

THE PARISH CONNECTION

January/February 2023

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

January 2023 Lectionary Readings

January 1, 2023

Epiphany Sunday (White)

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

January 8, 2023

Baptism of the Lord (White)

Isaiah 42:1-9 - Psalm 29
Acts 10:34-43 - Matthew 3:13-17

January 15, 2023

Second Sunday after the Epiphany (Green)

Isaiah 49:1-7 - Psalm 40:1-11
1 Corinthians 1:1-9 - John 1:29-42

January 22, 2023

Third Sunday after the Epiphany (Green)

Isaiah 9:1-4 - Psalm 27:1, 4-9
1 Corinthians 1:10-18 - Matthew 4:12-23

January 29, 2023

Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany (Green)

Micah 6:1-8 - Psalm 15
1 Corinthians 1:18-31 - Matthew 5:1-12

IN OUR PRAYERS

Joys— Sunday school students and their Christmas Messages and Programs,

Concerns— Don Weber, Jenny Bergmann, Wendy Koenig, Ron Jurisch, Dave

Remembering—Diane Paulson's mom, Janet Palmer Nimm's 3 grandchildren, Mona Morelock's family, Lorne Brusletten's family,

February 2023 Lectionary Readings

February 5, 2023

Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany (Green)

Isaiah 58:1-9a (9b-12) - Psalm 112:1-9 (10)
1 Corinthians 2:1-12 (13-16) - Matthew 5:13-20

February 12, 2023

Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany (Green)

Deuteronomy 30:15-20 - Psalm 119:1-8
1 Corinthians 3:1-9 - Matthew 5:21-37

February 19, 2023

Transfiguration Sunday (White)

Exodus 24:12-18 - Psalm 2 or Psalm 99
2 Peter 1:16-21 - Matthew 17:1-9

February 26, 2023

First Sunday in Lent (Purple)

Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7 - Psalm 32
Romans 5:12-19 - Matthew 4:1-11

WRP Bible Study: The Red Sea Rules

We will finish "The Red Sea Rules" in January 2023. We will begin on January 4th with Review and Rule #7. If you're interested contact Diane or Heather to join us or just sign into our church zoom account.

Lent Schedule: Ash Wednesday service at Faith Family on Feb 22nd. We are planning to have a Lenten Bible Study every Wednesday evening at 7pm via Zoom during the season of Lent. Further information will be announced through bulletins and worship announcements.

PET OF THE MONTH:



Charlie, Jeff and Terri's cat. Charlie LOVES people and wins over everyone. While his family was away for a week, neighbors chose to visit him three times a day instead of one! "Love your neighbor as yourself."

Roman's 13:9

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

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

Meeting ID: 886 1365 2777

Passcode: 421072

January Birthdays

Denise Severson	1/8
Dan Jilek	1/10
Penny Warner	1/12
Paul Webster	1/12
Harlan Coyer	1/13
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

Deadline for March Newsletter is Feb. 21st

February Birthdays

Nathan Thompson	2/05
Ron Boe	2/05
Laura Drinkman	2/09
Ruth Severson	2/16
Catherine Benoy	2/17
Debbie Stevens	2/21
John Koerper	2/24
Bernice Goodrich	2/25
Brandon Pederson	2/25

WRP Youth: Youth had their Christmas party Tuesday, December 27th. We met at Faith Family in Emerald at 6 pm. Youth brought their favorite Christmas treat and a \$5 gift. Pizza was provided.



We played a game about things not always looking like they seem and discussed the Christmas story along with it. We then played some other fun games and exchanged gifts!

Regional Youth Event: Snow Tubing @ Trollhaugen



Packing college boxes! Thanks for all the donations!

JANUARY WORSHIP MINISTRIES

Clear Lake

Jan 1st Reader: Debi Ahrens
Acolyte/PwrPt: Ben Avery
Brunch: Avery Family

Jan 8th Reader: Diane Blanchard
Acolyte/PwrPt: Jordan Blanchard
Coffee: Roger & Diane

Jan 15th Reader: Dawn Cress
Acolyte/PwrPt: Oliver Wood
Coffee: Roger & Diane

Jan 22nd Reader: Andrea Jilek
Acolyte/PwrPt: Wyatt Reindahl
Coffee: Roger & Diane

