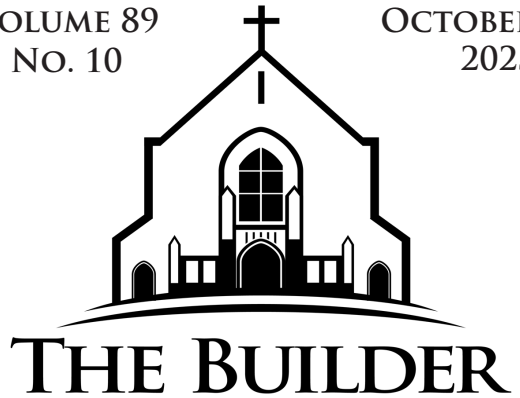




CHURCH OF OUR  
**SAVIOUR**  
— FOND DU LAC —

VOLUME 89  
NO. 10

OCTOBER  
2023



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

Pastor: Rev. Crystal Lee

Web-site: [www.oursavioursfdl.org](http://www.oursavioursfdl.org)

Office Email: [office@oursavioursfdl.org](mailto:office@oursavioursfdl.org)

Pastor Email: [pastorcrystal@oursavioursfdl.org](mailto:pastorcrystal@oursavioursfdl.org)

Music Email: [music@oursavioursfdl.org](mailto:music@oursavioursfdl.org)

Office Hours: M-TH: 8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

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### From the Pastor

Beloveds -

In my first couple of weeks at campus ministry, I have been nostalgic thinking back to my college days. And with that came the realization that 10 years ago I was in my senior year of college. Time goes fast.

As I thought back to my college days, I started to think about who I was then. If anyone here was introduced to college me, they would not fully recognize her. A lot would be the same about me but there are differences. And, if they met high school, middle school, or elementary school me, they might not even recognize that it is the same person. I have changed throughout the years. There are threads of who I am throughout all of those ages and stages. My values have been there, even if I didn't realize them. Values of belonging, truth, caring, and faith. Yet, as I grew, as I had certain people around me, as I went through different life experiences, I have changed. And how I understand and actively live those values has changed.

I am not the only who has changed throughout the years. My guess is that if you are honest, you have changed throughout the years. And, this congregation has changed throughout the years. There are obvious changes, such as worship attendance. The culture of the congregation has also changed. I have heard stories about how the welcomeness of the congregation has changed and become more welcoming.

Mission statements and values are great in a congregation, when they represent the congregation and where they want to go. For the congregation's mission and values should drive all decisions a congregation makes. As congregations change, so should their mission statements and they should have more conversations about their values.

Starting in October, we will have different Forum times where we will talk about who we are as a congregation. We will look to reimagine and write a new mission statement for ourselves based on our values and where we hear God calling us. For our mission is not our own. Our mission is God's mission; it is how God is calling us into God's work in the world. I hope that you will join us as we vision and reimagine who God has called Church of Our Saviour to be.

Blessings+

*Pastor Crystal*



**WELCA SUNDAY IS ON OCTOBER 15.** Pastor Connie Weiss will lead our worship. Pastor Connie is a daughter of our parish and was ordained at COOS on March 1, 2017. At our Sunday Forum, she will share her experiences guiding the merger of two Oshkosh congregations into Christ the Savior Lutheran, where she currently serves as pastor.

Our women will serve as ushers, assisting ministers, readers, etc. and will provide refreshments during the hour between services. WELCA kits and quilts will be on display, and we will be happy to answer your questions about our projects!

There is a sign-up sheet in the hallway for food donations and help with serving.

**WELCA Board of Directors** will meet on Zoom on Monday, October 2 at 1:45 p.m.

**Tabitha Circle** will meet on Tuesday, October 17, 1:00 p.m. in the parlor.

**Lydia Circle** will meet on Tuesday, October 24, 1:30 p.m. in the parlor.

## FABRIC KIT DONATIONS

**W**ELCA is collecting for **Lutheran World Relief Fabric Kits** during the months of September and October. Each fabric kit includes:

**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.

Your donations of items from the list are welcome, as well as money with which to purchase items. Leave items in the credenza in the main hallway.

## WELCA ENVELOPES

**E**nclosed with this mailing you will find our 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 and hospitality supplies, shut-in gifts, general expenses and more. (Thank Offerings received in November do not stay here; they went directly to national WELCA offices to support those programs.)

You are invited to use the envelope this month or put it aside for use at a later date. The envelopes are also available in our pew racks. You may make your checks out to WELCA - Church of Our Saviour, put in the offering plate, mail to the church office, or send directly to Char Bohnsack, 25 Heritage Ct. FdL 54935.

Thank you for your support of WELCA!

