



Connections

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

Here at Roberts UCC

We are a distinct and diverse community of Christians that come together as one church united in Spirit to love all, welcome all, and seek justice for all.

WORSHIP

Sundays

Dec. 1, 8, 15, 22, & 29
10:00 a.m.

ONLINE

WORSHIP [https://
www.robertsucc.org
/media/](https://www.robertsucc.org/media/)

DATES TO REMEMBER

December 4th
Program Practice

December 5th
Community Dinner

December 7th
Santa's Secret Dinner

December 11th
Program Practice



CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

Tuesday, December 24th

4:30 p.m.
**Family-Style Worship
with Communion**

11:00 p.m.
**Candlelight Worship Service
with Communion**



DATES TO REMEMBER

Continued...

December 14th
*Christmas Program Practice
Christmas on Main
Christmas Program*

December 4th
Program Practice

December 5th
Community Dinner

December 7th
Santa's Secret Dinner

December 11th
Program Practice

December 15th
SHIFT! 3rd Annual Cookie Sale

December 19th
SHIFT! @ Grace Place



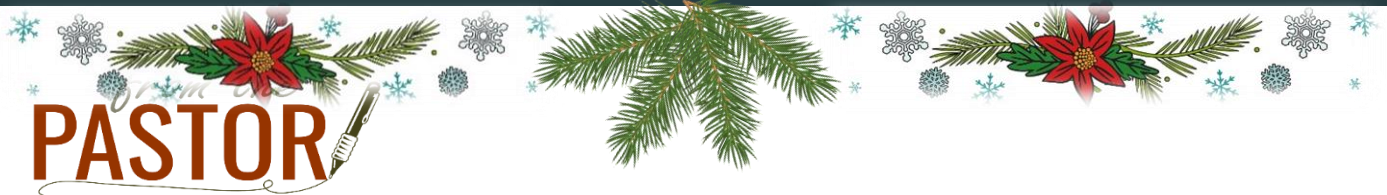
Roberts Congregational United Church of Christ

1001 Birch Drive | PO Box 116 | Roberts, WI 54023

*Church Office: 715-749-3225 | <https://www.facebook.com/RobertsUCC>

Pastor: pastor@robertsucc.org | *Office: secretary@robertsucc.org

Website: <http://www.robertsucc.org> | YouTube: Roberts Congregational UCC



Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God...

-John 1:12

A Very “Mary” Christmas!

Children have the innate ability to change our lives, as any parent can testify to. Watching them grow, change, become the people they are going to be fills us with joy, makes us laugh, causes us to worry, and sometimes tears our hearts out watching them struggle with real life situations. I can't help but think this was true for Mary as well.

The birth of this tiny child we will celebrate again this Christmas changed her not only as a parent, but spiritually as well. To start a marriage and family under the duress her and Joseph did is hard enough. To do so being told that this child will save the world is even more miraculous and stressful. Just look at the transformation that happens in scripture though.

Mary goes from being perplexed and pondering the greeting of the angel Gabriel that she is going to have the Christ child (having faith, but a little uncertain), to receiving the shepherds and their stories reassuring her and pondering their message in heart (her faith growing stronger as people she does not know tell her the message again), to hearing the message one more time from world travelers and scholars in the Magi (now beginning to see her faith come to life worldwide), to eventually following Jesus right to the foot of the cross (her faith completed in the selfless act of her son in saving the lives of all who would believe). All of this from the birth of one tiny child born to be our Savior! Her life forever changed and transformed in perfect love!

May we all have a very “Mary” Christmas this year! May we be transformed and forever changed by the birth of the Christ child!

God Bless You All!

—Pastor Burt

LET'S MAKE A RUCCUS!

