



# 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

Nov. 3, 10, 17, & 24

10:00 a.m.

Communion offered

November 3<sup>rd</sup>

### ONLINE WORSHIP

<https://www.robertsucc.org/g/media/>

### NOVEMBER DATES TO REMEMBER

November 6<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup>

RUCCUS

November 7<sup>th</sup>

Community Dinner

November 20<sup>th</sup>

Blood Drive

November 21<sup>st</sup>

Mandala Ornament & Rock Painting Class

November 24<sup>th</sup>

Advent Decorating – All Church Participation

November 28<sup>th</sup>

Thanksgiving Meals

Available - Plates by Kate



*Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.*

**- 2 Corinthians 9:7**

We are coming up on that time of year for Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Stewardship Drives. We have just held our Stewardship Sunday celebration, and I talked at length about the spiritual practice of Stewardship. There are other reasons for giving though. Sometimes it is an act of gratitude. Sometimes it is a way of showing just how much someone else means to us. Sometimes it is just because it makes us feel good.

Giving is better than receiving in my book. Although I am not opposed to a gift from the heart, we live in a world that has created more holidays and giving opportunities than most of us have time or resources for. We are forced to become better stewards of the gifts God has given us or run the risk of being very unhappy servants of the world. In the very same breath being a cheerful giver is not about doing only what we want to, but what we feel we are called to...where we feel most passionately God is giving us the gifts and resources to use. Then once we have made that commitment (decision), we need to do so with a happy heart. By doing so, we begin to feel a sense of accomplishment and worth.

Too often we get caught up in giving because we are told we must, and we spend inordinate resources on things which leave us feeling unfulfilled and stretched beyond our means. This in turn adds more stress to our daily lives than is truly necessary. We become so overwhelmed that even those things which fulfill us and bring meaning to our lives become burdens.

Our God has given us so much...family, jobs, homes, faith, friends, food, time...yet the question remains, "Are we being good stewards of these gifts?"

*Continued next page.*



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](mailto:pastor@robertsucc.org) | \*Office: [secretary@robertsucc.org](mailto:secretary@robertsucc.org)

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



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One way of answering that question is to measure what we are doing by how fulfilled we are. For instance, a high paying job that leaves us with no time for home and family may leave us feeling very lonely and depressed. Or, buying a dozen roses to show our love, when an evening at home making dinner and spending quality time with one another may have done so much more, can leave us in a bind financially when the next emergency comes up.

Giving in ways which fulfill us is very important and is truly what God is looking for. What are you passionate about? What gifts has God given you which when you use them leave you feeling fulfilled. Make a conscience effort to place more value and time on those types of giving in the seasons to come. Of course, there are those things which we must do and do not leave us with the same level of fulfillment, and these are important as well. Just make sure that these things are not your only focus and you make time to spend time with God in doing the things you have been gifted with and help you to feel a sense of fulfillment. It is a wonderful way of spending time with God!

Take some time today to look at what God has given you. Ask where you truly feel God is calling you and where you feel most fulfilled. Then make the conscious decision to give with joy and peace to those things!

– Pastor Burt



## CHRISTMAS FUND RAISER



We have just begun our Christmas Fund Raiser for this year. We have a variety of Ornaments, 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 form 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](mailto: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!

**Feed My Starving Children Update**

FMSC is an organization that packs nutritious meals. These meals get distributed to hungry children around the world.

On October 12<sup>th</sup>, our small but MIGHTY Feed My Starving Children volunteer group helped pack a total of 17,280 meals.

A thank you to all for your NOISY COLLECTIONS on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month. We collected a total of \$170.00. This was donated to Feed My Starving Children.



St. Croix County has provided us with the wish lists of 10 individuals with needs. The clothesline will be up by November 24<sup>th</sup> and gifts will be due back at church by December 15<sup>th</sup>.

If you have any questions, please contact Nancy Kirouac 651-269-6103

**COMMUNITY DINNER**

Sponsored by Women's fellowship  
**Thursday, NOVEMBER 7, 2024**  
**4:30 P.M. - 6:30 p.m.**

Meatballs, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy  
 Corn, Coleslaw, Rolls, & Desserts  
 Coffee & Milk



Adults: \$7.00  
 Children \$4.00  
 5 & Under: FREE  
 Take out is available upon request.

**CHURCH DECORATING**

Sunday November 24<sup>th</sup>  
 11:00 a.m. (following worship)

All are invited and welcome to come help decorate the church for Advent, which begins Sunday, December 1<sup>st</sup>.

