

CARING & SHARING WITH RIVERSIDE ELEMENTARY

Thursday, February 19, 2026, was record day for the Riverside Closet! We served 23 families which included 72 children. Clothing was also shared with the Health Aid Department at Riverside. If you have ever wondered why we do this at Church of Our Saviour and questioned if it was meeting a need, now you know for sure. God has put us where we need to be in this community-at Riverside Elementary School! The volunteers work hard to get all the clothing sorted and ready for our guests. We check each item brought to the closet and then get everything sorted, hung, and displayed. This was our last month to put out all the winter items, but they will be stored in totes and ready for next year. As always, we will be accepting any gifts you choose to share in sizes 4T through 14/XL. **Especially needed donations are: boys pajamas, size 4/5; boys pajamas, size 10/12; and girls and boys shoes, sizes 5 toddlers through youth size 7.** Please put your gifts in the hallway credenza basket marked "Riverside Closet" by noon on Tuesday, March 17. Volunteers will see that the donations get to the closet on Thursday morning. Thank you for your continued support. Your caring and sharing gives testimony to God's command for us to love our neighbors and to help them in any way we can. God bless you for letting others know that God's love is on the move in our community.

Please make checks for Riverside Closet out to WELCA with Riverside Closet in the memo line.

YOUTH CORNER

Youth, in 6-12 grades, will meet on **Wednesday, March 4** to serve and clean up the Lenten Dinner. Please arrive between **5:00 p.m. and 5:15 p.m.** Youth will also meet on March 18 from **6:30 - 8:00 p.m.**

MARCH EVENTS

- ◆ **Wednesdays in March**— Midweek Lenten worship services at 5:45 p.m. followed by dinner at 6:15 p.m. continue all month. No reservations needed. Everyone is invited.
- ◆ **Saturday, March 21**— Feed My Starving Children Mobile Pack at the Fairgrounds Rec Building
- ◆ **Sunday, March 29**—**Palm Sunday/Sunday of the Passion** worship at 9:00 a.m.
- ◆ **Monday, March 30**—Loaves & Fishes Meal

WINTER WEATHER

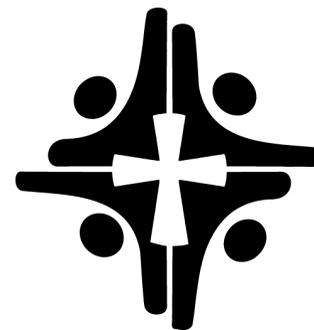
Please note that when it is necessary to cancel Sunday worship due to weather, we will notify local radio stations including B104.7 FM, KFIZ Radio (AM 1450), WFDL (Sunny 97.7) and WFRV TV-Channel 5 (Green Bay) as soon as the decision is made. We will also post the information on our Facebook page. Even if we decide NOT to cancel, please use your own good judgement on whether it is feasible for you to brave the weather, as the difference between city and country driving is often great. During the week, our events and office hours will be cancelled when the public schools are closed.

COMING IN APRIL!

- ◆ **Thursday, April 2**— **Maundy Thursday** worship at 12:00 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.
- ◆ **Friday, April 3**— **Good Friday** worship at 12:00 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.
- ◆ **Sunday, April 5**— **Easter** worship 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.
- ◆ **Easter Continental Breakfast** will be served in Stecker Hall between the services

CONTACT INFORMATION

Pastor: Reverend Crystal Lee
Office Email: office@oursaviourfdl.org
Pastor Email: pastorcrystal@oursaviourfdl.org
Music Email: music@oursaviourfdl.org
Office Hours: Monday through Thursday
8:30 a.m.—2:30 p.m.



MARCH BUILDER CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOUR

WE ARE A WELCOMING COMMUNITY
CALLED TO SERVE OTHERS IN GOD'S LOVE.

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VOLUME 92

NO.3

Greetings Beloved,

This past weekend, four of our youth joined others from across our synod for the Synod Youth Gathering. The theme was *Uncontainable Love*, grounded in:

"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."
(1 Thessalonians 5:16–18)

Our congregation's Lenten theme is: *Encounters with Jesus*. Often in scripture, those encounters happen in dramatic moments — on mountainsides, along dusty roads, at wells and tables. Yet the promise of our faith is that the risen Christ is still encountered today, in lived and embodied ways. For our youth, this weekend was exactly that: an encounter.

Through worship that was alive with music and shared energy, through honest conversation and new friendships, through the witness of speaker and musician Agape — an ELCA artist whose message proclaimed that God's love cannot be contained by fear, shame, or labels — our youth experienced faith not simply as something they are told, but something they know, something that is lived. They rejoiced, they prayed, and they gave thanks. They encountered Jesus.

And encounters like this do not remain contained to a single weekend. They travel home in stories, in confidence, in deepened trust. They shape identity. They expand the sense of belonging.

They become part of a faith that continues unfolding over time.

