



# CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOUR

FOND DU LAC, WISCONSIN

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

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## THE BUILDER

### FROM THE PASTOR

#### “THE WORK OF CHRISTMAS”

BY HOWARD THURMAN

*When the song of the angels is stilled,  
when the star in the sky is gone,  
when the kings and princes are home,  
when the shepherds are back with their flocks,  
the work of Christmas begins:  
to find the lost,  
to heal the broken,  
to feed the hungry,  
to release the prisoner,  
to rebuild the nations,  
to bring peace among the people,  
to make music in the heart.*

*(The poem is from Howard Thurman's The Mood of Christmas and Other Celebrations)*

Blessings +

*Pastor Crystal*



## WELCA NEWS

**W**omen of The ELCA Board will meet via Zoom on Monday, January 6 at 1:45 p.m.

**T**abitha Circle meets on Tuesday, January 21 at 1:00 p.m. in the parlor.

**L**ydia Circle meets on Tuesday, January 28 at 1:30 p.m. in the parlor. All are invited to join us.

**T**hank you to everyone who baked and packed cookies, purchased the poinsettias and delivered our gifts to our shut-ins. They put smiles on many faces!

**T**he Christmas decorations will be taken down on Wednesday, January 8 at 6:00 p.m. Lots of help is needed and of course we need ladder climbers! Youth will help also, in place of a Youth Group meeting while Pastor Crystal is on her trip.



## LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF

### PERSONAL CARE KITS

**W**ELCA is collecting items for Lutheran World Relief PERSONAL CARE KITS during the months of January and February. Money or actual items may be donated. Items needed are bath size towels, bath size bar soap, adult size tooth brushes in original packaging, combs and metal nail clippers. Donations may be brought to church on Sunday mornings or during weekly office hours.

**P**lease 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.

## ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION

SUNDAY, JAN. 26, 2025 • 10:15 A.M.

Annual reports and the 2025 budget will be available for review prior to the meeting, and the budget will be the Forum topic on Jan. 12. At this Annual Meeting we will be voting to officially adopt our new Mission Statement and Guiding Principles.

THERE WILL BE A POTLUCK LUNCH  
FOLLOWING THE MEETING.

Please bring a dish to share and plan to stay for food and fellowship!

*Help is needed to set-up, serve and clean-up after the potluck. There will be a sign-up sheet in the hallway. We are hoping to identify more people to help out with these events (men and women alike) so we can continue to enjoy fellowship without relying on the same people time after time! Is this something you might be willing to do? Thanks for your consideration!!*

CALLING ALL MEMBERS!

GET READY FOR THE

## FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN 2025 FOND DU LAC MOBILEPACK! ON SAT. MARCH 8!

**T**his year's goal is to pack 132,192 meals. To accomplish this, we will need your donations to reach the \$38,800 needed to purchase the ingredients for the meal packs. And, your help as one of over 500 volunteers is needed that day for the packing. February will be the city-wide "Have-a-Heart" Campaign month. Our giving tree will be in the narthex during the month. Also in February volunteer sign-up will begin. Watch for more information to come.

We thank Sue Schierstedt for her years as our congregation's liaison to this event. We are looking for our new liaison; if you are interested please talk to Pastor Crystal.

Thank you for your generous prayers, gifts, and service!

## NEW NATIVITY FIGURINES

In honor of Church of Our Saviour's 100th Anniversary, Doug and Cindy Decker have donated a new 14-piece set of Fontanini Nativity figurines for the Nativity display in the chancel. The new pieces fit well with the current Stable. We thank the Deckers for their thoughtful gift.

## CHAMBER CONCERT • FEB. 2

Enjoy this annual concert of classical and popular music by soloists and ensembles from the Fond du Lac Symphonic Band, coordinated by COOS member and band manager, Erin Steward. Our congregation has been hosting this concert annually for over 30 years! We appreciate the opportunity to help bring this and other musical events to the community.

## SUNDAY FORUM

10:15 A.M. IN THE PARLOR

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

SUNDAY, JANUARY 5  
(no forum scheduled)

SUNDAY, JANUARY 12

Finance Committee will present the 2025 Budget for discussion and questions.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 19

The Centennial Task Force will host a viewing of the video that was produced by Connie Weiss for the 75th Anniversary in 2000.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 26  
Annual Meeting - no forum

## SUNDAY FORUM SCHEDULE

On the bulletin board you will find a sign-up form for Sunday Forum leadership and topics. Maybe you want to lead a specific bible study or study a specific ELCA Social Statement (Pastor has resources available). Maybe you are willing to make a presentation about a community outreach project in which you are involved, or contact a local non-profit to come and talk about their work in our community. Please put your name next to a date and let us know the topic.

