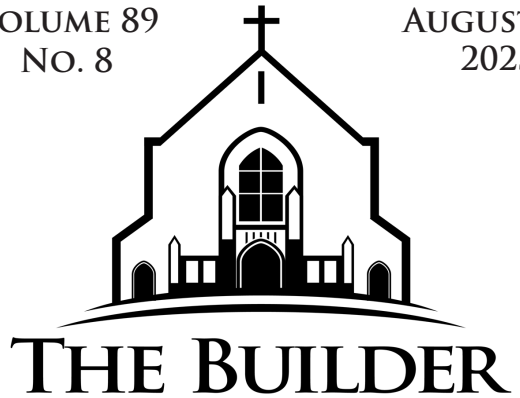




CHURCH OF OUR
SAVIOUR
— FOND DU LAC —

VOLUME 89
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2023



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From the Pastor

Greetings Beloveds -

I have recently been thinking about the bible story of Jesus feeding the multitude. You can turn to Matthew 14:13-21; Mark 6:31-44, Luke 9:12-17 or John 6:1-14 for the feeding of the 5,000 (the only miracle besides the resurrection, recorded in all 4 gospels) or Matthew 15:32-39 or Mark 8:1-9 for the feeding of 4,000. In these stories, the disciples realize that it is getting close to mealtime, there isn't food, and they should probably send everyone home to eat. Jesus answers that they need figure out how to feed them all. The disciples don't think its possible; go out to see what there is and come back to Jesus with a couple fish and some bread (which had been the dinner of a boy). They didn't know what good that would be for such a large crowd.

Jesus thought differently than the disciples. Jesus saw an opportunity to show a different way of thinking and living. With those few small fish and couple loaves of bread, there was more than enough for all 4,000 or 5,000 plus women and children. In Matthew and Mark, the disciples didn't get it the first time, so Jesus did it a second time.

In the church world, and parts of the secular world, there are the terms- scarcity mindset and abundance mindset. A scarcity mindset leaves you overwhelmed and paralyzed. There is the idea that there is not enough; that what there is, is running out thus competing and hoarding our resources. It makes you hold tight to what you do have. An abundance mindset leaves you feeling excited and motivated. There is the idea that there is enough or more than enough. Instead of seeing a depletion of resources, there are new opportunities. In short the difference between the two is simple. A scarcity mindset sees everything getting smaller. An abundance mindset sees everything getting bigger.

The disciples were in a scarcity mindset- there isn't enough; there is nothing we can do. Jesus had an abundance mindset- that this little amount could do more than the disciples could imagine. There was an abundance, more than was needed.

It is easy to have a scarcity mindset. And it is a hard thing to change our mindset. Yet, we hear our call to live like Jesus, to have a mindset of abundance, there is more than enough.

Blessings+

Pastor Crystal

CARING AND SHARING WITH RIVERSIDE KIDS

Thank You for all the generous gifts we have received so far this summer. Families come to get things for their kids and are thrilled to find such wonderful items that their children will love. Know that what you share is gratefully received.

For the month of August, there are several items that we need:

- GIRLS: Slacks, shorts, tops - sizes 4,5,6,7,8
- BOYS: Swim suits - sizes 4 thru Youth XL
Shorts - size 14 or Youth XL

Please place your gift in the Riverside School Baskets in the hallway credenza by August 18.

GOD BLESS YOU!

The WELCA Board, Tabitha and Lydia Circles will not be meeting in August. Meetings will resume in September.

CHURCH MUSICIAN POTLUCK AND GAMES

All church musicians - all ages - are invited to a potluck on Wednesday, September 13 at 6:00 p.m. in Stecker Hall. Please bring a dish to pass. Spouses, families and friends are also invited! You don't have to be in a choir to attend. Dan Fee will provide after-dinner activities!

CHOIR REHEARSALS

Adult Choir and Handbell Choir rehearsals will resume Wednesday, September 20. Bells meet at 5:45 and adult choir at 6:45. New members are always welcome! Sign up on the hall bulletin board.

SOLUTIONS CENTER "ITEM OF THE MONTH"

The August item is: **Office supplies** (post-it notes, spiral notebooks, pocket folders, manila folders, envelopes, mailing labels). Donations may be left in the credenza in the hallway.

CONCERTS IN THE PARK

Free concerts at the Wifler Performance Center in Buttermilk Creek Park on Mondays and Wednesdays conclude in August. The season included five concerts by the FdL Symphonic Band, which produces the Wednesday evening series. COOS members/friends performing in the FSB this summer are Mary Arthur, Erin Steward, Linda Berres, Art Hintz, Dan Fee and John Lepien.

The August schedule includes:

MUSIC UNDER THE STARS MONDAYS, 7 p.m.

August 7 - Good Time Dutchmen
August 14 - Evergreen after Hours
August 21 - Groeschl Band
August 28 - Second Hand Stereo



BUTTERMILK FESTIVAL WEDNESDAYS, 7:15 P.M.

August 2 - Pegasus
August 9 - Symphonic Band
"Festival of Folk Tunes"
August 16 - Kids from Wisconsin
August 23 - Symphonic Band
Fan Favorites and Alumni Night
FOOD CONCESSION BY COOS YOUTH!!

Bring your lawn chairs, come and enjoy free music in the park together!

