



CONNECTIONS

Our mission is to connect with God, as we live by faith, are known by love, and cultivate hope.

God is still speaking,
**UNITED CHURCH
 OF CHRIST**



Welcome

Welcome to Roberts Congregational United Church of Christ, which is part of an historic mainline Protestant denomination. We are the church of the "still speaking God" that believes we should never place a period where God has placed a comma. Roberts UCC is family-centered and bible-grounded. We embrace openness for all God's children, celebrate diversity and put love in practice. Here you will find a gracious welcome where judgment is left at the front door and God's grace is experienced. We invite you to worship and experience a message that will touch your soul, or attend one of our fellowship events to experience a hospitality that will warm your heart.



A PREVIEW OF GOD'S PLAN

"For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope. Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you. You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart" (Jeremiah 29:11–13)

God has a plan for your life. He has some objectives for you. Even knowing those truths, it's still easy to get stuck in the bottomless vortex of questions: *Who am I supposed to marry? Where am I going to live? What am I going to do for work?* It's time to set aside the questions and get back to what God has said.

His plans for you are not so much about those specifics as they are about developing your character. Everything else will sort itself out.

God *always* has plans for the welfare and future of those who are His. He *always* has plans to give His children hope. Even in the middle of sad and sobering words of judgment, God poured out His heart for His people. He pointed them (and us) toward relationship. The circumstances He allows are designed to cause us to call upon Him. We're always able to call, seek, and find Him because He *wants* us to call, seek, and find Him!

When God says, **"I know the plans I have for you,"** His words are a great comfort. But wouldn't you love to get a look at those plans? The tension isn't, "Does God know?" The tension is, "I want to know!" Although God understands our questions, He doesn't owe us any answers. It's as if He says, "I know, but I'm not going to fill you in . . . yet."

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Roberts Congregational United Church of Christ

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FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK THANK YOU

I know that there is nothing better for them than to be happy and enjoy themselves as long as they live; moreover, it is God's gift that all should eat and drink and take pleasure in all their toil.

—Ecclesiastes 3:12-13

After 27 years in ministry (6 years as a youth leader in my home church, 5 years as a licensed pastor, and 16 years ordained) I have played many roles and seen a great deal of change in the church. I have watched as churches adapted to the contemporary worship model, which evolved into the blended worship model, and then most recent and developing worship model – Online Worship. I have seen people who have fought each of these and those who fought hard thinking each new movement was the silver bullet answer to all the churches problems. I have watched as our demographics have changed and people worried about the survival of God's Church and more particularly the church they were attending. I have watched the ebb and flow of congregations as they brought in new people and as controversies caused splits and losses. I have celebrated and cried with families at weddings funerals, baptisms, and many other events. All-in-all it has been a wonderful journey.

We are (and have been for a couple of years now) going through some major transformations as both the wider church and locally. Many things have changed in very short order in our society, and we are having to adapt and change as well. It is both an exciting and an uncomfortable time for many people as is always the case with change. It is also a time which has stressed many of those who are in leadership and working to keep things running smoothly. Leadership is often a thankless position especially as volunteers, so I am taking this opportunity to thank all of our leadership and ask that you would do the same. Here are some of what your church leadership has been doing and who those leaders are.

COUNCIL: Modertor Dawn Budrow, Church Clerk Connie Mueller, Treasurer Sonya Jansma, Trustees Tony Jurek, Deacons Duane Loewel, Christian Education Toni Williams, Women's Fellowship / SHIFT! Lori Jurek, Food Pantry Roene Frederick.

Council serves as the nerve center of our leadership. These volunteers help maintain communications and ideas across the boards so we are able to function better as a church

family. Through their efforts our leadership stays informed of what one another are doing and where help may be needed. Thank you all for the hours you put in and the information you share.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES: Chair Tony Jurek, Secretary Tracy Ronnander, John Bond, Nancy Kirouac, Dianne Loewel, and Patti Robertson.

