

OCTOBER 2011

CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOUR
363 S. MAIN ST.
FOND DU LAC, WI 54935
oursavioursfdl.org
920-922-0020
Robert Rosenberg, Pastor

Mission Statement of Church of Our Saviour
We come together to receive and
celebrate the Good News of God in Christ
through worship and learning so that we grow
in faith and are sent to serve.

**FALL/WINTER
WORSHIP SCHEDULE**
SUNDAYS
8:00 A.M. AND 10:30 A.M.
IN TOUCH (Adult Ed.)
AND
SUNDAY SCHOOL
9:15 A.M.

***Ministry Schedules for upcoming Month on back of Calendar

FROM THE PASTOR'S PEN...

THE STATE of the CHURCH ADDRESS

On October 3rd I will have been at Church of Our Saviour one year. As I have approached this time it occurred to me that, as your pastor, I should give you my perspective on where we've been, how things are going, and what we can anticipate.

"Where have we been?" We have come through some difficult times once again. This isn't my "first tour of duty," as most of you know. When I came on board in 2007 you had released your Interim Pastor and I was called on to stabilize the situation. As we came to 2008, the financial picture was bleak. Then in the spring of 2008 Fond du Lac was hit by "the flood." The church building suffered extensive damage. But under the able management of Dave Stuebs and the Property Committee we now have a beautiful facility once again. Something good came out of something bad.

One of our biggest problems at Church of Our Saviour has been finances i.e. not enough money. As diligently as the Finance Committee worked we had not been meeting our budget for a number of years. Each year the cry would go up: "Great effort needs to be made...to reverse the direction of our financial situation." In 2007 we had a deficit of -\$78,812.44. Last year, 2010, the deficit was -\$11,362.00. That's where we've been.

"How are things going?" When I came a year ago our primary goal was to achieve a balanced budget so we would be able to call a pastor. Since June we have been paying the bills and salaries each month and have not gone in "the red." As of August 31st, 2011, we have a balance of +\$15,041.26 and meeting the 2011 budget looks hopeful.

"What can we anticipate?" Everything GOOD, if we trust God and if we each continue doing our part.

Last night, (September 19) at the Church Council meeting the council members chose six people to serve on the Call Committee. They need to be contacted yet to see if they are willing to serve, so I can't give you any names, but it's "a step in the right direction." As you may recall from our last "go around," the process will take many months. How many? God knows. But, as I've said before, I'll be with you as long as it takes.

In the mean time, continue to participate regularly. Attend worship; be faithful with your offerings, and be generous with your time and talents. Open your hearts and minds to where God is leading and do not insist on your own way. If change is necessary on your part, do it. Be evangelists to your friends and neighbors. And pray! Pray for God's wisdom and direction; pray for the Call Committee. "Pray without ceasing!"

SEE YOU IN CHURCH!

Pastor Bob

ATTENTION ALL GREETERS, LECTORS, & USHERS!!

The schedule for the month is on the BACK OF THE CALENDAR of your "Builder." Be sure to check it to see if and when you are serving each month.

LIVING THE QUESTIONS - ADULT FORUM

Beginning on Sunday, October 2, we will begin a 21-session course titled "Living the Questions" at our "In Touch" time on Sundays between services: 9:15-10:15 a.m. ("In Touch" is for all members 7th grade through adulthood who want to continue growing in their faith.)

"Living the Questions" is an open-minded alternative to studies that attempt to give participants all the answers. It creates an environment where participants can interact with one another as they explore "what is next" for Christianity. No one person is an "expert" on the faith journey; we are all teachers and learners.

The material is grouped into 3 units of 7 sessions each. With certain Sundays blocked out for other topics (see schedule below), we plan to present the first unit, "Invitation to Journey," in the 3-month period prior to Christmas.

The topic for each session is introduced with a 20-minute video featuring conversations with leading voices of faith, sermon and lecture clips, stories illustrating aspects of an evolving faith, and concrete spiritual practices. For instance, Marcus Borg, a former Lutheran pastor and now noted Episcopal theologian, revisits the most fundamental questions of Christianity: Who is God? What does salvation mean? What place does Jesus hold in contemporary Christian faith?

