

Blest be the

TIE

that binds our hearts in Christian love

September 2016

Volume 13, Issue 8

First American Lutheran Church

Celebrating 142 Years in 2016
511 Madison Street
Oconto, WI 54153
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www.firstamericanlutheran.org
Pastor Mary after hours: 920-671-4338

STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Mary E. Zupansic
Office Manager: Bobby Jo Lipp
Youth Minister:
Property Manager: John Stamsta
Musician: Bonnie Schultz
Council President: Jeremy Neta
Treasurer: Tammie McCarthy

Sunday Worship

September — May
8:00am & 10:15am
June — August
9:00am

(Holy Communion every week)

Wednesday Chapel

September — May
7:00pm
June — August
6:00pm

(Holy Communion every week)

Christian Education

Wednesdays: Sept - May
Intergenerational Meal—5:20 pm
High Five, Confirmation,
Senior High Youth
5:50 pm—6:50 pm

Office Hours

Monday thru Friday
9:00 am—3:00 pm

Mission Statement

Because we are a part of the family of God, saved by grace through our Lord Jesus Christ, we are empowered by God, to provide the means for Christian growth, and to equip the members, with the help of the Holy Spirit, to be the heart, hands, and feet of Jesus Christ in our daily lives.

GOOD NEWS IS FOR SHARING...

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Recently a parishioner stopped by my office. Among the various things we talked about she told me that every Sunday she visits a couple of our church members at the local nursing home. She said, "I always share with them something from the sermon." I thought that was wonderful! She continued, "Most often I share the children's message". Well, at first I thought, "Oh, great. She's sharing the children's message." But as I thought about it, I decided that it didn't matter what "sermon" she shared with these homebound members. What mattered was that she took time from her day to share the Good News. To bring to two people a word of hope.

"Go in peace. Share the Good News"! I say this, or something similar, at the end of every worship service. I wonder how seriously you or I take this sending mission?! When I leave the doors of the church building, do I, do you, find ways to share the Good News? Does it even occur to us that this is truly what we are sent to do—to announce Good News. Sent to share with a hurting and broken and complicated world that the Kingdom of God has come near in Jesus Christ. Sent to share a word of hope in a world that all too often seems without hope.

Our sharing of the Good News doesn't have to be a big and elaborate affair. It can be as simple as mentioning something you heard at worship on Sunday morning. It can be sharing a story of how your faith saw you through a difficult time. It can be a promise to pray for someone (and then doing it!). You might try posting something of hope on Facebook...something you heard in the sermon, a song we sang, or even something from the children's message!

Go in peace. Share the Good News.

Pastor Mary



WATER—it's a gift from God! Think of how many times a day you use water. We drink it, bath with it, cook with it. Water is the "stuff" of life! Martin Luther once said, "When you wash your face, remember your Baptism". Go ahead and splash some water on your face today and remember that in the waters of baptism you have been made a child of God!

HOWEVER—When brushing your teeth, turn that water off! Using faucets in your home for personal hygiene, such as brushing your teeth, takes up approximately 12 percent of your home's water usage! Conserving water while you're brushing your teeth has several benefits, including a reduced water bill and conservation of fresh water.

TURN OFF THE TAP—Turning off the water between wetting your toothbrush and rinsing your mouth is one of the simplest and most effective ways to save water while brushing your teeth. The University of Illinois calculates that shutting off the tap instead of letting it run continuously will save your family up to 10 gallons of water daily.

USE A CUP—Instead of filling your hands with water to rinse your mouth after brushing your teeth, (this act wastes water as the tap runs while your hands are away from the faucet) -- use a cup. Fill the cup with water and use that water to rinse your mouth. Experiment with different amounts of water until you're filling the cup with just enough water to rinse your mouth.



QUILT SUNDAY

Quilt Sunday is September 25, 2016. The small group of ladies in the Sewing Ministry work diligently to provide quilts for those in need around the world. It costs \$2.25 for Lutheran World Relief to ship these quilts so they're asking us to help with special donations on that day. You can put the money into an envelope & mark it "quilts" or LWR. The Women of First American will send it on to them. Thanks!

COMMUNION ASSISTANT TRAINING & REFRESHER WORKSHOP

Sunday, September 25, at 9:15 am



If you are currently a Communion Assistant or are interested in becoming a Communion Assistant, please plan to attend the above workshop. For more information, contact Pastor Mary.

