



Connections

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

HERE AT ROBERTS

We are 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

March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30
10:00 a.m.

Communion is offered
March 2nd

ONLINE WORSHIP

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

UPCOMING DATES

March 5th

Ash Wednesday

March 6th

Community Dinner

March 9th

Lent Bible Study Begins

March 12th

Confirmation Break

March 14th

RUCC Sponsored Meat
Raffle

March 19th

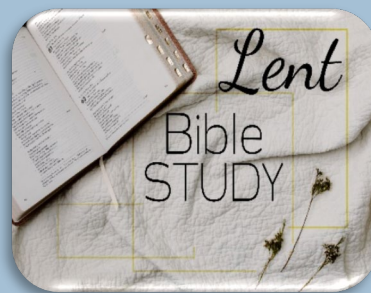
RUCCUS Resumes

March 21st

Red Cross Blood Drive

March 31st

Gerten's Plant Sale
Ends



March 9th – April 13th

11:00 a.m.

Following Worship

(readings begin

March 3rd)

Sign-Up in the Narthex or
contact the office through the
information below.

from the
PASTOR

As we head into Lent my mind is swirling with all the things associated with it. There are many special services and events which people can choose to participate in. Starting with our Ash Wednesday Service on March 5th at 7pm, the Lenten Bible Study which will be held each Sunday during Lent right after service, Holy Week services (Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Sunrise service, and Easter Sunday service). Then aside from these things, there is a blood drive, Feed My Starving Children, RUCCUS, Women's Fellowship, Community Dinners, SHIFT. We also have the Gerten's Plant Sale Fundraiser, our Meat Raffle, and the Annual Spring Rummage Sale which are and will be happening. There are many ways in which to get involved and be a part of the church in the months to come. There are also many other ways to come and take part in the life of the church.

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 | *Office: secretary@robertsucc.org

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





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In the third chapter of the Book of Nehemiah we hear the story of how the Israelites came together and rebuilt the walls and the Temple of Jerusalem after they had been destroyed. It talks about how each family took responsibility for specific things and they came together as a people in order to rebuild their lives and city for the honor of God. This has gotten me to thinking quite a bit. We are in a time of rebuilding in this age of history. We see the destruction of how life was all around us. Life as we knew it pre-Covid has changed and during that time many things have fallen apart, especially in the life of the church.

Much like the people of Israel after the destruction of Jerusalem, we look around and wish for things to be as they once were. The reality is they will never be exactly as they once were. That is the nature of life though. The Scripture from Nehemiah does offer us a solution though. I am sure the people of Israel felt much like many of us do now, overwhelmed and exhausted by all that has happened and the immensity of what needs to be done in order to rebuild and grow. The solution which was offered up in the story from Nehemiah can work for us as well.

As the old saying goes, “Many hands make light work.” It wasn’t just leadership which took part in the rebuilding. God didn’t come down and clean it all up. They didn’t have the funds to hire all the work out to others. Instead, each family...each person... took on just a little bit and the work got done. This idea can work for us as well. It doesn’t take large amounts of time and commitment, just a part. And there are some added side effects which are pretty wonderful as well.

For example, many of you may or may not know that we no longer have someone who cleans our facilities weekly. We are grateful for those who are taking care of the bathrooms (you do a fabulous job by the way). The bathrooms are not the only things that need to be done. We do have a group of people (the Rise organization) who come in and do some other light cleaning. Their skills are limited though, and they are developing them in order to help them to better live more independent lives. This leaves a lot of things untouched and undone. Sweeping, mopping, dusting, vacuuming, straightening various areas.

We have such a giving and wonderful church family here at Roberts UCC. Whenever a need arises and you are asked, those needs are met with such amazing generosity and love. So, I am asking with the hope that people will not have to be asked individually to help for your help with the upkeep of our facilities.

What can you do? One way is to be conscious of the messes we and others tend to leave behind. Simple things like making sure to take bulletins, communion cups, and the like with you and disposing of them in the garbage or recycling containers will help immensely. If you make a mess somewhere, help by cleaning it up. If you can donate an hour every so often to helping with vacuuming, sweeping, or mopping that would be great! Need to know where things are to help (brooms, mops, vacuums, etc.) just ask and we will be glad to show you.