Participants will be provided with a Session Guide and a "Living It Out" devotional guide at each session attended. (If there is sufficient interest, we may also schedule a weekday session for those who cannot attend on Sundays.) For more information, visit the website at www.livingthequestions.com

Even if you've NEVER participated in a study, you can learn something, and I (Pastor) encourage you to give it a try. TRY it; you might LIKE it!!

LIVING THE QUESTIONS 2.0

Unit I: "Invitation to Journey"

October - December, 2011

- Oct. 2: An Invitation to Journey (1)
- Oct. 9: Taking the Bible Seriously (2)
- Oct. 16: WELCA Sunday - Guest Speaker Wanda Humphreys
- Oct. 23: Thinking Theologically (3)
- Oct. 30: Confirmation Sunday - reception during Education Hour
- Nov. 6: Guest Speaker
- Nov. 13: Stories of Creation (4)
- Nov. 20: Lives of Jesus (5)
- Nov. 27: Prepare Christmas Cards/Gifts
- Dec. 4: Christmas Workshop - tentative
- Dec. 11: A Passion for Christ: Paul (6)
- Dec. 18: Out Into the World: Challenges Facing Progressive Christians (7)

A THOUGHT TO PONDER...

The following was part of a devotion from "Christ In Our Home," May 26.

"Living with an image of God as omnipresent helps us be open to frequent and surprising experiences of the Lord. Instead of ignoring random thoughts, we wonder if God might be nudging us to pay attention to something or someone. Instead of looking at the world from our vantage point alone, we find that we have a sense of how God might see things..." (end of quote)

"Omnipresent" means "every present." There is not a moment or place where God is not; He is everywhere and always present. To me that means that I am never alone, which is comforting. Plus, I try to pay attention to what God wants me to see and hear; I call those "GOD-things."

Pastor Bob



WOMEN OF THE ELCA SUNDAY

WELCA Sunday will be October 16, 2011. Our guest speaker will be Joanne Talaska. Help is needed for both services and the Adult Forum. A sign-up sheet is posted on the large bulletin board.

Our guest speaker for the Forum will be Wanda Humphreys who will tell us about the Lighthouse Church mission trip to Benin, West Africa. There are five people who went Sept. 2 - 18, 2011 to a Baptist Compound that is home to 70 girls. Girls are considered worthless so are discarded by their families. At this compound they are taught a trade such as sewing with treadle sewing machines. The group planned to teach the girls how to do lap quilts, purses and beading to have items to sell to be able to eventually support themselves.

There is a need for money donations to purchase beds, mattresses and netting for the new facilities that added 40 more girls to the original 30. An offering will be taken for this purpose during the forum. Please make checks out to WELCA.

We are also asking for donations for shipping our Lutheran World Relief quilts and kits that are sent out this month. Any questions or to volunteer to help on the 16th contact Jill Bjornstad at 922-1556.



PRAYER CHAIN: Please call one of our prayer chair persons, Jill Bjornstad 922-1556 or Maureen Kelm 921-5474.

If you would like prayers offered for you or others-please know that we'll keep that person on the Prayer Chain for two weeks unless otherwise requested

FOR THE RECORD

NEW MEMBERS:

9/11/2011 Brandon, Wendy, Eden and Ivy Baurer
9/11/2011 Sharon Hodorff

ADULT BAPTISM: Amanda May Baneck

DEATH: Helen Hensel



**Monday, October 17th
NOON IN PARLOR**

Just Bring:

A dish to pass

Your own table setting

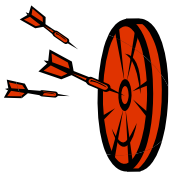
No need to sign up. Come, as you are able.

ALL ARE WELCOME-YOUNG AND OLD!!!

