

THE PARISH CONNECTION

December 2021 / January 2022

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

Lectionary Readings for December

December 05, 2021

2nd Sunday of Advent (Purple or Blue)

Mal 3:1-4, Lk 1:68-79 (UMH 208),
Phil 1:3-11, Lk 3:1-6

December 12, 2021

3rd Sunday of Advent (Purple or Blue)

Zeph 3:14-20, Isa 12:2-6,
Phil 4:4-7, Lk 3:7-18

December 19, 2021

4th Sunday of Advent (Purple or Blue)

Mic 5:2-5a, Lk 1:47-55 (UMH 199),
Heb 10:5-10, Lk 1:39-45

December 24, 2021

Christmas Eve (White or Gold)

Isa 9:2-7, Ps 96 (UMH 815),
Titus 2:11-14, Lk 2:1-20,

December 26, 2021

1st Sunday after Christmas (White or Gold)

1 Sam 2:18-20, 26, Ps 148 (UMH 861),
Col 3:12-17, Lk 2:41-52

Lectionary Readings for January

January 2, 2022 [White]

Epiphany Sunday

Isaiah 60:1-6 - Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14
Ephesians 3:1-12 - Matthew 2:1-12

January 9, 2022 [White]

Baptism of the Lord

Isaiah 43:1-7 - Psalm 29 - Acts 8:14-17
Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

January 16, 2022 [Green]

Second Sunday after the Epiphany

Isaiah 62:1-5 - Psalm 36:5-10
1 Corinthians 12:1-11 - John 2:1-11

January 23, 2022 [Green]

Third Sunday after the Epiphany

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10 - Psalm 19
1 Corinthians 12:12-31a - Luke 4:14-21

January 30, 2022 (Green)

4th Sunday after Epiphany

Jeremiah 1:4-10 - Psalm 71:1-6
1 Corinthians 13:1-13 - Luke 4:21-30

Zoom

Please use the following information to join us
Sundays for worship at 8:30 a.m. and
Wednesdays for Bible Study at 5:30 p.m.
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88613652777?pwd=UIpaSVhGN0g1Qnc3VDV5T0Jhci83UT09>

Meeting ID: 886 1365 2777

Passcode: 421072



Prayer Concerns

Joys—The Christmas Season, family, visits with friends, bell ringers, volunteers, our youth, Christmas for Children, weather, good health, the holidays, our time during bible study

Concerns—Holiday travel mercies, the New Year, those alone during the holidays, COVID-19, Larry, Carla, Denny Benson, Bruce Johnson, Diane Beckman, Gloria Greschner

Remembering—Family and friends of Charlotte Tellijohn, Noah Dwyer, Ed Greschner, & Sierra Osborne

December Birthdays

Benjamin Pietz	12/2
Julie Longfellow	12/5
Marcus Millermon	12/5
Graham Millermon	12/6
Beth Thompson	12/11
Andrea Jilek	12/14
Michael Stark	12/18
Patty Warner	12/21
Doug Kruger	12/22
Gail Kuhl	12/23
Cindy Warner	12/30

December Anniversaries

Neil & Joan Lillie	12/30
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January Birthdays

Denise Severson	1/8
Dan Jilek	1/10
Penny Warner	1/12
Paul Webster	1/12
Steve Warner	1/17
David Goodrich	1/18
Amanda Millermon	1/18
Kayla Thompson	1/18
Brittany Avery	1/24
Bailey Blanchard	1/28
Diane Paulson	1/28
Pat Lillie	1/30

January Anniversaries

Dan & Missy Severson	1/23
Jeff & Terri Wilson	1/24

Schedule of Christmas Activities

Dec 10	Clear Lake Cookie Sale & Baked Potato meal, 3:30 - 7 p.m.
Dec. 19	Clear Lake Sunday school program Faith Family Sunday school program
Dec 24	<u>Christmas Eve Worship</u> 4:00 Faith Family 5:30 Deer Park 7:00 Clear Lake



New Christmas Tradition

Beginning December 1st, read one chapter of the book of Luke in the Bible each evening. There are 24 chapters. On Christmas Eve you will have read an entire account of Jesus's life and wake up Christmas morning knowing WHO and WHY we celebrate.

