

THE PARISH CONNECTION

September 2021

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

Lectionary Readings

September 5, 2021

Holy Communion

15th Sunday after Pentecost (Green)

Spanish Heritage Month (Sept. 15 - Oct. 15)

Prov 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23, Ps 125 or Ps 124 (UMH 846),

Jas 2:1-10 (11-13), 14-17, Mk 7:24-37

September 12, 2021

16th Sunday after Pentecost (Green)

Grandparent's Day,

Prov 1:20-33, Ps 19 (UMH 750),

Jas 3:1-12, Mk 8:27-38

September 19, 2021

17th Sunday after Pentecost (Green)

Prov 31:10-31, Ps 1 (UMH 738),

Jas 3:13-4:3, 7-8a, Mk 9:30-37

September 26, 2021

18th Sunday after Pentecost (Green)

Esth 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22, Ps 124 (UMH 846),

Jas 5:13-20, Mk 9:38-50

*Church Times Change
This Month!*

8:30 – Faith Family (also Zoom)

9:45 – Deer Park

11:00 – Clear Lake

CL Sunday School Picnic For All

Please join the fun, food and fellowship on Wednesday, Sept. 8th at 5:30 at Maple Knoll Shelter at the Clear Lake Park. We will furnish burgers and hotdogs, plates, etc. Please bring a dish to pass. We are working on an Olympic Theme! Teamwork, Focus and Perseverance! Please bring an item or two for the cakewalk, it is enjoyed by all!



Prayer and Concerns

Joys – The volunteers of our churches, the young people of our churches, the Labor Day holiday, our Sunday school volunteers, the fall season, the beginning of school

Concerns – Kent Althoff, Denise, Jeff Wilson, Dennis & Joyce Petersen, Covid, Afghanistan, wild fires, Haiti

Remembering-

SEPTEMBER WORSHIP MINISTRIES

If you are unable to read on your designated date, please find a substitute.

Clear Lake

Sept 5th Reader: John Koerper
 Acolyte/PwrPt: Tyson Blanchard
 Coffee: Joan L/Dick D

Sept 12th Reader: Debi Ahrens
 Acolyte/PwrPt: Ben Pietz
 Coffee: Ruth S/Jan B

Sept 19th Reader: Dawn Cress
 Acolyte/PwrPt: Ben (Scoot) Avery
 Coffee: Linda J & Betty R

Sept 26th Reader: Andrea Jilek
 Acolyte/PwrPt: Wyatt Reindahl
 Coffee: Todd & Andrea Jilek

Deer Park Readers

Sept. 5 *no reader*
Sept. 12 Elden Setter
Sept. 19 *no reader*
Sept. 26 *no reader*

Faith Family Readers & Coffee

Sept. 5 Cindy Warner
Sept. 12 Debbie Stevens
Sept. 19 Terri Wilson
Sept. 26 Millermon family

Counters for Sept.: Carla La Blanc and Debi Ahrens
Greeters for Sept.: Camilla Pietz and Pat Lillie



USHERS & GREETERS

Church Humor

Proverbs for the 21st Century

The children's Sunday school department was undertaking a study of the Book of Proverbs. To illustrate what proverbs are, Miss Daisy collected the first phrase of a bunch of traditional ones and asked the children to creatively complete them. Here are some results:

- Better to be safe than . . . punch a fifth-grader.
- Strike while the . . . bug is close.
- Don't bite the hand that . . . looks dirty.
- The pen is mightier than the . . . pigs.
- A penny saved . . . is not very much.
- Children should be seen and not . . . spanked or grounded.



Contrary to our expectations, the Delta variant has been spreading throughout the United States. It is threatening the health of our precious families, friends, and neighbors. We must keep holding

on to those who are suffering from Covid-19 in our prayers. May the Lord be with them and give them strength to overcome and for healing and recovery.

I want to fill my page with things about my family this time. Thankfully, my church members have asked me about Esther and Evan after church. They are good and Evan seems to be growing up. He walks well and his walking speed is fast. He says a few words like "Mama!" (It sometimes means Esther and sometimes means I'm hungry) "Boong-boong (Car sound)" When he needs something, he points at something he wants. He loves fruits like strawberries, blueberries, bananas, etc.



In the Covid-19 situation, we are more careful than anyone related to Covid because Evan is too young yet. And that is one of the main reasons Esther and Evan haven't attended In-Person worship service. However, there is also another reason I haven't shared. Esther's spine was broken over 10 years ago by an accident. Because of that, she had a surgery and 8 pins put in her back for a year. By the grace of the Lord, her spine mended well and the pins were removed through another surgery and she was back into a usual routine. But you may know how important the spine is in the body. After the accident, her life was much changed. She can no longer wear high heels or lift over 20 pounds and she usually feels back pain, which worsens when it's cloudy, raining, or snowing. She thought about going to church after she was vaccinated, but it's hard for her to hold a baby weighing over 25 pounds for an hour of worship as Evan doesn't stop moving. He bumps his forehead or head into our dining table or chairs almost every day, so we can't leave him in the sanctuary that has wooden pews and narrow space for him during the service.

