

as we live by faith, are known by love, and cultivate hope.

## WORSHIP

Sundays July 6, 13, 20, 27 10:00 a.m. Communion is offered July 6<sup>th</sup>

> ONLINE WORSHIP

<u>https://www.robertsuc</u> <u>c.org/media/</u>





Our Annual Church Auction is happening again this year! Please mark your calendars for the date noted above and plan for another great event.

If you have questions including auction donations, please contact Roger Ray at <u>shuttheovenoff@gmail.com</u> or call 715-410-8393.

# **UPCOMING MONTHS**

<u>August 3</u>

Annual Church Picnic

#### August 20

Church Auction with Food Stand & Bake Sale No July or August Community Dinners

# <u>September 4</u>

Roberts Sesquicentennial Community Dinner

<u>September 17</u> RUCCUS Kick-off Game Night



Roberts Congregational United Church of Christ 1001 Birch Drive | PO Box 116 | Roberts, WI 54023 \*Church Office: 715-749-3225 | <u>https://www.facebook.com/RobertsUCC</u> Pastor: <u>pastor@robertsucc.org</u> | \*Office: <u>secretary@robertsucc.org</u> Website: <u>http://www.robertsucc.org</u> | YouTube: Roberts Congregational UCC

#### **ROBERTS CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**



For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. - Luke 12:34

As a pastor people often ask questions of us where the most obvious answer is not the one people want to hear, "Because God said so!" As human beings we want answers with some mystical, deep meaning. We want to know that the investment we are going to make of our time, finances, emotions, and energy has some deeper value than "just because."

We have a limited supply of these treasures of ours and we want to know we are investing them wisely and not just haphazardly tossing them out there in hopes that they might do something. This is one of the reasons many of us struggle to start and maintain spiritual practices like daily prayer or meditation. These practices often do not manifest themselves in results which are readily seen. If I begin an exercise and diet program, typically, I am going to see some results in a relatively short period. Even if not visible to the naked eye, stepping on the scale should start showing some results from my investment. With spiritual practices, it can take a longer time and there isn't some scale I can measure it with or a ruler to see if it has gotten larger. Even in our relationships we are typically able to see if our changing of behavior or practices is having the desired effect on them. Yet, it is not always so easy to see that with our God.

So, when Paul tells us in 1 Thessalonians 5:17 to "...pray without ceasing..." our minds often see that as an impossible task with limited value. First, I cannot stop all that I am doing constantly and just fall to my knees to pray. I have things that I have to get done or my family will not have a roof over their head or food to eat. Secondly, prayer, although talked about often, is a practice many do only in times of necessity. We plan to be more regular and devout about it, but to be fair many, many things take precedent over this part of our lives. This is not a judgement on anyone, just an observation. The most devout of us struggle to maintain a strong prayer life. And what is the point anyway? Doesn't God already know everything about us? Isn't God omniscient?

The answer to that is a "Yes, but." Let me put it to you this way. My wife knows that I love her. She still wants to hear it, see it, to "know" that she is of high-ranking value in my life. It helps her to remain confident in our relationship and to know that she has true value to me. I could choose to stop loving her after all (just an example folks). More than that, it helps remind ME that I love her and have made a commitment. It brings her back to the center of my attention to anchor me once again to this wonderful gift I have been blessed with.

The same is true with our God. We are even reminded of that in our passage above. True prayer comes from our hearts, and where our treasure is, our hearts will be. If we truly value God, our hearts will be there, our prayer will be true, and we will be anchored once again to that love which created us and sustains us daily. The practice of regular prayer is not as futile or low in value as most of us tend to put it. We just need to get some perspective on it. God wants to know where our hearts truly are. Prayer is a great way to measure where we are at in our spiritual life. Just something to think about.

#### -Pastor Burt

## NEW VISITATION MINISTRY TEAM: FULFILLING THE CALL OF MATTHEW 25

We are excited to announce the launch of a new Visitation Ministry Team at Roberts UCC,

#### inspired by the words of Jesus in

#### Matthew 25:34-40:

"I was sick and you visited me... Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."

This new ministry team seeks to connect members of our church family through meaningful visits bringing comfort, encouragement, and the love of Christ to those who are homebound or in need of personal connection.

#### Here's how it works:

- We are forming a Visitation Team made up of caring individuals who are willing to visit others on a regular basis. You don't need special training—just a willing heart and a little time to share.
- We are also creating a list of "visitees"—those in our congregation who would appreciate a visit, such as shut-ins, those recovering from illness, or others in need of encouragement.
- **The Visitation Team will coordinate visits** to ensure everyone on the list receives care, prayer, and fellowship. We will also keep track of visits to help us serve consistently and faithfully.

If you feel led to be part of this ministry—whether as a **visitor** or by letting us know someone who needs a visit—please sign up at the Welcome Table or contact Brett Budrow or Bruce Riggins, or email secretary@robertsucc.org.

