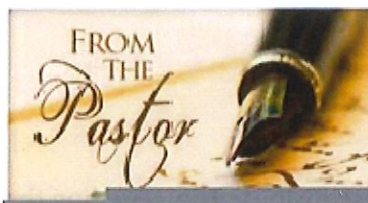


First Congregational United Church of Christ October 2024 Church Mouse

eagleriverucc.org



And what a lively and productive Annual Congregational Meeting it was! Thank you all who participated by either email, walk-in, or in-person balloting at the meeting. Numerous decisions were made to enhance the life of the congregation, an ongoing sign that we are indeed in a growth mode, continuing to develop and evolve as a local missional church, a special beloved faith community indeed! You elected a new slate of Church Council members, voted to become an *Open and Affirming* congregation within the United Church of Christ, and considered a budget and Constitution. On Sunday, October 27th, we will have a brief called congregational meeting to allow a ballot vote on a finalized budget for 2025 and an amended Church Constitution. We welcome our new Church Council officers, Carol Marshall, president, and Eric Olsen, Vice President. Please pray for your Church Council as they get to know one another better and work to build a highly functional and successful team. As always, there is much work to do here at First Congregational United Church of Christ, Eagle River, Wisconsin.

No doubt, the most significant vote taken at the Annual Congregational Meeting was your adoption of the recommendation that our church officially become an *Open and Affirming* congregation within the United Church of Christ. As a part of that voting process you also adopted an *Open and Affirming* Statement that will now be reviewed by the Coalition in Cleveland at the national setting of the United Church of Christ. Once they have approved the statement and have signed off on all the requirements, no doubt applauding our very intentional process, we will be welcomed by the UCC and proudly named on the denominational website as the newest *Open and Affirming* congregation. Soon, once all the "Ts" are crossed and the "Is" are dotted, we will plan a celebration that will take place during worship and will announce our good news to the wider community. Job well done! I am very proud of all of you!!!

Finally, I will be attending my fall clergy retreat, attending the annual gathering of the Dead Preacher's Society, a group of which I have been privileged to be a part for more than thirty-five years. I will also be enjoying some vacation time and will be back with you to celebrate World Communion on Sunday, October 6th. Fall is happening!!!

I look forward to seeing you on Sundays!

Tim

High and Holy Days – Fall 2024

Sunday, October 6th – *World Communion*
Sunday, October 27th – *A Celebration of Reformation Heritage*
Sunday, November 3rd – *A Celebration of All Saints*
Sunday, November 10th – *A Celebration of Stewardship*
Sunday, November 24th – *Reign of Christ/A Festival of Thanksgiving*
Sunday, December 1st – *First Sunday of Advent; Hope*
Tuesday and Wednesday, December 3rd and 4th – *Sanctuary Decoration (refreshments on the 4th)*
Sunday, December 8th – *Second Sunday of Advent; Peace*
Sunday, December 15th – *Third Sunday of Advent; Joy (Gaudete)*
Sunday, December 22nd – *Fourth Sunday of Advent; Love*
Tuesday, December 24th – *Annual Festival of Lessons and Carols/A Celebration of Carols, Candles, and Communion; TBD*
Sunday, December 29th – *Fellowship Gathering in Fellowship Hall*

FROM THE CHURCH COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Dear Church,

“Surely God is in this place....and I didn’t know it” Gen 28:16 NRSV

Do you know what a gift each of you is to the world- not just Eagle River or Wisconsin or the USA but the world? This month Miguel was a part of us from Honduras and here is his thank you:

Congregation! Thank you very much people of the Church for receiving me as one more of you! I enjoyed being with you and learning something new about God and about your family in union, thank you for opening my hugs and showing affection and love to a new person in your family. I really admire everything they do for other people and also for how they love regardless of the color or race of others. God is so perfect when he wants to do his will and uses you to show you another facet of what it is to love in Christ. I return to Honduras grateful to all of you! A hug to everyone and I hope to see you soon! Miguel

This is who you are, and you really can’t help it. Come along and join us in new ways. Look carefully at the calendar online and in this printing. Maybe Facilities, Ushering, Homebound help, Children and Youth, Music, Stewardship, Finances, Book Group, Prayer, Missions collections, 100th Birthdays, the monthly Mouse, and NATH meals, to name a few.

