

News & Views from Rollo News

January - February 2026

From the Reverends Pen

Dear Rollo UCC Members and Friends,

Thank you to everyone who was able to make it out to our meaningful and peaceful Ash Wednesday service. It is always a different, more quiet and reflective experience to have church in the evening. I was particularly struck by the beauty of the bright stars in the black sky upon leaving the church; a holy reminder of just how vast and beautiful God's creation is.

Ash Wednesday marks the official beginning of the season of Lent, a period of our spiritual lives when we are meant to remember that life is fragile and won't last forever; to recognize that we all come from dust and to dust we will all return. When we become aware of our mortality, not afraid of it, but aware, it helps us reflect on what is truly important in life and what we are called by God to be and do in this one precious life.

Lent is a 40 day faith journey in which we are called to let go of temptations and burdens which hold us back from loving God, our neighbors and ourselves. It is a time of prayer and repentance for our sins, followed by a recommitment to follow the way of Jesus, who suffered and died on the cross to bring us closer to the love of God. Lent reminds us not to store up treasures on earth, but in heaven, and to work together as the united church, the one body of Christ, to help bring God's kingdom to earth.

May this Lenten season change you for the better, and lead you closer to the transformative love of God on Easter morning. I am always here to listen and encourage you on our journey.

Peace and God bless you.

Pastor David

Diaconate Report by Lisa Johnson & Laura Fassig

- Decided Lisa Johnson, chairperson; Ron Wald, secretary, and welcomed Laura Fassig as the new 1st year person
- Signup sheet for the Lenten Bible Study for light meals (soup and/or sandwiches or cheese and crackers) will be at the back the church – Bible Study dates are: Feb 25 (Diaconate providing), March 4, Mar 11, Mar 18, Mar 25.
- Confirmation and baptismal certificates were found in the church office
- Ash Wednesday services were Feb 18 at 7:30 pm
- Maundy Thursday service Apr 2 at 7:30 pm.
- Good Friday services are to be announced at a later date.
- Easter service on April 5th with light Breakfast at 10 am (put on by Hospitality committee and Sunday School helpers) and service with communion at 11AM.
- Laura will set up lists for Lay Readers and Ushers (which are included in newsletter)
- Hospitality committee will set up lists for cookie fellowship.
- Laura will be ordering of Palms and Easter Lillie's.
- A family in need of financial support was given \$600 from diaconate funds.
- Mailed Valentines Day cards to shut in's



Trustees Report by Bryan Wald

Welcome Chuck Johnson for joining our church trustees. Chuck replaces Mike Johnson.
A big thank you to Mike for his years of service to the trustees.

- New lighting for the sanctuary is anticipated sometime between March and May.
- Contractors are being sought for estimates on the remodeling of the church bathrooms.
- Orkin has been contracted to provide pest control for the church.
- Disposition of the parsonage continues to be discussed but no final determination yet.

Treasurers Report By Wayne Davey

FROM THE MONEY COUNTER

BUDGET \$101,041.00		Budget	Actual	Over/Under Budget
REVENUE	January 31, 2026	\$8,420.08	\$5,544.75	-\$2,875.33
EXPENDITURES	January 31, 2026	\$8,420.08	\$10,233.89	-\$1,813.81
DIFFERENCE		\$0.00	-\$4,689.14	

Current Balance in Checking Account: \$17,475.50

Current Balance in Savings Account: \$36,978.40

150 Anniversary Fund: \$ 1,215.73
 Bathroom Fund: \$ 7,233.94
 Building Fund: \$ 0.00
 Family Relief Fund: \$ 348.05
 Diaconate Fund: \$ 2,239.72
 *Memorial Account: \$ 90.76
 Insurance Claim \$ 15,349.75
 Lighting Fund \$ 1,375.00
 Undesignated: \$ 9,125.45



*Current CD Balance as of 1/27/2026: 2.75% \$ 4,873.45-First State (Memorial Funds)

Current CD Balance as of 1/31/2026: 1.17% \$ 25,803.02-Resource

Balance in Savings Account: .15% \$ 11,175.38-Resource

Total Savings: \$ 36,978.40

Memorial Fund: \$ 4,964.21

* Memorial Funds are currently located within the First State CD Investment and savings

Hospitality Report By Tami Johnson

The hospitality committee had a phone meeting to start planning events for 2026. Per the updated by-laws, Hospitality will assume responsibility for fellowship events.

