

CARING & SHARING WITH RIVERSIDE ELEMENTARY

Thank you to all the members who continue to show their dedicated support of the Riverside Closet through donations, gifts of money and prayers. Your caring continues to bless those who are in need of things that most of us take for granted. We received a special request from the Riverside School office two weeks ago for a pair of shoes for a young student who could hardly walk because he was wearing shoes that were two sizes too small. One of our volunteers agreed to search out a pair of shoes for him and delivered them to Riverside office. When I checked to see if she had remembered to get reimbursed for the shoes, her response was, "I got my reimbursement when I saw how happy that young boy was." Your loving care often brings that type of response from teachers and parents and the students. Thank you so, so much. The clothes closet at Riverside Elementary School will be open on Thursday, October 15, 2026. Volunteers will work from 9:00 a.m. until 4:45 p.m. with a Culver's break at noon. Shoppers are invited from 10:15 a.m. to noon and 3:15 to 4:15 p.m. Thank you to Chris Carrollo, our newest volunteer. We hope you found this a good way to say thanks be to God for opportunities to serve others. All the volunteers get excited when we have new people join our group.

Special needs for October's inventory are:

- ◆ girls and boys socks - any size
- ◆ girls and boys sweat pants in sizes 4T to 14/XL
- ◆ girls pajamas in sizes 6 to 14/XL
- ◆ girls underwear sizes 4/6 and 16/18
- ◆ Boys underwear size 4, 10/12, 14/16
- ◆ girls shoes **youth** sizes 11, 12, 13, 1, 5,
- ◆ boys shoes size 7 toddlers and youth 5, 6, 8, 9
- ◆ Girls leggings size 14/XL

As always we will gratefully accept any gifts you bring in our size range of 4T through 14/XL.

Please bring your gifts to the Riverside baskets in the hallway credenza at church by noon on Tuesday, October 13. Never forget that God has blessed us to be a blessing to others. We can and do make a difference in the lives of those who are dealing with tough circumstances. God bless you for Caring and Sharing.

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

OCTOBER EVENTS

- ◆ **Saturday, October 17**—7:00 p.m. Leggiero Woodwind Quintet Concert
- ◆ **WELCA Sunday October 19**—9:00 a.m. worship
- ◆ **Saturday, October 24** at 3:00 p.m. — Fulton Chamber Players performance
- ◆ **Sunday, October 26**—9:00 a.m. Reformation and Confirmation Sunday
- ◆ **All Saints Sunday November 1**— 9:00 a.m. worship

Remember to set your clocks back one hour or you will be early for worship on Sunday, November 1.

COMING IN NOVEMBER

- ◆ **November 8—Healing Service** during 9:00 a.m. worship
- ◆ **November 15—Commitment Sunday** 9:00 a.m. worship
- ◆ **November 29—First Sunday in Advent** 9:00 a.m. worship

PROPERTY COMMITTEE UPDATE

Jeff Jodarski has decided to step back from his custodian position. We thank him for his dedication over the past several years. The Property Committee is currently seeking an individual or service to handle our custodial duties moving forward.

MUSIC & MINISTRY COORDINATOR

The search for our new Music and Ministry Coordinator continues. Please reach out to a member of the Personnel or Worship & Music Committees if you know of someone to recommend for the position, or if you would like to have additional information.

CONTACT INFORMATION

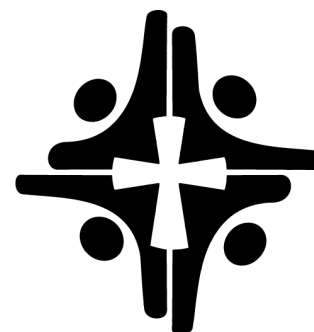
Pastor:

Office Email: office@oursavioursfdl.org

Pastor Email:

Music Email:

Office Hours: Monday through Thursday
8:30 a.m.—2:30 p.m.



OCTOBER BUILDER CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOUR

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

• 363 S. MAIN STREET, FOND DU LAC • 920-922-0020 • www.oursavioursfdl.org •

VOLUME 92

NO. 10

Beloveds of Church of Our Saviour,

As I write this final newsletter article, I find myself thinking about just how much life can fit into four and a half years.

