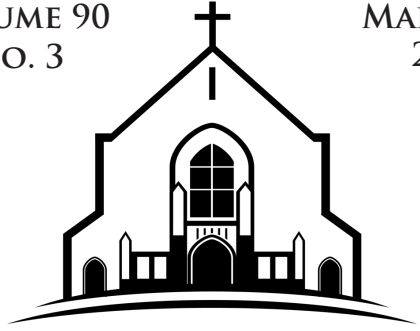




CHURCH OF OUR
SAVIOUR
— FOND DU LAC —

VOLUME 90
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2024



THE BUILDER

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

Pastor: Rev. Crystal Lee

Web-site: www.oursavioursfdl.org

Office Email: office@oursavioursfdl.org

Pastor Email: pastorcrystal@oursavioursfdl.org

Music Email: music@oursavioursfdl.org

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

From the Pastor

From *The Green Heart of the Snowdrop* by Kate McIlhagga

Lent is not for the faint-hearted.
It demands that we, like Thomas,
Put our hand into the side of the crucified Christ.

Lent is a journey towards the cross,
A journey of enlightenment:
From wilderness to feast,
From desert to oasis.
It's an attempt to identify with the powerless
And the suffering in the world

Lent is not tidy.
The days grow longer,
The ground thaws, there's mud and dirt everywhere
And the windows need cleaning.

Lent is a journey.
So at the end of Lent
We should expect to find ourselves
somewhere different from where we started.

Lent can be an opportunity
To explore what is the nature
Of the promised Kingdom of God on earth
That we long for;
A time to discern
How we are called to work for it.

No, Lent is not for the faint-hearted!

Blessings+

Pastor Crystal

WELCA NEWS

WELCA women served the first Lenten supper on Feb. 21, and will also serve the final meal on March 20. Volunteers are needed to make cookies or bars for dessert, and to work in the kitchen starting between 4:30 and 5:00 p.m. A sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board.

Women of the ELCA Board will meet via Zoom on Monday, March 4 at 1:45 p.m.

Tabitha Circle meets on Tuesday, March 19 at 1:00 p.m. on Zoom

Lydia Circle meets on Tuesday, March 26 at 1:30 p.m. in the parlor. All are invited to join us.

QUILTING DONATIONS

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 (use the WELCA envelopes).

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



—CHOIR—

The Wartburg Choir from Wartburg College in Waverly IA will present a concert at Fond du Lac High School on Saturday, March 23 at 7:30 p.m. Choirs from three area high schools will participate in this concert. The Wartburg Choir will also be singing for our worship service on Palm Sunday, March 24 at 9:00 a.m. The choir consisting of 81 singers is directed by Dr. Lee Nelson. Church of Our Saviour will be providing a snack bag for them to take on the bus when they leave. Watch the announcements for donations that are needed.

SPRING FORWARD!

A reminder: Daylight Savings Time begins Sunday, March 10. Remember to set your clocks ahead one hour on Saturday night!

MIDWEEK LENTEN WORSHIP AND SUPPER SCHEDULE

WORSHIP: 5:30 P.M. • LENTEN SUPPER: 6:15 P.M.

This year for our midweek services, we will again be using the Holden Evening Prayer Liturgy. (Services will be livestreamed when there is a videographer available.) The worship services will be followed with a Lenten supper in Stecker Hall, prepared by various groups in the congregation. There is no charge for the suppers, but free-will offerings will be received to offset costs and benefit projects at COOS and beyond.

Our Lenten theme is ***Faith Foundations***. Midweek services will cover Luther's ***Small Catechism***. The schedule is as follows:

February 21: Apostles' Creed
Meal: WELCA

February 28: Ten Commandments
Meal: Council

March 6: Lord's Prayer
Meal: Worship & Music

March 13: Baptism
Meal: Youth & Sunday School

March 20: Communion
Meal: WELCA

HEALING SERVICE

The next healing service will be included in the March 17 worship service at 9:00 a.m. All who sense a need for God's healing in any aspect of their lives are welcome to receive a word of blessing and a prayer.

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.

CARING AND SHARING WITH RIVERSIDE KIDS

When the Riverside Closet was open on February 15, we served 7 families which included 24 children. They were eager to check the totes to see if there were things they had hoped for in them. Thank you to all who so generously give so that others may not have to go without basic clothing. The example of God's love that is shared on the third Thursdays of the month speaks volumes. May you be blessed as God continues to bless you.

Because of the strange weather, we did not have as many families that often come, but some specific needs arose by the end of the day. As always, any warm clothing in size 4T through size 14/XL is most welcome. There is clothing in most tubs, but that could all change next month. It is better to have too much than not enough. We usually do not ask for clothing for tiny infants, but our tote with baby boys clothes, size 0 - 3 months only has one item. We also are in need of boys underwear, sizes 4T through 14/XL and girls socks. Any thing you share will be put to good use.

