OUR SAVIOUR'S UCC
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RIPON, WI 54971

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THE MESSENGER

Vol. 102, No. 11 November 2026 Ripon, WI.



November 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 All Saints Day 9:00 am Worship Service - Communion 10:00 am Blood Pressure Clinic **Daylight Savings Time Begins**	**2** 6:15 pm Puppet Practice	**3 Election Day** 5:00 pm Sharing Table Community Meal, OSUCC	**4** 9:00 am MBS Clinic	**5** 6:00 pm Lego Team 5:15 pm Senior Choir 6:30 pm Worship Service	**6**	**7**
8 9:00 am Worship Service - Stewardship Sunday	**9** 1:00 am Science Club 6:15 pm Puppet Practice 6:30 am Church Council Mtg	**10** 5:00 pm Sharing Table Community Meal, Grace Lutheran	**11** 9:00 am MBS Clinic 9:30 am Called to Care Mtg	**12** 5:15 pm Senior Choir 6:00 pm Lego Team 6:30 pm Worship Service	**13**	**14**
15 Deadline for Shoebox Donations 9:00 am Worship 10:00 am Altar Guild 6:00 pm Lego Team	**16** 4:00 pm Worship Comm 5:30 pm Christian Ed 6:15 pm Puppet Practice 6:30 pm Evangelism	**17** 5:30 pm Missions Comm 5:00 pm Sharing Table Community Meal, Immanuel UMC	**18** 9:00 am MBS Clinic 1:00 pm Senior Center BP Clinic	**19** 5:15 pm Senior Choir 6:00 pm Lego Team 6:30 pm Worship Service	**20**	**21** December Messenger Deadline
22 Harvest Ingathering 9:00 am Worship Service 6:00 pm Lego Team	**23** No Puppet Practice	**24** 5:00 pm Sharing Table Community Meal, 1st Congregational UCC	**25** 9:00 am MBS Clinic	**26 Closed** 	**27**	**28**
29 Advent 1 9:00 am Worship Service 6:00 pm Lego Team	**30** 6:15 pm Puppet Practice					

November



Schedule

Liturgist

Nov 1	Keith Mulder
Nov 8	Cal Fischer
Nov 15	Rorie Nitz
Nov 22	Dianne Heyn
Nov 29	Kelly Mundell

Usher/Greeters

Nov 1	Team 3
Nov 8	Team 4
Nov 15	Team 5
Nov 22	Team 6
Nov 29	Team 1

Gatekeepers

Nov 1	Pat Gittens
Nov 8	Keith & Becky Mulder
Nov 15	Pete & Kathy Schieler
Nov 22	Tom & Julie Stellmacher
Nov 29	Rick & Barb Stracy

Van Drivers

Nov 1	Jackie Bogucke
Nov 8	Bob Lueck
Nov 15	Ricky Prellwitz
Nov 22	Tom Stellmacher
Nov 29	Rick Stracy

Call Church Office by 12PM Thursday before the following Sunday to reserve a seat!

Audio/Visual Operators

Nov 1	John Kwiatkoske/Kelly Mundell
Nov 8	Keith Mulder/Kelly Mundell
Nov 15	Kelly Mundell/Judy Lueck
Nov 22	Bob Meyer/Kelly Mundell
Nov 29	Juhn Kwiatkoske/Phil Wepner

Worship Bulletins

Bulletins are mailed out on Wednesday's and are also available in the North Narthex for pickup.

Communion Servers

Nov 1	Judy Maguire & Patti Schaalma

Coffee Hour

Come enjoy coffee, juice, and baked goods after the 9:00 AM Worship Service.
Everyone is welcome!

Interested in hosting coffee hour? The signup book is on the counter by the microwave in the East Narthex.

Altar Guild Committee for October

Pat Gittens, Debbie Hahn, Judy Heitmann, Julie Stellmacher, Tammy Widlake

From Our Parish Nurse

Each year the U.S. observes Antibiotic Awareness Week between November 18-24 th . This week is used to raise awareness about the importance of proper antibiotic use, and the threat antimicrobial resistance poses to people, animals, plants, and their shared environment. Here are some key messages highlighted in the CDC's *Antibiotic Do's and Dont's*.

