



CHURCH OF OUR  
**SAVIOUR**  
— FOND DU LAC —

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

Pastor: Rev. Crystal Lee

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Office Hours: M-TH: 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

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## FROM THE PASTOR

Hello Beloveds!

Time is flying. I really want to make that Easter acclamation, however, I will hold off, for now (next month you will get it!). I am holding off as we are still journeying in Lent, and in the theme of love and story, especially God's love for God's good creation. During the midweek services, we have been hearing Daniel Erlander's *Manna and Mercy: A Brief History of God's Unfolding Promise to Mend the Entire Universe*, or as I have been calling it- The Story of God's Unfolding Love. And each week, the story gets us closer to Holy Week, to hear the story of Jesus' last days. We will start with Palm/Passion Sunday. We will start with the joyful celebration of Jesus entering Jerusalem and waving our palm branches. And, we will end by hearing of what is to come, of Jesus' crucifixion. Then on Maundy Thursday we will hear about a new commandment of love for others and Jesus' last supper and the beginning of what we know as Communion. This year, we will also have some young people receiving communion for the first time at the 6:30 pm service (I am excited for that connection!). The altar will be stripped and left bare. We will exit in silence, as the service does not end when we leave on Thursday. When we gather for worship on Good Friday, we will begin in the silence we left the day before, and we continue in worship from the day before, by hearing the story of the crucifixion. And we leave Friday, with Jesus in the grave. We cannot skip over Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. It is only through Jesus' death can we celebrate Jesus' resurrection three days later. It is only through Jesus' death that we can make that Easter Acclamation. In all of these days, we continue to hear the story of God's unfolding love.

We have also been journeying through "Our Story" and how our individual stories, the congregation's story, the community's story, are all intertwined with each other and as part of God's greater story. We will have two more Forum's about Story before the summer. Sunday, March 27, we will explore opportunities and challenges that have been emerging in our conversations. We will explore the themes that are emerging about our congregation, or put in another way, what keeps coming up over and over in our conversations that are important to the identity of Church of Our Saviour. Then, on May 1, we will gather again. Keeping in mind those opportunities, challenges, and themes, we will choose a biblical story that answers the question: what story best captures our own stories of who we are and who God is calling us to be? Between now and then, keep reading your devotional and the bible stories that frame each of the devotions, so you can come to that meeting with ideas, as that story will guide us through

the summer, with in-person worship and ways to take the story home. We will then come back to the story in the fall to look forward to how we are called to live into and out of that story.

April is a busy month. There are many things happening at church and in our own lives. May you find rest and peace. Know that I am praying for you.

Blessings+,



## WELCA NEWS

**W**omen of The ELCA Board will meet via Zoom on Monday, March 7, at 1:45 p.m.

**T**abitha Circle meets on Tuesday, April 19 at 1:00 p.m. on Zoom. We will continue with discussion of an article from "Living Lutheran" magazine. Copies of the magazine can be picked up at church, and the article and study guide will be emailed to circle members.

**L**ydia Circle meets on Tuesday, April 26 at 1:30 p.m. Carol Desing will be our Bible study leader using the March Gather magazine. All are invited to join us.

**W**ELCA women will be serving the final Lenten supper on Wed., April 6. We need volunteers to make cookies or bars for dessert, and to work in the kitchen starting between 4:30 and 5:00 p.m. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board.

**C**ongratulations to *Joanne Talaska* who was presented the **2022 BOLD WOMAN AWARD** at worship services on February 27, in appreciation for her taking on leadership of our confirmation ministry during our two years without a pastor, along with many, many other volunteer services.

**O**shkosh Conference Annual WELCA Spring Event is April 23 from 9 - 1 at Grace Lutheran Church in Ripon. Speaker is Kate Griffith, an advocate for refugees. There will be an offering for local placement families that can include gift cards for grocery or big box stores, as well as cash. Cost \$15.00; deadline to register is April 8. The sign-up sheet to attend is on the church bulletin board.

## QUILTING DONATIONS

**W**ELCA is collecting materials to make quilts for Lutheran World Relief during the months of March and April. Items needed are: large pieces of cotton or cotton blend fabrics, sheets (including flannel), tablecloths, cloth shower curtains, lightweight bedspreads, curtains, thread, and money to purchase supplies (use the WELCA envelopes for that purpose).

Donations may be brought to church on Sunday mornings or during weekly office hours.

We welcome new people to join us on Tuesdays from 9 to noon in Stecker Hall to help with quilting. There are packages of quilt squares in the credenza in the main hallway upstairs at church for anyone who wishes to sew them into quilt tops at home. Contact Jill Bjornstad, 920-922-1556, for more information..