Roberts *UCC* Understanding Scripture

UPCOMING DATES

**5:30pm Potluck - 7:15pm Closing
Worship**

Wednesday, December 4th

Christmas Program Practice

Wednesday, December 11th

Christmas Program Practice

***We will resume our regular schedule on
January 15th!***



**RUCCUS Kids and
Christian Education Team
presents**

NEW STAR

A STORY GUIDING US TO THY PERFECT LIGHT

Dec 14th at 11am

**Followed by
Cookie Fellowship**



2024 CHRISTMAS FUND RAISER



Our Christmas Fund Raiser started in November. We have a variety of Ornaments, Decorations, Magnets, and Nativities for sale. I have and will continue to send the catalog of items and prices, as well as order forms with the "This Week's Thoughts and Happening" emails. All the items are on display in the Narthex of the church if you would like to see them in person. Order forms can be turned into the office (please submit your payment with the order) and the items will be available within a week of ordering. Many of the items are already on hand and available immediately at time of ordering. The nativities will be produced as ordered.

If you would like a copy of the order form or catalog, please email me at pastor@robertsucc.org and one can be sent to you. Feel free to show the catalog and order forms to friends and family. The more we sell, the more our church family will raise!

Orders should be placed by **December 15th** if you would like them before Christmas. Thank you.

3rd ANNUAL CHRISTMAS COOKIE SALE **Sunday, December 15** **11:00am**

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!

THANK YOU, BAKERS!

For the upcoming Christmas Cookie Sale on December 15, volunteer bakers are asked to make 3 dozen of one type of cookie/treat.

Goodies can be dropped off in the church office either
 Friday, December 13 from 8:30am to 12:30pm OR
 Saturday, December 14 from 9:00am to 11:00am.

Note: Please bring your cookies to the Office not the Kitchen!



Our RUCC
 Fundraiser will be
 at
 Christmas on Main
 December 14th
 11am – 3pm

DONATION OPTIONS

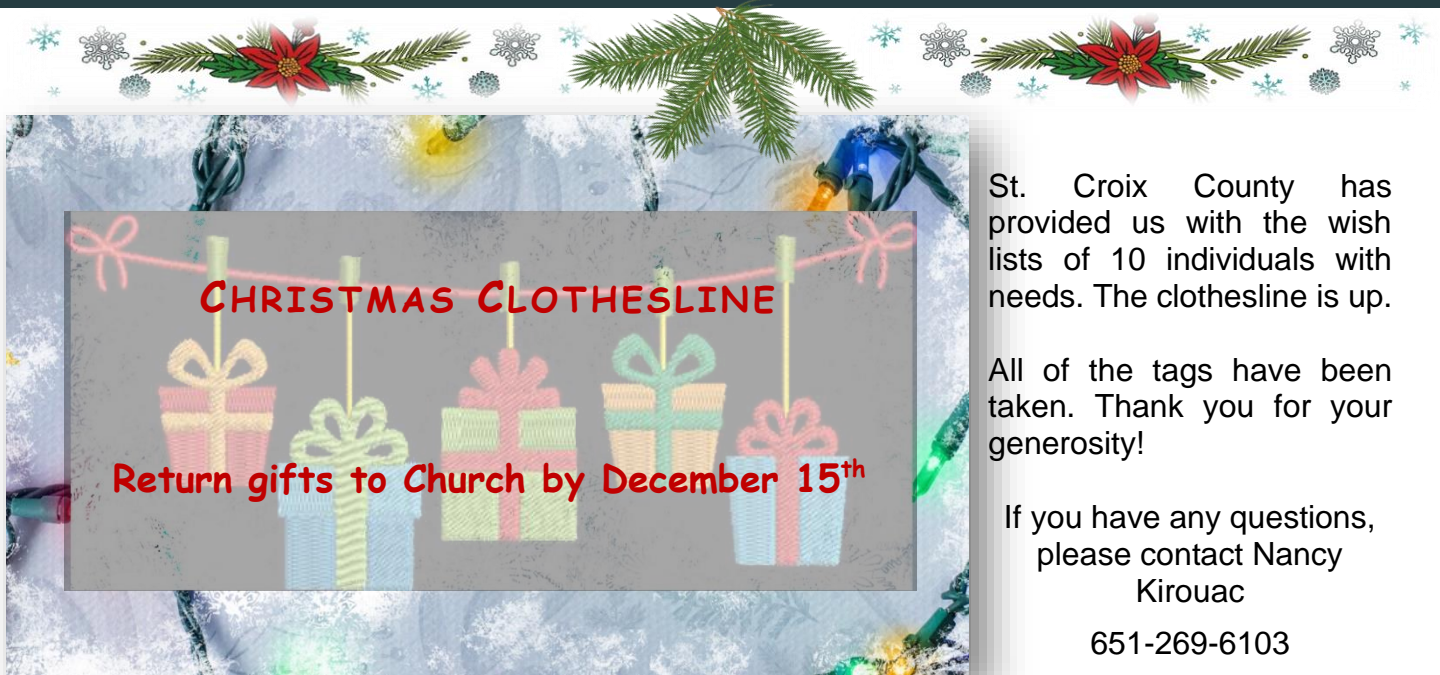
Our church offers **Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT)** to make your gift giving easier.

