

# THE PARISH CONNECTION

October 2023

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

## Lectionary Readings

October 1, 2023

World Communion Sunday

18th Sunday after Pentecost (Green)

Ex 17:1-7; Ps 78:1-4, 12-16 (UMH 799);  
Phil 2:1-13; Matt 21:23-32

October 8, 2023

19th Sunday after Pentecost (Green)

Ex 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20; Ps 19 (UMH 750);  
Phil 3:4b-14; Matt 21:33-46

October 15, 2023

Laity Sunday

20th Sunday after Pentecost (Green)

Ex 32:1-14; Ps 106:1-6, 19-23 (UMH 829);  
Phil 4:1-9; Matt 22:1-14

October 22, 2023

21st Sunday after Pentecost (Green)

Ex 33:12-23; Ps 99 (UMH 819);  
1 Thess 1:1-10; Matt 22:15-22

October 29, 2023

Reformation Sunday

22nd Sunday after Pentecost (Green)

Deut 34:1-12; Ps 90:1-6, 13-17 (UMH 809);  
1 Thess 2:1-8; Matt 22:34-46

## IN OUR PRAYERS

*Joys*— Change of Season, Change of Time,  
Sunday School Kickoff Sunday, Back to  
School, Confirmation

*Concerns*— Betty, Aryana, Andrea's niece,  
Mark, Jamie, Addyson, Todd, Mike Kirk,  
Bernie, Larson, Edison, Cindy's recovery

*Remembering*—Family and friends of Lynn  
(Liz's daughter)

Charge Conference 2023

Thursday, December 7th

at Deer Park UMC @ 6 p.m.

**Newsletter Renewal:** If you currently receive the newsletter through the mail and have not yet paid, please renew your subscription by sending \$8 to the parish office or let Pastor Hakki know that you no longer wish to receive the newsletter via "snail mail". 715-263-2700 or [wrpsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:wrpsecretary@gmail.com). Thank you.

**UMC Special Sundays:** Listed below are the remaining special Sundays for 2023. Please watch for pew cards describing the upcoming special Sunday in the worship bulletin a week before each special Sunday. Donation envelopes will be at the back of the churches.

- World Communion Sunday-October 1
- UM Student Day Sunday-November 26

## United Methodist Church Northwest District Youth Kickoff

Saturday, October 21, 2023--12-8:30pm at  
Hunt Hill, N2384 Hunt Hill Road, Sarona, WI  
Hiking, canoeing, fellowship, worship, meet  
DS, glow hike.

To register or for more information:

[HTTPS://FORMS.GLE/NUJ8S8AK6QXHR5NCA](https://forms.gle/NUJ8S8AK6QXHR5NCA)



## October Birthdays

Arlyn Severson	10/1
Lily Avery	10/2
Vickie Danielson	10/3
Abel Greene	10/6
Billy Warner	10/7
Shawn Millermon	10/7
Ryan Blanchard	10/12
Sandi Reed	10/16
Benjamin Avery, Jr	10/16
Savanna Millermon	10/19
Erin Gorres	10/22
Stacia Koerper	10/22
Dawn Swanepoel	10/22
India Pederson	10/29
Baylie Millermon	10/31
Wayne Ailts	10/31

## October Anniversaries

Dennis & Joyce Petersen	10/7
Josh & India Pederson	10/8
Ron & Renea Boe	10/10
Mitchell & Kayla Thompson	10/14
John & Stacia Koerper	10/21
Ron & Linda Jurisch	10/22

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**Zoom:** Please use the following information to join us Sundays for worship at 9:45 a.m.  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88613652777?pwd=UlpasVhGN0g1Qnc3VDV5T0Jhci83UT09>

Meeting ID: 886 1365 2777  
Passcode: 421072

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Clear Lake Community Center (CLACC) is starting a **Senior Lunch Program** for our community. The first luncheon will be at noon on October 26 at CLACC. Cost is \$6 ages 60+ and \$10 for those under 60. However, no one will be turned away if unable to pay. Reservations are also required. Please call 715-263-2233 and leave a message.

