



CHURCH OF OUR
SAVIOUR
— FOND DU LAC —

VOLUME 90
No. 5

MAY
2024



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From the Pastor

Greetings!

Alleluia, Christ is Risen! Christ is Risen indeed, Alleluia!

We are still in the season of Easter as we enter May. The season spans the 50 days between the Resurrection and the Ascension. Soon, after Ascension we hit Pentecost. With an early Easter, Pentecost is also early this year, landing before Memorial Day weekend, on May 19. Pentecost is lovingly known as the Birthday of the Church, as that is the day we celebrate the coming of the promised Holy Spirit, the Advocate as a mighty rushing wind and tongues of flame! Then the following Sunday we celebrate Trinity Sunday, as we contemplate the mystery of the Holy Trinity, the three persons in one.

With the start of June, we will start a summer series- "This is my Story, This is my Song." Last summer, I asked you all for your faith questions. This summer, I am asking you all to submit your favorite hymns. I will choose a few hymns for each week, we will sing them, and we will hear the history of the hymns. Along the way, I might introduce some new hymns as well. There will be a basket on the credenza for you to submit your hymn selection, and a form will also be available online via a link in eNews. If you are willing, I would love to hear why that is your favorite hymn.

Blessings+

Pastor Crystal



DAY OF PENTECOST SUNDAY, MAY 19

Fifty days after Easter, we celebrate the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost. Along with Christmas and Easter, Pentecost is one of the three most important and celebratory days of the church year. We

receive the promised gift of the Holy Spirit. On this festival day, everyone is encouraged to wear something red to recall the red of the tongues of flames which descended on the disciples that first Pentecost.

BABY GRAND PIANO

Bob and Sandy Martin have generously donated their Yamaha baby grand piano to Church of Our Saviour. It is a fine instrument and will be a blessing to our music ministry. Thank you, Bob and Sandy, for this wonderful gift!



Women of The ELCA Board will meet via Zoom on Monday, May 6, at 1:45 p.m.

The Tabitha and Lydia Circles, along with the quilters, will have a joint luncheon meeting at Gilles on Tuesday, May 21 at 1:00 p.m. If the weather is unsuitable, we will move our gathering to the church and have someone pick up food from Gilles. ***All the ladies of our congregation are welcome to join us for this afternoon of fellowship.***

Lydia Circle will meet on Tuesday, May 28 at 1:30 p.m. in the parlor.

Annual "LADIES NIGHT OUT" will be Thursday, June 13 at Sunset on the Lake. We will have the private room and order from the menu. Gather at 5:30 p.m. and dinner at 6:00 p.m. A sign-up will be posted.

BABY CARE KIT DONATIONS

WELCA is collecting for Lutheran World Relief Baby Care Kits during the months of May and June. Each kit includes:

- Two lightweight cotton t-shirts
- Two long- or short-sleeved gowns or sleepers (without feet)
- Two receiving blankets, medium-weight cotton or flannel, or crocheted or knitted with lightweight yarn, up to 52" square
- Four cloth diapers, flat fold preferred
- One jacket, sweater or sweatshirt with a hood, or include a baby cap
- Two pairs of socks
- One hand towel, dark color recommended
- Two bath-size bars (4 to 5 oz.) of gentle soap, in original wrapping
- Two diaper pins or large safety pins

Your donations of items from the list are welcome, as well as money with which to purchase items. Donations may be brought to church on Sunday mornings or during weekly office hours.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Sunday School children will sing for the May 5th worship service. The last day of Sunday School classes for the spring will be May 12.

VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION

All volunteers will be recognized and thanked on Sunday, May 12 at the 9 a.m. worship service. Please see the enclosed insert and Time and Talent Form and let us know how YOU will volunteer your time and talents here at Church of Our Saviour!

BLESSING OF GRADUATES

Are there any high school or college students from Church of Our Saviour graduating this year? If so, please provide that information to the church office (920-922-0020 or email office@oursavioursfdl.org) prior to June 4 so that we can include them in a special blessing on Sunday, June 9th.

MONDAY BOOK CLUB

Mondays • Noon – 1:30 p.m. on Zoom

The Monday Book Club began reading a new book on April 22: **“Lessons from Lucy: the Simple Joys of an Old, Happy Dog.”** As author Dave Barry turns seventy—not happily—he realizes that his dog, Lucy, is dealing with old age far better than he is. Well-known for his humorous writing, Dave Barry has written a witty, yet touching guide to joyous living at any age.