Your EFT will occur on the 15th of each month based on your designated amount. Simply contact the church office to fill out a form.

You may also donate through our website, www.robertsucc.org/giving. Choose "give now." Then use **PayPal** or a **credit/debit card**. Our site is secure & your information is safe.

PLEASE NOTE - if you already give through EFT, we will need to let us know if you plan to continue and a new authorization for 2025.

Any questions and for a form, please contact the office.* Thank you!



St. Croix County has provided us with the wish lists of 10 individuals with needs. The clothesline is up.

All of the tags have been taken. Thank you for your generosity!

If you have any questions, please contact Nancy Kirouac

651-269-6103



December 1 - Christmas cards for Veterans - CE will be collecting Christmas cards to be sent to the Chippewa Falls Veterans Home as part of the Red Cross Hope for Heroes program. Please use a vague greeting when addressing cards as we do not have a list of names.

December 8 - Following service, CE welcomes everyone to head to the Hammond nursing home with us for Christmas Caroling. If they are under quarantine, we will still sing just from outside so bring warm clothes just in case.

December 15 - Kids (and congregation) will be invited to share their favorite things about Church, RUCCUS and our ministries.

December 22 - Following service, CE and kids will be packaging goodie bags for anyone attending Christmas Eve service to deliver to those working that day (gas stations, grocery stores etc.) and share some Christmas love. If anyone wants to donate goodies like candy canes, baked goods, or other ideas, we will welcome them. Please let a CE team member know.



The Christmas Fund for Veterans of the Cross and the Emergency Fund

Gifts to the Christmas Fund provide retired and active pastors, lay church workers, and their families with direct financial assistance to supplement pensions, help with the cost of medical insurance, provide a thank-you gift at Christmas, and meet emergency needs. Thank you for your generosity!

If you care to give, our donation envelopes will be in our December 22nd bulletins.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP DINNER COMMITTEES FOR 2025

Women's Fellowship meetings are open to all and held at 3:30 p.m. on the first Thursday of the month, except for June and July.

The monthly Community Dinner follows from 4:30 – 6:30 p.m.

Chairperson of the committee needs to be REIMBURSED for expenses beyond any food donated.

All (hot) main entrees are to be dished up from the service window. Sides can be on a self-serve table.

Each committee determines their menu and needs to take home everything they bring. Nothing should be left in the refrigerator.

If you cannot serve at your appointed time, please notify your chairperson. If you are not listed and would like to serve, please contact one of the Executive Committee members.

Serve dinner from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Plan food for 50-75 people

Note: All food must be made at the church –STATE LAW!!

January 2, 2025

Nancy Kirouac
**Chairman
Mary Grupe (furnish only)
Carol & Terry Dull
Roene Frederick
Mandy Clay
Megan Frye
Betty Schultz
Mary Schultz

February 6, 2025

Lori Jurek **Chairman
Jacque Nelson
Sheryl Budrow
Dawn Budrow
Toni Williams

March 6, 2025

Dianne Loewel *Co-Chair
Katy Kapaun *Co-Chair
Audrey Ackley
Jean Johnson
Chris
Bohl

April 3, 2025

Margie Ricci *Co-Chair
Mary Thorsen *Co-Chair
Laurie Monteith
Danielle Johnson
Jane Bond
Kelly Hueman

May 1, 2025

Judy Snoeyenbos
**Chairman
Betty Schultz
Mary Schultz
Cheryl Cowles
Lori Jurek
Toni Williams
Laurene Ray

