

# News & Views from Rollo Pews

September/October 2019



From Pastor Davids Pen

Do you ever wonder what it must have been like to have been one of the original 12 disciples? I do all the time. It's really interesting to read scripture, while mentally placing ourselves within the text, within the setting, and within the times of Christ.

I wonder; what must it have been like to watch Jesus heal the leper and the lame, or to feed the masses with 5 loaves and 2 fish, or still the waters and walk on the same. How many times in our lives have we found ourselves saying 'I wish I could have been there' in reference to a ball game, a music concert, or other event that we've missed? But do we ever wish we could have been there to watch the miracles of Jesus take place? Even just to watch him turn the water into wine would have been something we would have talked about for many years to follow.

So while it would have been really cool, to have been there during the miracles, healing and feeding, it would have been equally as troubling, to have been at his feet when he uttered those words from Luke 12: <sup>49</sup> "I have come to bring fire on the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! ...<sup>51</sup> Do you think I came to bring peace on earth? No, I tell you, but division. <sup>52</sup> From now on there will be five in one family divided against each other, three against two and two against three. <sup>53</sup> They will be divided, father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law."

Imagine the confusion that must have been in their hearts, as they heard this kind, caring, and compassionate man, talk of bringing fire and division. But as we learned on Sunday, Jesus was talking about what it will be like if we, as well as the disciples, lived as he taught us to live. The reason Jesus predicted division, was because Jesus' ways, were not the ways of the world. And when Jesus went against the status quo, he stirred up division and created chaos.

So, on Sunday, as we further explored how we could live into this lesson, we realized that if we live and act as Jesus taught us live and act, then we too will be going against the mainstream of society. And to a large degree, the challenge we all face, is how to live like Jesus. Because in every day of our lives, we will see places where we know Jesus would say something different than is being said, or act on something that isn't being acted upon. And often, it is our in-action, that makes us guilty of not being like Jesus.

So why? Why is it that we're afraid to act like or speak like Jesus? Well again, as we discussed on Sunday, the answer is that we don't like chaos and conflict in our lives. Instead, we'd rather 'go with the flow', or more so, the 'status quo'. The last thing we want to do is rock the boat, so instead we turn and look the other way.

But that wasn't Jesus' way, and that's what he's telling us and his disciples. The text says that Jesus came to bring fire and division. The division we get; dividing right from wrong, but the part about the fire is harder to understand. Fire in the Old Testament often referred to judgment, and in the New Testament, it generally referred to the gift of God's Holy Spirit. So what Jesus is essentially saying, is that he came to bring judgment on the earth, and that it will be through the strength and power of God's Holy Spirit, that we will be convicted to also live and act like Jesus.

So, the questions I leave us with are these; are we willing to go against the flow, if the flow is going in the wrong direction? Are we willing to speak when we see wrong and accept the conflict and chaos that Jesus speaks of? Are we willing to be the hands and feet of Christ, even when it's not the way that's most popular?

You see these are questions we deal with every day, when we turn the other way instead of the other cheek, or go with the flow, instead of following our hearts and souls. If we are to 'be like' Jesus, then division has been promised to us, and we need to decide whose team we're on, day in and day out, and moment to moment.

May God's Holy Spirit convict each of us, not only to hear and to see, but also to act and to speak.

God's peace and blessings.

PD



## Trustees Report by Tami Johnson

Kitchen cleaning day was August 3rd. A big thank you to the Ladies that participated! There are a couple cleaning tasks remaining if anyone would like to finish some of the cleaning.

Thank you to Keith and Laura Fassig for the lawn care this summer!

The trustees continue to search for brick layer to brick the East carport door. If you know a worker, please contact a Trustee.

## Diaconates Report by Carol Bend

As summer winds down, the Diaconate is starting to look toward fall and a busier pace. We've begun looking at fall decorating, Thankful Harvest dinner, and Samaritan's Purse shoeboxes. We are also considering uses for some of the Memorial monies. If anyone has a suggestion, please let Pastor David or one of us know.

We have the Memorial Plaques updated. Hopefully not adding any names for quite awhile.

Deb Davey is reluctantly stepping down as Rollo UCC's representative on the NICE board. We are actively searching for a replacement. The meetings are every other month. Hopefully someone will find a calling. We truly need to be involved in this!

Our prayer list has grown once again. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers. Remember, we are here to serve. Please keep us posted on needs of you and the church.