Take a step back and wonder—how is it a congregation so small can do so much?

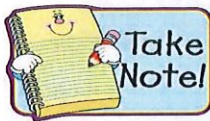
Thankfully, Lovingly and in Awe,

Carol Marshall

2024-2025 First Congregational UCC Eagle River Council President

**The Church Council will meet on Monday, October 14th at 7:00 p.m.
in the Conference Room. Church members are always welcome to attend.**

Notes from the Church Office



Check out our Webpage www.eagleriverucc.org: Did you know the worship bulletin and sermon are put on our webpage every week? Go to "About Us" then "Worship Services".

Scripture readers (Lectors) and ushers are always needed as well as readers for the Concerns of the Church. You may sign up by visiting our website or you may also contact Joy Turpin at joyfaithchapinturpin@gmail.com or 715-891-2658.

Facebook for photos and events:

Have you seen our Facebook page? <https://www.facebook.com/FirstCongregationalEagleRiver> Pictures are worth a thousand words and Kristen Anchor along with all our photographers is keeping up the First Congregational Eagle River Facebook page with upcoming events and great photos of our involvements around town too. Check it out and **Share** or **Like** freely to spread the word of our Still Speaking God.

Online giving is always available through our website www.eagleriverucc.org. Click on Ministries, then online giving, and set up your account. Online giving allows you to make gifts more conveniently, especially when not physically attending worship. Other questions about donations, envelopes, etc, call us at the office 715-802-8501.



I am writing this article on my flight back from a work trip and a short vacation in Alaska. It was my first time to visit the 49th state and I must say, "I am in awe!" Over and over again the song *My God is an Awesome God!* kept going through my head. The mountains, fjords, glaciers, and wildlife were amazing. I took loads of pictures but even those don't do the area justice. We were fortunate to see Mt. Denali and the sight is one to behold. As one Alaskan colleague told me, "The mountains are here to remind us of how small we truly are." It is a belief I hope I keep with me when the mountains are no longer in view.

I was sorry to miss the 100th anniversary celebration service but heard wonderful things about it. I can't thank everyone enough for helping to make the day special.

It is hard to believe that we are beginning the month of October and back in full swing, musically, this month. The choir will be singing as usual, and we will also be preparing for Reformation Sunday on October 27th and then to All Saint's Sunday November 3rd. The Chime Choir is back after its summer hiatus under the direction of Susan Krivichi and will bring special music to the October 13th service.

As always, if you would like to share a musical talent, please let me know!

Lori



1 Cor 1:4 "I give thanks to my God always for you"

Ursula Charaf, Diana Deaver, Richard Deaver, Amy Florence, Marion Griebenow, Norda Gromoll, Thomas Helmick, Doug Malinsky, Helena Roerdink, James Sanborn, Linda Sanborn, Jane Shadick and Iland Shepherdson.

FLOWER CALENDAR:

If you would like to give flowers for Sunday worship, please pick a Sunday and add your name to the Flower Calendar that is in the narthex across from the elevator. Flowers are ordered from Vintage Garden at a cost of \$35. Please write a separate check made out to the church. **Please let Debbie Brown in the Church Office know the information you would like to have on the card.** If you choose to get your own flowers, please let the Church Office know that you are doing so. You are welcome to take the flowers home after the service. It is also helpful if you bring the vase back to return to Vintage Gardens as we then get more flowers for the money. **What better way to honor anyone or anything than to share flowers with your church family on Sunday!**

FLOWER SPONSORS FOR OCTOBER

Tom and Barb Helmick





RECYCLING REPORT



WAY TO GO and hats off to EVERYONE ~ we have reached our year goal of collecting 1000 lbs of soft plastics to earn a Trex bench. Our new year challenge, to again collect another 1000 lbs., begins this month ***so a reminder to continue to bring in these plastics as this is an ongoing mission. A thank you to the recycling team of Kamie Kolb, Mary Lou Condon, Kayla Elliot, and Pat Mayo for their extra help in sorting the plastics at church as well as at other collection sites.

This mission is one that has been embraced by our church family and we should ALL be VERY PROUD of this effort to keep these plastics out of the landfill which in turn are repurposed to create a functional weather resistant bench along with helping to preserve the earth for future

generations!   So proud of our church family!! WE ALL ARE THE CHURCH!!