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## WRP Youth—Feed My Starving Children

On Saturday, Oct. 14th we will be going to work in Eau Claire for Feed My Starving Children. We will meet at the CL Church at 10 am and catch lunch on the way there. We will work from Noon to 2:00 pm.

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## OCTOBER WORSHIP MINISTRIES

### Clear Lake

Oct 1st	Reader: John K Acolyte/PwrPt: Oliver Gorres Brunch: Roger & Carla L
Oct 8th	Reader: Diane B Acolyte/PwrPt: Lily Avery Coffee: Avery Family
Oct 15th	Reader: Alison B Acolyte/PwrPt: Ben Avery, Jr. Coffee: Debi A
Oct 22nd	Reader: Andrea J Acolyte/PwrPt: Jordan Blanchard Coffee: Roger and Diane B
Oct 29th	Reader: Debi A Acolyte/PwrPt: Oliver Wood Coffee: Jan B

*Counters for October: Carla & Diane*

### Faith Family

Oct 1st	Cindy Warner
Oct 8th	Debbie Stevens
Oct 15th	Terri Wilson
Oct 22nd	Millermon Family

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**PARISH SECRETARY OPPORTUNITY:** If you or anyone you know would be interested in the Parish Secretary position (approximately 15-20 hours a MONTH), here is a brief description of what it entails: mailing sermons, preparing bulletins and PowerPoint presentations (weekly) and newsletters (monthly), maintaining PowerChurch database, ordering office supplies, creating miscellaneous documents for church events, managing the parish website, etc. Please contact Pastor Hakki at the office if you are interested 715-263-2700.

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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 **October 14th** 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.

**Pastor's Pen:** First of all, I want to express my gratitude to my parishioners who warmly welcomed my parents. They enjoyed the parish picnic meal and the music from the Bell Choir. You may remember that after my mom heard the choir's prepared performance, she exclaimed, "Encore! Encore!" They also had a comfortable stay while in Wisconsin and Washington D.C., and they returned home safely. They are probably going through a bit of jet lag right now, much like we did for the first two weeks after returning from Korea to Wisconsin. They enjoyed the grandeur of Wisconsin's natural beauty and its beautiful autumn season through various lakes and state parks, and they experienced many heritage sites in Washington D.C. They also got to see for the first time how their son, daughter-in-law, and grandson are living in the U.S.

Through their visit to Wisconsin, they have now gained an understanding of the layout of our home, our neighborhood, and how the three churches look. The day after they arrived home in Korea, we had a video call, and now they have a clear mental picture of where we sit, where we stand, what's on the dining table, and the layout of the kitchen.

Perhaps, if your family or children live in another state or country, and you've experienced being separated from them, you might find it somewhat easy to understand my mixed emotions. I am grateful for the days when I can be with them, even if only for a few weeks a year. It brings me joy, but at the same time, being apart from them is sad and very challenging.

Seeing them off at the airport itself wasn't too difficult. While I parked the car in the airport parking lot, my wife assisted them with the check-in. Then, we walked together towards security. Just before they entered, we hugged

each other and waved our hands, saying, "See you again." As we watched them disappear through security, we headed back to the parking lot. It was a bit sad to see my son waving and saying, "I love you. Take care," as he watched their backs, but I think I was doing reasonably well until we returned home.

However, as a certain philosopher once said, humans recognize existence through absence. When I returned home and saw the room that had been filled with their bags and belongings now clean and empty, and when I noticed the fruits, eggs, and vegetables we had shared before going to the airport still left on the plates, and as memories of being with them in church almost every day while they were in Wisconsin, as well as memories of walking around the neighborhood with them, flooded my mind, my emotions became somewhat complex.