Then there are the events and services which are held. Make a point of spreading the word and participating. Take some time to look at what things are out for sign-up sheets and find something you can help with. We are always looking for people to usher, light candles, read, sing, play, etc. Talk and ask questions about what you are interested in. For instance, S.H.I.F.T. (Serving Him In Faith Together) is always looking for people to be a part of the things they do. Women’s Fellowship could always use help with things like their Community Dinners and Rummage Sale (and they need the help of us men – the work they do isn’t just for the ladies). Bring someone with you to an event or service. The people you ask may not accept the invitation, but you don’t know until you ask.

Wondering what the side effects I was talking about were? The first is that if we all make a conscious and concerted effort in all of this, the workload becomes so much lighter for all. Second, the feeling of being a part of something greater than ourselves. With how isolated and a lone people feel these days, getting out and participating in events and work is a great way to get things done and be in fellowship with others. Finally, it can again help us rebuild and grow. If we want things to change, we are the ones who are going to need to do it. It doesn’t have to be an insurmountable task we take on though...just a part. With each of us giving back in order to see the glory of our God spread through little actions. Peace to you all and I hope to see you around!



If you have any questions or would like assistance placing an order, contact Lori Jurek at 715-220-7432 or lorijurek@gmail.com

GERTENS SPRING PLANT SALE

Coordinated by SHIFT!

Website: <http://www.gertensfundraising.com>

Enter ID #744

There is a large selection of available options. Order early for best availability.

SHIFT! Will receive 30% of all sales and 20% from all gift cards purchased. The proceeds will be used to support our community outreach ministry programs.

All products will be delivered directly to the church the afternoon of **May 8th**.

A SHIFT team member will call you when plants are ready for you to pick up!



PLEASE JOIN US

March 14th

**River Falls Golf Club, 2120 E Division St,
River Falls**

5 p m - 8 p m

(new raffle held about every 15 minutes)

As an added attraction, Brent Ackley and Dawn Budrow have very generously offered to provide **live music** during the raffle.

If you are unable to attend, but would still like to participate, you can donate towards the purchase of the meat.

For those that don't like to drive at night, but would like to attend, we have drivers willing to **carpool** from the church parking lot.

Just call the church secretary Kim at 715-749-3225 and let her know and we will coordinate rides.

If any questions, please contact Roger at 715-410-8393.



Purchase a Gift Card from RUCC & Support Our Church

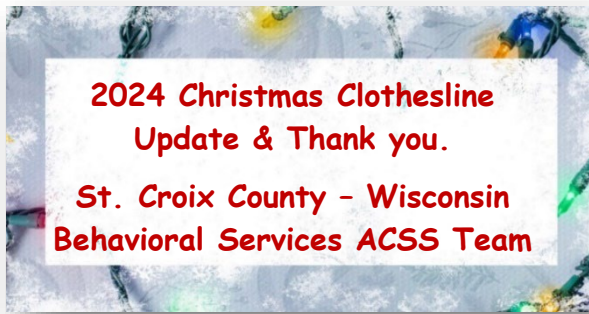
There are **100's of popular retailers.**
Browse First: <https://www.raiseright.com/>.

You can also print a form <http://www.robertsucc.org/mt-content/uploads/2023/05/raiseright-form.pdf> or pick up a form at church.

Completed forms, along with payment, can be dropped off at any time in the RaiseRight (SCRIP) box or mailed to the church at the address on the front page.

We have 2 (two) - \$100 gift cards on hand with no waiting. If the card isn't on hand, the orders are placed the 2nd and 4th week each month. Dianne will contact you when your gift card(s) are ready.

All questions, including obtaining a code to order online, should be directed to Dianne Loewel at: gmaloewel@gmail.com.



In addition to the 10 individuals who sent thank you notes; the following is a letter received from the **St. Croix County Behavioral Services ACSS Team**.

