

# CONNECTIONS

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

# A Family Celebration

#### November 19<sup>th</sup>

After Service



Please join us as we celebrate the support of our ministry here at Roberts Congregational UCC by gathering together as a church family.

# Catered Lunch & Live Music

Please RSVP to the church office by <u>October 30<sup>th</sup></u> to plan for the meal.

Call: 715-749-3225 or Email: <u>info@robertsucc.org</u>

## <u>Worship</u>

November 19<sup>th</sup> 10:00am Stewardship Sunday Followed by a Celebration & Dinner

This day is to celebrate all the generous intentions of financial support for the mission and ministry of our congregation!

More information in your letter from Pastor Burt, your invitation, & your pledge card should be received by mail this week. (For those who are already giving, your 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Giving Statements will be included).

We ask that pledge cards be returned no later than November 19<sup>th,</sup> so the trustees can begin planning for 2024.

Come celebrate who we are, and who we will be. Together we are blessed,

Warmest Regards, The Deacons Board



Roberts Congregational United Church of Christ1001 Birch Drive | PO Box 116 | Roberts, WI 54023Church Office: 715-749-3225 | https://www.facebook.com/RobertsUCCPastor: pastor@robertsucc.org| Office: secretary@robertsucc.orgWebsite: http://www.robertsucc.org| YouTube: Roberts Congregational UCC



For everything there is a season and a time for every matter under heaven... — Ecclesiastes 3:1

As fall is upon us and we begin to turn our hearts and thoughts from summertime vacations to celebrating Thanksgiving and Christmas, I am reminded of the verse above from Ecclesiastes.

"...a time for every matter under heaven..."

In the lines that follow this from Ecclesiastes we hear of birth and death, laughing and crying, speaking, and keeping silent, and the list goes on and on. Later in verses twelve and thirteen we hear, "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." Part of that toil in the seasons we are heading into is giving gifts, giving thanks, giving to charities, giving love...giving.

We are also about to celebrate giving here at the church as well as we head towards our Family Celebration, on November 19<sup>th</sup> where we will be consecrating our commitments (pledges) for the upcoming year. This celebration isn't just about celebrating what is committed financially, it is about celebrating all that God does for, in, and through us. It is celebrating the gift of God's generosity and our being invited to partake in that generosity in both receiving and giving. Why bother to make a Commitment (pledge) though? Is it really necessary? It isn't a requirement, but it means more than most of us stop to think about.

Our Commitment (pledge) to the church financially is about having a plan. It is about being intentional about our generosity. It is about the goal of making a vow to God and intentionally keeping it to the best of our abilities. It also helps the church to plan for the ministries we partake in and know what it is we are going to need to raise in order to make all the wonderful things God does through Roberts UCC happen. When we plan our giving we are more likely to be involved and intentional in the ministries the church partakes in and offers.

Look for more information in the newsletter for the Celebration Dinner on the 19<sup>th</sup> and come join us in celebrating our Church's ministries and the commitments that are made in order to make those happen. There is a season for everything, and this is our season to celebrate giving!

We will be serving roast beef with mashed potatoes and gravy as well as green beans, Caesar salad, buns, and dessert. The desserts will be made by your Deacons and the rest is being prepared by our very own, Katy Kapaun. This meal and celebration will be a wonderful time with live music and fellowship as a church family. We are asking people to RSVP for the dinner by October 30th, by either calling the church office at 715-749-3225 or emailing us at info@robertsucc.org. There will be a freewill offering to help offset the cost of the event. We are excited about this event and all that it means for us as a congregation to come together and celebrate what we are doing in our community and world.

Pastor Burt

#### Also - Here are some dates to be aware of for the upcoming Advent Season:

Dec 3- Dec 24 – Our theme for Advent this year will be "Coming Home." Come Home to church and celebrate with us all the wonder and amazement of the Advent Season as we look for the Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love that the coming of Christ brings for us. As a church family, we want to invite you to come and prepare a home in your hearts for Jesus to come to this Advent! We look forward to seeing you all!

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December 2<sup>nd</sup> 9:00am – Church Decorating for Advent and Christmas

December 10<sup>th</sup> 10:00am – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent – Come join us as we continue our Advent Celebration of "Coming Home" with special music being presented by our very own Bell Choir. Stick around after service for Coffee Fellowship and our 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Cookie Sale sponsored by S.H.I.F.T.

December 17<sup>th</sup> 10:00am – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent – The Joy of Home! Sunday Service! Watch for more details!

December 24<sup>th</sup> 10:00am – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent – The Blessing of Home! Sunday Service! Watch for more details! 4:30pm – Christmas Candlelight Service 11:00pm – Christmas Candlelight Service

# INVITATION

SUNDAY, December 24th 10:00am Worship Service 4th Sunday of Advent "The Blessing of Home!"