## CARING AND SHARING WITH RIVERSIDE KIDS

Since moving from the balcony area to the first floor at Riverside Elementary School, we have seen an increase in use. We are not open until Dec. 19, so there are no updated figures regarding families and students served. We do know that our outreach ministry has made a big difference in the lives of many families in the Fond du Lac School District. Your caring and sharing are what makes it possible for some families to be able to provide other necessities for their children. Thank you for the strong commitment our congregation has made to helping our community. Thank you for sharing your gifts of love with some who do not always feel loved.

We have no specific needs because we have not had the closet open since the last Builder. Any warm clothing in sizes 4T through 14(XL) will be put to good use. Also winter jackets, snow pants and boots have been in big demand. Every child needs to be warm this winter.

Please put your donations in the Riverside Closet baskets in the credenza in the hallway. Our first open closet date in 2025 is Thursday, January 16. Thank you for your generous spirits, your loving hearts and your gracious gifts. God bless you all.

## CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE

A reminder - we are now in the second year of our 3-year campaign. If your pledge was made on a yearly basis, you may want to pay the second installment prior to the end of 2024 for tax purposes. We do not intend to borrow any additional money from Mission Investment Fund; rather we will "pay as we go" as donations are received to complete the remaining projects, which include the new heater in the elevator lobby and new exterior signage on the church grounds.

## SOLUTIONS CENTER

### "ITEM OF THE MONTH"

January item is coffee (regular). Donations may be left in the hallway credenza.

## PASTOR CRYSTAL'S TRIP

Pastor Crystal will be gone from Jan. 6 to Jan.15 on a Footsteps of Paul tour in Greece and Turkey. Please pray for her as she travels to Athens, the Meteora Monasteries, Corinth, Ephesus, and other places with professors from Luther Seminary. In the spring she will lead a Forum about what she learned on her trip.

While she is gone Pastor Sara Gorman (920-710-2881) and Pastor Connie Weiss (920-904-5919) will be available for pastoral emergencies.

## COMING CENTENNIAL YEAR EVENTS

### 100 YEARS OF SERVING IN GOD'S LOVE

- January 5, 9:00 am: Healing Service
- January 12: Guest Pastor: Pr. Bob Rosenberg
- January 19, 10:15 am: 75th Anniversary video shown during Forum
- January 26, 10:15 am: Annual Meeting
- February 2, 3:00 pm: Symphonic Band Chamber Concert
- February 9, 9:00 am –Guest Pastor: Pr. Connie Weiss
- February 13, 6:30 pm – Leah Rockweit Opera Scenes Concert
- February 16, 9:00 am – Guest Preacher: Pr. Bob Rosenberg
- February 16, 3:00 pm – 100th Anniversary Trivia Event

## WINTER WEATHER CLOSINGS

Please note that if it is necessary to cancel Sunday worship/education hour due to weather, we will notify local radio stations including B104.7 FM, KFIZ Radio (AM 1450) Website:www.kfiz.com, WFDL(Sunny 97.7 FM) and WFRV TV-Channel 5 (Green Bay) as soon as the decision is made. We will also post the information on our Facebook page.

Even if we decide NOT to cancel, please use your own good judgment on whether it is feasible for you to brave the weather (the difference between city and country driving is often great).

During the week, our events and office will be cancelled when the public schools are closed.

## FINANCIAL REPORT - NOVEMBER, 2024 (YTD)

General Fund Income YTD:	\$233,175
General Fund Expenses:	\$204,552
Loan Principal Payments:	<u>\$ 17,364</u>
Total Gen. Fund Expenditures:	<u>\$221,916</u>
<b>Net Gain/Loss, to date 2024:</b>	<b>\$11,259</b>
Addl. Qtrly. Principal Payments:	\$**1,175
MIF Loan Balance as of 11/30/24	\$179,376
<b>CAPITAL CAMPAIGN FUND to 11/30/24</b>	
Donations received:	\$123,089
Amount borrowed from MIF:	\$ 45,759
Expenditures:	(\$133,200)
Available to spend:	\$ 35,648

## TALENT SHOW & DINNER SUNDAY, MARCH 2

The Talent Show and Dinner will be Sunday, March 2. A pancake dinner will be served by Youth at 5:00 and the show is at 6:00. Please sign up on the bulletin board and share any kind of talent that you might have. All ages are encouraged to participate! It's not too early to think about how you'd like to be involved.

Here are some ideas – vocal solo, instrumental solo/ensemble, dancing, piano solo, standup comedian, karate demonstration, juggling, magic acts, card tricks, cooking demonstration, jump rope demonstration, whistling, dramatic reading, gymnastic routine, comedy skit, balloon art, Rubik's cube demo, yoyo routine, and celebrity impressions. If you'd like to participate, but need help with an idea or need music, contact Janet - music@oursavioursfdl.org.

## YOUTH CORNER

Jan. 8, 6 p.m. -Help take down Christmas decorations

DATE CHANGE: Jan. 22- Youth Group, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Synod Youth Gathering: Fri. Feb. 21-Sun. Feb 23 at Imago Dei Village. This is for all in grades 6-12. Talk to Pastor Crystal for registration information.