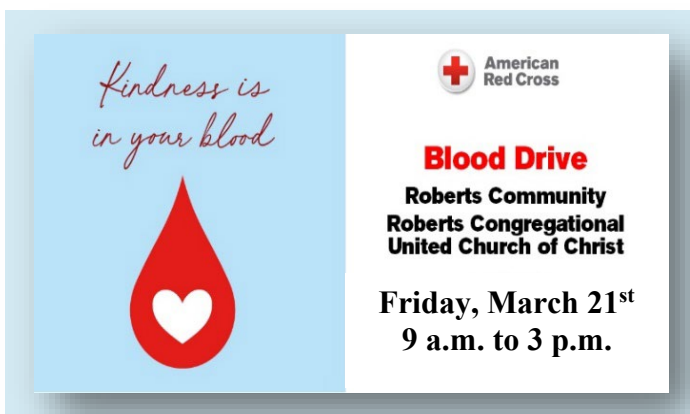
“The entire ACS Team would like to **THANK YOU** for your continued support for the clients of our program during the 2024 Christmas season. The incredible outpouring of support for our clientele with gifts and gift cards was very inspiring to the clients as well as to staff members.

We have two new social workers, and they asked me to thank you and wanted to say that they were so impressed with this program and how your church sees a need and steps up to help. We want to give a HUGE shout out to Nancy for all her planning, arranging, shopping, organizing, and packing all the presents. We sure do appreciate everything that she and your congregation have done over the years.

Sometimes we get the privilege of being with the recipients when they open their gifts. One client was overcome with emotion and appreciation for his gifts received because he truly believed he would not have anything to open for Christmas. He said, “but I have nothing to give them, I can’t accept these.” It was explained to him that he doesn’t need to give anything, and that these are truly a gift from your church. He was amazed and wouldn’t stop thanking his social worker for the much-needed gifts.

As you know our clientele struggle from chronic mental illness which can cause them to make bad choices and not have any family or friends around for support. Many are isolated, marginalized, and feel disconnected from friends, family, and their community, especially around Christmas time. Your congregation has helped them get so much joy and hope from these gifts that you give. Your church definitely shows what being a Christian is all about and we can’t thank you enough.

Again, thank you so much for making the Christmas season so great for many of our clients and giving them a wonderful time of year. This is something that they will never forget because it might be the only time they have ever gotten anything for Christmas or ever will again.”



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)

Questions? Lori Jurek lorijurek@gmail.com

BLOOD DRIVE COORDINATOR NEEDED

We’re looking for someone to become RUCC’s site coordinator for Red Cross Blood Drives. We host six drives a year, so the time commitment is manageable and the support from the Red Cross is awesome!

Please reach out to Lori Jurek at (715) 220-7432 or lorijurek@gmail.com if you’re interested in learning more about this opportunity. Thank you!



**FMSC MEAL PACKING
SATURDAY, MARCH 29th**

9:30 am – 11:15 am

Sign up in the gathering area or
Signup Genius with the following link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0C4EABA92AA3FAC61-54455302-march#/>

Need help with registration or have questions? Contact Michelle Hansen 715-377-8887 or email shell_329@hotmail.com.

Community Dinner
Sponsored by Women's Fellowship
Thursday, March 6, 2025
4:30 p.m. — 6:30 p.m.

Hot Beef Sandwiches
Cheesy Potatoes
Caesar Salad
Desserts
Beverages

Adults: \$7.00
Children \$4.00
Under 5: FREE

Take-out available upon request

PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL
**ROBERTS CONGREGATIONAL
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST COMMUNITY
SPRING RUMMAGE SALE**

FRIDAY & SATURDAY APRIL 11 & 12
FRIDAY: 8:00 am – 6:00 pm (Lunch Available)
SATURDAY 8:00 am – 10:30 am

EVERYTHING IS PRICED TO GO!

YOU WILL FIND:
BABY & KIDS CLOTHING ♥ HOUSEHOLD ITEMS
GAMES, BOOKS & TOYS ♥ WOMEN'S CLOTHING
MEN'S CLOTHING ♥
CRAFTS AND MUCH MORE!

