



2026 FALL COURSE CATALOG



LEARN something new | **SHARE** engaging activities | **MEET** interesting people

Learning in Retirement at Evergreen
in partnership with UW Oshkosh



Learning in Retirement 2026 - 2027 Steering Committee

Officers



Pat Lowney, President



Dennis Dettlaff, Vice President



Alyson Hintz, Secretary



Andrew Smith, Treasurer

To reach an officer, please send an email to lir@EvergreenOshkosh.com or call the office at 920-237-2124 and your message will be forwarded to the appropriate person.

Committee Chairs



**Administrative/Finance &
Membership/Promotion
Terrie Kragenbrink**



**Curriculum
Lee Prellwitz**

LIR welcomes involvement from all members, looking for a way to volunteer?
Contact lir@EvergreenOshkosh.com or 920-237-2124 if interested.



From the President

Welcome to the Fall 2026 catalog for Learning in Retirement. We are excited that you have chosen to belong, and we hope the offerings we are presenting will spark your curiosity and help you learn about the wonderful part of the world we get to call home.

I have always been curious about how and why things happen. I have found that things rarely occur by chance, yet I do not always understand the decision-making behind them. Learning in Retirement has provided me with a wide variety of opportunities to satisfy that curiosity, and I hope it does the same for you.

I often come across speakers or presentations through other groups and think they would be valuable additions to our Learning in Retirement programs. Perhaps you do as well. We are always looking for additional help on our curriculum committee and would welcome your involvement.

We also hope to continue growing our membership. If you have a friend who might enjoy Learning in Retirement, please invite them to a course and encourage them to join. Word of mouth remains our strongest way to promote LIR.

As a member-driven organization, we rely on your input and participation. We live in a fast-changing world, and my hope is that Learning in Retirement can serve as a resource to help us better understand change, accept it, and even benefit from it.

And let's not forget the comradery and fun that goes with the process!

Pat Lowney

Pat Lowney



Reasons to stay engaged in Lifelong Learning:

- Improves self-confidence and other personal qualities.
- Strengthens your mental capabilities and overall well-being.
- Provides opportunities to meet new and like-minded people.
- Assists in developing new hobbies and interests.
- Puts your well-developed skills to use after retirement.
- **Be a lifelong learner!**

LIR is being offered through Evergreen in partnership with UW Oshkosh. Evergreen staff provide administrative support for LIR by collecting and tracking registrations, memberships, and other payments.

They are your go-to for answering questions and day-to-day administration of the program.

You may contact:

Evergreen staff at lir@EvergreenOshkosh.com or by calling **920-237-2124**.

The Mailing Address is:

Evergreen, Attn: LIR
1130 North Westfield St
Oshkosh, WI 54902

Membership & Registration of Courses

Membership: Your LIR Membership fee of \$105 includes attendance at unlimited programs for one academic year July 1 – June 30. Annual membership renewal opens up in the Fall. Course catalogs will be made available annually (Fall and Spring). To join for a single semester, the membership fee is \$55.

Renew your membership and register for courses online through the LIR website, by scanning the QR code, or at www.evergreenoshkosh.com/learning-in-retirement. Instructions for registration will be available through the LIR website. Evergreen staff will also be available to guide members through this registration process. For assistance, contact lir@EvergreenOshkosh.com or at 920-237-2124.



Course Registration Reminders:

- Please only register for programs you plan to attend. If you can no longer attend, please cancel your registration through your confirmation email or by contacting the LIR office.
- Programs listed as “Evergreen-Hybrid” as the location can be attended either in person or via Zoom. If you plan to join by zoom, you can indicate this at the time of course registration.
- The **Fall Course Reference Sheet** is a helpful tool to keep track of your course selections.