4:30pm Candlelight Service 11:00pm Candlelight Service

Watch for More Details





ROBERTS Food Pantry Giving hope to our neighbors **Food Pantry Needs** With the season changing we are in need of: Hearty Soups, Bear Creek Soups, Soup Crackers, Pudding, Jello, Hot Chocolate, Paper Bags, & White Plastic Bags.

#### CHURCH COUNCIL CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST September 28, 2023

Lori Jurek (Moderator, S.H.I.F.T. and Women's Fellowship), Tony Jurek (Trustees), Toni Williams (CE), Pastor Burt Williams, and Connie Mueller

Meeting was called to order Lori at 6:00 P.M.

**Opening devotion was led by Lori.** 

Minutes: September updates were reviewed. Motion was made by Toni to approve the updates and seconded by Tony. Motion carried.

#### **Old Business:**

Christian Education: (Toni)

- Pie the Pastor fundraiser: \$280.00 raised. Plan on doing the picnic next year.
- October 8: Bible Award Sunday for second graders and older
- October 4: RUCCUS begins.
- Feb. 17: Silly Supper tentatively planned.

#### Deacons: (Connie)

- Completing plans for the final stewardship event on November 19. This will include a meal served by Katy, along with live music. It is requested that all pledge cards are returned.
- Began planning for the advent season. Church decorating on December 2<sup>nd</sup>.

#### <u>S.H.I.F.T</u> (Lori)

- Coordinated bake walk for church picnic.
- Mums' fundraiser: raised \$220.00.
- Will be looking for items for the Feel-Good Kits. There has been a big request for the local school district.
- Another Feed My Starving Children event on Oct. 14. More volunteers needed.
- Next meeting will be held on October 9
- Will be serving Grace Place on October 19
- Will conduct a cookie sale following service on Dec. 10

#### Trustees: (Tony)

- Have purchased a soundboard for the church with memorial monies. The audio-visual equipment purchase is on hold.
- Holding BINGO event around Valentine's Day tentatively
- Will need to find a new place to hold the meat raffle.
- A new chemical base fire extinguisher has been installed.
- Maintenance issues have been quite costly this year.

#### Women's Fellowship: (Lori)

- Rummage sale brought in over \$1300.00.
- Disbanded the funeral committee. Katy has been informed that if help is needed for a funeral lunch that she should contact the fellowship.
- The inspection of the kitchen was completed. The kitchen is in compliance.

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#### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

\*\*Detailed minutes of the Trustees meetings, including full financial statements are available upon request. General Fund Financial Summary as of September 30, 2023

#### **Statement of Activity**

134,840.59
21,940.17
4,325.00
1.11
161,106.87
171,550.16
18,725.03
8,281.74

#### **Statement of Financial Position**

#### Assets

General Accounts \$	6,738.61
Other Bank Accounts	50,385.04
Fixed Assets	1,874,642.28
Total Assets	1,931,765.93

#### **Liabilities & Equity**

Accrued expenses \$	4,452.65
Bank mortgage balance	564,071.58
Member mortgage balances	150,000.00
Total liabilities	718,524.23

Equity <u>1,213,241.70</u> Total Liabilities & Equity <u>1,931,765.93</u>

#### CHURCH COUNCIL CONTINUED CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST September 28, 2023

#### Pastor:

- The first Sunday of Advent is December 3<sup>rd</sup>. Decorating of the church will be held on Dec. 2.
- Will be holding services on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of every month at Hammond Heritage
- As required to maintain pastoral standing within the denomination, Pastor will be attending a "Community of Practice" group the third Tuesday of every month in either Menominee or Eau Claire.
- Introduced "The 6 Types of Working Genius"

#### New Business: None

Next meeting: November 2nd Duane will do the opening.

Respectfully submitted, Connie Mueller , Church Clerk

# **COMMUNITY DINNER**

Sponsored by Women's fellowship THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2023 4:30 P.M. - 6:30 p.m.

MENU Meatballs, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy Corn & Cole Slaw | Rolls Desserts | Coffee & Milk Adults: \$7.00 Children \$4.00 5 & Under: FREE Take out is available upon request.



**ROBERTS CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST** 1001 BIRCH DRIVE, ROBERTS WI 54023 715-749-3225

If you'd like to help by volunteering, or if you have questions about the dinners, please contact Judy Snoeyenbos: <u>isnoeyen@gmail.com</u> or Lori Jurek: <u>lorijurek@gmail.com</u>



#### WILL YOU HELP US RING THE BELL THIS CHRISTMAS SEASON?

Bell ringing will take place November 16th- December 23rd.