LWR—SOAP SUNDAY

No one likes to look dirty. A brand new bar of soap lets someone present him- or herself with dignity, keep hands clean and stay healthy. Those simple things are some of the very building blocks to success. Send us soap and we will see it gets to people in need. This quote from Lutheran World Relief reminds us that **SOAP SUNDAY** at First American is **September 4**. There will be a container available into which you can put bars of soap that will be sent to Lutheran World Relief. LWR accepts new bars of any brand, in its original wrapping. Bath-size bars (4 to 5 oz.) are highly preferred.

YOUTH MINISTRY

First American is seeking a part-time Youth Worker. Do you have a heart for young people? Do you love Jesus? You are invited to share your gifts with the youth of our congregation. *Please contact Pastor Mary if you are interested.*

HIGH FIVE ORIENTATION & CLASS



High Five registration will be held
Wednesday September 7th, 2016.

Please join us at 5:20 p.m. for a meal prepared for students and their families. Following supper at 5:50 p.m. students will be released to their classrooms to meet with their teacher and work on a card making craft for our Police, Firefighters, first responders and service professional men and women in honor of the 9/11 anniversary. During this time parents/guardians will attend an informational orientation to obtain updates and information regarding High Five schedule and events for the upcoming year. At the end of the orientation you will be released to meet your children at their classroom.

COLLEGE BOUND?

Is your child going to attend college away from home this year? If so, we ask that you contact the Church Office to update their address and/or email address. By doing this you can ensure that your child will continue to be connected to their church family at First American Lutheran. They will receive the monthly TIE Newsletter, and always be up to date on the happenings at church. It will also help with the transition of being away and give them peace of mind that they are still welcome here. In addition, they may receive "goodies" from the congregation.



First American Lutheran Church
511 Madison Street, Oconto, WI 54153

Harvest Supper

Wednesday, September 28, 2016

Bazaar 2:00 pm

Including new crafts, produce and bake sale

Serving Family Style

5:00-7:00 pm

Family style includes: pork, meatballs, sauerkraut, potatoes, gravy, vegetables, pie and coffee

Ticket Prices

Adults \$9.00

Children 6-12 \$5.00

5 and under Free

If you would like to take advantage of our delivery service please call 834-2460 by 2:00 pm on Wednesday, September 28th.

Thank you!



Harvest Supper

HELPERS NEEDED

The 2016 Harvest Supper will be held on Wednesday, Sept. 28th. We need help from men, women, and youth.

I will be glad to help:

- Peeling veggies—Sept. 27 @ Noon
- Take-Out Line
- Rolling meatballs—Sept. 27 @ 12:30 pm
- Washing Dishes
- Cutting Pork—Sept. 28 @ 9:00 am
- Drying Dishes (We really need help here!)
- After Dinner Clean-up
- In the Dining Room
- In the Kitchen
- Wherever I am Needed Wednesday
- Baking Pies
How Many Apple Pumpkin

Name _____

Phone # _____

Please place completed forms in the Church Office mailbox, or you can include it in the offering plate on Sundays and Wednesdays. Thank you so much for your help!

ACOLYTE WORKSHOP

The ministry of Acolyte is open to the entire congregation youth thru adults. Parents and children may acolyte as a team! Any person young or old is invited to be a part of this important ministry. A training session is scheduled for September 10 at 10:00am. If you are interested in serving as an acolyte please let the office know!

****Note— Confirmation students will continue to be assigned as acolytes along with volunteers, and should be present at the training session if they are new to Confirmation Class or have never attended training.***

9TH GRADE CONFIRMATION ORIENTATION & CLASS

Sunday, September 25 @ 11:30 am



9th grade Confirmation Orientation will follow the 10:15 am worship service. At least one parent must attend orientation with their child.

YOUTH GROUP PARENT MEETING

Thursday, September 8 at 7:00 pm

Parents of high school aged youth are encouraged to attend a meeting to discuss and to put into place plans for the 2016-2017 Youth Group. We are currently looking into doing monthly youth group events sponsored by parents. In addition, we are considering plans for a mission trip in 2017 and the National Youth Gathering in 2018. See you at the meeting!

