



Connections

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

HUNGER HURTS

With God's help and your support, FMSC strives to eliminate starvation in children throughout the world.

With only a few hours of time,

HUNGER TURNS INTO HOPE!

"For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me."

Matthew 25:35
(NRSVUE)

"We couldn't do this work without YOU. Volunteers pack all our meals, and their donations pay for them. We don't receive free ingredients or government aid. It takes both packing and donating to feed kids!"

To find out more about FMSC:

<https://www.fmsc.org/impact-of-our-work/what-makes-us-different>

Please use the sign-up at church or email
ce@robertsucc.org.



W O R S H I P

SEPTEMBER SUNDAYS

6, 13, 20, 27

10:00 a.m.

6th - Communion

ONLINE WORSHIP

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

September 3

Community Dinner

September 7th

Holiday

Office Closed

September 11

Bonfire Ball

September 12

FMSC Meal Packing

September 16

All-Church RUCCUS Potluck & Game Night

September 18 & 19

Fall Rummage Sale w/weekly drop-off times

September 25

RUCC - Red Cross Blood Drive



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



Celebrating Together

One of the images Paul gives us for the Church is the Body of Christ. We are different people, with different gifts, experiences, stories, and places in life, and yet somehow God brings all of those different pieces together and calls us one body.

Paul writes, ***“If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it.” — 1 Corinthians 12:26***

I have always found that to be a beautiful image of what the Church can be. But lately I have been wondering if one of the ways we might better understand what Paul is talking about is simply by paying attention to the things we celebrate together.

Sometimes we celebrate an accomplishment. Someone graduates. Someone finishes a degree or receives a promotion. A child finally accomplishes something they have been working toward. A ministry reaches a milestone. Something that has required persistence, patience, hard work, and probably more than a few frustrating moments finally comes together.

The accomplishment may belong to one person, but somehow the celebration becomes bigger than that. We gather around them. We shake their hand, give them a hug, send a card, eat some cake, or simply say, “Well done!” For a little while, their joy becomes our joy too.

Other times, what we celebrate is not really an accomplishment at all. It is a transition. Two people stand before family and friends and make promises to one another in marriage. Someone retires after decades of work. A family moves into a new home. A child leaves home for the first time. One chapter ends and another begins. Those celebrations feel a little different because there is usually more going on than simple happiness. There can be excitement and uncertainty at the same time. There can be gratitude for what has been and questions about what comes next. And maybe that is why we gather for those moments too. We aren't simply there to congratulate someone. We are there to say, in one way or another, *we are walking into this next chapter with you.*

And then there are the celebrations that feel different still. We gather because someone has died. We call those gatherings celebrations of life, and I think there is something important in those words. We tell stories. We laugh about things we had nearly forgotten. We cry. We remember. We give thanks for a life that touched our own. And we notice the empty place that person leaves behind.

Yet even there, the Body of Christ gathers. We surround those who are grieving. We bring food. We offer prayers. We tell stories. We sit beside one another. And sometimes, when there really aren't any words that are going to make things better, we simply stay.

Three very different kinds of celebration.

- One celebrates something that has been accomplished.
- One celebrates the movement from what has been into whatever comes next.
- And one celebrates a life that has been lived.
- But I wonder if all three tell us something about what it means to be the Body of Christ.
- **We don't simply attend one another's lives. We participate in them.**
- Your joy matters because you are part of this body.
- What is changing in your life matters because you are part of this body.
- Your grief matters because you are part of this body.
- And the same is true for me.

Continued next page.

*From the
Pastor's
Desk*



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Celebrating Together

Maybe that is part of what fellowship is supposed to mean.

Fellowship isn't simply being in the same room together. It isn't drinking coffee after worship or knowing the names of the people who sit a few pews away from us. Those things can certainly be part of it, but I think Paul is pointing us toward something deeper. It is allowing our lives to become connected enough that what happens to one of us matters to the rest of us.

There will always be accomplishments worth celebrating. There will always be transitions that bring both excitement and uncertainty. And there will always come a time when we have to entrust someone we love back into the hands of God. Through all of it, the Body of Christ remains.

We celebrate together. We walk through change together. We grieve together. We remember together. Perhaps that is one of the greatest gifts of being the Church: **none of us has to live our story entirely alone.**

And yet, so often, people do feel completely alone.

Something wonderful happens in their life, and they wonder if anyone else even knows. Life changes in ways they never expected, and they aren't quite sure who they can talk to about it. Someone they love dies, and after the funeral is over, after everyone else has gone back to their normal routines, they are left trying to figure out what life looks like now.

