

News & Views



from Rollo Pews

NOVEMBER & DECEMBER 2023 NEWSLETTER

FROM THE REVERENDS PEN

As the temperature drops and the leaves begin to turn color, we know that fall has once again come. Fall happens to be my favorite season in the Midwest. Halloween decorations, pumpkin farms, cider donuts, thanksgiving harvests, and apple picking. I feel particularly sentimental walking around the small towns in our county this time of year; grateful to be a part of the warmth and beauty of this community. Proud to be a part of Rollo UCC.

This beautiful, nostalgic season is a reminder that all things pass and change. As much as we want to hold on to the daylight and warmer weather, we know that winter is coming. The changing of seasons is God's way of reminding us to make the most of each moment we have in life, while letting go of the past.

As Poet Robert Frost wrote in his poignant poem *Nothing Gold Can Stay*:



*Nature's first green is gold,
Her hardest hue to hold.
Her early leaf's a flower;
But only so an hour.
Then leaf subsides to leaf.
So Eden sank to grief,
So dawn goes down to day.
Nothing gold can stay.*



As we prepare for winter together, know that the light of Christ will never extinguish. The more we show kindness and care, grace and love the stronger it will grow within and around us, and help us through the changing seasons. As you pass through seasons in your own life, know that you have a Congregation of people who are here to walk by your side, to help see you through. You can certainly contact me anytime you need. With God's help none of us will ever walk alone. Seasons change, nothing gold can stay on earth, but God's love is eternal. God's kingdom is right now....and forever, and we are all a part of it.

Peace and God Bless.

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MODERATOR REPORT BY BETH PRESTEGAARD

Harvest, red and gold trees and crops coming out of the fields – one of my favorite times of the year!

If you are serving on a committee and terming out, if you have an interest in serving again or serving on another committee, please let me or the current Chairperson know. Our nominating Committee consists of the current chairs of our committees. We also need 2 at large members – please let me know if you wanna serve on the Nominating Committee as soon as possible. I have deep appreciate for the work that goes on in the church both seen and unseen – we just get it all done and for that – thank you!

I would like to gather again after church to discuss future of the Parsonage and brainstorm some on marketing our church – I use that term loosely but working through social media presence and on expanding membership either through existing/non-active members or adding new folks. The rest of the year is quite busy on Sundays and with harvest but I would like to meet 11/5 after church for whoever can join us and we will try and find a Sunday nearly every month to continue these sessions.

The generosity of members in times of need is inspiring weather our building has needs or the people inside – just came to mind, as a little kid folding my hands together saying (with the guidance of Sandra Bullis) as we gathered for music in the Church basement before Sunday School:

*Here is the church
And here is the steeple
Open the doors
And see all the people
Close the doors
And hear them pray
Open the doors
And they all walk away*



I feel nostalgia and blessings to know that I have been part of this Church for most of my 57 years!

HOSPITALITY REPORT BY LAURA FASSIG, CAROL BEND, BETH KASPER & JEFF SVENDSEN

The Thankful Harvest Dinner is fast approaching. It is November 12th after church. We will have a sign-up sheet at the back of the church for everyone to add what they want to bring so we don't have too many duplicates. We are planning to have Ham and Turkey. We are in need of someone to do a turkey breast as an additional meat. We will also need a couple of people to bring mashed potatoes, dressing and someone to make gravy. Otherwise, bring your dish to pass. Drinks, plates and silverware will be provided. We also ask for volunteers for setup and tear down as we will be short a committee member that day. Thank you in advance!

FROM THE MONEY COUNTER BY WAYNE DAVEY

BUDGET \$88,429.00		Budget	Actual	Over/Under Budget
REVENUE	09/30/23	\$66,321.72	\$59,289.66	-\$7,032.06
EXPENDITURES	09/30/23	\$66,321.72	\$58,880.80	-\$7,440.92

Current Balance in Checking Account: \$33,904.85

Current Balance in Savings Account: \$32,772.64

150 Anniversary Fund: \$ 1,215.73

Bathroom Fund: \$ 700.21

Building Fund: \$ 0.00

Diaconate Fund: \$ 1,939.72

Memorial Account: \$ 7,701.94

Insurance Claim \$ 15,349.75

Tuck-pointing Fund \$ 0.00

Undesignated: \$ 5,865.29

Current CD Balance as of 9/27/2023: \$ 4,522.20

Memorial Fund: \$ 12,224.14



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

Tuck-pointing Project:

Total Cost: \$48,845.00

Total Donated Funds: \$16,395.00

Funds from Savings: \$25,274.16

Funds from Endowment Fund: \$ 7,175.84

9/5/2023 – Final Payment Made \$ 0.00

Nov 01 – Eila Oest
 Nov 02 – Mike Johnson
 Nov 03 – Deb Davey &
 & Charlotte Fassig
 Nov 11 – Gage Gibson
 Nov 19 – Matt Maple
 Nov 23 – Delaney Bend
 & Joshua Johnson
 & Mike Martin
 Nov 24 – Curt Foster
 & Landon Schmidt
 Nov 26 – Mike Peters
 Nov 28 – Lindsay Richardson
 & Randall Wald
 Nov 29 – Gail Marquardt

Happy Birthday!