The Trustees are the ones who try to keep everything running both financially and physically here at the church. Beyond the day-to-day operations stuff the Trustees have been responsible for hiring on a new Office Administrator, our Pickup Your People fundraiser, getting our heating system back up and running, researching and setting us up with JF Ahern to consolidate our fire protection systems and inspections here at the church, and are working on getting the parking lot fixed up and resealed. There are a lot of other things they have taken care of that I am missing, but these are the big things. Thank you all for the hard work you put in!

BOARD OF DEACONS: Char Duane Loewel, Secretary Meghan Ament, Megan Frye, Wanda Hopkins, and Laura Logas.

The Deacons are the ones who are my right-hand in spiritual leadership here in the church. This year they have been in charge of getting our sanctuary decorated for Christmas and Easter (thank you for taking that back over), keep our records for attendance, helped institute the changes we have had for Communion and offering, led our stewardship campaign, led our nominating committee, helped with our annual Good Neighbor Days Worship in the Park, and are working on updating our membership records as well as continuing updating worship opportunities. Thank you all for the many hours you put in making our worship and community events as successful as they can be.

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION: Chair Toni Williams, Secretary Michelle Hansen, Danielle Johnson, and Jenny Korn

This board has been extremely busy the last few years trying to maintain our children's ministry and adapt to all of the rules and regulations that have come with it. They have sought out new curriculum which allowed for us to maintain our Sunday school even when we had to go to an online format, have held two very successful VBS sessions, most recently held our first of two Sunday Funday potlucks, are looking at new curriculum for Confirmation, and their newest endeavor looking at a family style Sunday School which will be held in the evening once a week where children and parents are learning side by side. Thank you all for the hard work you have been putting in for not only our youth, but our adult volunteers as well.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP: President/Treasurer Judy Snoeyenbos, VP Lori Jurek, Secretary Nancy Kirouac.

Women's Fellowship has been busy this last year with the Spring and Fall rummage sales and Community Dinners, as well as maintaining our kitchen and the licenses we need for that. Our Community Dinners are up in attendance from

previous years and the rummage sales have been growing as well. Thank you to all the ladies who participate in this group and making it a successful ministry in our church.

SHIFT!: Coordinator Lori Jurek, and Secretary Margie Ricci

SHIFT! has been continuing the Grace Place meals ministry and also our Feelgood Kit ministry. They also keep an eye out for other ministries which we may want to get involved with in the future. The two above ministries are ones which help to keep us connected with the larger community and their school systems and police forces. Thank you to all of you who participate in these ministries and inspiring us to continue to grow and serve.

FOOD PANTRY: Roene Frederick, Connie Mueller, Laurene Ray, Dennis and Mary Thorsen, and numerous other volunteers.

The Roberts/Hammond Community Food Pantry continues to serve faithfully in our communities helping those in need with food and household items. They are working hard to maintain our link to the community and serve those in need as best they are able. We are very honored to have them as a part of our ministry. Thank you all for the hard work and many hours you put in.

Then there are all of you, who volunteer and participate in the life of this congregation and family. Thank you all for the work you do and the joy you bring. There will be changes, some we like and others we don't, but the work of ministry never ends. I want to add one more thought though from our passage above. The Greek word that is interpreted "toil" in it can also be interpreted as "mischief." That too in its own way is a fitting term for the work we do. In the years I have been in ministry I have watched a lot of mischief in our work, playfully chiding and loving one another as we do the work (toil) God calls us to. So, from the bottom of my heart, Thank You for all you do to serve our God through the mission and ministry of this church family!



*Peace and God Bless,
Pastor Burt*



COMMUNITY DINNER

Sponsored by Women's fellowship



**Thursday, August 4, 2022
4:30 P.M. - 6:30 P.M.**

MENU

Ham and Cheese Slices
Dinner Rolls, Assorted Salads
Assorted Desserts and Beverages

Adults: \$6.00 Children \$3.00
Take-out meals are available upon request.

