

OUR SAVIOUR'S UCC

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RIPON, WI 54971

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OUR SAVIOUR'S
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

FAITH FAMILY FRIENDSHIP

THE MESSENGER

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Ripon, WI.

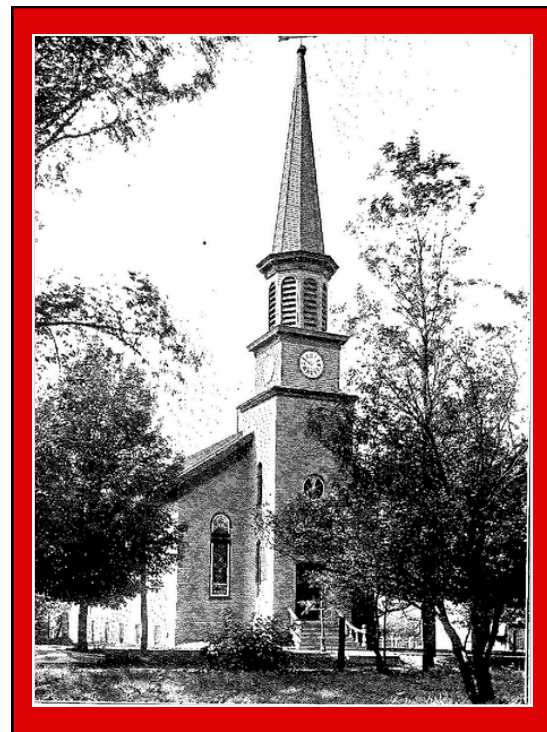
Happy 250th

BIRTHDAY!

Welcome to The Messenger

Published by Our Saviour's UCC since 1924

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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 August 2026 Edition of The Messenger:

Events to be included on the calendar, committee updates, articles, etc. should be submitted to the office by **July 2018th** 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



Our Saviour's United Church of Christ
343 Scott Street, Ripon, WI 54971 | 920.748.2544
www.OurSavioursUCCRipon.com



<https://bit.ly/OSUCCFacebook>



<https://bit.ly/OSUCCYouTube>

From the Pastor's Desk



Rev. Dr. Kevin Mundell

Victor Frankl developed a school of psychology called “Logotherapy” through his survival in the Nazi death camps of World War II. What he discovered is that no matter what the Nazi’s did to him to try and destroy him, they could not touch how he chose to respond and this changed everything for him and how he related to everyone in and around himself. What he discovered is how we find healing in our search for meaning. Jonathan Sacks describes Victor’s discovery in his book, “Morality: Restoring the Common Good in Divided Times.”

“As he (Victor) explained it later: the essence of his mission had to be a call from outside the self. This was as near he could come in secular terminology to the classic sense of mission as a call from God. As he later put it: we should not ask ourselves what we want from life. We should ask ourselves, what does life want from us? There is a difference between the call from within and the call from outside: it is the difference between ambition and vocation. The former comes from the self, the latter from something outside and larger than the self. To give his fellow prisoners the strength to survive, Frankl needed to take them outside themselves. As he explained it, “Being human is always directed, and pointing, to something or someone other than oneself: to a meaning to fulfil or another human being to encounter, a cause to serve or a person to love.” He called this self-transcendence and said that one achieves this “not by concerning himself with his self’s actualization, but by forgetting himself and giving himself, overlooking himself and focusing outward (Sacks pg. 42).”

Johnathan Sacks, a Jewish Rabi in the UK sees in Victor Frankl and understanding of what it means to be human that echoes teachings in the Bible, especially the Torah, the first five books of the bible. Sacks argues that there are three love commands that show up thirty-six times in the Torah meaning very important love commands. The first is to Love God with all there you are, heart, mind, feelings, soul, spirit body. The second is to love your neighbor as yourself. The third is to love the stranger in your midst.