Payment Procedures for Membership and Fee-Based Programs

Payment Instructions

- **New this semester:** Payment is required for registration approval for fee-based programs; registration requests will be processed in the order payments are received.
- After completing your online registration, please submit the **LIR Registration Payment Form** along with your payment.
- Cash or check is accepted. When paying by check, please submit a separate check for membership fees from any additional fee-based program payments.
- Please make checks payable to Evergreen and include “LIR” in the memo line. Please also include one of the following on the memo line in addition to “LIR” to help us accurately apply your payment: “LIR Membership” or “LIR Course #__ (list course number(s), if applicable).”
- Payments and payment forms may be dropped off at Evergreen or mailed to:

Evergreen, Attn: LIR
1130 North Westfield St
Oshkosh WI 54902

General Information

Bring a Friend: Non-member guests are welcome, unless otherwise noted, and must be registered separately. Guests should be registered with the member’s name and the word “Guest” added to the last name. Example: A guest of Pat Lowney would be registered as “Pat Lowney-Guest”.

Program Change Notifications: If there is a last-minute program schedule change or cancellation due to circumstances other than weather, an email will be sent to those registered. Make sure your email is up-to-date with the LIR office.

Weather Cancellations: Check Green Bay TV Stations for notifications. If public schools are closed **in the city where the program is being held**, the program will be cancelled. You may not receive any other notification. Cancellations may be made prior to the day of on a case-by-case basis. If possible, an email will be sent informing those registered of the cancellation.

Special Interest Groups

1) Readers' Choice

Love books and reading? Group participants decide on the selection of books to read and discuss.

Dates: Wednesdays; September 2, October 7, November 4, December 2, January 6

Time: 2 – 3:30 p.m.

Coordinator: Lee Prellwitz

Location: Evergreen

2) Garden Group

Experts will present on a variety of garden and landscape topics. Field trips to area nurseries and gardens are a favorite activity. Group participants decide on the programming and activities.

Dates: Fridays; September 4, October 2, November 6, December 4, January 8

Time: 10 – 11:30 a.m.

Coordinator: Debby Butch

Location: Coughlin Center and various other locations selected by group.

3) Life Writing Group #1

Registration is open to current LIR members who participated in the Spring 2026 Life Writing Group #1. Reflect on your life through autobiographical writing, share your work, and offer feedback to one another. Monthly prompts will be provided, but members are free to write on any topic.

Dates: Tuesdays; September 22, October 20, November 17, December 15, January 26

Time: 10 – 11:30 a.m.

Coordinator: Helen Adams and Marsha Rossiter

Location: Evergreen

Maximum Participants: 15

4) Life Writing Group #2

Write from your memories and life experiences - stories, reflections, personal essays, poems, or family history. Give and receive feedback in a supportive environment. Monthly prompts and helpful resources will be provided, with freedom to write on any topic.

Dates: Tuesdays; September 22, October 20, November 17, December 15, January 26

Time: 1:30 – 3 p.m.

Coordinator: Helen Adams and Marsha Rossiter

Location: Evergreen

Maximum Participants: 15

5) Leadership Oshkosh Encore

Inspired by the highly regarded Leadership Oshkosh program, Leadership Oshkosh Encore is a four-part series designed for the 55+ community. Whether you are new to the area or looking to stay connected and informed about what's happening in Oshkosh, this program offers an engaging introduction to the people, organizations, and issues shaping our community.

Participants will attend four engaging sessions throughout the year featuring a variety of speakers, interactive discussions, and community visits. Topics include Oshkosh History and Community Planning, Arts and Culture, Education, and Criminal Justice. Through presentations, discussions, and community visits, participants will gain valuable insights while building connections with others who share an interest in lifelong learning and community engagement. Lunch will be provided at each session.

Dates: October 8, December 17, February 16, April 6

Time: Approximately 4 hours mid-day

Coordinator: Lee Prellwitz

Location: Various within Oshkosh

Cost: \$70

Maximum Participants: 25 (members only)

Note: Participants for this program must register and pay by September 17.

Payment must include a payment form, instructions can be found on page 4.

6) The Great Gatsby: Sad Young Men and the American Dream

An interpretation of, and readings from, one of the greatest novels written in English: F. Scott Fitzgerald's tragic presentation of the chimera of masculine longing for ideal love and riches as hope vanishes with youth.

