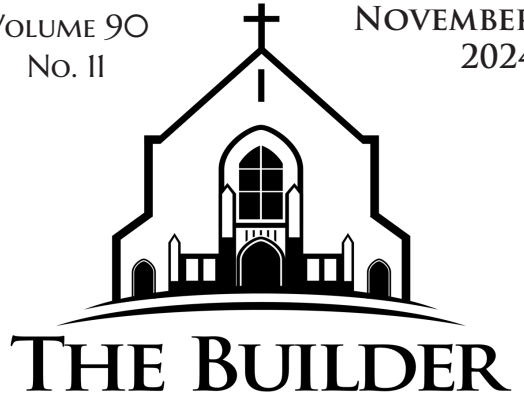




CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOUR

VOLUME 90
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2024



363 S. MAIN ST. • 54935 • 920-922-0020

Pastor: Rev. Crystal Lee

Web-site: www.oursavioursfdl.org

Office Email: office@oursavioursfdl.org

Pastor Email: pastorcrystal@oursavioursfdl.org

Music Email: music@oursavioursfdl.org

Office Hours: M-TH: 8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

From the Pastor

Dear Beloveds,

Our Centennial Year has begun, and it began with a bang! Reformation Sunday was a great way to start our celebration year. Pastor Matt and family were able to join us. We celebrated with great conversation and wonderful food. We also unveiled our new logo!

I have been patiently (sometimes impatiently) waiting to share this new logo with you all. The council held a design contest on 99designs, which is part of VistaPrint. For the contest, we presented designers with our new mission statement, "We are a welcoming community called to serve in God's love," along with our five Guiding Principles, "Church of Our Saviour is a community where 1) Jesus is Lord and Savior; 2) We spread God's love through word and actions; 3) all have a place without judgment; 4) you can ask for and receive help; and 5) opportunities are provided to grow in faith." In the initial round of submission there were some good designs and some designs that did not match who we are. With the second round, they were given additional information to emphasize being a welcoming community—could be open doors, open arms, etc. With that addition we had over 60 designs to choose from. The council went through a few rounds of voting, taking us from 60+ designs to 6 designs, and finally to our new logo.

In this new logo, Church of Our Saviour is fully represented. We see the open arms outstretched. These open arms can represent worship and praise. They can represent our arms outstretched to our neighbors both near and far. These arms also represent our open arms to welcome in the friend and stranger alike. And in the heart of all we do is the cross, and love found there.

Blessings +

Pastor Crystal





WELCA Board of Directors will meet on Zoom on Monday, Nov. 4 at 1:45 p.m.

Tabitha Circle will meet on Tuesday, November 19 at 1:00 p.m. in the parlor and on Zoom.

Lydia Circle will meet on Tuesday, November 26, 1:30 p.m. in the parlor.

Lutheran World Relief boxes were shipped in October. This year our 43 boxes included 103 Quilts/blankets, 48 Health kits, 52 School kits, 15 Fabric kits and 67 Baby kits Thanks to all who donated to any of these kits, and to our quilting crew that gathers every Tuesday morning to make quilts for LWR.

WELCA Yearbooks have been printed for 2024-25 and are available for pick-up in the hallway. To have one mailed to you, please contact the church office.

THANKOFFERINGS

In November, WELCA members think of Thanksgiving and Thankofferings to support the work of Women of the ELCA. The founders of WELCA decided back in 1988 to use Thankofferings to support ongoing ministries, including communications, justice and advocacy work, leadership development, local and synodical women's organizations support, grants, scholarship programs, and much more.

In gratitude for all God has given to us, and with hope for all that is to come, we collect these offerings during the month of November. **Please use the enclosed THANKOFFERING envelope for your donations.** Thank you for your support of WELCA.

REMINDER TO "FALL BACK"

Daylight saving time ends
on November 3 at 2:00 a.m.
Set your clocks back one hour!

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY • NOV. 3

All Saints Sunday will be celebrated November 3 at the 9:00 worship service. We will be remembering the saints from Church of Our Saviour who passed away during the last year, as well as any other names submitted by members of the congregation. All will have an opportunity to light a candle in remembrance of a loved one.

CHOIR FOR ADVENT FESTIVAL

The Adult Choir and Handbell Choir will lead this special Advent worship service on December 15. The festival will combine both scripture and music to tell the story of the expectation and birth of Christ. If you aren't able to sing with the choir on a regular basis, maybe you'd like to be a choir temp and join us to sing for this festival. We are just starting to rehearse this music at our Wednesday rehearsals which begin at 6:45 pm. All are welcome! Just come on Wednesday – there will be music for you!

ADVENT WREATH CANDLELIGHTING

We are looking for families, households or individuals to read the paragraph at the beginning of the Sunday Advent worship service and also light the candles on the Advent wreath. ALL ages are invited to participate. Advent begins December 1st. If you are interested, please sign up on the bulletin board or contact Janet Radke.

STEWARDSHIP DRIVE - 2025

You will soon be receiving a letter from our Stewardship-Finance Committee, asking for your support of our general budget by making a pledge to the general fund for 2025. Pledge cards will be received and blessed at worship on Sunday, November 17, or you may mail or drop off your pledge card at the church office any time.

Please call the church office (920-922-0020) or Jill Bjornstad (920-922-1556) if you or someone you know is in need of prayers. You can request them to be in the Prayers of the Church, the Prayer Chain or both.

