



News & Views from Rollo Pews

Jan. - Feb. 2019

From the Pastors Pen

Resentment. It's something we've all experienced, we know how it can hurt, and we know how hard it is to understand.

From trying to make friends with the little girl with pony tails who sits in front of us in 3rd grade, to the sparkle in your eye who says no to a date for homecoming, all the way to the doors that close too quickly when the salesperson knocks, resentment is difficult. And I think that what makes it so hard to understand, is that we can't figure out why.

Why aren't I good enough, fun enough, good looking enough?

Why don't you care for my wit, my character and my charm?

Why don't you like or want what I'm selling?

Why don't you see things the way I do?

Many years ago, when I was just starting my consulting career, the thing that was so hard to understand, was how someone could possibly say no. How does someone say no to having more information, better data, and the voice of experience in their corner? How could someone not want a consultant to either validate their opinion, or to show them the faults within? Why does something that makes so much sense to me, not make sense to them?

I watch fertilizer and supply sales people go through this every day. Each one believes they have the best product, the best pricing, and the best service, and yet the door is closed while the client buys from other vendors.

And we see this within our schools and personal relationships as well. We all try hard to be liked. We try to be relevant, up to speed on the news, dressed in the newest styles, and yet, there are those who have no time for us, and travel in their own circles.

I once heard it said, that '*if only one party is trying, then it's not a relationship.*' I think this is an astounding thought, and one that takes a great deal of maturity to understand. It's only with time, that we can see the value in those who WANT to be with us, instead of trying so hard to be with and please the masses. But it still hurts to be rejected. It still hurts to be the only one who makes an effort. It still hurts when there's simply no understanding. And yes, we've all experienced rejection, and we all know how it feels, and how badly it can hurt.

But what about God. I wonder how often in our lives we reject the presence of God in our lives. I wonder how often we think about what God would have us do, and then turn our backs and do the opposite. And most of all, I wonder if God feels as rejected as we have all felt from time to time. I wonder if God feels like we did when the little girl in 3rd grade looks the other way, or the new person at work rejects our attempts at friendship. I wonder if God feels like we sometimes shut the door on him, much the way salespeople experience it when they try to sell their wares.

The point, it's Christmas, and God is knocking, but he's not selling anything, because the price has already been paid. No, God is knocking, and he's bringing a gift. A gift of immeasurable value, and it's free. And of course, the gift is Jesus Christ. And what makes me sad, is that some doors will be closed in his face, others won't bother to answer at all, and some will be too indifferent to care. And just like you and me, I think God gets hurt when he and his gift are rejected. I think that God feels the disappointment and sorrow of rejection, just as deeply as we do.

But unlike you and me, who get tired of being rejected, and one day give up and walk away, God does not. No, God left his gift on our doorsteps for us to bring inside our hearts and enjoy.

A new year is upon us, and with each new day, we have a chance for a fresh start at rebuilding our relationship with Jesus Christ and His church. But in order to do so, we'll need to answer and open the door when He knocks. We'll need to reassess our priorities and decide how important a relationship with Jesus really is in and to our lives.

12/28/18 ~ Now I'll share with you that I wrote the first part of this a couple of weeks ago, and with the events of our church family took precedence over worrying about getting a newsletter out. And as I sat down to review and close this, the words of a song came to mind. The song is 'If I Don't Have You' by Love & the Outcome. As we look at the New Year, and think about rebuilding our relationship with both Jesus and His Church, let me leave you with some of the lyrics;

*How can I build Your kingdom if I'm building my own
How can You be my treasure if I'm digging for gold
How can You be my fire if my heart has grown cold
How can You be my future if I've made this my home*

*How can I say I need You and live on my own
How can I say I want You and never come close
How can I say I surrender and never let go
How can I say I love You to someone I don't know*

*I don't want the world if I don't have You
I don't want it all if it means I lose You
I've tasted and I've seen enough
To know it's You I need
I don't want the world if I don't have You*

Maybe a New Year's prayer and resolution~
Blessings and love,
PD

Diaconate Report by Barb Bend

The Diaconate continues to complete their duties of maintaining the spiritual welfare of the church by preparing and serving communion, changing the paramounts, updating the prayer list, and meeting monthly.

