

CARING & SHARING WITH RIVERSIDE ELEMENTARY

The Clothing Closet at Riverside Elementary School will be open on Thursday, January 15. We have been blessed by your generous gifts, and those from the community. We have been able to fill the clothing racks from Church of Our Saviour. We have also filled the bookcases that are home for our shoes and boots. Thank you so much.

If you wish to make donations for our January opening, please place your gifts in the Riverside baskets in the hallway credenza. Our inventory is doing well. **The one item we are short on is pajamas. Pajamas in all sizes - 4T through 14 (XL) will be put to good use.** Otherwise, we will gratefully accept any gifts you would like to share. To make the process easier for the volunteers, please bring your items to church by noon on Tuesday, January 13th.

We thank you for your generous hearts. God counts on us to help our neighbors. You have heard that call and your response has made very significant impressions and differences in the lives of those in need in the Fond du Lac community. Thank you for responding to others with your caring and sharing. God bless each of you for your prayers, your actions and your faithful responses to our loving God.

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, January 7 at 6:30 p.m.** and **Wednesday, January 21 at 6:30 p.m.** Watch for more information about the Synod Youth Gathering February 20-22.

JANUARY EVENTS

- ◆ **Wednesday, January 7**— 6:30 p.m. Decoration Take-Down with Youth assisting.
- ◆ **Saturday, January 10**— 10:00 a.m. Outdoor decorations and tree take-down
- ◆ **Friday, January 23** —7:00 p.m. Jestin Pieper will present a Piano Concert
- ◆ **Sunday, January 25** — Annual Meeting and Potluck following worship

WINTER WEATHER

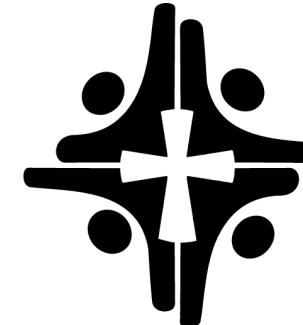
Please note that when it is necessary to cancel Sunday worship due to weather, we will notify local radio stations including B104.7 FM, KFIZ Radio (AM 1450), WFDL (Sunny 97.7) and WFRV TV-Channel 5 (Green Bay) as soon as the decision is made. We will also post the information on our Facebook page. Even 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 FEBRUARY!

- ◆ **Sunday, February 1**— 3:00 p.m. Symphonic Band Chamber Concert
Small ensembles and solos will be featured at this annual event. All are invited to attend.
- ◆ **Sunday, February 8**—Healing Service
- ◆ **Sunday February 15**—Talent Show and Pancake Supper
- ◆ **Wednesday, February 18**— Ash Wednesday Worship services at 12:00 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.

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.



JANUARY 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.1

Pastoral Highlights

- ◆ Preparing for Advent and Christmas
- ◆ Attended second retreat for "Compelling Word" preaching cohort
- ◆ Meetings - Fond du Lac Ministerial Association, Young Clergy Women International
- ◆ Attended Advent Music & Meals

Greetings Beloveds,

We are about to step into a new year. And as we do, many of us do the same thing in our own lives that we do as a congregation. We look back. We take stock. We remember what has shaped us.

In 2025, we gave thanks for our **100th anniversary** as a congregation. We remembered stories, honored those who came before us, and celebrated God's faithfulness across generations. Those moments now belong to our shared story, not to hold us in place, but to remind us that we have never walked alone.

Each of us carries our own version of that reflection into a new year. Some of us look back with gratitude. Some with relief. Some with grief or unanswered questions. Whatever we carry, God meets us there.

As we enter 2026, we do not need to have everything figured out, personally or as a church. We begin simply by trusting the same God who has brought us this far. The God who has been faithful in the past continues to be present now, guiding us forward one step at a time.

May we move into this year together with thankful hearts, open hands, and trust for what lies ahead.

As you look ahead to this new year, where might God be inviting you to take that next faithful step, both for yourself and for our shared life together?

