

# THE PARISH CONNECTION

March 2023

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

## March 2023 Lectionary Readings

**March 5, 2023**

**Second Sunday in Lent (Purple)**

Gen 12:1-4a; Ps 121 (UMH 844);  
Rom 4:1-5, 13-17; John 3:1-17

**March 12, 2023**

**Third Sunday in Lent (Purple)**

Ex 17:1-7; Ps 95 (UMH 814);  
Rom 5:1-11; John 4:5-42

**March 19, 2023**

**Fourth Sunday in Lent (Purple)**

1 Sam 16:1-13; Ps 23 (UMH 754 or 137);  
Eph 5:8-14; John 9:1-41

**March 26, 2023**

**Fifth Sunday in Lent (Purple)**

Ezek 37; 1-14; Ps 130 (UMH 848); Rom 8:6-11;  
John 11:1-45

## IN OUR PRAYERS

*Joys— Great, Great grandbabies, Youth Snow tubing event, healing from injuries and health issues, travel*

*Concerns— The people and rescue workers of Turkey and Syria, Stephanie Talatala, Don Weber, Ruth Severson, Mike, Tasha, Pete, Bill, Julie, Betty*

*Remembering—Family of Larry Pederson, Family of Anita Gumke, Shirley's Family*

## Daylight Savings Time

begins on Sunday,  
March 12th. Please  
remember to set your  
clocks ahead one hour  
on Saturday night  
before you go to bed.



**Lent Schedule:** We are planning to have a Lenten Bible Study every Wednesday evening at 7pm via Zoom during the season of Lent. A soup supper will precede the study at 6:00 at Clear Lake and Faith Family. The study will be "Luke: Jesus and the Outsiders, Outcasts, and Outlaws" by Adam Hamilton for six weeks starting March 1st. Cost of the study book is \$11.49.

March 1	Clear Lake (soup supper)
March 8	Faith Family (soup supper)
March 15	Deer Park (coffee & cookies)
March 22	Clear Lake (soup supper)
March 29	Faith Family (soup supper)

**PET OF THE MONTH:** This is Maggie, one of Lily and Ben Jr. Avery's dogs.



A dog is the only thing on earth that loves you more than he loves himself. (J. Billings) The way God loves us!  
I John 4:7

**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 aSVhGN0g1Qnc3VDV5T0Jhci83UT09>

Meeting ID: 886 1365 2777  
Passcode: 421072

**Silent Messengers:** Celebrating a Savior will again be presented on Sunday, March 19th beginning with a 5:00pm Soup Supper and show begins at 6:00 pm. This takes place at Immaculate Conception Church in New Richmond. It is a free will offering and proceeds benefit Grace Place and St. Croix County. RSVP appreciated but not required. RSVP by calling 715-912-2834. It is a presentation of the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ by students and completely silent actors, just music.

### Family House Polk/Barron Shelter

The Shelter is not up and running at this time. The Salvation Army is housing 10 people at this time in Hotels in the area. Through these months of working on the home they have sheltered over 170 people in hotels/motels 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.

### March Birthdays

Bev Klatt	3/2
Oliver Malack	3/4
Esther Kim	3/5
Gracie Perkins Greene	3/8
Dennis Petersen	3/9
Joyce Petersen	3/14
Greg Severson	3/15
George Stutter	3/18
Todd Jilek	3/19
Evan Min	3/19
Elden Setter	3/20
Allen Warner	3/24
Jewel Severson	3/26
Jan Benson	3/27
Tara Hemauer	3/29

### March Anniversaries

Roger & Carla La Blanc 3/20



**WRP Youth:** We had a great turnout for our SnowTubing event at Trollhaugen on Saturday, Feb. 11. Over 50 students, pastors and adults joined in the fun on a gorgeous sunny day! Pastor Hakki led the lesson on being washed white as snow by Jesus.



Multi-Cultural Worship at Whitehall with a meal on April 29th Saturday 10-noon.

Watch for 2023 Church Camp info at your church!

Some of our youth also participated in the movie at Amery Theater for Amery Area Youth hosted by the Amery ministerium and the Worship Band on 02/15/2023.

