



# Connections

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

## W O R S H I P

**Sundays**

**December**

**7, 14, 21, 28**

**10:00 a.m.**

*Communion is offered  
December 7*

## ONLINE WORSHIP

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

## December 3<sup>rd</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup>

*RUCCUS Potluck &  
Christmas Program  
Practice*

## December 4

*Community Dinner*

## December 6

*Mane Connections  
Miniature Horses Holiday  
Event*

## December 7, 14, 21

*Advent Discussion Group*

## December 8

*Social Evening Invitation  
by SHIFT!*

*Poinsettia Order  
Deadline*

## December 13

*Christmas Pageant  
Make & Take Ornaments  
@ Christmas on Main*

## December 14

*4<sup>th</sup> Annual Cookie Sale*

## December 24

*Christmas Eve Worship  
Services*



## From the Pastor's Desk...

*"I came that they may have life and have it abundantly."  
— John 10:10*

This Advent, we continue to journey with our theme: **\*\*Come Be ALIVE With Us\*\***—a reminder that in Christ we are:

**\*\*A – Accepted\*\***

**\*\*L – Loved\*\***

**\*\*I – Invited\*\***

**\*\*V – Valued\*\***

**\*\*E – Encouraged\*\***

These five words shape the heart of our life together. As we enter this season of Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love, we prepare not only to celebrate the birth of Christ, but to welcome the fullness of life he brings. Jesus entered our world so that we might truly live—deeply, abundantly, and joyfully.

## **\*\*First Sunday of Advent – Hope\*\***

We begin with *\*Acceptance\** and *\*Invitation\**. The birth of Jesus reminds us that God's love enters even the most unexpected circumstances. Christ—born in simplicity, surrounded by uncertainty—knows what it is to be overlooked and misunderstood. Yet Mary's courageous "Yes" opened the way for God's life-giving plan to unfold.

As we reflect on Hope, we ask: **\*\*How will we answer God's invitation? \*\*** What might God be preparing to bring into the world through our own faithful "Yes"?

## **\*\*Second Sunday of Advent – Peace\*\***

This week, we reflect on *\*Value\**—the deep truth that each of us is cherished by God. No one is lost in the crowd. In my own woodworking, I have begun to see beauty in the grain, knots, and markings that make each piece unique. God sees us the same way—beautiful not in spite of our flaws, but in the way our gifts and imperfections are woven into who we are.

As we consider Peace, we ask: **\*\*How might we look at others with the same tenderness God shows us? \*\*** How can we celebrate the whole person rather than sorting one another by strengths and weaknesses?

*Continued on the 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>

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



### From the Pastor's Desk...

*Continued from previous page.*

#### **\*\*Third Sunday of Advent – Joy\*\***

This Sunday invites us to reflect on \*Encouragement\*. None of us moves through life without moments of doubt or feelings of insignificance. Jesus continually lifted up those who felt unseen or unworthy, and we are called to do the same.

Even Mary and Joseph—facing fear, uncertainty, and a newborn child—found Joy in the presence of Christ. They also found Joy in community, trusting those around them as they raised their son.

So we ask: **\*\*How can we become a community of encouragement?\*\*** How can we help newcomers—and one another—feel truly welcomed, supported, and uplifted?

#### **\*\*Fourth Sunday of Advent – Love\*\***

In Christ's birth we encounter Love made tangible. Emmanuel—God with us—arrives not as an idea, but as a living, breathing child. The promises of old become flesh before our eyes.

And now, we are bearers of that Love. Though Jesus is no longer present in the flesh, the Love he brought continues through us. When we support one another, when we carry each other's burdens, when we offer kindness in Christ's name, **\*\*Emmanuel is still with us\*\***.

So come—walk with us this Advent. Bring your gifts, your story, your beautifully unique self. Say “Yes” to the journey. Come **\*Be ALIVE\*** with us as we discover again the Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love made real in Jesus Christ.

Yours in Christ, Pastor Burt

### Christmas on Main

**Interested in representing our amazing church family to the community?**

Come Be A.L.I.V.E. with us on **Saturday, December 13th** for the Roberts Christmas on Main event. We will be sharing some make and take ornaments with the kids at the Roberts Park Building 1:00-3:00pm while they wait to visit with Santa! **See Pastor Burt or Toni Williams to sign up or for any questions.**



### THE GREAT MANGER MYSTERY

**December 13<sup>th</sup>**

**11:00 a.m.**

The RUCCUS kids and Christian Ed team invite you to join us for the kids' presentation of The Great Manger Mystery! Be a witness to what the animals had to say on that blessed night so many years ago. With chickens, sheep, camels, donkeys, and cows, it's sure to be an entertaining time in the barn! (And yes, camels DO talk in this one!)

