

CARING & SHARING WITH RIVERSIDE ELEMENTARY

When seven of the Riverside Closet volunteers got to the closet in October for another day of community shopping for children, imagine their surprise when they found out the two shelving units from Church of Our Saviour had been installed. Also, there were double rows of rods installed which extended our hanging space in our original area. Thank you Church of Our Saviour Property Committee for offering us the racks and for helping get them to school. Thank you to the school district's Facility Services Department for all they do to help us. The custodial staff at Riverside School are also champion helpers. Thank you. We appreciate all you do for us. You need to know that your gifts are put to very good use. When we open in the morning, we have no idea who will be served and how many will get the help they need. This month, one of the volunteers helped a child choose several outfits. The child's living situation had changed and now the student would keep the clothing at school and change into appropriate clothing each morning. Getting to school and being able to "fit in" with other classmates makes a great difference in confidence and participation. You helped that happen for this student. A total of 40 children from 15 Riverside families were served in October. **Items most needed for November are children's waterproof winter gloves.** We will now go into winter mode, and will accept any warm clothing in. Sizes 4T - 14 (XL). **Please note that presently we have lots of boots.** No need for boots until further notice. Thank you for your many gifts to help those in need. Thank you for caring and sharing for God's children. Thank you for responding positively to God's command for us to love our neighbors. God blesses us; we pass on the many blessings

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

YOUTH CORNER

Youth group will meet on **Wednesday, November 5th** and **Wednesday, November 19th**

NOVEMBER EVENTS

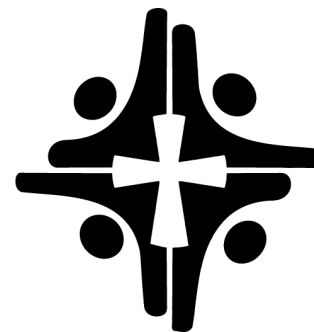
- ♦ **Saturday, November 1** —7:00 p.m. The Leggeiero Wind Quintet and the Brass Menagerie Quintet will present a concert.
- ♦ **Sunday, November 2** — **All Saints Sunday**—We will be remembering the saints from Church of Our Saviour who passed away during the last year, as well as other names submitted by the congregation for the candle lighting ceremony. All will have an opportunity to light a candle in remembrance of a loved one.
- ♦ **Sunday, November 9** — **Healing service** during 9:00 a.m. worship. 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.
- ♦ **Sunday, November 16** — **Commitment Sunday** Pledge cards will be received and blessed at worship.
- ♦ **Sunday, November 30**— First Sunday in Advent Pastor Crystal will be out of town from November 22 through November 29.

COMING IN DECEMBER!

- ♦ **Monday, December 1**—Loaves and Fishes Meal
- ♦ **Wednesday, December 10** — 12:00 p.m. Advent Music & Meal with Brass Menagerie
- ♦ **Sunday, December 14**— 9:00 a.m. Advent Festival of Hymns, Lessons, & Anthems
- ♦ **Wednesday, December 17**— 12:00 p.m. Advent Music & Meal with FDL HS Cardinal Singers
- ♦ **Sunday, December 21**— 9:00 a.m. Youth Service
- ♦ **Wednesday, December 24**—Christmas Eve Worship 3:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Pastor: Reverend Crystal Lee
Office Email: office@oursaviourfdl.org
Pastor Email: pastorcristal@oursaviourfdl.org
Music Email: music@oursaviourfdl.org
Office Hours: Monday through Thursday
8:30 a.m.—2:30 p.m.



NOVEMBER 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 •

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Pastoral Highlights

(A few of the things I did in October)

- ♦ Prepared for and lead our Reformation, Confirmation, 100th Anniversary Celebration worship service with Bishop Anne along with attending the meal & program
- ♦ Leading Forum- Removing the Sting from the Clobber Passages (looking at scripture used to harm the LGBTQIA+ community)
- ♦ Synod Fall Pastor Conference in Door County- we had Rev. Tim Brown (Director for Congregational Stewardship for the ELCA) as our speaker. We also spent time talking about how to prepare and respond to ICE raids in our community
- ♦ Funerals- Patrick Schuppe and Roger "Fife" Jones
- ♦ We welcomed 10 new members on Oct. 19
- ♦ Led youth group twice and held a confirmation lock-in from Sat. Oct. 25- Sun. Oct. 26

"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."

—1 Thessalonians 5:18

Greetings Beloved of God,
As November arrives, gratitude seems to come more naturally. We see it in the changing colors, in shared meals, in the simple rhythm of gathering around tables with those we love. Thanksgiving reminds us to pause and notice the abundance that surrounds us.

However, we hear in Paul's words from 1 Thessalonians that giving thanks isn't just a seasonal practice—it's a spiritual discipline for every moment, even the hard ones. Gratitude is a way of seeing God's presence in the everyday: in a friend's call when we need help, the smile of a stranger when we feel lonely, in the beauty of a sunrise that greets a heavy heart, in the strength to face another day when hope feels thin.

