

THE PARISH CONNECTION

November 2025

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

November 2025 Lectionary Readings

NOV 02 | 21st Sunday after Pentecost;

All Saints Sunday (Green or White)

Hab 1:1-4, 2:1-4; Ps 119:137-144 (UMH 840);
2 Thes 1:1-4, 11-12; Luke 19:1-10

All Saints Lections:

Daniel 7:1-3, 15-18; Ps 149 (UMH 862);
Eph 1:11-23; Luke 6:20-31

NOV 09 | 22nd Sunday after Pentecost;

Organ & Tissue Donor Sunday (Green)

Hab 1:15b-2:9; Ps 145:1-5, 17-21 (UMH 857);
2 Thes 2:1-5, 13-17; Luke 20:27-38

NOV 16 | 23rd Sunday after Pentecost (Green)

Isa 65:17-25; Isa 12 (UMH 839);
2 Thes 3:6-13; Luke 21:5-19

NOV 23 | Christ the King/Reign of Christ

Sunday; Thanksgiving Sunday (White)

Jer 23:1-6; Luke 1:68-79 (UMH 208);
Col 1:11-20; Luke 23:33-43

Thanksgiving Day Lections (White or Red)

Deut 26:1-11; Ps 100 (UMH 821);
Phil 4:4-9; John 6:25-35

NOV 30 | 1st Sunday of Advent;

UM Student Day;

Beginning Lectionary Year A (Purple or Blue)

Isa 2:1-5; Ps 122 (UMH 845);
Rom 13:11-14; Matt 24:36-44

**Daylight Savings Time ends
on Sunday, November 2nd.**

Please remember to set your
clocks back one hour on
Saturday night before you go
to bed.



IN OUR PRAYERS:

Joys—Family Night, The beauty of late autumn nature, Pumpkin carving, Halloween, and Attempts and prayers to make the church more active

Concerns—Tim Dreier, Linda O., Debbie, Penny, Ruth, Meghan, Vern, Jan, all countries with wars—Ukraine, Israel, Gaza—especially the children, Sheldon, migrants, immigrants, and refugees under the threat of forced deportation, Betty L, Craig Paulson, Charlotte Corbin, Jamie Pittman, Mark Halverson, Tom, and Bruce

Remembering—Family and Friends of Edwin



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=UlpSVhGN0g1Qnc3VDV5T0Jhcn83UT09>
Meeting ID: 886 1365 2777 Passcode: 421072

5th Sunday Schedule

November 30, 2025 --- Deer Park: Hymn Sing

March 29, 2026 --- Clear Lake

May 31, 2026 --- Emerald

August 30, 2026 --- Clear Lake will be celebrating their 150th Anniversary

November 29, 2026 --- Deer Park

January 31, 2027 --- Emerald

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 kuhlq@cltcomm.net



In the event of harsh weather due to too low temperatures or heavy snow and each church decides to close, we will have a Zoom worship at 10 a.m.

United Methodist Student Day is Nov. 30th.

Please prayerfully consider giving. Donation envelopes will be at the back of the churches.

WRP Bible Study: The WRP bible study is meeting and using the Upper Room Wed. evenings at 7pm on Zoom. We are meeting November 5th, 12th, and 19th.

We are then planning on an Advent Study beginning Wed. Dec. 3rd, 10th and 17th on Zoom at 7 pm. The group will decide when the 4th gathering will be with Christmas Eve falling on Wed. Books will be distributed, please let Diane Blanchard know if you would like to join us for this 4-week study. A wonderful way to stay grounded in the birth of Jesus in this busy season.

November Birthdays

Josy Wood	11/03
Missy Severson	11/06
Alpha Greene	11/08
Dillon Thompson	11/13
Ben Boe	11/14
Jessica Olson	11/15
Paris Johnson	11/16
Heather Greene	11/19
Janice Thompson	11/22
Alison Avery Blanchard	11/24
Deena Danielson	11/25
Kathy Moore	11/27
Heidi Olson	11/28
Gary Stevens	11/29
Pattie Thompson	11/30

November Anniversaries

Wayne & Mary Jo Ailts	11/24
James & Linda Fouks	11/24

Newsletter Renewal: If you currently receive the newsletter through the mail and have not yet paid, please renew your subscription by sending \$10 to the parish office or let Pastor Hakki or Anitra know that you no longer wish to receive the newsletter via "snail mail". 715-263-2700 or wrpsecretary@gmail.com. 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 \$25 bundle donation you will receive an abundance of groceries. One food distribution will take place **November 8th** 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.