And I wonder if this is where Paul's image of the Body of Christ stops simply being a beautiful description of the Church and starts becoming a challenge for us.

- **What would it look like for us to know one another well enough that we noticed?**
- To know when there is something worth celebrating.
- To recognize when someone is standing in the middle of a transition and isn't quite sure what comes next.
- To remember that grief doesn't end when the funeral does.

We aren't going to get that right all the time. We are going to miss things. There will be times when someone feels alone and we don't even realize it. But maybe part of becoming the community God is calling us to be is learning to pay a little more attention to one another...learning to ask...learning to listen...learning to notice.

And I want to be clear about something. I am not writing this because I think this is something we are missing at Roberts UCC. In fact, I often see these very things happening among us. I see the ways you care for one another. I see people showing up when someone is hurting. I see you celebrating one another's joys and accomplishments. I see the meals, the cards, the phone calls, the prayers, the conversations, and so many other things that most people will probably never know happened.

The love and care you show for one another is one of the great strengths of this congregation.

So, in part, I bring all of this up simply as a way of saying **thank you for being who you are.** But I also bring it up as a challenge.

How do we continue this life-giving tradition and ministry? How do we deepen it? How do we expand it beyond the relationships we already have? How do we find new and exciting ways of noticing, celebrating, walking alongside, and caring for one another—and for those who aren't yet part of our community?

Maybe part of becoming the community God is calling us to be, isn't starting something completely new. Maybe it is recognizing something God has already planted among us, giving thanks for it, and asking where God might be inviting it to grow next.

Because maybe being the Body of Christ isn't simply about being together on Sunday morning. **Maybe it is about learning to share life with one another in new and exciting ways...**

-Yours in the Family of Christ,
Pastor Burt

RUCC's award winning dinners are back! Dinners are served on the 1st Thursday of each month & offer a wonderful way to connect with others in the church and the surrounding community. If you have any questions or would like to help in any way, contact Judy Snoeyenbos at 715-410-1909.

COMMUNITY DINNER

Sponsored by Women's Fellowship

Thursday, September 3, 2026

Dinners Now Served 4:30pm – 6:00pm

Roasted Turkey & Baked Ham

Mashed Potatoes & Gravy

Dressing, Vegetable,

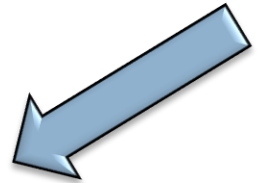
Dinner Rolls

Desserts

Adults: \$7.00 | Children: \$4.00 | Under 5: FREE
Take Out Meals are Available Upon Request

All are Welcome!

(You don't have to be a member here to enjoy a meal with us.)



Please note the end time of the dinners has changed.

Thank you!

BONFIRE BALL

Friday, September 11
5:30pm to 8:30pm

Hosted by:

Tony & Lori Jurek
 884 Young Road, Hudson

Join us for an outdoor evening of food, fellowship, and musical entertainment by Brent Ackley & his sister, Dawn!

All are welcome! Advance sign-up requested.

Cost is \$10 per person.

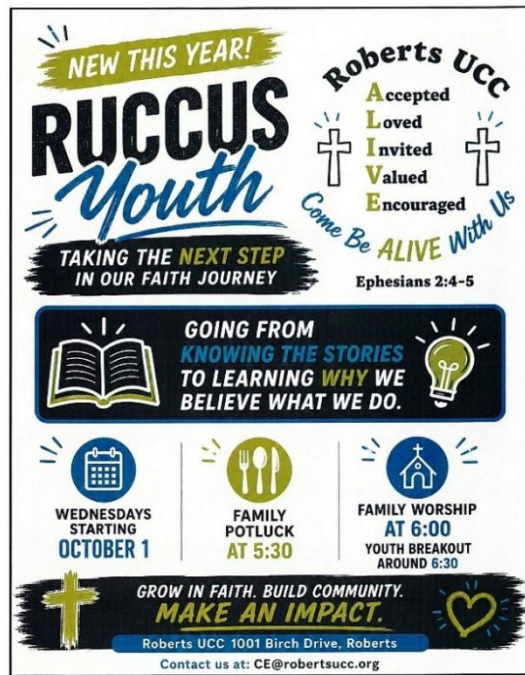
All proceeds will be added to the Roberts UCC Annual Auction totals.