June, July & Aug 2025**September 4, 2025**

Katy Kapaun *Co-Chair
Dianne Loewel *Co-Chair
Laura Logas
Wanda Hopkins
Trudy Hinkel
Elizabeth Croes

October 2, 2025

Lori Jurek **Chairman
Nancy Kirouac
Darla Ramberg
Toni Williams
Beth Rogers
Deb Phillips
Duane Loewel

November 6, 2025

Michelle Hansen *Co-Chair
Laurene Ray *Co-Chair
Pat Colbeth
Glenda Hansen
Suzie Lange
Nancee Hurlburt
Mary Jo Ball
Sally Mahlstadt

December 4, 2025

Patti Robertson
**Chairman
Sharon Pizzi
Lori Gulich
Judy Snoeyenbos
Laura Logas
Lori Jurek

January 2, 2026

Nancy Kirouac **Chairman
Mary Grupe (furnish only)
Carol & Terry Dull
Roene Frederick
Mandy Clay
Megan Frye
Betty Schultz
Mary Schultz

February 5, 2026

Lori Jurek **Chairman
Jacque Nelson
Sheryl Budrow
Dawn Budrow
Toni Williams

Executive Committee

President: Judy Snoeyenbos 715-410-1909
Vice President: Lori Jurek 715-220-7432
Secretary: Nancy Kirouac 651-269-6103
Treasurer: Judy Snoeyenbos 715-410-1909

On-Call List

(Will serve additional months if needed.)

Lori Jurek
Dianne Loewel
Laura Logas
Connie Mueller

Judy Snoeyenbos
Mary Thorsen
Laurene Ray

COMMUNITY DINNER

Sponsored by Women's Fellowship

Thursday, DECEMBER 5, 2024

4:30 P.M. - 6:30 p.m.



Scalloped Potatoes with Ham
Caesar Salad | Vegetable
Pickles & Olives | Dinner Rolls
Assorted Desserts | Milk & Coffee

Adults: \$7.00 Children \$4.00

5 & Under: FREE

Take out is available upon request.

**SANTA'S
SECRET DINNER**
DEC. 7TH @ 5PM

Naughty/Nice tickets can be bought the night of the event. The **Rules of Engagement** explain how the secret dinner works and why the Naughty/Nice tickets will come in handy. These can be found on the bulletin board, as well as the calendar of events on our website, www.robertsucc/events. Open the event and click on more details to find out how much fun the dinner will be!



SHIFT! Will be bringing a meal to the residents of Grace Place on December 19th.

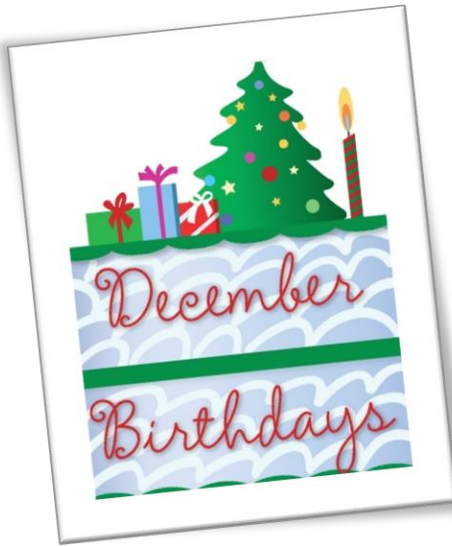
Your past support and donations have been well received and greatly appreciated!

If you would like to contribute again, there is a box and a complete list located by the nursery.

2025 BULLETIN SPONSORSHIP

How does it work? Congregants choose a date for a special person or special event to be remembered, to be honored, or to be celebrated. The information will appear in the bulletin so the congregation can come alongside in remembering, honoring, or celebrating. In the past, members have given a \$15 free-will donation to the church. This has been helpful in offsetting the cost of bulletin expenses. If you choose to donate, please do so prior to your chosen sponsorship date. If paying by check, please make payable to RUCC, noting "bulletin sponsorship" in the memo line.

