



News & Views from Rollo Pews

January/February 2022

from the Reverends Pen

It has been a deeply moving experience to worship and minister alongside you this advent season. I hope you have come to feel and experience all this season represents - hope, faith, joy, peace, and love - at church and throughout your daily lives. Amidst all the glow and celebration of the Christmas season, I know this season can also bring feelings of loneliness and loss. However you may feel at the moment, please know that you aren't alone. You have many in your life, including your church family, who care for and love you.

Jesus' humble, yet miraculous birth happened at a time of significant conflict and despair. He was born to a peasant family that belonged to an oppressed Jewish tribe, in a lowly manger surrounded by barn animals in the rural town of Bethlehem. Remember that God will often be found away from all the lights and noise of the commercial holidays, and is with us in times of our own quiet struggle and doubt.

It is my hope you feel God's comforting presence in the Holy Spirit at church on Sunday mornings, through the warm light coming through the beautifully restored stained glass windows, in the echoes of our marvelous new organ, and within the heartfelt scripture readings, prayers, and sermons. If you are not able to join us, we plan to have services online early in the new year! For now, I am very happy to share that we've received an abundance of special offering gifts this season that will go to people in need of help with food, clothing, bills, and presents for kids. Putting our faith into action beyond these sanctuary walls to let people in crisis know they aren't alone and that we believe in them is the light of Christ the world needs right now. It is our Christmas Carol moment!

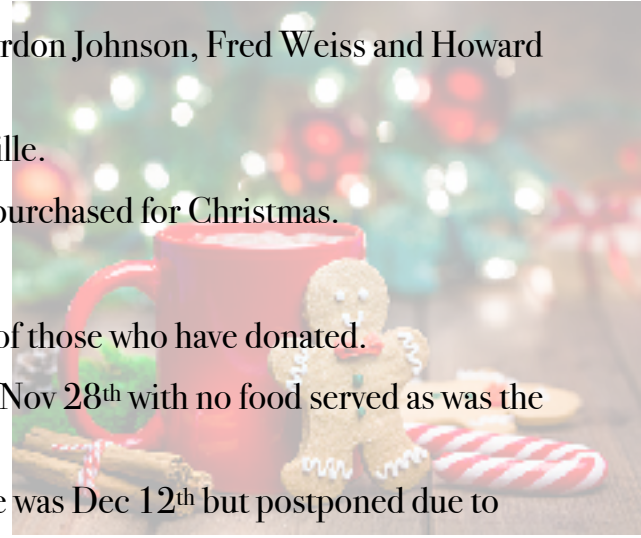
Wishing you a meaningful and peaceful holiday season.

Rev. David Fraccaro

Diaconate Report by Laura Fassig

These are the activities covered by Diaconate in November and December

- All Saints Day (Oct 31st) – honored our deceased particularly Gordon Johnson, Fred Weiss and Howard Schou who we lost this past year.
- Rev. David participated in the Thanksgiving Eve Service in Earlville.
- Shut ins were sent cards for Thanksgiving and small gifts will be purchased for Christmas.
- Food Donations were taken to the NICE center on Nov 14th.
- Mitten Tree was put out for donation on Nov 21st. Thanks to all of those who have donated.
- The church was decorated for Christmas by the church family on Nov 28th with no food served as was the practice in the last few years.
- We will be celebrating Rev David's installation – the original date was Dec 12th but postponed due to uptake of COVID.
- Diaconate approved the membership of David and Marissa Fraccaro for when that does happen.
- Communion was done on November 7th and December 5th. Rev David is working to give communion to the shut-ins who request it before Christmas.
- Christmas Eve service is currently planned for 7:30 PM.
- Poinsettias were ordered and delivered to be an additional decoration for the church.
- Christmas Tea was held during the church service on December 19th. Originally the plan was to have cookies and drink in our pews after the service. However, due to the uptake of COVID, it was decided not to serve food.
- Beth Prestagaard along with Rev David (and other helpers) are working to get live streaming in the church so that those who can't make it to church will be able to be a part of our service. The bulk of the cost is being donated.
- December 8th was the funeral at the church for Richard Bend. He will be sorely missed, and we give our condolences to the family.
- We **need help** to update the church membership and directory. If you have moved or changed your phone number, please let Laura Fassig or Stacy Richardson know. Laura's number is 815-993-7883 and Stacy's is 815-739-1361. If you have been on the inactive list and would like to be put back on the active list, please let us know. The list is in the Annual Report or we can help you find out. The more we are up to date, the better for everyone. We want to make sure the Directory (phone and addresses) are as up to date as possible. Equally, we want to make sure our membership roles are up to date.