"Gatsby believed in the green light, the orgastic future that year by year recedes before us. It eluded us then, but that's no matter—tomorrow we will run faster, stretch out our arms farther . . . And one fine morning—So we beat on, boats against the current, borne back ceaselessly into the past."

Date: Wednesday, September 9, 2026

Time: 1:30 – 3 p.m.

Presenter: Dr. William Baurecht

Coordinator: Lee Prellwitz

Location: Evergreen - Hybrid

Note: You may want to read the novel and watch one of the many movie adaptations prior to the presentation.

7) Pre-Planning Cemetery & Funeral Arrangements

Join us for an informative discussion on pre-planning cemetery and funeral arrangements. Participants will learn four simple steps for creating and sharing their final wishes, helping to address more than 120 common questions that often arise when a loved one passes. The presentation will be led by Michael Lawniczak, with Gin Radtke available for follow up questions and additional support. Adult children are welcome to attend and should register as a guest if they are not LIR members. This program is presented by Lake View Memorial Park in Oshkosh and Highland Memorial Park in Appleton, local Dignity Memorial providers.

Date: Thursday, September 10, 2026

Time: 1:30 – 3 p.m.

Presenters: Michael Lawniczak and Gin Radtke

Coordinator: Joel Kluessendorf

Location: Evergreen - Hybrid

8) What Can History Teach Us About Christian Citizenship?

In these times of social and political upheaval, many of us are asking how faith should shape our civic life. How do we balance loyalty to our country with allegiance to our spiritual convictions? What does it mean to be both a faithful Christian and an engaged citizen? Dr. Jean Geran and UW History Professor Michael Rutz will present on this topic, which reprises the inaugural presentation in a new 2025 lecture series, "Questions of Faith."

Date: Friday, September 11, 2026

Time: 1:30 – 3 p.m.

Presenters: Dr. Jean Geran and Dr. Michael Rutz

Coordinator: Lee Prellwitz

Location: Oshkosh Seniors Center

9) The Show Must Go On! Exhibitions Past and Present at the Paine

Join Laura Fiser, curator of collections and exhibitions at the Paine Art Center and Gardens, for a behind-the-scenes look at the Paine's dynamic exhibitions program. Since 2005 Laura has worked with artists, collectors, and other museums to help bring more than 50 exhibitions to fruition. From Norman Rockwell to Tiffany lamps, Chihuly glass to Downton Abbey costumes, The Paine's exhibitions come in all shapes and sizes, each with its own parameters, idiosyncrasies, and complex logistics. Laura will shed light on the process of organizing and installing exhibitions and answer any burning questions along the way.

Date: Monday, September 14, 2026

Time: 10 – 11:30 a.m.

Presenters: Laura Fiser, Curator of Collections and Exhibitions at The Paine

Coordinator: Karen Kaempffe

Location: Evergreen - Hybrid

10) Tour: Jesuit Retreat House

The tour will start with a history of Fahrney Village, south of Oshkosh, which later became the current Jesuit Retreat House. There will be an explanation of the Jesuit mission, along with how the Jesuits acquired the property and transformed it into a retreat facility. A discussion of why people choose to go on retreats will follow. Finally, there will be a tour of the facilities, with an opportunity for attendees to explore the beautiful grounds.

Date: Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Time: 10 – 11:30 a.m.

Presenter: Tanya Hielke, Coordinator of Hosted Events at Jesuit Retreat House

Coordinator: Pat Lowney

Location: Jesuit Retreat House, 4850 Fahrwald Road, Oshkosh, WI 54902

Maximum Participants: 60

11) Meaning, Purpose, & Legacy

Jean Skeels will lead an interactive presentation on how to define meaning and purpose in your life and how to create and document the things that have brought you the most joy and fulfillment.

Date: Wednesday, September 16, 2026

Time: 10 – 11:30 a.m.

Presenter: Jean Skeels

Coordinator: Lee Prellwitz

Location: Coughlin Center

Note: Please bring a pen and some paper to write on for this presentation.

12) 9/11: A Day No One Will Ever Forget

Chris Henry will discuss the events of 9/11 and his experiences working at Pittsburgh International Airport on that day.

Date: Monday, September 21, 2026

Time: 10 – 11:30 a.m.