Invite your friends and family for this time of fellowship. All are welcome!



**ROBERTS
Food Pantry**

Giving hope to our neighbors

OPEN WEEKLY

Tuesdays &
Thursdays
9:00 - 11:30 am

Wednesdays
6:30 - 8:00 pm

ITEMS NEEDED

Syrup / Pancake Mixes
Egg Noodles
Jell-O / Pudding
Any Paper Products
Laundry Soap
Grocery Bags

Treasurer's Report

Notes from the Treasurers: Detailed minutes of the Trustees meetings, including full financial statements are available upon request.

General Fund Financial Summary as of June 30, 2022

<u>Statement of Activity</u>		<u>Statement of Financial Position</u>	
Income/Contributions	\$	95,255.88	
			Assets
Facility use income		1,120.00	General Accounts
Fundraising income		3,273.36	\$ 2,813.34
Interest		0.72	Other bank accounts
Total income		99,649.96	67,938.16
Expenses		(93,408.35)	Fixed assets
Transfers from other accounts		9,500.00	1,874,642.28
Net Activity	\$	15,741.61	Total Assets
			\$ 1,949,393.78
			Liabilities & Equity
			Accrued expenses
			\$ 1,210.25
			Bank mortgage balance
			594,342.30
			Member mortgage balances
			150,000.00
			Total liabilities
			745,552.55
			Equity
			1,199,841.23
			Total Liabilities & Equity
			\$ 1,945,393.78

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He does give us hints, however. God provides us with some general categories that describe His purposes. First, they are plans for your welfare. The Hebrew word is *shalom*, meaning "the complete state of well-being; fulfillment; prosperity; peace." As God looks down the telescope of time, His plans are for your total well-being.

Second, His designs for you are not for evil. People who are determined to prove they can live contrary to God's program will pay a price for their experiment. God's plans take us away from evil; ours tend to take us smack into the middle of it.

Third, God's plans are designed to give you a future and a hope, both immediately and eternally. The biblical definition of hope is *a confident expectation of something better tomorrow*. When your hope is in God, He'll always deliver. It doesn't matter what has happened, better things are coming. That's hope! You can be confident He has good plans for you.

JOURNAL

- What have you learned about God's good plans for you?
- Why doesn't God reveal all His plans for us now? How does the not-knowing grow our faith?

PRAY

Father, thank You that You have good plans for me. However I may feel and whatever I may face today, I can anticipate that You are working for good in all of it. So I call to You, come to You, and pray to You, believing that You hear me. I seek You, believing You will allow Yourself to be found by me. I know I can't imagine all the good You have planned for my life, but I trust Your Word, so I thank You in faith. In the unfailing name of Jesus I pray, amen.

MINUTES FROM REGULAR CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING OF ROBERTS CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

July 7, 2022

Dawn Budrow (Moderator), Lori Jurek (S.H.I.F.T. and Women's Fellowship), Tony Jurek (Trustees), Duane Loewel (Deacons), Toni Williams (CE), Pastor Burt, and Connie Mueller (Church Clerk).

Reports:

S.H.I.F.T

- Provided dinner for Grace Place on June 16. They do not foresee any changes in the near future regarding visitors being allowed into the facility.
- Agreed to coordinate a food stand for the church auction.
- Michelle Hansen has secured 10 volunteer spots at Feed My Children for Saturday, October 1st at 9 A.M. Watch for a sign-up sheet closer to the date.
- Next meeting August 8th at 6:30 P.M. It will be moved to the church in hopes of recruiting additional members.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP:

- Judy and Lori cleaned out and reorganized the Women's Fellowship areas in both the storage room across from the kitchen and in the NE corner of the sanctuary.
- Licensing guidelines regarding food preparation for the community dinners. Entrée, side sides, and desserts requiring refrigeration must be made in the church kitchen. Cookies, bars, and cakes may be prepared at home, if they do not require refrigeration. These guidelines do not apply to coffee fellowship, potlucks, or funerals. Any questions, call Judy @ 715-410-1909.
- Kitchen license has been renewed for one year for \$411.00
- Agreed to coordinate a Bake Sale for the church auction.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION:

