

THE PARISH CONNECTION

October 2021

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

Lectionary Readings

October 03, 2021 (Green)

19th Sunday after Pentecost

World Communion Sunday

Job 1:1; 2:1-10, Ps 26 or Ps 25 (UMH 756),

Heb 1:1-4; 2:5-12, Mk 10:2-16

October 10, 2021 (Green)

20th Sunday after Pentecost

Job 23:1-9, 16-17, Ps 22:1-15 (UMH 752),

Heb 4:12-16, Mk 10:17-31

October 17, 2021 (Green)

21st Sunday after Pentecost

Laitiy Sunday / Children's Sabbath

Job 38:1-7 (34-41),

Ps 104:1-9, 24, 35c (UMH 826),

Heb 5:1-10, Mk 10:35-45

October 24, 2021 (Green)

22nd Sunday after Pentecost

United Nations Day Job 42:1-6, 10-17,

Ps 34:1-8 (19-22) (UMH 769),

Heb 7:23-28, Mk 10:46-52

October 31, 2021 (Green)

23rd Sunday after Pentecost

Reformation Sunday / Halloween

Ruth 1:1-18, Ps 146 (UMH 858),

Heb 9:11-14, Mk 12:28-34

Fall Into God's Word!



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.



Prayer and Concerns

Joys— the changing colors, our youth, those who helped with CL thrift sale, Sunday School, Pastor's upcoming vacation to South Korea.

Concerns— Kathy Wick, Kent Althoff, Bob, Joyce, Judy, people with Covid,

Remembering—Friends and family of Gerald Neville

OCTOBER WORSHIP MINISTRIES

Clear Lake

Oct 3rd **Reader:** Ali Blanchard
 Acolyte/PwrPt: Lily Avery
 Coffee: Roger & Carla

Oct 10th **Reader:** John Koerper
 Acolyte/PwrPt: Ben Pietz
 Coffee: Pietz Family

Oct 17th **Reader:** Diane Blanchard
 Acolyte/PwrPt: Jordan Blanchard
 Coffee: Debi Ahrens

Oct 24th **Reader:** Dawn Cress
 Acolyte/PwrPt: Tyson Blanchard
 Coffee: Don & Arlene

Oct 31st **Reader:** Debi Ahrens
 Acolyte/PwrPt: Wyatt Reindahl
 Coffee: Pat Lillie Family

Deer Park

Oct 3 *no reader*
Oct 10 Elden Setter
Oct 17 *no reader*
Oct 24 *no reader*
Oct 31 *no reader*

Faith Family

Oct 3 Paul Webster
Oct 10 Heather Greene
Oct 17 Penny Warner
Oct 24 Joyce Petersen
Oct 31 Cindy Warner

Counters for October: Betty Rake & Dawn Cress

Greeter for October: Jennie Keller



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

**WRPARISH ANNUAL
CHARGE CONFERENCE**
Sunday, November 28, 2021
4 pm at Faith Family & zoom

Please remember to complete your paperwork and submit to the parish office by Sunday, November 14th.

Need help with your fall yard chores?

If you're a senior or adult with a disability in Polk County, contact Interfaith Caregivers for 1-2 hours of help at no charge call 715-485-9500.

Donations appreciated.



Volunteer groups and families are needed to help Interfaith Caregivers with their fall yard work. Put your Faith in Action and call 715-485-9500 or email info@interfaithpolk.org to sign up now.



The 21st of September was *Chuseok*, which is a major harvest festival and a three-day holiday in South Korea celebrated on the 15th day of the 8th month of the lunar calendar on the full moon. So people enjoyed their holiday from Friday night through Wednesday. Along with Lunar New Year's, it's Koreans' biggest holiday when family members who live scattered in distant places get together for a reunion. As families migrate en-masse to visit home in time for Chuseok, there will be highway traffic throughout the whole country.



Although my family wasn't with our Korean family on Chuseok, we visited Rev. Jenny Lee, who is a pastor serving three churches in the same district that day. She was an amazing cook making Korean traditional food, so we had a good time enjoying the food and sharing stories about life and ministry. And, finally, we are going to visit S. Korea soon. Thanks to all the members of Willow River Parish for allowing us to visit S. Korea. Thanks to Bill Beaton, who is a retired UM pastor and serves the Anchor of Hope, Paul Webster, who is a member of Faith Family and an active UM missionary, and Heather Greene, who is a lay speaker and a chair of SPRC for covering the three Sundays' worship. We will miss you so much. No, I want to see you already!

