

FIRST
CONGREGATIONAL
CHURCH, UCC
RIVER FALLS

ANNUAL REPORT 2023

WORSHIP *faithfully*

Sunday worship

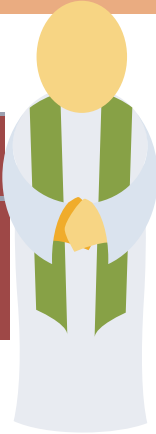
IN-PERSON
LIVESTREAM
RADIO



Advent Evening Prayer
Lenten Prayer Around the Cross
Holy Week Worship

Children's Advent Musical
Chimes in the Night

Chancel Choir
Good Friday Cantata



Baptized
3



Confirmed
7



3
Weddings

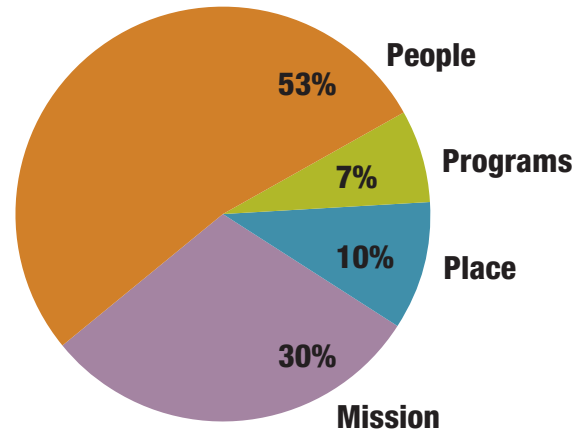


Funerals
10

FINANCIAL *gifts*

Total Church Income: **\$698,252**

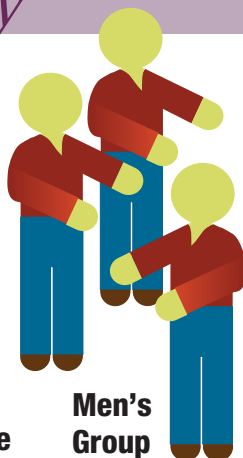
Total Church Expenditures: **\$698,127**



WELCOME *openly*



Received **17**
new members



Cribbage
Group



Men's
Group

Widow's
Group

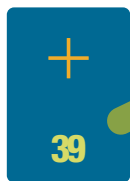


Music at First Church
Ukrainian Music
Slapdash Bluegrass
Tarnished Brass



Gathered for **yoga**

GROW *spiritually*



Sunday school



Wednesday school



13
confirmation students

15
church interns

40 children
for Vacation Bible School

Adult
Bible Study



Sunday morning
Text Study



Learning Community

presentations:
Christian Nationalism
A Night in Norway
Sojourner Truth

Jonah!

Summer Children's Musical



CARE *passionately*



**Pastoral
Calls & Contacts**

Too many
to count!



Gathered **school supplies**
for **422** community children



Delivered
amaryllis plants
to special friends

22

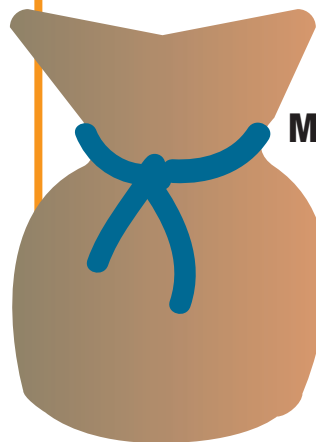


Sent **40**
college
packs

Gathered weekly
Among Friends



American Cancer
Association
**Relay for
Life**

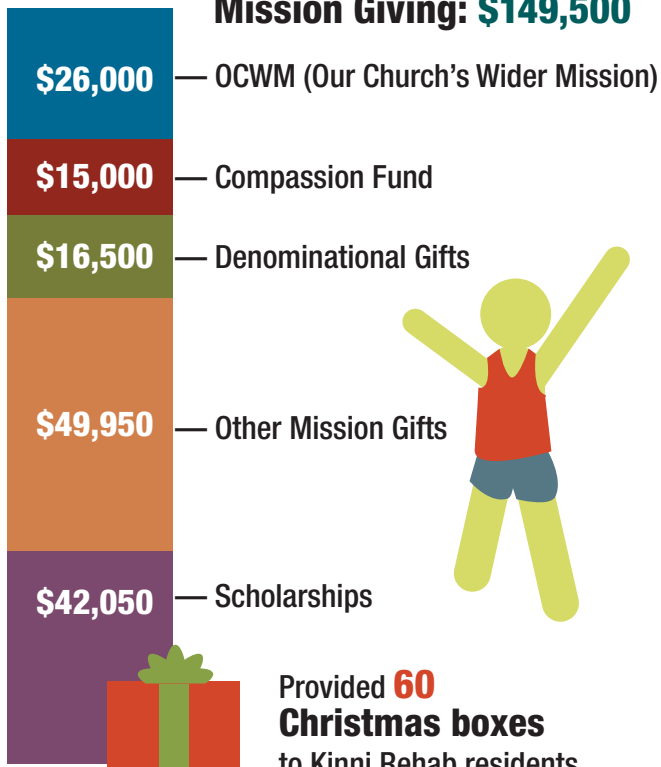


Mission Support for:

Among Friends
Area Resource Center
Back Bay Mission
EarthFest
Feed My Starving Children
Habitat for Humanity
Hope for Creation
Our Neighbors' Place
River Falls Food Pantry
River Falls Free Clinic
Servant of the Shepherd
Turningpoint