SPRC Highlights

We opened with prayer and song. We welcomed Pastor Hakki, Esther, and Evan back from their vacation. It sounds like they had a lovely time. Office hours were discussed, contact person was discussed for flower deliveries, etc. Budget was approved for next year. Pastor Hakki became a Provisional Member and we are very excited. Congratulations, Pastor. Our faithful SPRC chair informed us that it was her year to cycle off and we just wanted to thank Heather for all of her work she has put into our parish to help us work more efficiently. We ended in prayer.

Submitted by Amanda Millermon

Pastor's Interview Results

Board of Ordained Ministry decided to approve Pastor Hakki Min as a Provisional Elder. He will be commissioned next year at the Wisconsin Annual Conference.

Advent Bible Study

We will begin a 4 week Advent study on Wed. Dec. 1st at 5:30 on Zoom. Please consider joining us for this reminder of what the Christmas season is all about. Let Diane Blanchard know if you would like a book. 715-263-2690 or 423-307-6247.

Deadline for the Feb. Newsletter is Jan. 22nd

DECEMBER WORSHIP MINISTRIES

Clear Lake

Dec 5th **Reader:** Debi Ahrens
 Acolyte/PwrPt: Wyatt Reindahl
 Coffee: NA

Dec 12th **Reader:** Diane Blanchard
 Acolyte/PwrPt: Tyson Blanchard
 Coffee: NA

Dec 19th **Reader:** Andrea Jilek
 Acolyte/PwrPt: Ben Pietz
 Coffee: NA

Dec 26th **Reader:** Alison Blanchard
 Acolyte/PwrPt: Ben (Scoot) Avery
 Coffee: NA

Counters for December: Debi A & Diane B
Greeter for December: Roger B

Deer Park Readers

Dec 5th *no reader*
Dec 12th Elden Setter
Dec 19th *no reader*
Dec 26th *no reader*

Faith Family Readers

Dec 5th Heather Greene
Dec 12th Penny Warner
Dec 19th Joyce Petersen
Dec 26th Cindy Warner

Called to *Serve*

JANUARY WORSHIP MINISTRIES

Clear Lake

Jan 2nd **Reader:** John Koerper
 Acolyte/PwrPt: Jordan Blanchard
 Coffee: TBD

Jan 9th **Reader:** Dawn Cress
 Acolyte/PwrPt: Lily Avery
 Coffee: TBD

Jan 16th **Reader:** Debi Ahrens
 Acolyte/PwrPt: Wyatt Reindahl
 Coffee: TBD

Jan 23rd **Reader:** Diane Blanchard
 Acolyte/PwrPt: Tyson Blanchard
 Coffee: TBD

Jan 30th **Reader:** Andrea Jilek
 Acolyte/PwrPt: Ben Pietz
 Coffee: TBD

Counters for January: Linda J & Bev K
Greeter for January: Debi Ahrens

Deer Park Readers

Jan 2nd *no reader*
Jan 9th Elden Setter
Jan 16th *no reader*
Jan 23rd *no reader*
Jan 30th *no reader*

Faith Family Readers

Jan 2nd Debbie Stevens
Jan 9th Terri Wilson
Jan 16th Millermon Family
Jan 23rd Paul Webster
Jan 30th Heather Greene

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



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 Dec 11th & Jan 14th 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.

Deer Park UMC News

We at the Deer Park church want to let Bernice know how sorry we are for the loss of her home, at the same time we are so thankful for the man from Edina that was so insistent he checked to see if there was someone in the burning house-- and saved her life. God Bless both of you and your family. If there is anything we can do to help you please let us know.

Many congratulations to Pastor Hakki for his accomplishment of becoming a Provisional Elder. We are so happy and proud of you.