Interestingly, each country seems to have its own Thanksgiving, although the dates are different. Personally, I believe I am a lucky person because I enjoy two countries' Thanksgiving: Thanksgiving and Chuseok during the year. The reason we celebrate Thanksgiving is to express our gratitude to the God who created this beautiful world and all creation.

Typically, it is Pentecost until Advent in the liturgical year, but some churches keep from Autumn until Advent as the season of Creation. The weather in Wisconsin is changing from Summer to Fall, and Winter is coming soon. It is a great blessing to live in an area with four distinct seasons because the change of seasons brings great vitality to our lives. I've been living in Wisconsin for a year, so I don't know much about typical Wisconsin season, but it seems we are affected by climate change. When I first came to Wisconsin last year I saw a lot of ladybugs, but this year I saw more mosquitoes than ladybugs.

Before Covid-19, we didn't really appreciate our mask-free routine, but now we realize just how grateful we were. We don't know how climate change will affect our lives in the future, but before Advent, my hope is for us to spend time intensively thanking God for what we have received because he has always loved us and given us good things. Thanks be to God.

Grateful always, Pastor Hakki



St. John's Annual Fall Dinner

St. John's Catholic Church-Clear Lake

Sunday, Oct. 3, 2021

Serving from 11:00 am-1:30 pm

Menu: chicken, mashed potatoes and gravy, squash, green beans, cranberries, rolls, pie, and beverage

Take-out and socially distant seating available.

Dinner Prices: \$10/ages 13+

\$5/ages 5-12

Free/ages 4 and under

Attention Clear Lake Members:

- Coffee Hour will now be held before church at 10:30 and no potlucks until further notice.
- We will be having a special offering Sunday, October 24th in lieu of working at the Amery Fall Festival.
- Remember to bring food shelf donations any Sunday!

The Wesley Prayer Challenge By Chris Folmsbee WRP Zoom Bible Study

Our Zoom bible study has moved to **Wednesdays at 5:30 pm**. This is a study of John Wesley's Covenant Prayer. This is using the same zoom as the church services. It is planned as a 3 week study but will go closer to 6 weeks. Please let Diane Blanchard know if you would like a book for the study, they are \$12.99. 715-263-2690.



Please use the following information to join us for worship and bible study.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88613652777?pwd=UlpaSVhGN0g1Qnc3VDV5T0Jhci83UT09>

Meeting ID: 886 1365 2777

Passcode: 421072

Thank you . . .

Shrubs, etc around parsonage/church were cleaned out. The kitchen floor will be replaced when pastor is on vacation. Thank you workers!

CL Sunday School Kickoff

A BIG 'Thank-You' to all those for attending and supporting our Sunday school kickoff picnic-- those who were good sports and played the games, brought food to pass and items for the cake walk. Sunday school is off and running now and we are looking forward to a fun and fulfilling year!



October is Pastor Appreciation Month



United
Methodist
Women

UMW September 8, 2021
Ridgeview 2:00
8 Present
Mission Statement Read
Roll Call with Scriptures

Sec. Min., read and approved
Treasurers Report \$631.88 approved

OLD BUSINESS:

1. THRIFT SALE Sept.23&24, 9-5.Set up after church on the 19th.Church open 12-8, Sunday. Mon.-Wed 8-8.Workers Thurs: Linda and Bev 9-5, Deb 2-7. Joan, Ruth, Catherine, Stacia? Whenever! Fri: Linda & Bev 9-5, Joan,Catherine,Jennie?,Stacia? Ruth PM, Gail 5,Diane 3;30 Wed. Evening straighten up, Linda, Joan, Deb, Stacia

NEW BUSINESS:

1. \$200 given to Harbor House Homeless Shelter in Superior, received Thank You Card
2. Ruth order Response, Prayer Calendar, Program Book
3. REMEMBER THE SPECIAL OCTOBER OFFERING, GIVE MORE TO SUPPORT OUR CHURCH EXPENSES. We are not selling Potatoes at the Amery Fall Festival!!!! That was a big fundraiser!!!
4. Fall Gathering Chapel Heights Methodist Church in Eau Claire. Oct 2. Short version. 8:30 Register, 9:00 Meeting, 11:00 Speaker, 12:00 Send Off with Lunch to go. We will give \$200 to Mission in Feb.
5. Same officers as last year Joan-President, Linda-Secretary, and Ruth-Treasurer. Send in a Slate of Officers by end of Sept.
6. No Mission Pin this year due to Covid. Certificates are not sent with pins anymore, we can get a copy and make our own. "One Minute Sermons" Read by Joan Treats& Coffee