But don't worry. I will be okay soon. : )

Someone once said that time flies like an arrow. The expression "time flies" is probably familiar to all of us. However, this expression can be somewhat melancholic because it gives the feeling that past moments have disappeared. I prefer the expression that time accumulates rather than flows. Our time accumulates everywhere we live. The wrinkles on our faces and the gray hairs are also the result of our accumulated time. Though not long, even for a brief moment, my parents' time accumulated in the home, the furniture, and the neighborhood where we live. I am grateful for the time I could spend with them.

I am thankful that God called me to serve in this place, and I am also grateful to have met all of you.

Every word that comes out of my lips is gratitude, gratitude, and more gratitude. God, thank you, and thank you again.

Thank you,  
Pastor Hakki



## **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)

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**November Newsletter Deadline is Oct. 26th**

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## **Deer Park UMC News**

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

**Noisy Can--Fourth Quarter to Grace Place**

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## **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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**Noisy Can:** 4th qtr. Food Pantry.

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### **Painting at the Family House Shelter**

On Monday, October 2nd the Home at the Shelter will be ready for painting. We will meet at the church at 8 am and paint all morning. This has been an extremely long process for all those at the Salvation Army that have been working to get housing for the homeless in Polk/Barron counties. The home on the property will be the first with rooms ready to be filled. Next will come work on the nursing home. Anyone and everyone who is able is invited to help us paint.

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### **Dorcas Piecemakers Work Days: On**

Monday, October 2nd and Monday, October 16th we will meet to sew on pillowcases and quilts from 1-3pm. We also have a new banner project for Christmas we will start on. We invite all who can visit, iron or match fabrics to join in the afternoons!

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## **Clear Lake Sept. Ad. Co. Highlights**

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

- Confirmation - Pastor Hakki will send an email to the confirmands/parents with the start date of confirmation classes. Josey and Allison will supply snacks.
- Zoom - Diane will contact Gail for input on what is needed (microphone) to complete the Zoom system.
- Ministry Plan - Reviewed the plan. Need to put more information on the church Facebook page.
- Bell Tower - Motion by Diane, 2nd by Josy to remove the roof and sides from the bell tower.
- Youth Group Leader - Diane has Youth Group planned for the next couple of months. Roger and Diane have been hosting Youth Group each month. Josy suggested having the youth group families take turns hosting
- Church Choir - Debi is working on starting the church choir. Has several people interested. Update to follow.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- Thrift Sale - September 28 and 29 9 to 5. Betty and Linda will co-chair.
- Special Fall Offering/ Extra Giving - Dawn will send out letters with info and place a basket in the back of church in November.
- Sunday School Kickoff is Sunday September 10 with a scavenger hunt. The Sunday School will lead the church service.
- Post Cards - We are reaching out to our non active members with a postcard letting them know the new 9:45 service time, coffee & fellowship time, potluck day, Sunday School time, and to welcome them to attend the church service.

### **PASTOR'S NOTES:**

- Parsonage Inspection - Sunday September 10 at 5:00 SPRC and Trustees will have a potluck meal before the parsonage inspection.
- Installation Service for New District Superintendent Peace Kim is September 16 at 1st UMC in Barron at 10:00. All are welcome to attend.

- Parish Potluck - Clear Lake will host a parish potluck for Pastor Hakki 's parents September 17 at 5:30.
- Pastor Hakki will be attending Clinical Pastoral Education classes from September 7 to mid December.
- Deer Park will host Charge Conference. Date to be determined.

**Clear Lake Sunday School Kickoff:** We had a great Kick off to Sunday School on Sunday, October 10th. Kids and youth helped lead the service, we did an in our Church Intergenerational Scavenger Hunt for our sermon. Fanness Johnson and Vidalia Gorres received their bibles.



We baked on Wednesday, September 27th for our one night a month, Midweek School Gathering. Kids made all sorts of goodies and had supper to get ready for their mission project.

In October we will meet on Wednesday, October 25th. 3:30-5:30.

All Sunday classes are held after the Children's Time on Sunday mornings, about 9:55.