**Deadline for  
April Newsletter  
is March 24th.**

## MARCH WORSHIP MINISTRIES

### Clear Lake

March 5th Reader: Alison Blanchard  
Acolyte/PwrPt: Lily Avery  
Brunch: John & Stacia

March 12th Reader: Andrea Jilek  
Acolyte/PwrPt: Wyatt Reindahl  
Coffee: Becky

March 19th Reader: Diane Blanchard  
Acolyte/PwrPt: Jordan Blanchard  
Coffee: Ryan Blanchard family

March 26th Reader: Dawn Cress  
Acolyte/PwrPt: Oliver Wood  
Coffee: Jennie

*Counters for February: Linda & Betty*

### Faith Family

March 5th Penny Warner  
March 12th Liz Larson  
March 19th Cindy Warner  
March 26th Debbie Stevens

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**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 **March 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](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 [kuhlg@cltcomm.net](mailto:kuhlg@cltcomm.net)

## Deer Park UMC News:

March, the month of the beginning of spring, Lent and the Easter season, which is the time of new life, warmer weather, (hopefully) and no more snow and cold.

We are happy Joyce is recovering from hand surgery and that she and Dennis are back with us. We missed the lovely music she provides for us each week and their friendly visiting.

Many thanks to Amanda, Debbie and Carla for their help with the statistical reports; a big relief when they are done for another year.

Thanks also to Ted and Randy for the big job of all the snow removal this winter. You are much appreciated. Hopefully there will be no more work for you this winter.

There will be coffee and cookies before Lenten service here in Deer Park. (NO soup and sandwich).

Get well wishes to Ruth as she has had health issues this winter

We extend our sympathy to Linda and Pete and their families as their sister Shirley passed away in February.

*Happy Spring everyone from your friends in Deer Park.*

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

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### **1st Quarter Noisy Can--Grace Place**

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### **Pastor's Pen:**

"Lord, make me an instrument of your peace;  
where there is hatred, let me sow love;  
where there is doubt, faith;  
where there is despair, hope;  
where there is darkness, light;  
and where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master,  
Grant that I may not so much seek  
to be consoled, as to console;  
to be understood, as to understand;  
to be loved, as to love;  
for it is in giving that we receive,  
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,  
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

Amen."

- St. Francis of Assisi's Prayer -



## Lent Calls

Lent calls to me again...

To do what?

Like Martha, I tend towards doing

Doing is something I understand

Chairing a committee

Taking food to the sick

Reading the bible

Lent calls to me again...

He wants more of me than I've ever given

More than Lenten study

More than giving up dessert

More than extra church services

Lent calls to me again...

He wants more of me and I'm frightened

Frightened of losing control

Frightened of letting go

Frightened of what He might ask me to do if

I really listened

Lent calls to me again...

I feel a yearning, a tugging towards something more

Whispers of a love unimaginable

Glimpses of a relationship unshakable

Tastes of a water so clear and sweet that

my thirst is slaked forever

Lent calls to me again...

A step is all I can manage, Lord

A hand extended

A head bowed

A conscious placing of myself on your

Potter's wheel

Lent calls me again...

Help me with the hard part, Lord

Help me surrender

Help me abandon myself to you

Help me reconcile myself to you

Lent calls to me again...

Here I am, Lord

## Clear Lake UMC News

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

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

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**Clear Lake Church Cancellations:** Winter is here; in the event of bad weather, please contact Roger Blanchard 715-263-2690 to find out if worship services are canceled.

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**CL Midweek Church School:** Midweek church school continues with 3:15 pick up at school and lessons til 5:00 pm. **Attention**, in March on the 15th we will not have midweek classes. Too many are gone the week of CL schools' Spring Break.

**Empty Bowls Event:** On Tuesday, Feb. 7th the Clear Lake High School Art Club and students along with the CL Ministerial group sponsored an Empty Bowls event to benefit the Clear Lake



Schools Backpack program supported by the CL Lions Club. Our midweeks schools and youth helped make and paint

bowls and then our church donated a roaster of Chicken Wild Rice soup to the event. Over \$4000 was raised. Thanks to all who participated and Joan Lillie for making the soup!

