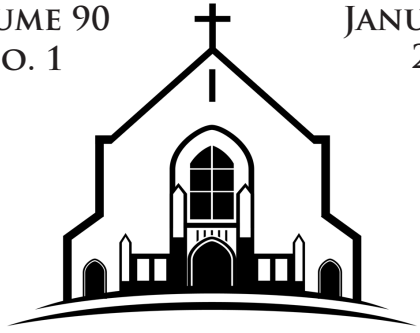




CHURCH OF OUR
SAVIOUR
— FOND DU LAC —

VOLUME 90
No. 1

JANUARY
2024



THE BUILDER

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

From the Pastor

Happy New Year, Beloveds!

We are entering yet another new year, 2024. As we start 2024, we are still in the season of Christmas with the 12 days ending with Epiphany on January 6. We will recognize Epiphany on January 7 during worship.

My first January here, I introduced the idea of Star Words, and I am bringing them back this year. These get their names for being words written on stars providing a word to ponder all year long. On Epiphany we hear the story of the wise men traveling a long distance to bring their gifts to the newborn Christ-child. In so doing, they were responding to the gift first given to them. As we remember the arrival of the wise men and their offerings, we will receive this paper reminder that symbolizes God's generosity in our lives- and sometimes in ways that we would never expect.

So, in worship on January 7, you will have the opportunity to draw a word from a basket. These words will provide a way to be still in the presence of God, and pay attention in one specific way to God's gifts in your life. You are encouraged to hang these words somewhere you will see them each day- be it on the bathroom mirror or the refrigerator. Allow the word to speak to you. I will also try to include a monthly question to help you focus on your word.

Rather than drawing a random word for Church of Our Saviour, there has been a word I have chosen for us, as it keeps coming back to me. The 2024 word for Church of Our Saviour is: Invitation. Throughout 2024, I invite you all to see how we, individually and as a congregation, see invitation at play in the life and ministry of Church of Our Saviour.

If you are unable to join us on Jan. 7, and would like a Star Word, please reach out to me, and I will send you one.

Blessings +

Pastor Crystal

WELCA NEWS

Women of The ELCA Board will meet via Zoom on Monday, January 8 at 1:45 p.m.

Lydia Circle meets on Tuesday, January 23 at 1:30 p.m in the parlor. All are invited to join us.

Tabitha Circle meets on Tuesday, January 16 at 1:00 p.m. in the parlor.

Thank you to everyone who baked and packed cookies, donated containers, purchased the poinsettias and delivered our gifts to our shut-ins. They put smiles on many faces!

The Christmas decorations will be taken down on Wednesday, January 10 at 6:00 p.m. Lots of help is needed and of course we need ladder climbers! Youth will help before they go on to Youth Group.

PERSONAL CARE KITS

WELCA is collecting items for Lutheran World Relief PERSONAL CARE KITS during the months of January and February. Money or actual items may be donated. Items needed are bath size towels, bath size bar soap, adult size tooth brushes in original packaging, combs and metal nail clippers. Donations may be brought to church on Sunday mornings or during weekly office hours.

WINTER WEATHER CLOSINGS

Please note that if it is necessary to cancel Sunday worship/education hour due to weather, we will notify local radio stations including B104.7 FM, KFIZ Radio (AM 1450) Website:www.kfiz.com, WFDL(Sunny 97.7 FM) and WFRV TV-Channel 5 (Green Bay) as soon as the decision is made. We will also post the information on our Facebook page.

Even if we decide NOT to cancel, please use your own good judgment on whether it is feasible for you to brave the weather (the difference between city and country driving is often great).

During the week, our events and office will be cancelled when the public schools are closed.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION

SUNDAY, JAN. 28 · 10:15 A.M.

POTLUCK LUNCH

FOLLOWING MEETING

CALLING ALL MEMBERS! GET READY FOR THE 2024 FOND DU LAC MOBILEPACK!

The Fond du Lac 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. And, your help as one of over 500 volunteers is needed that day for the packing.

Important dates:

- February -- City-wide "Have-a-Heart" Campaign month. Our giving tree will be in the narthex during February. You can give online at give.fmsc.org/fdl any time using the Fond du Lac MobilePack number, #2404-032SC.
- February 5 – Online volunteer sign-up. Volunteer at: give.fmsc.org/fdl. Or by contacting Sue at rstedt@charter or 920-251-8027. Choose to work one or more of the packing shifts which will be 9-11 am; 12-2 pm and 3-5 pm.
- April 6 -- MobilePack at the Fond du Lac Fairgrounds Recreation Building.

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

SOLUTIONS CENTER "ITEM OF THE MONTH"

January item is coffee (regular). Donations may be left in the hallway credenza.

SUNDAY FORUM

10:15 A.M. IN THE PARLOR

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

SUNDAY, JANUARY 7

Pastor Crystal will lead a discussion on Mission and Values.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 14

Finance Committee will present the 2024 Budget for discussion and answer questions.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 21

Cindy and Doug Decker will give a presentation on their travels to Iceland and Southern India.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 28

Annual Meeting - no forum

SUNDAY FORUM SCHEDULE

There is a sign-up form for Sunday Forum leadership and topics on the bulletin board.

CHAMBER CONCERT › FEB. 4

Enjoy this annual concert of classical and popular music by soloists and ensembles from the Fond du Lac Symphoinc Band. Our congregation has been hosting this concert annually for over 30 years! We appreciate the opportunity to help bring this and other musical events to the community.

CARING AND SHARING WITH RIVERSIDE KIDS

At the end of our open closet on Dec. 21, we were so happy to see that there was still some clothing in most of the totes. That means parents were able to make choices rather than just take whatever was needful. The choices speak volumes to knowing that other people care about their neighbors and are willing to help.

