



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

363 S. MAIN ST.

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920-922-0020

*Matthew Agee, Pastor*

**WINTER/FALL  
SERVICE HOURS**

**SUNDAYS**  
**8:00 A.M. SERVICE**  
**9:15 A.M. EDU. HOUR**  
**10:30 A.M. SERVICE**

*March 2017*

Last month, we discussed the reasons *why* we baptize – in short, because Jesus told us to. Pretty simple.

So this month, we move on to the second section of Luther's catechism on baptism, which begins with this question:

**What gifts or benefits does baptism grant?**

What do you think the benefits are? Why do we baptize people? Is it symbolic? Does it do anything? When parents bring a child to be baptized, are the benefits related to the joy of having family and friends together at church, with sponsors making holy promises on behalf of the child? Or perhaps the benefits are less about the service, and having a baptism is just a box you can check off to satisfy certain family members' expectations.

Well, both of those may seem like real benefits of a baptism, but they're not the point.

Luther's explanation of the benefits of baptism states: *It brings about forgiveness of sins, redeems from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe it, as the words and promise of God declare.*

The focus of baptism is on the relationship between God and the person receiving the sacrament. The waters of baptism bring about the forgiveness of sins. Think about that. What was plain water is now a conduit of sorts for the grace of God. That water, being poured over the head of the baptized, has a power greater than you or I could ever imagine. Not only is there forgiveness in these waters which wash our sins away, but baptism also redeems us from death and the devil. The grace that marks us, well, it sticks to us forever. It never leaves us. It's a promise that washes over us once, but remains with us from now on. But wait, there's more. This water also gives eternal life to those who believe it.

That's a pretty heavy and substantial list, but how

do we know it's true? Well, Luther says these are the benefits for all who believe it "as the words and promise of God declare." OK, anyone know where we can find that?

*What are these words and promise of God?*

Our Lord Christ says in Mark 16, "The one who believes and is baptized will be saved; but the one who does not believe will be condemned."

It is short, it's sorta sweet, and sorta scary. But the point isn't to say who is in and who is not. Instead, it's to say that those who are baptized can trust that Jesus' promises are true. He's not in the business of overselling his promises.

So this month, we explored the benefits, but it might still make you scratch your head and say, really? Forgiveness, freedom from death, the devil, and eternal life? Doesn't the pastor just get the water from the faucet in the back? Surely that's not all. Well, next month we'll talk about that: when water is plain water, and when it is the waters of baptism.

Soli Deo Gloria

Pastor Matthew Agee

**2017 LENTEN SUPPER  
SCHEDULE AND MEAL**



**LENTEN SUPPERS** will begin on  
March 8<sup>th</sup>  
*after* the 5:30 p.m. church service.

<b>March 8</b>	Women of the ELCA	Pulled Pork Sandwiches
<b>March 15</b>	Youth	Spaghetti
<b>March 22</b>	Council	Cheesy Potatoes with Ham
<b>March 29</b>	Choir	Chili
<b>April 5</b>	Women of the ELCA	Ham Sandwiches

**FOR THE RECORD**

DEATHS: 1/23/2017 Adam R. Breitrick  
1/28/2017 Adina E. King

**BUILDER ARTICLE** deadline is the 15th of each month. (Articles are always welcome earlier in the month!).

**Remember!** Please submit everything for **Builder** and announcements in electronic format, so we can integrate it for the website.

\*Our email is [office@oursavioursfdl.org](mailto:office@oursavioursfdl.org)

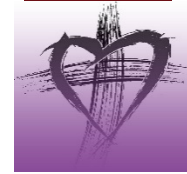
The Builder is also available on the churches website at:  
[www.oursavioursfdl.org](http://www.oursavioursfdl.org)

**Church of Our Saviour's  
Prayer Chain  
is available for You!**



Whatever your need, whether it's the concern of a desperate need, a joyous prayer of thanksgiving for blessings received, or something in-between, we will pray for you in all confidence. Simply call one of our prayer chair persons, Jill Bjornstad 922-1556 or Maureen Kelm 921-5474.