### Clear Lake Feb. Ad. Co. Highlights

- Will form a Care/Visitation Team to accompany Pastor visiting shut ins.
- Audit went well, thank you sent to Julie.
- Shredding and Recycling of paper will be done monthly by Chad Lillie.
- Dawn Cress will look into the cost of track lighting for the bell choir area.
- Pastor's notes, Lenten Schedule and Bible Study.
- Discussed joint service with First Lutheran, no action.

**Next meeting March 1st @ 4pm.**

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**Noisy Can:** 1st qtr. Clear Lake EMTs, 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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**UMW 1/11/23** Ridgeview Apts Led by President Joan Lillie.

9 present, Mission Statement Read. Roll Call with Scripture read. Sec. Min.read and approved. Treasurer's report last day

Dec 28. \$2,396.58

Cookie Sale profit about \$1400.00. Expenses \$1,250.00. These were so high because all prices increased but we have left over containers for 2023.

1. 10% of profit \$240 will go to the Clear Lake Schools Backpack Program. Church general fund \$580, and \$190 to each circle.

2. Pledge to Mission \$350, each circle will pay half. Motion carried.

3. Empty Bowls Fundraiser for CL School Backpack Program Feb. 7, Tuesday, 4:30-7:00. We will provide one roaster of wild rice soup.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Baked Pot/Christmas cookies and Rosettes, will raise prices. Consider serving inside and curbside. Need only 225 Potatoes. Still pack cookies and rosettes ourselves.

2. Thank you from Sal. Army for the washer and dryer we gave them.

3. Christmas card from Maryanna Nelson.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Looked over the coffee server list for 2023.

2. Planned our Calendar for 2023.

FEB 8 or 15 visit Althoffs in Hudson meet at church at 1:00

MARCH 8 Ridgeview, Barb Bender Invited PotLuck at 12:00

APRIL 12 Visit Amery Memory Care, 2:00, Serve Lemon Cake/Joan

MAY 10 Ridgeview 2:00 make Ingathering Kits

JUNE 14 Visit Golden Age Manor, 2:00, Bingo if allowed, serve strawberry shortcake, Linda/Joan

JULY 12 Meet at church Visit Polk/Barron County Family House Shelter

AUG 9 Village Co Shop 2:00

SEPT 13 Willow Ridge Visit 2:00, serve Pumpkin Bars/Linda

OCT 11 Ridgeview 2:00

NOV 18 Ridgeview 2:00

DEC 13 Ridgeview 12:00 Christmas Party Potluck

April Thrift Sale 27&28; Sept Thrift Sale

28&29--Betty and Linda Co Chairs

Joan Read a newspaper article "Methodist Church at Crossroads" Dec 28

Reg. Conference, April 24 General Conference. Big decisions to decide on!! POT LUCK

*Submitted by Linda Jurisch*

**UWF Meeting at Ridgeview Wed. March 8. Our Sister, Barb Bender is invited for pot-luck and we will meet at 12:00, eat and then have our meeting.**

**SPRING THRIFT SALE: Start Saving for our April 27&28 Thrift Sale. Let's Raise LOTS of money--Betty & Linda co-chairpersons**

**Bell Choir:** Our Community Bell Choir is practicing on Wed. at 7:30pm. We will meet again on the 8th, not the 1st. We are working on a spring concert with the date to be determined and possible other venues to share our bell ministry music.

**Dorcas Piecemakers :** Our Circle group will be meeting the first and third Mondays of March from 1-3. 38 pillowcases and pillows were delivered to Grace Place in New Richmond in February. We are working on new pillowcases for The Family Shelter in Polk County at this time.

**Women's Retreat:** We enjoyed a wonderful weekend away with friends for our 2023 Women's Retreat at Luther Park in Chetek at the end of January.