SUMMER CONCERT SERIES- FOOD CONCESSIONS

Church of Our Saviour is scheduled to run concessions at the FdL Symphonic Band's Buttermilk Festival concert on Wednesday, August 23. The proceeds will go towards youth ministry summer trips; however, this is a way for the entire congregation to support our youth! Work teams will be created soon, so think about if you are able to help with: volunteer management, food preparation, food cooking, pie collecting/cutting, selling, set-up/take-down. We will be looking for team leaders, along with volunteers in each area. Please contact Pastor Crystal if you can help or if you have any questions!

CALLING GREEN THUMBS!

Lutheran Campus Ministry-Oshkosh at The Gathering Place is gearing up for its annual plant giveaway to welcome incoming UW-O students.

Please consider planting or purchasing some easy to grow houseplants this summer that would be ready by the end of August. Label your plants by name/congregation and include any specific directions for care. Drop off your plants to the unlocked garage at The Gathering Place (or in the house if open) at 620 Elmwood anytime between Thursday, August 31, and Sunday, September 3. Questions? Contact LCM at (920) 231-1168 or lcmoshkosh@gmail.com.

SUMMER SERMON SERIES

Our summer sermon series will wrap up in August, based on the faith questions that were submitted by our members during the month of May. Below are the remaining topics that will be covered in August.

August 6: *Revelation*

Aug. 13: *Bible Potpourri*

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.

FINANCIAL REPORT - JUNE, 2023 (YTD)

General Fund Income YTD: \$141,299

General Fund Expenses: \$115,679

Loan Principal Payments: \$ 10,305

Total Gen. Fund Expenditures: \$125,984

Net Gain/Loss, to date 2023: \$15,315

Addl. Qtrly. Principal Payments: \$615**

MIF Loan Balance as of 06/30/23: \$159,716

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

General Fund Income YTD in 2022: \$124,816

General Fund Income increase in 2023: \$16,483

GENERAL FUND CHALLENGE

An anonymous family has challenged our congregation to increase its giving to the general budget in 2023. The challenge is as follows:

For every dollar of TOTAL general fund (offering envelope) income donated by Oct. 31, 2023 that is OVER the amount given in the same time period in 2022, the donors will make a contribution of 40% of the amount of increase, up to a total match of \$5000.

We greatly appreciate this generous offer, and as the Financial Report shows, our giving HAS increased in 2023! We have every confidence that the people of Church of Our Saviour will continue to rise up and meet this challenge.

SUMMER NOON ORGAN RECITAL SERIES 2023

The Fond du Lac Area Organists' Association summer recitals are held on Thursdays beginning at 12:15 p.m. Free-will offerings will be taken; proceeds go to a scholarship fund to support the training of young people to become organists. The concerts remaining on the schedule are listed below. For more information, please visit their website: fdlareorganists.com

Recitalist(s)	Date	Location
Libby Reinbold	Aug.3	Salem U. Methodist Church
Arpad Muranyi	Aug. 10	St. Patrick's Concert Hall
Kris Bartelt, Georgene Antos, Jill Soldner	Aug. 17	St. Mary's Catholic, Lomira
Kenneth Hill	Aug. 24	Hope Lutheran Church



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SCHOOL SUPPLY DONATIONS

Tabitha Circle is in the midst of planning and assembling kits for Lutheran World Relief.

Due to the generous gifts from our congregation members, our congregation's friends, and the donations of Tabitha Circle members, we will be assembling 50 LWR school kits to help children around the world.

There are many places in our community that can use school supplies. If you wish to still make donations, we will see that they get to the proper places such as Riverside School Staff members, Bright Beginnings or Operation Back to School.

Your donations of school supplies may be left in the credenza in the main hallway; monetary donations can be put in the offering plate or sent to the church office, marked "school supplies."

BLESSINGS OF THE BACKPACKS

On Sunday, August 27, we invite students of all ages, teachers, and anyone who works in schools to bring their backpacks, school bags, lunch boxes, etc. and receive a blessing to take with you into the new academic year!

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday school will start on Sunday, Sept. 10 with Bible Olympics for all ages! Mark your calendars for a fun-filled start to the school year!

KAY SALZMAN TO RETIRE AS PARISH ADMINISTRATOR

As was announced at worship on June 25, our Parish Administrator, Kay Salzman, will be retiring on August 31. What started as a temporary assignment for Kay in 2002 evolved into a full-time position in which she learned to wear many hats - keeping church records; supporting church staff and volunteers; overseeing daily operations including equipment maintenance, service contracts and other routine business; printing and preparing mailings; maintaining financial and accounting records; and much, much more.

Our Personnel Committee has been busy documenting Kay's work routines and updating her job description. Last week the job opening was posted online.

More information will be coming about how we will recognize her years of dedicated service to the congregation closer to August 31. We are thankful for her time with us and wish her well in retirement.

YOUTH GATHERING MEETING

All who are will be in 8th-12th grade this fall, please plan to join Pastor Crystal Sunday, August 13 after worship to learn more about the ELCA Youth Gathering happening July 16-20, 2024 in New Orleans. At this meeting there will be information about fundraising, cost, transportation, and just what is a Youth Gathering. If you are unable to make the meeting but are interested in more information, please contact Pastor Crystal!

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.