

*A Newsletter from the Worshipping Communities of*

**FAITH  
LUTHERAN  
CHURCH**

**1032 Prissel St  
Durand WI 54736  
715-672-8107**

Pastor Bethany's  
Office Hours:  
Thursdays at Faith 9-Noon

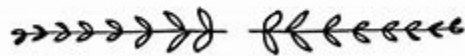


**ROCK CREEK  
LUTHERAN  
CHURCH**

**N1101 810<sup>th</sup> St  
Mondovi WI 54755  
715-875-4571**

Pastor Bethany's Contact Info:  
C: 402-520-5504 H: 715-672-4634  
Email: frclcpastor@gmail.com

*Grace  
& PEACE*



*from Pastor Bethany*



O Come, O Come, Emmanuel could also be translated O Advent, O Advent, God with Us. Advent is an expectant time of patient waiting for the promised coming of Christ, Emmanuel, God with us. If you have ever waited for a loved one to come home; from active service, from the hospital, from college or from anywhere that separated you by miles; then you understand the sentiment of Advent. We wait as patiently as we can but with the waiting comes a certain amount of unyielding expectation that will only relent when the homecoming is fully experienced. The coming of Christ is an invitation into waiting each year as we anticipate the celebration of Jesus' birth. We will always approach this time of year with the same unyielding expectation that we do when we await the arrival of a dear loved one because Jesus is that for us. One we love dearly and one by whom we are loved dearly, Emmanuel, God with us. Thanks be to God at Advent and always!



Make it a daily practice this Advent season to engage with the devotions written by members and friends of Faith and Rock Creek Lutheran Churches. You can read the daily devotions on the church Facebook page or listen to them by calling 715-875-4571. Our theme for Advent is BE. Each week focuses on a different Psalm with the weekly themes of Believe, Behold, Be glad and Be still. May you be blessed as you read and listen!



On Sunday, December 4 we welcome Deacon Lidix Montoya to our worship services as she shares about our synod's Neighbor to Neighbor Ministry. She will share a brief temple talk and assist Pastor Bethany in worship leadership. Please help us welcome her to our worshipping communities!

### **Rock Creek Investment Committee / Uff Da Dinner Mission Dollars**

On Sunday, December 4 there will be a brief gathering following worship at Rock Creek. Stay to help decide where the mission dollars will be distributed from the Uff Da Dinner. Also, learn more about the work that will be done by the soon-to-be formed Investment Committee to manage the dollars from the parsonage sale. Following the meeting a committee of interested people will be formed.



Any child from Rock Creek who is ready to begin receiving communion is invited to attend a special learning time with Pastor Bethany on Tuesday, December 6 at 5:30PM at Rock Creek. First Communion will be celebrated on Sunday, December 11 at Rock Creek during worship at 10:30AM.



## **Baptism and Reception of New Members**

Madelyn and Cameron Fregine will be receiving the Sacrament of Holy Baptism at Rock Creek on Sunday, December 11. New members will also be received that day at both congregations. If you are interested in joining Faith or Rock Creek please contact Pastor Bethany at [frclcpastor@gmail.com](mailto:frclcpastor@gmail.com) or 402-520-5504 prior to December 11 so you can be included in the New Member welcome! We want YOU to join us in the ministry that God is doing through Faith and Rock Creek Lutheran Churches!

## Advent Food Drive

Support the Durand food pantry by filling a bag with non-perishable food items throughout the month of December. Then bring your filled bags to either church. Collected items will be delivered to the food pantry just after the New Year.



**Sunday School  
Christmas Programs  
December 18th  
Faith 8:30AM -  
The Three Trees  
Rock Creek 10:30AM -  
The ABC's of Christmas**





**December Schedule:**

Wednesday December 7 Rock Creek Learning Night 5:30PM-6:30PM

Wednesday December 14 Faith Learning Night 4:30PM-5:30PM

Wednesday December 21 Cross-Generational Christmas Potluck and Gathering  
at Faith 5:30PM

Wednesday December 28 NO Class Christmas Break

**Join Us for a Cross-Generational Potluck and Gathering!**

Mark your calendar now to attend a Joint Congregation Cross-Generational Gathering to be held at Faith on December 21<sup>st</sup>. We will gather for a potluck meal at 5:30PM followed by fun activities from 6-7PM. All ages are encouraged to attend. Here is what to bring:

- A dish to pass for the potluck
- An unwrapped ornament for an Ornament Exchange
- Your filled bag of food for the Advent Food Drive
- Your family and friends

**Family of God Christmas Tree – Bring an Ornament**

Bring an ornament to worship on December 4. It can be hand made or store bought, anything that is meaningful to you. We will add these to the tree for decoration. You can reclaim these after the Christmas season.