- Amazing VBS: 23 students and 29 volunteers and parents
- Working with the Deacons on the upcoming Funday Events.
- Cleanup of CE storage area is scheduled for July 17th after church
- Exploring changing Sunday School to an evening family oriented Church School experience. It would include a large group presentation and then the children will be dismissed for their lesson and the adults will meet with Pastor Burt to reflect on the material the children are studying. This is just in the initial planning stages.

TRUSTEES:

- A F Ahem Fire Management is up and running. All services from various vendors have been terminated.
- Sonya Jansma is looking for additional members for the Fund Raising Committee.
- Boldt is scheduled to come out and do a pressure check on the dishwasher.
- Following a review of the bids, a motion was made to hire Sailer Seal Coating for repairing the parking lot and sealing it. This motion included hiring Dennis Rank will make our East entrance Handicapped Compliant.
- Developing a new policy covering the timing and process for turning over the various Boards Chair responsibilities. One policy for each board.

TREASURER:

- See newsletter for the report.

DEACONS:

- Working with CE to organize first Funday
- Preparing letter to be sent out regarding church membership and start time for worship

PASTOR:

- Sonya Jansma has agreed to start a Fund-Raising Committee. If you are interested in working on this committee, contact Sonya or Pastor Burt.
- Please wear your name tag for worship, to help those individuals, who are new, get acquainted.
- Trends in attendance are good in comparison to the last couple of years.
- Vacation Bible School was very successful with 23 students, 11 adult family members, and 18 volunteers. The CE Board is also planning upcoming Sunday Funday Events for July 10th and August 14th. Any boards able to assist during the Funday Events should contact Toni.
- Trustees will be coordinating our Pick Up Your Pebble Campaign during the month of July.
- Pastor will be on vacation from July 25th to August 8th.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Next Meeting: August 4 Tony will lead the opening.

September 8 will be the date for the Sept. Council.

Respectfully submitted,
Connie Mueller, Church Clerk

CHILDREN'S Sunday School



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION SUNDAY FUNDAY SAVE THE DATE

AUGUST 14

Sunday, August 14th we'll be hosting another Sunday Funday potluck and picnic immediately following service!

Bring bean bags or another games to share with your church family, or sit and have fun catching up with friends. We hope you will join us for some good food, good fellowship and fun!

Church AUCTION

CHURCH AUCTION

SAVE THE DATE

August 17, 2022

4:00 pm: Bake Sale & Food Stand open

5:00 pm: Live auction begins.

STILL ACCEPTING DONATIONS

*Garden Goodies

*Theme Baskets

*Gift cards to many local restaurants

*New and gently used treasures

*And much more!

AUCTION ITEMS ALREADY COLLECTED

Brewer and Saints Tickets, Packer autographed football, area golf passes, area eatery gift certificates, handmade quilt, garden produce, and numerous new and gently used treasures.

Donated items can be dropped off in the fellowship hall during most normal business hours, 8:30am – 12:30pm any time prior to sale.

Please call (715) 246-5239 or (715) 441-5942 to arrange donations that need special attention or assistance unloading. **Please, no used electronics or furniture without calling first.

Congregate Dining

SENIOR NUTRITION DINING

The purpose of the Elderly Nutrition Program is to provide services that assist older individuals in Wisconsin to live independently, by promoting better health through improved nutrition & reduced isolation. Not only are nutritious meals served at our congregated sites, but services also include nutrition education, nutrition screening, and nutrition counseling. Also important: the opportunity to socialize!

Senior Dining is open to individuals age 60 or older and their spouses, regardless of age; any handicapped person who lives in an apartment building with a meal site; and program volunteers.

Location; Parkside Restaurant & Bar, Hammond, WI.