Jan 29th Reader: Alison Blanchard
Acolyte/PwrPt: Lily Avery
Coffee: Linda

Counters for January: Carla & Jan

Faith Family

Jan 1st Heather Greene
Jan 8th Penny Warner
Jan 15th Liz Larson
Jan 22nd Cindy Warner
Jan 29th Debbie Stevens

FEBRUARY WORSHIP MINISTRIES

Clear Lake

Feb 5th Reader: John Koerper
Acolyte/PwrPt: Oliver Wood
Brunch: Gail

Feb 12th Reader: Dawn Cress
Acolyte/PwrPt: Wyatt Reindahl
Coffee: Dawn

Feb 19th Reader: Diane Blanchard
Acolyte/PwrPt: Jordan Blanchard
Coffee: Roger & Carla

Feb 26th Reader: Debi Ahrens
Acolyte/PwrPt: Ben Avery
Coffee: Debi

Counters for February: Dawn & Debi

Faith Family

Feb 5th Terri Wilson
Feb 12th Millermon Family
Feb 19th Paul Webster
Feb 26th Heather Greene

Women's Retreat at Luther Park Bible Camp is confirmed for January 27-29, 2023. All women are welcome!

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 **January 14th & February 11th** 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.

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.

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 or Gail Kuhl kuhlgl@cltcomm.net

Deer Park UMC News:

Happy 2023!

We hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas, is healthy and enjoying this nice change in the weather. We are thankful our bills are all paid, other obligations are met and we still have a plus at the bank.

Many thanks to the members for repairs, snow removal, and all that needs to be done to care for our church.

We wish each and everyone a happy, healthy and safe new year.

God Bless from your friends in Deer Park.

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

1st Quarter Noisy Can--Grace Place

Pastor's Pen: *Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18)*

It's January and it's the first month of 2023. It seems that many people tend to want to have new plans and new year's resolutions when the new year begins. My family and I had a good Christmas at home, and we joined the WI Korean Caucus Family Retreat in Madison from the 26th through 27th. We had a worship service there with Korean clergies and their families who serve churches in our conference, and listened to a seminar themed on "Faith, Church, and Post-Pandemic."



At the retreat, an instructor read 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18, and asked everyone: "Did you make new year's resolutions? If you could make one sentence including resolutions for the new year, what would it be? I will give you five minutes and you make one sentence for the new year by using the three words: 'Rejoice,' 'pray,' and 'give thanks.' You can use all three or just one or two words."

Esther and I discussed this, and she formulated our family's one sentence: "During 2023, be a family who prays, is always grateful, and strives to please God." Isn't it good?

I would like to offer you the same suggestion. Please read 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 first, and then make your new year's sentence by using the words 'Rejoice,' 'pray,' and 'give thanks.' Of course, you can rephrase these words like we did.



The biggest concern in my family these days is 'sourdough'. A while ago we had Evan's 1,000 days old celebration and we made a cake for him. And I can say it was successful. So, after gaining confidence in baking, we decided to make sourdough this time. But unlike cake, making sourdough doesn't

seem easy and simple.

To make sourdough, we need to make a sourdough starter first. It needs flour, water, proper air and temperature, and patience. According to experts, it

takes about 7-14 days for the starter to be made. In the meantime, we need to feed the starter every day with flour and water. We tried to make each starter. I used unbleached all-purpose flour and Esther used wholewheat flour. However, making the starter was harder than I imagined. After four days of making the starter, mine was separated between flour and water and began to give off an unpleasant smell. Experts say that a well-made starter has a sour and sweet smell, not a stink. Unfortunately, mine had to go in the trash. And, I'm hoping and praying that her starter will mature into a good starter that can make delicious sourdough.

I learned that there were smell and color differences between an unprepared starter and a good starter. And above all, a good starter floats on water, but an unprepared starter sinks to the bottom.

I think sourdough starter has something in common with our spirituality. All people have spirituality, but some have a healthy and mature spirituality, and some don't. The lives of God's people with healthy and mature spirituality have beautiful traces and beautiful scents of life.

In the new year, I pray in the name of the Lord that your life will be filled with 'gratitude,' 'prayer,' 'joy,' and 'beautiful traces and scents of life.'

Happy New Year! Pastor Hakki



Clear Lake UMC News

- Coffee after church
- Potluck-1st Sunday of each Month after church.
- Food shelf donations any Sunday

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

Clear Lake Church Cancellations: 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.

CL Midweek Church School: Midweek church school will begin on Wednesday, January 4, 2023. Students picked up at 3:15, class till 5pm.

