

A stylized illustration of a nativity scene. In the foreground, a wooden manger structure is silhouetted against a bright, starry night sky. Inside the manger, the figures of Mary, Joseph, and the infant Jesus are visible. To the left, three camels are silhouetted against the horizon. The background features rolling hills and a crescent moon. The overall color palette is a mix of deep blues, purples, and whites, creating a serene and celestial atmosphere.

News & Views from Rollo Pews

from the Reverends Pen

January/February 2025

Dear Rollo UCC Congregants and Friends,

Welcome to Advent Season, when we prepare our hearts and minds for the birth of Jesus. We are called by God to go deeper in our faith journey during this time, allowing ourselves to feel and share the hope, peace, joy, and love of Christ. Each Sunday we light a candle and focus our readings and sermon on these core human emotions.

We were made by God to feel emotions deeply, otherwise life would seem pointless. The feelings of hope, peace, joy, and love are what bonds us to God in Christ and to one another. For this reason, Christmas often brings out the best of the human spirit. We tend to be kinder and more generous to family, friends, neighbors, and strangers alike.

It is my hope this season that these feelings truly stick with us, change us to become more Christlike the whole year round. It is God's hope for humanity that we might truly love God and one another as Jesus loved us. May Christmas be the time when we not only believe in this commandment, but live it.

Sharing and receiving hope, peace, joy and love in our daily lives is what it means to bring God's kingdom to earth. We are called to be the hands, feet, and heart of Christ in the world, so let's show it this season. I am honored to walk with you on this advent journey.

May God Be With You,
Rev. David Fraccaro

Trustees Report by Mike Johnson

- Railings have been completed and installed for west entrance to the church. A special thank you to Phil Foster, Curt Foster, and Gloria Foster for their talent, hard work, and financial contributions.
- Trustees will do a fact finding mission to estimate the cost of taking down the parsonage, leveling the plot and doing something with the area (possibly a pavilion that could be used and benefit the church for outdoor activities). This will only happen if Habitat for Humanity does not want the parsonage.
- Trustees are looking into wiring a microphone in choir area, so that it might be part of the live stream coverage.

New LED light bulbs to be installed in basement lighting by Mike Davis this winter.

Please have all Annual Meeting Reports turned in by Dec. 29th. Please email your reports to j-rr-2@hotmail.com or leave on desk.

January is our month to work at the NICE center. It is important that we provide the help that is needed on these Saturdays, the 4th, 11th, 18th, & 25th. Thank you in advance!

Join us for
Christmas Eve
Service at 5 p.m.

Diaconate Report by Tami Johnson

November and December are busy months for the church, and we appreciate the work that has been done by everyone during this Advent season. Thank you for the generous donations of food, clothing, and toys to the NICE Center. Donations were delivered in November and much appreciated by the the center. Sherry McInerney has been updating the Christmas decorations, and they are beautiful! Thank you Sherry! Also thank you to all the families that stayed after church to decorate the Christmas tree! The children did an awesome job, and it was a fun time. Thank you Larry and Carol Svendsen for donating a new Christmas tree which will debut next Christmas. January is our month to volunteer on Saturday mornings at the NICE Center, 8-11 AM. Help is needed in the clothing sorting room or assisting shoppers with their food selections.

Please contact a Diaconate member (Stacy Richardson, Lisa Johnson, or Tami Johnson) or Reverend David if there is an unmet need in our community.

Treasurers Report by Wayne Davey

Current Balance in Checking Account:	\$35,738.10
Current Balance in Savings Account:	\$33,072.90
150 Anniversary Fund:	\$ 1,215.73
Bathroom Fund:	\$ 700.21
Building Fund:	\$ 0.00
Family Relief Fund:	\$ 2,814.00
Diaconate Fund:	\$ 1,439.72
Memorial Account:	\$ 8,996.51
Insurance Claim	\$ 15,349.75
Tuckpointing Fund	\$ 0.00
Undesignated:	\$ 2,556.98



Current CD Balance as of 9/30/2024: 3.5%	\$ 4,677.71-First State
Current CD Balance as of 9/30/2024: 5%	\$ 25,209.34-Resource
Balance in Savings Account: .15%	<u>\$ 7,863.56-Resource</u>
Total Savings:	\$ 32,448.73

Memorial Fund: \$ 13,674.22

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

BUDGET	\$89,865.00		Budget	Actual	Over/Under Budget
REVENUE		11/30/2024	\$82,376.25	\$85,956.00	\$3,579.75
EXPENDITURES		11/30/2024	\$82,376.25	\$74,478.83	\$11,477.17



Happy Birthday!