Friday, April 11th Unless otherwise marked, all items are .50 cents each!
Saturday, April 12th Stuff a big garbage bag for \$2.00!

DROP OFF DATE
Monday, April 7th from 4pm – 7pm
Tuesday, April 8th & Wednesday, April 9th from 1pm – 5pm
Thursday, April 10th from 9am - 1pm

If you have items to drop off, please make sure they are clean, good condition and work. We have always had a GREAT SALE because of your GOOD STUFF!!
Questions may be directed to Judy at (715) 410-1909



Saturday, May 3rd

Starting at

9:00am

Could you come out for a morning and help to be good stewards of our church building? Your help is much appreciated!



Watch for Sign-Up

PLEASE HOLD THE FOLLOWING IN PRAYER

Earl Pechuman	Linda Hall	Terry McKinley
Audrey Ackley	Tom Sullwold	Joyce Johnson
Sharon Johnson	Lowell Johnson	Wanda Hopkins
Andrew Korn	Rodney Korn	Kinsley Bruun
Jerry Johnson	Jamie Koch	
Family & Friends of Connie Cox		



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.

If you have any changes or additions, please contact the office.



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We would like to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus with YOU!

Please join us as we worship our risen Savior and rejoice in the new life he offers.

EASTER SUNDY, APRIL 20th

Sunrise Service & 10:00 a.m.

join us for

MAUNDY THURSDAY WORSHIP

Thursday, April 17th

7:00 p.m.

EASTER LILIES

Would you like to donate an Easter Lily in Honor, Memory, or Celebration of someone or something?

Easter Lilies will once again be available for purchase and be used to decorate our Sanctuary for Easter.

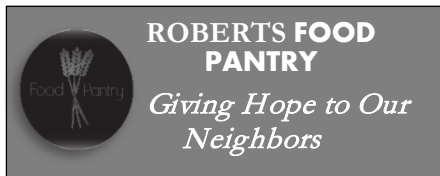
More information will be coming to you as soon as we have it. Watch for upcoming details in the bulletins and weekly emails.



One Great Hour of Sharing® stands as a cornerstone of the United Church of Christ's special mission offerings. This Lenten initiative provides vital support for disaster relief, refugee care, and development work through Love of Neighbor ministries.

RUCC Designated Contribution Date
Sunday, March 30th

Your contributions to this offering are also welcome year-round.



OPEN WEEKLY

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

Wednesdays
 6:30pm – 8:00pm



March 5
 Emma & Uriah Williams



March 1
 Gracie Delander
 Hailey Larson
 Dan Nelson

March 2
 Whitney Adrian
 Bill Snoeyenbos

March 3
 Faron Fuller
 Margie Ricci

March 6
 Archer Anderson

March 7
 Chris Bohl

March 8
 Mary Thorsen

March 9
 Jeff Hinkel

March 10
 Logan Nelson

March 12
 Mary Grupe

March 13
 Pat Colbeth
 Daryl Jones

March 17
 Avery Rogers

March 20
 Sally Fields
 Rick Risberg

March 25
 Cheryl Cowles

March 26
 Brita Lindquist

March 27
 Betty Schultz

March 29
 Michelle Hansen

March 30
 Cheryl Lindquist

**CHURCH COUNCIL
ROBERTS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF CHRIST
February 6, 2025**

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 Laura Logas

Meeting was called to order by Lori at 6:30 p.m.

Duane led us in the Lord's Prayer

January minutes were reviewed. Motion made by Toni to approve the minutes and seconded by Duane, motion carried

Trustees:

Treasurer's report was positive

Tony and Dianne L will be meeting with the accountant to go over QuickBooks

Spring cleanup is set for May 3rd at 9 a.m.