Thank you: I would like to thank Pastor Hakki and the CL members for the generous Nilssen's gift card. It was greatly appreciated. *Anitra*

Clear Lake Nov. Ad. Co. Highlights

- There will be no Ad Board meeting in January unless there is an emergency that needs immediate attention.
- Motion to change the by-laws from having a meeting the first Wednesday of each month to having meetings as needed.
- Ad Council Meeting Minutes need to be saved in a folder on the computer.
- Homeless shelter: Hoping to have a work day in January. Date TBD.
- Donated old plates and cups and a washer and dryer to the shelter.
- There will be an email sent for inclement weather if church service is canceled. Check email before venturing out if the weather is bad.

Pastor's Notes: The order of the Communion in the service will be returned to the regular schedule as there is no longer a conflict with Church School. Church school is on Wednesday night. Also, the NW District Youth Meeting is in January (exact date, time and place TBD)

No mtg in Jan. We will meet Wed. Feb. 1 @ 4pm.

1st Quarter Noisy Can–TBD

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.

UMW Christmas Party: A BIG THANK YOU TO BETTY RAKE for a lovely, fun UMW Christmas party. She even gave each of us a gift!! We had great food, beverages, conversation and singing!!!



Bell Choir: Our annual Christmas concert with the First Lutheran Choir was postponed until Wed. Dec. 28th.



We Played at the 7th Day Adventist Church on Saturday, Dec. 31st and will take a break in Jan.

Christmas For Children: What a marvelous community to be a part of! We have had a very busy and gratifying December. We have just completed our 29th year of Christmas for Children in Clear Lake. On behalf of the Christmas for Children Committee, we would like to say thank you so much for your support to our program.

We are so grateful and humbled to be a part of a community that is so supportive, caring, and generous.

We could not do this program successfully without the help and support from your donations. We use monetary donations to buy clothes, coats, snow pants, boots, and other clothing gifts for the children.

This year we helped 32 families, (90 children). Every child gets clothes (which is only possible with your donations). And, of course, every child receives toys, games, personal care items or something fun for them.

Each family also gets a large food box from the Lifeline Food Pantry and a gift certificate from Nilssen's Market. We thank all of you for helping us to make this a better Christmas for these families.

Happy New Year and we wish you God's Peace and Blessings in 2023.

Dorcas Piecemakers : Our Circle group will be meeting the first and third Mondays of January from 1-3. Monday, Jan. 2nd and Jan. 16th. In February we will meet

Monday
Feb. 6th and
Monday,
Feb. 20th.
We can use
fabric
matchers
and ironers,



we don't all sew! We sewed 90 pillowcases for Christmas for Children families. We'd like to send a special thanks to Nancy Danielson, Ann Miner, Debbie Stevens and Cindy Warner for helping out!

Love for our Troops: This year we are sending treats to our troops. We will be purchasing an assortment of non-perishable treats and personal items. We will be purchasing all items going into these boxes and your monetary donations would be appreciated to cover the cost of the items and postage. If you know someone who is in the service call Linda Jurisch, [715-263-2288](tel:715-263-2288). These personnel should be from the Clear Lake, Clayton, Reeve, Forest and Deer Park areas. Please send donations during Jan & Feb to: Luann Hansen, 471 7th Avenue, Clear Lake, WI 54005. Checks can be made out to VFW Auxiliary.

Faith Family Church News:

FAITH FAMILY AD. BOARD HIGHLIGHTS:

December 8th, 2022. Present: Terri, Jeff, Heather, Cindy, Pastor Hakki, Dennis and Joyce, Penny, Amanda, Paul, Debbie and Gary.

We do need a pet picture for the newsletter. We would like to see the newsletter come out every month. This will be discussed at SPRC.

Christmas information: Christmas memory for the Christmas program: Heather shared the memory list for the program. Christmas program: December 18th at 9:45am. Emerald Community Holiday and craft and bake sale (volunteer opportunities) December 17th. 1:30-5:00pm 5:30 is the light up parade. Kids are going to be in the parade. Crafts from the Emerald Community. Plan to bring in baked and craft goods.

Bell plans: No new news at this time. The stone is in place and the new nativity. Lights are up. Thanks to everyone that decorated the church. Wait until spring to do the bell. Are we going to sandblast the bell?

New sensor for insurance: Debbie there is a new sensor for insurance at the church coming again.