Hospitality is now responsible for cookie fellowship sign up (previously Diaconate's responsibility) and Easter breakfast (previously Christian Education's responsibility). As soon as dates are set for the out-door services, we will put a sign-up sheet on the back table for cookie fellowship. The hospitality committee will host a light breakfast on Easter Sunday at 10 AM. Fruit, pastries, juice, and coffee will be served. As with all our fellowship events, we will be asking members to bring food and/or drinks. Thank you in advance for contributing to the success of these events.

Christian Ed Report By Jamie Gibson

It's been a busy year for Sunday school! In our quest to learn more about ourselves and our faith, we have explored some traditional hymns like "amazing grace" "it is well" and "silent night". During our sessions, I'm asking the students to try and identify a part of a song that really sticks with them or something they can relate to. We took a break in January but will resume on February 8. We've also started a craft that I think will probably take us to the end of the spring. As part of our "silent night" session, we started constructing stars out of wooden craft sticks that are our "guiding lights". These will be hung from the ceiling with fishing line. (no structural damage will be done. They are very lightweight and can be taken down very easily.)

When we resume Sunday school, we will do some more modern songs that have a more contemporary message, such as "awesome God", "turn up the music", and we will also spend a little time on some versions of "joyful, joyful, joyful, we adore thee"



Moderator Report By Beth Prestagaard

2026 is off to a great start! All committees are in place and up and running. Many thanks to those of you that volunteered to be on a committee and to everyone who donates their time! I say it often, when something needs to get done, it always gets done. I appreciate the grace we give one another – it's not always easy bringing different personalities (or strong personalities) and perspectives together to accomplish something but it's the 'something' that reminds us how important it is to listen and give grace – we are in it together and for the same reason. I commit to try and do more listening than speaking this year.

I want to highlight how excited I am about the things on our agenda for 2026 – some great things ahead. As Pastor David talked about again at our Annual Meeting, spending some intentional time focusing on growing our congregation and membership (maybe reviving our current members too). We have talked about this for a long time – it's a tough nut to crack but I am confident that we can get others to see and feel what we do! We are marketing a product of sorts – call it faith, love or to be and feel seen. More to come on this for sure! In the meantime, when you have bought a new product or joined a new group or changed a habit, what are some things that made that happen for you? Please be thinking about it.

By the end of 2026, I hope we look back in celebration of all we did for our own faith journey, our community (near and far), one another and our beloved building and parsonage!

**Please Remember In Your
Prayers & Thoughts**

*Prayers for all those affected by war, poverty,
forced migration, violence, and natural
disasters.....that peace, dignity, and love may
prevail.*

All our Service men & women

Bryan Wald

Jane Buland

Zach Kasper

Jacob Brewer

Brent Olson

June Stephens (*Becky Stephens*)

Philip Peterson

Mike McInerney

Ella Woodward

Martha Bianco

Sandy Bullis

Ron Espe

Sandy Whitman

Ardie Sprowls

Sarah Ehrhart

Phil Foster

Don Black (*Fassigs*)

Ellen Sue Kupecz

Family & Friends of Archie Jensen

Family & Friends of Dan McRoberts

Announcements

Feb. 22 - Cookie Fellowship:

Susan F., Ann G., & Sherry M.

Feb. 25 - Lenten Bible Study with a light meal at 5:30 pm

Mar. 1 - Diaconate Mtg at 10 am

Mar. 4 - Lenten Bible Study with a light meal at 5:30 pm

Mar. 8 - Trustees Mtg at 10 am

Mar. 11 - Lenten Bible Study with a light meal at 5:30 pm

Mar. 18 - Lenten Bible Study with a light meal at 5:30 pm

Mar. 25 - Lenten Bible Study with a light meal at 5:30 pm

Mar. 29 - Palm Sunday

Cookie Fellowship:

Audrey K., Carol S., & Laura F.

Apr. 2 - Maundy Thursday at 7:30 pm

Apr. 3 - Good Friday TBA

Apr. 5 - Easter Sunday with light breakfast at 10am with service with communion at 11am

Apr. 12 - Trustees Mtg at 9:45 am
Council Mtg at 10 am

Apr. 19 - Diaconate Mtg at 10 am



**Signup sheet for the Lenten Bible Study for light meals (soup and/or sandwiches or cheese and crackers) will be at the back the church – Bible Study dates are:
Feb 25 (Diaconate providing),
March 4, Mar 11, Mar 18, Mar 25.**

**April 5 is Easter Sunday!
The Hospitality Committee and
Sunday School helpers will be
serving a light breakfast at 10am.
Easter service with communion
will begin at 11am.**





Happy Birthday!!!