Contact the church office or sign-up on the clipboard found on the table outside the sanctuary to be added to the guest list.

We are looking forward to an evening with you!

To prepare, early sign-ups are appreciated.

Thank you!



NEW THIS YEAR!! RUCCUS YOUTH

The CE team has decided to add a RUCCUS Youth portion to our weekly RUCCUS gatherings. This will be open to anyone in **5th grade or older**. While we will continue to have our potluck and family style worship at the beginning of RUCCUS nights, we feel it's time some of our big kids are offered the chance to take a deeper dive into their faith and begin to discuss not just the stories, but why we believe what we do, and how we can apply that to our daily lives.

If that sounds like it might be important to you, well, you're never too old to be a RUCCUS kid and we'd love to have you join us!

If you have any questions about RUCCUS, please contact Toni Williams at ce@robertsucc.org.

RUCCUS IS GOING WEEKLY!

RUCCUS is moving to weekly events! Starting **Wednesday, October 1st**, RUCCUS will be held every Wednesday until the Christmas program. We hope you join us this fall to study *The Messengers*, those who have gone before us spreading God's word and love to the world and how we can do the same!

We start with a **family potluck at 5:30**; please bring a dish to pass and plates, silverware, and drinks for your crew. At **6:00 (ish)** we start our family worship where we learn a Bible story together, sing some great songs, and spend time together with God. At **around 6:30** we split into groups for adults, kids, and **new this year RUCCUS youth for grades 5 and up**.



RUCCUS

All-Church Family Game Night

We will be kicking off our new RUCCUS season with a family game night.

Please bring a dish to pass and your crew's plates, silverware, and drinks.

Feel free to bring a family favorite game or enjoy what we have at the church.

This is always a hit, and we'd love to have you jump into the fun with us!

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

FRIDAY & SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 18 & 19

FRIDAY: 8:00 am – 6:00 pm (Lunch Available)

SATURDAY 8:00 am – 10:30 am



YOU WILL FIND:

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

Friday, September 18th Unless otherwise marked, all items are .50 cents each!

Saturday, September 19th Stuff a big garbage bag for \$2.00!

DROP OFF DATES

Monday, September 14th from 4pm – 7pm

Tuesday, September 15th & Wednesday, September 16th from 1pm – 5pm

Thursday, September 17th from 9am - 1pm

If you have items to drop off, please make sure they are clean, in 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



**American
Red Cross**

Blood
Services

RUCC BLOOD DRIVE

FRIDAY, SEPT. 25, 2026

9 AM TO 3 PM

Fall into donation! Help the blood inventory *BOUNCE BACK* from summer low supplies & join the RUCC Blood Drive. Every 2-3 seconds, someone in the U.S. needs blood & the only way hospitals have access to blood products is through the generosity of donors. 1 hour, 1 donation can help up to 3 patients in need in the coming weeks!

Get a \$15 e-gift card to a merchant of your choice - [Click here to join our lifesaving mission!](#)

Or if you make your appointments by phone, please call

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

The QR code can also be used to schedule .

Contact **Patti** with any questions:

patti robertson13@gmail.com or 715-531-8611.

Download the Blood Donor App | RedCrossBlood.org



Fall into the habit of donating! Get a \$15 e-gift card when you come to give blood Sept. 21-Oct. 18.



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

September 1

Dave Hatch
Lori Morris
Sue Wille

September 2

Earl Pechuman

September 3

Audrey Ackley

September 5

Toni Williams

September 7

Terra Jansma
Tricia Dull

September 8

Steven Hansen

September 10

Dennis Nelson

September 11

Glenda Hansen

September 15

Christie Risberg

September 16

Renee Gullixson
Annika Hansen

September 18

Zachary Williams

September 20

Silas Rogers

September 21

Mary Schultz

September 26

Jenny Muller

September 27

Brandon Dull
Kiley Ament

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

September 6

Jason & Lindy Neubrand

September 7

James & Lynn Cave

September 10

Brandon & Shelly Dull
Jeff & Trudy Hinkel



September 16

Nicole & Tom O'Connell
Tim & Tracy Ronnander

September 18

Cynthia & Steven Hansen

PRAYER LIST



Earl Pechuman

Kinsley Bruun

Jason Muller

Amber Hollo

Chalie Kamm

Lowell Johnson

Nikki Freeman

Krystal Gaustad

Tom Hess

Wanda Hopkins

Todd Graf

June Melloy

James Schnacky

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.