While praying for this, the thought occurred to me that there might be people around us with similar circumstances to our family, who want to worship at church, but having a baby makes it difficult to do so. When I went to preach at Hudson, one thing that struck me was that the church has a room for mothers and babies to worship. In that space, they could watch the worship service through a connected TV, and there were many toys and dolls for the babies to play with.

Although it is seldom used now, I know that WRP also has a room that can accommodate mothers and babies. I'd like to actively engage them in our worship by providing a mommies/babies friendly room, and I believe that we can do that, just like the Good Shepherd who left 99 sheep to find one sheep. So, I feel



I need your practical and effective ideas, advice, and help derived from your own experiences. I don't doubt that this kind of inclusiveness can build our community healthier. If you have any good ideas for this, please feel free to tell me any time.

FYI, the phone at home became Evan's toy, so I've usually disconnected the battery from the phone. If you prefer to call me, please use 213-477-0192 or leave a message at the office number, but I prefer email: willowriverparish@gmail.com or text message.

Grace always, Pastor Hakki

Thank You!

The Willow River Parish would like to give a great big Thank You to Bailey Blanchard for being our parish treasurer over the last year. Bailey had to deal with PPE loans, a bank closing, new pastor and new ministry compensations all through Covid complications. Thank You Bailey and good luck in your next years of college.

The parish would also like to thank and welcome Amanda Millermon as our new parish treasurer starting in September. Amanda is a member of the Emerald Faith Family Church and a busy mother of five children. Thank You Amanda!



CL METHODIST THRIFT SALE

Three members are moving from their homes--there will be many household items.

CLOTHES \$4.00 a bag

Make an OFFER on other items.

Thursday, Sept. 23rd & Friday, Sept. 24th
9:00-5:00

The church will be open Sunday, Sept 19th, from 12:00-8:00 pm. Please help us set up after church. Also, the church will be open Sept 20-22, from 8-8. PLEASE UNLOAD YOUR BAGS AND BOXES AND PUT ITEMS ON DESIGNATED TABLES!

Bible Study Begins

Please watch the bulletin for our parish bible study new day and time beginning in September!



United
Methodist
Women
FAITH · HOPE · LOVE IN ACTION

Tues. Aug. 9th
10 present

No secretary's report.

Treasurer's report--\$678.34. moved to carry, Jennie, second by Bernice, carried.

Old Business

1. Talked about visiting Harbor House. Decided to send a check for \$200.00 instead.
2. Diane has been in touch with Duana Bremer from Salvation Army. They have signed for the new shelter on Cty Rd TT near Barron. It will be used by both Polk & Barron counties. She signed us up to sponsor a room. She will be in charge of getting a date and a crew to work on it. She will also plan a night for pillowcase making and we will purchase pillows for the shelter along with the cases.
3. Sunday School/Church picnic will be held Wed Evening Sept 8th in CL Park. Pot luck—hamburgers provided!
4. Decided to continue with our potluck after our meetings.

Closed with a reading entitled "Lessons from a Sunflower" by Debi.

Dates to Remember

- | | |
|----------------------|--|
| Sept 8 th | UMW Ridgeview 2:00 |
| Sept 23-24 | Church Thrift Sale 9-5 |
| Oct 13 th | UMW Ridgeview 2:00 |
| Nov 10 th | UMW Ridgeview 2:00 |
| Dec 8 th | UMW Christmas Party Ridgeview Noon |
| Dec 10 th | Church Cookie Sale & Baked Potato Dinner |



Because you eat...

Ruby's Pantry food distribution will take

place September 11th in the AmTec parking lot at 241 Venture Drive Amery. There is a \$20 cash donation per share. There is no income or residency requirements – everyone that eats is welcome! This is a drive-thru distribution. We have set our hours 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.



SPRC Update

Thank you Pastor Hakki and Esther for hosting our annual parsonage checklist this past month it was great to spend time with everyone in person and have a chance to socialize. We would like to thank Amanda Millermon for taking on the Willow River Parish Treasurer Position. Our meeting will be Second Sunday at 5 instead of Labor Day weekend this month.

Heather Greene

**Deadline for October
Newsletter is Sept. 22nd**

Offering

Please consider continuing your giving; offerings can be sent to:

Clear Lake

Arlene Althoff
75 50th Avenue
Clayton, WI 54004
54013

Faith Family

Terri Wilson
3127 200th Ave
Glenwood City, WI
54013

Deer Park

Janice Thompson
110 North Street E
Deer Park, WI 54007

Anchor of Hope

Anchor of Hope is providing in person masked services along with services on Zoom at 7 PM on Tuesday nights at Faith Family Church. The Zoom invitation is now available on Anchor of Hope's website at <https://anchorofhopeemeral.wixsite.com/my-site>. We appreciate your prayers over this ministry and ask you to continue sharing information about this service with everyone you know!