Submitted by Linda Jurisch

**November Newsletter—
Deadline is October 22nd**

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 28th 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, CB Styles, Northern Roots Family Spinal Care, and Clear Lake Physical Therapy from November 2, 2021 through December 11, 2021. Also check for barrels at your church.**

Suggestions are toys, games, art supplies, body wash sets, lotion and perfume/cologne, tools, videos, DVDs (nothing higher than PG-13 please) appropriate Music CDs, books, etc. Please do not wrap your gifts. Donations of wrapping paper and tape are also welcome. Monetary donations for the purpose of gifts and clothes, coats, shoes and boots should be mailed to Christmas for Children c/o Debi Ahrens PO Box 42, Clear Lake, WI 54005. Please make checks payable to Christmas for Children.

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.

We hope to make this “Christmas for Children” a great success and in order to do so, we need your help. As in the past, we thank you for your support.

Christmas for Children
United Methodist Church

From Bishop Jung

Perhaps the most invisible part of Christian liturgy is walking. When we share liturgy in worship, most of the time we are standing or sitting, but there is walking, too. Arriving and preparing the heart for worship is done walking. Waiting for someone to read means we wait on another who is walking. Let's recognize how able-bodied our perspective can be, too—and ask those who traverse their days in wheelchairs or with canes to also serve in worship, and to make worship accessible as a way of walking together. Walking together means enduring together. Christianity is not a solitary enterprise. Now in a time of pandemic, journeying together as Christ's disciples means we have plenty to endure. For a season, it seems, we are called to serve not in an unbroken sea of stability, but in the white-capped waters of instability. We are offering spiritual leadership in a time of pandemic, polarization, human migration, ecological instability, as well as in defining times for The United Methodist Church. Walking together may seem invisible, but it is a spiritual practice for we who share the practice of worshipping in community.

The way Mark tells it, the relentless widow walked her offering to the temple treasury. Jesus called his disciples to pay attention to her, not because the two small copper coins were enormous in value, but because her example, her endurance, was greater because she offered it despite her economic, social, and personal place of challenge. Luke's telling is longer and ends with Jesus saying, 'by your endurance you will gain your souls' (Luke 21:19). Jesus calls us to endure in ways that define our witness.

Regardless of our stances and locations, our opinions, and our histories, we are a community shaped by the cross that reveals a suffering God who can redeem and restore. We watch and pray for what God will do. I trust the Holy Spirit will turn our divisiveness into fruit.

The relentless widow's witness and the power of walking together as a worshipping community reminds me of my season as a district superintendent in Wisconsin while Sharon Rader was bishop. Rev. Karen Ebert was one of my pastors and serving First UMC, Green Bay. Each week she offered the Pastoral Prayer in worship

and those prayers were compiled in a book called, *What I Tell My Heart*. One of the prayers was for Advent and entitled, 'How Long, God?' It reads in part:

“But unlike the months that we can count off
on our fingers,
waiting for the wind to break,
we have no way of marking how long
until some other forces in our life will let
go--if they ever will...

These forces, and more, swirl and taunt, and
push.

We have braced ourselves against them.
We have tried to shake them off.

But our shouts are thrown back in our faces,
and our hands are useless in pushing
back.

Some forces even seem stronger than can be
borne.

How long, God?

We turn to you, the Maker of All Winds that
Blow,
the One Whose Strength is Greater
than All,
and we ask,
How long do we have to wait?

This is what we tell our hearts and so renew
our hope.

A God who can tilt the earth
to catch the warming rays of the sun
and turn the winter into spring
Can surely shift the balance
to keep us from blowing away.

Spring will come. We can hear its drip.
The pressures will cease.

I don't know how, I don't know when
Gracious God.

But we trust you.

And even in our bleakness. We have hope.”

We endure as a praying community, finding words to bear witness to hope. We walk together without blowing away, like the relentless widow, as faithful spiritual leaders. These winds are momentary. Your walk may be humble, but it is not invisible. May we hold hands with a deep sense of trust and respect. Thank you for your faithfulness. Know that I am praying for you.

Clear Lake Ad. Council

Submitted by Jennie Keller

- Noisy can money for July, August, and September will be donated to Christmas for Children. Motion by Dawn, 2nd by Ruth.
- Clear Lake will be having a special Offering October 24 in lieu of Amery Fall Festival.
- Clear Lake, masking is not required but is recommended for the church service.
- Coffee will be served before the church service. We will not be having potluck on the first Sunday of the month. Will update if this changes.
- Plan on replacing the parsonage floors in the kitchen and back porch while Pastor Hakki is on vacation.

Next meeting October 6th at 5:00pm.