**2017 LENT WORSHIP SCHEDULE**



<b>March 1:</b>	<b>ASH WEDNESDAY</b> 12:00 p.m. Worship 6:30 p.m. Worship
<b>March 8:</b>	12:00 p.m. Worship 5:30 p.m. Worship 6:15 p.m. Lenten Supper (WELCA)
<b>March 15:</b>	12:00 p.m. Worship 5:30 p.m. Worship 6:15 p.m. Lenten Supper (Youth)
<b>March 22:</b>	12:00 p.m. Worship 5:30 p.m. Worship 6:15 p.m. Lenten Supper (Council)
<b>March 29:</b>	12:00 p.m. Worship 5:30 p.m. Worship 6:15 p.m. Lenten Supper (Choir)
<b>April 5:</b>	12:00 p.m. Worship 5:30 p.m. Worship 6:15 p.m. Lenten Supper (WELCA)
	<b>MAUNDAY THURSDAY</b>
<b>April 13:</b>	12:00 p.m. Worship 6:30 p.m. Worship
	<b>GOOD FRIDAY</b>
<b>April 14:</b>	12:00 p.m. Worship 6:30 p.m. Worship

**ADULT FORUMS** for the month of March will be led by Pastor Matt Agee on the Bible Readings he has designed for us for our Lenten Journey.

March 5 <sup>th</sup>	The Ten Commandments
March 12 <sup>th</sup>	The Creed
March 19 <sup>th</sup>	The Lord's Prayer
March 26 <sup>th</sup>	The Sacrament of Baptism
April 2 <sup>nd</sup>	The Sacrament of Holy Communion

**RESULTS FOR NEWLY ELECTED  
COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Term expires 2020: Ruth Duquaine  
Paul Kaestner-President  
Rich Radke



WOMEN OF THE ELCA BOARD MEETING will be held on March 6 at 1:30 p.m. in the conference room.

On March 20th at 7:00 p.m. LYDIA CIRCLE will meet in the conference room. Our Bible study session three is "Heirs of the Promise". For Paul Jesus Christ is both the cause and the center of the Christian family. In Christ we become daughters and sons of God. In baptism, we have been united with Christ. Please join us.

Tabitha Circle will meet in the Parlor on March 21<sup>st</sup> at 1:00.

**Living Simply with God:**



WELCA Lenten Thank Offering Project

**LENTEN THANK  
OFFERINGS**

This year the WELCA Board of Directors has chosen the ELCA World Hunger Appeal for their

Lenten Thankoffering project. Enclosed with this BUILDER is a "Living Simply with God" calendar. You are invited to adapt it as needed, along with Pastor's Lenten Bible reading plan, for your observance of the Lenten season. Offering containers are available at church. You may return them on Easter or the weeks following, or you may choose to write a check for the amount you set aside during the Lenten season. All gifts received will be forwarded to the ELCA's ongoing World Hunger project. For more information on how these gifts will be used, visit [www.elca.org/hunger](http://www.elca.org/hunger)

**WELCA will be taking donations for the  
Quilters in the month of March and April**



Needed: Cotton Fabric

Cash donation to purchase thread, sewing machine needles, have scissors sharpened.

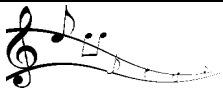
The following used supplies will be accepted if they are clean and in good condition: Old sheets, quilts, bedspreads, mattress pads, blankets, curtains and drapes (cotton only) and clothing large enough for squares—no jeans.

Ways you can help with quilting:

Help is needed to cut squares and sew quilt tops at home.

Anyone interested in helping with the quilts at church can stop in and see what the quilters do. We are downstairs in Stecker Hall every Tuesday from 9:00 am until noon.

**Come whenever you can,  
stay as long as you are able**



**MUSIC MINISTRY**

**MARCH 5** – 5:00 Dinner served by Youth  
6:00 Talent Show

All are welcome! Dinner is in Stecker Hall. Freewill donations will be accepted and given to youth that will attend the 2018 National Youth Gathering. The Talent Show is in the sanctuary.