Don and Arlene Althoff, Clear Lake UMC members for 50 years, moved in January to Red Cedar Canyon Apartments in Hudson, WI. They both have served in many capacities in our church; Arlene, many years as treasurer, Don has held many positions, including Ad Council Chair and in later years was our Parish Treasurer for many years. They have given of their time in so many ways many of us don't even know about as they would do things they knew needed to be done without being asked or telling anyone they did it. True service to their church! We will miss them dearly, but will stay in touch through cards, phone calls and visits. Their address is Don and Arlene Althoff, 3001 Hanley Rd. Red Cedar Canyon Apt. 307, Hudson, WI 54016; and their phone number is 715-716-5922.

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### **Soul Food: *Imago Dei* Lenten Study**

*By Bishop Hee-Soo Jung*

Wednesday is Ash Wednesday, the beginning of the Lenten Season, a time of 40 days (excluding Sundays) of personal reflection and growth. In preparation this Holy Season, I have studied Matthew 14:3-9,

While he was in Bethany, reclining at the table in the home of Simon the Leper, a woman came with an alabaster jar of very expensive perfume, made of pure nard. She broke the jar and poured the perfume on his head.

Some of those present were saying indignantly to one another, 'Why this waste of perfume? It could have been sold for more than a year's wages and the money given to the poor.' And they rebuked her harshly.

'Leave her alone,' said Jesus. 'Why are you bothering her? She has done a beautiful thing to me. The poor you will always have with you, and

you can help them any time you want. But you will not always have me. She did what she could. She poured perfume on my body beforehand to prepare for my burial. Truly I tell you, wherever the gospel is preached throughout the world, what she has done will also be told, in memory of her.'

The challenge for us is to examine our lives through the gift of Mary of Bethany. Mary is purposeful and intentional about her worship of Jesus. She engaged Jesus with complete adoration – breaking the jar and pouring the expensive nard over his head. In her actions, she was giving all that she had with no reservations, even knowing that others would not approve or fully understand.

My prayerful invitation during this Lenten Season is to strive to embody Mary of Bethany's praise and love of Jesus, to the point of extravagance – in generosity of our finances, love, and justice seeking. I am moved and excited, knowing that this Lenten season holds great potential for a deep dive into our faith.

One of the ways in which you are invited to an extravagant Lenten Season is by participating in the new, free Lenten resource from the General Commission on Religion and Race, *Imago Dei* Lenten Bible Study. This five-week study is about diversity, equity and inclusion written in the style of Lectio Divina, in which all participants are equal, all voices are invited to participate, and there are no wrong answers. The study is built to listen to the Holy Spirit and share by mutual invitation.

This is our Wisconsin Annual Conference's way of living into "Radical Inclusion and Racial Justice" by celebrating our diversity, equity and inclusion through the image of God. How extravagant!

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### **Church**

Church is a place to go and see

Our other loving family,

People who know the Lord, and who

With their love and care our strength renew.

That is why I think, each Monday:

"I'm looking forward to church on Sunday."

*By Joanna Fuchs*



# Faith Family Church News:

## FAITH FAMILY AD. BOARD HIGHLIGHTS:

Faith Family Ad Board 2/6/23

Present : Jeff and Terri Wilson, Debbie and Gary Stevens, HeatherGreene, Cindy Warner, Penny Warner, Paul Webster, Joyce and Dennis Petersen, Pastor Hakki, Amanda Millermon

-Treasurer Update We discussed December 2022 and January 2023 reports.. Motion to accept report, passed.

### -February:

-Valentine's Day Mission Project: Debbie will get Kwik Trip Cards for the people on our list and make cards.

-Ash Wednesday Will be at our church on Feb. 22. Pastor will get the books, each person pays for their own. We will have soup and sandwiches before the service at 6:00. Look for a sign up at church.

-March -Lenten Services- We also will host March 8 and March 29.

-April: Easter Services: Waiting to see time and place for Sunrise service.

- Decided to do a Pancake Breakfast/ April 8th Emerald Easter Egg Hunt.

We will discuss the grocery list during coffee time. Debbie will apply for the Kwik Trip donations.

-Facebook Statistics: Post Reach 134; Impressions 994; Engagement 66; Net Followers in 28 days 2; Likes 94; Followers 108

-Fun day School: Meeting on Wednesdays at 4:30. Just finished making bowls in Clear Lake for the Backpack program.