SAVE THE DATES...



**SANTA'S SECRET DINNER**  
**DEC. 7TH @ 5PM**  
*Santa has made his list and he's checking it twice. Will you be listed as **naughty** or **nice**?*

**TICKETS \$10**

- ✔ Build Your Own 3 Course Meal
- ✔ Christmas Karaoke
- ✔ Ugly Sweater Contest
- ✔ \$2 Naughty/Nice Tickets

Limited Tickets Available  
 Contact a CE member to purchase tickets by Nov.24th  
 Dietary Restriction Options Available Upon Request  
 For more information, contact a Christian Education Member or visit [robertsucc.org/events/](http://robertsucc.org/events/)

**Naughty/Nice tickets** can be purchased 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](http://www.robertsucc/events). Open the event and click on more details to find out how much fun the dinner will be!



**3<sup>rd</sup> 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!

**BAKERS NEEDED!**  
 SHIFT is looking for volunteers to bake & donate cookies for the upcoming Christmas Cookie Sale on December 15. Volunteers are asked to make 3 dozen of one type of cookie/treat.  
 Look for the sign-up sheet in the Narthex.

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!



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



**CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES**

**Tuesday, December 24<sup>th</sup>**

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

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

**DONATION OPTIONS**


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

Your EFT will occur on the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month based on your designated amount. Simply contact the church office to fill out a form. EFT's can be started any month of the year. If necessary, your EFT can also be stopped.


You may also donate through our website, [www.robertsucc.org/giving](http://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 new authorization for 2025. Thank you.

Please contact the office.\*



**Blood Drive**  
**Roberts Community**  
**Roberts Congregational**  
**United Church of Christ**  
 1001 Birch Dr  
**Wednesday, November 20, 2024**  
**8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**



**Mandala Christmas Ornament & Rock Painting Class**

**Thursday, November 21<sup>st</sup>**  
**6:00pm – 8:00pm**



This is a great way to tap into your creative self. Join us in exploring how to find peace & relaxation while creating an intricate and original Mandala ornament or rock.

**\$25 Includes all materials & instructions.**

**Contact Deb Phillips 651-303-2203**  
[deblouden@yahoo.com](mailto:deblouden@yahoo.com)



**FEEL-GOOD KITS**

SHIFT will continue to assemble and distribute **Feel-Good Kits** as needed,

to school age children. This project is to help youth in the community feel good about themselves as they start their day. Each kit includes a card reminding the recipient they are loved and offers them blessings!

Thank you for your past generosity. While we have a number of supplies on hand, we will need some additional supplies to fulfill requests. We hope to bless as many children as possible again this year.

There is a collection basket in the narthex if you'd like to contribute any of the following items:

- Chapstick/Lip Balm
- Travel sized hand lotion
- Regular sized Toothpaste
- Toothbrushes
- Pocket packs of Kleenex

**Thank you!**

NOTES FROM THE TREASURER

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

General Fund Financial Summary as of September 30, 2024

Statement of Activity

Income/Contributions	\$ 18,658.26
Facility Use Income	600.00
Fundraising Income	0
Interest	0.49
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>19,258.75</b>
Expenses	20,409.81
Transfers from other accounts	0.00
<b>\$ (1,151.06)</b>	

Statement of Financial Position

<b>Assets</b>	
General Accounts	\$ 15,618.17
Other Bank Accounts	12,358.51
Fixed Assets	1,874,642.28
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 1,902,618.96</b>
<b>Liabilities &amp; Equity</b>	
Accrued Expenses	\$ 0.00
Bank Mortgage Balances	547,775.96
Member Balances	150,000.00
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>697,775.96</b>
Equity	1,204,843.00
<b>Total Liabilities &amp; Equity</b>	<b>\$ 1,902,618.96</b>



**THANKSGIVING DINNER**

Provided to you by  
Plate by Kate

Pick up at Roberts UCC  
1001 Birch Drive  
Roberts, WI.