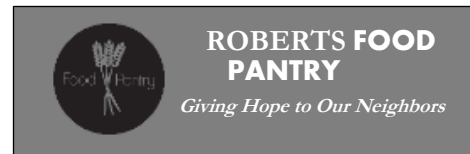
Do you or anyone you know need help with groceries?

The Food Pantry is available to help.

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

Your prayers & support mean so much to so many!

We are low on Paper towels, Kleenex, dish soap, laundry detergent, Jell-O, pudding, and kids lunch snacks.



OPEN WEEKLY

Tuesday & Thursday

9:00am – 11:30am

Wednesdays

6:30pm – 8:00pm

715-749-3478

We also accept brown paper & white plastic bags.

Thank you for providing us with egg cartons! We are well stocked!

**Roberts Congregational United Church of Christ
Council Report
August 2026**

No meeting was held this report is from reports submitted to me.

Women's Fellowship

No meeting this month, the next meeting is September 3 @ 3:30

Dinners will resume that day as well with new hours 4:30 to 6

Rummage sale is planned for Sept 18 & 19

All are invited to provide baked goods for the auction bake sale

S.H.I.F.T

Will meet on August 10

Will finalize plans for the auction food stand and this month's Grace Place dinner scheduled for August 20

Pastor

July created space to rest, to step back, and to keep moving forward in quieter ways

Continued to build on the foundation that has been taking shape over the past several months

Leadership remains in an intentional season of Sabbath from regular meetings

A significant portion of time continued to be spent on pastoral care

Our presence in the community continues in steady and consistent ways

Have been in conversation with outside organizations about how we might work more collaboratively in serving the community

Priorities for August

Re-engage leadership and congregation following the summer rhythm

Continue preparing for broader participation in the transition process

Maintain steady pastoral care presence

Build toward increased fall activity

Submitted by

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 July 31, 2026

Statement of Activity		Statement of Financial Position	
Income/Contributions	\$ 14,875.61	Assets	
Interest	<u>0.25</u>	General Accounts	\$ 4,625.58
Total Income	14,875.86	SCRIP Account	2,096.53
Expenses	21,057.44	Memorial Accounts	17,608.91
Transfers from other accounts	<u>-</u>	Fixed Assets	\$ <u>1,855,473.62</u>
Net Activity	(6,181.58)	Total Assets	\$ 1,879,804.64
		Liabilities & Equity	
		Accrued Expenses	\$ -
		Bank Mortgage Balances	519,261.19
		Member Mortgage Balances	<u>150,000.00</u>
		Total Liabilities	669,261.19
		Equity	<u>1,210,543.45</u>
		Total Liabilities & Equity	\$ <u><u>1,879,804.64</u></u>



RaiseRight
by ShopWithScrip



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 (*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.

RaiseRight also offers a **Mobile App**.

There are so many possibilities, and it is an effortless way to raise funds for our church. Please go to the *RaiseRight* site and explore. If questions, please ask **Dianne Loewel**, 651-343-7614 or gmalowell@gmail.com.



Dates & times could change. Please check the website for the “real time” calendar.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 10am Worship	31	1 6pm Deacons Meeting	2	3 3:30pm WF Meeting 4:30pm – 6pm Community Dinner <i>Council Reports Due</i>	4	5
6 10am Worship w/Holy Communion	7 Labor Day <i>Office Closed</i>	8 6pm CE Meeting	9	10	11 5:30 – 8:30pm Bonfire Ball w/Live Music <i>(proceeds benefit the Auction)</i>	12 8:15am FMSC Carpool 9:30 – 11:15am FMSC Meal Packing <i>(Eagan Site)</i>
13 10am Worship	14 4-7pm Rummage Sale Drop-off	15 1-5pm Rummage Sale Drop-off	16 1-5pm Rummage Sale Drop-off 5:30pm All Church RUCCUS Potluck & Game Night <i>(games start at 6ish)</i>	17 9am - 1pm Rummage Sale Drop-off	18 8am – 6pm Fall Rummage Sale <i>(Lunch available)</i>	19 8 – 10:30am Fall Rummage Sale
20 10am Worship <i>Newsletter Deadline</i>	21	22 6:30pm Trustees Meeting	23	24	25 9am – 3pm Red Cross Blood Drive	26
27 10am Worship	28	29	30	OCT 1 3:30pm WF Meeting 4:30 – 6:00pm Community Dinner 6pm Council Meeting	OCT 2	OCT 3



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