Pastor in Pajamas is making a comeback just in time for Christmas! Children are invited to wear their pajamas to a special storytime with Pastor Bethany on Wednesday, December 21<sup>st</sup> at 5PM at Faith. Bring a blanket to sit on, a stuffed animal to snuggle and listen to some Christmas stories in the decorated sanctuary. Families can plan to stay after for the cross-generational potluck and gathering!

### 3 opportunities to worship on Christmas Weekend!



## Special Music to Share on Christmas Eve

If you have instrumental or vocal music you would like to share as special music on Christmas Eve please let Pastor Bethany know. We would love to add some extra music to our candlelight services.



A special invitation from Pastor Bethany: I am taking to the stage again with the Eau Claire Children's Theater in a Christmas comedy play. Sue Dahl is organizing a group to attend the performance on Friday, December 17 at 7:30PM. To reserve a ticket with the group contact Sue before December 7<sup>th</sup>. Otherwise you can order tickets at [ecct.org](http://ecct.org)

Performances are Thursday Dec 15-Sunday Dec 18  
\$12 students/youth      \$18 for adults/seniors

## Worship Times to Switch in February

Please note that as we head into 2023, worship times will switch at the start of February rather than January

Sunday, January 29<sup>th</sup> 8:30AM worship Faith

10:30AM worship Rock Creek followed by annual meeting and potluck

Sunday, February 5<sup>th</sup> 8:30AM worship Rock Creek

10:30AM worship Faith followed by annual meeting and potluck



Pastor Bethany will be taking her remaining vacation time between December 26-December 31. She will be available for pastoral care as needed. However, responses to emails and phone calls will be made after the New Year.



Radio ministry is a vital part of our outreach ministry. It costs \$50/week for the radio broadcast. Most December dates are still available for sponsorship. Return this form and \$50 to Faith Lutheran Church. Consider remembering an anniversary, birthday or another milestone. Thanks to those who have already sponsored!

### **RADIO SPONSORSHIP FORM**

I would like to sponsor a Radio Broadcast (\$50/week)

Worship Date to sponsor \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ In honor of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ In memory of \_\_\_\_\_

Return with check made payable to:

Faith Lutheran Church 1032 Prissel St, Durand WI 54736

### **ELCA Good Gifts**



As members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), we believe that God is calling us into the world – together. And with generous, loving hands, we can make a difference. ELCA Good Gifts is your opportunity to provide critical support to the ministries and programs that mean the most to you and the people you love. Visit [www.goodgifts.elca.org](http://www.goodgifts.elca.org)



Thank you to those who purchased poinsettias to adorn the sanctuaries.

**Faith Lutheran Church**

Diane Knudsen	In memory of family
John & Jean Lippert	In memory of family
Stan & LaVonne Biel	In memory of family
LeAnne Carlson	In memory of family
Randy & Annette Huppert	In memory of our son
	In memory of our parents
	In honor of our children
Darrin & Jody Hurtgen	In memory of our grandparents
Rex & Linda Hoover	In memory of family and members who have passed
Sedlmayer Family	In memory of grandparents
Rita Stewart	In memory of my sister
Paul & Margit Churness	In memory of our parents
Henry and Cris Black	In memory of our brothers and parents
Lynn & Phyllis Seyffer	In memory of our parents
Rick & Sandy Hagness	In memory of loved ones
Elissa & Jeff Abramson	In memory of Erle & Ruth Goodrich
	In memory of Elwyn & Mona Auth