Pick up Thanksgiving Day (Thursday, Nov. 28th)  
Between 10 am and Noon

Delivery available upon request

**ROASTED TURKEY and BAKED HAM**  
With Mashed Potatoes and Gravy, Green Bean Casserole or Broccoli with cheese sauce, Dressing, Dinner roll with butter pats, and your choice of Pumpkin or Apple Pie.  
\$14.00 per person

**Other Items Available to add to your meal**

- SWEET POTATOES
- HOMEMADE MAC and CHEESE
- CHEESEY HASHBROWNS
- WHOLE PIES  
Apple, Pumpkin, Banana Cream or Pecan

**PLACE YOUR ORDER BY CONTACTING KATY KAPAUN @ 715.222.8153**

**LET'S MAKE A RUCCUS!**

ROBERTS UCC UNDERSTANDING SCRIPTURE

**OCTOBER**  
2ND - STEP ONE, TRUST GOD  
16TH - STEP TWO, TALK TO GOD  
5:30 PM POTLUCK MEAL

**NOVEMBER**  
6TH - STEP THREE, LISTEN TO GOD  
20TH - STEP FOUR, LEAVE THE RESULTS TO GOD  
6:00 PM FAMILY WORSHIP

**DECEMBER**  
4TH & 11TH - CHRISTMAS PROGRAM PRACTICE  
14TH - CHRISTMAS PROGRAM  
10 AM PRACTICE  
11 AM PROGRAM  
6:30 PM ADULT/CHILD STUDY  
7:15 PM CLOSING WORSHIP

**ALL ARE WELCOME**  
All are invited to come and join us as a church family. Please bring a dish to pass, beverages and plates/utensils for your group/family.

We would love to have more of you join us each Wednesday.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT  
CE@ROBERTSUCC.ORG**



**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 30**  
Lori Jurek

***We are not aware of any November Anniversaries***



**PLEASE HOLD THE FOLLOWING IN PRAYER**

Earl Pechuman  
Audrey Ackley  
Terrill Florcyk  
Axel Fischbach  
Dixie Helder  
Rodney Korn

Linda Hall  
Tom Sullwold  
Joyce Johnson  
Sharon Johnson  
Wanda Hopkins  
Kiley Bruun

Terry McKinley  
Allison  
Brian Wille  
Lowell Johnson  
Andrew Korn  
Elfrieda Johnson

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.

*Thank you for helping to keep the prayer list up to date.*

***Please contact the \*church office with changes.***



**ROBERTS FOOD PANTRY**  
*Giving Hope to Our Neighbors*

**OPEN WEEKLY**

***Tuesdays & Thursdays***  
9:00am – 11:30am

***Wednesdays***  
6:30pm – 8:00pm

Do you or anyone you know need help with groceries? The **Roberts Food Pantry** can help.

We **thank you** for your continued support. Donations are always welcome.

We are running low on: Pancake mix, syrup, pudding, cereal, Hamburger Helper, salt, Jell-O, Kleenex, cereal, and oatmeal. We can always use Brown Paper, and White Plastic Bags.

Thank You!

**CHURCH COUNCIL UPDATES**  
**ROBERTS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
**October 3, 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**

**No meeting was held. Updates were submitted to Connie for distribution.**

**Women's Fellowship:**

- Meeting will be held on October 3
- The Fall Rummage Sale was very successful. We brought in \$1,687.00. Our thanks to all the volunteers, donors, and shoppers who made this event possible.
- There will be a review and updating of monthly community dinner committees. Please let WF know if you would like to be added or removed from a committee.
- The kitchen has been inspected. No violations were found. Inspector offered some good reminders and suggestions that Judy shared with the group.
- 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.

**Deacons:**

- Stewardship Sunday: October 20<sup>th</sup>. Letters have been mailed.
- Advent: Begins on December 1<sup>st</sup>. Church decorating will take place on November 24<sup>th</sup> following worship service. All are welcome to stay and participate. Megan will be in charge of the poinsettia order for this year. Christmas Eve services will be held at 4:30 and 11:00 P.M. More details discussing the theme for Advent will be developed and discussed at the November meeting.
- Reaching out to visitors and existing members: New pew cards were available last Sunday. It was decided that something should be put in the bulletin weekly to explain to all what they are and the purpose.

**S.H.I.F.T**

- No meeting in September
- The next meeting is October 14.
- Feel Good Kits will be assembled at the October meeting.
- Hosting a Mandela Rock or Ornament Painting Class on November 21 from 6 to 8 P.M.
- The annual Christmas Cookie Sale will be December 15 following the worship service.