STEWARDSHIP TEAM

NO REPORT SUBMITTED

Next meeting will be held on
Tuesday, September 6, 2016 at 5:00 pm

BUILDING & PROPERTY TEAM

NO REPORT SUBMITTED

Next meeting will be held on
Tuesday, September 13, 2016 at 6:00 pm

CARE TEAM

August 9, 2016

- ◆ There will be a future meeting for Homebound Communion Assistants
- ◆ 9/11 Worship at City Park honoring EMT's, Fire, and Police
- ◆ Mentoring for Confirmation class will begin soon
- ◆ Move Homebound Communion for September to the third Sunday, September 18
- ◆ First Communion will be October 30, 2016 at the 10:15 am service with a small reception after service

Next meeting will be held on
September 13, 2016 at 6:30 pm

Christian Formation Ministry Team

August 11, 2016

Present: Pastor Mary, Heiser, P. Welch

Information/Discussion Items

High Five:

1. Patty Belongia and Pam Duncan have volunteered to be our new High Five coordinators and have already met with Pastor to plan the coming year.
2. High Five Teachers will meet on August 25 at 7 p.m. All teaching positions have been filled.
3. Diane Motiff will again be in charge of the meals and kitchen staff. Parents will be asked to supply desserts.

7 & 8 Grade Confirmation:

1. Combined total could be 14 – 16 students. The plan is to divide them into two groups. Both groups will be working on this year's theme which is the Bible.
2. During first semester, Pastor Mary and Lisa Witak will teach the "Old Testament." Cathie Connell and Paula Moe will teach the "New Testament" during second semester. The To Know, To Live, To Grow curriculum will be used.
3. Grade 7 Students will be presented with their Collaborate Bibles during Chapel on September 14.
4. Fees for 2016/ 2017 - Member Fees: \$25.00/single students. \$35.00/family with more than one Confirmation Student
Non Member Fees: \$35.00/single students
\$55.00/family with more than one Confirmation Student and a one time Bible fee of \$25.00

Youth Group:

1. No replies to the advertisement for Youth Director.
2. Parents of H.S. Students received an email inviting them to a planning meeting on September 8th. Parents will be asked to commit to sponsoring an event each month such as fundraising events, group building active ties, service projects, fun activities, supervise the Youth Room, etc.
3. Plan a mission trip for next summer?
4. 2018 National Youth Gathering will be held in Houston, Texas. Advance planning should begin soon.

Adults:

Need suggestions.

Adjourned at 7 p.m.

Next Meeting will be held on
September, 11, 2016 at 6:00 p.m.



New products are in! Coffee, K-Cups, tea and baking cocoa can be found in the back of the church on the coffee cart. All products are organic, and by purchasing them you help support small farmers around the world and Lutheran World Relief.



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**
God's work. Our hands.

Worship Team Meeting Notes August 2, 2016

Present: Pastor Mary, Nancy Rhode, Linda Welch, and John Carson

- ◆ Reviewed July worship activities, particularly the Service of Healing, which was well received, uplifting and powerful. Consideration given to holding a second one.
- ◆ Pastor reported that once a month the High Five students, along with their parents, will assist with the worship service.
- ◆ September— The outdoor service, God's Work Our Hands on 9/11 was discussed. This being the 15th anniversary of the tragedy police, fire and service persons will be lifted up at the service. Following the service will be a pot-luck meal and children's games.
- ◆ October— Blessing of the pets will be held the 1st weekend in October, in conjunction with the Humane Society's brat fry. Pastor reminded the stewardship campaign will begin in October, which probably will result in some service differences.
- ◆ November— All Saint's Day is the first Sunday in November. A different type of service was discussed, a remembrance service. Members would be encouraged to bring a picture of their loved one to display next to a candle. Consideration was given to holding the service in the fellowship hall to allow for more room.
- ◆ November— FALC hosts Thanksgiving on Wednesday evening; and Advent begins the last Sunday in November. Saturday, November 5th at 10:00 am will be decorating the hall for All Saint's Day, and the church for harvest/thanksgiving.