January 07 – Leah Myers
 January 12 – Gloria Foster
 January 18 – Devon White
 January 20 – Brad Martin
 January 23 – Heidi Johnson
 January 25 – Camilla Boston
 January 28 - Hank Peterson
 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

Ushers

January - Jeff Svendsen & Larry Svendsen

February - Dave Gibson & Zach Kasper

March - Bob Gilmore & Mike Johnson

April - Wayne Davey & Keith Fassig

May - Zach Kasper & Jon Ritter



Announcements

Dec. 24 - Christmas Eve Service at 5pm

Dec. 29 - Annual Report Deadline

Jan. 5 - Diaconate Mtg at 10am

Jan. 12 - Trustees Mtg at 10am

Annual Meeting after worship

Hospitality dinner to follow: Table service & meat provided - Please bring a dish to pass.

Jan. 26 - *Cookie Fellowship*: Maegan G., Jeff & Carol S.

Feb. 2 - Diaconate Mtg at 10am

Feb. 9 - Trustees Mtg at 10am

Council Mtg at 10:30am

Newsletter Due!!

Cookie Fellowship

January 26 - Maegan Gletty Jeff Svendsen, & Carol Svendsen

February 23 - Ann Gilmore, Susan Foster, & Lisa Johnson

March 30 - Carol Bend, Inga Peterson & Doris Rex

April 27 - Stacy Richardson, Carol Svendsen & Jessica Olson

May 25 - Deb Davey, Sherry McInerney & Doris Rex

Lay Reader

Dec. 29 - Curt Foster

Jan. 5 - Bob Gilmore

Jan. 12 - Katie Koks

Jan. 19 - Jeff Svendsen

Jan. 26 - Laura Fassig

Feb. 2 - Ellen Sue Kupecz

Feb. 9 - Stacy Richardson

Feb. 16 - Zach Kasper

Feb. 24 - Beth Prestegaard

Mar. 2 - Gloria Foster

Mar. 9 - Doris Rex

Mar. 16 - Tami Johnson

Mar. 23 - Susan Foster

Mar. 30 - Ron Wald

Apr. 6 - Ann Gilmore

Apr. 13 - Maegan Gletty

Apr. 20 - Barb Bend

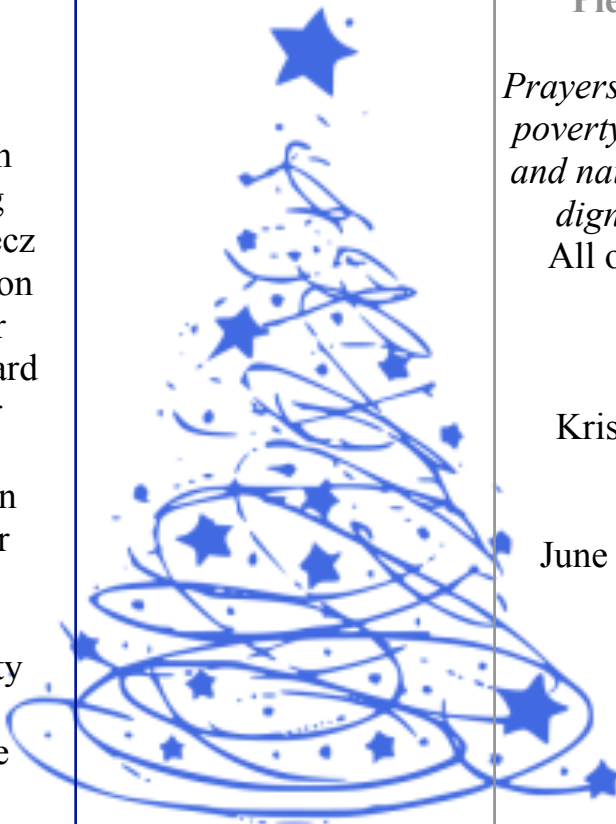
Apr. 27 - Bob Gilmore

May 4 - Curt Foster

May 11 - Katie Koks

May 18 - Jeff Svendsen

May 25 - Laura Fassig



Please Remember In Your Prayers & Thoughts

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

All our Service men & women

Wayne Martin

Bryan Wald

Jane Buland

Kristen Thomas (Richardson)

Zach Kasper

Jacob Brewer

June Stephens (*Becky Stephens*)

Philip Peterson

Toni Moniz

Lane Parrott

Jodi Freider

Martha Bianco

Chelsea Krammer

Bianca Maness (*Jamie Gibson*)

Rollo Congregational Church
Reverend David Fraccaro
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