Jesus uses these three in a similar way when he is asked what the heart of God’s law is, to love God with your all and to love your neighbor as yourself. Both together are inseparable. What Jesus does with the third law of love is give parable after parable about how everyone is our neighbor leaving no room for there to be a stranger.

Part of what Frankl is getting at, and Sacks, and Jesus, is that being the human God has made us to be is not an inward turn with our lives but instead an outward turn. We receive God’s love and the gift of our life and turn around and give them to the people God brings across our path using the unique gifts of who we are to better the world and lives of those around us. Healing comes in the giving, love comes in the giving, God is found in the giving.

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 full meeting is Sunday August 16th 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 a Mind, Body, & Soul Clinic for our members every Thursday morning from 9:00 am until noon, however on July 2nd there will not be a clinic. As part of MBS Clinic, she can also check your blood pressure. 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 the 3rd Thursday of each month from 1-3 pm. She'll be offering blood pressure checks there now also! While you are there, check out the Senior Center's programs and activities!

The next Called to Care meeting will be held Thursday, August 13th, at 9:30 AM in the conference room.



Christian Education Committee

Our next committee meeting will be Monday, August 17th at 5:30 pm. Enjoy the summer and we'll see you then!

- **Adult Ed:** Will resume in the Fall.
- **Christian Ed Classes:** Will resume in the Fall.
- **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, August 17th at 6:30 pm. If you are interested in joining our committee, please come to the meeting!

More Committee News



Mission Committee

Missions Committee will meet next on Tuesday, August 18th, 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!

Ripon Area School District Student Needs Closet - We will again be supporting the RASD with stocking their Student Needs Closet for the upcoming school year. They are looking for hygiene items, hair products and accessories, and clothing items including socks and underwear. A complete list of the items they need the most can be found in the church office and on Nurse Emily's bulletin board. Collection bins will be available at each of the church entrances throughout July and August. If you are unable to purchase any of the items on the list but would still like to help support our students, monetary donations can also be given in the church office.

Kids Church Camp (VBS) - This year VBS is connecting with *Sleep In Heavenly Peace*, a local charity based in Fond du Lac, that builds and distributes beds to local youth that do not have a bed to sleep in. To help VBS with their mission, we will be holding a collection for new twin sheets, pillows, blankets, waterproof mattress covers, and stuffed animals. A collection box will be available in the East Narthex for the months of June and July. If you are unable to purchase these items, but would still like to support the cause, monetary donations can be dropped off in the church office as well.

Operation Christmas Child - For the month of July we will be collecting toys. There is a box in the East Narthex available to drop off your donations.

Worship Committee



The worship committee and Church Council have been working together on the process of trying to find a new accompanist as Nicole Burdick's last day with us is June 28th. The committee has updated the job description and are open to the person being both an accompanist and choir director, if possible.

Paid ads have been placed in area newspapers. Conrad had set up an online advertising campaign utilizing our social media sources. The ad is also on several websites such as UCCMA.

Our thanks go out to Jared Stellmacher, who is been reaching out to his contacts in Wisconsin about the position.

We have had two inquiries for more information on the position but have no actual applications as of yet. We are following up with the individuals to see if they are interested either in the position or in helping out as a fill-in while we continue to search.

As part of our interim plan, Nicole and Spencer Conlon recorded a number of musical pieces typically used in our worship services so that those can be inserted into the worship presentation and played through our sound system. Thank you to both Nicole and Spencer for doing that!

Another part of the interim plan is to use pre-recorded hymns from several sources we have found online that will also be inserted into the worship presentation and played through the sound system. We know it will be different than what we're accustomed to, but it will only be for this interim period till we find someone new.

We plan to keep the congregation updated as we go. We would also ask that every member pray to God to bring us the right person at the right time. Thank you for your support and if you have questions, please talk to us.

Our committee will continue to meet through the summer to continue working on this need.

Ministries, Projects, and News

Matthew 25: Ministries Pill Bottle Collection

4,381 Pill Bottles in 2026!

And we begin again! 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

34,733 Pop Tabs in 2026!