If you have any questions about this recycling mission, please see Kamie Kolb after church or email her at kamiekolb1@gmail.com

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THE FLOCK

The October Flock meeting will be at the home of Linda Brainard on Thursday, October 17th at 6:00 p.m. It will be a chili supper to ring in the "fall". If you care to bring as salad or dessert, please let me know what you will be making. Also, please RSVP to Linda at lsbpiano@msn.com or text to 715/891-3548.

Hope to see you there!
Your Shepherdess,



Linda

Women's Fellowship will meet Tuesday, October 8th at 9:00 a.m. in the paint room downstairs. All women are welcome to attend.

BOOK CLUB

Hi ALL!

We had an enthusiastic group meeting on Thursday and have come up with a schedule and list for this year. The first two books are in high demand at the library so be sure to get on the wait list there if you want to borrow the book and join our discussions.

Date	Title	Author	Host
Oct 17.	<i>Remarkably Bright Creatures</i>	Shelby Van Pelt	Marian A
Nov 14.	<i>James</i>	Percival Everett.	Nan A
Dec 12	Movie ? Any suggestions?		
Jan 9.	<i>Beartown.</i>	Fredrick Bachman	Donna D
Feb 13.	<i>Being Mortal</i>	Atul Gawande	Marti V
March 13.	<i>The Great Believers</i>	Rebecca Makkai.	Susan K
April 10.	The Women	Kristin Hannah	Mary Lou C.
May 8.	<i>Diamond Eye</i>	<i>Kate Quinn</i>	<i>Tobi J</i>

The schedule includes the 3rd Thursday of October and then we switch to the second Thursday for the rest of the 2024-25 season.

Hope to see you all for the October gathering!

Donna D

Melody of Compassion



During the Offertory we invite you to give your coins for the ***Melody of Compassion***, our way of helping the Eagle River area through gift cards. Please bring your coins to keep the Melody ringing for others.

Backpack Program

We pack bags for the Backpack Program on the third Thursday of every month at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church. This month we will meet on October 17th at 9:00 a.m. All are welcome to help and any donations to this mission are appreciated. Thank you.

NATH Frederick Place Dinners

Thanks to everyone who helped with the Frederick Place September meal. Please check the bulletin board in the Narthex to see if you can provide something for our October 28th meal.

For more information, contact Mary Lou Congdon or Susan Krivichi, or sign up on the volunteer sheet attached to the poster in the Narthex.



October Mission Project

It's Going to Be a Boo-tiful Time!

October 31, 2024, at 4PM on Church Corner, 1st @ Division St.

**Let's Welcome Trick-or-Treaters and Their Families
—and Let Them Know About OUR Church Family! —**

For any of us who have been around the town of Eagle River in late October when all the little ghouls and goblins are Trick-or-Treating in the residential blocks of town - you know that literally HUNDREDS of children and their families are out and about! Many residents put their front porch lights on to welcome the kids and prepare for around 500 visitors to come knocking on their doors.

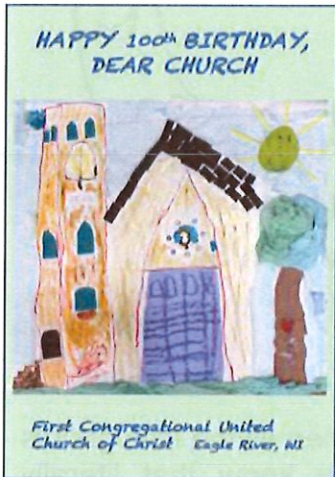
As you know, our congregation owns that lovely open lot on the northwest corner of First & Division across from the church building itself. This year, we want to welcome the Trick-or-Treaters into that space and let them see the friendly and welcoming faces of our church members and friends.

October Donations: *In preparation, during October, we invite your donations of bags of candy or non-candy items.* In addition to the usual sweet things, we hope that you will find small toys or figurines, decorative pencil erasers, toy cars or other small gifts to pop into Trick-or-Treaters' bags. We are also asking for **donations of hotdogs and buns.** *(These will be kept frozen in the church's freezer until the end of the month.)* Cathy Palmer and others are planning some simple games with prizes and Steve Burrill will be heading up the grilling. We'll have an inflated lighted pumpkin display to attract the crowds. A few signs around town at some of the corners will alert folks to come down our way. We also will have tables for the kids to line up for their goodies and prizes. Perhaps we'll even have a fog machine for a little atmosphere — but we are planning a FUN Halloween and not a scary one so that all ages of children feel secure and welcomed! We also plan to put welcoming information about our congregation into the kids' bags, so parents know that we welcome families and kids.