This month, may we take time to name our blessings aloud and give thanks to the One from whom all good things flow. In doing so, we find that gratitude opens our hearts to joy—and helps us see God's grace still at work among us.

Blessings+

Pastor Crystal

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS	FOR THE RECORD
The balance in the Capital Campaign Fund is around \$40,000, which will be used for exterior signage. The signage task force is looking into various options with sign companies and checking the City of Fond du Lac regulations and codes. More money will come in over the last (3rd) year of the campaign. Any balance on hand after all projects are complete will be used to pay down the principal on the loan.	DEATH Roger “Fife” Jones
2026 STEWARDSHIP DRIVE	SERMON SURVEY Pastor Crystal is taking part in a nationwide project with Luther Seminary, exploring what makes sermons compelling in today's world. Your input is crucial. How to participate: 1. Listen to the weekly sermon at Church of Our Saviour (no matter who is preaching!). 2. Scan the QR code for a quick survey or click the link found in the e-news 3. Share your thoughts anonymously. 4. Sign up for the follow-up survey. Rest assured, this isn't about critiquing individual preachers (which means even when we have supply preachers, please respond!). Your responses will be completely anonymous and will only be used by the research team to gain a broader understanding of sermon impact across diverse church settings. Please join us in this important initiative. Your voice matters in shaping the future of preaching and deepening our connection to scripture. 
LIVING LUTHERAN <i>Living Lutheran</i> is back in print. There are four issues each year (winter, spring, summer and fall). Visit livinglutheran.org/subscribe to sign up for this magazine if you are interested. Subscribe by November 10 to receive the winter issue.	
Third Quarter Giving Statements are on the credenza. Please take yours! Fourth quarter giving envelopes are also on the credenza. Thank you for taking them home.	
FINANCIAL REPORT	SUNDAY FORUM
As of September 30, 2025 General Fund Income: \$ 17,868.75 General Fund Expenses: <u>\$ 21,546.57</u> Net Operating Expenses: - \$ 3677.82 MIF Loan Balance: \$ 17,329.78	REMOVING THE STING FROM THE “CLOBBER PASSAGES” Join Pastor Crystal in diving into the “clobber passages,” scripture passages that are used to harm the LGBTQIA+ community, and dive into the context beyond the words on the page. 10:15 a.m. Sundays—November 2, 9, and 16.

WELCA THANKOFFERING	PRAYER LIST
November is the time that the women of the ELCA collect Thankofferings. In our recent <i>Gather</i> magazine, it is noted that the spiritual practice of Thankofferings began in the late 19th century. Women would have a container or “mite box” and place small offerings into the box to count their blessings. These offerings would be collected in November to support missions in their communities and the world. You will find a Thankoffering envelope for your use with the November Builder mailing. This offering is used to support the churchwide ministries of WELCA. Those ministries include justice and advocacy, anti-racism training, scholarships, global education, grants, and resources for awareness of injustices. Please feel free to place your Thankoffering in the collection plate during the service anytime in the month of November. If giving by check, please make it out to Church of Our Saviour WELCA with Thankoffering in the memo. Church of Our Saviour WELCA is grateful for your generosity.	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.
	CHOIR FOR ADVENT FESTIVAL
	The Adult Choir and Handbell Choir will lead this special Advent worship service on December 14. The festival will combine both scripture and music to tell the story of the expectation and birth of Christ. If you aren't able to sing with the choir on a regular basis, maybe you'd like to be a choir temp and join us to sing for this festival. We are starting to rehearse this music at our Wednesday rehearsals which begin at 6:45 p.m. All are welcome! Contact Janet if interested — music@oursaviourfdl.org.
	ADVENT WREATH CANDLE LIGHTING
	Families, households or individuals are being sought to read the paragraph at the beginning of the Sunday Advent worship service and also light the candles on the Advent wreath. ALL ages are invited to participate. Advent begins November 30. If you are interested, please sign up on the bulletin board or contact Janet Radke.
	OUR NEW DIRECTORY IS HERE!
	PLEASE PICK YOURS UP ON SUNDAY OR DURING OFFICE HOURS.
	SOLUTIONS CENTER DONATIONS
	In November, disinfectant spray and wipes, and bath and kitchen hand towels are the requested item for donations. Please leave donations in the hallway credenza. Thank you for your support.
WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!	
On Sunday, October 19, we received ten new members: Sue & Chuck Berger, Gretchen Gall & Chuck Nowak, Lon & Linda Pickart, Mary & Loren Welch, Russel Salter, and Kimberly Thimmig. On Sunday, October 26, two youth were confirmed: Brynn McAuly and Peighton DeRoo. Welcome our brothers and sisters in Christ!	