Our church is so nicely decorated for the Christmas holidays, thanks to everyone that helped. Please join us so that we can all be reminded, celebrate and give thanks for Jesus' birth.

Merry Christmas and God Bless everyone with His peace, happiness and good health.

Submitted by Jan Thompson

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

Noisy Can—4th Quarter to Grace Place

Clear Lake UMC News

CL Handbell Choir

Bell choir is planning on playing several songs during the church service on December 12th in Clear Lake.

Clear Lake Church Cancelations

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

Attention Clear Lake Members:

- Coffee tentatively to resume in January
- Food shelf donations any Sunday
- If you'd like to help a child for Christmas for Children, there are cards with ideas and sizes at the back of the church, please sign up on the clipboard.

Clear Lake Methodist Church Treasurer Report for October

INCOME: \$8,321.00
EXPENSES: \$5,718.00
PLUS \$2,602.00

Clear Lake Sunday School

Meets after the children's sermon during regular 11:00 am services. We will meet once a month on Wednesdays after school from 3:30-5:00 pm at the church for a fun night and lesson. On November 17th we had a lesson on being Thankful for little things in our lives, God has blessed us all. We enjoyed a craft and a Thanksgiving meal together finishing with Apple Pie.

Our Wednesday evening session will be Wed. Dec. 15th from 3:15-5:00 pm.

CL Sunday School Program Sunday, Dec. 19th

A Brown Bag Christmas Program- Sunday, Dec. 19th during 11:00 services. Please support your youth and join us for a fun new Program experience as we do **Once Upon A Manger** with you.

UMW Minutes

Meeting at Linda's Apt, 9 present, Mission Statement Read, Roll Call with Scriptures read, Sec. Min. Approved, Treasurers - \$822.27 Thank you from Charlotte's Family

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Discuss Cookie and Baked Potato Sale, 12/10. Send postcards to members we don't see to remind them. 11/30 make cookies at church 9-11:30. 1 cookie in a bag with potato.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. 12/8 UMW Christmas Party at Betty Rake's Home 12:00. Deb-Salad, Jennie-cookie tray, Linda-deviled eggs, Jan-hot dish, Arlene-cocktail wieners, Catherine-rice pudding, Joan-cheese plate, Betty-beverages
2. In Memory Card for \$10 sent to Charlotte's family
3. \$50 to Linda for sending a gift card to Elaine Schatner for the Thrift Sale.
4. Giving Turkey meals to some people for thanksgiving, thanks to donations.
5. Prayer Calendar coming.
6. Worked on Website for Anitra.
7. \$60 for Thank Offering
Appetizers enjoyed during meeting.
Submitted by Linda Jurisch.

Annual Clear Lake UMC Christmas Cookie/Rosette Sale with Stuffed Baked Potato Meal

The CL UMC annual Christmas cookie and baked potato sale will be held on **December 10th from 3:30-7 pm**. An assortment of cookies and rosettes will be pre-packaged. We are offering three options of the stuffed baked potato meal: Broccoli/cheese, Stroganoff, or Combo. **TAKE OUT ONLY!** Drive-up to the front of the church. Someone with a mask will come to your car and take your cookie, rosette, and potato order and it will be delivered to your car.

Each family should provide 6 dozen cookies the night before 4-8pm or the morning of between 8-10am so they can be sorted and boxed.

Adopt a Room

Our 'Adopt a Room' project for Salvation Army
We are still on hold with this project as they are working on getting an architect to sign off on the roof/rooms and extra house. We will keep you informed when we get a date to paint and fix up our room!

Evening Circle

Evening circle recently got together to make some Christmas themed pillow cases for Grace Place homeless shelter in New Richmond. This Sunday, Pastor Hakki blessed all of the pillow cases the group had made this past year. As well as the cases, new pillows will be given also. We made a matching pair of cases to give to Bernice Goodrich along with pillows.