Volunteer: In addition to your donations during the month, we hope that you will also volunteer to be present to join in the fun. Drop-ins are also encouraged, and this is your chance to costume up! Let's have fun! Perhaps you live out of town (like many of us!) and never get a real chance to welcome kids to your own door at home. So, here's a time to experience firsthand the fun and the crowds of tons of children all dressed up and excited for Halloween! Mark your calendars for Thursday, October 31. The kids start Trick-or-Treating after school around 4 p.m. More info will follow.

Thank you for helping our congregation to prepare to be a FUN introduction for many area families who may not know that our congregation is open and welcoming to ALL families.

It'll be simply BOO-tiful !!!



Happy 100th Birthday Church

We've been celebrating throughout the month the beauty that is our church building with special memories, cards, and gifts. Sanctuary Arts displayed history albums and photos for us to browse. September 15 was our official birthday celebration with balloons and a photo history of the transformation of our building since 1924. Bruce Kaitchuck and Pat Tucker walked the kids through the sanctuary remodeling.

Specially designed cards from our Children's Ministry are available at church, blank and with a birthday message. Packets with your donor names are in a basket on the table in the office. Come on by.

We've received great stories (paraphrased somewhat):

'A source of comfort, encouragement, challenge and community'

'During Thomas's service one smiley face balloon floated up to the ceiling above the chancel. It was there for weeks assuring us he was happy and in a good place.'

'Sandy called out to us from the pulpit, and we knew we were home'

'My uncle played hooky from school one day and hid in the church. Sadly, he fell from the steeple and broke both arms—A lesson well learned!'

'You always make me feel welcome'

'I hope and pray you'll be around another 100 years'

'Thank you for being a church that 'gives wastefully'...to those who come to us for basic needs.'

'Remember when we held services in the funeral home while got a remodel, church?'

'During our daughter's wedding there were bats flying around'

'I love our church and sanctuary, but at the end of the day..it's the people who make it a home'

AND...

We've received donations for our building expenses so far totaling over \$6000!!!

Thank you that because of you our building is full, with church services and clubs and also the Cub Scouts, AA, NA, Yoga and so many other activities throughout each week.



Do you have an idea for a future monthly collection? If so, we would love to hear about it. Please reach out to Mary Lou Congdon or Barbara Helmick. Thank you!

Church Financial Summary

2024 Budget YTD

	2024 Actual YTD 8/31/2024	2024 Annual Budget 8/31/2024	2024 Annual Budget YE
Income*	\$110,760	\$109,829	\$163,244
Expense	\$144,323	\$142,390	\$210,085
Net Income (Loss)	-\$33,563	-\$32,561	-\$46,841

* Income does not include investment funds transfers available to use if needed.

2025 Budget

The members will be asked to give final approval of the 2025 budget at the special congregational meeting on October 27th. We remain excited about our growing church and its mission.

Stewardship Month will be November when we focus on the spiritual meaning of giving and understanding our 2025 commitments. This is easy for this church's extraordinarily generous members. Be prayerful as we *IMAGINE TOGETHER*





COMMUNITY GARDEN NEWS

During September we were able to donate chard, lettuce, tomatoes, beans, carrots, crook neck squash, zucchini, peas, three kinds of peppers, basil and parsley each week. The garden is winding down and we will begin preparing for next year by removing the plants as they stop producing, planting garlic and a cover crop of rye grass and mulching everything for the winter (thanks to Jean Haack!!). Many thanks to all who tended and watered this month including Deb Stolze, Tobi Johannsen, Patti Roberts, and Mary Lou Congdon. We will be meeting during the winter to look at all the information gleaned from this year and make decisions regarding next year—all are welcome, and we will announce a date in the future.





Coffee Hour 'Refreshment Schedule' through November 2024 Thank you!