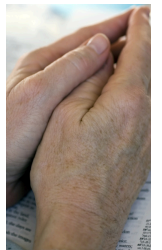
Tabs can come from a variety of cans such as pet food, beverage cans, soup cans, tuna cans, etc. We appreciate all of those who have already donated their tabs, or are still working on their collection jar at home! We understand that even friends of friends have begun collecting and donating too, how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

Prayer Chain Ministry

In our Prayers: Emily McGuire, Maggie Moon, and 10 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.



Quotes for July

"We're blessed with the opportunity to stand for something, for liberty and fairness. And these are things worth fighting for, worth devoting our lives to."—*Ronald Reagan (1911-2004)*

"Those who expect to reap the blessings of freedom must... undergo the fatigues of supporting it."—*Thomas Paine (1737-1809)*

More Ministries, Projects, and News

The Ripon Sharing Table Free Community Meals



On June 2nd our meal was very well attended, with 135 meals being served. Folks really enjoyed having a second “Easter” dinner and the wonderful variety of homemade desserts that were hard to choose between.

For our Tuesday, July 7th meal we’ll be serving a family favorite, meatloaf, with mashed potatoes and gravy, assorted side dishes, and ice cream sundaes. We’re hoping Nancy also serves corn so we can top our mashed potatoes with it and then have gravy over the top of them both (hint, hint)!

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. You are so very appreciated!

Summer School Lunch Program

Community Food Pantry is responding to a seasonal need here in our community, namely for our school children who are living with food insecurity at home. Now that school is done for summer break, the school lunch program is also done. That is one less meal that the child can count on each day.

Individual food bags will be given out at the Elementary schools, while at the Middle and High schools there will be a self-serve kiosk where the students can take what they need for the day.

We have set out collection containers in the East and West Narthex to keep the food designated for this lunch program separate from the general food donations that are split between Ripon Area Food Pantry and Community Food Pantry.

The list of items needed is an insert in the June 25-28th worship bulletin, and is also listed on the collection containers. Flyers will be available for you to take home as well. Thank you if you are able to help in some way!

Ripon Kids Church Camp (VBS)

Church camp will be held July 27-30th from 5:45 pm until 8:00 pm at Immanuel United Methodist Church here in Ripon. Snacks are provided Monday - Wednesday, with a family meal served on Thursday.

The theme this year is “Rainforest Falls, Exploring the Nature of God.” It’s a colorful, tropical theme with lots of fun activities that help teach kids what it means to be rooted in relationship with God, their creator, who is a safe place in life’s storms. Sounds pretty fun and amazing!

There are fun volunteer opportunities available for those 18+ and you can learn more on the website.

Registration for children and for volunteers is available online at: <https://www.riponvbs.org/>



From Our Parish Nurse

Plastic Free July

You could join millions of people this July and make the pledge to help reduce plastic waste through simple, everyday choices and be part of the solution to plastic pollution.

Plastic Free July is an annual global movement encouraging people to cut down on single-use plastics throughout the month of July. Each year billions of tons of plastic end up in our landfills and oceans, harming wildlife and polluting natural habitats. By participating, every action, no matter how small, contributes to a cleaner, healthier planet, and drives change that influences businesses and governments to adopt more sustainable practices. Here are some simple steps you can take to get involved and reduce plastic waste.