There have been baptisms and funerals, weddings and confirmations, council meetings and Bible studies, Christmas Eves and Easter mornings. There have been meals around tables, laughter in the hallway, hard conversations, new ideas, celebrations, grief, and countless ordinary moments of life together. And through all of it, we have been church together.

When I came to Church of Our Saviour in November 2021, I could not have known all that these years would hold. I knew I was coming to serve as your pastor. I did not yet know how much this congregation would shape me in return.

You gave me space to grow, to learn, to try things, to make mistakes, and to play. You trusted me to be your pastor, and somewhere along the way, this became a place where I could heal and become more fully myself, both as a pastor and as a human being. For that, I will always be grateful.

There is so much I will carry with me: stories you have shared, laughter we have enjoyed, prayers spoken at hospital beds and gravesides, children gathered around the font, conversations around tables, and all those ordinary moments when we caught glimpses of God at work among us.

Now our paths are taking us in different directions. And that is okay.

We do not have to hold onto something forever for it to have mattered. We can give thanks for what has been while recognizing that God is still calling us toward what comes next.

I give thanks for what has been here. I give thanks for you. And I trust that the God who has been faithful to us through these years will continue to be faithful in the years ahead.

I also want to say thank you for the many ways you sent me on my way with such generosity and love. Thank you for the cards, gifts, and especially the incredibly generous monetary gift. Thank you, too, for the words you shared with me. I have read them, treasured them, and will carry them with me. Your stories and words about our time together mean more than I can adequately say.

I will dearly miss you. I will miss being part of the everyday life of this congregation and the privilege of being your pastor. At the same time, I look forward to seeing what the future holds, both for Church of Our Saviour and for me. There are new chapters ahead for all of us, even if we cannot yet see exactly what they will look like.

Church of Our Saviour, keep welcoming. Keep serving. Keep asking questions. Keep caring for one another and for your neighbors. Keep looking for the places where God is already at work and wondering how you might join in.

The future will not look exactly like the past. It never does. And God will be there.

Thank you for allowing me to be your pastor. Thank you for the ways you have loved me and allowed me to love you.

It has been a gift.

And so, I will end these final words to you the same way we ended our final worship service together, with a prayer that has accompanied us into so many unknown places:

O God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Blessings+

Pastor Cyprian

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

Council met on September 3, 16, and 21 this month.

- ◆ Council has started working on transition planning following their meeting with Pastor Nate Gauerke, the Associate Bishop for Transitions for our synod. There is a list of items to submit to the synod office as a first step in the process.
- ◆ A transition planning meeting is scheduled for October 10 in addition to the regular October meeting on October 19.
- ◆ Discussion was held on a proposed Expenditure Policy and Procedure document, a Treasurer job description and duties, and a treasurer’s checklist.
- ◆ Worship & Music will have overall responsibility for coordinating supply pastors.

Minutes from the last meeting of Council and committee reports from Worship & Music, Finance, and Property are posted on the bulletin board in the office hallway.

October marks the end of the 2023-2026 Capital Improvements Fund Campaign. The completion of our new sign was the final project. Thank you for your contributions!

FINANCIAL REPORT

Year-to-Date (YTD)

As of 8/31/2026

General Fund Income (YTD)	\$ 199,098.88
General Fund Expenses (YTD)	<u>\$208,593.62</u>
Net Operating Surplus/(Deficit)	(\$ 9,494.74)