To reserve your spot, **REGISTER NOW** at <u>www.registertoring.com</u> or

call Patty Gallaty at 715-554-4928.

Thank you for prayerfully considering this important call to service.

Your Friends at, The Salvation Army of St. Croix

#### FMSC October 14th Event

Just a couple of hours serving at FMSC makes a HUGE impact in the lives of hungry children.

Are you interested in serving at FMSC? Reach out to Michelle Hansen to be added to a list, and an email will be sent to help us set the next date.

Boxes packed: 97 Meals: 20,952 Kids fed a daily meal for a year: 57 Cost: \$6,076.08



#### VETERANS DAY CEREMONY

An American Legion Event

Saturday, November 11<sup>th</sup>

#### 11:00 a.m.

Veterans Square Pine Street & West Blvd. Weterans Day HONORING THOSE WHO

#### Are You Looking for a Community Thanksgiving Dinner to attend or to volunteer?

Immaculate Conception Church is providing a FREE dinner on Nov. 23<sup>rd</sup> at 1:00pm. Reserve dinner from November 1<sup>st</sup> – 17<sup>th.</sup> For Reservations, deliveries, or to volunteer call Rhonda Bierbrauer 715-246-2086 or the church 715-246-4652.



#### **Blood Drive**

Roberts Community Roberts Congregational United Church of Christ 1001 Birch Dr Wednesday, November 22, 2023 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

> American Red Cross

# To make an appointment to give blood, please go to:

https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/driveresults?zipSponsor=Roberts | Download the Blood Donor App | or Call: 1-800-RED-CROSS (1-800-733-2767)

Questions, please contact Lori Jurek: aljurek@baldwin-telecom.net

We have some early 2024 dates. Check out the church calendar on our website <u>https://www.robertsucc.org/events/</u>.



#### 2<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL COOKIE SALE

December 10<sup>th</sup> 11:00 a.m.

Shop for your holiday treats from a large selection of cookies and bars! Boxes provided – you choose the kind & quantity. Goodies sold at \$ 8.00/pound. Sponsored by SHIFT



shopping supports our church?

Did you know doing your

Just purchase a card here and use it where and when you already shop.

#### CHECK OUT RAISERIGHT.

Go to: <u>https://www.raiseright.com/</u>. Once you find your shops, create an account.

OR

#### Print out a form NOW!

http://www.robertsucc.org/mt-

<u>content/uploads/2023/05/raiseright-form.pdf</u> And either drop off or mail in your completed

form. We will contact you when your gift card(s) are ready.

To obtain a CODE for ordering, or with questions: Dianne Loewel: <u>dianne.loewel@gmail.com</u>

#### Bakers Needed!



SHIFT is looking for volunteers to bake & donate cookies for the upcoming Christmas Cookie Sale on December 10. Volunteers are asked to make 3 dozen of one type of cookie/treat.

Goodies can be dropped off at the church either Saturday, December 9<sup>th</sup> from 9:30am to 11am OR by 9:15am on Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup>.

Look for the sign-up sheet in the Narthex.

#### ELECTRONIC TRANSFER OF FUNDS FROM YOUR BANK

Did you know we have a way you can have funds automatically withdrawn from your checking account each month?

All you need to do is fill out a short form and provide a canceled check. Then on the  $15^{th}$  of each month the amount you designate will be withdrawn from your account. \* Please note that your auto payments can be changed by you at any time.

If you would like to try this option, please contact the church office and we will get a form to you.

> Email: <u>secretary@robertsucc.org</u> or call: 715-749-3225

#### RUCCUS

Roberts UCC Understanding Scripture

Join us! All are Welcome!

1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays of each month \*\*October thru May

#### 5:30pm Potluck meal

All are invited to come and join us as a church family for this meal together. Please bring a dish to pass, beverages for your group/family, and plates/utensils to use. We look forward to seeing you there!

#### <u>6:00pm – 7:15ish Program</u>

Music, Discussion Groups, Worship & Prayer

- Our RUCCUS program is underway. We want to make sure you all had the dates of class available.
- \*\*December dates are different from normal to prepare for our Christmas program\*\*
- Wednesday, November 1 RUCCUS: potluck at 5:30, class at 6:00
- Wednesday, November 15 RUCCUS: potluck at 5:30, class at 6:00
- Wednesday, December 6 RUCCUS: potluck at 5:30, Christmas program practice at 6:00
- Wednesday, December 13 RUCCUS: potluck at 5:30, Christmas program practice at 6:00

#### Saturday, December 16 - Christmas Program - Dress rehearsal at 10, Show at 11, Coffee fellowship to follow.

Have some friends who you think might enjoy this time of family worship and learning?? Invite them and their family along!

Let us know if you have any questions!