- Stay healthy and keep others healthy: Clean your hands by washing with soap and water or using hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol, cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing, stay home when you're sick, avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands, avoid close contact with people who are sick, get recommended vaccines.

- Take antibiotics ONLY when you need them: Antibiotics ONLY treat certain infections caused by bacteria, such as: strep throat, whooping cough, or UTI's. Antibiotics DO NOT work on viruses, because viruses are germs different than bacteria. Antibiotics do not treat infections caused by viruses such as those that cause: colds and runny noses, sore throat, flu, most cases of chest colds. Antibiotics will NOT make you feel better if you have a virus. Taking antibiotics when you do not need them will not help you, and their side effects can still cause harm. Talk to your healthcare provider about the best treatment for you when you are sick.

- Take antibiotics exactly as prescribed: If antibiotics are the best treatment when you're sick: take them exactly as prescribed, do not share them with others, do not save them for later, do not take antibiotics prescribed for someone else. Taking the wrong medicine for an illness may delay correct treatment and can cause severe side effects.

What is Drug resistance?

- Drug resistance happens when bacteria and fungi develop the ability to defeat the antibiotics or antifungals meant to kill them
- When the germs are not killed, they continue to grow and multiply

These germs can cause drug-resistant infections, which can be difficult and sometimes impossible to treat

- Drug-resistant infections can affect anyone at any life stage, and drug-resistant germs can quickly spread across settings including communities, the food supply, healthcare facilities, the environment, and around the world
- In the U.S., more than 2.8 million drug-resistant infections occur each year, causing more than 35,000 deaths annually
- Preventing infections from happening in the first place is a great way to combat drug resistance, you can do this by keeping cuts clean and covered, washing your hands, and getting recommended vaccines

Following the steps above for appropriate antibiotic use is another way to combat drug resistance
For more information you can visit https://www.cdc.gov/antibiotic-use/php/usaaw-partner-toolkit/index.html

Emily Burk, RN, OSUCC Parish Nurse

More Ministries, Projects, and News

The Ripon Sharing Table Free Community Meals

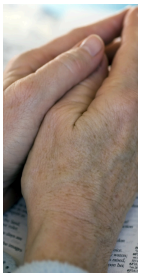
Our October 6th Sharing Table Community meal was attended, with 130 meals served and some new faces were in attendance as well. The pork chop dinner was very much enjoyed, as were the wonderful array of desserts, and the raffle baskets.

For our Tuesday, November 2nd meal we'll be serving a Turkey dinner with the fixings. We are looking for homemade fall-type desserts from our wonderful bakers; think fall fruits, pumpkin, spices, nuts, caramel, butterscotch, and of course chocolate (which goes with any season!). We are anticipating a larger than normal crowd for this dinner so if you can help in some way it would be much appreciated!

All in our community are welcome to join us for these Sharing Table Free Community Meals and families are welcome. We do have highchairs available for those with "Littles". We'll be serving from 5 pm till 6 pm.

Thank you so much to all who continue to volunteer the time and talents supporting this mission project. Each and every one of you is so very appreciated!

Prayer Chain Ministry



In our Prayers: Brent Heitmann, Emily McGuire, Maggie Moon, the family and friends of Ron Altnau, and 12 Unspoken.

Feel free to add yourself or a loved one to our prayer chain ministry by contacting Caroline Retzlaff at 920-748-2367 or Rev. Kevin.

Church Council News

At the October Church Council meeting, the Council discussed and approved a donation of $500 that will be added to the money donated by our members for Ripon Community Food Pantry's Holiday Meals program. We will soon see envelopes available in the East Narthex, the Chapel, and the Sanctuary entrances to use if you wish to make a donation.

The November Sharing Table Community Meal is a turkey dinner, but we are aware that this has caught the community's attention since we are no longer holding our annual Turkey Dinner event. We are anticipating that there may be a much larger than usual attendance at our free community meal on Tuesday, November 3rd and are asking that anyone who can please come out to help with serving the meal that evening.