Thank You

A BIG thank you to the Clear Lake congregation for their generous giving towards the special Fall Offering. We received a little over \$3,000.00. That will be a blessing to offset the rising costs of the church. *Submitted by Dawn Cress*

CL Ad C Highlights

Old Business:

1. Pat discussed the escape route from the youth room. He received a quote for an escape ladder from Industrial Safety of \$59.00 which is valid till November 27, 2021. The steps will be removed and the landing will be remodeled to code. Pat will discuss with TJ Buhr to ensure it is done properly. A motion to purchase the escape ladder by Dawn, 2nd Debi.

New Business:

1. Annual Christmas Cookie/Stuffed Baked Potato Sale is being held Friday December 10. We are asking that each church family provide 6 dozen or more cookies. Please bring cookies to church Thursday night or by 10:00 Friday morning. Preboxed Cookies and/or potato may be picked up curbside. No indoor seating. 10% of proceeds will be donated to the Anchor of Hope ministries.
2. Will be packing food boxes for Christmas for Children at the Food Shelf December 7 at 7:00 am. We are in need of haulers.
3. Noisy Can donation for November and December to Anchor of Hope Ministries.
4. Church sign needs to be updated with current church time.
5. There will be a calendar for 2022 sign-ups for reader, greeter, and coffee. Please sign up for the dates you would like to serve.
6. Hanging of the Greens is November 28th during the church service.
7. Advent - need readers for lighting the Advent Candles. We. Will sing the Light the Advent Candle song during the lighting.

Next meeting is December 1st at 4:00. Note the new time.

Submitted by Jennie Keller

Send Offering to:

Arlene Althoff
75 50th Avenue
Clayton, WI 54004

**Noisy Can--Fourth Quarter
Anchor of Hope**

Pastor's Pen

Time goes by so quickly. The end of this year is my second one I greet in Wisconsin. Personally, I realize that time flies when I watch Evan's growth in my busy life. Now he not only goes up and down stairs himself, but he imitates our actions and expressions like singing with us. We are grateful that he is growing up healthy, but on the other hand, it's a pity that he is growing so fast, so we take pictures and videos of him every day. He will be even taller next year than now.



Each year, the seasons repeat in the following order: Spring, Summer, Autumn, and Winter. It seems to be the same every year, but our lives grow and mature in the repetition. In order to welcome the next year, we need to finish this year well. So, how can we end this year well and welcome the next year?

I hope we light our candles and lamps at our homes during the season of Advent and until the beginning of the next year. And then, I hope we have time to remember and think about and to thank those who you love and those you loved

that have passed away.

And I hope we have time to reflect on our lives and to ask ourselves: "What point do I stand in my life now?" "What is the meaning of my life?" and "What is the purpose, joy, and fruits of my life?" And then, I hope we light the candles of hope in our minds expecting that next year will be a happy year.



Merry Christmas and Happy Your Year,
Pastor Hakki

Faith Family Church News



Faith Family Ad. Board Highlights:

We met on November 11th and opened with prayer and song. Debbie Stevens graciously offered to be secretary at charge conference. Dennis did an amazing job on our outdoor sign and it is greatly appreciated. We approved the treasurer report and the budget for the next year. We worked on our ministry plan and forms needed for charge conference. Noisy can money was approved for next year: MS Crawl, Autism, Humane Society, and Grace Place. Disposable masks were approved and purchased for the students of Glenwood City to safely ride the bus and to hopefully keep kids in school throughout the school year. Hanging of the Greens will be November 28th during the church service. We will need readers for Advent. Pastor Hakki lead us in the Lord's Prayer to end the meeting.

Submitted by Amanda Millermon

Faith Family Sunday School:

Faith Family Church is offering Sunday school education for children and youth of all ages. We have a "Talking Points" curriculum to go over hot topics for youth of all ages. There will be breakout options after church and an opportunity for growth for all ages. We are excited to see each other grow throughout this experience and learn the Bible through our life experiences.

Please feel free to join us and help out with the breakout sessions.



Our Sunday School star this month is Graham. He loves to be on the move and doesn't always sit still for the lesson. However, he sure is able to make you smile.

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. 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--4th Quarter to Westcap

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 Kaczmarek, 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