For a ride, please call 922-0020

SOCIAL MINISTRY

**WORLD HUNGER
2011 YTD TOTAL
\$593.29**



MEN'S DARTBALL: Come and join in on the good fellowship, fun, and camaraderie starting in November on Thursday's at 7:00 pm.

Teams are chosen every Thursday evening, so, regular attendance is not necessary. So, please come whenever it is convenient for you. The games usually last between 1 1/2-2 hours. Everyone is invited- need not be a member of COOS.

EDUCATION NOTES:

SUNDAY SCHOOL (otherwise known as "First Footsteps in Faith") began September 11. There are classes for kids Preschool (Age 3 and potty trained) through Grade 6. It's never too late, so if you haven't registered your child yet, start next Sunday!

TEACHERS NEEDED: Our Sunday School curriculum is based on a 3-week cycle. Each unit is self-contained. The leader or teacher gives basically the same story for three weeks to three different age groups. There is little preparation. So I hope you will consider taking a 3-week tour of duty. See me, Pastor, to enlist.

CONFIRMATION began Wednesday, September 21, with an Orientation session for all students and their parents. Classes are for kids in Grades 7 and 8. If you have a child in those grades who isn't confirmed, now is the time.

We meet from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. We start with pizza at 6:30 and class begins with a large group session in "The Parlor" and then the girls go off with their "Guide" to discuss the lesson further in their group, and the boys go off with their "Guide."

GUIDES this year are Ruth Duquaine and Marty Schibbelhut. Remember them and our confirmands in your prayers regularly.

ALSO, this year we are asking the confirmands to assist with Sunday School OR participate in the "In Touch" study each Sunday. Sunday classes for the kids was a "hit-and-miss" affair with the "good" kids attending. Hopefully, all of the confirmands will be here more regularly. (Make that a prayer request.)

ADULT STUDY: (See the article regarding "Living the Questions 2.0.")

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: That you might know...I said that our share for V.B.S. was \$700.00. That figure is half of the expense for the Camp Counselors which was \$1,400.00. However, factored into the final cost is the fee the kids pay plus donations which come off the total amount. SO, our final cost was \$460.25. We hope to continue this joint venture and have more kids participating from COOS.

THRIVENT CHOICE is a charitable grant program. And it's a benefit of membership in Thrivent Financial. We all know that giving back makes an important impact in people's lives. Now, with this new program, Thrivent Financial eligible members can recommend where some of Thrivent Financials charitable funds are distributed. There are two ways members can use the program. All members 16 years and older can participate in occasional Voting Events. And eligible benefit members can direct designated Choice Dollars.

Year to date, Church of our Saviour has benefited from Thrivent Choice to the amount of \$1,295.00.

If you would like more information about your eligibility in the Thrivent Choice program or how to direct your Choice dollars, please contact Deb Jaeger, 920-933-4967, or deb.jaeger@thrivent.com.

CONFIRMATION SUNDAY will be October 30 at the 10:30 a.m. Service. We have three persons who will be confirmed:

Austin Breitricks
Taylor Goldapske
Nathan Jodarski.

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

It may seem far away, but November will be here soon and we observe the first Sunday in November as All Saints Sunday. Those of you who have experienced the death of a loved one during the past year will also receive a mailing through our bereavement ministry. We invite all members to attend one of the Church Services on November 4th at 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. as another opportunity to come together in remembrance. The names of those from this congregation who have died since last November will be read aloud at the service. Also, inserted in this month's "Builder" is a form for you to include names of individuals which you would like included in the All Saints Day Remembrance.

Community of Faith Events

Cathedral Church of St. Paul: stpaulsfdl.org
Church of Our Saviour: www.oursavioursfdl.org
Community United Methodist: www.gbgm-umc.org/nfdl
Immanuel Trinity Lutheran Church: immanueltrinity.org

"Vibrant Faith" Workshop

**Saturday, November 12,
8:30 am-3:30 pm**

Our Saviors Lutheran Church, West Bend

Purpose: To help people live a vibrant faith, particularly to help equip families to grow in faith.

*Registration fee will be paid by our church.