Sign up in the narthex or go to <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0C4EABA92AA3FAC61-53283980-2025#/>

**December 1**

Cole Delander

December 2

Justin Johnson

Tony Jurek

December 3

Cecil Brighton

Mandy Clay

Aubrey Mondry

December 4

Melanie Robelia

December 5

Nancee Hurlburt

Dianne Loewel

December 6

Burt Williams

December 7

Trudy Hinkel

December 12

Presley Dull

Keith Logas

December 13

Dan Frye

December 16

Aidan Hansen

David Lindquist

December 17

Rylee Muller

December 18

Brian Wille

December 19

Emma Delander

Shawn Vorwald

December 20

Scarlett Logas

December 21

Grant Gooding

December 22

Janice Kuschel

Luke Vorwald

December 27

Adele Ament

December 28

Don Graf

December 29

Mike Kamm



A BIG thank you to those who came out and decorated our Sanctuary for Christmas. Our poinsettias will be added upon arrival.

December 1

Carol & Terry McKinley

December 2

Dan & Megan Frye

December 3

Mike & Pamela Kamm

**December 13**

Dave & Roxie "Hatch

December 31

Donna & Wayne Hadley

PLEASE HOLD THE FOLLOWING IN PRAYER

Earl Pechuman
Audrey Ackley
Terrill Florczyk
Sharon Johnson
Wanda Hopkins
Kinsley Bruun

Linda Hall
Tom Sullwold
Joyce Johnson
Lowell Johnson
Andrew Korn

Terry McKinley
Allison
Brian Wille
Dixie Helders
Rodney Korn



For 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. If you, or anyone you know, would like to be added to the prayer list, please let us know.

Thank you for helping to keep our prayer list current.

CHURCH COUNCIL
ROBERTS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF CHRIST
November 7, 2024

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

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

Meeting opening prayer was led by Duane.

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

Christian Education:

- Final plans being made for Santa's Secret Dinner on December 7th. The last day for sales is November 24th.
- RUCCUS is going well
- Christmas program is on December 14th.
- Initial planning for a potential New Year's Day family game get-together.
- Following Christmas, the first meeting of RUCCUS will be Jan. 15th. That will be a game night.

Church Board Team:

- Pastor Burt went over the Revive program with the team.
- Been discussing how to bring more people into the church.
- The team has developed questions that they will be asking weekly, to get more information in how our people currently see our church and how we want to be seen in the community.

Deacons:

- The first Sunday of Advent is December 1st. Plans were made in preparation for the decorating on Nov. 24th. The theme is yet to be decided as of the time that the Deacons met.
- Christmas Eve services will be held at 4:30 P.M. and 11:00 P.M.
- For the next few months, the congregation will be reminded of the purpose of the Connect Cards and the Prayer Cards. All will be encouraged to use them.
- Discussion was held about the offices that need to be filled for 2025. Currently, there are openings on Deacons and Christian Education. The clerk position has been filled and discussions need to be held yet with members who are currently serving in a position or on a board to see if they would be willing to continue for another term.

Pastor's Report:

- Scripture is being posted on the screens during worship. There has been positive feedback regarding this change in worship.
- Pastor is encouraging more people to get involved in Sunday morning worship (ushering, reading, etc)
- Dawn Budrow and the pastor are recording hymns which can be used during the service.
- It is being planned to create an outdoor nativity scene for the Advent/Christmas season.

S.H.I.F.T

- Met in October
- Feel Good Kits continue to be requested. Thirty more were recently sent out.
- The annual Christmas Cookie Sale will be December 15 following the worship service.

Trustees:

- New security lights were installed around the building.
- A new refrigerator is coming soon. Kathy Johnson Memorial Funds are paying for half of the refrigerator and Katy Kapaun is paying for the other half.
- The doors have been weather stripped.

Continued next page.

CHURCH COUNCIL *(Continued)***ROBERTS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF CHRIST****November 7, 2024**

- The 2025 budget will be nearly completed during the November meeting with some final touches to be added at the end of the year.
- The old piano in the Fellowship Hall was unusable and could not be fixed. It was taken apart and removed from the church.
- The trustees elected to stay with the current insurance company.
- The roadside sign continues to be a topic of discussion. Replacing it is cost prohibited. One idea is to build a frame around it to make it look more appealing and inviting. Tony will look into what other churches may have done, come up with a cost, and present it to the trustee. LED lights will also be installed on the sign.
- Duane asked Tony to clarify in what means people may contribute financially to the church. Currently, we are not taking credit cards. Venmo has been the best option thus far.

