

OUR SAVIOUR'S UCC

343 SCOTT STREET

RIPON, WI 54971

Non-Profit  
Organization

U.S. POSTAGE

PAID

RIPON, WI

Permit No. 31

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

OUR SAVIOUR'S  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

FAITH FAMILY FRIENDSHIP

# THE MESSENGER

Vol. 100, No. 11

November 2024

Ripon, WI.

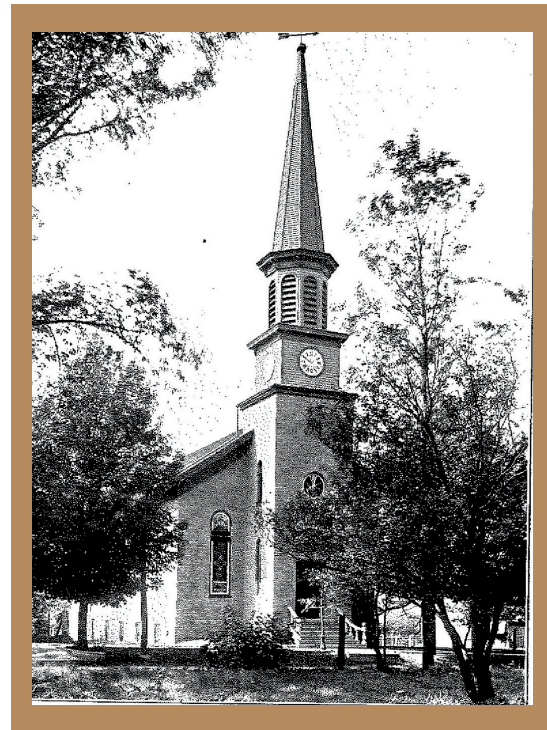


# NOVEMBER

# Welcome to The Messenger

*Published by Our Saviour's UCC since 1924*

- Page 2 From the Pastor's Desk**
- Page 3 Committee News**
- Page 4 More Committee News**
- Page 5 Ministries, Projects, and News**
- Page 6 More Ministries, Projects, and News**
- Page 7 From Our Parish Nurse**
- Page 8 November Duties Schedule**
- Page 9 November Calendar**



## 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 11:00 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 December 2024 Edition of The Messenger:

Events to be included on the calendar, committee updates, articles, etc. should be submitted to the office by **November 16th** via email to the Church office, [osuccripon1@gmail.com](mailto: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



**Our Saviour's United Church of Christ**  
**343 Scott Street, Ripon, WI 54971 | 920.748.2544**  
**[www.OurSavioursUCCRipon.com](http://www.OurSavioursUCCRipon.com)**



<https://bit.ly/OSUCCFacebook>



<https://bit.ly/OSUCCYouTube>

# From the Pastor's Desk



Rev. Dr. Kevin Mundell

Sometimes it is so easy to forget how dependent we are when we enter the world, stepping into life through the breath of God's spirit. We can cry and hope our people can figure out whether we are hungry, tired, stimulated, bothered by gas, need to poop, or need our poop cleaned up, or in pain, or needing comfort. All we can do is cry, and we may not even know why we are crying, only that something is wrong. We are not in touch with our bodies and must learn what they can do and cannot do. The world around us slowly becomes bigger and brighter as our vision expands and sharpens and then evolves from monochrome to color during our first year.

As I am getting older, I am realizing how delusional I have been about how in touch with my body I am. Every time my doctor tells me something in my body isn't working as well as it used to, I sit back and go, "Huh! So that was what my body was trying to tell me if I had only been listening."

I remember when my children entered their terrible twos, and some three's, and pushed the boundaries on everything to the point where we could not leave them unsupervised in the house ever. It was like they were designed to rebel and make bad choices just to see what would happen.

Do you know what is hard to wrap my head around? It is the reality that during that time they were making no long-term memories! I do remember the frustration and anger, but also the love and joy and laughter from them, and with them, even though they don't. At best, what they remember from that time is that we loved them. It is so easy to forget that we don't start making permanent memories till somewhere between two and a half and three years of age.