*Registration deadline is October 30. Sign up on bulletin board or call the church office.

(**child care will be provided free of charge with advanced notice.)

**FINANCIAL UPDATE -AUGUST 2011
GENERAL FUND**

Time Period	Total Income*	Expenses**	Net Results
AUG. 2011	\$ 19,368	\$18,568	\$ 800.
Year-to-date	\$165,234	\$150,193	\$15,041

AUG. 2011 \$ 19,368 \$18,568 \$ 800.

Year-to-date \$165,234 \$150,193 \$15,041

*Income includes daycare rent payments.

*Loan payment principal is not included in Expenses.

LOAN \$340,899.83 NEW NOTE 5/4/2010

Transaction date range: 8/20/2011 to 9/21/2011

\$316,814.47 BALANCE FORWARD

\$2,709.12 AUTO PAYMENT 09/10/11

\$1,343.95. Allocated To Principal

\$1,365.17 Allocated to Interest

Current Balance \$315,470.52

"OVER AND ABOVE"

YTD

ENVELOPE CONTRIBUTIONS

\$2,382.83

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Jill Bjornstad
- 1 Gilbert Lepien
- 2 Matthew Knubis
- 3 Austin Breitricks
- 4 Lisa Emery
- 6 Elizabeth Olsen
- 7 Judd Bosin
- 7 Dennis Mertens
- 8 Aayden O'Connell
- 9 Linda Bastian
- 9 Jeffrey Mahoney
- 9 Joanne Talaska
- 10 Devin Emmer
- 12 Dawn Brown
- 13 Linda Hintz
- 13 Betty Pinno
- 16 Kaitlyn Cardinal
- 18 Todd Boris
- 19 Delores Stuebs
- 22 Brice Goldapske
- 23 Kevin Arne
- 23 Brian Rabbitt
- 23 Aaron Schaefer
- 24 Dwight Wigg
- 27 Steve Wilburn
- 28 Justin Greuel
- 30 Janet Rabbitt

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS SEPTEMBER 2011

- Pastor Bob reported 6 meetings/study groups, 14 home/hospital visits, 42 office contacts, and other one-time events during the past month.
- Confirmation Sunday is 10/30 at the 10:30 service.
- Pastor's vacation days: 9/11, 10/22-28 & 11/20. Pastor Carol Christianson will be our supply pastor.
- Our elevator now has the required laser lights & we passed our inspection. Cost was \$3,495.00; half the cost was paid from our flood money & Jerry Gordon paid the other half. Our sidewalk in front has been fixed & was paid for by an anonymous donor. Thanks for these generous gifts!
- To date 4 people have agreed to serve on the Interior Decoration Committee: Jill Bjornstad, Toby Rosenberg, Lynne Schibbelhut & Natalie Wilburn.
- John Lepien reported the progress on our sound system. We are looking at 3 wireless mikes & 8 wired mikes & we do have 5 wired ones.
- Pastor Bob & the Executive Committee met with Pastor David Pavesic, Pastor Shari Routh & the Executive Committee of Immanuel-Trinity (IT) on 8/30. Our next meeting is Tuesday, 10/4, at 6:00 p.m. at IT.
- The 2010 General Endowment Fund Interest earned must be given with ½ for our programs & ½ for outreach in the community. Council approved \$103.96 for our Birthday Card Program & \$103.96 for the Solutions Center.
- There are 5 candidates for the Martin Nelson & Megan Mauthe Scholarship Funds: Andrew Flatt, Jason Gremminger, Kristen Nyberg & Andrea Schaefer for UW-Oshkosh & Erica Emery for UW-Fond du Lac.
- Lyman Heyerdahl Fund Endowment Interest earned in 2010 of \$118 is for the support of our designated missionary in South Africa, Brian & Kristen Konkol.
- Over 80 individuals completed the congregation survey which is good, however most of the respondents were 55 years of age or older. We need more surveys from the middle-aged & younger members. An email is being sent to each individual on our email list to complete the survey on line by 9/30.
- Council came up with 24 names for the Call

Committee. Two secret ballots were held & the vote ended up with 6 candidates & 4 alternates. Council members will be calling the 6 candidates first.