**P**lease 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.

## WISCONSIN BRASS QUINTET

**A**s part of our Performing Arts Series, we will be hosting the Wisconsin Brass Quintet concert on Friday, October 6 at 7:00 p.m. The ensemble is regarded as one of the "superb brass ensembles in the USA." In addition to its regular concert series on the campus of the University of Wisconsin-Madison, the Quintet performs extensively throughout the Midwest and nationally. American Record Guide reviewer Barry Kilpatrick writes: "The WBQ is a remarkable ensemble that plays with more reckless abandon, warmth, stylistic variety and interpretive interest than almost any quintet in memory." In demand for its engaging educational programs and master classes, the WBQ has presented clinics and residencies at such prestigious institutions as The Juilliard School, the Yale School of Music, the University of Michigan and Northwestern University. All are welcome! There will be a freewill offering.

## CARING AND SHARING WITH RIVERSIDE KIDS

Thanks to you, at least seven families were able to find clothing they needed for their children at the Riverside School clothes closet. They were very thankful for your gifts. The volunteers were happy to see the excitement on the kids' faces they spotted something special.

Items in size 4 through 14/XL for both girls and boys are needed. This would include any clothing for fall and winter such as:

- long sleeve tee shirts and tops
- jeans, sweat pants
- leggings for girls
- athletic pants
- hoodies, sweat shirts
- sweaters and jackets

would be gratefully received. Winter jackets, snow pants and boots will soon be needed also. We are almost out of boys 4T undies, but any size underwear for girls and boys would be appreciated.

We will have the closet open on October 19, so if you could get your donations to church by Sunday, October 15, we would really appreciate it. Please put your gifts in the Riverside baskets in the hallway credenza.

Thank you to all who support this outreach ministry. Your shopping for gifts, your gifts of money and your prayers go a very long way to reaching our community members in need.

Special thank you to all our members who stayed for Principal Jessica Hughes presentation at our September 17 Adult Forum. We thank Principal Hughes as well for her gift of time so we could better understand the school's needs.

### SOLUTIONS CENTER "ITEM OF THE MONTH"

The Solutions Center's October items are paper towels and regular coffee. Donations may be left in the hallway credenza.

## CONFIRMATION/ AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29

Plan to join us as Sophie Freismuth, Richie Haegler, Emily Jodarski and Layton Pahnke celebrate the confirmation of their faith on Sunday, October 29.

### REFORMATION SUNDAY

OCTOBER 29 IS REFORMATION SUNDAY.

EVERYONE IS ENCOURAGED TO WEAR  
SOMETHING RED TO CELEBRATE THIS FESTIVE  
DAY!

### ALL SAINTS SUNDAY ▸ NOV. 5

All Saints Sunday is November 5. We will be remembering the saints from Church of Our Saviour who passed away during the last year, as well as any other names submitted by members of the congregation, for the candle lighting ceremony. There is a form with this mailing for you to provide names of individuals that you would like included in the All Saints Day Remembrance. Please return the form to the office no later than October 29.

### FINANCIAL REPORT - AUGUST, 2023 (YTD)

General Fund Income YTD: \$178,839

General Fund Expenses: \$150,670

Loan Principal Payments: \$ 13,787

Total Gen. Fund Expenditures: \$164,457

**Net Gain/Loss, to date 2023: \$14,382**

Addl. Qtrly. Principal Payments: \$\*\*1,230

MIF Loan Balance as of 08/31/23: \$155,619

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

General Fund Income YTD in 2022: \$162,817

**General Fund Income increase in 2023: \$16,022**

**REMINDER: SUNDAY, OCT. 1 IS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS CAMPAIGN COMMITMENT SUNDAY!  
BRING YOUR PLEDGES TO WORSHIP, OR MAIL OR BRING TO THE CHURCH OFFICE DURING OCTOBER.**

## SUNDAY FORUM

10:15 A.M. IN THE PARLOR

*All above Sunday School age are welcome to attend the Sunday forum.*

### SUNDAY, OCT. 1

Session 1 on developing a new Mission Statement, led by Pastor Crystal.

### SUNDAY, OCT. 8

Fond du Lac Police Department will make a presentation. Host: Cindy Decker

### SUNDAY, OCT. 15

Pastor Connie Weiss will talk about the church consolidation that took place in Oshkosh, as part of WELCA Sunday.

### SUNDAY, OCT. 22

Sue Schierstedt will talk about Care INC, a local organization in which she is very active.

### SUNDAY, OCT. 29

Pastor Crystal will lead a Reformation-themed cross-generational event.

### SUNDAY FORUM SCHEDULE

Dates are still open in November and December to sign up to arrange a forum. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board. Please put your name next to a date and let us know the topic.

