

Rollo News & Views From Rollo Pews



Rollo UCC

September/October 2018

From Pastor David's Pen

A week or so ago I took a day when it wasn't so hot and trimmed the shrubs in the memorial garden in the front of the church. I also took this opportunity to re-level the patio stones under the bench. And as I spent these quiet few hours, it dawned on me that our faith lives and this garden are very much alike.

Similarly, when Gail was recently visiting with a neighbor, he mentioned to her that our yard should be in a magazine. He just marveled at the plantings and flowers. And again, as I thought about what it took to maintain the beds, it again dawned on me that it wasn't much different than our faith lives.

The point~ anything that grows requires maintenance.

All landscape plantings require some sort of maintenance. They require trimming, watering, fertilizing, weeding, and just a lot of TLC. One would think that we could do this once and they'd be good for life! But that's not the way it works. Most plants have what's called 'terminal dominance'. This means that as long as the tip can elongate it will. When the terminal is cut, this forces more lateral growth and that's how shrubs and evergreens get thicker and denser. Without pruning and trimming, the terminal buds just continue to grow and the plantings can become unruly.

Beyond proper pruning, plantings require nutrients water and sun. And even with all of this TLC, with all of the proper pruning and fertilizing, landscapes still have problems. Insects tend to invade. Weeds much the same. And often, diseases set in and deterioration takes place. We have a few plants that are this way at church and a few at home.

And some years are easier than others. While the garden at church tends to hold its own, our landscape at home has taken a beating. The heat, coupled with the dry weather, have really taken a toll on our plantings. We started out providing supplemental water but as the year went on, and the ground got dryer, we just decided to let things go. The time and energy it would take just became more than we had time for.

Again, anything that grows requires maintenance, and that includes our faith. Like the garden at church or our beds at home, they required a lot of hard work to plant and construct them. It's really no different from all of the time spent running the children to Sunday School, helping them through confirmation, and instilling within them a strong Christian foundation. This is what our parents did for us, and what we will do for our children. But then what? What happens when we have some rogue attitudes and notions? What happens when the outside pressures of society crowd in on us like weeds, disease, and insects do to our plantings? What happens when we're absent from our faith and in a hot, dry time in our lives?

Well, that's when it's time for maintenance. That's when it's time for time with God. That's when prayer can bring us back to center. That's when worship can put us back on track. That's when scripture can prune us back some. And that's when communion at the Table of Grace can give us a shot of water and nutrition to keep us going. But, if we let our faith go, just like we decided to let our beds go, then it isn't long before the weeds, diseases, and insects become overbearing.

But the cool thing; tomorrows a new day! Just like spring will bloom eternal, we can decide at any point in our lives to bloom again in our faith. We can decide to turn our lives back over to Jesus and get back on track, back in church, and back in fellowship with the rest of God's children.

So the question; how's our Christian maintenance coming? What needs pruning and shaping in our lives. Where are the weeds, diseases, and insects coming from that we need to eliminate? And how can church help and make a difference in maintaining our faith lives? Remember always what Jesus told us in John 15:5, ***"I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing."***

Happy gardening!
Love and blessings, PD.



Trustees Report by Tami Johnson

There is some remaining brick work that needs to be finished near the carport. The Trustees are working to complete the work this summer.

The Trustees wrote a short cleaning list, and we are asking members to sign up and complete the cleaning at their convenience. The cleaning list is on the back table in the sanctuary. A big thank you to the workers who have already completed their tasks!

Bovard Studios, from Fairfield Iowa, was sent a deposit of approximately \$13,000 to start the repair work on the stained glass window. There was enough money in the general fund to cover the down payment. We have a goal of asking the congregation to donate another \$13,000. Again, a big thank you to those who have already donated! The children of the church are leading the way!

Diaconate Report by Barb Bend

I assure you the committee is diligently taking care of business!

Father's Day "goodies" were prepared by Gail, with a little help from her friends, and passed out on Father's Day. They were enjoyed by all the dads (and others too).

Pastor Dave officiated a wedding at our church July 14.

July 15 was a big day with our Crosstown Classic! There was an abundance of food and Cub and Sox fans alike celebrated!