MIF Loan Balance: \$163,502.27

FOR THE RECORD
FIRST COMMUNION on September 13 Addison Rukstad & Weston Paul
BIBLE STUDY SCHEDULE CHANGE
The Bible Study group will begin meeting at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesdays this month, beginning October 6. They will not longer meet on Thursdays.
FALL FORUMS
There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board for Sunday Forum leadership and topics. Forums can be led by members or guests on a variety of subjects: community outreach projects, a specific bible study, other work by non-profits in our community, and many other topics of interest. Jason Roberts will lead the Forums on October 4 and October 25. October 4 the topic is safety: fire safety and safety for older adults, as Fire Safety Week is October 4—10. On October 25 he will provide AED/CPR training. Jessica Hughes, Principal of Riverside Elementary School, will be at the Church of Our Saviour Adult Forum on Sunday, October 18, to share the school’s perspective and involvement with the Riverside Clothes Closet. Please join us to learn more about Riverside School, our ministry at the school with the Closet, and maybe learn there are some things we could help with that we have not considered. Your questions will be welcomed and answered, if possible. <u>WELCA ENVELOPES</u> Enclosed with this mailing is a COOS WELCA envelope, which may be used in support of any or all of the LOCAL projects of Church of Our Saviour Women of the ELCA. These include Lutheran World Relief Kits and our General Fund, which is used for kitchen hospitality supplies, shut-in gifts, general expenses, and more. You are invited to use the envelope this month or to put it aside for use at a later date. The envelopes are also available in our pew racks. You may make checks out to WELCA—Church of Our Saviour, put in the offering plate, mail to the church office, or send to Char Bohnsack, 25 Heritage Court, FdL 54935.

WELCA NEWS
<u>FABRIC KITS</u> Fabric Kits are collected in the months of September and October. Sewing is a valuable skill, one that leads to a reliable income for many women and men. Fabric kits supply vocational training programs with fabric for teaching sewing, and for newly trained tailors to launch their sewing businesses. The following items are in each Fabric Kit: - Two pieces of cotton or cotton-blend fabric (no knits or 100% polyester); fabric should have no stains or holes and be cut into pieces measuring: 2 1/4 yards of 60 “ wide fabric, or 3 yards of 44” wide fabric, or 4 yards of 36” wide fabric - Two spools of matching general purpose thread, 250-300 yards each Donations of one or more kit items and money donations are appreciated. Please make check out to Church of Our Saviour WELCA and note on memo Fabric Kits. Donations may be brought to church on Sunday or to the office during weekly office hours. They can be placed in the credenza marked LWR. Thank you.
CARE INC BOARD OPPORTUNITY
Sue Schierstedt is seeking a replacement for her seat on the board of Care in the Name of Christ, Inc. Care is headquartered at Church of Our Saviour and is an ecumenical 501(c)3 non-profit. It has been a part of the Fond du Lac community for several decades, having assisted individuals whose needs cannot be met by agencies and public funds. The board meets for approximately an hour on a bi-monthly basis, if needed. It is required to meet at least once a year. If you would like to know more about Care INC and the board seat, please let Sue know. She would be happy to sit down with interested parties with more information about this opportunity. May God lead someone to this important role.

PRAYER LIST
Please call the church office (920-922-0020) or Jill Bjornstad (920-539-9389) if you or someone you know is in need of prayers. You can request names to be listed in the announcements, eNews, referred to the Prayer Chain, or both.
ALTAR GUILD MEMBERS NEEDED
There is an immediate need for more Altar Guild members. Please consider becoming part of this integral group. Responsibilities include communion preparation and cleanup, and other small tasks. There is a rotation so members are not “booked” every Sunday. Please contact Jill Bjornstad if interested: motherjill@att.net or 920 922-1556. We appreciate your consideration.
OCTOBER CONCERTS
The Leggiero Wind Quintet will present a concert here at Church of Our Saviour on Saturday, October 17 at 7:00 p.m. Members of the group include Joan Perry, flute; Erin Steward, oboe, Mary Liz Julka, clarinet, Beth Mohr, bassoon; and Claire Koehler, horn. As part of our Performing Arts Series, on Saturday, October 24 at 3:00 p.m. the Teng Zhang Duo from the Fulton Chamber Players will be featured. There is no cost to attend either performance. Free will donations will be received at both concerts. All are welcome! Invite a friend or neighbor to these events.
SOLUTIONS CENTER DONATIONS
In October, paper towels and regular (not decaffeinated) coffee are the requested items for donations. Please leave your donations in the hallway credenza. Thank you for your support!