Blessings+

Pastor Crystal

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

At this month's meeting:

- ◆ There was discussion of the congregation's finances
- ◆ Council approved the proposed budget for 2026 to be presented to the congregation at the annual meeting
- ◆ Council approved the updated Bright Beginnings lease which will now be sent to the daycare for their review and approval
- ◆ Council approved the Service Dog Policy which is now available in the office

CONSTITUTION UPDATE

The updated constitution will be voted on at the Annual Meeting on January 25. Copies of this document will be available at church, as an attachment in the Enews, or sent to you by calling the office and requesting a copy.

REPORTS REMINDER

Committee Chairs are reminded that completed reports from committees and organizations for the Annual Report were due in the office by December 30. Thank you for your timely submission.

FINANCIAL REPORT

As of November 31, 2025

General Fund Income: \$ 29,366.52
General Fund Expenses: \$ 21,104.70
Net Operating Expenses: \$ 8,261.82

MIF Loan Balance: \$172,033.33

FOR THE RECORD

DEATHS
Jack Talbot
Ronnie Hultgren

BAPTISM
Avery Lake Kohlhoff

FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN 2026 FDL MOBILEPACK

The Fond du Lac MobilePack will be on 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.fmsc.org/fdl to help us reach our goal.

- ◆ February will be the city-wide "Have-a-Heart" Campaign month. Our giving tree will be in the narthex during February.
- ◆ 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!

JANUARY FORUMS

- ◆ January 4—Constitution Updates
- ◆ January 11—2026 Budget Discussion
- ◆ January 18—Open
- ◆ January 25—No Forum, Annual Meeting

WELCA NEWS

Thank you to everyone who baked and packed cookies, donated containers or funds for the crosses, and delivered gifts to our shut-ins.

PERSONAL CARE KITS

WELCA is collecting items for Lutheran World Relief PERSONAL CARE KITS during the months of January and February. Money or physical items may be donated. Items needed are bath size towels, bath size bar soap, adult size toothbrushes in original packaging, combs, and metal nail clippers. Donations may be brought to the church on Sunday mornings or during weekly office hours and placed in the credenza.

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

TALENT SHOW & PANCAKE DINNER

The annual Talent Show and Dinner will be Sunday, February 15. The dinner will be served by the Youth at 5:00 p.m. and the show is at 6:00 p.m.

New this year! The Fond du Lac Cardinal Skippers, a local jump rope group will be our guest performers!

Please sign up your act on the bulletin board and share any kind of talent that you might have. All ages are encouraged to participate! It's not too early to think about how you'd like to be involved. Here are some ideas - vocal solo, instrumental solo/ensemble, dancing, piano solo, standup comedian, karate demonstration, juggling, magic acts, card tricks, cooking demonstration, whistling, gymnastic routine, comedy skit, balloon art, Rubik's cube demo, yoyo routine, and celebrity impressions. If you'd like to participate, but need help with an idea or need music, contact Janet - music@oursaviourfdl.org.

2026 GIVING ENVELOPES

Giving envelopes for 2026 were mailed to your homes, with the full year included in one mailing. Please contact the office if you have not received your envelopes for the new year.

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.

BIBLE STUDY

The Tuesday morning Bible Study will begin a study of the book of Ruth in January. 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.

PROPERTY COMMITTEE HELP WANTED

Members of the Property Committee will meet on Saturday, January 10 at 10:00 a.m. to take down trees and outdoor decorations. Volunteers to assist us with this project are greatly appreciated!

PIANO CONCERT

As part of our Performing Arts Series, Jestic Pieper will present a piano concert here at Church of Our Saviour on Friday, January 23 at 7:00 p.m. Jestic grew up in Fond du Lac and is an award winning and multifaceted New York City based pianist, vocal coach, organist, conductor, and educator. Free will donations will be received. All are welcome! Invite a friend or neighbor.

SOLUTIONS CENTER DONATIONS

In **January**, **regular coffee** is the requested item for donations. Please leave donations in the hallway credenza. Thank you for your support.