What is amazing is that very young children are trying to become who they are by pushing every boundary possible and yet they are not yet accumulating memories in a personal relational sense. They only remember what worked and what didn't work.

There is something important here to remember--part of our love for them comes from watching them become their own person, to some degree without us, and possibly even defined against us. Maybe some of the greatest part of our love for others is not in them being like us but in embracing others in their difference from us.

Jürgen Moltmann, in his book "The Spirit of Life" sees Jesus doing this very thing when Jesus hung out with "bad company." Jesus was so focused on the joy of God's kingdom that he hung out with all the outcast of society because he saw them fitting into the kingdom. He opened himself to them and recognized their dignity as people. Moltmann puts it even more powerfully when he says, "The Basic law of the community of Christ is acceptance of others in their difference, for it is this experience of our neighbors, and only this, which is in line with Christian experience of God (Moltmann, 258)."

Our children are able to teach us to love them in their difference, in their pushing of boundaries even when they do not realize they are doing it. It is in the differences between us that makes the space for us to truly set ourselves aside for the other.

When we are too much alike, we risk falling in love with feeling safe around each other and not actually with each other. Jesus lived God's love in and with the people in the cracks of his society, bringing them from the shadow to the light through his unconditional love. We are able to do the same as we trust in Jesus and let the Spirit guide us.

# Committee News

## Altar Guild

The 2024 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 \$25 and Organ flowers are \$16 each. Radio Broadcasts are \$50 per sponsor & \$25 per sponsor per bulletin. Checks for Altar and Organ flowers should be made out to OSUCC ALTAR GUILD. All other checks can be made out to OSUCC. Thank you!



With Webster's Market Place sold and the transition to HyVee in progress, we are not able to get pricing yet for our annual Red Poinsettias for Christmas. Please watch your bulletin and our Facebook page for updates on this. We'll let you know as soon as we are able. Thank you!

Our next meeting is Sunday, November 17th at 10:00 am. We welcome anyone new that would like to come and join our Altar Guild group. If you have any questions, please contact Caroline Retzlaff at 920-748-2367 or Iona Altnau at 920-748-5391.

## Called to Care *Committee*

Nurse Emily holds the Mind, Body, & Soul Clinic every Thursday from 9:00 am until Noon. If you would like a visit from Nurse Emily, please call her at 920-748-2544 during office hours or email her at [osuccpnripon1@gmail.com](mailto:osuccpnripon1@gmail.com).

Called to Care has organized a Fall learning event for Sunday, November 10th, immediately following the worship service. Representatives from Fond du Lac County ADRC will be presenting a brief presentation on Advanced Directives during Coffee Hour. They will have sample documents to view and the representatives will be available to talk with you one-to-one after the presentation if you have any questions.

The next Called to Care meeting will be held Thursday, November 14th, at 9:30 am in the conference room. New members are always welcome to join us to help provide fellowship and support for members of our congregation. If interested please talk to Rev. Mundell, Iona Altnau, Julie Stellmacher, Dianne Heyn, Caroline Retzlaff, Pat Gittens, or Kathy Lang.



## *Christian Education Committee*

Our next committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 18th, at 5:30 PM.

- **Adult Ed:** Meets at 10:30 AM after Worship Service.
- **Christian Ed Classes:** Sunday School meets at 10:15 AM after Worship Service.
- **Confirmation Class:** We have a class underway. Contact Rev. Mundell if you would like to join the class.
- **Nursery:** We have a child/parent space available in the Southwest Corner of the Sanctuary.

# More Committee News

## 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 is scheduled for Monday, November 18th, at 6:30 pm.

## Mission Committee

We are hosting an Operation Christmas Child Shoebox drive and boxes and brochures are available in the East Narthex. There is also an instruction sheet on how to pack the shoebox and a gift suggestions list. This is a great thing to do as a family! We will be collecting for this through November 20th this year.



Harvest Ingathering is Sunday, November 24th this year. If you have any questions on what to donate, please ask one of the Missions Committee. Thank you!