We continue to help in other areas as needed or requested.

The church looks festive after our "Hanging of the Greens" November 25. The poinsettias were added for service on December 16. That was also the Christmas Celebration presentation by the choir, followed by a lovely Christmas Tea.

The Sunday School class had a puppet performance and duet by Gage and Cole the Sunday before. We are so blessed by these talented children, choir members, Laura, Becky, and all who helped in one way or another.

Small gifts for our shut-ins have been delivered and very much appreciated! Laura was an excellent shopper and the gifts were very appropriate to show them love from Rollo Church.

We wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year!

Treasurers Report by Wayne Davey

FROM THE MONEY COUNTER

BUDGET \$75,297.00		Budget	Actual	Over/Under Budget
REVENUE	November 30, 2018	\$69,022.25	\$62,880.62	(\$6,141.63)
EXPENDITURES	November 30, 2018	\$69,022.25	\$51,623.65	(\$11,256.97)

Current Balance in Checking Account:	\$ 11,690.47
Current Balance in Savings Account:	\$ 10,478.30
150 Anniversary Fund:	\$ 1,215.73
Bathroom Fund:	\$ 650.21
Building Fund:	\$ -0-
Diaconate Fund:	\$ 1,436.72
Memorial Account:	\$ 881.23
Undesignated:	\$ 6,294.41

Stain Glass Window Repair Fund:	\$10,190.52
Goal:	\$13,500.00
Away From Goal:	\$ 3,309.48

Current CD Balance as of 11/28/2018:	\$ 4,399.20
Memorial Fund:	\$ 4,207.81



* Memorial Funds are currently located within the CD Investment

Please Remember In Your Prayers & Thoughts

All our Service men & women
The Lost
'Shut-Ins'
Lyle & Marion Wald
Doug Komes
Nancy (*Beth White*)
Leota Benson
Vera & Fred Weiss (*Carol Svendsen*)
Rachel (*Maegan Gletty*)
Pat & Bill Unzicker
Lorna Roberson (*Laura Fassig*)
Family of Emiline Rood (Mary Foland)
Amber Barshinger
Rev. Kathy Lawes
Jeff Masters (*Laura Fassig*)
Macy Mahaffey
Family of Ray Richardson

Lay Readers

Jan. 6 - Jeff Svendsen
Jan. 13 - Ron Wald
Jan. 20 - Ann Gilmore
Jan. 27 - Stacy Richardson
Feb. 3 - Maegan Gletty
Feb. 10 - Barb Bend
Feb. 17 - Curt Foster
Feb. 24 - Laura Fassig



Ushers

Jan. - *Jeff & Larry Svendsen*
Feb. - *Dave Gibson & Brian Oest*
Mar. - *Bob Gilmore & Ron Bend*

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 30 – Bill Fassig



Announcements

Jan. 6 - Diaconate Mtg after worship
Annual Mtg Reports Due!
Jan. 13 - Trustees Mtg after worship
Jan. 19 - Men's Breakfast at 7 a.m.
Jan. 20 - Annual Meeting after worship
Jan. 27 - Cookie Fellowship: *Maegan G.,
Becky O., & Jeff S.*
Feb. 3 - Diaconate Mtg after worship
Feb. 10 - Trustees Mtg after worship
Council to follow - Newsletter is Due!!!
Feb. 16 - Men's Breakfast at 7 a.m.
Feb. 24 - Cookie Fellowship: *Susan F.,
Beth W., & Ann G.*

Cookie Fellowship

Jan. 27 - *Maegan Gletty, Becky Oest &
Jeff Svendsen*
Feb. 24 - *Susan Foster, Beth White &
Ann Gilmore*

**Annual Report due
Jan. 6th.**
**Please leave on the
church desk
downstairs or you can
email it to:
j-rr-2@hotmail.com**

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

Rollo UCC

Pastor David Marquardt

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