



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

Jan. 5, 12, 19, & 26

10:00 a.m.

Communion is offered

Jan. 5th

ONLINE WORSHIP

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

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

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

DATES TO REMEMBER

January 2nd

Community

Dinner

January 15th

RUCCUS Resumes

January 17th

Blood Drive

January 19th

Annual Meeting &

Potluck



Happy New Year, one and all!

What a wonderful Advent and Christmas season we have had. With another year in the books and a new one beginning we have a clean slate full of possibilities for worship, service, fellowship, and learning together, living into the Spirit and the word of God. I am excited to see what the new year brings for us.

As I look at the year, we have just had I am reminded of the generosity and faithful hearts of this church family and the communities we serve and live in. Over the past year we have many joyful moments within worship and events which I am grateful for. As I look to the new year, I am interested in where all of you would like to go. As a family and individually, what are your needs, desires, inspirations, and aspirations? I am looking for ways to help us all be fed in the Spirit while having closer relationships with God and one another.

We have many old favorites which will continue to happen and programs that are budding into wonderful new life for us. What are some things we can do together which will continue move us forward? Are there things you have seen elsewhere you would like to try? Are there things we have done in the past you would like to try to revive or adapt into something new? The possibilities are unending, but I am interested in what people within the congregation want to be involved in. Let your imaginations and inspirations fly free and let's see what we may be able to do together. The key here is to do things which people want to be involved in.

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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

from the PASTOR

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That being said, these do not all have to be things which are only our church family doing. They do not have to have full congregational involvement. It may be small groups or large engagements. It is important that what we do interest and feed those who participate. Some of the things I have heard so far in conversation are: more live music during worship (which we are working on), a missions project where a group goes out to serve somewhere, crafting nights, game nights, a craft show held here, possible one day retreats. What are some thoughts you have?

This is not a rhetorical question. Church leadership and I are interested in actually hearing from you. Maybe there is a need you or someone you know of has which we could be fulfilling. I know one of the things I have been reflecting on as of late has been what groups of people are we missing both within our congregation and our communities? I have put a lot of time into trying to build up the RUCCUS program we have developed over the last two years because there was a need brought to me about having more family type activities within the church. That program is doing well and able to stand on its own now and it is time to look for the next thing to put effort into.

Let's start planning on some things to begin this next year which will help feed us and bring us closer together! Peace and God bless you all!

– Pastor Burt

Christian Education



Thanks to all who came to see our New Star program on December 14th. The kids and director Jenny did an amazing job.

Continued next page

*Continued from previous page*CHRISTIAN EDUCATIONUPDATE


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

For those who purchased tickets to Santa's Secret Dinner, it is going to be rescheduled. Please watch for a future date.

LET'S MAKE A RUCCUS!

Roberts UCC Understanding Scripture

RUCCUS RESUMES

Wednesday,
January 15th



We invite you all to join us for our first night of RUCCUS in the new year on January 15th. Potluck is at 5:30 and a welcome back family game night starts at 6pm!

January brings a new beginning for four of the youth in our church. We will be starting the **Confirm not Conform** program with an I Commit pledge during our regular worship service on January 19th. We ask that you consider keeping these youngsters in your prayers as they take this step in better understanding and being responsible for their continued faith journey!



Confirm NOT
CONFORM

COMMUNITY DINNER

**Thursday, January 2, 2024
4:30p.m.- 6:30p.m.**

**Meatloaf & Baked Potato,
Green Beans, Rolls, Strawberry Shortcake,
Relish Tray
Coffee & Milk**



Sponsored by Women's Fellowship



2024 CHRISTMAS FUND RAISER UPDATE

Thank you to all who participated and purchased items from our Christmas Fundraiser.

We raised \$1,276.38 from the items which were sold!



ANNUAL MEETING

& POTLUCK

January 19th

(Following Worship)

CHRISTMAS CLOTHESLINE UPDATE

Christmas Clothesline began November 24th and all the tags were taken!

Your generosity has blessed so many individuals through the St. Croix County Mental Health Social Workers.

All your wonderful gifts have been delivered.

Thank you for your support!

Nancy Kirouac



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#/>



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.

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

When you are ready to order online, contact: **Dianne Loewel:** 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 2nd and 4th week each month. Dianne will contact you when your gift card(s) are ready.



**St. Croix River Dunk 2025
February 8 @ 1pm**

Do you want to take the icy plunge this year? We'll put together a team if there is enough interest!

Contact **Tony Jurek** at tjurek51@gmail.com if you want to participate or have any questions.




**3rd ANNUAL CHRISTMAS
COOKIE SALE
UPDATE**

Thank you!


The 3rd annual Cookie Sale sponsored by SHIFT was a wonderful success! Many thanks to the bakers who shared their talents by supplying us with goodies to sell. We also offer our gratitude to the shoppers who purchased these goodies for themselves and to share with others. We even had just enough treats left over to provide the folks at Grace Place a box of cookies to enjoy. With the funds raised, SHIFT was able to donate \$150 to T.H.U.G Life Ministries, \$150 to the church's General Fund, and \$100 to the Food Pantry!

Thank you, again, for supporting this event!



*Kindness is
in your blood*

Blood Drive
Roberts Community
Roberts Congregational
United Church of Christ
 1001 Birch Dr
Friday, January 17, 2025
9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.