- A 21 session course, Living the Questions, has been purchased for the Adult Forum for \$150. Mary Arthur is donating her 42" HD TV to the Church for educational purposes. We really appreciate the gift, Mary.
- A Vibrant Faith Workshop will be held 11/12 from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in West Bend. Council approved paying the \$100 fee so that anyone who registers from our congregation can attend this workshop.
- Next Council meeting is 10/17 at 6:00 p.m.



President's Perspective

I had hoped to announce the members of the Call Committee by the time the Builder went to press, but we are still in the process of contacting those folks who were chosen by the Council. As soon as the Committee membership is finalized, we will be setting a date and time for an informal, informational meeting with Rev. Joy Mortensen-Wiebe, Associate with the Bishop of our synod, to which the entire congregation will be invited. She will explain our next steps, address your questions, and then meet with the committee to get them started on their task.

Final tabulations of the congregational survey will be completed in early October, after which a summary of the results, along with information on the Call Committee and informational meeting, will be mailed to the congregation.

As Pastor Bob's article stated, we've come through another year of challenge with lots of help from our Lord! I firmly believe that if we continue to trust in His presence and the Holy Spirit's guidance - without trying to "force" the answers, good things are in store. We have a wonderful "church family" here at Our Saviour's. If you have not been fully a part of it, there's no better time than now to get involved ... join us at worship, attend the adult forum, volunteer to teach, join the adult choir or bell choir ... the opportunities are plentiful, and you will be blessed as you bless us with your presence!!

-- Mary Arthur

A MESSAGE FROM OUR AFRICAN MISSIONARIES - THE KONKOLS

Family & Friends:

Grace to you and peace from God our Creator, Savior, and Advocate.

In September of 2001, exactly ten years ago, I was a recent college graduate and first year student at Luther Seminary, and Kristen just completed her Master of Science degree at the University of Minnesota. At that point in time we never could have imagined how our lives would alter in the following weeks, months, and years. While there is much to articulate in regards to “where we are” physically, emotionally, mentally, and spiritually as a result of the past ten years, my overwhelming affirmation is that I thank God for the direction our lives have taken, and I praise God for the awesome opportunities provided alongside amazing people in various locations around the world.

With all the above in mind, **it is with deep appreciation that I wish make known our resignation as Young Adults in Global Mission Country Coordinators in South Africa with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America – Global Mission.** Due to a variety of personal and professional factors that Kristen and I have discerned over the past months, we believe the time has come for us to pursue new opportunities and transition into a new stage in our lives. I communicated our decision with a formal Letter of Resignation to Rev. Stephen Nelson, who serves as the Director for Global Service within Global Mission, in addition to Rev. Bheki Mathe, the current General Secretary of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Southern Africa.

With the exception of any unexpected circumstances, **we plan to remain in South Africa until July of 2012 in order to fulfill our commitment of accompanying the current group of Young Adults in Global Mission participant learners and hosts within the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Southern Africa, after which we plan to return to North America and serve God through new ventures.** At this point in time there are a variety of excellent ministry possibilities worthy of consideration for our future, but we also recognize that many additional roles may become known in the months ahead.

As a result, while we feel heartache when faced with the upcoming prospects of departing South Africa, we recognize that God is walking alongside us, and the

Holy Spirit will show a path forward that includes fulfillment and exciting ministry environments. In the midst of it all, we recognize that a significant amount of time in South Africa remains, thus we seek to be faithfully present, serve to the best of our collective abilities, and when the time to depart is finally upon us, we plan to offer God our thanks and leave with no regrets.