**Next Meeting will be held on
Tuesday, September 6, 2016 at 6:00 pm**

BULLETIN/TECHNOLOGY SPONSORS

SEPTEMBER

- 4:** Eileen Retzlaff
- 11:** Carole Heroux— In celebration of Elaine's 94th birthday
- 18:** Mike & Judy Salacinski— In celebration of Molly Salacinski & Ben Maggle's wedding
- 25:** Duane & Kelly Sikma— In celebration of Jimmy Viestenz & Jamie Sikma's wedding

WISH YOU A VERY JOYOUS DAY FILLED WITH
LOVE. PEACE. PROSPERITY.

A Very Happy Birthday!

September

- 1:** Dustin Lubus
- 2:** Charles Olson, Collin Ebben
- 3:** Bonita Schaut
- 4:** Eileen Retzlaff, Jane Heise, Nathan Cox
- 6:** Marvin Ziesmer, Benjamin Helnore, Natalie Schlueter
- 7:** Garrett Moore
- 10:** Judy Salacinski, Halie Viestenz
- 11:** Elaine Heroux, Dennis Caldie, Debi Heimke, Jason Cox
- 12:** Ernie Krause, Debra Nordquist
- 13:** Jean Rockwell, Kitty Werner, Ryan Ziesmer, Pete Moody, James Connell
- 14:** Bill Leigh, Mary Heiser
- 16:** Alyson Nerenhausen, Megan Gossen
- 17:** Alvina Johnson, Leonard Schaut Jr.
- 18:** Russ Belongia
- 19:** Anne Marie Kasbaum, Karen Anne Hanson
- 20:** Floyd Behnke, Timothy Schultz, Amanda Derry
- 21:** Doug Reed, Leah Derry
- 22:** Veiga DeBenedetto
- 23:** Lisa Anderson, Kyle Gegare
- 24:** Rueben Meisner, Jon Viestenz, Jonie VanHecke
- 25:** Colleen Garrigan, Jim Peterson
- 26:** Esther Colson
- 27:** Cynthia Schaefer, Doug Wusterbarth
- 28:** Roger Reed
- 29:** Nancy Heindel, Joshua Place, Derek Donlevy, Brynna Moody
- 30:** Stacey Heise

CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING

August 16, 2016

Present - Pastor Mary, Jeremy Neta, David Berry, Jeff Werner, John Carson, Paul Welch, Nancy Rhode, Mary Heiser, Cary Yudes, and Dick Jacquart

Excused - Jon Viestenz Absent - Natalie Flint

Call to Order at 6 p.m. by President Neta. Prayer offered by Nancy Rhode.

Agenda – under new business, added purchase of tables and fund raising.

Secretary Report – The minutes of the June 21, 2016 meeting were accepted. M/S/C Carson, Heiser

Treasurer's Report - Create a line item for fundraising that is separate from the Intern line item.

Pastor's Report – Reviewed the 9/11 worship on the water service and extended appreciation to John Carson and Diane Motiff for organizing the event; reported coordinators for High Five identified and per the constitution they will need to be appointed by Council; meeting scheduled with parents and high school students to discuss a monthly activity; meeting scheduled with confirmation class; continuing search for youth coordinator.

Ministry Team Reports – Budget & Finance met and reviewed budget against income and expenses to date, both are as anticipated. Building & Property reviewed 5 year plan. Many projects are completed and some will be addressed as part of the church renovation. Items still needing attention are painting of doors and shutters at parsonage, purchase of fellowship tables, and flooring for a classroom/office. Christian Formation-Diane Motiff will be the kitchen coordinator on Wednesday nights. New High Five coordinators plan to get families more involved, confirmation fees and High Five donations for materials were discussed. CARE discussed baptisms, confirmation classes, and a benefit for a church member. Personnel did not meet. Stewardship planning for stewardship kick-off on Oct. 2, with the final Sunday Oct 23rd. Worship reviewed the success of the Service of Healing, reviewed the Sept 11th outdoor service, planned for the Blessing of the Pets in October and All Saints Day in November. FALC will host the Thanksgiving service on Wednesday evening. Nov 5th will be a work day to prepare worship areas for All Saints Day and harvest/Thanksgiving.

Leadership Formation-read and discussed "7 Reasons Why Small Churches Get Stuck".