We have completed our work on the membership list. Any time you have changes, please inform one of us.

Pastor Dave has taken the handheld microphone in for repairs and we recommended payment out of Memorial monies.

Some future dates for your calendar are:

Rollo Church will be shaking things up at the Sandwich Fair Thursday, September 6 from 10-1 at the Open Door Lemon Shake-Up booth. Please join us if you're free or visit and purchase fair exclusives.

Sunday School will be starting a new year on September 16.

World Communion is Sunday, October 7.

All Saints Day will be November 4.

Thankful Harvest Sunday is scheduled for November 11. This is when we have the big send off for the Shoe boxes and nonperishable food items for the NICE center. This is a gratifying day when we can give to others and be thankful for all we have.

News from NICE by Deb Davey

NICE held a board meeting on Wednesday, July 25th, at the center in Lee. Audra Boehne reported that 84 households were assisted in May made up of 373 individuals and 143 children under 18. 120 households were helped in June comprised of 474 individuals and 202 under 18. The final tally for the NICE Walk was \$13,057.00. Rollo UCC gave a total of \$785.00. Thank you to all who supported our walkers. As I reported in the last newsletter, Bill Weigle, who has been the treasurer for 17 years, has decided to retire. If you have an interest in taking on this important position, please let Deb Davey know. IT'S BACK TO SCHOOL TIME! The center will be collecting backpacks and all kinds of school supplies. Distribution will be on August 4th, 11th, and 18th. Camilla Boston announced that she will no longer be the co-chair of the kids and household goods area. Camilla has been a faithful volunteer for 10 years. The congregation thanks you, Camilla, for all that you have done for the center and the clients. The next board meeting is scheduled for September 26th. Let Deb Davey know if you have an interest in attending.

Treasurer's Report by Wayne Davey

BUDGET		Budget	Actual	Over/Under Budget
\$75,297.00				
REVENUE	July 31, 2018	\$43,923.25	\$44,435.59	\$512.34
EXPENDITURES	July 31, 2018	\$43,923.25	\$34,906.78	\$9,528.81



From The Money Counter

Current Balance in Checking Account:	\$ 25,218.27
Current Balance in Savings Account:	\$ 10,876.57
150 Anniversary Fund:	\$ 1,215.73
Bathroom Fund:	\$ 650.21
Building Fund:	\$ -0-
Diaconate Fund:	\$ 1,835.72
Memorial Account:	\$ 881.23
Undesignated:	\$ 6,293.68

Stain Glass Window Repair Fund:	\$ 2,521.83
Goal:	\$13,500.00
Away From Goal:	\$10,978.17

Current CD Balance as of 7/28/2018:	\$ 4,391.79
Memorial Fund:	\$ 4,207.81

* Memorial Funds are currently located within the CD Investment



The Samaritan's Purse shoe box ministry in Rollo Church will be in full swing with a Wrapping Party on Monday, October 8th from 9 am to 3 pm. Each box is gift wrapped and then covered in clear shipping tape so that the box will be just as special as the love that is packed within. Once prepared, each box is filled with a list of those things that are required such as toiletries and washcloths. Once these items are packed then each box, depending on whether it is for a boy or girl will receive some special/fun, school supply and personal items that they would otherwise not receive. Once these boxes are complete they are shipped all around the world as part of Samaritan's Purse world outreach. How can you help and participate in changing a child's life?

If you would like to fill a box we will offer these choices;

- *You wrap and fill a box(s) on your own, reminder that neither candy or toothpaste are allowed any more.*
- *You can pick up a wrapped box(s) from church and go shopping as a family*
- *You can go to the basement of the church on Sundays in October where there will be a mini-shopping center and boxes ready to be filled. Grab one and have a ball(those are available too). The donation for the supplies that are available to you is \$20/box.*
- *If you would like to sponsor a box(s) and allow someone else to fill it then you can simply donate \$20 toward the shopping that has been done for you.*
- *Shipping- Beyond the fun, fellowship and cost of filling the boxes is the cost of shipping. Samaritan's Purse asks for a \$9 donation per box to help offset some of their cost. If it is in your heart to contribute to this fee then we are grateful for that as well.*

Any donations can be given to Gail Marquardt or Church Treasurer Wayne Davey.