Because you eat...

Ruby's Pantry food distribution will take

place October 9th in the AmTec parking lot at 241 Venture Drive Amery. There is a \$20 cash donation per share. There is no income or residency requirements – everyone that eats is welcome! This is a drive-thru distribution. We have set our hours from 8am to 10am. Volunteers are greatly appreciated and should arrive at 7:15am. If you would like to volunteer or if you would like more information, please contact 715-268-7390 or email office.ameryucc@gmail.com.

Offering

Please consider continuing your giving; offerings can be sent to:

Clear Lake

Arlene Althoff
75 50th Avenue
Clayton, WI 54004

Faith Family

Terri Wilson
3127 200th Ave
Glenwood City, WI 54013

Deer Park

Janice Thompson
110 North Street E
Deer Park, WI 54007

Pastor's Vacation

Pastor Hakki will be on vacation from October 4 - October 27. He and his family will be visiting family in South Korea. Bill Beaton (UM minister that leads the Anchor of Hope ministry), Paul Webster, and Heather Greene will lead services in his absence. In case of emergency, contact Rev. Dan Pearson, United Covenant Church in CL, 715-263-2665.

SPRC Highlights

Submitted by Heather Greene (SPRC Chair).

- Portal for annual charge conference is open--if you normally fill out forms for charge conference, talk to Pastor.
- Discussion about what it means to be a member. If you have questions about membership talk to Pastor or your membership chair or an SPRC chair and we can hopefully help you get connected to the right place.
- Circuit 10--all masking as of 9/9/21. Protocol—DO NO HARM!
- Dawn shared the prior Cylon Methodist church has been resold and the pews were removed & an old bible. Where should the bible go?? Ruth will check with Deer Park/Cylon historian, Phyllis Luhman to see if it can go to the history unit at the Deer Park Library.
- Pastor Hakki & family will travel to S Korea 10/4—10/27 to visit family there. May have to quarantine 2 weeks upon return. Safe travels.

Next meeting 10/3/21 @ 5pm

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
Stacia Koerper	10/22
Dawn Swanepoel	10/22
India Pederson	10/29
Baylie Millermon	10/31
Wayne Ailts	10/31

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

Anchor of Hope

Anchor of Hope is providing in person masked services along with services on Zoom at 7 PM on Tuesday nights at Faith Family Church. The Zoom invitation is now available on Anchor of Hope's website at <https://anchorofhopeemeral.wixsite.com/my-site>. We appreciate your prayers over this ministry and ask you to continue sharing information about this service with everyone you know!

New Serenity House—work day will be mid to latter half of October.

Mask Advisory

Community transmission of COVID-19 is high. St. Croix and Polk County Public Health Officers have enacted a mask advisory. It is strongly recommended to wear masks in public indoor spaces and crowded outdoor places.

Noisy Can--Fourth Quarter

Clear Lake—TBD
 Faith Family—Westcap
 Deer Park--Grace Place

Faith Family Highlights

Submitted by Heather Greene (Ad C Chair)

Meeting Notes for 9/16/2021 meeting.
 Attendance: Penny Warner, Cindy Warner, Gary and Debbie Stevens, Heather Greene, Amanda Millermon, Terri and Jeff Wilson, Pastor Hakki, Paul Webster.

- Song prepared by Pastor Hakki ("This is My Father's World")
- Treasurers report presented by Debbie (Paul and Penny moved and seconded) and Debbie will move money to pay bills.
- Pastoral updates: Vacation for Pastor. Quarantine needed upon his return.
- Forms for charge conference (date is set for November 28th at Faith Family and virtual)
- Covid plans: to play it by ear every month but virtual next week. Continue to socially distance and wear masks. Strongly recommend masking.
- Updates at Anchor of Hope: continue promoting to communities, it is a great service
- Remodel updates: putting bell/sign on hold until spring
- Mission projects: Bulletin board going up. A donation was made to help Afghanistan Refugees.
- Sunday school update: We plan to do it after church.
- Any other business: The Nitrates at church came out good at church.
- Ended in the Lord's Prayer.



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
Parish Kitchen Phone: 715-263-2704
E-Mail: willowriverparish@gmail.com
Website: www.willowriverparish.org

Hakki Min, Pastor
Office Hours: Tues-Friday 1-3 pm

Anitra Kaczmarek, Parish Secretary
Email: wrpsecretary@gmail.com
Office Hours: Fridays 1-3 pm

Sunday Worship

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

Church School @ Clear Lake and Faith Family

Sundays after Young People's time @ CL
Sundays after worship @ Faith Family