Poinsettias will be ordered for CL from Nilssen's Market. Offering an 8-inch double poinsettia for \$22.99. Orders and payment must be turned in by Nov 14th. Look for order forms in upcoming bulletins.



Clear Lake Community Ecumenical Thanksgiving Eve Service will be held on Wednesday, November 26th at the First Lutheran Church @ 7:00 pm. The Handbell choir will be playing.

December Newsletter Deadline is Nov. 25th

THANKSGIVING DAY

TURKEY TROT

FOR LIFELINE
FOOD PANTRY

November 27th

**STARTING AT 8:00 AM
IN THE FOOD PANTRY
PARKING LOT**

560 5TH ST CLEAR LAKE, WI 54005

An open run/walk style event
no registration required
cash/check donations made to the pantry

Willow River Parish Youth: On Saturday, October 25th the youth attended the Underground Church event. We met at the church prior to the event to discuss the persecution of Christians.



Willow River Parish

College Boxes: The youth will be packing college boxes on Sunday, November 2nd at 11am at the CL Church basement. If you have a college student, be sure their address is turned in to Erin or Heather before that date. Can each church please collect items for the boxes? All sorts of individually wrapped snacks, goodies and single hot drink packets are appreciated by the students during their finals. Single pack meals like ramen and mac and cheese, microwave popcorn, granola bars, cheese and crackers, candy, gum, Christmas candies—all are welcome and appreciated!



The youth will also host their next MIA at Nillsen's in Clear Lake on Sunday, November 2nd at 11am. We are taking donations for outdoor winter gear. We are still in need of items for girls and toddlers.

WORSHIP MINISTRIES

Clear Lake

Nov 2nd Reader: Dawn Cress
Acolyte/PwrPt: Ben Avery, Jr
Potluck/Coffee: Dawn & Camilla
Nov 9th Reader: Debi Ahrens
Acolyte/PwrPt: Oliver Wood
Coffee: Joan L & Dick D
Nov 16th Reader: Diane Blanchard
Acolyte/PwrPt: Vidalia Gorres
Coffee: Ryan Blanchard Family
Nov 23rd Reader: John Koerper
Acolyte/PwrPt: Oliver Gorres
Coffee: Linda Jurisch
Nov 30th **Combined Service @ DP**
Dec 7th Reader: Lily Avery
Acolyte/PwrPt: Ben Avery, Jr
Potluck/Coffee: Avery Family

Counters for November: Dawn & John
Counters for December: Carla & Joan

Faith Family

Nov 2nd Paul Webster
Nov 9th Terri Wilson
Nov 16th Debbie Stevens
Nov 23rd Michael Clark
Nov 30th **Combined Service @ DP**
Dec 7th Paul Webster

Hanging of the Greens will be celebrated at Deer Park and Faith Family churches on Sunday, November 23rd. Clear Lake will have a regular service that day.

Community Center Holiday Luncheon for Seniors – December 4

Joan Lillie, our volunteer chef extraordinaire, is planning a special menu to match the time of year so be sure to call your reservation to 715-263-2233 any time before December 1. A free will donation is gratefully accepted for the meal. As always, Bingo will be set up to start by 1 pm following the luncheon. The 100% payback game is also scheduled for the second Tuesday of every month at 1 pm in the center dining room (December 9, January 12, February 10, etc.). The community center's 2026 schedule for Senior Luncheons will be available early in the coming year. Stay tuned.....



Dear WRP Family,

Grace and peace of our Lord be with you all.

I pray that God's abundant grace and peace overflow in your lives. As we prepare to begin the 2025–2026 Confirmation, I would like to ask for your continued prayers. It would have been wonderful to begin in September, but I

have been in recovery from hernia surgery. Though I am not yet fully recovered, I have decided to move forward in faith and begin this year's Confirmation with courage and trust in the Lord. Please keep me and our confirmands in your supportive prayers so that we may complete this journey well.