It is not served family style, but we still need people who can monitor the dessert table, who can carry a tray for those who need assistance in that way, who can help plate the food, who can help with coffee, milk and water, etc.

If you can help please let Nancy Henning know so that she can plan accordingly. Thank you!

Quotes for the Month

"Gratitude unlocks the fullness of life. It turns what we have into enough, and more." —Melody Beattie
"I am happy because I'm grateful. I choose to be grateful. That gratitude allows me to be happy." —Will Arnett

Ministries, Projects, and News

Matthew 25: Ministries Pill Bottle Collection

7,015 Pill Bottles in 2026!



And we're well on our way! Thank you for all your donations! We are so grateful for the steady donation of pill bottles of every type and size. Let's keep them multiplying in the closet like bunnies!

We are also grateful to several ladies here at OSUCC who volunteer their time to sort and pack the shipping boxes that we send out. Thank you, and you know who you are!
OSUCC is one of the last collection points in the area so this project is very important for helping keep the bottles out of landfills. We send them to Matthew 25: Ministries in Blue Ash, OH who ships the bottles to developing countries who need assistance in the improvement of available medical care and supplies.

Please continue dropping off pill bottles (with prescription labels removed) to the church office. If the office is closed, feel free to leave them in the brown plastic basket located on the table in the North Entrance vestibule. Thank you so much!

Pop Tabs for Ronald McDonald House

51,332 Pop Tabs in 2026!



Tabs can come from a variety of cans such as pet food, beverage cans, soup cans, tuna cans, etc. We appreciate all of those who have already donated their tabs, or are still working on their collection jar at home! We understand that even friends of friends have begun collecting and donating too, how exciting! Thank you all so very much!

The tabs collected are sent to Ronald McDonald House, who recycles them and uses the proceeds to help fund the general operations expense of the House--keeping it open to serve even more families. It's a win-win situation!

NexTrex "Recycle Beyond the Bag" Project

152 lbs of Plastic in 2026!



Hey, we've gotten the hang of this recycling thing and the news has spread to the community that we're doing it. We even spotted some water softener salt bags in one batch, bravo! Think beyond the pantry and grocery store bags-- so long as it's clean it can join it's relatives in the recycling bin.

Thank you to our members and to the community members who are hopping on board to help keep those plastics out of landfills. Our environment thanks you too!

More Committee News

Mission Committee

Missions Committee will meet next on Tuesday, November 17th, at 5:30 pm. This is a very active committee so if you are interested in joining us, we would be happy to welcome you!

Thank you to all who contributed to our Neighbors in Need collection, a total of $180 was contributed.

Operation Christmas Child- We will be having our shoebox filling party at our November Missions meeting, so continue to bring in your shoebox donation items. For the month of November we will be collecting "WOW" items. To see a full list of suggested items take a look at Nurse Emily's bulletin board outside the church office. Monetary donations can also be given to the church office. Shoeboxes are set out in the East Narthex for those of you who would like to fill one on your own. Please return them by Sunday, November 15th, so that all the shoeboxes can be turned in during the National Collection Week taking place November 16-23.

We will again be working with Traded Treasures to collect monetary donations to support their Family Holiday Meals program. Traded Treasures supplies local families in need with a holiday meal bag for Thanksgiving and also a bag for Christmas. Feel free to drop off your monetary donations in the church office.

Harvest Ingathering will take place Sunday, November 22nd, and the food donated will be split between Ripon Area Food Pantry and Ripon Community Food Pantry.

Parish Nurse News

Nurse Emily has changed her office day here at OSUCC from Thursday to Wednesday from 9am - Noon.

Her Mind, Body, Soul Clinic is held Wednesdays from 9:00 am until Noon and will be doing her member visits on Wednesday afternoons as well. If you would like a visit from her, please email her at osuccpnripon1@gmail.com or call her during office hours at 920-748-2544.

She will also be at the Senior Center for Blood Pressure checks on the 3rd Wednesday of each month, so that will be November 18th.