**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.

### A Huge Thank You!

The CL Sunday School would like to thank everyone that donated baked goods for the Thrift Sale for the benefit of the Sunday School and their mission plans. You are all greatly appreciated, it was a beautiful assortment!



### United Women in Faith

- September was a busy month for the Women in Faith Unit.
- We met at Ridgeview on 9/6, and opened our meeting with devotions, then
- Elected Officers for 2024. :Pres. Joan Lillie, V Pres. Jenny Keller, Sec. Debi Ahrens, Treas. Betty Rake.
- We will be gathering 'Personal Products' for HARBOR HOUSE\* in Superior, hoping to deliver them in person this fall. Plans were discussed for our visit to Willow Ridge NH, Amery and also our Fall Thrift Sale.
- On 9/13 a group played Bingo with residents of Willow Ridge NH & showered them with many prizes, and Pumpkin Bars for treats.
- The last week in September we prepared for our bi-annual Thrift Sale/ Sunday School bake sale.
- On 9/30 several members attended 'Women in Faith' District Fall Gathering' at River Falls.
- Our next meeting will be Oct. 11, 2pm @ Ridgeview Apts. All are Welcome!!

### Harbor House Wish List

- ❖ Shampoo & Conditioner
- ❖ Laundry Detergent
- ❖ Towels
- ❖ Dryer Sheets
- ❖ Small Rugs
- ❖ Body Wash
- ❖ Dish Soap
- ❖ Pillows
- ❖ Deodorant
- ❖ Garbage Bags
- ❖ Sheets (Full/XL Twin)
- ❖ Razors
- ❖ Disinfectant Spray/Wipes
- ❖ Clothes (M-XL—Mens/ Womens (S-2X)
- ❖ Combs/Brushes
- ❖ Multi-Purpose Cleaner
- ❖ Tampons
- ❖ Underwear (Mens, Womens)
- ❖ First-Aid Products

Thank you Willow River Parish for the card and gift card! It is greatly appreciated! It has been a pleasure working with you—I will miss being your secretary. *Sincerely, Anitra*

**CHRISTMAS FOR CHILDREN:** 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 30th year and are so grateful for all of the support that we have received from everyone.

Anyone wishing to donate items to “Christmas for Children” can do so by leaving them at True Value Hardware, or our church

November 3, 2023 through December 5, 2023.

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

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 or Diane Blanchard 715-263-2690 (if no answer, please leave a message). All names will be kept strictly confidential.

As in the past, we thank you for your support.

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**From Bishop Jung:** *A cheerful heart is a good medicine, but a downcast spirit dries up the bones.... the discerning person looks to wisdom. (Proverbs 17:22, 24)*

During my episcopacy, I have taught at a seminary, churches, and various organizations. While I have been the teacher, I have found that it is through the act of sharing and participation that true learning happens. It is my belief that learning and teaching are simultaneous acts that continue throughout one’s life.

It was my joy for two weeks in August, to offer an intensive lecture at Emory University’s Candler School of Theology. It is an honor to be named as McDonald Chair from the Candler community. The seminary course was “Christian Spirituality in the Global Context.”

My interest is in exploring the newest movements of Christianity in the Global South and to ask the question, “How do we identify and join this exciting flow of spirituality?” I carefully studied the spirituality changes in the

world so that in teaching and learning, we might grasp the mighty Holy Spirit’s direction for a more intentional missional focus.

For instance, I like reading about the symbiotic power of teaching and learning as lived out in the faith development in China, where the socio-political context inhibits religion and yet Christianity continues to expand. I furthered my studies by paying attention to the coexistence of various religions and faith expressions in the multi-religious, multi-cultural, multi-racial world. This, then, impacted how I led and participated in inter-religious dialogue and encounters in the classroom. It has been through these educational experiences that I gained a broader sense of human rights issues and the beauty of human complexity. Indeed, interreligious dialogue and encounters have taught me true listening, serious questioning, and effective ways to stand on different sides of an issue and yet develop a relationship respect, care, and growth.