In reflection upon the various events of the past years, I wish to express my deepest appreciation for the outpouring of love and solidarity received, especially since Khaya’s birth in October of 2010, for it is another profound reminder of how fortunate we are to be called, equipped, and sent-out into God’s global mission through the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. The support displayed by family and friends from around the world has been remarkable. In addition, I am proud to share that we have received an outstanding level of personal and professional support from Global Mission staff on various levels, and local hosts within South Africa have been tremendous, which has made this process of discernment less painful, but of course, it also makes the decision to resign far more difficult. While we trust that God will lead us to fresh and fulfilling opportunities in the period ahead, we recognize that the Global Mission community has been a joy to serve with, we feel deeply connected to the amazing people of South Africa, and we will dearly miss our current roles within the Churchwide expression.

As we consider more specific plans surrounding methods of departure, leadership transition, and potential future opportunities for our family within North America, I humbly ask for your continued prayers of compassion and togetherness during this important time in our lives. In addition, I pray that whatever it is that God brings next will provide Kristen and I with various means to continue honoring the confidence and trust that ELCA Global Mission has bestowed upon us throughout the years, and I strongly believe that we will continue to accompany one another within God’s mission of reconciliation, transformation, and empowerment around the world.

I thank God for all that you do, and I praise God for all that you are.

With peace and love,

Brian E. Konkol

P.S. COOS has supported Brian financially and will continue to do so through July, 2012

October 2011

**Church of
Our Saviour
363 S. Main St.
Fond du Lac,
WI
54935**

Office Email:

coosfdl@mcleodusa.net

Pastor Bob's Email:

pastorbob@oursavioursfdl.org

Web-Site:

oursavioursfdl.org

OFFICE HOURS:

M-TH-8:30-3:30

F-8:30-12:30

Phone: 920-922-0020

Fax: 920-922-0249

STAFF:

Pastor: Bob Rosenberg

Choir Director: Sandy Albano

Organist: Kim Jodarski

Bell Choir Director: Diana

Jewson

Parish Administrator/Financial

Secretary: Kay Salzman

Office Assistant: Sherri Bucher

Bookkeeper: Diane Vermillion

Maintenance: Scott Warner

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2 8:00 Worship 9:15 In Touch/ Sunday School 10:30 Worship	3 Noon Bible Study 5:30-6:15 Kid B Fit 7:00 Welca Board	4 9-1 Quilters	5 5:45-6:30 Bells 6:30 Confirmation/ WNW 6:45-8:00 Choir	6 5:00-5:45 Kid B Fit	7	8
9 8:00 Worship 9:15 In Touch/ Sunday School 10:30 Worship	10 Noon Bible Study 5:30-6:15 Kid B Fit 6:15 Nourishing You	11 9-1 Quilters 4:00 Finance	12 5:45-6:30 Bells 6:30 Servant Event 6:45-8:00 Choir	13 5:00-5:45 Kid B Fit	14	15
16 WELCA Sunday 8:00 Worship 9:15 In Touch/ Sunday School 10:30 Worship	17 10:30 Bible Study Noon XYZ 5:30-6:15 Kid B Fit 6:00 Council 6:30 Stamp-In Up 7:00 Lydia	18 9-1 Quilters 1:00 Tabitha	19 5:45-6:30 Bells 6:30 Confirmation/ WNW 6:45-8:00 Choir	20 5:00-5:45 Kid B Fit	21	22
23 Pastor in Orlando Rev. Carol Christianson 8:00 Worship 9:15 In Touch/ Sunday School 10:30 Worship	24 Pastor on Vacation Noon Bible Study 5:30-6:15 Kid B Fit 6:15 Evang/Social 7:00 W & M	25 Pastor on Vacation 9-1 Quilters	26 Pastor on Vacation 5:45—6:30 Bells No Confirmation 6:45-8:00 Choir	27 Pastor on Vacation 5:00-5:45 Kid B Fit	28 6:30 Wed- ding Re- hearsal	29 1:00 Wedding Schwartz- Schwai
30 CONFIRMATION SUNDAY 8:00 Worship 9:15 In Touch/ Sunday School 10:30 Worship- Confirmation	31 Noon Bible Study 5:30-6:15 Kid B Fit 6:30 Property					