TO SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT

<https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?zipSponsor=Roberts>

Download the Blood Donor App or Call:

1-800-RED-CROSS
(1-800-733-2767)

See Lori Jurek with questions:
lorijurek@gmail.com

ROBERTS COMMUNITY
 Roberts Congregational UCC
 1001 Birch Dr.
 Roberts, WI 54023



January 1

John Bond

January 7

Duane Hall

Natilee McDonald

January 9

Danielle Johnson

January 10

David Fisher

January 23

Tyson Ferrick

Mackson Stone



January 1

Bill & Margo Schultz

PLEASE HOLD THE FOLLOWING IN PRAYER

Earl Pechuman
Audrey Ackley
Terrill Florcyk
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.

DONATION OPTIONS



A BIG thank you to those who came out and decorated our Sanctuary for Christmas.

The church “Undecorating” is scheduled for **January 5th**, following worship.

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, please let us know if you plan to continue and we will get you a new authorization for 2025.

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

CHURCH COUNCIL
ROBERTS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF CHRIST
December 5, 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), Pastor Burt, and Connie Mueller

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

Meeting opening was led by Toni.

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

Christian Education:

- Christmas program is on December 14th Rehearsal is going well.
- The RUCCUS children are inviting all to go Christmas caroling on Dec. 8
- Looking for two new board members for 2025.

Church Board Team:

- Went through the responses to the questions of the week, looking for trends
- Will pull together a mock team

Deacons:

- Poinsettias (25) will be added to the decorations for the church.
- Christmas decorations will be taken down after worship on January 5.
- Nominating Committee Update:
Moderator: Lori Jurek
Church Clerk: Laura Logas
Trustees: Dianne and Patti agreed to serve Term 2
Deacons: Megan and Brett agreed to be on Deacons for Term 2. One position is open yet.
CE: Two open positions.
- Annual meeting will be held on Jan. 19th, followed by a potluck

Pastor's Report:

- The outdoor nativity has been completed.
- The Christmas Fund Raiser has been going well. Current profit is over \$1100.00
- Advent Service writing is being completed.
- A special thank you for the new banners made by Toni Williams and to Dylan Hueman for welding together the stand which holds the banners.
- Thank you to all who stayed on November 24th and decorated the church.
- Christmas Eve services will be held at 4:30 P.M. and 11:00 P.M.

S.H.I.F.T

- Mandela Rock has been a huge success.
- Continue to provide a meal for Grace Place.
- Feel Good Kits have been distributed to multiple schools.
- Thankful for all the volunteers who are bringing cookies for the Cookie Sale

Trustees:

- New refrigerator will be installed soon.
- Trustees will be meeting with Homeland Security.
- Putting final touches on the 2025 budget.

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**CHURCH COUNCIL
ROBERTS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF CHRIST
December 5, 2024**

- Cody Peterson will be providing the snowplowing service this winter.
- Creating a schedule for shoveling snow.
- Roof leaks were repaired.

Women’s Fellowship:

- Lori asked that the trustees have repairman out to check the dishwasher. It is using an excessive amount of soap.
- Working with the Sesquicentennial Committee about hosting a traditional New England Dinner in September.
- Worked out a schedule to cover for Judy while she is gone to Texas.

New Business:

- Remind all groups that Annual Reports are due Dec. 15th.
- Pastor Burt requested that all groups spot mop the narthex after they have used it.

Meetings:

Next meeting: Jan. 2 (6 P.M.) Pastor Burt will do the opening.

Respectfully submitted,

Connie Mueller, Church

NOTES FROM THE TREASURER

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


General Fund Financial Summary as of November 30, 2024

Statement of Activity		Statement of Financial Position	
Income/Contributions	\$ 18,072.66	Assets	
Facility Use Income	600.00	General Accounts	\$ 8,125.63
Fundraising Income	0	Other Bank Accounts	13,920.50
Interest	0.44	Fixed Assets	1,874,642.28
Total Income	18,673.10	Total Assets	\$ 1,896,688.41
Expenses	22,831.98	Liabilities & Equity	
Transfers from other accounts	3,000.00	Accrued Expenses	\$ 0.00
	<u>\$ (1,158.88)</u>	Bank Mortgage Balances	546,739.79
		Member Balances	150,000.00
		Total Liabilities	696,739.79
		Equity	1,199,948.62
		Total Liabilities & Equity	\$ 1,898,688.41



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 New Year's Day <i>(Office Closed)</i>	2 3:30pm WF Meeting 4:30pm Community Dinner 6pm Council Meeting	3	4
5 10am Worship w/Holy Communion <i>Followed by Church Undecorating</i>	6 6pm CBT Meeting	7 6pm Deacons Meeting	8 6:15pm Bell Choir	9	10	11
12 10am Worship <i>RaiseRight Orders Due</i>	13	14 6pm CE Meeting	15 5:30pm RUCCUS Potluck 6pm RUCCUS Program & Worship 6:15pm Bell Choir	16	17 9am – 3pm Red Cross Blood Drive	18
19 10am Worship 11am Annual Meeting & Potluck	20 Luther King Jr Day <i>Newsletter Deadline</i>	21 6:30pm Trustees Meeting	22 6:15pm Bell Choir	23	24	25
26 10am Worship <i>RaiseRight Orders Due</i>	27	28	29 6:15pm Bell Choir	30	31	1

Please remember to check the website for our **REAL TIME** calendar updates.



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



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