Dec 02 – Joetta DeLay
 Dec 3 – Remington Kasper
 & Marissa Fraccaro
 Dec 6 – Zach Kasper
 & Jonathan Ritter
 Dec 07 – Dave Bateman
 Dec 9 – Katie Simmons
 Dec 19 – Sara Lyons &
 Ann & Bob Gilmore
 Dec 24 – David Marquardt

TRUSTEES REPORT BY KEITH FASSIG

Thank you to those who donated for the cause of having the church tuck-pointed. It has been accomplished and financially covered, along with the wellhead being raised and the pressure tank has been moved to the church. Zach Kerns will be doing snow removal again this winter.

- Other projects in the works
 - New furnace for the church
 - Gutter replacement finalized
 - AED mounting and training
 - Parsonage to be winterized
 - Improvement in lighting of the sanctuary
 - Cleaning of the outside of the church
 - Cleaning of the entryway carpets
 - Review of the church insurance
 - Review of the budget for next year



DIACONATE REPORT BY STACY RICHARDSON

Diaconate welcomed in baptism services Mara, daughter of Marissa & David Fraccaro Aug 27th, Cameron son of Heidi & Doug Brand on Sept 17th and will have Kade son of Beth & Zach Kasper on Oct 22nd.

Held a “Worship at the Barn” services at Deb & Wayne Davey’s barn on Sept 24th, thank you for opening your barn for a great outdoor experience.

Thank you to walkers Deb, Wayne & Darryl to raise money for NICE walk held 9/16.

Fall schedule has begun, please watch bulletin for important updates.

Oct 15th begins the N.I.C.E. food drive, please bring non-perishable food items or feel free to give a monetary gift which can be placed in the wooden church on the altar steps.

Nov 5th - All Saints & Veterans Honored services. Candles will be available to light in a memory of a loved one that has passed. If any Veteran would like to share a story please do so.

Nov 12th – Thankful Harvest Services & Dinner, NICE donations will be blessed and Hospitality Committee will organize the dinner that follows, watch bulletin for more details.

Nov 19th – N.I.C.E. Christmas drive begins with display of hat/mitten tree to fill

Nov 22nd – Ecumenical Thanksgiving Eve services will be held at the Earlville Lutheran Church 7 pm

A schedule for Advent/Christmas season will be available after the Nov 5th 9 am meeting.



Children's worship at
Deb and Wayne Davey's barn!



Baptism of Mara Josephine Fraccaro



Baptism of Cameron Neal Brand



Rollo UCC folks working at Sandwich Fair booth!

Lay Readers

Oct. 22 - Tami Johnson
Oct. 29 - Susan Foster
Nov. 5 – Ron Wald
Nov. 12 – Ann Gilmore
Nov. 19 – Maegan Gletty
Nov 26 – Stacy Richardson
Dec. 3 – Barb Bend
Dec. 10 – Curt Foster
Dec. 17 – Bob Gilmore
Dec. 24 – Katie Koks
Dec 31 – Jeff Svendsen
Jan. 7 – Laura Fassig
Jan. 14 – Ellen Kupecz
Jan. 21 – Stacy Richardson
Jan. 28 – Zach Kasper

Cookie Fellowship

October 29 - Martha Bianco, Betty Goble, & Audrey Kuring

November 26 - Katie Koks, Ellen Kupecz, & Barb Bend

January 28 - Maegan Gletty, Jeff & Carol Svendsen

Ushers

November - Jon Ritter & Darryl Kupecz

December - Dave Bend & Chuck Johnson

January - Jeff Svendsen & Larry Svendsen

October 29th kids and adults are encouraged to Dress Up for our Halloween Themed Service!

We are currently collecting food for the Thankful Harvest on November 12th.

Announcements

Today - Collecting food for Thankful Harvest

Oct. 22 - Baptism for Kade Kasper

Oct. 29 - Halloween Themed Service

Cookie Fellowship:

Martha B., Betty G. & Audrey K.

Nov. 5 - Diaconate Mtg at 9am

All Saints Day & Honoring our Veterans

Nov. 12 - Trustees Mtg

Thankful Harvest Service & dinner

Nov. 21 - Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service at Immanuel Lutheran Church at 7pm

Nov. 26 - *Cookie Fellowship:*

Katie K., Ellen Sue K., & Barb B.

Dec. 3 - Diaconate Mtg

Advent season begins

Dec. 10 - Trustees Mtg

Council to follow

Newsletter Due!

Dec. 24 - Christmas Eve 10am Service

Please Remember In Your Prayers & Thoughts

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

All our Service men & women

Wayne & Judy Martin

Helen Algieri

Bryan Wald

Jane Buland

JoAnn Snyder

Mark Cox

Deb Davey

Sandra Bullis

Kristen Thomas (Richardson)

Judy Svendsen

Zach Kasper

Dave Bateman

Jerry Klatt (*Svendsen's*)

June Stephens (*Becky Stephens*)

Family of Jaime Fraccaro

Family of Cheryl Simpson

Rollo UCC

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