



## May 2025 / Clare Congregational Church Newsletter

### Contact Information

**Contact:** Clare Congregational Church  
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**Web Site:** [clarecongregational.org](http://clarecongregational.org)

**Office Hours:**  
10am-2pm Tues.-Wed.-Thur.

### General Information

**Sunday Morning Bible Study:** 9:30 am  
**Sunday Morning Service:** 10:30 am

**Coffee Hour:** Fellowship Hall  
(after service)

**Potluck:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday each month

**Church Council Meeting:**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Tues. each month

**Women's Meeting:**  
3<sup>rd</sup> Thurs. each month

**Craft Day:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Tues. each month



*Greetings From Pastor Connie*



*"Happy Mother's Day  
and Happy Memorial Day"*

Also, thank you to everyone who attended any of the Holy week services and Easter.

Easter Sunday left me with a grateful heart.

After Easter service Frank and I went to a lovely brunch at Riverwalk in Gladwin. All the way to our destination we talked about You! Our church was decorated or rather transformed into reminders of when Jesus was on earth. Wanda did an outstanding job decorating. Jim Sutton, Connie Johnson and Terri Neilson helped.

LuAnne, you are amazing. Even with her health issues, she attended every special service and added to each worship experience with her playing the piano and the organ. She adds her own personal touch every time she plays.

Sunrise breakfast was delicious. Thank you, council and volunteers, for a truly lovely brunch. Wanda provided a feast after morning worship. People stayed until 1:45 enjoying the fellowship.

Do you sense how grateful I am for all of you who were a part. Pioneer kids experienced a fantastic Easter dinner and chocolate rabbits. Hams were donated to Stone Soup. Frank helped them cook and decorate Easter Eggs. I attended their Easter dinner to share a devotion and pronounce grace. New Hope girls received a chocolate rabbit and Easter surprises.

To everyone who participated in the Easter drama, "God bless you." You are all truly a blessing. Terri Neilson helped sew and repair costumes. Tom Kunse narrated, John Andrews, Randy Recker, Barb Kunse, Ruth Fretz and Teresa Mackie used their voices to inspire us with music. Bill and Paula Newkirk did triple duty as ushers to attend all the extra services.

Hopefully, I haven't forgotten any group or anyone who helped. As the Pastor of Clare Congregational Church, I want you all to know how thankful I am for each one of you. You are in my prayers and in my heart.

God's blessings,

Pastor Connie

### **Attention Council Members:**

Annual reports must be presented to the office on or before May 12th. Annual meeting will be in June, date to be decided at the council meeting May 13th.

Our council meetings are the usually the first Tuesday of each month at 12:15 and are open to everyone. Hope to see you there. May council meeting will be on Tuesday, May 13th.

Reports needed:	`Treasurer
Pastor	Moderator
Renovation	Deacons
Memorial Fund	Education
Maintenance	Financial

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### **Craft Day**

Craft Day meets at 1:00 pm on May 20th. This month LuAnne is going to teach how to sew Star Christmas Mug Rugs. If you don't like to Sew, Wanda will be teaching how to make deco-mesh wreath centerpieces. All supplies will be provided. The items made will be used for the Women's bazaar and auction.

### **Auction/Pig Roast**

Plans are underway for this event. It will be in August. Date is tentative at this time, so watch for updates in the near future. We are taking donation now, so please keep that in mind, the earlier the better. We will sell whatever you donate. Just let us know as early as possible so we can get the advertising out.

### **Bells**

The Bell Choir will practice May 6th at 2:00. We will be playing for the congregation on Mother's Day, May 11th.

### **Family in Need**

There is a family in need of food. Pastor Connie knows them, and they have attended church here. If you are willing to help provide food to help them through a rough patch, please donate from the following items:

Burgers and Hot Dogs & Buns for Both  
Tomatoes, Tomato Sauce & Spaghetti Sauce  
Onions, Potatoes & Carrots  
Chicken Noodle Soup  
Peas, Corn, Green Beans & Kidney Beans  
Noodles, Macaroni & Spaghetti  
Spaghetti Sauce  
Crackers

Thank You!

### **New Hope Girls**

It was a joy to see some of our New Hope Girls in church for Easter Sunday. Pastor Connie and Frank made sure they received chocolate Easter Rabbits and Easter goodies to enjoy.

### **Adult Sunday School**

There is an adult Sunday School class offered Sunday morning from 9:30-10:15 in the parlor. Come and join others from the congregation.

### **Coffee Hour**

There are many dates available to host coffee hour. Sign up sheets are on the board outside Wanda's office. Cases of bottled water for use in the fellowship hall are always appreciated. Thanks!

### **Ladies' Meeting — Wanda Agle**

The Ladies' meeting for May will be on the 15th at 12:00 noon. We will be meeting at the Church, Each gal will be responsible for their own lunch this month.

### **Holiday Bazaar**

The date for the Women's Holiday Bazaar this year will be November 2nd. 9:00 am until 3:00 pm. That said, we need items! If you have Fall or Christmas items you'd like to donate please let us know. If you like to bake, we will be having the bake for the Holiday Bazaar please contact Melinda Lard and also our Jay's Bake sale. We will also be displaying a few items in our newly added Holiday Boutique this year as part of our Holiday Bazaar.

### **Stone Soup Kitchen**

This month the congregation has the opportunity to provide soup and bread for lunch on Thursday May 22nd. The meat has been provided. Items needed and delivered to the church by Wednesday May 21st are: Cabbage head, 6# carrots, (5) bunches of celery, cans of diced tomatoes, (20) loaves of \$1.00 sliced bread from Walmart, and (2) 3# bags of onions. Thank you in advance.

## May Birthdays

Barb Kunse	05/03
Tom Johnson	05/04
John Bicknell II	05/04
MaryAnn Forsberg	05/07
Andrea Walls	05/09
Paula Newkirk	05/20
Bill Schepperley	05/28



## May Anniversaries

John & Angie Allen 05/07

## **Facts & Figures: Month of April**

Date	Attendance	Offering
April 6	52	\$ 1028.00
13	32	1576.00
17	33	Maundy Thursday
18	35	Good Friday
20	87	1779.00
27	68	1559.00

## **Serving Month of May**

Officiating:	Pastor Connie Bongard
Liturgist:	Dr. Kurt Keppner
Ushers:	Bob & Meredith List
Accompanist:	LuAnne Humphrey

## **REMEMBER IN PRAYER:**

Tom Johnson, Patty (Humphrey) Hazen, Mike Humphrey, Jerry Forsberg, Ivah Forsberg, Tiffany Marie Slater, Carol Colville, Patty Wiseley, Phyllis Carrigan, Pam Gaffner, LuAnne Humphrey, Rob Wilson's family and Felix Lyons



Please help keep the prayer list current; if you know of any changes, or additions, please call the office at 989 386-7582, leave a note for the secretary, or send an email to: [office@clarecongregational.org](mailto:office@clarecongregational.org)