This year we would again like to do a collection to assist Traded Treasurers Food Pantry with their Family Holiday Meal program. They have normally given out 350 meals to families in this area, with the expense to pantry of \$45 per family. This year you can help by either giving the full \$45 per meal or you can give what you are able to. Either way will benefit the families in need and help provide them with a holiday meal.

The Missions Holiday Bake Sale will take place the same day as the Children's Pageant on December 15th. There is a sign up sheet for anyone wishing to donate baked goods. Please have your goodies here by December 14 so the items can be prepared for the sale. Thank you so much!

Missions Committee will meet next on Tuesday, November 19th, at 5:30 pm. Anyone interested in joining the committee is welcome to attend.

## Scott Street Puppet Ministry

Hope you enjoyed the Sunday School Puppeteers along with the "DOG" message too!



Feel free to join us for practice on Monday nights at 6:15 pm in the Puppet Room. We are always looking for new members and there are no requirements except to have fun and spread God's love. The biggest rewards are the smiles, laughter, and thanks we get from people. Please consider joining us!

If you have any questions contact Amy Borgardt at 920-229-1694, email [borgardt4@gmail.com](mailto:borgardt4@gmail.com), or Jim Schultz at 920-748-6416, email [schuljm@hotmail.com](mailto:schuljm@hotmail.com).



## Worship Committee

Our search for a new Choir Director is ongoing. If you hear of someone who may be interested, please contact Barb Stracy at 920-229-1183.

The next meeting of the Worship Committee is Monday, November 18th, at 4:30 pm. Anyone interested in joining the committee is welcome to attend.

# Ministries, Projects, and News

## *The Ripon Free Community Meals*



Our free meals draw familiar faces and new faces every month! The total meals served continues to hold around 130, which includes the diners, volunteers, and take-home leftovers.

We have a number of regular volunteers and are excited to be drawing new volunteers into our circle as well. This is what it's all about. We appreciate all of you and hope you will continue to volunteer for this mission.

Our November meal is on the 5th, Election Day, an important day for our nation. Maybe we will have more people to feed as folks come and go to vote at the polls.

The menu for the meal is beef stew, salad, mixed fruit, dinner roll and of course, your yummy home-made desserts. The desserts you wonderful bakers made for the October meal did indeed excite and delight our diners, and we bet you can get the diners hovering in indecision over the dessert table again on November 5th!

There are volunteer sign-up boards in the East Narthex again for the next few months of meals. Each month has food prep needs specific to the menu being served. There are different ways to be involved and your time is very much appreciated. Plus you'll have fun too!

Our community helps each other in many ways. Specifically, our thanks go out to the Salvation Army. We are so pleased and grateful to have received a \$300 gift card to Webster's Marketplace from Salvation Army to be used specifically for the Community Meals. The other four Ripon churches who participate in the Sharing Table Community Meal mission also each received a gift card in the same amount! Blessings do abound in many ways.

## *Question - What is the Ripon Santa Club?*

This year part of the profits from the Our Saviour's Turkey Dinner are being donated to the Santa Club to assist them with their mission. So what is the Santa Club?

The Santa Club is a non-profit organization founded in Ripon to provide a healthier and happier holiday for individuals and families who find themselves in need of assistance during the holiday season. Families with children 17 and under and less fortunate senior citizens that reside within the Ripon School District needing assistance can apply for the program.

Local individuals along with service groups and businesses purchase clothing and gifts, and then the Santa Club assembles and distributes food and family packages based on availability and need. Young children are given an outfit and a gift, while teenagers are given two gift cards.

Santa Club does not have specific requests for where the gift cards are from; they can be for fast food locations, clothing stores, or even Amazon. They just request that gift cards are \$20 for a fast-food location or \$30 for a clothing store.

Also, the Our Saviour's Missions Committee will again be collecting gift cards to donate until December 8th for the Santa Club. If you do not feel comfortable donating a gift card, but still wish to donate to the program, they are requesting waterproof gloves and books for children and young adults.