**Trustees:**

- Financial team will be restructuring the filing system (with the help of Kelly Hueman) as it's needed.
- Check in with Katy was done by Tony. Both agree the church's relationship with Plates by Kate is going well. A few items were addressed including cleaning up the storage closet and making sure the doors are securely shut. Also addressed the potential purchase of an additional refrigerator which Katy is willing to contribute toward.
- Request for a motion sensor light switch in the kitchen pantry would be excellent for making sure that light is turned off. Tony will purchase and install such device.
- Roger Ray is looking into replacing our expensive to run 3 outdoor security wall packs with LED. He has a line on those replacement parts but is concerned about the height of the light over the fellowship hall door. Tony has a ladder that will work and volunteered to install that light after Roger purchases them.
- The old piano in the Fellowship Hall is unusable and cannot be fixed. Roger, Don, and Dylan are going to break it down, recycle the metal parts, and burn the rest of the piano at Roger's house.
- Seal-coating approved, scheduled, and now completed. Many thanks to all who spent time pulling the weeds out of the cracks in order to prevent weeds in the future.
- 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 trustees.

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**CHURCH COUNCIL UPDATES**  
**ROBERTS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
**October 3, 2024**

- A surprise inspection of the kitchen was completed. Everything passed.
- Lori and Tony will decalcify the dishwasher in the kitchen.

**Church Board Team:**

- Continuing to meet and good progress has been made.
- Deciding on what would be a win for each team as they are setting goals.
- A presentation will be given at the annual meeting on the progress of this group.

**Christian Education: (report submitted by Toni)**

- RUCCUS starts October 2
- Confirmation curriculum has been ordered and we are working through figuring that all out. Hoping to start classes early 2025.
- CE is most likely hosting a booth for the Roberts Chamber Trick or Treat on Main. October 31<sup>st</sup> right after the school parade if anyone wants to help us hand out candy.
- Christmas program practice starts the first Wednesday of December.
- Christmas program is December 14.
- Santa's Secret Dinner will be held on Saturday, December 7, starting at 5 pm with a karaoke caroling contest (with a prize for the winner), some yummy food, and definitely a lot of fun!

**Meetings:**

Next meeting: Nov. 7 (6 P.M.)

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Connie Mueller, Church Clerk**



**GIFT CARD  
PROGRAM**

**Did you know you can do your own shopping or buy gift cards to give away through our church? There are 100's of popular retailers that give a percentage back to RUCC.**

***We have three \$100 County Market gift card available on site. Contact Dianne or stop in the office.***

**Browse First:** <https://www.raiseright.com/>.

When you are ready to order online, contact: **Dianne Loewel:** [dianne.loewel@gmail.com](mailto:dianne.loewel@gmail.com) to obtain a code & create an account, or with questions.

Or print a form <http://www.robertsucc.org/mt-content/uploads/2023/05/raiseright-form.pdf>. Drop off or mail your completed form with payment to the church.

**1 more way to order:** Forms can be found at church. Place completed forms, along with payment in the *RaiseRight* box.

Orders are placed the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> week each month. Dianne will contact you when your gift card(s) are ready.



***Thank you for your faithful giving.***

Please watch your mail for your **3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Giving Statements**. If you have any questions or do not receive yours, please contact the office.

**PLEDGE CARDS**

If you didn't have a chance to return yours on October 20<sup>th</sup>, Stewardship Sunday, you can either place it in the collection plate, drop it in the office, send by mail, or email [secretary@robertsucc.org](mailto:secretary@robertsucc.org).



# N·O·V·E·M·B·E·R

For the real-time calendar, please go to our website listed below.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 Daylight Savings Time Ends
3 10am Worship w/Holy Communion	4	5 6pm Deacons Meeting	6 5:30pm RUCCUC Potluck 6pm RUCCUS Program & Worship 6:15pm Bell Choir	7 3:30pm WF Meeting 4:30pm Community Dinner 6pm Council Meeting	8	9
10 10am Worship <i>RaiseRight Orders Due</i>	11 Veterans Day	12 6pm CE Meeting	13 6:15 Bell Choir	14	15	16
17 10am Worship	18	19 6:30pm Trustees Meeting	20 8am – 1pm Blood Drive 5:30pm RUCCUS Potluck 6pm RUCCUS Program & Worship 6:15 Bell Choir	21 6pm – 8pm Mandala Christmas Ornament & Rock Painting Class	22	23
24 10am Worship 11am Advent Decorating (all church invitation) <i>RaiseRight Orders Due</i>	25	26	27	28 Happy Thanksgiving! <i>Office Closed Plates by Kate Thanksgiving Take-out Meals available 10-12</i>	29	30



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**CONNECT BY PHONE**  
**APP AVAILABLE**  
 SEE LORI JUREK FOR HELP OR QUESTIONS