Worship Committee



Our next committee meeting is Monday, November 16th, at 4:00 pm. If you are interested in joining our Committee, please speak with Jeremy Schouten.

Thursday, October 29th, and Sunday, November 1st, is our All Saints Remembrance, a time during the worship service when we recognize all of our members who have passed away since November 2025, and who are forever in our hearts and memories.

Jared Stellmacher's organ concert on October 10th was very well attended and helped raise of $1,300 for the Sandy Polcyn Music Scholarship at Ripon College. Thank you to all who attended and enjoyed the reception also!

Should you have ideas, questions, concerns, or suggestions relating to our worship services please do not hesitate to speak with a committee member. Members of the committee are Debbie Hahn, Judy Heitmann, Keith Mulder, Jeremy Schouten, Julie Stellmacher, and Barbara Stracy.

Committee News

Altar Guild



The 2026 sign-up book is available on the stand outside of the church office. This sign-up is for each of the sponsorships. Altar flowers are $80 for 2 arrangements and Organ flowers are $50 for 1 arrangement. Radio Broadcasts are $50 per sponsor & $25 per sponsor per bulletin. All checks should be made out to OSUCC, with Altar Guild written on the memo line if you are sponsoring flowers, please. That makes the bookkeeping a whole lot easier!

Our next meeting is Sunday November 15th after the worship service. We invite anyone that would like to join Altar Guild to attend our meetings and learn more. If you have any questions about what Altar Guild does and the team approach we use, please feel free to contact Tammy Widlake at 920-517-1192 or Caroline Retzlaff at 920-748-2367.

Called to Care Committee

Nurse Emily holds her Mind, Body, Soul Clinic from 9 am till Noon on each Wednesday of the month. She can check blood pressure both at the MBS clinic or at the Blood Pressure Clinic on November 1st after worship service. If you would like a home visit from Nurse Emily please call 920-748-2544 during office hours or email her at osuccpnripon1@gmail.com.

You can also find Nurse Emily at the Senior Center on Wednesday, November 18th, from 1-3 pm. She'll be offering blood pressure checks there now also!

The next Called to Care meeting will be held Wednesday, November 11th, at 9:30 AM in the conference room.



Christian Education Committee

Our next committee meeting will be Monday, November 16th at 5:30 pm. We're looking forward to another exciting year of Christian Education opportunities here at OSUCC!

- **Adult Ed:** Meets at 10:30 am after Sunday service and runs through 11:15 am.
- **Christian Ed Classes**: Meets at 10:15 am and runs through 11:15 am. Children 3+ are welcome to attend.
- **Confirmation Class:** There are no youth of confirmation age this year, but will we will begin classes if anyone who is interested comes forward from the community.
- **Nursery**: We have a child/parent space available in the southwest corner of the West Narthex, adjacent to the back of the Sanctuary. There are restrooms nearby in the corridor leading to the Chapel that are outfitted with Koala Care changing stations for your convenience.

Evangelism Committee

The current issue of *The Upper Room* is available in the East Narthex, the North Narthex, and in front of the church office. There is no charge for this wonderful publication so please do take advantage of using it. There is a large print size and a small size available.

Our next committee meeting will be Monday, November 16th at 6:30 pm. If you are interested in joining our committee, please come to the meeting.

From the Pastor's Desk


Rev. Dr. Kevin Mundell

In Malta, Kelly and I were able to walk through the Collegiate Parish Church of St. Paul's Shipwreck located in Valletta. The church was built from 1570 to 1582 and has been an active Roman Catholic church ever since. The interior is stunning and feels like an art museum with all the painting and sculptures throughout the sanctuary and side chapels. The church was built as a pilgrimage church for Christians to visit and reflect on Paul's shipwreck and three months stay in Malta before he continued his imprisoned journey to Rome where he lived for two years before being beheaded. If you would like to read about Paul's journey to Malta and then Rome, read chapters 27-28 in the book of Acts.

