colors, our youth, a successful potato stand, good health

Concerns— Craig Longfellow, Dawn Cress, Debbie Stevens, Doug Ahrens, Hurricane victims

Remembering—

OCTOBER WORSHIP MINISTRIES

Clear Lake

Oct 6th **Reader:** Diane Blanchard
 Acolyte/PwrPt: Tyson Blanchard
 Coffee: Roger & Carla/Brunch

Oct 13th **Reader:** John Koerper
 Acolyte/PwrPt: Ben Pietz
 Coffee: Pietz Family

Oct 20th **Reader:** Debi Ahrens
 Acolyte/PwrPt: Ivan Ruble
 Coffee: Debi Ahrens

Oct 27th **Reader:** Dawn Cress
 Acolyte/PwrPt: Wyatt Reindahl
 Coffee: Don & Arlene

Deer Park Readers

Oct 6th *no reader*
Oct 13th Elden Setter
Oct 20th *no reader*
Oct 27th *no reader*

Forest Readers & Coffee

Oct 6th Heather Greene
Oct 13th Terri Wilson
Oct 20th Cindy Warner
Oct 27th Debbie Stevens

Counters for October: Diane Blanchard & Dawn Cress

Greeter for October: Jennie Keller



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

Willow Ridge visit

We will be visiting residents at the Willow Ridge Care Center on Tuesday, October 8th. We will begin at 2:00 pm. for bingo. UMW will serve pumpkin bars afterwards.

Need help with your fall yard chores?

If you're a senior or adult with a disability in Polk County, contact Interfaith Caregivers for 1-2 hours of help at no charge call 715-485-9500.

Donations appreciated.



Volunteer groups and families are needed to help Interfaith Caregivers with their fall yard work. Put your Faith in Action and call 715-485-9500 or email info@interfaithpolk.org to sign up now.



"The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

Galatians 5:22-23

In Paul's letter to the Galatians, he lists what the fruit of the Spirit are. They are the nine items listed above. These are the characteristics of a Christian living the Christian life. If you ever wonder whether someone is living the Christian life, you look for the signs of these characteristics. A person living the Christian life will exhibit these characteristics in their lives.

You may wonder how we can exhibit these characteristics when we are sinners. First, we do our best to live these fruit of the Spirit. We know we are not perfect, but we do our best. God knows we are not perfect, and only expects us to do our best. Remember that with God, anything is possible—even the impossible is possible.

It seems more and more that we tell ourselves that we cannot do all nine of these fruits, so then we do not do any of them. God knows that we will probably not be able to exhibit all nine of these, but God does expect us to do our best. To not produce any of these fruits because we may not be able to produce all of them is wrong. God expects more from us.

Love is listed first, and is probably the most important of these fruit. It is the love of God that is the glue that holds all things together. Love is probably the most important fruit that we, as Christians, should exhibit in our lives. As we go forth in love, sharing that love with the world, everything else will flow from that.

God's blessings,

Pastor John

Annual Fall Dinner

St. John's Catholic Church-Clear Lake

Sunday, Oct. 6, 2018

Serving from 11:00 am-1:30 pm

Menu: chicken, mashed potatoes and gravy, squash, green beans, cranberries, rolls, pie, and beverage

Dinner Prices: \$8/ages 13+

\$5/ages 5-12

Free/ages 4 and under

Reminder to Clear Lake

Coffee Hour will now be held after church at 10:30 except on brunch days.

October 6th ---There will be NO potluck-- please consider supporting the Catholic Fall Chicken Dinner starting at 11:30.

October is Pastor Appreciation Month



United
Methodist
Women

The Afternoon Circle met on September 11th with nine members present. Items discussed were as follows:

Mission Statement read-Scripture with Roll Call.
Sec. Min. approved as mended. Treasurers \$719.70 Approved.