October 6	Phoebe Spier	Trista Langley-Tyler
October 13	Barb/Carlton Schroeder	Louise Krus
October 20	Nancy Diepenbrock	Susan Krivichi
October 27	Pat Fox	Patti Roberts
November 3	Mary Lou Congdon	Pat Adamovich
November 10	Tom Helmick	Sharon Breit
November 17	Barb Flaherty	Cathy Palmer
November 24	Phoebe Spier	Trista Langley-Tyler

Hello Church Friends,

Above, you will find the schedule for providing treats for Coffee Hour after worship. We are so happy that so many of you have volunteered to provide this nice addition to the Coffee Hour social time that enhances our worship and fellowship together. Here are a few notes regarding your duties etc.:

1. You are only responsible for providing a treat on the assigned Sunday. If you want to set up the coffee maker prior to the service, either Joy Turpin or Susan Krivichi can show you how that is done. We have assigned two people each Sunday to make it less of a burden. There have been as many as 60 people at the 9:00 a.m. service.
2. You may bring pastries, cookies, bars, fruit, cheese and crackers, or any other items you think would be nice for the social time. Please make sure that your item is ready to serve (i.e., bars cut up and placed on a plate as needed, provide a serving utensil, etc.) There are gluten free treats in the cabinet above the sink. There are plates and napkins and coffee cups in the Parlor to be used for Coffee Hour.
3. If you cannot provide treats on your assigned Sunday, please **first** contact another person on the list to see if you can switch your Sunday assignments. If that fails, please contact Susan or Joy to let them know that you will not be available on a given Sunday. Please update them on any switches you have made.
4. You **are not** required to clean up afterwards, so please do not worry if you can only drop off your treats and leave. We will make sure everything is cleaned up afterwards. If you can help clean up, that is great, and there is a very nice vacuum stored in the Church Office hanging on the wall charger that can be used to vacuum the Parlor. Coffee grounds can be placed in the garbage can in the Parlor and the coffee pot should be emptied and rinsed.

Finally, please do not hesitate to contact either Susan or Joy with comments, concerns, or suggestions. We look forward to working with you on this service to our church.

Susan Krivichi and Joy Turpin

First Congregational United Church of Christ

105 North First Street PO Box 1385

Eagle River, Wisconsin 54521

office@eagleriverucc.org

715-802-8501

www.eagleriverucc.org

Timothy W. Shirley: timwshirley@gmail.com

Church Office Hours

Monday – Thursday - 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. – CLOSED ON FRIDAYS

CHURCH COUNCIL

Carol Marshall, President

Eric Olsen, Vice President

Kristen Anchor

Steve Burrill

Tom Helmick

Mark Holperin

Bill Marshall

MINISTRY CHAIRPERSONS

Pastor Parish Relations, Tobi Johannsen

Women's Fellowship, Sharon Breit

Sanctuary Arts Group, Patti Roberts

Facilities, Donna Adams

Finance, Paula Hendrickson

Gifts and Endowments, Bill Marshall

Safety and Security, Carlton Schroeder

Scholarship, Ursula Charaf

Service Support Team, Joy Turpin

Corresponding Secretary, Kelli Burrill

CHURCH STAFF

Timothy W. Shirley, Pastor

Debbie Brown, Church Administrator

Sharon Breit, Director of Christian Education

Lori Lee Hunter, Director of Music

Norma Yaeger, Pianist

Christine Clough, Cleaning Services

Worship Service

SUNDAYS AT 9:00 A.M.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29	30	1	2	3	4	5
		6pm - AA Meeting @ First 6pm - Soul Sisters	11am - Many Ways of Peace	6pm - Eagles AFG 6pm - Narcotics Anonymous	6pm - AA Meeting @ First	9am - Lake Country Weavers
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
8am - Choir Practice 9am - Worship - World 4pm - Cub Scouts	4pm - Chime Choir 6pm - AA Meeting @ First	9am - Women's Fellowship 6pm - AA Meeting @ First 6pm - Soul Sisters	11am - Many Ways of Peace	6pm - Eagles AFG 6pm - Narcotics Anonymous	6pm - AA Meeting @ First	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
9am - Worship 4pm - Cub Scouts	4pm - Chime Choir 6pm - AA Meeting @ First 7pm - Church Council	6pm - AA Meeting @ First 6pm - Soul Sisters	11am - Many Ways of Peace	6pm - Eagles AFG 6pm - Narcotics Anonymous 6:30pm - Book Club	6pm - AA Meeting @ First	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
8am - Choir Practice 9am - Worship 4pm - Cub Scouts	4pm - Chime Choir 6pm - AA Meeting @ First	6pm - AA Meeting @ First 6pm - Soul Sisters	11am - Many Ways of Peace	6pm - Eagles AFG 6pm - Narcotics Anonymous	6pm - AA Meeting @ First	
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
9am - Worship - A 10am - Special 4pm - Cub Scouts	4pm - Chime Choir 6pm - AA Meeting @ First	6pm - AA Meeting @ First 6pm - Soul Sisters	11am - Many Ways of Peace	4pm - Boo-Fest 6pm - Eagles AFG 6pm - Narcotics Anonymous		