Shoeboxes will be dedicated along with the food drive during services on Thankful Harvest Sunday, Nov. 11th.

Lay Reader List

Sept. 2 - Carol Bend
Sept. 9 - Barb Bend
Sept. 16 - Laura Fassig
Sept. 23 - Maegan Gletty
Sept. 30 - Bob Stephens
Oct. 7 - Gloria Foster
Oct. 14 - Becky Oest
Oct. 21 - Ron Wald
Oct. 28 - Ellen Sue Kupecz
Nov. 4 - Barb Bend
Nov. 11 - Susan Foster

Cookie Fellowship List

Sept. 30 - Judy Svendsen, Christine Schilling & Jamie Gibson
Oct. 28 - Martha Bianco, Jane Buland & Betty Goble
Nov. 25 - Katie Koks, Ellen Sue Kupecz & Barb Bend

Usher List

September - Chuck Johnson & Wayne Davey
October - Mike Johnson & Dave Gibson
November - Dakota Goble & Darryl Kupecz

Please Remember In Your Prayers & Thoughts

All our Service men & women
The Lost
'Shut-Ins'
Lyle & Marion Wald
Doug Komes
Nancy (*Beth White*)
Betty Leslie (*Laura Fassig*)
Leota Benson
Vera Weiss (*Carol Svendsen*)
Kyle Raymer (*Joetta*)
Rachel (*Maegan Gletty*)
Jerry Klatt (*Svendsens & Fassigs*)
Margie Marquardt
Pat & Bill Unzicker

Announcements

Sept. 2 - Diaconate Mtg after worship
Sept. 9 - Trustees Mtg after worship
Sept. 15 - Mens Breakfast at 7 a.m.
Sept. 16 - Sunday School Resumes
Sept. 30 - *Cookie Fellowship:*
Judy S., Christine S., Jamie G.
Oct. 7 - Diaconate Mtg after worship
World Communion
Oct. 8 - Shoebox Wrapping Party at 9 a.m.
Oct. 14 - Trustees Mtg after worship
Council to meet after
Newsletter is Due!!!
Oct. 20 - Mens Breakfast at 7 a.m.
Oct. 28 - *Cookie Fellowship:*
Martha B., Jane B. & Betty G.
Nov. 4 - Diaconate Mtg after worship
All Saints Day
Nov. 11 - Trustees Mtg after worship
Thankful Harvest

We will be shaking things up
at the Sandwich Fair
Thursday, September 6 from
10-1 at the Open Door Lemon
Shake-Up booth. Please join
us if you're free or visit and
purchase fair exclusives.

**Sunday
School
Resumes
September
16th!!**

ShoeBox Wrapping Party
Monday, October 8th
from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
-bring scissors & tape-
Further information contact
Gail @ 815-286-3005



GIVE A GIFT OF GRAIN

DONATING A GIFT OF GRAIN CAN MAKE A LASTING DIFFERENCE. THE VALUE OF THE GRAIN CAN BE USED TO SUPPORT CHARITABLE CAUSES IN YOUR COMMUNITY.

Please visit: <http://cultivateconnections.org/give-a-gift-of-grain/>
for the full article!

Happy Birthday!

Sept 04 – Colton Hockstatter
Sept 12 – Dakota Goble
Sept 13 – Tami Johnson
Sept 16 – Carole Jordal
Sept 18 – Trevor Benson
Sept 20 – Doug Maple
Sept 22 – Barbara Bend
Sept 26 – Jerry Maple
Sept 28 – Erin Maple
Sept 29 – Ronald Wald
Sept 30 – Martha Bianco

Oct 03 – Charles Johnson
Oct 07 – LaVern Jordal
& Brian Oest
Oct 10 – Brad Wald
Oct 14 – Paula Bend
Oct 15 – Susan Recknor
& Darryl Kupecz
Oct 19 – Rick Bend
Oct 24 – Laura Walters
Oct 30 – Felicia Wooden

Rollo UCC
Pastor David Margardt
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