Recently, we held a parent meeting regarding Confirmation, and both the parents and I were very excited. Drawing on past experiences and areas I felt could be strengthened, I've made several improvements to provide a more meaningful and well-rounded Confirmation program this year. I believe that Confirmation is a precious time for our confirmands to deepen their understanding of their faith and their church. Those who help guide them on this journey of faith are their mentors.

With more detailed guidelines this year, each confirmand will embark on a deeper spiritual journey together with their mentor. Some of the confirmands and their parents may approach you to ask if you would serve as a mentor. I kindly ask you to prayerfully and positively accept their requests and to walk with them faithfully throughout the year.

This year, our confirmands are Vidalia, Michael, Oliver, Gracie, Baylie, and Jordyn. Please keep each of them in your prayers as they grow in faith, learn about the church, and deepen their relationship with Christ.

To help our confirmands learn more deeply about their church and its traditions, they will participate in various projects and ministries. For example, they will attend Church Council meetings and will be encouraged to share their opinions. They will also participate in SPRC meetings. When I visit nursing homes or make home visitations, they will accompany me. In addition, they will serve as liturgists and communion servers during worship.

Furthermore, I do not believe the pastor should be the only speaker during Confirmation. When multiple voices come together, our Confirmation experience becomes much richer. Therefore, I plan to invite members who serve in leadership roles within the church to speak with our confirmands—sharing about their ministries and how they live out their faith through service.

Lastly, I am thrilled to announce the beginning of our Confirmation Choir! Doesn't that sound exciting? This intergenerational choir—made up of confirmands, parents, mentors, and the pastor—will offer a special musical performance during the fifth-Sunday Parish Combined Worship Service. Our next combined service will be a special Hymn Sing Service on November 30 at Deer Park (10AM), and that will likely be the first time you will get to see the Confirmation Choir in action.

Please continue to encourage, pray for, and support this ministry. I hope that through this Confirmation journey—something we are all creating together—our parish will be filled with renewed energy and joy.

With blessings and gratitude, Pastor Hakki

Clear Lake UMC News

- Coffee and pot luck **AFTER** church at 9:15.
- Potluck-1st Sunday of each month **FOLLOWING** church.
- Food shelf donations any Sunday

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

CL Noisy Cans:
4th Qtr- Salvation Army

Dorcas Piecemakers Work Days: On Monday, November 3rd, we will meet at noon at Pizzeria in Amery then deliver walker bags to the hospital and dinner aprons to the nursing homes. On Monday, November 17th we will meet at Irma's at noon and sew from 1-3. We will begin working on our 150th Anniversary Christmas Ornaments. Please join us for lunch and working on ornaments.

Hanging of the Greens, Potluck, and Vintage Christmas decor making evening at Clear Lake.

On Wed. November 19th with potluck at 5:30pm., we will have our monthly potluck, activity and message for all ages. Come join in a faith filled fellowship, food and fun evening!

Bell Choir

Bells will practice this year on Sunday evenings at 7. If anyone is interested in playing, we can use more ringers! We will be playing at the Thanksgiving Community Service again!

Clear Lake Church Cancellations: Winter is fast approaching; in the event of bad weather, please contact Roger Blanchard 715-607-4246 to find out if worship services are canceled.

Clear Lake Christmas Cookie and Stuffed Baked Potato Sale: Friday, December 12th from 4:30-6:30 pm-- All church family members please donate 6 dozen Christmas Cookies. We will also schedule days to make extra cookies at the church. Workers needed, watch for sign up sheets at the back of the church or contact Debi Ahrens at 715-441-5477.

Harvest Family Night: October 08, 2025

In the heart of autumn, we shared a delicious dinner, pumpkin decorations, and a time of worship. It was a warm and love-filled evening where generations gathered together to enjoy fellowship and joy. 🍂💛



Ringling Bells for the Salvation Army

The Clear Lake United Methodist Church will ring bells for the Polk County Salvation Army on Thursday, November 20th at Nilssen's Market from 9-6 pm. There is a sign up sheet in the back of the church, if you can only ring for one hour just mark it on the sheet. Every hour we ring brings help to families in Polk County throughout the year

UWF Oct Meeting Ridgeview

11 present Treasure \$1205.04.

1. Fall UWF Gathering in Medford. Paul Webster gave a nice presentation about where he did his Missionary work long ago, in Mujila Falls, Africa. It has shown much growth. He was there this year for a visit.