There are two relics in this church on display. The first is an ornate case that contains a forearm and hand covered in ornate decoration with an open that allows one to see in the wrist to see a wrist bone. It is supposed to be one of the Apostle Paul's wrist bones. The second relic nearby in another glass case is a piece of a stone pillar. The piece is supposed to be part of the stone that the Romans used to cut off the Apostle Paul's head. Most of the paintings and sculptures within the church also focus on Paul and his story related to Malta as a Christian church was started during his three months wintering and Christianity spread throughout the island.

On the left side of the chancel is a large statue of St. Paul holding the word of God and behind him and to his side is a poisonous snake looking up at him. As the story goes, Paul was gathering wood for a fire and a poisonous snake bit him on the hand. The Islanders saw the snake bit as a sign that Paul was a murdered and waited for him to die. Paul shook off the snake and went back to doing what he was doing. After the islanders waited long enough and nothing happed to Paul, they changed their minds and decided that he was God

Above the alter is a painting of the shipwreck where God told Paul in a vision if everyone on the ship stayed together, God would keep them all safe. When the ship ran aground, (there are two places where the Maltese think it may have happened) everyone listened to Paul, stuck together and made it safely to shore where the local people welcomed them and took care of them. The ship had been trying to reach Rome before the winter set in and stopped all shipping. A storm sent them off coarse to crash in Malta. Paul stayed a prisoner with a Roman guard on the island country for three months until spring came and made shipping possible again.

Walking around in the sanctuary was amazing. You could see everywhere you turned that the church was built with love to remember Paul and his time in Malta. Everything about the church was there to remind us that God is amazing and that God's faithful, such as Paul were real, and walk around and lived on this Island for three months changing lives with the good news of Jesus' resurrection. It is easy to forget that Paul was a real person who walk in places we can still walk today. His words are from a real person in love with God.

God's Grace is Sufficient. Rev. Dr. Kevin Mundell

Welcome to The Messenger

Published by Our Saviour's UCC since 1924

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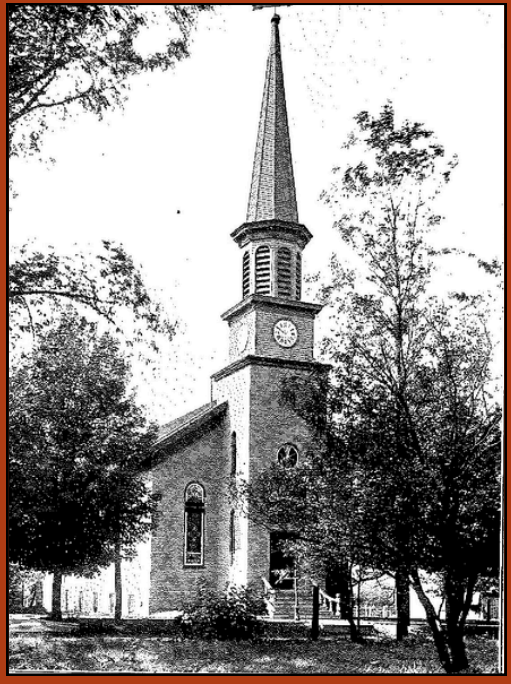
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Join us for Worship In-Person, Virtually, or by Radio!

Worship Services are Thursday at 6:30 pm in the Chapel and Sunday at 9:00 am in the Sanctuary. Both services are Livestreamed to Facebook, YouTube, and our website. On Sunday at 10:50 am you can also tune in to 1600AM WRPN to listen to the radio broadcast of the 9:00 am worship service.

For those who worship through our online opportunities, if you live in the greater Ripon area and would like Rev. Mundell to come by in person to visit and bring you communion, please call our church office at 920-748-2544 to set up an appointment. He is very happy to do that for you!

Deadline for the November 2026 Edition of The Messenger:

Events to be included on the calendar, committee updates, articles, etc. should be submitted to the office by **November 21st** via email to the Church office, osuccripon1@gmail.com, or you may drop your information in the office, or submit it using the the QR code at the right and filling out the short form that is automatically sent directly to the office email. Thank you.

QR Code

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