Caregiver Roadmap Resource Event

Expert panel discussion on the pit stops you may need to take through your caregiving journey. Experts from each pit stop on the Caregiver Roadmap will be represented, providing information, and available to answer any questions you may have.

WHEN:

Wednesday, November 6th
1:00pm to 3:00pm

WHERE:

Walter E. Olson Memorial Library
203 N. Main Street
Eagle River, WI 54521



RSVP: Call the ADRC at 715-479-3625

Healthy Living with Diabetes

A diabetes diagnosis brings big changes. Find solutions that work for you!

Healthy Living with Diabetes participants have a **53% reduction in emergency department visits.**



What is Healthy Living with Diabetes?

Healthy Living with Diabetes is an evidence-based program for adults of all ages who have type 2 diabetes, pre-diabetes, or live with someone who does. In just 6 weeks, you learn:

- To practice healthy eating & nutrition, relaxation techniques, and exercise for fitness and fun
- Coping with stress and depression
- Communicating with family, friends, and health professionals
- Goal setting and problem solving

Upcoming Workshop

WHEN: Every Monday starting **Monday, September 23, 2024 at 9:30am to Noon** through Monday, November 4th, 2024

WHERE: Walter Olson Library in Eagle River, 203 North Main Street

CALL to Register: ADRC of Vilas County, Pam 715-479-3625



wiha
Wisconsin Institute
for Healthy Aging



Healthy Aging Brain Health and Diabetes

Are Dementia and Diabetes Linked?



Join us to find out

Tuesday, September 10th, 2024

1:00pm to 2:30pm

At the Walter E. Olson Memorial Library

**Aging & Disability Resource Center
of Vilas County**



Avoid The Flu!

2024 SEASONAL FLU SHOT SCHEDULE VILAS COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

The Vilas County Health Department will be conducting flu clinics as follows:

OCTOBER 8 TUESDAY	LAC DU FLAMBEAU TOWN HALL	2:30 PM – 3:30 PM
OCTOBER 14 MONDAY	ST. GERMAIN COMMUNITY CENTER	9:00 AM – 10:00 AM
OCTOBER 15 TUESDAY	BOULDER JUNCTION COMMUNITY CENTER	2:30 PM – 3:30 PM
	PRESQUE ISLE COMMUNITY CENTER	9:30AM - 11:00AM
OCTOBER 17 THURSDAY	WINCHESTER TOWN HALL	11:30AM - 12:30PM
	MANITOWISH WATERS COMMUNITY CENTER	2:30PM - 3:30PM
OCTOBER 21 MONDAY	SAYNER – SHEPARD OF THE LAKES LUTHERAN CHURCH	10:00 AM - 11:00 AM
OCTOBER 21 MONDAY	ARBOR VITAE TOWN HALL	9:30AM - 10:30AM
OCTOBER 22 TUESDAY	KALMAR CENTER – EAGLE RIVER	1:00 PM – 3:00 PM
	LAND O LAKES FIRE BARN	9:00 AM – 10:00 AM
OCTOBER 24 THURSDAY	CONOVER COMMUNITY CENTER	10:30 AM – 11:30 AM
	PHELPS TOWN HALL	10:00 AM – 11:00 AM

The cost of the Quadrivalent (all ages) flu shot is \$30.00.
The cost of the High Dose – (65 and older) flu shot is \$75.00.
These are payable in cash or check. We will bill Medicare Part B. If you have any questions on billing, please call 715-479-3656.

There are some restrictions. All clinics are subject to vaccine supply.

Any clinic cancellations will be announced on the radio.

For more information call the Vilas County Public Health Department :

715-479-3656