MY MEAL, MY WAY

- ✓ All Seniors 60+ are welcome regardless of your ability to donate
- ✓ Suggested donation \$5.00 per meal.
- ✓ Donations are confidential.
- ✓ No additional tipping is required

HOW IT WORKS

- Register or sign in with Senior Meal Program Staff
- Put your donation in the My Meal, My Way box
- Choose one of the lunch options on the back
- Place your order with the server
- Wait for the server to bring you your meal & enjoy!



Prayer LIST

Brian Wille	Tracy Grabau	Earl Pechuman	Eric Wangen
Mary Frederick	Linda Hall	Danielle Anderson	Terry Nygaard
Terry McKinley	Walt Lamson	Donna Lamson	Linda Jourdeans
Audrey Ackley	Joe Fetzer	Wanda Hopkins	Rich McDonald
Terry Dull	Mark Clay	Janice Kuschel	Bob Hartmon
Forman Family			

All those serving active in the Military and those serving our state & community in law enforcement.

If you have placed someone on the prayer list, please keep us current on their situation. If you would like to add to remove someone, please contact the office at 715.749.3225 or secretary@robertsucc.org

Monthly CELEBRATIONS



Jennifer Korn	August 5	Wes Frederick	August 16
Donna Hadley	August 6	Elijah Williams	August 17
Lilyana Steinke	August 6	Al Bohl	August 18
Levi Johnson	August 8	Asher Robertson	August 19
Jacque Nelson	August 10	Tim Ronnander	August 20
Connie Mueller	August 11	Glenn Hall	August 21
Julie Nelson	August 11	Brenda Poulin	August 22
Dean Hansen	August 12	Ben Segebrecht	August 22
Luke Budrow	August 13	Beth Rogers	August 23
Stephanie Jansma	August 13	Mary Fern	August 24
Dennis Segebrecht	August 13	Jon Weiss	August 24
Jean Johnson	August 15	Nicole O'Connell	August 28
Sharon Johnson	August 15	Cody Ronnander	August 19
		Bill Schultz	August 31



Aug. 1st: Dean & Glenda Hansen	Aug. 20 th : Lowell & Sharon Johnson
Aug. 4th: Jerry & Sheryl Johnson	Aug. 23 rd : Mary & Mandy Clay
Aug. 5th: Pete & Meghan Ament	Aug. 24 th : Rick & Jo Fenstermaker
Aug. 6th: James & Sonya Jansma	Aug. 27 th : Rick & Christie Risberg
Aug. 8 th : Walt & Donna Lamson	Aug. 30 th : Richard & Pat Colbeth
Aug. 8 th : Ron Boenish & Betty Schultz	
Aug. 15 th : Russell & Connie Cox	
Aug. 17 th : Bill & Judy Snoeyenbos	
Aug. 19 th : Dennis & Mary Thorsen	
Aug. 19 th : Jon & Erin Weiss	

HELLO
August

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Pastor on Vacation	2 Pastor on Vacation 6pm Deacons Meeting	3 Pastor on Vacation	4 3:30 pm Women's Fellowship 4:00 – 6pm Community Dinner 6pm Council Meeting Pastor on Vacation	5 Pastor on Vacation	6 Pastor on Vacation
7 10:00 am Worship 11:15 am Fellowship Communion Pastor on Vacation	8 6:30pm SHIFT! Meeting	9	10	11	12	13
14 10:00 am Worship 11:15am Sunday Funday Potluck RaiseRight Due	15 6:00 pm CE Meeting	16 6:30 pm Trustees Meeting	17 4pm Bake Sale 5pm Church Auction	18 5pm SHIFT! at Grace's Place	19 Newsletter info due	20
21 10:00 am Worship 11:15am Fellowship	22	23	24	25	26	27
28 10:00 am Worship 11:15am Fellowship RaiseRight Due	29	30	31			LOOK AHEAD: October 1 st 9-11am Feed My Starving Children