Let's be the hands and feet of Jesus in our community. Together, we can show Christ's love in action one visit at a time.

> Contact Brett Budrow 715-928-0210, Bruce Riggins 303-881-4601, or email <u>secretary@robertsucc.org</u>.





Please log on to <u>https://www.raiseright.com/</u> to find Instructions for setting up an account with RaiseRight to benefit Roberts Congregational UCC. Our Participant code is 24AA8C4E36429. Some of the ways to earn money for our church are :

Purchase of Gift Cards from the many brands found on the site:

- Traditional Gift Cards
- Reloadable Gift Cards
- E Gift Cards
- Shop Online See specific brands listed on the website.

New feature – rebates from local restaurants (must look for participating restaurants on the website and tie your credit card or debit card to Raiseright so the rebate can be recorded at the time of checkout). All rebates are electronically deposited to our Roberts UCC SCRIP bank account.

We are discontinuing the local grocery store gift card program due to requirement of buying \$500 worth of cards up front. RaiseRight has Skogen Festival grocery gift cards available that can be ordered directly from Raiseright.

Also, RaiseRight offers a Mobile App for your phone.

So many possibilities to raise funds for our church. Please go to the Raise Right site and explore.

More information can be found on the RaiseRight table in the Narthex.

If questions, please ask Dianne Loewel, 651-343-7614 or gmaloewel@gmail.com.

# Give a Pint, Get a Pint.

Give blood during July & receive a special treat!

Roberts UCC 1001 Birch Dr.

Wednesday, July 16<sup>th</sup> 12:00pm – 6:00pm

# BLOOD DRIVE

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit <u>www.RedCrossBlood.org</u> and enter: Roberts to schedule an appointment.

You can also use the direct link: <u>https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-</u> <u>results?zipSponsor=Roberts</u>

> Contact Patti with any questions: pattirobertson13@gmail.com 715-531-8611



Once again SHIFT would like to thank everyone for the tremendous support of our Gerten's Spring Plant

Fundraiser. We have recently received payment from Garten's in the amount of \$822.15. We will be making donations of \$150 (each) to the Food Pantry, St. Croix Central Backpack Program, and RUCC's General Fund. The remainder of the proceeds will be used to support SHIFT ministries such as Feel-Good Kits and Grace Place meals.

Thank you for helping make those gifts possible!

Lori Jurek



ROBERTS FOOD PANTRY Giving Hope to Our Neighbors

Do you or anyone you know need assistance with groceries?

We thank you for your continued support and generosity in serving our community.

Pantry Needs: Laundry soap, paper towels, and Kleenex.

Brown Paper, and White Plastic Bags are always accepted.

# **OPEN WEEKLY**

Tuesday & ThursdayWednesdays9:00am - 11:30am6:30pm - 8:00pm



Are you looking for an easier way to donate without having to write checks? Especially if you are not in town every weekend.

# **ELECTRONIC FUNDS TRANSFER**

No check writing! We offer EFT – The withdrawal date is the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month. If you would like to try this option, please contact the church office at 715-749-3225.

# **ONLINE DONATION THROUGH PAYPAL**

You are able to give directly through our website, <u>http://robertsucc.org</u>? Select "Give Now" under "GIVING" in the menu and it will take you to our donations page, or go directly to it at <u>http://robertsucc.org/giving</u>. Hit the give now button and use your PayPal account or credit/debit card.

If you have questions, please contact the churchoffice.\*

# SAVE THE DATE



# **Roberts Community**



Sesquicentennial Dinner

**Reservation Forms**"

can be found on the last page of the

newsletter.

<u>Please note</u>: This is different than

how our usual monthly dinners work.

Please contact the office or a

Women's Fellowship Team member

with any questions.



# CALLING ALL CRAFTERS -BAKERS - CANNERS -<u>CANDY MAKERS</u>

We are working on a Bazaar space during the Sesquicentennial Community Dinner/New England Dinner being held on Sept 4th. We would love your donation of items to make this a success! Help us celebrate the heritage of our community and of Roberts Congregational UCC!

Please contact **Megan Frye** if you have any questions – <u>meganocc@gmail.com</u>.

THANK YOU!!!

# **ROBERTS CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**



# NOTES FROM THE TREASURER

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

G	eneral Fund Financial Summary as of May 31, 2025

Statement of Activity			Statement of Financial Position			
Income/Contributions	\$	14,429.95	Assets			
Facility Use Income			General Accounts	\$	1,074.78	
Fundraising Income			Other Bank Accounts		5,246.63	
Interest		0.17	Fixed Assets		1,874,642.28	
Total Income		14,430.12	Total Assets	\$	1,880,963.69	
Expenses		25,151.95				
Transfers from other accounts		5,000.00	Liabilities & Equity			
	\$	(5,721.83)	Accrued Expenses	\$	-	
			Bank Mortgage Balances		538,698.08	
			Member Balances		150,000.00	
			Total Liabilities		688,698.08	
			Equity		1,192,265.61	
			Total Liabilities & Equity	\$	1,880,963.69	

#### CHURCH COUNCIL ROBERTS CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST June 5, 2025

#### Members present: Lori J., Tony J., Toni W., Brett B., Pastor Burt, Laura L.

#### Meeting was called to order Lori led us with the opening.

#### Approval of last month's minutes 1st Brett and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Tony approved.

#### Deacons

Burt will be on vacation 6/26-7/3 Megan will do the service.