It is by critical listening, learning, and loving that we might have our eyes more open, our ears set for deeper listening, and our hearts more receptive to truly care for each other. This all begins by grounding ourselves in the tasks of conversation that include respectful dialogue that allows for the Creative Holy Spirit to work. All this I experienced when I encountered the young theologians and seminary professors this summer. With them I was challenged with new questions to ask and diverging conversations. It was in the enthusiasm and joy of our discourse that drove me to pursue a different level of God, humanity, and creation.

The Scripture text from Proverbs invites us to live with a cheerful heart as we live our lives. I see this as an invitation to be cheerful when we enter tough conversations; to purposefully invite the Holy Spirit to join in the conversation and to seek wisdom – not necessarily being right. Imagine what a change this would be in our world today!

My hope is that this fall will bring a fresh wind of cheerful hearts and blessings to everyone. May we encourage one other in our church families, to learn courageously, practice love, dream anew, and seek wisdom.

May the Lord bless you.

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# Faith Family Church News:

## FAITH FAMILY AD. BOARD HIGHLIGHTS:

**NEXT MEETING: Thursday October 12th at 6:00pm**

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## COMMUNITY EVENTS:

Stay tuned for more information:

- October Emerald Community Horsing Around Days Oct 7th-8th
  - Pancake Breakfast on October 22nd**
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Thank you to all those that worked the Garage Sale, donated to the garage sale and have helped with setup and clean up of the garage sale. What a great way for us to engage with and support our community. We were able to help people get things they need. We clothed my children's new school wardrobes and adult professional wear. We also were able to support many people with the books that were donated as I heard many cool stories about how they were going to be used to help children around the world. The leftover goods were donated to other nonprofits to help those in need.

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## FUN DAY SCHOOL CORNER:

Funday School kids have been working on lessons together about loving our neighbors, learning about how laughter is important in our life and that Jesus wants us to be happy. We have had ice cream parties this month. This month we have encouraged each other to bring a friend to church. The kids have been having fun getting to know more people in our community.

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Noisy Cans--4th Quarter--Humane Society  
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:

At Anchor of Hope we believe we are all in recovery at some point in our lives may it be mental health, addiction, drugs, alcohol, food, grief, trauma, all around inclusion, our society, our church or so much more. 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).

Our District Superintendent Peace has offered his time and services to our ministry too. Here is his contact information: PyungAhn "Peace" *North West District Superintendent Wisconsin Conference of The United Methodist Church* [pkim@wisconsinumc.org](mailto:pkim@wisconsinumc.org) or 608-478-4527.

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### ANCHOR OF HOPE OCTOBER PRAYER:

God, we love you! You are an amazing God! We want to be able to share your love with others. Give us the strength we need and the time we need to fuel our own bodies so we are able to go out into the world and others your love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, and faithfulness. Through our actions may others be brought to know you. Amen.

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Our website can be found at

<https://anchorofhopeemeral.wixsite.com/my-site>

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[ANCHOR OF HOPE](#) Facebook Live.

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 830 9477 1703 Passcode: 781739

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

Bible App Study: Letting Go: Family Trauma and Addiction by Paula Jauch

**Saturdays:** Bible App Study 2pm on Facebook

**Mondays in October:** Faith and Food Bible Study @ 6:00pm Pot luck meal.

7:00 pm: Recovery worship service

**Anchor of Hope Shepherding meeting: TBA**

**October 2nd: Communion w/ Jack Starr**

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**Mission Moment:** UMCOR Maui & UMCOR Hygiene Bags



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

Parish Secretary  
Email: [wrpsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:wrpsecretary@gmail.com)  
Office Hours: will vary this month

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

Heather Greene, Anchor of Hope Lay Supply  
Email: [anchorofhopeemerald@gmail.com](mailto:anchorofhopeemerald@gmail.com)  
Phone: 612-799-6215

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

Children's Church School  
"Fun Day" School—4:30 pm on Wednesdays @ Faith Family  
Sunday School—9:55 am on Sundays @ Clear Lake