Presenter: Chris Henry, Museum Director at EAA

Coordinator: Karen Kaempffe

Location: Evergreen - Hybrid

13) Nutrition, Medications and Your Health Journey

Dr. JJ Allen, owner of Hometown Pharmacy on Sawyer Street in Oshkosh, returns to share the latest insights on how nutrition, medications, and everyday habits shape overall wellness. With experience as both a pharmacist and certified sports nutritionist, he will offer practical guidance for supporting your health, advocating for yourself, and making informed lifestyle decisions. Bring your questions for an engaging and empowering discussion.

Date: Tuesday, September 22, 2026

Time: 1:30 – 3 p.m.

Presenter: Dr. JJ Allen, PharmD, CISSN, Hometown Pharmacy

Coordinator: Karen Kaempffe

Location: Evergreen - Hybrid

14) From the Wienermobile to Main Street: How a Hot Dog Changed My Career

In this presentation, Anna Murphy-Pociask will trace her journey from Wienermobile “Hotdogger” to destination marketing professional, sharing the skills, lessons, and unexpected turns that led her to Discover Oshkosh and why she wouldn’t have it any other way!

Date: Wednesday, September 23, 2026

Time: 10 – 11:30 a.m.

Presenter: Anna Murphy-Pociask

Coordinator: Kathi Sawall

Location: Evergreen - Hybrid

15) Chef’s Choice: The Genius of Alfred Hitchcock

Those who attend will enjoy a meal prepared by Evergreen’s Culinary Team, followed by a presentation. The presentation, which has been pre-recorded, will explore Alfred Hitchcock, who, for many scholars and movie critics, continues to be regarded as one of the most influential filmmakers in the history of world cinema. With a career that spanned six decades, he was anointed the “Master of Suspense,” creating a slew of films that brought audiences to the edge of their seats. Beneath the often-shocking surface imagery lurked a mesmerizing and richly layered psychosexual subtext involving intertwining cryptic layers, revealing a far more sophisticated artistic ambition than he has been given credit for.

Date: Monday, September 28, 2026

Time: 12:15 – 2:15 p.m.

Presenter: Marc Lapadula, Former Senior Lecturer at Yale University

Coordinator: Lee Prellwitz

Location: Evergreen - Zoom Unavailable

Cost: \$15

Maximum Participants: 60

Note: Participants for this program must register and pay by Monday, September 7.

Payment must include a payment form, instructions can be found on page 4.

16) Winnebago County K9 Deputy and K9 Imani Demonstration

Winnebago County K9 Deputy Fenrich will demonstrate what his K9 partner, Imani, can do.

Date: Tuesday, September 29, 2026

Time: 10 – 11:30 a.m.

Presenter: K9 Deputy Fenrich

Coordinator: Kathi Sawall

Location: Evergreen - Zoom Unavailable

17) Innovation, Opportunity, and the Future of Our Communities: Perspectives from the Chancellor of UW Oshkosh

Join University of Wisconsin–Oshkosh Chancellor Singh for a conversation about emerging trends in technology, education, and workforce development. Explore how these changes are shaping the future of our communities and creating new opportunities for growth and innovation. The presentation will highlight ways universities, businesses, and community leaders can work together to address challenges and build vibrant, resilient communities. Attendees will gain insight into the partnerships and ideas that can help prepare future generations for success.

Date: Thursday, October 1, 2026

Time: 10 – 11:30 a.m.

Presenter: Manohar Singh, Ph.D., Chancellor at UW Oshkosh

Coordinator: Pat Lowney

Location: Evergreen - Hybrid

18) Antarctica

Mountain, Wisconsin-based artist, adventurer, and K-12 art educator Breanne Kanak will be presenting photographs, videos, artwork, artifacts, and a reflective retelling of her once-in-a-lifetime expedition to Antarctica. The drawings and paintings that will be featured were completed aboard her expedition ship and during travel delays. Often considered a cold and unwelcoming environment, Antarctica provided unexpected warmth and complexity of scenery, wildlife, and endless inspiration.