**A time of cookie fellowship will follow the program.**



ROBERTS UCC UNDERSTANDING SCRIPTURE

**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.

**5:30 PM  
POTLUCK  
MEAL  
6:00 PM  
FAMILY  
WORSHIP  
6:30 PM  
ADULT/CHILD  
STUDY  
7:15 PM  
CLOSING  
WORSHIP**

**DECEMBER**

**3<sup>RD</sup>** CHRISTMAS PROGRAM PRACTICE  
**10<sup>TH</sup>** CHRISTMAS PROGRAM PRACTICE  
**13<sup>TH</sup>** CHRISTMAS PROGRAM  
**10AM** DRESS REHEARSAL  
**11AM** PROGRAM  
*Cookie Fellowship to follow program*

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT [CE@ROBERTSUCC.ORG](mailto:CE@ROBERTSUCC.ORG)



**RUCCUS FOR A REASON:  
BRINGING MORE JOY TO THE SEASON**

**Want to send someone a little extra cheer this Christmas Season?** This year for Advent, the RUCCUS kids are hosting a free will donation fundraiser that features phone calls with Christmas blessings and caroling, as well as making and sending special Christmas cards.

**Deadline for signing up is NOW and phone calls will be made on December 7<sup>th</sup>.** All proceeds will be donated to THUG Life.

Contact [ce@robertsucc.org](mailto:ce@robertsucc.org).



**Poinsettia Orders**  
 Roberts Congregational  
 United Church of Christ

We will add ordered poinsettias to our decorated church for Christmas. If you would like to order poinsettias to be taken home after the last Christmas service...

Flowers can be ordered *in honor of* or *in memory of* your loved ones.

**Deadline for ordering is December 8th**

Please fill out an order form at church, call the office, or contact Megan Frye if you have any questions or to order.

Megan Frye: [meganocc@gmail.com](mailto:meganocc@gmail.com)

**6" Poinsettia with foil wrap - \$12**

**Mane Connections Miniature Horse Therapy holiday event-**  
 Saturday, December 6th from 10:30-noon

Join us for a fun morning with the miniature horses and Santa and Mrs. Claus!



ALL SILENT AUCTION BIDS AND CASH/CHECK DONATIONS WILL GO TO LOCAL ROBERTS/HAMMOND FOOD PANTRY AND T.H.U.G. LIFE (ST. CROIX VALLEY PROGRAM FOR HOMELESS YOUTH AND FAMILIES.)



Check out or message our Facebook page- Mane Connections Miniature Horse Therapy for location and more info.





The SHIFT team invites you to join us for a social evening!

Come learn about our existing ministry projects, brainstorm new ideas, explore ways to get involved, and share in a time of fellowship with friends – old and new!

**Hosted by:** Lori & Tony Jurek

**Date:** Monday, December 8

Time: 5:30pm -- ??

**Location:** 884 Young Road, Hudson

**RSVP:** Lori @ 715-220-7432 or [lorijurek@gmail.com](mailto:lorijurek@gmail.com)

**Other Details:** Bring an appetizer to share.

**Beverages & dessert will be provided.**

## 4<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL CHRISTMAS COOKIE SALE

**Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup>  
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!*

## COMMUNITY DINNER

*Sponsored by Women's fellowship*

**Thursday, DECEMBER 4, 2025**

**4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.**



Roberts Congregational United Church of Christ

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.

## CRAFT SALE UPDATE

The craft sale held here at Roberts UCC on November 22, 2025, was well attended by community and congregation members. We received 28 pounds of food and \$78 dollars for the food pantry.

The kids' craft sale was a huge success and there were many wonderful interactions across the generations.

A thank you to the congregation for participating in the sale as vendors and/or shoppers. We can't wait to do it again next year.

Danielle Johnson & Jane Bond



## CHRISTMAS CLOTHESLINE

St. Croix County has provided us with the wish lists of individuals with needs.

Thank you to those who have taken tags.

Gifts are due back at church on **December 14<sup>th</sup>**.

Your willingness to wrap the gift and place the tag on the outside of the package is greatly appreciated!

If you have any questions, please contact

**Nancy Kirouac**  
**651-269-6103**

Thank you for the generous support you've always shown this ministry!