## FELLOWSHIP HOUR IS BACK!

Coffee and treats are again available between services in the Gathering Space. Please sign up on the hall bulletin board if you can provide snacks for the 9:15 a.m. Fellowship Hour.

## FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN

### MOBILEPACK IS HERE!

APRIL 1 & 2

**O**ver twenty (20) Church of Our Saviour members, young and older, are registered to help pack meals alongside hundreds of other Fond du Lac area volunteers. Many of our members have also helped provide the funding for the ingredients that go into the meal packs. Thank you for helping to feed some of God's children. Working with other churches in our community, we are making a difference for starving children around the world. We are blessed to be a blessing in Jesus' name.

If you haven't donated yet, please do so now to ensure that we are covering our costs. \$88 feeds a child for a year. Donations can be made using the remaining envelopes with hearts on the hallway tree, by putting a check to FMSC with the memo #2204-051SC in the offering plate, or by donating to the FdL MobilePack online at this link: <https://bit.ly/FDLFMSC2022>.

## “OUR STORY JOURNEY”

### SUNDAY FORUMS

#### LED BY PASTOR CRYSTAL

In Our Story Journey during the education hour, we have created a Timeline about important pieces of the congregation's and our own history, and now we are building on that foundation. Whether you are new to Church or have been here for eons, your participation is needed and welcome. Join us!

### FIRST COMMUNION CLASS

If your child is in third grade, or above and has not yet received instruction for Holy Communion, mark your calendars for Saturday, April 2nd, 2022 at 10 am. We will gather for 2-2.5 hours to learn about communion- what it is, why we celebrate it, and how we celebrate.

*First Communion will take place at the 6:30 pm Maundy Thursday service,* and our first communicants will be recognized at that time. Please RSVP to Pastor Crystal and with any questions you have.

### PRESENTATION OF BIBLES

If your child is in 2nd grade or above and has not yet received a Bible from the church, please contact Pastor Crystal. We will look to schedule a presentation of the bibles in April or early May.

### BIBLE STUDY

#### WITH PASTOR CRYSTAL

Tuesday, March 8 we began an 8-week study of the Acts of the Apostles. We meet at 6:30 p.m. in the parlor to look at the historical, literary, and Lutheran contexts as we read through the major stories of the early church. Newcomers are welcome!

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.

## NEW MEMBERS

Reception of new members will take place at worship services on Sunday, April 3. We thank God that they have found a new spiritual home here. May their lives be enriched through our ministry and community, as we welcome them into our family at Church of Our Saviour.

### INSTALLATION SERVICE

#### ASCENSION DAY · MAY 26

Pastor Crystal Lee will be officially installed as the Pastor of Church of Our Saviour at a special service on Ascension Day, May 26, at 6 p.m. Bishop Anne Edison-Allbright will preside. Save the date and plan to attend! More info coming.

### HANDBELL CONCERT

The Encore Handbell Ensemble from Oshkosh will present a concert at Church of Our Saviour on Saturday, May 21 at 7:00 p.m.

### SOLUTIONS CENTER

#### “ITEM OF THE MONTH”

The Solutions Center's Twelve Months of Humanity Program features one item from their “wish list” each month, with a goal to collect enough of that item to last an entire year! The April item is **HOUSEHOLD CLEANING BASICS (ALL-PURPOSE CLEANERS: PINESOL, MR.CLEAN, ETC., AND TOILET BOWL CLEANER)**. Donations may be left in the credenza in the hallway.

#### FINANCIAL REPORT - YR TO DATE (2/28/22)

General Fund Income \* \$46,648

General Fund Expenses: \$ 42,730

Loan Principal Payments: \$ 3,225

Total Gen. Fund Expenditures: \$45,955

Net Gain/Loss, YTD: \$ 693

Addl. Qtrly. Principal Payments: \$0\*\*

MIF Loan Balance as of 2/28/22: \$191,635

\*\*gifts designated for debt reduction are sent to MIF at the end of each calendar quarter.

\*General Fund Income to date in 2021: \$38,334  
General Fund Income increase this yr: \$ 5,664

**THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HAVE STEPPED UP  
TO HELP MEET OUR BUDGET NEEDS IN 2022!!**

## YOUTH NEWS & ACTIVITIES

On February 27th the youth served chili for the church talent show meal and raised \$228. March 16th, the youth served pizza for the church Lent meal and raised \$165. Thank you everyone for your support!



In March, the youth also tied two blankets to be donated to the Solutions Center.



## CARING AND SHARING WITH RIVERSIDE KIDS

Needs continue for girls' and boys' clothing at the Riverside Clothes Closet. We can use jeans, slacks, shirts, sweatshirts, hoodies or sweaters—all in sizes 5 through youth XL.