## Treasurers Report by Wayne Davey

### FROM THE MONEY COUNTER

BUDGET		Budget	Actual	Over/Under Budget
\$73,247.00				
REVENUE	July 31, 2019	\$42,727.44	\$42,703.91	(\$23.53)
EXPENDITURES	July 31, 2019	\$42,727.44	\$37,228.55	(\$5,475.36)

Current Balance in Checking Account:	\$ 28,002.73
Current Balance in Savings Account:	\$ 21,804.82
150 Anniversary Fund:	\$ 1,215.73
Bathroom Fund:	\$ 650.21
Building Fund:	\$ 978.00
Diaconate Fund:	\$ 1,536.72
Memorial Account:	\$ 9,308.05
Undesignated:	\$ 6,977.98, 116.113

Current CD Balance as of 7/28/2019:	\$ 4,424.76
Memorial Fund:	\$ 13,732.81

\* Memorial Funds are currently located within the CD Investment  
And savings account

## NICE Center Report by Deb Davey

The NICE board met on July 24<sup>th</sup> at the NICE Center in Lee. Camilla Boston and Deb Davey attended representing Rollo UC of C. Audra Boehne reported that 93 households were helped in May 2019 compared to 84 in 2018. There were 144 households helped in June 2019 and 120 last year at the same time. May 2019 had 310 individuals helped and in June there were 558. Last year in May there were 343 individuals helped and 474 in June.

The N.I.C.E. walk will be held on Saturday, September 21<sup>st</sup>. This year's walk is being held in conjunction with the Health Fair. Registration begins at 9:30 at the Water Tower Park in Shabbona with the walk beginning at 10:30. Portions of the Pathway Trail will be utilized. See Camilla or Deb for walker's packets. Don't forget that we have t-shirts that say Rollo UC of C for any walkers who do not have one. A shirt can be purchased for the very affordable price of \$7.00. The board hopes that by holding the walk later in the year that there will be more walkers! This is a 5k walk. It equals 3.1 miles. If you cannot participate in the walk, please offer to sponsor members who will be walking. Thanks in advance for your help.

Thank you to everyone who donated school supplies this year!!

# 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

Please Remember  
In Your Prayers & Thoughts

All our Service men & women  
The Lost  
'Shut-Ins'

Lorna Roberson (*Laura Fassig*)  
Carol & Larry Svendsen  
Howard Schou  
Duane Fassig  
Swede Svendsen  
Fred Weiss (*Carol Svendsen*)  
Greg Delay  
Pat Unzicker  
*Family of Bill Unzicker*

Cookie Fellowship

Sept. 29th - Judy Svendsen & Jamie Gibson  
Oct. 27th - Martha Bianco & Betty Goble  
Nov. 24th - Katie Koks & Ellen Sue Kupecz  
& Barb Bend

Usher

Sept. - Chuck Johnson & Wayne Davey  
Oct. - Mike Johnson & Dave Gibson  
Nov. - Dakota Goble & Darryl Kupecz

Lay Reader

Sept. 1 - Barb Bend  
Sept. 8 - Ann Gilmore  
Sept. 15 - Laura Fassig  
Sept. 22 - Beth White  
Sept. 29 - Bob Stevens  
Oct. 6 - Gloria Foster  
Oct. 13 - Becky Oest  
Oct. 20 - Ron Wald  
Oct. 27 - Ellen Sue Kupecz  
Nov. 3 - Barb Bend  
Nov. 10 - Susan Foster  
Nov. 17 - Bob Gilmore  
Nov. 24 - Curt Foster

Announcements

**Aug. 25** - *Cookie Fellowship:*  
*Carol Bend & Gail Marquardt*  
**Sept. 8** - Trustees Mtg after worship  
Diaconate Mtg after worship  
**Sept. 21** - Men's Breakfast at 7 a.m.  
NICE Walk at 9 a.m.  
**Sept. 29** - *Cookie Fellowship:* *Judy S. & Jamie G.*  
**Oct. 6** - Diaconate Mtg after worship  
**Oct. 13** - Trustees Mtg after worship  
Council to follow - Newsletter Due!!!  
**Oct. 14** - Shoebox Wrap at 9 a.m.  
**Oct. 19** - Men's Breakfast at 7 a.m.  
**Oct. 27** - *Cookie Fellowship:* *Martha B. & Betty G.*  
**Nov. 3** - Diaconate Mtg after worship  
**Nov. 10** - Trustees Mtg after worship  
**Nov. 16** - Men's Breakfast at 7 a.m.  
**Nov. 24** - *Cookie Fellowship:*  
*Katie K. & Ellen Sue K. & Barb B.*