**MARCH 19** - A Flute Ensemble will play for the 10:30 worship service on Sunday, March 19. Anyone who has played flute for at least 2 years and is in 7<sup>th</sup> grade or older is welcome to join us. Call Janet for more information at 979-3416.

**MARCH 22** – The Marian University Choir will sing for our Lent Midweek worship service at 5:30.

Questions? Contact Janet at 979-3416 or [music@oursavioursfdl.org](mailto:music@oursavioursfdl.org).

**FONDY FOOD PANTRY MARCH**

M any	M ac & Cheese,
A re	A pplesauce,
R ich with	R ice side dishes and
C haritable	C omplete pancake mix will
H earts.	H elp feed the hungry.

M ay  
A ll  
R each out to  
C are for  
H is/her neighbor. Thanks.

**Financial Peace University** (FPU) is a 9 lesson, money-management course taught by America's most trusted **financial** guru, Dave Ramsey. Dave and his teaching team will walk you through the basics of budgeting, dumping debt, planning for the future, and much more. We encourage you to become a member of this class which will be facilitated at Church of Our Saviour. Registration is open now through March 16. See the announcement in the Builder for further information.

**MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT –  
GENERAL FUND**

	Jan.	YEAR TO DATE
<b>General Fund Income (includes daycare rent*)</b>	\$18,891.	\$18,891
<b>General Fund Expenses:</b>	\$21,085.	\$21,085.
<b>Loan Principal Payments:</b>	\$1,805.	\$1,805.
<b>Addition Principal Payments:</b>	\$135.	\$135.
<b>Total General Fund Expenditures:</b>	\$23,025.	\$23,025.
<b>Net Gain / Loss:</b>	\$(4,134).	\$(4,134.)
<b>Current Bank Loan Balance \$209,524.75. as of 01/10/2017</b>		

**ESTATE PLANNING**

We appreciate those who have remembered Church of Our Saviour in their trusts and wills. If you have not done so, we ask you to prayerfully consider Church of Our Saviour in your estate planning.

**MARCH BIRTHDAYS**

- 1 Justin Potratz
- 1 Jessie Stanchfield
- 2 Marjorie Gordon
- 2 Jason Harder
- 2 Heidi McEssey
- 2 Patricia Sabel
- 3 Shane Baldauf
- 3 Fred Born
- 3 Cheryl Teichmiller
- 4 Thomas Hendricks

- 4 Claudia Hintz
- 6 Mary Hintz
- 6 Jan Stuhr
- 8 Angie Benson
- 11 Edith Hernandez
- 11 Larry Shady
- 12 Daniel Potratz
- 12 Rich Radke
- 13 David Klahn
- 13 Richard Weiss
- 13 Payten Jean WYROBECK
- 14 Aubree King
- 15 Jane Emery
- 15 Alexandra Petri
- 16 Kenneth Bengel
- 16 Hope Eigenbrodt
- 16 Sharon Perreau
- 17 Easton Fyvie
- 17 Alyssa Halfman
- 17 Eric Kaufman
- 17 Patrick Schuppe
- 19 Jason Lavrenz
- 19 Ida Seager
- 19 Bryan Whitenack
- 19 Earle Winberg
- 20 Giavanna Anthony
- 21 Korbin Banks
- 21 Traci Bohnsack
- 21 Lorri Heimbach
- 21 Gabriel Maurer
- 21 Janice Opatik
- 22 Canon Fyvie
- 22 Teri Garlow
- 22 Emily Shippee
- 23 Bart Christensen
- 23 Traci Schwartz
- 24 Gabriella Anthony
- 24 Steven Inks
- 25 Frances Templin
- 26 Landon Arthurs
- 26 Bette EYERS
- 26 Ethan Thew/Rauch
- 28 Douglas Decker
- 29 Linus Munson
- 29 Jeanne Schierstedt
- 30 Shelly Barnes
- 30 Rylan Boris
- 31 Robert Bosin
- 31 Boyd Kelm

## March 31<sup>st</sup> Deadline for directing your Thrivent Choice Dollars

Please visit: [Thrivent.com/thriventchoice](http://Thrivent.com/thriventchoice) before March 31<sup>st</sup> 2017 to direct your 2016 Choice Dollars.