We will gratefully accept any donations you make, but immediate needs for January are as follows:

- Socks for girls and boys
- Underwear for girls - size 4, size 14-16
- Underwear for boys - size 10/12, 14-16

- Girls sweat pants - sizes 4T through 14/16 or XL
- Girls long sleeved tops - sizes 5 and 6
- Girls pants. - size 6/6X
- Girls winter sweaters - size 10/12, 14/16

- Boy pants/jeans/sweat pants - size 4T, 5, 6, 7
- Boys long sleeved shirts - size 4T, 6, 7

- Snowpants - size 7/8, 14//16 XL

You are a blessing to others, thank you for putting your love into action.

THANK YOU!!!

Thank you so much for your amazing response to our Thrivent action team projects. The giving tree ornaments disappeared and the gifts filled the big blue tote and then overflowed onto the floor around it! It was very evident that the parents were grateful for what they were able to provide for their children. How special that in this colder weather, we know that children in Fond du Lac are able to have what they need to stay warm. Warm bodies and warm hearts are special gifts to those parents who carry that concern. May God continue to inspire us to care for all of God's children. You know the need, you do what you can to fill that need, you are faithful children of God who help families in need. Thank you and God bless you.

FINANCIAL REPORT - YR TO DATE (11/30/23)

General Fund Income	\$236,964
General Fund Expenses:	\$201,637
Loan Principal Payments:	\$ 19,056
Total Gen. Fund Expenditures:	<u>\$220,693</u>
Net Gain/Loss, YTD:	(\$16,271)
Addl. Qtrly. Principal Payments:	\$1,845**
MIF Loan Balance as of 11/30/23:	\$149,734
<i>**gifts designated for debt reduction are sent to MIF at the end of each calendar quarter.</i>	
General Fund Income to date in 2022:	\$222,637
General Fund Income increase this yr:	\$14,327



-CHRISTMAS PROGRAM-

Sunday School and confirmation youth presented their Christmas program during worship on Dec. 17, with assistance from Erin Steward and Bruce Nyberg. Thanks to Janet Radke, Marcia Snyder, and Kelly Roberts for planning and preparing the program.

**TALENT SHOW
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25**

5 p.m. • pancake supper served by youth
6 p.m. • show

The Talent Show and Dinner will be Sunday, February 25. A pancake dinner will be served by Youth at 5:00, and the show is at 6:00. Please sign up on the bulletin board and share any kind of talent that you might have. All ages are encouraged to participate! It's not too early to think about how you'd like to be involved! Here are some ideas - vocal solo, instrumental solo/ensemble, karate demonstration, juggling, magic acts, card tricks, cooking demonstration, jump rope demonstration, whistling, dramatic reading, gymnastic routine, comedy skit, celebrity impressions, hula hoop, yoga demonstration, balloon art, Rubik's cube demo, yoyo routine. If you need more ideas, talk to Janet.

**DISCOVER CHURCH
OF OUR SAVIOUR**

Are you looking for more information about Church of Our Saviour, or do you or someone you know wish to become a member of our congregation?

Join Pastor Crystal following worship on January 14th for brunch and conversation.

If you plan to attend please let Pastor Crystal know or email pastorcrystal@oursaviourfdl.org

New Members will be welcomed during Worship January 28th.

TRIVIA NIGHT

Saturday, January 13 • 6:00 p.m.

Mark your calendars, January 13th at 6:00 pm we will be hosting a Trivia night!

8 member teams will compete in a friendly competition. You can form your own team or come and a team will be assigned.

**FOR THE RECORD
DEATH**

Arlene Neumann • Dec. 16, 2023

YOUTH CORNER

Youth Group
6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.
Jan. 3 & Jan. 10

January

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<u>1</u> New Years Day 5:30pm- Property	<u>2</u> 9-1pm- Quilters	<u>3</u> 5:45pm- Bells 6:45pm- Adult Choir 6:30- Youth Group	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>
<u>7</u> 9:00am- Worship 10:15- Fellowship & Education	<u>8</u> 12:00-Zoom Book Club 1:45pm- WELCA Board- Zoom	<u>9</u> 9-1pm- Quilters 3:45pm- Worship & Music	<u>10</u> 11:30pm- Executive Meeting 5:45pm Bells 6:00pm Christmas Decoration Take Down 6:45pm Adult Choir 6:30- Youth Group	<u>11</u> 3:30pm- Finance	<u>12</u>	<u>13</u> 6:00- Trivia Night
<u>14</u> 9:00am- Worship 10:15- Fellowship & Education 10:30- Discovering COOS	<u>15</u> 12:00-Zoom Book Club 6:15pm- Council	<u>16</u> 9-1pm- Quilters 1:00pm- Tabitha Circle	<u>17</u> 5:45pm- Bells Choir 6:45pm- Adult Choir	<u>18</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>20</u>
<u>21</u> 9:00- Worship 10:15- Fellowship & Education	<u>22</u> 12:00-Zoom Book Club	<u>23</u> 9-1pm- Quilters 1:30- Lydia Circle	<u>24</u> 5:45pm- Bells Choir 6:45pm- Adult Choir	<u>25</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>27</u>
<u>28</u> 9:00- Worship- Welcome New Members 10:15- Annual Congregational Meeting w/ Potluck	<u>29</u> 12:00-Zoom Book Club	<u>30</u> 9-1pm- Quilters	<u>31</u> 5:45pm- Bells Choir 6:45pm- Adult Choir			



Church of Our Saviour

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OFFICE HOURS:

M-TH-8:30-2:30

STAFF:

Rev. Crystal Lee, Pastor

Kim Jodarski, Organist

Janet Radke, Music Ministry

Coordinator

Emily Zeise, Parish Administrator

Jeff Jodarski, Custodian