The next time the closet will be open is Thursday, March 21. Please place your gifts in the baskets in the hallway credenza by Monday, March 18.

Thank you for caring and sharing.

SOLUTIONS CENTER "ITEM OF THE MONTH"

The March item is SOAP (LAUNDRY DETERGENT, DISH SOAP, DISHWASHER SOAP, HAND SOAP). Donations may be left in the credenza in the hallway.

2024 OFFICERS

At the Feb. 19 Council meeting, the following council/congregational officers were elected:

President: Chris Carew

Vice President: Rich Radke

Treasurer: Donn Stout

(Secretary election deferred to March meeting.)

A huge "thank you" to Marcia Snyder, who is stepping down as treasurer after faithfully serving in that position since 2004.

THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS

Dear Members,

If you have Thrivent products that qualify for Thrivent Choice Dollars you can designate these dollars to Church of Our Saviour or a charity of your choice. (These are free dollars that Thrivent gives you as a fraternal Insurance company when you have products with them.)

To be eligible to direct Choice Dollars as part of Thrivent Choice, you must be a client with benefit membership. Individual eligibility is also based on at least one of the following:

- Having \$750 or more in annual billed premiums of qualifying life and health insurance products.
- Having \$20,000 or more in contract value of qualifying life insurance and annuity products.

Designation of your dollars needs to be done by March 31, 2024. All you need to do is:

- Go to thrivent.com and log in to your account.
- Go to MEMBERSHIP OVERVIEW tab and click on it.
- Scroll down to THRIVENT CHOICE and click on DIRECT CHOICE DOLLARS
- Note amount of Dollars you are able to direct and follow directions to add your charity and direct your dollars.

If you have questions, call Thrivent at 800 847 4836 or your Thrivent Agent.

FINANCIAL REPORT - JANUARY, 2024

General Fund Income \$18,013

General Fund Expenses: \$17,682

Loan Principal Payments: \$ 1,771

Total Gen. Fund Expenditures: \$19,453

Net Gain/Loss, to date 2024: -\$1,440

Addl. Qtrly. Principal Payments: \$0.00**

MIF Loan Balance as of 01/31/24: \$145,771

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

General Fund Income to date in 2023: \$34,598*

Gen. Fund Income decrease* in 2024: (\$16,028)

(*Note: There were 5 Sundays in January, 2023, and some large, one-time gifts received that month.)

2024 FOND DU LAC MOBILEPACK

Saturday, April 6

The Feed My Starving Children (FMSC) MobilePack will be Saturday, April 6, 2024, at the Fond du Lac County Fairgrounds. This year's goal is to pack 132,192 meals. To accomplish this, we will need

- your donations to reach the \$38,800 needed to purchase the ingredients for the meal packs.
- your help on April 6 for the meal packaging.

Help us use all the hearts that are on our giving tree is in the hallway.

- Use an envelope from the tree or
- Donate online at give.fmssc.org/fdl using the the MobilePack number, #2404-032SC.

There's still time to volunteer to help at the MobilePack,

- Volunteer to pack – jobs for sitting, standing and walking
- Children love to help. To keep them safe,
Grades K-2 – 1 adult per child
Grades 3-6 – 1 adult per 3 children
Grades 7-12 – 1 adult per 4 students
- The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the hallway.

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

Thank you for your generous prayers, gifts, and service!

Contact Sue Schierstedt, rstedt@charter.net, with any questions.

YOUTH CORNER

YOUTH GROUP MEETINGS

6:30-8:00 p.m. • Wed. March 6 and 13

March 13- Serving Lenten meal (Taco Bar). A Sign-Up Genius will be sent out for food donations. We will also need help with food prep and serving. Contact Pastor Crystal for more details!

**HOLY WEEK AND EASTER
AT CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOUR**

SUNDAY OF THE PASSION

PALM SUNDAY • MARCH 24

Worship: 9:00 a.m.

**WARTBURG COLLEGE CHOIR -
GUEST MUSICIANS**

MAUNDY THURSDAY • MARCH 28

Worship: 12:00 & 6:30 p.m.

GOOD FRIDAY • MARCH 29

Worship: 12:00 & 6:30 p.m.

RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD

EASTER SUNDAY • MARCH 31

Worship Services:

8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

Continental Breakfast

9:00 - 10:15 a.m.

HE IS RISEN



EASTER BREAKFAST

9:00 - 10:15 A.M. IN THE PARLOR

Help is needed for set-up in the parlor at 9 a.m. on Saturday morning. A sign-up sheet will be posted in the hallway. Donations of food and beverages are also requested, including juice, fruit, baked goods and other breakfast items.

Drop off non-perishable items at church during the week, on Saturday morning, or bring donations with you to services on Easter Sunday morning.