2. Dec 12, 4:30 Baked Potato and Cookie and Rosette Sale. Each family makes 6 dozen.

3. Much discussion about our Methodist Church 150th Anniversary. Many suggestions were brought up: Methodist Church Members Float on Clear Lake Days in June, time capsule, Theme "Open Doors, Open Hearts, Open Minds" and another one starting with Do all You can and it has more words with it, sign or poster, cloth ornament for Christmas tree, made by Dorcus Piecemakers. Each month we have something planned, but haven't set dates for them.

Jan. Send out save the dates cards or notes, Put in the CL Museum Chronicle.

Feb. Thank You to Volunteers in the Clear Lake area, at Church, serve coffee, juice and doughnuts.

March At Church, Hometown Homecoming, serve soups and bread.

April Easter

May Tea Party at Church UWF will invite former women members or a friend.

June Float on Clear Lake Days, Bev Klatt, our oldest member will wear a crown, others their yellow Potato sale T shirts.

July Picnic, Praise and Song with ice cream social

Aug. 30, 10:00 Church 150th Anniversary Celebration, Bells will play, catered meal, past Pastors invited.

We also will be decorating the walls with pictures from our History Totes.

Holy Socks

The United Women of Faith are gathering clean, mismatched, old, worn out holy socks for a cash donation to Northcott Neighborhood House in Milwaukee. We'd love to have anyone's donations.

Recycling

The following is a list of items that United Women in Faith are collecting for recycling. Watch for containers to deposit your recyclables in Clear Lake.

General Categories—* Easy items to save.

- *Bread bag tags
- *Cancelled stamps
- Candy wrappers & bags
- *Coffee bags & pods
- *Dental Floss containers
- Drink pouches
- *Deodorant containers
- *Eyeglasses & cases
- *Glue sticks
- *Markers & crayons
- *Pens & pencils
- Personal care items
- Pet food packaging
- Plastic snack pouches
- *Pumps & triggers
- Snack bags—individual size only
- Snack bar wrappers
- *Socks
- *Styrofoam
- *Toothbrushes
- *Toothpaste tubes

CL UMC Ad Council: October 22, 2025

Old Business:

1. Will use gluten free wafers instead of the gluten free bread (it was too crumbly). This is in addition to the regular bread.

New Business:

1. Set the Church Budget for 2026. Motion to approve the budget by Debi, 2nd Dawn. Motion carried.
2. Family Night Potluck/Hanging of the Greens - 5:30 November 19, 2025.
3. Discussed Ministry Plan. Motion was made to approve the Ministry Plan. Motion by Josy, 2nd Debi. Motion carried.
4. Discussed having community calls on non-active members. No action taken at this time.

Deer Park UMC News

Fall greetings from your friends in Deer Park

Where did summer go? The weather has been very nice and warm and we were able to complete most of the fall clean up.

The charge conference is just around the corner, the paperwork is completed which is always a great relief, that is if paperwork isn't a favorite thing to do.

Our hope and plan is to do some improvements at the church. We very much need a new ramp, some painting, and the downstairs is in need of an extensive cleaning. A few generous friends have offered to help with all of our plans. Thank you.

Our prayers and well wishes to Jim Fouks as he has been in Mayo hospital for nearly a month, also to Linda and the family for their care and concern. Our prayers and love to Ruth and the Severson family after her fall and hospitalization.

November is a busy month, please remember to thank a veteran on the 11th or any other day. Of course, Thanksgiving is a very special day to enjoy with family and friends.

The holiday season is just around the corner, a wonderful time of year.

Our wish is for everyone to have a wonderful, happy, healthy and safe holiday season. God bless each and everyone.



Joe's Pumpkin Patch: this giant pumpkin took 15th place weighing 1,349 lbs. The largest pumpkin was over 2,400 lbs!

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

Noisy Can--4th Quarter to Various Charities

CHRISTMAS FOR CHILDREN 2025

The Clear Lake United Methodist Church will be sponsoring the "Christmas for Children" drive again this year to provide gifts for area children who otherwise may not receive gifts at Christmas time. "Christmas for Children" is designed to reach more needs of our local community. We are coming up on our 32nd year and are so grateful for all of the support that we have received from everyone.

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

Gifts are always needed for older teens, guys and girls. Personal care, nail items, cosmetics, hair products and gloves. Art supplies for all ages, canvases, sketch books, paints and drawing pencils. Guys can use small tools, personal care items, gloves, outdoor sports items for hunting and fishing and team sports.