Game night/dinner: Game night is the second Friday of the month and Alpha is making spaghetti.

Shared statistic for Faith Family Facebook Page: Post Reach 2,187 in the last 28 days, 5 new followers with a total of 101 followers. One Reel (small video) hit 2K and the other 1.1 K.

Local Pastor shared ideas to Amanda to have a 50 plus day at church to play cards, coffee, community center event, do more outreach in the community, Homework time for kids.

January/ February ministry plans: Second Friday game nights, Fun Day School on Wednesdays, Taking down the tree, Food Pantry, (Valentine boxes- gift cards to kwik trip). Need to develop a list for valentine boxes.

Noisy Cans: 1st quarter: MS Crawl, 2nd quarter: Autism, 3rd quarter: Salvation Army, 4th quarter: Human Society

Lent: February 22nd, is Ash Wednesday.

Pastoral update: Order of Communion back to normal, Wisconsin Conference Basic Lay Servant Course via Zoom. Christmas Eve Services: 4:00 CL -5:30 FF -7:00 DP; Christmas Service

could be pre recorded for Christmas. Faith Family would still be open at 10Am; District Youth Meeting in January- meeting next Friday. December 26th Wisconsin Korean family Retreat. In Madison, WI Pastor left the meeting for Circuit Meeting (not on the church calendar). Identified we could finish the meeting on our own.

Anchor of Hope update by Heather: Alicia has put in her notice for December 15th. Heather put in her application for Anchor of Hope. Live on Facebook or zoom. Keep Bill and Heather and Anchor of Hope in your prayers.

Any other business: Discussed the importance of having the pastor at church on Sunday for Christmas service. We have increased numbers of guests in our service and need to continue to be open. Need help this coming weekend for Emerald Community Holiday. Penny and Cindy made Angels for the craft sale. Cindy has been baking and Debbie has been sewing. We need more printed copies of the sermon and bulletin for Sunday Service. Next Meeting: Discussed looking at a different day if it will always land on the circuit meeting. Christmas Gift for Pastor. Going away gift for Alicia- \$25.00 Thank you Cards: Penny has a card. Keep Alan and Ardys in your Prayers and for Greg because he has COVID.

End with Lord's Prayer

Next meeting is Thurs, February 9th @ 6:30 pm

DONATION CENTER:



West Cap Food Pantry
Donations needed: We are collecting non-perishable items for the food pantry.

February Valentine Box Names/Addresses needed



THANK YOU THANK YOU

THANK YOU Thank you Alicia Peterson for your time with us at Anchor of Hope. You will be missed. Thank you to all those that helped with Emerald Community Holiday and our Craft and Bake Sale.

FUNDAY SCHOOL CORNER:



The Funday school kids have had a Christmas Tea Virtually, Christmas Program of Memories past, Christmas Party. You can watch it on Facebook and the Christmas Memories were emailed out; if you would like a copy, let Heather Greene know at 612-799-6215.



COMMUNITY EVENTS:

STAY TUNED FOR MORE

INFORMATION:

- UNDECORATE THE PARK/CHURCH DAYS
- EMERALD COMMUNITY EASTER EVENT.
- VALENTINE BOXES FOR OUR SHUT INS

Noisy Cans--1st Quarter--MS Crawl

Send Offering to: Terri Wilson, 3127 200th Ave,
Glenwood City, WI 54013

CHECK US OUT ON FACEBOOK:

Faith Family Church | Facebook

ANCHOR OF HOPE



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).

Schedule of Events at Anchor of Hope:

Monday:

5:30pm: Meal for all

7:00pm: Anchor of Hope Service
(in person, zoom, facebook)

Saturday:

2:00pm: Saturday Social on Facebook

Virtual App Study: Celebrate Recovery
5 week study

[ANCHOR OF HOPE](#) Facebook Live.

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 830 9477 1703

Passcode: 781739

Our website can be found at
<https://anchorofhopeemerald.wixsite.com/my-site>

and our email address is
anchorofhopeemerald@gmail.com

Or call/text Heather Greene
612-799-6215.



THE WILLOW RIVER PARISH
CLEAR LAKE, DEER PARK, FAITH FAMILY
420 4TH AVENUE – PO BOX 269
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

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
Email: wrpsecretary@gmail.com
Office Hours: Fridays 1-3 pm

Amanda Millermon, Parish Treasurer
Email: WRParishconnect@gmail.com

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