OLD & NEW BUSINESS

1. Thrift Sale: Set up Sun, 22 after church. Church open Sun-Wed 8-8. Volunteers Bev, Jennie, Joan, Linda, Catherine, Ruth, Betty. Will call more. Save Christmas items for Cookie Sale.
2. GREAT PICNIC. THANKS DIANE for a fun game!!!
3. Mission Sunday 29th.
4. Donna Swanson for Memorial Service
5. Invite Barb Bender to a meeting, Oct or Nov.
6. Wapo Dinner Theater Dec 6. Sign up sheet in back of church.
7. Make Rosettes on Dec 8 after coffee.
8. Linda will report on Fall Conference at next meeting, plus but food for Backpacks to take with.
9. We need a scheduled Ad Council Meeting, many concerns need to be brought up. Maybe once every 6 weeks
10. Oct. 8, Bingo at Willow Ridge with Pumpkin Bars. Program Joan-Family Conversation Around The Dinner Table.
Scripture by Arlene
Prayer--Pot Luck

Submitted by Linda Jurisch

Church Sign Theology

- Sorrow looks back, worry looks around, faith looks up.
- The best things in life aren't things.
- Need a new look? Get a faith lift!
- The bread of life never gets stale.
- Soular powered by the Son.
- Home Improvement: Take your family to church.
- Have your tools ready and God will supply the work.
- Jesus: His life changed death; His death changed life.
- Help is just a prayer away.

CHRISTMAS FOR CHILDREN

The Clear Lake United Methodist Church will be sponsoring a "Christmas for Children" drive again this year to provide gifts for area children who otherwise may not receive gifts at Christmastime. "Christmas for Children" is designed to reach more needs of our local community. We are coming up on our 26th year and are so grateful for all of the support that we have received from everyone.

Anyone wishing to donate items to "Christmas for Children" can do so by leaving them at **True Value Hardware, CB Styles, or Associated Bank from November 4, 2019 through December 13, 2019. Also check for barrels at your Church.**

Suggestions are toys, watches, games, jewelry, videos, DVDs (nothing higher than PG-13 please) appropriate Music CDs, books, etc. Please do not wrap your gifts. Donations of wrapping paper are also welcome. Monetary donations for the purpose of gifts should be mailed to United Methodist Church c/o Carla LaBlanc 36 South Ave E Clear Lake, WI 54005.

All gifts will be given to children ages 0-18 in the Clear Lake School District Area.

If you are in need of gifts for your children or if you know of other families in the Clear Lake School District area who are in need of Christmas gifts for their children, we would like to hear from you. Call Carla LaBlanc at 715-263-2034 or Diane Blanchard 715-263-2690 (if no answer, please leave a message). All names will be kept strictly confidential.

We hope to make this "Christmas for Children" a great success and in order to do so, we need your help. As in the past, we thank you for your support.

Christmas for Children

United Methodist Church

From Bishop Jung

“The trees of the Lord are watered abundantly, the cedars of Lebanon that He planted.” Psalm 104:16

I have been reflecting on the imagery from scripture concerning trees, especially the “cedars of Lebanon,” mentioned so often in scripture. The mighty cedars were planted by God. They represent the sound, the solid, the enduring—in essence the very will of God. Repeatedly, the historians and prophets point to the destruction of the cedars of Lebanon as the sign of disobedience, disrespect, and disregard for God’s creation and covenant.

I find the metaphor of trees in a forest compelling, especially the redwood tree. Redwoods grow to amazing heights, though they do not lay down deep roots. Instead, the root system stretches wide, and the roots intertwine and fuse together with other redwoods. One 350-foot redwood has roots stretching 100 feet from the trunk, creating an interconnected network of roots that gives strength and stability to the entire forest. The interdependence is an excellent image of what our strong United Methodist Church system should be. As each tree grows, it strengthens the system; what affects one part of the system, affects the whole. Very similar to Paul’s image of the Body of Christ in 1 Corinthians 12—where one member suffers, all suffer; where one is honored, all benefit.

Equally important is the integrity of the system, rather than the value of the parts. It is impossible to uproot one tree without devastating other parts of the system. The interconnection goes so deep and stretches so wide that to do damage to one part causes massive destruction to the whole body. When I hear people talking about “amicable separation,” and “gracious exit” from the United Methodist Church, the imagery of the redwood root system always comes to mind.

I do not believe there is a path to separation that will not cause irreparable harm, both to the members and to the system. Those individual parts who want what they want, no matter the cost, cannot achieve their ends without doing deep harm to the system. If indeed our mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world, we can do this so

much more effectively with the system intact rather than in tatters.