FINANCIAL REPORT - SEPTEMBER, 2024 (YTD)

General Fund Income YTD: \$196,348
General Fund Expenses: \$169,661
Loan Principal Payments: \$16,906
Total Gen. Fund Expenditures: \$186,567
Net Gain/Loss, to date 2024: \$ 9,781
Addl. Qtrly. Principal Payments: \$**1,845
MIF Loan Balance as of 09/30/24: \$182,295
***gifts designated for debt reduction are sent to MIF at the end of each calendar quarter.*

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN FUND REPORT to 9/30/24

Donations received: \$106,544
Amount borrowed from MIF: \$ 45,759
Expenditures: (\$122,134)
Available to spend: \$ 30,169

MEET OUR NEW OFFICE STAFF

CLAIRE KOEHLER, OFFICE MANAGER

This past Monday, Oct. 21, we welcomed our new Office Manager, Claire Koehler. Claire is no stranger to Church of Our Saviour; though she is now a member of St. Paul's Cathedral, Claire was previously a member of the congregation. She is the second-eldest daughter of Gilbert and Lorraine Lepien, and sister to John. Claire is retired from a long career as a kindergarten teacher in the Fond du Lac School District. She is also well-known in the area as the principal horn player in the Fond du Lac Symphonic Band, and she has performed often at our church with brass and wind quintets. Office hours will continue to be 8:30 a.m. -2:30 p.m. When you see her, say hello!

TRACI KOVACS, BOOKKEEPER

Traci Kovacs took over at our bookkeeper position on Oct. 1. As the daughter of Bob and Char Bohnsack, Traci also has roots here at COOS. Traci has had many years of bookkeeping experience with Konkel Accounting, and she is also the bookkeeper for Bright Beginnings Academy for Kids here in our building. Welcome Traci!

CARING AND SHARING

WITH RIVERSIDE KIDS

The long-awaited move from the upstairs balcony at Riverside School to the vacant girls' locker room on first floor has happened! There is still some streamlining to do, but for the most part, we are functional. The first time we were "open for business" on October 17, we served 26 families with a total of 71 children - the largest single day response ever!

We will put in more work time before our November 20 open date to get everything situated. Our sincere thanks to all who have donated hangers, plastic lids, small totes, closet rods and brackets and gifts of money. It is easier for the shoppers to have most things on hangers rather than totes on the floor. It is also much easier for the volunteers to not have to climb up and down the stairs several times a day!

Now is the time for warmer clothing. We need boys and girls winter jackets, children's or small adults winter boots and snow pants which are required for outside play at school. Any size jackets from size 4T through 14/XL are needed. We are especially low on both girls' and boys' jackets in sizes 10, 12 and 14. Any boots you can find in children's sizes or small adult sizes would also be a great addition to our inventory.

Also needed are sweat pants in any size from 4T through size 14/XL, and boys and girls jeans in sizes 8 through 14. We are grateful for any and all children's clothing that we can offer. You have been very generous with the socks and undies in the last few months, so we do not need any this month.

We wish you could see the huge smiles and receive the hugs of thanks that come when a child or parent finds the perfect item. May God continue to inspire us to offer hope and necessities to our community. God bless you as you share. God bless those who receive your gifts. THANK YOU.

Riverside Principal Jessica Hughes will present our Sunday Forum on Nov. 10. Plan to be there to hear all the exciting things happening at our neighborhood elementary school!!

SUNDAY FORUM

10:15 A.M. IN THE PARLOR

All above Sunday School age are welcome to attend the Sunday forum.

SUNDAY, NOV. 3

Final session on Civic Life and Faith, led by Pastor Crystal and Mary Arthur.

SUNDAY, NOV. 10

Jessica Hughes, Principal of Riverside School, will be with us to tell us about all the exciting, good things happening at our neighboring elementary school.

SUNDAY, NOV. 17

Manuel from the Holy Family Warming Shelter will be on hand to talk about the improvements made over the summer and current operations at the shelter.

CHURCH RECORDS FORM

A reminder to complete and return the church records form that was mailed to each household in late September. We have installed new membership management software and are eager to bring our parish records up-to-date!!

PRE-ORDER CENTENNIAL COOKBOOKS

We need an approximate idea of how many cookbooks we will need before we place our order. The cookbooks will be priced at \$15 for one cookbook, or \$12.50 each for 2 or more cookbooks. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board, or you may call the church office, or reserve your copies by using the link in eNews. No need to pre-pay; we just need a general idea for quantity.

Fond du Lac Symphonic Band • 48th annual

CATHEDRAL CONCERT

Sunday, Nov. 17 • 3:00 p.m.

Cathedral Church of St. Paul

A concert of sacred and classical music including Christmas medleys and arrangements.

Free Admission • Free Will Offering

--A CENTENNIAL YEAR EVENT--

FALL FRIENDSHIP SUPPER

WITH SPECIAL GUESTS

BRIGHT BEGINNINGS DAYCARE FAMILIES

THURSDAY, NOV. 21

5:00 P.M. IN STECKER HALL

Plan to join us on Thursday, November 21 for an informal meal gathering for COOS families and our special guests: **BRIGHT BEGINNINGS DAYCARE**, including the children, staff members, along with all their families.

Menu will include:

- spaghetti, with a choice of marinara sauce, meat sauce, or plain with butter
- bread
- salads
- desserts
- beverages

The meal will be free for our daycare guests. A free-will offering from our members is requested to help defray costs. Donations of breads, milk and desserts will be appreciated; sign-ups will be posted in the hallway both for donations and attendance.

Thank you to Doug and Cindy Decker, who have added the pumpkins and fall decorations in the chancel in thanksgiving to God for their grandsons: Hayden Glen and Layton Ren Pahnke and Siddharth William and Sameer Douglas Bhandare.

SOLUTIONS CENTER

“ITEM OF THE MONTH”

The Solutions Center’s November items are disinfectant spray and wipes; and bath & kitchen hand towels. Donations may be left in the hallway credenza.

YOUTH CORNER

Youth Group Meetings: Weds. Nov. 6 and Nov. 13 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.