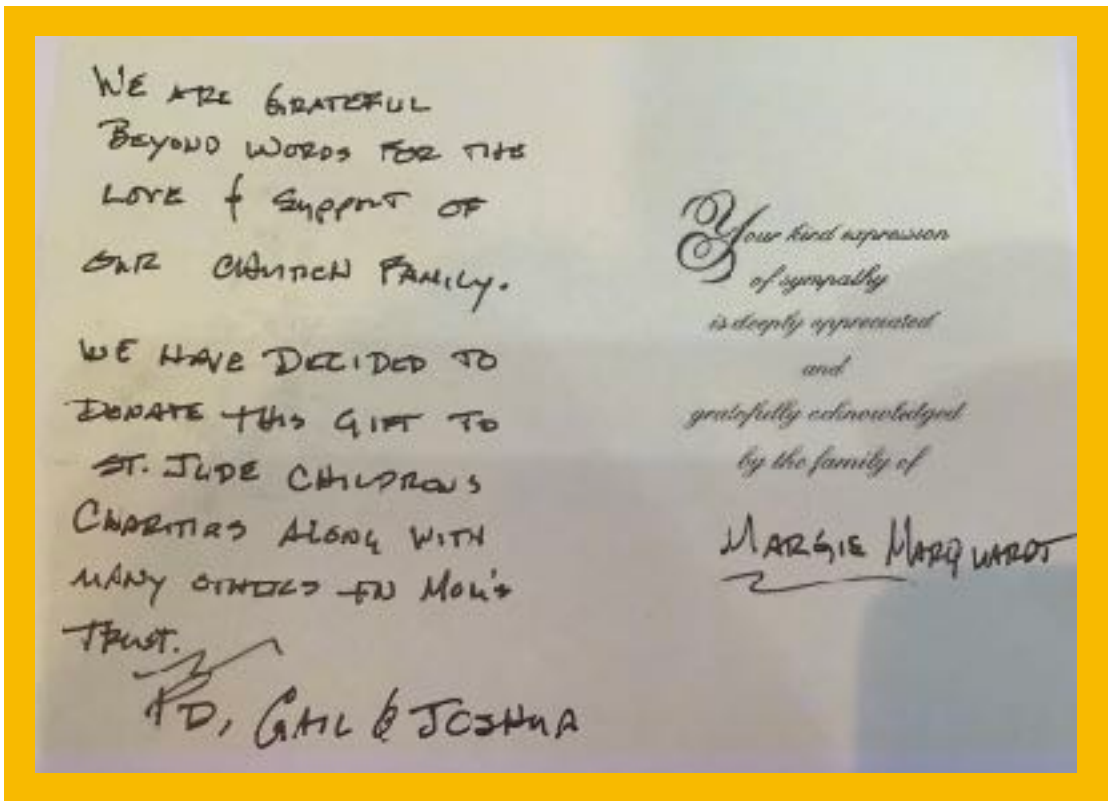


Deb Davey is reluctantly stepping down as Rollo UCC's representative on the NICE board. We are actively searching for a replacement. The meetings are every other month. Hopefully someone will find a calling. We truly need to be involved in this!

"Monthly Kids Club" will be held once a month in the Sunday School classroom in the church basement. Children 3 and older are welcome to come and learn about the God! Students will do a craft and have a snack!  
Please note: this will be in place of weekly Sunday School taught by Laura.  
Aug. 25  
Sept. 1 & 29  
Oct. 6 & 27  
Nov. 3 & 24  
Dec 1 & 15  
\*Ellen & Barb will be doing the first Sunday of the month and Laura will be doing the last Sunday (3rd Sunday in December)

September 21st is NICE Walk!  
Please see Deb Davey for walker and sponsor sheets.

If you are still receiving your newsletter in the mail & would like to get it sent via email please let me know your email address. **Lets Go Green!!!**  
j-rr-2@hotmail.com



We would like to get a lot more boxes pre-wrapped & taped before Oct. 14<sup>th</sup> date, so there will be a wrapping only session date picked soon ( please watch bulletin) or if inclined do some at home to bring in please.

The Samaritan's Purse shoe box ministry in Rollo Church will be in full swing with a Wrapping Party on Monday, October 14<sup>th</sup> 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 November's Thankful Harvest Sunday.

---

### **SHOEBOX WRAPPING**

***Watch your bulletin for wrapping only date soon***

*Monday, October 14<sup>th</sup>, 9 am to 3 pm*

*\*bring scissors & tape to wrap & fill shoeboxes*

*Further information contact Gail @ 815-286-3005*

*\*If you would like to pre-wrap/tape shoeboxes at home, please contact Gail to get empty boxes on any Sunday.*

---



Rollo Congregational Church  
Pastor David Marquardt  
2471 Weddell St.  
Earlville, IL 60518