Newcomers are invited to join the group and enjoy this new book with them. Meetings begin at 12 p.m. on Zoom, with a half-hour of fellowship followed by an hour of reading and sharing. Please contact Mary Arthur, maryarthur@charter.net, if you would like to receive the Zoom link via email each week. The link is also posted in the weekly eNEWS calendar.

FMSC REPORT

The Fond du Lac MobilePack packed a total of 139,192 meals, thanks to the efforts of 500 volunteers.

- 360 Boxes – 77,760 meals – 213 kids for a year went to Nicaragua with the FMSC partner Cross Catholic
- 252 Boxes – 54,432 meals – 149 kids for a year went to Togo with the FMSC partner Reach Now International.

We met our fundraising goal of \$38,800, which will cover the cost of food ingredients. You heard God’s call and responded overwhelmingly. We praise God for this. Thank you! Any additional funds will be used for the 2025 MobilePack.

We’re grateful for the opportunity we had to come together as a community and serve God by working to feed children around the world. We ask that you continue to pray for the safety of those who will deliver meals to FMSC partners around the world, and for guidance and protection for those partners of FMSC who will go to great lengths to get the food to the people and communities who need it most. Lastly, please continue to pray for the children who will receive the meals, that this food replenishes their bodies and spirits.

CARING AND SHARING WITH RIVERSIDE KIDS

It is always wonderful to go to the credenza in the hallway and find that you have been so generous in your support of the Riverside Closet. We take your gifts, sort them into sizes and gender, and put the items in the appropriate totes. Families come and are happy to find needed items for their children. Your gifts have a very significant impact on our community. Thank you so much.

The next date for the closet to be open is Thursday, May 16. We can really use more seasonal clothing - short sleeved shirts, light weight pants, shorts, sweaters and jackets for Spring and Summer seasons. We are well stocked and so do not need jeans, pajamas, socks and underwear. Anything else in sizes 4T through 14 (XL) will be put to very good use. Of course, if you come across a great deal on any kids’ clothing, we will be happy to add it to our inventory.

Please place your donations in the baskets marked Riverside Closet in the hallway credenza by Wednesday, May 15. Thank you for being God’s hands and feet in our community. Your witness to those who come to the closet is profound.

SOLUTIONS CENTER “ITEM OF THE MONTH”

The May item is COMPUTER PAPER. Donations may be left in the credenza in the hallway.

FINANCIAL REPORT - MARCH, 2024 (YTD)

General Fund Income YTD:	\$70,464
General Fund Expenses:	\$66,669
Loan Principal Payments:	\$ 2,916
Total Gen. Fund Expenditures:	\$69,585
Net Gain/Loss, to date 2024:	\$ 879
Add. Qtrly. Principal Payments:	\$445**
Proc. fees added to Principal:	\$ 2,836
Loan Balance as of 03/31/24:	\$147,017
<i>**gifts designated for debt reduction are sent to MIF at the end of each calendar quarter.</i>	
CAPITAL IMPR. DONATIONS TO DATE:	\$90,334
CAPITAL IMPR. EXPENDITURES TO DATE:	\$75,799
CAP.IMP. FUNDS ON HAND, 3/31/24:	\$14,535

PROPOSED NEW MISSION STATEMENT

At the annual Council Retreat in March, a new Mission Statement and Guiding Principles for our congregation were developed. Congregational input from Sunday forums, discussions and surveys over the past 18 months were used to inform and guide the Council's work. At the Forum on April 28, these new documents were presented for discussion. The proposed statements are:

**MISSION STATEMENT
(WE ARE) A WELCOMING COMMUNITY
CALLED TO SERVE OTHERS
IN GOD'S LOVE.**

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Church of Our Saviour is a community where:

- Jesus is Lord and Savior
- We spread God's love through word and actions
- All have a place without judgement
- You can ask for and receive help.
- Opportunities are provided to grow in faith.

Feedback from the congregation is encouraged and will be appreciated. It is our intent to begin using these new statements informally for the rest of the year, and a formal motion to adopt them will be brought forward at the annual meeting of the congregation in January, 2025.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS REPORT

During April, the focus was on our floors, with new flooring installed in the kitchen and in the upstairs hallways and gathering space. Klapperich Flooring installed the floors, and volunteers from the Property Committee stepped up to repaint the hallways before the flooring was laid. Many thanks to our tireless committee members who are contributing their time and talents to move the improvements along.

Next items will be installation of a new door on the west side of the education wing, and repair of the doors to the parking lot.



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.

FOR THE RECORD

—Deaths—

June Diener - April 19, 2024

Sandra Carter - April 19, 2024

Marabell Juedes - April 20, 2024

YOUTH CORNER

YOUTH GROUP MEETINGS

The final youth group session of this school year will be May 15.

Watch for events over the summer!