Old Business-Church Renovation Committee reviewed names of those that volunteered for designated committees and crafted a list of potential oversight committee members. Beginning steps are to form the committees, the committees determine their suggestions, meet with an architect and secure drawings/plans. All in preparation for a presentation to the members. Robert Mitchel Trust- the designated use of funds is to be for a charitable and religious purpose. Discussed was a program to expand on the current weekend take home meal/food program conducted during the school year by the school district. Our proposed program would provide meal assistance during the summer months. Pastor will pursue with school district personnel.

New Business- Active and Inactive Member List Discussion Action is required per the constitution of the church. Various methods of informing members of inactivity and an invitation to become active were discussed. Concurred pastor should draft a letter for council review. Pastoral Scholarship for seminary students was discussed. A supply pastor had offered to donate his compensation back to the church if a scholarship was in place. Council discussed establishing a scholarship, using seed money from the intern fund. Purchase of Tables Building and Property Committee suggested purchasing additional tables for the fellowship hall. M/S/C Carson, Heiser to purchase approximately 15 tables, at a cost not to exceed \$2,000 from auction proceeds. Benefit for a member fighting cancer. Possibilities were discussed and it was determined to identify volunteers to organize the event and let them decide what type of fund raiser to hold and when.

High Five Coordinator Appointments M/S/C Welch and Yudes to appoint Patty Belongia and Pam Duncan as coordinators of High Five.

Correspondence – None presented.

Publication Items – Thank you to Pam Duncan and Patty Belongia; and reminder of 9/11 outdoor service.

Next Meeting –September 20, 2016

Adjourn - M/S/C Yudes and Jacquart to adjourn with prayer.



COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOSTS/HOSTESSES

4th: Sharon Garrigan, Kate & Ken Cisar **18th:** **VOLUNTEER NEEDED**

For anyone interested in hosting our Coffee Fellowship and not quite sure what's expected, there is a list in the kitchen (on the cabinet door) of suggestions of what to bring and how to go about setting it up. If you have questions you may contact any member of the CARE Team or the church office.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 7pm AA Mtg.	3
4 16th Sunday after Pentecost 9am Worship w/HC 10am Coffee Fellowship	5 <i>Pastor's Day Off</i> <i>Church Office Closed in Observance of Labor Day</i> 9am Sewing Ministry	6 5pm Stewardship 6pm Worship Team	7 10am AA Mtg. 5:30pm Family Meal 6pm High 5 Orientation 6pm Confirmation & SHY Classes 7pm Chapel	8 1:30pm Sun Valley Visit w/HC 6pm Christian Formation Ministry Mtg. 7pm Youth Group	9 7pm AA Mtg.	10 10am Acolyte Workshop
11 17th Sunday after Pentecost 10am Outdoor Worship at City Park 11am Picnic & Games  3pm Cub Scout Pack Mtg.	12 <i>Pastor's Day Off</i> 7pm AA Mtg.	13 <i>Pastor Out of Office at Shawano Conference</i> 6pm Building & Property 6:30pm CARE Team	14 10am AA Mtg. 5:30pm Family Meal 6pm High 5, Confirmation & SHY Classes 7pm Chapel	15	16 7pm AA Mtg.	17
18 18th Sunday after Pentecost 8am Worship w/HC 9am Coffee Fellowship 10:15am Worship w/HC 	19 <i>Pastor's Day Off</i> 7pm AA Mtg.	20 5:30pm Executive Council 6pm Council	21 10am AA Mtg. 1:30pm Naomi Circle 5:30pm Family Meal 6pm High 5, Confirmation & SHY Classes 7pm Chapel 7pm Omega Circle	22	23 7pm AA Mtg.	24
25 19th Sunday after Pentecost 8am Worship w/HC 9am Communion Assistant Workshop 10:15am Worship w/HC 11:30am 9th Grade Orientation & Class	26 <i>Pastor's Day Off</i> 7pm AA Mtg.	27	28 10am AA Mtg. NO CLASSES AND CHAPEL 5pm Harvest Supper 	29	30 7pm AA Mtg.	