- Reusable shopping bags- Bring your own reusable shopping bags to the grocery store
- Plastic straws - Refuse plastic straws when buying a drink or bring your own reusable alternative
- Water bottles - Bring your own reusable water bottle instead of buying plastic ones
- Coffee cups - Bring or borrow a reusable coffee cup or dine-in at your local cafe
- Cleaning - Avoid using cleaning products packaged in single-use plastics or opt for homemade alternatives
- Clothing - When choosing clothing opt for natural fibers and if able buy clothing second hand
- Laundry - Buy detergents that offer reusable or refillable containers or buy washing powder in bulk
- Bathroom - Avoid using bathroom products in plastic packaging or choose to make your own beauty and personal care products
- Dental care - Buy plastic-free toothbrushes, toothpaste, and more. Many companies now offer products made of sustainable, compostable materials such as bamboo or plant fibers
- Sanitary items - Buy reusable alternatives such as washable pads and liners or period undies as an alternative to single-use pads for bladder incontinence or menstruation
- Soap - Avoid plastic-packaged bathroom supplies and switch to bar soap as opposed to shower gel
- Shaving - Avoid disposable razors and shaving cream packaged in plastic and switch to safety razors with replaceable blades pairing it with a shaving bar to create shaving foam
- Bulk food shopping - Buy items with less plastic packaging and avoid pre-packaged foods by choosing bulk or loose food options
- Food storage - Consider reusing containers or covers for storing and packing food or use alternatives to cling wrap
- Takeaway cutlery and containers - Refuse single-use plastic cutlery, plates and takeaway containers

Always remember the three R's for a better planet: reduce, reuse, and recycle!

Another great way you can take part in Plastic Free July is by utilizing our new NexTrex plastic and film recycling boxes located in the East and West Narthex and Fellowship Hall. A complete list of items you can bring to recycle can be found on the front of the boxes. Please help us collect our first 250 lbs so the church can receive a gift from Trex!

For more information on Plastic Free July you can visit <https://www.plasticfreejuly.org/>

Emily Burk, RN, OSUCC Parish Nurse

July



Duties

Liturgist

July 5 Dianne Heyn
July 12 Cal Fischer
July 19 Rorie Nitz
July 26 Kelly Mundell

Usher/Greeters

July 5 Team 4
July 12 Team 5
July 19 Team 6
July 26 Team 1

Gatekeepers

July 5 Dennis & Emily Burk, Sue Wrzinski
July 12 Pat Gittens
July 19 Keith & Becky Mulder
July 26 Pete & Kathy Schieler

Van Drivers

July 5 Dennis Burk
July 12 Jackie Bogucke
July 19 Bob Lueck
July 26 Ricky Prellwitz

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

Audio/Visual Operators

July 5 Keith Mulder/Phil Wepner
July 12 Kelly Mundell/Judy Lueck
July 19 Keith Mulder/Kelly Mundell
July 26 John Kwiatkoske/Judy Lueck

Worship Bulletins

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

Communion Servers

July 5 Keith Mulder & Judy Maguire

Coffee Hour


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

Altar Guild Committee for July

Iona Altnau, Bev Garro, Judy Lueck, Marge Mundt, Patti Schaalma

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

July 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 Noon - Rotary Meeting, East Narthex	2 6:30 pm Worship Service- Communion	3	4 
5 9:00 am Worship Service - Communion	6	7 5:00 pm Sharing Table Community Meal, OSUCC	8 Noon - Rotary Meeting, East Narthex	9 9:00 am MBS Clinic 6:30 pm Worship Service	10	11
12 9:00 am Worship Service 10:30 am Church Council Mtg	13 1:00 pm Science Club	14 5:00 pm Sharing Table Grace Lutheran	15 Noon - Rotary Meeting, East Narthex	16 9:00 am MBS Clinic 1:00 pm Nurse Emily at Senior Center 6:30 pm Worship Service	17	18 July Messenger Deadline
19 9:00 am Worship Service	20 4:00 pm Worship Comm 7:15 pm FABM Organ and Piano Concert - Free, open to the Public	21 5:30 pm Sharing Table Immanuel UMC	22 Noon - Rotary Meeting, East Narthex Noon-3 pm - FABM Organ Workshop	23 9:00 am MBS Clinic 6:30 pm Worship Service	24	25
26 9:00 am Worship Service	27	28 5:00 pm Sharing Table 1 st Congregational	29 Noon - Rotary Meeting, East Narthex	30 9:00 am MBS Clinic 6:30 pm Worship Service- Communion	31	