Becky Davidson is offered to play for us just would like a donation to a charity

Talked about seeing if membership would be interested in sponsoring this like they do for bulletins

No River Dunk this year, Deb Philips suggested a euchre tournament and Roger and Laurene are looking into a possible meat raffle

Memorial fund needs more members, monies that are earmarked for specific projects need to be used for said projects and the money should be transferred to cover those expenses

Some groups want their own bank accounts; will have to be done through the trustees

Trying to find a new soap dispenser for the dishwasher

Tony meet with someone from Homeland Security and churches are targets for hate crimes, he gave Tony a report on things that we should look at doing, and grants are available for this

Women's Fellowship:

No meeting in March

Rummage sale set for April 11-12

Church Board Team:

Came up with a slogan **Come Be ALIVE**

Will be creating a design for t-shirts

A form will be created for team formations

Christian Education:

RUCCUS is back

Confirmation started

Will ask if Women fellowship would make stoles for the confirmands

Suggestion made to take offering during RUCCUS

VBS is set for June 22-25 Wild Life is the theme this year

Feed My Starving Children is March 29

Deacons:

Need worship volunteers, removing greeters from the list

Going to start passing the offering plate again

Putting garbage cans out for communion cups

Continued next page

Continued from previous page.

**CHURCH COUNCIL
ROBERTS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF CHRIST
February 6, 2025**

Ash Wednesday March 5, at 7 p.m.

Maundy Thursday a Sedar Meal will be done at 7 p.m.

Pastor’s report:

Working on a leadership retreat for late winter/early spring

Kathy Johnson memorial picture and placard have been hung

Challenging each board to pick one things they want to be intentional in improving/doing with their board or the congregation

S.H.I.F.T.:

Meeting February 10

Plant sale to begin February 17

Grace Place meal February 20

New Business:

Letter from the village about the sesquicentennial opportunities

We will be have the New England Dinner on September 4

Presale of tickets so we know how many we will be serving

No meeting in March

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Logas, 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 January 31, 2025

Statement of Activity		Statement of Financial Position	
Income/Contributions	\$ 15,268.61	Assets	
Facility Use Income	600.00	General Accounts	\$ 8,268.91
Fundraising Income	0	Other Bank Accounts	14,067.65
Interest	0.38	Fixed Assets	1,874,642.28
Total Income	15,868.99	Total Assets	\$ 1,896,978.84
Expenses	22,162.02	Liabilities & Equity	
Transfers from other accounts	0	Accrued Expenses	\$ 0
	\$ (6,293.03)	Bank Mortgage Balances	543,858.60
		Member Balances	150,000.00
		Total Liabilities	693,858.60
		Equity	1,203,120.24
		Total Liabilities & Equity	\$ 1,896,978.84



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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 10am Worship w/Holy Communion	3	4 6pm Deacons Meeting	5 ASH WEDNESDAY 6:00pm Bell Choir 7pm Worship	6 4:30pm Community Dinner	7	8
9 10am Worship 11am Lent Bible Study Begins <i>RaiseRight Orders Due</i> <i>Daylight Savings</i>	10	11 6pm CE Meeting	12 6:15pm Bell Choir <i>No Confirmation Spring Break</i>	13	14 5pm – 8pm Meat Raffle Social Gathering & Fundraiser <i>Carpool Available</i>	15
16 10am Worship 11am Lenten Bible Study	17	18 6:30pm Trustees Meeting	19 5:30pm RUCCUS Potluck 6pm RUCCUS & Worship 6:15pm Bell Choir	20 <i>Newsletter Deadline</i>	21 9am – 3pm Red Cross Blood Drive	22
23 10am Worship 11am Lenten Bible Study <i>RaiseRight Orders Due</i>	24 6:30pm CBT Meeting	25	26 6pm Confirmation Class 6:15pm Bell Choir	27	28	29 8:30am Carpool FMSC Meet @ Church 9:30am FMSC Eagan Site Ends 11:15am
30 10am Worship 11am Lenten Bible Study	31 10pm Garten’s Spring Plant Sale Ordering Deadline	1 6pm Deacons Meeting	2 5:30pm RUCCUS Potluck 6pm RUCCUS & Worship 6:15pm Bell Choir	3 3:30pm WF Meeting 4:30pm Community Dinner 6:30pm Council Meeting	4	5



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