Trustees Report by Ron Wald

The Trustees purchased a 2017 Allan organ C-3 with Aid1 disk box and speakers with a 1 year warranty on parts. The 1980 organ quit working and was removed. There is a separate issue with the chimes. Internet usage is being set up. The provider is Indian Valley with a signal off the tower of the elevator. A router was placed in the choir room.

Treasurers Report by Wayne Davey

BUDGET \$77,690.00		Budget	Actual	Over/Under Budget
REVENUE	November 30, 2021	\$71,215.87	\$59,384.63	(\$11,831.24)
EXPENDITURES	November 30, 2021	\$71,215.87	\$55,929.86	(\$15,286.01)

Current Balance in Checking Account: \$28,231.15

Current Balance in Savings Account: \$28,582.03

150 Anniversary Fund: \$ 1,215.73

Bathroom Fund: \$ 700.21

Building Fund: \$ 1,180.25

Diaconate Fund: \$ 1,736.72

Memorial Account: \$ 1,147.97

Undesignated: \$22,601.15

Current CD Balance as of 11/27/2021: \$ 4,472.55

Memorial Fund: \$ 4,572.81



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

NICE Report by Sherry McInerney

The NICE Center has been busy with needed renovations. A garage/delivery door was installed in the back. New toilets are coming soon. Walls are getting a fresh coat of paint. Ten new clothing racks. Freezer drain pipes to be moved to prevent freezing. Installation of AC in the northwest room. New power generator. Stair railing and parking lot posts. Security cameras connected to their computer system. More new electrical outlets. Looking at the purchase of a pallet mover. And new flooring tile when other repairs and upkeep is completed.

The School Supply Drive was a great success. The few supplies left are already boxed up and saved for next year's drive.

The NICE Walk stepped off at 10:30AM and had approximately 35 walkers. A Friday night walk is being considered for next year. That would allow volunteers to participate and those not available on Saturday mornings. The final donation amount is still being tallied.

The center planned on 65 Thanksgiving Meal boxes with turkey and 65 Christmas Meal boxes with ham. The Christmas Room was available for shopping until Dec. 22nd.

Food pantry use:

	Jul 2021 - Aug 2021		Jul 2020 - Aug 2020	
People:	294	273	290	480
Households:	100	78	84	94

364 boxes and 25 big bags were packed up and taken by the Mission truck.



**Please Remember In Your
Prayers & Thoughts**

All our Service men & women
'Shut-Ins'

Those dealing with COVID
Steve Headon (*Wayne & Stacy*)

Judy Martin

Helen Algieri

Chuck Foster

Sarah Luce (*Betty Goble*)

Bryan Wald

Jane Buland

Duane Fassig

Noelle Sauter

Kathy Sands

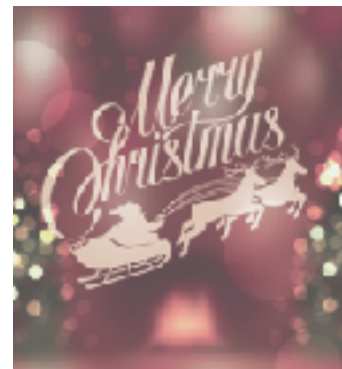
Ruth & Ray McInerney

Paul Richardson (*Stacy & Jessica*)

Family of William Foster Jr.
(*Marissa Fraccaro's grandfather*)

Family of Dick Bend

Please have your **Annual
Reports** done and laying on
the church desk or emailed to
j-r-2@hotmail.com by no
later than **January 2nd.**
Thank You!!!



Announcements

Dec. 24 - Christmas Eve Service @ 7:30 p.m.

Jan. 2 - *Annual Reports Due!*

Jan. 8 - Diaconate Meeting at 8am on Zoom

Jan. 9 - Trustees Meeting after worship

Jan. 16 - Annual Mtg after worship

Feb. 6 - Diaconate Meeting after worship

Feb. 13 - Trustees Meeting after worship

Council to follow - Newsletter Due!

Lay Reader

Dec. 26 - Carol Bend

Jan. 2 - Jeff Svendsen

Jan. 9 - Beth Prestegaard

Jan. 16 - Ann Gilmore

Jan. 23 - Stacy Richardson

Jan. 30 - Maegan Gletty

Feb. 6 - Barb Bend

Feb. 13 - Curt Foster

Feb. 20 - Laura Fassig

Feb. 27 - Bob Gilmore

Mar. 6 - Katie Koks

Mar. 13 - Jeff Svendsen

Mar. 20 - Laura Fassig

Mar. 27 - Ellen Sue Kupecz



Ushers

January - Jeff & Larry
Svendsen

February - Dave Gibson &
Zach Kasper

March - Bob Gilmore &
Mike Johnson

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
January 31 – Jefferson Bradley

Feb 04 – Dave Bend
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

Rollo Congregational Church
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