“We must never allow September 11th to become a time for protest and division. Instead, this day must remain a time for promoting peace and mutual respect.” —Archbishop Timothy Dolan

SEPTEMBER WORSHIP ASSISTANT SCHEDULE

DATE:	USHER CAPTAINS	ACOLYTES	LEAD COMMUNION ASSISTANTS	LECTORS	TECHNOLOGY OPERATORS
9/4 9 am	Robin Fonder	Adam Fonder Montana Fonder	Bruce Bartanen	Lloyd Heier	Makayla DeGrave
9/7 7 pm	N/A	Bryce Hosking	Kelly Sikma	N/A	N/A
9/11 10 am City Park Service	John & Rose Matravars	MacKenzie Honish Alexis Witak	Jeremy Neta	Charlotte Ihde	N/A
9/14 7 pm	N/A	Louden Woodworth	Sue Jacquart	N/A	N/A
9/18 8 am	Jack & Phyllis Donlevy	David Exworthy Sophia Moody	Linda Welch	Paul Welch	Katie Hiott
9/18 10:15 am	Wally & Sally Krueger	Logan Klein Caleb Moe	Linda Gallagher	Paula Moe	Terri Nelson
9/21 7 pm	N/A	Emily McKay	Rueben Meisner	N/A	N/A
9/25 8 am	Liz Duket	Justice Mitchell Alison Earley	Cindy Evans	Mary Heiser	Sharon Doll
9/25 10:15 am	Terri Nelson Joe Tiegs	Isabelle Tiegs Cameron Boucher	Sandra Riley	Val Filz	Bobby Jo Lipp



MUSICIAN ON SUNDAYS & WEDNESDAYS

Bonnie Schultz

MONEY COUNTERS

John & Audrey Carson

CHANCEL HOST

Mary Heiser

COMMUNION BREAD MAKER

Bobby Jo Lipp



WE PRAY DAILY FOR THE FOLLOWING:

For safety, courage and perseverance for those serving our Country: Michael Dorn, Brian Zenz (Iraq), Aaron Larson (Colorado), Jeremiah Dettman (Maryland), Edward Ellman (State-side), Samantha Jepson

For help and healing: Mike Doll, Sherrie Duoss, Carol Bushmaker, Carole Heroux

For our homebound/shut-in: Florence Zimmerman, Carroll Dumke, Marceil Schumacher, Elaine Heroux, Betty Speller, Veiga DeBenedetto, Bonnie Milan, Melva Heise, Loretta Lipp

If you would like to be added to the prayer list, know of someone serving in the military, or of someone who would like to be prayed for, please call the office at 920.834.2460. Other than those in the military we will maintain people on the prayer list for a two week period, unless notified otherwise. Please note—for privacy reasons, we must have an individual's permission to add their name. If your name is removed in error, please accept our apologies and contact the office to let us know.



VOLUNTEER CONNECTION

We are searching for individuals willing to commit to various ministries within our church. If interested, please contact the church office or Pastor Mary and your name will be added to the rotation.

- ◆ **Chancel Host** — Some of the duties include dusting, straightening hymnals, stocking communion cards and replacing candles. A month will be assigned to you, and a key will be issued to give you the flexibility to come in at your convenience.
- ◆ **Communion Bread Maker** — The homemade bread is used for Communion on the second Sunday of each month. The recipe contains 6 ingredients that most have in their pantry. The bread freezes nicely and can be made ahead of time and is simple enough for children to help with.
- ◆ **Technology Operators** — With only a click of a button and the ability to sit with your family during service, this is a great and easy way to be involved in Sunday Services.

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Return Service Requested



**Blest be the
TIE
that binds our hearts in Christian love**

God's work. Our hands.

Worship and Picnic at City Park September 11, 2016

This year worship will be held at
Oconto City Park, 5182 County Hwy N, Oconto, WI.

Worship at 10:00 am Picnic and Games begin at 11:00 am

*Bring a Dish to Pass

FALC will provide Brats, Hotdogs, Lemonade, Milk, Coffee

*Bring a lawn chair if you wish!

September 11th marks the 15th anniversary of the 9/11 attack on the Twin Towers in New York. In recognition of this anniversary, we will be honoring our Firefighters, EMTs, Police Officers and all who serve on a daily basis to keep our community safe. **You are invited to bring a card with a note of thanks and encouragement to these folks who serve our community.** In addition, we will take up a special collection to be given to their favorite charity.

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Oconto, Wisconsin

September 2016



BLESSING OF THE PETS

**A Blessing of the Pets Service will be held on
Saturday, October 1, 2016
between 11:00 am & 1:00 pm**