Women's Fellowship:

- They have been asked to host a special dinner for the Roberts Sesquicentennial Celebration in 2025. A discussion will be held with follow-up reported to Council at the next meeting. Lori will be contacting Katy Kapaun about ways to provide a meal for this event. They have requested the traditional New England Dinner.
- The monthly committee lists have been completed, and they will be included in the December newsletter.
- Nancy has received requests for the Christmas Clothesline. That line will be posted soon.
- Three thousand dollars was transferred to the General Fund to assist in off-setting the costs of some needed repairs in the church.

Meetings:

Next meeting: Dec. 5 (6 P.M.) Toni will do the opening.

Respectfully submitted,

Connie Mueller, Church Clerk

NOTES FROM THE TREASURER

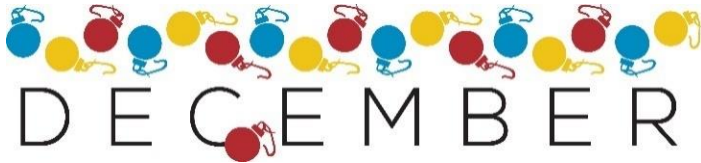
Detailed minutes of the Trustee meetings, including full financial statements are available upon request

General Fund Financial Summary as of October 31, 2024**Statement of Activity**

Income/Contributions	\$ 16,997.54
Facility Use Income	600.00
Fundraising Income	0
Interest	0.36
Total Income	17,597.90
Expenses	23,931.56
Transfers from other accounts	0.00
	<u>\$ (6,333.66)</u>

Statement of Financial Position

Assets	
General Accounts	\$ 9,284.51
Other Bank Accounts	19,645.51
Fixed Assets	1,874,642.28
Total Assets	<u>\$ 1,903,572.30</u>
Liabilities & Equity	
Accrued Expenses	\$ 0.00
Bank Mortgage Balances	547,775.96
Member Balances	150,000.00
Total Liabilities	697,775.96
Equity	1,205,796.34
Total Liabilities & Equity	<u>\$ 1,903,572.30</u>



Please go to our web site for our real time calendar.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 1st Sunday of Advent 10am Worship w/Holy Communion	2 6:30pm CBT Meeting	3 6:00pm Deacons Meeting	4 5:30pm RUCCUS Potluck 6pm Christmas Program Practice 6:15pm Bell Choir	5 3:30pm WF Meeting 4:30pm Community Dinner 6pm Council Meeting	6	7 5:00pm Santa's Secret Dinner
8 10am Worship <i>RaiseRight Orders Due</i>	9 6:30pm SHIFT! Meeting	10 6pm CE Meeting	11 5:30pm RUCCUS Potluck 6pm Christmas Program Practice 6:15pm Bell Choir	12	13 8:30am-12:30pm Cookie Sale Drop-Off	14 9am-11am Cookie Drop-Off 10am Christmas Program Practice 11am Christmas Program w/ Cookie Fellowship 11am – 3:00pm RUCC at Christmas on Main
15 10am Worship <i>Annual Reports</i> 11am SHIFT's 3 rd Annual Cookie Sale	16	17 6:30pm Trustees Meeting	18 6:15pm Bell Choir	19 5pm SHIFT! @ Grace Place	20 <i>Newsletter Deadline</i>	21
22 10am Worship <i>RaiseRight Orders Due</i>	23	24 Christmas Eve Services 4:30pm Family- Style w/communion 11pm Candlelight w/communion	25 Christmas Day	26	27	28
29 10am Worship	30	31 New Year's Eve	1 New Year's Day <i>Church Office Closed</i>	2 3:30pm WF Meeting 4:30pm Community Dinner 6pm Council Meeting	3	4

**ANNUAL
MEETING**

January 19th
(Following
Worship)



Roberts Congregational United Church of Christ

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