# More Ministries, Projects, and News

## Matthew 25: Ministries Pill Bottle Collection

**4,397 Pill Bottles in 2024!**

Thank you for all your donations! We are so grateful for the steady donation of pill bottles of every type and size. Since July, we've sent 6 full shipping boxes of bunnies, make that bottles, down to Blue Ash. Let's keep them multiplying in the closet!

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.

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!



## Pop Tabs for Ronald McDonald House

**20,884 Pop Tabs in 2024!**



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!

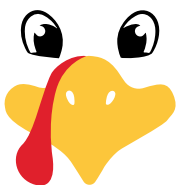
The tabs collected are sent to Ronald McDonald House, who recycles them and uses the proceeds to help fund the general operations expense of the House--keeping it open to serve even more families.

## Prayer Chain Ministry

In our Prayers:

*Cattibree Dailey, Tom Heitmann, Tara Koller, Sue Meyer, Keith Mulder, the family and friends of Marilyn Patrick, 21 unspoken, and all others.*

Feel free to use our prayer chain ministry by contacting Caroline Retzlaff at 920-748-2367.



## Annual Turkey Dinner 2024

A huge shout out to Nancy Henning, Buck Kwiatkowski, and everyone who helped with food preparation, cooking, delivering, serving, clean up, etc. for our 22nd Annual Turkey Dinner! Watch for more news with how many tickets sold, proceeds, etc. This year Diverse Options Residential Homes and the Ripon Santa Club are the recipients of 20% of our proceeds.



# From Our Parish Nurse

## *National Diabetes Awareness Month*

November is Diabetes Awareness Month! One important test to be aware of when it comes to Diabetes is the Hemoglobin A1c. Knowing and understanding your numbers can help you to make changes to reduce your risk of developing diabetes or managing the condition if you are already diagnosed.

During your routine bloodwork, if your fasting blood sugar is elevated most likely your provider will add on the A1c test. Your A1c result shows a picture of what your average blood sugar has been over the past 2-3 months.

- A level between 5.7-6.5 is considered prediabetes, and most likely your provider will discuss lifestyle changes such as a carbohydrate conscious diet and exercise to try to get your numbers back to a normal range.
- If your A1c is greater than 6.5 that is consistent with a diagnosis of diabetes and along with suggesting lifestyle changes as mentioned above, your provider may also start you on medication for your blood sugar.

Once diagnosed with diabetes, the A1c test is used to monitor your treatment plan and the test is administered about every 3 months. The recommendation for someone diagnosed with diabetes is to have an A1c less than 7 to reduce the risk of long term complications related to diabetes.

For more information regarding the A1c test or diabetes please visit [www.diabetes.org](http://www.diabetes.org)

**Emily Burk, RN, OSUCC Parish Nurse**



# November Duties

## Liturgist

November 3 Rick Stracy  
November 10 Cal Fischer  
November 17 Dianne Heyn  
November 24 Rick Stracy

## Gatekeepers

November 3 Pat Gittens  
November 10 Keith & Becky Mulder  
November 17 Pete & Kathy Schieler  
November 24 Rick & Barb Stracy

## Audio Operator

November 3 Phil Manthei  
November 10 Kelly Mundell  
November 17 Bob Meyer  
November 24 John Kwiatkoske

## Coffee Hour

After 9:00AM Worship with Coffee and Juice - For those who feel comfortable, feel free to join us!

## Usher/Greeters

November 3 Team 1  
November 10 Team 2  
November 17 Team 3  
November 24 Team 4

## Altar Guild Monthly Committee

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

## Van Drivers

November 3 Tom Carr  
November 10 Bob Lueck  
November 17 Ricky Prellwitz  
November 24 Rick Stracy

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

## Bulletin Delivery

- Mailed out on Wednesday's
- Kay Quinn will deliver to Russell Manor
- Iona Altnau will deliver to Maplecrest Manor

## Communion Servers

November 3 Rick Stracy and Buck Kwiatkowski