SERVE *generously*

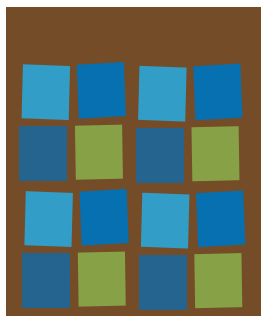
Mission Giving: \$149,500



Gave gifts to **12 families**, including **28 kids**, through the Holiday Helpers Giving Tree



Gathered **5200+ diapers** for the community



Gave **\$2000** to the River Falls Food Pantry with a **Reverse Advent calendar**, *giving* treats/food to the food pantry rather than *receiving* chocolate

Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, just as you did to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me." —Matthew 25:40

BREAKING BREAD *together*

Shared weekly **Communion**



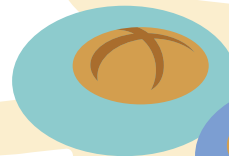
Gathered for our annual **Giving Thanks** meal



Christmas luncheon



Easter breakfast



Advent evening meals



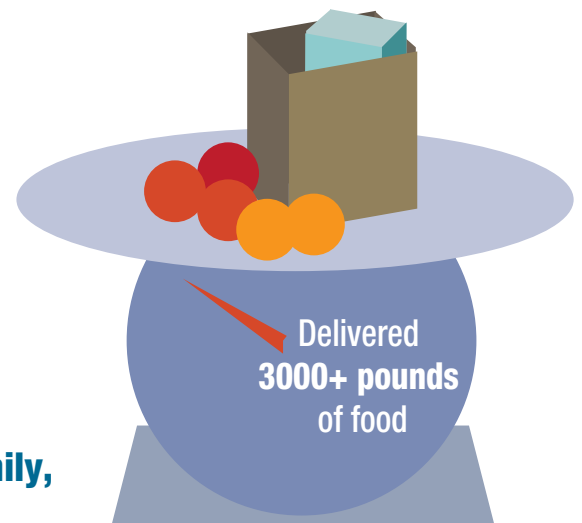
Lenten family meals



Fall family meals



Served **loaded potatoes and tacos** from Lazy River Food Truck for **River Falls Days**

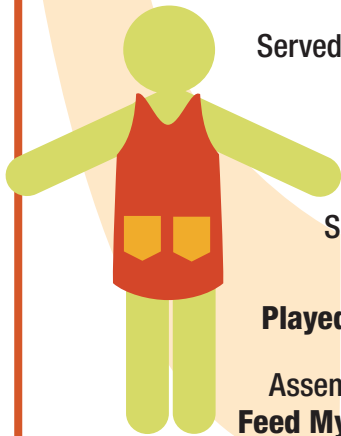


Delivered **3000+ pounds** of food

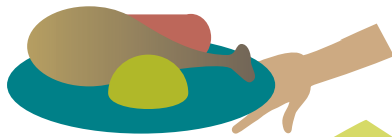
YOUTH *serving & fun*

kayaked the
indoor soccer
crab soccer ran around and
prepped dinner for Simpson
college packs
served at Easter
Halloween games
ga-ga ball thru church

Service projects



Served the **Giving Thanks** meal



Served **Easter** breakfast

Played **Among Us** – live!

Assembled food kits at
Feed My Starving Children



CARE FOR *creation*

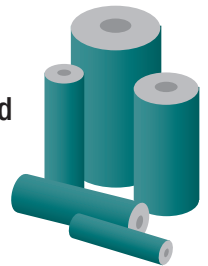


24,107 Kwh

Electricity generated
by solar panels
was enough to power
2.4 homes
for a year



We recycled
5200
batteries



2023 WAS THE YEAR WE ...

Confirmants traveled
to **Boston**



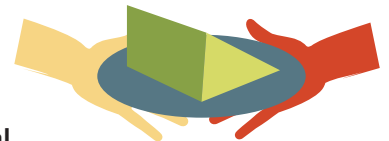
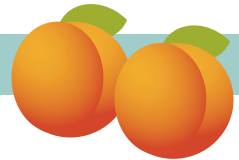
Traveled to
Back Bay Mission

Hosted
3
blood drives



Erected a **cathedral**
for the **Advent Musical**

Sold and distributed **650 peaches**,
earning **\$3000** for the youth fund



Prepared
3 meals for the
Simpson Shelter
in Minneapolis

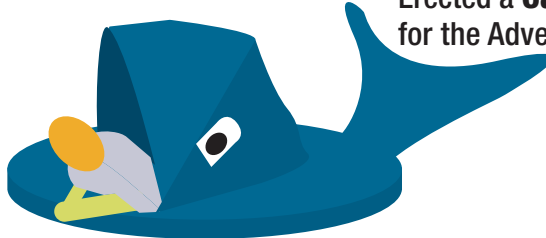
Held a
Blue Christmas
service



Had **2**
Christmas trees
in the Fellowship Hall



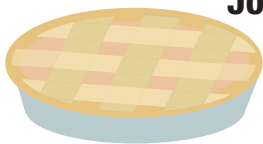
Made a child-swallowing
whale!



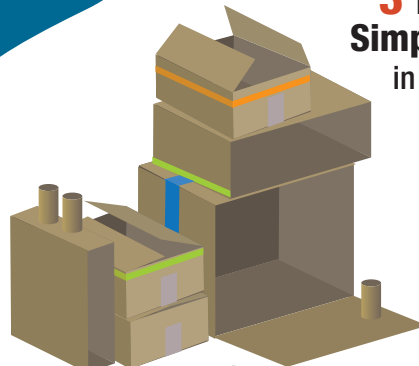
Welcomed
Baby Plum



Joy Seekers
made
60 pies



Built
Cardboard City



Made an
Advent Candle
Devotional and
a **Christmas**
book for kids