Faith Family Church Update

We continue to say prayers for those that have been in contact and whom have had COVID. We would like to thank Amanda Millermon for taking on the Willow River Parish Treasurer position. We are working on making a sign with our bell from Forest. We are hoping to be able to have Sunday school this year in person. We continue to pray for safety for those in Afghanistan. We also pray for those that are going back to school.

Heather Greene

**Parsonage Yard Cleanup Day
Saturday, September 11th
Starting at 9:00am**

Bring along your gloves, clippers, shovels, etc. to help spruce up Pastor's yard!



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

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88613652777?pwd=UlpSVhGN0g1Qnc3VDV5T0Jhcn83UT09>

Meeting ID: 886 1365 2777
Passcode: 421072

Clear Lake Ad C Highlights

- We are still looking for a parish Treasurer. If anyone would consider taking the position please contact the parish office. .
- Parish Picnic August 29, 2021 at 10:00. Come early and listen to John and Mark's music. They will start playing at 9:45. Bring a lawn chair
- There will be a gardening day at the the parsonage and Clear Lake church September 11, 2021 to trim bushes and pull weeds from around the porch and remove from sidewalks. We would encourage the parish to participate in the cleanup of the parsonage and the Clear Lake people for the church cleanup.
- *Next Meeting September 1, 2021.*

Noisy Can--Third Quarter

Clear Lake—TBD
Faith Family—Arnell Humane Society
Deer Park--Grace Place

SUNDAY SCHOOL @ FAITH FAMILY

September 12th: SUNDAY SCHOOL STARTS!!!! We will start Sunday School on September 12th. We are going to run Sunday School after church. (All are welcome)

A Note from the Treasurer

Hello, my name is Amanda Millermon and I am the new parish treasurer. I attend church at Faith Family. I enjoy helping out with Sunday School and outreach missions within the church. When I am not busy with church projects, I enjoy spending time with my 5 children.

If you have any questions or need help with anything, don't hesitate to reach out. My contact information is:

Amanda Millermon
PO Box 63
Wilson, WI 54027
ALMillermon@yahoo.com

Homeless Count

On Thursday, July 29th, Dawn Cress and Diane Blanchard drove around Clear Lake and Clayton from 10 pm to 12 am looking for any homeless individuals. The program is very well set up throughout the state with the local police involved in case you find anyone and hotel vouchers, Grace Place connections and water and snacks to hand out. We did not find anyone which is usually the case but it doesn't mean they are not out there. Both of us had conversations with local people that assured us they have been involved with helping those who are homeless in our area. Duana with Salvation Army also shared several stories about situations in our area. It is an eye opening task and really makes you think about the homeless long before they are supported in places and by people of Grace Place and the new Serenity House.

Church History Totes

The church history totes are now in Pastor Hakki's office. Deb Ahrens, Bev Klatt, and Linda Jurisch have worked on arranging things in scrapbooks. Feel free to help finish them.



Megan Zimmer	9/02
Craig Paulson	9/02
Steve Larson	9/04
Dick Danielson	9/05
Camilla Pietz	9/08
Genevieve Malack	9/09
Summer Webster	9/09
Pastor John Hazen	9/11
Don Althoff	9/15
Maddie Thompson	9/15
Peyton Lillie	9/15
Nancy Stutter	9/16
Ron Jurisch	9/18
Pete Thompson	9/19
Diane Blanchard	9/21
Debi Ahrens	9/24
Carrie Blanchard	9/25
Hakki Min	9/26
Jeff Wilson	9/27
Madison Zimmer	9/28
Don Warner	9/30



Gregory & Heidi Olson	9/04
Jon & Holly Malak	9/07
Tyler & Mandy Sharpe	9/10
Roger & Diane Blanchard	9/14
Don & Arlene Althoff	9/17
Dick & Vickie Danielson	9/24
John & Sandi Reed	9/24
Pete & Janice Thompson	9/27

Secretary's Note

I would like to thank those of you who have been keeping track of attendance and offering and reporting it to me and also those who have been helping me to update the PowerChurch database. Also, my office hours will be changing to Fridays from 1-3 pm starting September 3rd.

Blessings, Anitra

New Serenity House Opportunity

The Salvation Army has closed on the purchase of a new building for the Homeless Shelter for Polk and Barron Counties. We have chosen to adopt a room which means furnishing a dresser, bedside table, decor, window treatments, towels, bedding and cleaning and painting the room. They have to follow grant rules and are hiring an architect for some changes so it has been pushed back into September/early October for us to work on the room. They hope to have beds donated but are planning on extra long twins. Items DON'T need to be new just in good condition. We may also collect NEW items for personal care. It is a very big project and they are so thankful for the support. We will post a work date as soon as we can set it up, later in September or early Oct. Please be in prayer about supporting their new building to support the homeless of our area.



Crazy good weed pulling crew at the new Serenity House building today! Our youth worked with Turtle Lake Faith Community Youth and got it all done!!





THE WILLOW RIVER PARISH

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

*Church Times
Change this month!*

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

Sunday Worship

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

Church School

Sunday school will resume September 12th