#### Christmas is Coming!

We invite you to join us on *Saturday, December 16<sup>th</sup>* as our youngest generation presents:

#### The Birth of Jesus

At our annual **Christmas program**. We will hold a **dress rehearsal at 10am** with the **live show to follow at 11am**. And what program would be complete without coffee/milk and cookies to follow?

#### We hope to see you there!

#### **Giving at Advent**

This year, the CE team has decided to ask our church kids and family to be involved in service within the church in lieu of donations to an outside organization.

#### We invite you to join us as follows:

**Sunday, December 3 - Hope** - the kids will be providing special music as well as be your greeters, readers, ushers, and acolytes for service.

**Sunday, December 10 - Peace** - Prayer Rocks! We will provide river rocks for all to take and paint to either keep as a prayer rock or to place within the community in prayer for others...or both!

**Sunday, December 17 - Joy** - We will be sending out Christmas cards to those unable to attend service as well as local nursing homes and Grace Place.

#### Sunday, December 24 at 4:30pm service

- **Love** Our RUCCUS kids and families will be available following service to hand out ornaments as well as hugs/high fives and some Christmas love!



November 1 Analeigh Gonzalez

November 2 Missy Gooding Jean Lindus

November 3 Danielle Logas

November 9 Connie Cox

November 11 Chloe Adrian

November 12 Brianna Rolling Ashley Stone

November 14 Jane Bond Leroy Lindquist November 17 Suzie Lange

November 18 Krysta Hoyer

November 21 Avery Adrian

November 24 Kelly Hueman

November 26 Brett Budrow Joe Schultz

November 28 Tracy Ronnander

November 29 Megan Frye

November 30 Lori Jurek



Jean Lindus' 90<sup>th</sup> BIRTHDAY PARTY

DATE: November 5<sup>th</sup> **TIME:**  $N \circ o n - 5:00 pm$ PLACE: American Legion 206 S Main St, Woodville, WI 54028 EVERYONE IS INVITED! Lunch is being provided.

aptism October 29th

**Congratulations Beau Walker** Bayer, son of Clayton and Rachel (Gulich) Walker, on your Baptism.

> We welcome you to the Family of God!



niversaries There are no known anniversaries in November.

## PLEASE HOLD THE FOLLOWING IN PRAYER:

Earl Pechuman Linda Hall Audrey Ackley Maggie Olson Family & Friends of Rockie Graf

**Tom Sullwold Terrill Florcyk** 

**Terry McKinley** Allison Niki Freeman **Cecil Brighton** 

Walt Lamson **Missy Reed Mark Scherr** 

All those serving in our law enforcement, first responders, military, healthcare settings, and those in Ukraine.

For all those not listed above but needing prayer, we lift you up.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 RUCCUS 5:30pm Potluck 6:00pm Program 6:30pm Bell Choir	2 3:30pm WF Meeting 4:30pm Community Dinner 6:30pm Council	3	4
5 Daylight Savings Ends 10:00am Worship with Communion 12:00pm Jean Lindus's 90 <sup>th</sup> Birthday Party!	6	7 6:00pm Deacons Meeting	8 6:30pm Bell Choir	9	10	11 Veterans Day
12 10:00am Worship with Archer Anderson Baptism RaiseRight Orders Due	<b>13</b> <b>6:00pm</b> CE Meeting	14 6:30pm Trustees Meeting	15 RUCCUS 5:30pm Potluck 6:00pm Program 6:30pm Bell Choir	16	17	18
<b>19 Stewardship</b> Sunday <b>10:00am</b> Worship <b>After Service</b> – A Family Celebration	20 Newsletter Deadline	21	22 8:00am – 1:00pm Blood Drive 6:30pm Bell Choir	23 Thanksgiving <i>Office Closed</i>	24	25
26 10:00am Worship RaiseRight Orders Due	27	28	<b>29</b> <b>6:30pm</b> Bell Choir	30	1	2 9:00am Advent Decorating

#### Santa & Mrs. Claus - Friday, November 24th

Because the horses have been exceptionally nice this past year, Santa and Mrs. Claus will be visiting the *Mane Connections Stable* to kick off the holiday season in style. The miniature horses, Bugle, Desi, and Juniper will also be dressed in their Christmas finest!

You are invited to spend part of your morning (10:00-12:00) with us and kick off the Christmas season with the horses and making a difference for people in the local community.

There will be a free will donation container available with ALL cash donations being equally distributed between the local food pantry located at church and **THUG** (**Truly Humbled Under God**) Life, a local Non-Profit organization whose main mission is to help homeless and family less teens in the St. Croix valley area.

#### Please join us to pet the horses and take pictures with them and Santa and Mrs. Claus.

#### Thank you, Darla Ramberg & Deb Philips



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