We take gift donations for all ages at True Value, Pillar Bank and check with your local church beginning November 3rd.

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 Debi Ahrens 715-441-5477 (if no answer, please leave a message). All names are kept strictly confidential.

To mail a donation please send to:
Christmas For Children
Box 42
Clear Lake, WI 54005



Letter from Bishop Schwerin: Something to Pray and Consider

Can you place the words below? Do they sound familiar, or are they new to you?

"We affirm the dignity, worth, and rights of migrants, immigrants, and refugees, including displaced and stateless people. In so doing, we acknowledge that the world today is facing an unprecedented crisis related to the displacement of vast numbers of people due to such factors as ongoing wars and other hostilities, foreign interventions, widespread famine and hunger, global warming and climate change, and the failure of nation-states to adequately protect and care for their people.

We recognize that displaced people are particularly vulnerable as their in-between status often provides them with few protections and benefits, leaving them open to exploitation, violence, and abuse. We urge United Methodists to welcome migrants, refugees, and immigrants into their congregations and to commit themselves to providing concrete support, including help with navigating restrictive and often lengthy immigration policies, and assistance with securing food, housing, education, employment, and other kinds of support.

We oppose our laws and policies that attempt to criminalize, dehumanize, or punish displaced individuals and families based on their status as migrants, immigrants, or refugees. Additionally, we decry attempts to detain displaced people and hold them in inhumane and unsanitary conditions. We challenge policies that call for the separation of families, especially parents and minor children, and we oppose the existence of for-profit detention centers for such purposes.", (*2020/2024 Book of Discipline, para. 163.G, pp. 143-144*).

As we entered 2025, I asked both conferences in our area to practice a year of grace, a Wesleyan candle in the wind of the world. As we look toward 2026, I am asking us to pray and consider a year of practicing hope. I would offer the above section of our 2020/2024 *Book of Discipline* as a matter of prayer, study, support for teaching, and seeds for our practice of hope in this moment. Read it weekly. Pray about what rises in your spirit. Let it lead you to prayer and action. Modest churches, small churches, large churches, and all people can choose to practice hope. In doing so, we will not be alone.

May the peace of Christ be in our steps.

Faith Family Church News:

Ad. Council Minutes
October 9, 2025 6:30 pm via Zoom

Pastor opened with song and prayer

1. Charge Conference forms were discussed and are due by October 19th. Charge Conference is at Clear Lake, on October 29 at 6:00
2. Budget: Debbie prepared a budget for 2026. It was discussed and voted on. Passed by a unanimous vote. (We did not have the parish budget finalized at this time, so there was a little change from the proposed budget.).
3. Hanging of the greens: Hanging of the greens will be on Nov. 23. The tree needs to be up before this date. We will set a time for setting up the tree at a later date.
4. Christmas Eve schedule: Clear Lake Is at 4:00, Faith Family will be 5:30 and Deer Park will be at 7:00. There will be no Christmas Day service.

Any other business:

1. The pastor wants us to update our ministry plan before Charge Conference. Some of the things he mentioned were the vitality of our church. He suggested we invite family and friends to our 5th Sunday services.
2. We would like to see more people during our coffee time before church. (9:30)
3. We are also going to try something new. We are going to have coffee time during the middle of the week. We will invite church and community members. We might add cribbage or card games if that is of interest to others.

Discussed monthly financial reports, voted to accept them.

Next meeting: tentatively scheduled for Dec. 11 at 6:30 via Zoom.

Closed with prayer by Pastor Hakki

Submitted by Debbie Stevens

Funday School Kids:

Our Funday school kids invited some friends and got together to do a fun Halloween activity at Dead End Hay Ride and to enjoy some much needed fellowship!



Community Events:

Coming soon. ...Emerald Holidaze. TBA



Noisy Can–WestCap/Food Pantry

Send Offering to:

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

CHECK US OUT ON FACEBOOK:
[Faith Family Church | Facebook](#)





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 9-11 am

Anitra Kaczmariski, Parish Secretary
Email: wrpsecretary@gmail.com

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 @ Faith Family & Clear Lake

“Funday” School– Wednesdays 5:30 @ Faith Family
Bible in a Binder Sundays @ Clear Lake