We also name with gratitude that experiences like this are possible because of you. For many years, this congregation has given generously to the Youth Savings Account. That generosity supports participation in events like the Synod Youth Gathering and Confirmation Camp, and it is already opening the door toward the ELCA Youth Gathering in the summer of 2027. Because of this shared investment, our youth are able to step into spaces where faith is explored, claimed, and experienced in community. They are able to encounter Jesus in ways that are formative and lasting.

So on behalf of the four youth who attended this year — and the many who will in the years ahead — thank you. Thank you for believing that the faith of young people matters. Thank you for helping create spaces where they are known and welcomed. Thank you for making encounters like this possible.

Because of you, our youth encountered Jesus' uncontainable love this weekend.

Blessings+

Pastor Crystal

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

At this month's meeting:

The Council began work on visioning, taking more time in this important leadership area for the church.

The Council voted to use \$1700 from undesignated memorial funds for a lighting project: the area above the handbells will be improved.

Pastoral Highlights were shared:

- ◆ Annual Congregational Meeting
- ◆ Annual Pancake Dinner and Talent Show
- ◆ Monthly Oshkosh Conference Meeting
- ◆ Pastoral phone calls and visits
- ◆ Synod Youth Gathering

2026 COUNCIL OFFICERS

President: Christine Carew

elsbeth0819@gmail.com

Vice President: Corinne Freismuth

ckfreismuth@charter.net

Secretary: Mary Arthur

maryarthur@charter.net

Treasurer: Paula Damp

paula.damp@yahoo.com

BIBLE STUDY

The Tuesday morning Bible Study group will continue its study of the book of Ruth this month. Matthew will be the next book for group study, beginning later this month. The group meets at 10:00 a.m. in the parlor. A zoom option is also available. Please contact Cindy Decker if you have questions. All are invited to participate.

MIDWEEK LENT WORSHIP & MEAL

The Wednesday Lent worship services will continue at 5:45 p.m. and will be followed by a dinner at 6:15 p.m. in the fellowship hall. All are welcome - no reservations needed. Liturgy will be Holden Evening Prayer. The following groups will provide a meal following worship:

- ◆ March 4—Youth
- ◆ March 11—Worship & Music
- ◆ March 18—Council
- ◆ March 25—WELCA

FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN

The 2026 Fond du Lac area Feed My Starving Children (FMSC) mobile pack is scheduled for Saturday, March 21, at the Fond du Lac County Fairgrounds. Our 2026 goal is to raise \$41,000 to pack 139,968 meals (18 pallets). We are looking for 600 volunteers on March 21 for packing. Please put event number 2603-024SC on the memo line of your check, or donate anytime using this event number to give.fmssc.org/fdl to help us reach our goal.

- ◆ Your prayers, helping hands, and financial gifts are all necessary to help provide food and hope to those in dire need around the world.

Please contact Pastor Crystal if you are interested in being our liaison. Thank you for your generous gifts, prayers, and service!



Donate or Volunteer!

WELCA NEWS

FABRIC KITS

WELCA is collecting materials to make quilts for Lutheran World Relief during March and April. Needed items: large pieces of cotton or cotton blend fabrics, sheets (including flannel), tablecloths, cloth shower curtains, lightweight bedspreads, curtains, thread, and money to purchase supplies (please use the WELCA envelopes).

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

Please make checks out to **Church of Our Saviour WELCA**. Church of Our Saviour WELCA is grateful for your generosity.

MARCH FORUMS

An Unlikely Lent

- ◆ March 1— An Unlikely Lent
- ◆ March 8— An Unlikely Lent
- ◆ March 15—Meeting for all Ushers and those interested in joining this ministry
- ◆ March 22— An Unlikely Lent
- ◆ March 29— An Unlikely Lent

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME

It's almost time to "spring forward!" Remember to set your clocks **AHEAD one hour** as **Daylight Saving Time begins on Sunday, March 8** (at 2:00 a.m.).

SOLUTIONS CENTER DONATIONS

In **March**, soaps (**laundry detergent, dish soap, hand soap, dishwasher detergent**) are the requested items for donations. Please leave donations in the hallway credenza.

PRAYER LIST

Please call the church office (920-922-0020) or Jill Bjornstad (920-539-9389) if in need of prayers. You can request names to be listed in these announcements, eNews, referred to the Prayer Chain, or both.

USHER MEETING

There will be a special meeting for all ushers on March 15 at 10:15 in the parlor. Buck Giese will lead this meeting to review usher duties, answer questions and share appreciation for those who serve in this special ministry. If you are interested in being an usher, but would like more information, this meeting is also for you. New ushers are always welcome and needed! Grab a cup of coffee! Donuts will be served in the parlor.

UWO CAMPUS MINISTRY UPDATE

The UWO Campus Ministry **annual meeting will be held on Sunday, March 22, 2026 at 2:00 p.m.**

On the agenda this year we will be voting on a resolution from the Board of Directors to enter holy closure of the ministry, which includes selling the campus ministry house.

We did not come to this decision lightly, and we are grateful for all of the people touched by this impactful ministry over the years. The Campus Ministry board will be hosting a Zoom meeting on Monday, March 2 at 7:00 p.m. to answer questions and to talk about how they came to this decision. If you would like that information, please contact Pastor Crystal.