*Nancy Kirouac*

## Decorate the Church



A big **THANK YOU** on behalf of the Deacons to those who stayed after worship and helped decorate the church for Christmas.

## NOVEMBER Baptisms

November 16<sup>th</sup>

*Rhett Johnathan Kornmann*  
*Jacob Johnathan Kornmann*  
*Elsie Mae Kornman*

*Parents - Lauren & John Kornmann*

*Grandparents - Brent & Patti Robertson*  
*Rick & Cindy Kornmann*

*Sponsors - Joe & Alyssa Kornmann*  
*Daniel & Raelyn Robertson*  
*Eric & Teresa Swanson*



01 | Cole Delander  
Justin Johnson

02 | Tony Jurek

03 | Cecil Brighton  
Mandy Clay  
Aubrey Mondry

04 | Melanie Robelia

05 | Nancee Hurlburt  
Dianne Loewel

06 | Burt Williams

07 | Trudy Hinkel

12 | Presley Dull  
Keith Logas

13 | Dan Frye

16 | Aidan Hansen  
David Lindquist

17 | Rylee Muller

18 | Brian Wille

19 | Emma Delander  
Shawn Vorwald

20 | Scarlett Logas

21 | Grant Gooding

22 | Janice Kuschel  
Luke Vorwald

27 | Adele Ament

28 | Don Graf

29 | Mike Kamm

*December 2 - Dan & Megan Frye**December 3 - Mike & Pamela Kamm**December 13 - Dave & Roxie Hatch?**December 13 - Donna & Wayne Hadley*Earl Pechuman  
Hopkins  
Bruun  
Jason Muller

Family &amp; Friends of Terry McKinley

Sharon Johnson  
Andrew Korn  
Nikki Freeman  
Krystal GaustadLowell Johnson Wanda  
Rodney Korn Kinsley  
Todd Graf

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.***

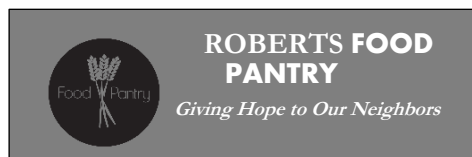
**OPEN WEEKLY****Tuesday & Thursday**

9:00am – 11:30am

**Wednesdays**

6:30pm – 8:00pm

715-749-3478



Do you or anyone you know need help with groceries? The Food Pantry is available to Help.

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

**For those wishing to donate,**

**We are low on:** Gluten free foods, canned pineapple, & mandarin oranges

Brown paper and white plastic bags are also accepted.

**Please Note:** The Pantry will be closed Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year's Eve, & New Years Day.

**COUNCIL REPORT**  
**ROBERTS CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
**NOVEMBER 6, 2025**

**In attendance were: Toni W, Tony J, Lori J, and Laura L**

Lori did the opening.

Meeting minutes from August, September, and October were reviewed and approved by Toni W and Tony J, with a minor correction to the October minutes.

**Deacons**

Visitation ministry will bring this up at the annual meeting for feedback from congregation.  
Worship volunteers, Connie will work on getting volunteers for Nov. and Dec.  
Worship coverage will be Brett on Nov 9 and Duane on Nov 23.  
Decorating for Advent will be done on Nov 23 after church.  
Advent candles and devotionals are to be delivered prior to beginning of Advent  
Will start on filling the boards.  
Poinsettias-Megan will get the order forms out.  
After the meeting cards were written out to various people from the church.

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

Feel good kits, ordering in bulk is best, Dollar General donates combs and brushes.  
Prayer squares are being taken, need more made.  
Cookie sale is on December 14, at 11 after church, asking bakers for 4 dozen.  
December 8 at 5:30 having a holiday party at the Jurek's residence all are welcome.

**Trustees**

Finances are looking good.  
Sound system is done.  
Purchased 4 blue-tooth headphones.  
New families have inquired about joining the church.  
Garbage can shed, will wait until next year.  
Will be finishing the budget this month.  
Discussion on the kitchen lease.  
Will try and pay the OCWM.

**Women's fellowship**

Have hired Lawrence Pest Control to do the pest treatment twice a year.  
Elected officers.  
Reviewed the dinner committees.

**CE**

RUCCUS is averaging 17 kids and 15 adults.  
Work on Christmas program on Dec 13.  
Will have a table in the park building for Christmas on Main.  
Confirmation is going well.  
Trick or treating went well.  
Work on advent project.