You may put your gifts in the baskets in the hallway credenza. Thank you so much for showing God's love through your generosity.

**GOD BLESS YOU**

## BOOK STUDY

**Mondays • Noon – 1:30 p.m. on Zoom**

The Monday noon book study group is nearly finished with *The Silver Chair*, by British author and lay theologian, C. S. Lewis. In April they will starting the seventh and final book in *The Chronicles of Narnia* series: *The Last Battle*.

The Zoom link is included in eNews & Notes. We are very informal, and newcomers are welcome!

## UKRAINE RELIEF

If you are discerning where to give to support Ukraine, please consider Lutheran World Relief. The Tomorrow River Lutheran Parish has extended the match first made by Nelsonville and is matching all donations up to \$258,000. The match has been extended to April 25 to allow donations through Easter Sunday.

You may make a gift through COOS by putting **Ukraine Match** on the memo line. Or you can give online at [www.lwr.org/match](http://www.lwr.org/match). All gifts will be matched dollar for dollar, up to \$258,000!

Other ELCA agencies offering crucial services to Ukraine and its neighbors include World Hunger, Lutheran Disaster Response and Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services (LIRS). Links for donations may be found on their websites.

## FOR THE RECORD

DEATHS: 2/8/2022 • Frances Templin

## HOLY WEEK & EASTER SCHEDULE

**Midweek Lent Service**  
**Wednesday, April 6 • 5:30 p.m.**

God's Story, Our Story  
Manna and Mercy for All  
**Lenten Supper - 6:15 p.m.**

**Palm Sunday • April 10**  
**8:00 and 10:30 a.m. - Worship**

We wave palm branches as Jesus rides into Jerusalem surrounded by shout of glory, only to be left alone to die on the cross.

**Maundy Thursday • April 14**  
**12:00 and 6:30 p.m. - Worship**

On this day we hear our Lord's commandment to love one another as he loves us. Maundy is from the Latin word for "command" or "mandate." We who receive God's love in Jesus Christ are called to love and serve one another.

A celebration of first communion will be shared at the 6:30 p.m. worship service.

**Good Friday • April 15**  
**12:00 and 6:30 p.m. - Worship**

The message will be the reading of The Passion According to St. John. These will be tenebrae worship services - meaning "darkness" and a gradual extinguishing of candles.

**Resurrection of Our Lord**  
**Easter Sunday • April 17**  
**8:00 a.m. - Festival Worship**  
**9:00 - 10:30 a.m. - Continental Breakfast**  
**10:30 a.m. - Festival Worship**

Christ is risen!  
Jesus is alive, and God has swallowed up death forever!

## EASTER SUNDAY CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

**available between services -  
9:00 -10:30 a.m.**

- All are invited to enjoy this time for fellowship and tasty treats in the church parlor between Easter Sunday services.
- Help is needed for set--up at 9 a.m. on Saturday morning. A sign-up sheet is posted in the hallway.
- Donations of food and beverages are requested, including:
  - \* juice
  - \* fruit
  - \* baked goods
  - \* "breakfast" items
- Drop off non-perishable items at church during the week, on Saturday morning, or bring donations with you to services on Easter Sunday morning.



*East Central Synod of Wi*

### Assembly Service Project

This year's Synod Assembly service project will be partnering with Sleep in Heavenly Peace, a non-profit committed making sure no child has to sleep on the floor by building twin-sized bunk beds. There are 3 ways that you can join the Synod in partnering with SHP:

- Bedding Drive - NEW twin-sized sheets and comforters, pillows, mattress pads, mattress protectors, hand-made quilts that are comfortable for children, full or twin sized. SHP requests NO white sheets. Bring these items to church by May 8, 2022.
- Build Day - Willing hands are needed Saturday, May 7th to help build bunk beds. While experience is helpful it is not necessary! The synod has a goal of making 20 beds! Registration to participate will open April 1st and will be capped in order to ensure the efficiency of the build is in accordance with the guidelines from SHP.

Save the date! Build day with  
Sleep in Heavenly Peace  
May 7, 2022 - 9 am - 2pm  
(Hospitality included!)

St. Andrew's Lutheran Church  
1100 E Murdock Ave, Oshkosh, WI 54901
- Bless through Giving - Donations are needed to fund a build day. One bed costs about \$250 to build. Donations may be made on the synod website, [www.ecsw.org](http://www.ecsw.org) (look for "give" and select SHP) or be made out to the East Central Synod of Wisconsin marked "SHP" and sent to the synod office: 16 Tri-Park Way, Appleton, WI 54914.



SLEEP IN HEAVENLY PEACE