January 07 – Leah Richardson
January 12 – Gloria Foster
January 18 – Devon White
January 20 – Brad Martin
January 23 – Heidi Johnson
January 25 – Camilla Boston
January 28 - Hank Peterson
January 30 – Bill Fassig
January 31 – Jefferson Bradley

Feb 04 – Dave Bend
 & Lisa Johnson
Feb 05 – Joel Svendsen
Feb 08 – Donald Oest
Feb 15 – Alexis Olson
Feb 21 – Isabella Kasper
 & Carol Bend
Feb 27 – Keith Fassig
 & Jordan Johnson
Feb 28 – James Baird
 & Katie Goble

April 04 – Tami Wooden
April 05 – Carol Bateman
April 06 – Ava Lake
April 10 – Madison Bradley
April 11 – Larry Svendsen
 & Chris Martin
April 12 - Mara Fraccaro
April 14 – Wyatt Gletty
April 19 – Cole Walters
April 27 – Reagan Gibson
April 30 – Landon Benson

Mar 02 – Hunter Walters
Mar 03 – Jeffrey Adam Svendsen
Mar 08 – Benjamin Maple
Mar 13 – Jeff Svendsen
Mar 17 – Joshua Marquardt
Mar 18 – Debbie Peters
Mar 19 – Dave Benson
Mar 20 - Jason Jordal
Mar 21 – Christine Schilling
 & David Gibson
Mar 23 – Cierra Bend
Mar 24 – Audrey Kuring
Mar 25 – Wayne Davey
Mar 26 – Olivia & Madelynn Lyons
Mar 29 - Katie Koks
Mar 30 – Maegan Gletty
Mar 31 – Bryan Wald

2026-2027

Lists

Lay Readers - 2026

June 07	Beth Prestagaard
June 14	Barb Bend
June 21	Tammy Johnson
June 28	Carol Bend
July 05	Susan Foster
July 12	Maegan Gletty
July 19	Henry Fraccaro
July 26	Katie Koks
Aug 02	Curt Foster
Aug 09	Ellen Kupecz
Aug 16	Elburn Days
Aug 23	Bob Gilmore
Aug 30	Jamie Gibson
Sept 06	Ron Wald
Sept 13	Stacy Richardson
Sept 20	Ron Wald
Sept 27	Jeff Svendsen
Oct 04	Doris Rex
Oct 11	Beth Prestagaard
Oct 18	Barb Bend
Oct 25	Laura Fassig
Nov 01	Tammy Johnson
Nov 08	Susan Foster
Nov 15	Maegan Gletty
Nov 22	Izzy Kasper
Nov 29	Jamie Gibson
Dec 06	Ellen Kupecz
Dec 13	Katie Koks
Dec 20	Curt Foster
Dec 27	Stacy Richardson



Lay Readers - 2027

Jan 03	Laura Fassig
Jan 10	Darryl Kupecz
Jan 17	Laura Fassig
Jan 24	Doris Rex
Jan 31	Ron Wald
Feb 07	Maegan Gletty
Feb 14	Beth Prestagaard
Feb 21	Barb Bend
Feb 28	Bob Gilmore
Mar 07	Tammy Johnson
Mar 14	Jeff Svendsen
Mar 21	Ron Wald
Mar 28	Easter
Apr 04	Maegan Gletty
Apr 11	Katie Koks
Apr 18	Curt Foster
Apr 25	Carol Bend
May 02	Henry Fraccaro
May 09	Stacy Richardson
May 16	Ellen Kupecz
May 23	Doris Rex
May 30	Susan Foster



Usher

May 2026
Mike Johnson & Darryl Kupecz
June 2026
Bob Gilmore & Dave Bend
July 2026
Ron Wald & Keith Fassig
August 2026
Dave Bend & Jeff Svendsen
September 2026
Chuck Johnson & Wayne Davey
October 2026
Mike Johnson & Dave Gibson
November 2026
Zach Kasper & Darryl Kupecz
December 2026
Keith Fassig & Chuck Johnson
January 2027
Jeff Svendsen & Larry Svendsen
February 2027
Dave Gibson & Zach Kasper
March 2027
Wayne Davey & Keith Fassig
April 2027
Bob Gilmore & Mike Johnson
May 2027
Curt Foster & Larry Svendsen

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