ALIVE how do we do this in our church and community.

Need people to head up these events, then fill out the appropriate forms which will be brought back to the council for approval.

Set up teams for visiting people and sending cards.

Working on setting up a community resource showcase in October and invite the public to come in and see what resources are out there for them to take advantage of.

#### SHIFT

No meeting was held in May.

Serving at Grace Place in June, are able to actually serve the meal now, looking for helpers with that. Extra activities for the 150<sup>th</sup> celebration: craft sale, fish pond, and town history display.

The rock painting had 28 people attend, a lot of new people.

#### Trustees

Fire system up and running except for the area above the bell choir area.

Need a fire access door for that area.

Working on the online giving process.

Clean up was done, small crew, outside windows still need to be done.

Working on the outside cross lighting.

Brick project, moving to the front of the church, has begun.

Still working on the dishwasher issue.

Burt has a team he is working with to redo the floors this summer; we will have to do a better job of keeping them clean.

#### **Pastor report**

Numbers are staying consistent between online and in person worship.

Seeing new faces in church.

Thanks to those that showed up for the cleanup day.

Looking to set up some events this summer and into fall to promote the ALIVE program.

Vacation time 6/26-7/3 and two weeks in August.

#### Women's Fellowship

No meeting.

Kitchen license is coming due.

Will meet in August to discuss the 150<sup>th</sup> celebration.

#### **Christian Education**

VBS so far 26 kids signed up.

Need a helper for the bible story time.

Will give out the bibles on September 21.

Feed my starving children is October 11.

September 17 RUCC's will be invite a friend and games night.

Church picnic is set for August 3.

Continued on next page.

Continued from previous page.

#### CHURCH COUNCIL

# ROBERTS CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST June 5, 2025

#### **Church board**

Working on the bylaws and the constitution hoping to have something ready by the annual meeting. Transition team to discuss each board.

#### New business

Food pantry was asked to sponsor the SCC backpack program after a discussion it was determined we needed more information and that the church would have to sponsor it as the food pantry falls under the churches 503 status.

Motion was made by Brett and seconded by Tony to get more information.

Clothing swap in August for the elementary age kids Back to School swapping.

Will not be holding a meeting in July, minutes from board meetings are to be sent to Laura.

#### Next meeting is August 7 at 6:30.

Brett will do the opening for the next meeting.

Zack motioned to adjourn.

Laura Logas, Church clerk

03 | Terry Dull Adalyn Hoyer Bruce Riggins
05 | Jamie Delander
07 | Steven Mueller Wil Ronnander
08 | Tiana Kristensen
09 | Derek Ray



Earl Pechuman Lowell Johnson Rodney Korn Sheryl Johnson Terry McKinley Wanda Hopkins Kinsley Bruun Sharon Johnson Andrew Korn Nikki Freeman

26 | Luke Larson

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 added someone to the prayer list, please keep us updated.



JULY ANNIVERSARY

July 14<sup>th</sup>

**Connie & Jerry Mueller** 



Please check the website for the real time calendar. This will give the most current and up to date times for worship, meetings, and events.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 5pm Council Reports Due	3 No Community Dinner	4 4 <sup>th</sup> of July Holiday Office Closed	5
<b>6</b> 10am Worship w/Holy Communion	7	8 6pm Deacons Meeting 6pm CE Meeting	9	10	11	12
<b>13</b> 10am Worship w/Larson Baptism	14	15 6:30pm Trustees	<b>16</b> 12pm – 6pm Red Cross Blood Drive	17	18	19
<b>20</b> 10am Worship <i>Newsletter</i> <i>Deadline</i>	21	22	23	24	25	26
<b>27</b> 10am Worship	28	29	30	31		ONNECT BY





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

# ROBERTS COMMUNITY SESQUICENTENNIAL DINNER

Sponsored by Women's Fellowship



Thursday, September 4, 2025

4:30pm - 6:30pm

# **Reservation Form**

Adults \$15; Kids (5-10yrs) \$7; Under 5 FREE

NAME(S)	DINE-IN	TAKE-OUT

# of ADULTS \_\_\_\_\_ # of CHILDREN (5-10) \_\_\_\_\_ # of FREE \_\_\_\_\_

ALL "Reservations" are entered into an online program which REQUIRES the following.

EMAIL (Required)

ADDRESS (Required)

PRIMARY PHONE (Required)

Circle: Mobile Home Work

Pre-payment is requested to hold your meal(s). Checks can be made payable to RUCC. Please note 9/4 Dinner on the Memo line