## FOR THE RECORD

### MARRIAGE

Alyssa Jodarski and Megan Ward • Aug. 19, 2023

### DEATH

Yvonne Brunet • September 2, 2023

### BAPTISM

Bowdin Roen • September 9, 2023

## TRICK YOUR TRUNK

We will again be participating in Trick Your Trunk, which is happening on Fri. Oct. 27 from 5 pm- 6:30 pm at Woodworth Middle School. We will get there a little early to set up our trunks for the trunk or treaters. Please contact Pastor Crystal if you plan to have a vehicle there!

# YOUTH CORNER

## YOUTH GROUP EVENTS

**WED. OCT. 4:** TIME CHANGE- 7 pm-8:30 pm  
**PAINT ALONG EVENT** We will join Pastor Paul Oman and other groups on Zoom as he tells the bible story "Jesus Calming the Storm" and leads us in painting the scene. Pastor needs to know by Tuesday, Oct. 3 who will be attending so there are enough art supplies (provided).

**WED. OCT. 11:** normal time of 6:30 pm-8 pm

**FRI. OCT. 27:** 4:30 pm- 6:30 pm- join us for Trick Your Trunk

### CONFIRMATION LOCK-IN - OCT. 13-14 6th thru 8th Grade Youth

We're Looking for YOU! You are eligible to begin confirmation classes this year with the **first Confirmation Lock-In Oct. 13-14.** We will gather at 6:30 pm Friday evening to learn about our Lutheran Identity mixed in among traditional lock-in events (games, food, movies, etc.). We will be done at 2 pm on Saturday. Please Mark Your Calendars; more info will be emailed out the first week of October.

Information was mailed in late August. If you did not receive a letter, the same detailed information is available by contacting Pastor Crystal. Please do not hesitate to contact Pastor Crystal to let us know your youth is interested, or to answer your questions.

## COLLEGE STUDENTS

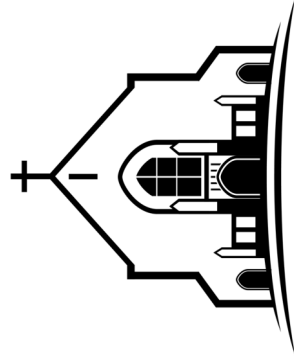
**W**e need the addresses for our college/tech school students. Care packages will be sent around fall and spring finals time. Call or email the office to provide their address.

### COLLEGE STUDENT CARE PACKAGES

We will need snacks and other goodies to pack for our college students. Confirmation students will pack these in November to be sent early December. Please donate individually wrapped pre-packaged, store-bought items by Nov. 5. You can drop in the office with a note that says "College Care Packages."



# 2023



## CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOUR

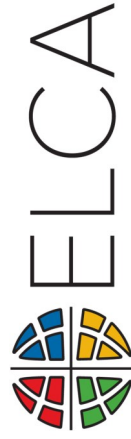
363 S. MAIN ST.  
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Phone: 920-922-0020  
Office Email:  
office@oursavioursfdl.org  
Music Coordinator email:  
music@oursavioursfdl.org  
Pastor Crystal email:  
pastorcrystal@oursavioursfdl.org

WEB-SITE:  
oursavioursfdl.org

OFFICE HOURS:  
M-TH-8:30-2:30

STAFF:  
Rev. Crystal Lee, Pastor  
Kim Jodarski, Organist  
Janet Radke, Music Ministry Coordinator  
Jeff Jodarski, Custodian



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> <b>COMMITMENT SUNDAY</b> 9:00 Service— Blessing of the Quilts 10:15 Education & Fellowship	<b>2</b> Noon - Book Club on Zoom 1:45 WELCA Board-Zoom 5:30 Property	<b>3</b> 9-1 Quilting	<b>4</b> 5:45 Bells 6:45 Adult Choir 7:00 Youth Group	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 7:00 Wisconsin Brass Quintet Concert	<b>7</b> 
<b>8</b> 9:00 Service 10:15 Education & Fellowship	<b>9</b> Noon - Book Club on Zoom	<b>0</b> 9-1 Quilters 3:45 Worship and Music	<b>11</b> 11:30 Executive Mtg. 5:45 Bells 6:30 Youth Group 6:45 Adult Choir	<b>12</b> 3:30 Finance Mtg.	<b>13</b> 6:30 Confirmation Youth Lock-In	<b>14</b> 2:00 Lock-In ends
<b>15</b> <b>WELCA SUNDAY</b> 9:00 Service 10:15 Education & Fellowship	<b>16</b> Noon - Book Club on Zoom	<b>17</b> 9-1 Quilters 1:00 Tabitha Circle	<b>18</b> No Choir Rehearsals this week	<b>19</b> 9-4:45 Riverside Closet Work Day	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> 9:00 Service 10:15 Education & Fellowship	<b>23</b> Noon - Book Club on Zoom 6:15 Council	<b>24</b> 9-1 Quilters 1:30 Lydia Circle	<b>25</b> 5:45 Bells 6:45 Adult Choir	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 4:30 Trick Your Trunk event at Woodworth Middle School	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> <b>CONFIRMATION REFORMATION SUNDAY</b> 9:00 Service 10:15 Education, Fellowship, Cross- Generational Event	<b>30</b> Noon - Book Club on Zoom	<b>31</b> 				





CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOUR  
PERFORMING ARTS SERIES  
PRESENTS

# The Wisconsin Brass Quintet

Church of  
Our  
Saviour

9th & Main  
Streets  
Fond du Lac



**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2023 • 7:00 P.M.**

*One of the "superb brass ensembles in the USA"*

Musicweb International

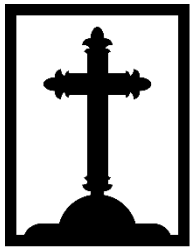
*"Remarkable musicianship and versatility"*

International Trumpet Guild Journal

*"The WB2 is a remarkable ensemble that plays with more reckless abandon, warmth, stylistic variety and interpretive interest than almost any quintet in memory."*

American Record Guide reviewer Barry Kilpatrick

**Invite your friends and neighbors!  
Free Admission! • Free Will Offering**



# CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOUR

— FOND DU LAC —

Rev. Crystal Lee, Pastor  
363 S. Main Street  
Fond du Lac, WI 54935  
Ph: (920) 922-0020  
[oursavioursfdl.org](http://oursavioursfdl.org)

## Congregational Vitality Survey

Back in January, the congregation took part in a Congregational Vitality Survey. The survey included 36 questions that had 3 possible answers. The answers themselves are not what we should focus on, but what do our responses say about what we perceive about our congregation. This information is intended help us understand how we see ourselves and provide information for further conversations.

On the other side of this page, you will find an overview of the results from that survey. The 36 questions were given short titles, such as, “Finances,” “Disciple-Making,” “Justice,” to help the presentation of information and connect to ministry aspects of a congregation. The information was used to place each of the 36 questions into brackets: at risk, low, medium, and high. The in depth meaning of each bracket is on the other side. We had 9 “at risk” scores, 10 “low” scores, 14 “medium” scores, and 3 “high” scores.

High scores are things that we are excelling at as a congregation, and these include:

- Quality of Ministry
- Accessibility (can people get in the door)
- Gospel Preaching.

Our largest category, “Medium,” includes things we are doing alright at and could easily strengthen. These include, to name a few:

- Justice
- Spiritual Growth
- Community Connections
- Belonging.

There are then 10 areas that are considered “Low,” meaning these could use some revitalization. Some of these include:

- Evangelism
- Visitor Retention
- Ministry Adjustments
- Capacity to Change.

There is then the “At Risk” bracket, which means these areas are areas of concern and that we should think about. This bracket includes:

- Finances
- Growth/Decline
- Children
- Age of Membership
- Ministry Ownership
- Facility Care
- Participation,
- Reflecting our Community
- Missional Investments.

Council will lead a Forum discussing these results at a future date-watch for that date in the announcements. If you would like a more in depth, question-by-question, look at the results, please contact Pastor Crystal.

# Congregational Vitality Survey

## Church of Our Saviour Ev. Lutheran • Fond du Lac

Thank you for participating in the Congregational Vitality Survey! Below you will find an overview of the results of your congregation's survey. The results of this survey are not the final objective, rather they are a new baseline for discussing where people sense the congregation is and how they perceive their current situation.

From here, your congregation's leaders have an opportunity to take this information and discern where the Holy Spirit is calling next. This work is grounded in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus and the gracious gift that God has given to us in Christ. In partnership with your DEM, your congregation has an exciting opportunity to lean in and prayerfully discern God's future for your faith community.

## Overview—64 Total Responses

The congregational Vitality survey asked 36 questions to gain insights into 36 ways to look at a local congregation's ministry. This overview shown in four brackets is just one way to view the vitality level of a congregation. These brackets show what the average of all responses for each question are, then the overall score reflects the average sum of the responses.

Overall results fit into these brackets:

- 36-53: At Risk**—The congregation's self-assessment shows significant cause for concern and a meaningful conversation together is needed.
- 54-71: Low** — The congregation's self-assessment shows that it remains viable but that significant revitalization efforts and adaptive change are needed in the near future.
- 72-89: Medium** — The congregation's self assessment shows that it is functioning well, but there are areas where renewal will build on the current strengths and enhance ministry

Leadership	Congregation	Average
<b>64.3</b>	<b>66.61</b>	<b>65.455</b>