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**COUNCIL REPORT**  
**ROBERTS CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
**NOVEMBER 6, 2025**

**Pastor**

Vacation Nov 3-10 and 17-24.  
Deacons working on visitation team.  
Brent has got the new sound system working.  
Work on the program for online giving.  
Had 75 people for the Ecumenical service.  
Advent theme is "Come Be Alive with Us."

**CBT**

Editing the bylaws and the constitution.

**New Business**

The tractor parade has been canceled.

**Tony will do the opening for December.**

**Submitted by**  
**Laura Logas.**



Please log on to <https://www.raiseright.com/> 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 Gift Cards** from the many brands found on the site: Traditional, Reloadable, and E-gift cards are available.

**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.

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.

If questions, please ask **Dianne Loewel**,  
651-343-7614 or [gmaloewel@gmail.com](mailto:gmaloewel@gmail.com).





“...When they saw the *STAR*  
they were filled with *JOY*...”

*Matthew 2:10*

Thanks to your generosity, last year The Christmas Fund provided over \$1.7 million in pension and health benefits, emergency grants, and thank-you checks to retired clergy and their families.

Every gift came from people like you.

This Christmas, celebrate the blessings in your life by making a gift to our ministers, church workers, and their families. Visit [www.christmasfund.org](http://www.christmasfund.org) to learn more. This year's offering is December 21<sup>st</sup>.

Thank you to those who give.

### 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, 2025

Statement of Activity		Statement of Financial Position	
Income/Contributions	\$ 18,917.97	<b>Assets</b>	
Facility Use Income		General Accounts	\$ 2,133.82
Fundraising Income		Other Bank Accounts	4,349.327
Interest	0.13	Fixed Assets	1,874,642.28
Total Income	18,918.10	Total Assets	\$ 1,881,125.37
Expenses	20,175.91		
Transfers from other accounts		<b>Liabilities &amp; Equity</b>	
Net Activity	\$ (1,257.81)	Accrued Expenses	\$ -
		Bank Mortgage Balances	532,009.08
		Member Balances	150,000.00
		Total Liabilities	682,009.08
		Equity	1,199,116.29
		Total Liabilities & Equity	\$ 1,881,125.37



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 & ONLINE GIVING AVAILABLE**

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 or complete the ACH form on the church website and get it to the office.

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

Dates & times may change. Please check the church calendar on our website for any changes.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> <b>6pm</b> Deacons Meeting	<b>3</b> <b>5:30pm</b> RUCCUS Potluck <b>6pm</b> RUCCUS Christmas Program Practice <b>6:30pm</b> Bell Choir	<b>4</b> <b>3:30pm</b> WF Meeting <b>4:30pm</b> Community Dinner <b>6:30pm</b> Council Meeting	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> AIS Food Drive Delivery
<b>7</b> <b>10am</b> Worship w/Holy Communion <b>11am</b> Advent Discussion Group Week 2	<b>8</b> <b>5:30pm</b> SHIFT! Holiday Social <b>7pm</b> Joyful Brass Practice <i>Poinsettia Orders Due</i>	<b>9</b> <b>6pm</b> CE Meeting	<b>10</b> <b>5:30pm</b> RUCCUS Potluck <b>6pm</b> RUCCUS Christmas Program Practice <b>6:30pm</b> Bell Choir	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> <b>8:30am – 12:30pm</b> Cookie Sale Drop-off (in office)	<b>13</b> <b>8:30am – 11am</b> Cookie Sale Drop-off <b>10am</b> Christmas Program Dress Rehearsal <b>11am</b> Christmas Program (followed by cookie fellowship)
<b>14</b> <b>10am</b> Worship <b>11am</b> Advent Discussion Group Week 3 <b>11am</b> Cookie Sale <i>Wrapped Christmas Clothesline Gifts Due Back</i>	<b>15</b> <b>6:30pm</b> CBT Meeting  <i>Annual Reports Due</i>	<b>16</b> <b>6:30pm</b> Trustees Meeting	<b>17</b> <b>6pm</b> Confirmation <b>6:30pm</b> Bell Choir	<b>18</b> <b>5pm</b> SHIFT! @ Grace Place	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> <i>Newsletter Deadline</i>
<b>21</b> <b>10am</b> Worship <b>11am</b> Advent Discussion Group Week 4	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> <b>4:30pm</b> Christmas Eve Worship (Family Style) <b>11pm</b> Christmas Eve Worship (Candlelight Service)	<b>25</b> <b>Christmas Day</b> <i>Office Closed</i>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> <b>10am</b> Worship	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>1</b> <b>New Year's Day</b> <i>Office Closed</i>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>



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