-Pastoral Updates: Pastor will be at a retreat Feb. 13-14 in Green Lake and also Feb. 20-24 (Spiritual retreat)

-Anchor of Hope Updates Working on guest speakers and anyone that would have musical talents to share.

-Circuit meeting Update: Pastor Hakki and Heather went to the in-person meeting and learned about breakthrough prayer.

-SPRC update. Training on Thursday and meeting on Sunday. Heather helped get people signed up.

-Building updates. : Nothing new on the bell. Next meeting April 13th At 6:30  
Submitted by Debbie Stevens

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## DONATION CENTER:

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

### VALENTINE'S BOXES MISSION:

We distributed our Valentine's in February.

EASTER BASKET DONATIONS: Easter baskets and bike donations for the Emerald Community Easter Baskets.

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## COMMUNITY EVENTS:

Stay tuned for more information:

-Emerald Community Easter Event.

-Faith Family Church Pancake Breakfast April 8th.

-Family Game Night March 10th @ 6:30pm



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THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU  
everyone for your services and gifts to the church!

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## FUN DAY SCHOOL CORNER:



The Funday school kids made pottery for Empty Bowls and discussed the story about the Potter and the Clay. The fundraiser helps feed starving children in our community. We also have started the children's lessons Luke (Jesus and the Outsiders, Outcasts and Outlaws) so they are able to follow along during the lenten study with our congregation. **Canceled March 1st & 22nd.**



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Noisy Cans--1st Quarter--MS Crawl  
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](#)

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## **WAY TO GO SAVANNA MILLERMON FOR MAKING IT TO STATE WRESTLING!**

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ANCHOR OF HOPE FEBRUARY PRAYER:



ANCHOR OF HOPE MARCH PRAYER:



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***Thank you to all of our Panelists on February 27th for our Self-Love Panel if you missed it check it out on Facebook.***

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Our website can be found at  
<https://anchorofhopeemerald.wixsite.com/my-site>  
and our email address is  
[anchorofhopeemerald@gmail.com](mailto:anchorofhopeemerald@gmail.com)  
Or call/text Heather Greene  
612-799-6215.

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[ANCHOR OF HOPE](#) Facebook Live.

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 830 9477 1703  
Passcode: 781739

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

Monday (In-person and virtual (zoom/facebook)

Saturday: Bible App Study 2pm on Facebook

March 4th: *Cast your anxiety on God-not at God*

March 6th: Communion/ Guest Speaker: Leya

March 11th: *Grab your journal and sit down w/ God*

March 13th: What is Forgiveness?

March 18th: *Forgiveness can be a process*

March 20th: Virtual: Guest Speaker Rev. Bill Beaton

March 25th: *Ask God to take you on a journey*

March 27th: Virtual: Forgiving Others & Ourselves  
(Zoom/Facebook Option Only: March 20 & 27)

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## **Anchor of Hope Shepherding meeting:**

Monday, April 10th @ 5:30pm (potluck meal)

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## **Resources for Recovery**

-ADRC of St. Croix County Phone: **800-372-2333**

TTY/TDD/Relay: Email: [adrcinfo@sccwi.gov](mailto:adrcinfo@sccwi.gov)

-NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness)

<https://nami.org/Home>

- Call: 800-950-NAMI (6264)
- Text: 62640
- Email: [helpline@nami.org](mailto:helpline@nami.org)

-Mental Health Crisis Line call 988

-Text HOME to 741741 to connect with a volunteer Crisis Counselor

-Anchor of Hope Recovery Ministry:

- [anchorofhopeemerald@gmail.com](mailto:anchorofhopeemerald@gmail.com)
- 612-799-6215

-Onyx Sober Living:

- (715) 245-1275  
[onyxsoberliving@gmail.com](mailto:onyxsoberliving@gmail.com)

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**As always if this is an emergency please  
contact 911!!**

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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  
Parish Office Phone: 715-263-2700  
E-Mail: [willowriverparish@gmail.com](mailto:willowriverparish@gmail.com)  
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  
Email: [wrpsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:wrpsecretary@gmail.com)  
Office Hours: Fridays 1-3 pm

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