I understand the depth of passion, commitment, emotion, and even the wide range of interpretations of scripture and theological perspective. We are not of one heart, mind, or spirit on many things. Yet we are all connected. We share a common baptism. We share a common covenant. We are, all of us, recipients of God’s grace, forgiveness, and love. We are reconciled beyond our own individual weaknesses into the Body of Christ; not by our own doing, but by God’s. Our roots are intertwined. Our roots are fused. We can no more go our separate ways with no harm or damage than we can uproot a single redwood. “We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord,” is a beloved refrain from “They will know we are Christians by Our Love,” and this is more than fanciful poetry. We are all fed, nurtured, cultivated, and cared for by God. We are the product of God’s will, God’s vision, and God’s purpose. We are the cedars of Lebanon that God planted, and it would be nothing less than sin to see our mighty forest torn apart, burned, and destroyed.

My constant prayer is a prayer for unity. My ongoing desire is that we embrace fully the General Rules: doing no harm, committing ourselves to doing all the good possible, and attending cooperatively and compassionately with the many uniting and unifying ordinances/practices of God that open us constantly to the means of grace. There are things that bend us, but I pray they might not break us. There are things that threaten us, but I pray they don’t destroy us. And there are things that cause disagreement, by I pray they do not ultimately separate us from each other and from the will of God.

Let us pray faithfully and fervently together: God, they will be done, in us and through us. Amen.

**November Newsletter Deadline is
October 22nd**

October Birthdays



Arlyn Severson	10/1
Lily Avery	10/2
Vickie Danielson	10/3
Billy Warner	10/7
Shawn Millermon	10/7
Kristen Porembo	10/8
Amelia Pietz	10/10
Ryan Blanchard	10/12
Nick Elmer	10/15
Sandi Reed	10/16
Benjamin Avery, Jr	10/16
Makenzi Gehrman	10/18
Erin Gorres	10/22
Stacia Koerper	10/22
Katie Warner	10/27
India Pederson	10/29
Jason Warner	10/31
Wayne Ailts	10/31

Anniversaries



Dennis & Joyce Petersen	10/7
Josh & India Pederson	10/8
Tom & Nikki Pietz	10/9
Ron & Renee Boe	10/10
John & Stacia Koerper	10/21
Ron & Linda Jurisch	10/22
Troy & Julie Elmer	10/25



Ruby's Pantry food

distribution will take place on October 12th at the Congregational Church in Amery. For more information call: 715-268-7390 or email: office.ameryucc@gmail.com

Thank you . . .

A BIG 'Thank-You' to all those that helped make our picnic so much fun! We are off and running now for church school and looking forward to a fun and fulfilling year! We appreciate the support!

CL Church School

(CLAY) Christ Led Area Youth The Underground Church Sat, Oct 19

YOUR MISSION: Safely make it to the church by identifying a Christian with the clues! To successfully complete your mission, you must navigate through acres of dark woods, high brush, and pine and thorn terrain; avoid "police" and other perils. If you reach your destination, you will be richly rewarded (with food for the body and the soul). ☺

MEET: At 6:00 p.m. at any of these FOUR churches: First Lutheran (Clear Lake), United Covenant Church (Clear Lake), Reeve Free (Reeve) or East Lincoln Alliance (Amery)

RETURN: To the same church that you came to at 10-10:30 p.m. (Unless you or your parents have made arrangements with your Youth Leader and Van driver it is important to return in the same vehicle at the same church. One year we spent extra time searching for a lost body; we mean person ☺.)

BRING/WEAR: Weather appropriate (this event is outdoors), dark/camouflage clothes that can get dirty, grubby shoes or boots, a flashlight, and maybe safety glasses. (We would suggest if you bring phones be sure you have a zip pocket for them. There were phones lost in the past.)

Any questions by YOU or Parents? Contact Jim & Cindy Mohrland @ 715-948-2153 or ask your Youth Leader.



THE WILLOW RIVER PARISH
CLEAR LAKE, DEER PARK, FOREST
420 4TH AVENUE – PO BOX 269
CLEAR LAKE, WI. 54005-0269

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

The Willow River Parish United Methodist Churches

John Hazen, Pastor

Parish Secretary: Anitra Kaczmarski

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