In the Direct Choice Dollars section on the right, click “**Get started now.**” If you have any questions please call Char Bohnsack at 920.602.1463. Or the church office at 920.922.0020. Thank You!

### XYZ = eXtra Years of Zest

Please join us as XYZ starts a new year! No need to sign up. Come as you are able, for the



meal, activities or both. **ALL AGES ARE INVITED AND WELCOME!**

**A - Activities following lunch**

**B – Bountiful Potluck Buffet**

**C – Camaraderie with Contemporaries**

Continuing in the New Year, we will have an ACTIVITY following our fellowship potluck meal. The schedule for **Monday, March 20** is...

a guest speaker - Julie Hilbert from Fond du Lac County Senior Services who will update us on changes in Health care, housing options, transportation and any other area of interest to anyone who attends our potluck. Come and ask your questions and listen to what Julie will tell us.

**FOR THE POTLUCK, NEW** guidelines - choose just ONE of three options:

- Bring a dish to share (hot dish, salad, dessert, etc.)
- OR make a small donation to help with costs
- ALL are welcome with or WITHOUT a donation!!

You can bring your own table service or use the disposable plates provided. Potluck ends around 1 p.m. Activities will conclude by 3 p.m. or before.

### CHURCH WOMEN UNITED WORLD DAY OF PRAYER MARCH 3, 2017

World Day of Prayer is a worldwide ecumenical movement of women of many faiths who come together to observe a common day of prayer on the first Friday in March.

All women of Church of Our Saviour are invited to attend Fond du Lac's event on March 3<sup>rd</sup> at 1:30 p.m. at Salem United Methodist Church, 120 Sheboygan Street. Women from the Philippines have written this year's observance based on the theme,

“Am I being unfair to you?”

If you would like a ride, please call Joanne at 923-1057. Please join us as we learn of how we are wonderfully blessed and how we can join in prayerful action.

Church Women United General Meeting will be held on March 16 at Memorial Baptist Church, 645 Forest Avenue, Fond du Lac at 9:15 a.m. We always have a guest speaker in addition to our business meeting. Need a ride or have questions call Jill Bjornstad (922-1556), Pauline Wallendal (929-6468) or Joanne Talaska (923-1057).

## COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS • February, 2017

- President Paul Kaestner opened the meeting by having members introduce themselves, including new members Richard Radke and Mary Arthur (secretary).
- Staff has been holding regular meetings on Tuesday mornings.
- Pastor Agee will use Luther's Small Catechism for our Lenten theme, including midweek services and the Adult Forum.
- Pastor conducted two funerals in the past month, made 8 hospital visits and 5 home visits.
- David Hein and the Marian University singers will provide special music for one midweek service during Lent.
- Rich and Janet Radke, along with Pastor Agee, attended the Oshkosh Conference meeting in Ripon recently. Rich offered information on the 8<sup>th</sup> Day Project in Oshkosh, a non-traditional Christian community that shares a vision for social justice and spiritual practices.
- Pastor and Janet Radke have been involved in organizing a community festival for the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Reformation, tentatively scheduled for a weekend in October.
- Property Committee report:
  - Reviewing proposals to complete railings in front of church
  - Floors on both levels have been stripped and waxed
  - Bids and City requirements for parking lot drainage and reconstruction are being reviewed
  - Boiler leaks have been repaired
  - Follow-up with daycare staff is needed to facilitate maintenance of kitchen facilities
- Council will provide Lenten supper on March 22.
- Photo Directory—several delays prevented completion of this project. Pastor is currently checking out a new company to produce a photo directory for the congregation.
- Committee structure and council assignments were discussed. The restructuring plan developed prior to Pastor Agee's arrival will be reviewed in anticipation of updating our organizational (committee) structure.