**Rock Creek Lutheran Church**

Matt, Becca,	
Maverick & Zane McHugh	In honor of Orlin & Sharyn Berg
Derrick & Nikki Bauer & Family	In honor of our church
Pete & Becky Richardson	In memory of loved ones
Linda & Ron Kreinke	In memory of loved ones
Dave & Cindi Coon	In memory of loved ones
Sue & Dick Dahl	In memory of loved ones
Orlin & Sharyn Berg	In memory of loved ones
Nick & Theresa Strand	In memory of loved ones
Chuck & Linda Harschlip	In memory of loved ones
Val & Jeff Wagner	In memory of loved ones
Steve & Barb Fedie	In memory of loved ones
Jeff & Nancy Jevne	In memory of loved ones
Diane Nolan	In memory of loved ones
Bob & Sandy Froystad	In memory of loved ones
Dan, Mark & Andrea Wollum	In memory of loved ones
Roger & Mary Zuger Hinze	In memory of loved ones
Nic & Joslyn Brantner	In memory of loved ones
Amber & Jeff Fregine	In memory of loved ones
Kathy & Steve Dahl	In memory of loved ones
Ruth Hayden	In memory of loved ones
Donna & Allen Johnson	In memory of loved ones
Jill & Randy Bauer	In memory of loved ones
Eric, Jenny	
Julia & Riane Hayden	In memory of loved ones
Elissa & Jeff Abramson	In memory of Mel & Shirley
	In memory of Lloyd & Ruby

## **Rock Creek Council Meeting Minutes—October 5, 2022**

Those present: Steve Dahl, Becky Richardson, Carma Koller, Pastor Bethany Walker, Orlin Berg, Nikki Bauer, Sue Dahl, Diane Nolan, Dave Coon, Bob Froystad, Riane Hayden. Absent: Jill Bauer,

Steve called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm. Pastor Bethany opened the meeting with devotion.

**Pastor's Report**—see attached. There are 17 students in FaithLift Confirmation.

**Secretary's Report** –Motion by Becky to approve September meeting minutes, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Sue, motioned passed, all in favor.

**Treasurer's Report**—Service Master dropped their bill to \$3803.48 for the basement water clean up. Steve asked about a service call from telephone company as the answering machine did not work. WWT stated it was from it being connected to the elevator. Discussion and Becky has not received a bill. Motion by Nikki to approve, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bob, motioned passed, all in favor.

### **Committee Reports**

- **Education**— Sunday school has had a good start with more kids attending than expected. Confirmation students are helping with the Christmas program which will be December 18.
- **Youth Group/Confirmation**—covered in Pastors report.
- **Retreat follow up:** discuss next month at joint council.

### **Old Business**

- **Back door:** Bob is looking at used doors.

### **New Business**

- **Parsonage sale committee update:** Becky reported the inspection report was 68 pages long. RCLC agreed on \$224,000.00 with buyer getting \$6,000.00 for repairs for a selling price of \$218,000.00. Buyers will pay for the LP that is left in the tank on closing date of 10/14/22. Becky is putting together a welcome basket for the buyers. Steve expressed “thank you” to the committee for working on the selling of the parsonage. Discussion on proceeds from the tentative sale. \$3000 is needed to pay for the basement water damage. Once sale is completed, an Investment Committee will be needed to meet to advise the council on investment options. Would like to have the committee established by next council meeting November 9. Once sale is completed, Steve will do write up for Facebook and email list, asking for volunteers for the committee. Also ask for ideas of what members see God wanting RCLC to do with the interest money and the future of RCLC. Pastor Bethany will post his note. Recommend Pastor Bethany announce in church that volunteers are needed for the investment committee. We will look for 5 members to set up the future of the moneys (endowment/bank) with 3 members on a permanent committed with one rotating off each year. Council would like the committee to have suggestion of how to manage the money by annual meeting. We have had information on Endowment and or traditional bank account. Carma brought up idea of a

booth at the Uffda dinner asking the community how RCLC could better serve them and maybe have members offer their talents. This could help guide Investment Committee.

- **Basement wall repairs:** class room wall board and friendship room wall needs repairs following water damage. Bob will help. Steve has wall board left from last repairs
- **Microphone/speaker options:** Will need Faith's contact to come to RCLC. We need to understand our needs before we purchase anything. (There was some discount if we did it at the same time as Faith but only on delivery/drive time.)
- **Information on community outreach discussion:** Pastor Bethany reported on Neighbor to Neighbor ministry. See Pastor's report. It is a ministry to Spanish speaking neighbors' needs. Health care has been identified as a need in Eau Claire and assumed in RCLC area. A health fair may be planned in the future to be held at RCLC. Deacon Lidixe Montoya has translated our Uffda Dinner and Pop up Food Pantry flyers into Spanish .
- **Uffda dinner:** Dave reported plans are going well, has had good sign up for helping.
- **Other questions:** Becky received post card for ordering poinsettias. She has asked Kathy Dahl to manage again this year

**Next meeting November 9, 7:00 for Joint council, 6:00 for RCLC at Faith.**

**Sue motioned to adjourn , second by Becky Closed with Lords Prayer.**

Carma Koller, RCLC Secretary