Date: Friday, October 2, 2026

Time: 1:30 – 3 p.m.

Presenter: Breanne Kanak

Coordinator: Karen Kaempffe

Location: Evergreen - Hybrid

19) Exploring English Cottages

Aaron Sherer will share insights from his sabbatical exploring English cottages. He will highlight the design, craftsmanship, and charm of these historic homes and draw connections to the architecture and gardens at The Paine. Participants will gain a deeper appreciation for the influence of English cottages on American design and lifestyle.

Date: Tuesday, October 6, 2026

Time: 10 – 11:30 a.m.

Presenter: Aaron Sherer, Executive Director at The Paine

Coordinator: Karen Kaempffe

Location: Evergreen - Hybrid

20) Cryptocurrency Scams

The Wisconsin Bureau of Consumer Protection will discuss the history of cryptocurrency, Bitcoin, and blockchain technology, as well as safekeeping considerations and the many risks associated with buying and investing in cryptocurrency. Due to its global use and unregulated nature, cryptocurrency presents numerous unique scams consumers need to be aware of, along with key red flags to watch for. By the end of the presentation, attendees will have a better understanding of this alternative currency, its use in today's scams and fraud, and how they can protect their money.

Date: Wednesday, October 7, 2026

Time: 10 – 11:30 a.m.

Presenter: Jeff Kersten, Agency Liaison at Division of Trade & Consumer Protection
Wisconsin Department of Agriculture

Coordinator: Lee Prellwitz

Location: Oshkosh Seniors Center

21) Travel Planning: Beyond the Destination

Join travel advisor Heather Smith as she shares insights gained through years of experience in the travel industry. Learn about important considerations such as accessibility and ADA accommodations, foreign entry requirements, travel documentation, and other details that can impact your journey. The presentation will also highlight common travel scams and provide tips for identifying trustworthy travel resources. Whether you are planning your next vacation or simply enjoy learning about travel, you'll gain valuable information to help make your travels safer, smoother, and more enjoyable.

Date: Wednesday, October 14, 2026

Time: 10 – 11:30 a.m.

Presenter: Heather Smith, Travel Advisor

Coordinator: Karen Kaempffe

Location: Evergreen - Hybrid

22) Fall Luncheon: Neil Diamond Tribute at La Sure's Banquet Hall

"Where it began

I can't begin to know when

But then I know it's growin' strong

Was in the spring

And spring became the summer

Who'd have believed you'd come along

Hands

Touching hands

Reachin' out

Touchin' me, touchin' you

Sweet Caroline"

Eric "Diamond" Ebert will not encourage audience participation; he will demand it. Not only for a number of Neil Diamond songs, but perhaps for some songs by other performers as well.

Date: Thursday, October 15, 2026

Time: Doors open at 11:00 a.m., Lunch at 11:30 a.m., Presentation at 12:30 p.m.

Presenter: Eric "Diamond" Ebert

Coordinator: Lee Prellwitz

Location: La Sure's Banquet Hall, 3125 S Washburn St, Oshkosh, WI 54904

Cost: \$26

Note: Participants for this program must register and pay by Thursday, September 24.

Payment must include a payment form, instructions can be found on page 4.

23) Mosquito Hill—Prescribed Fire: An Essential Disturbance for Wisconsin's Ecosystems

Fire has crossed the ecosystems of Wisconsin for thousands of years, shaping and transforming the landscape. Historically started by lightning and, more often, the Indigenous people of the region, prescribed fire is still used today to manage Wisconsin's natural landscapes. Come learn about this powerful tool and take a short, leisurely hike to Mosquito Hill's prairie, a fire-dependent ecosystem.

Date: Friday, October 16, 2026

Time: 1:30 – 3 p.m.

Presenter: Madie DeMarco

Coordinator: Joel Kluessendorf

Location: Mosquito Hill Nature Center, N3880 Rogers Rd, New London, WI 54961

Cost: \$7

Note: Participants for this program must register and pay by Friday, September 25.

Payment must include a payment form, instructions can be found on page 4.

24) The Tribal Princesses of the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas

Professor de Montigny works with the Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas and is currently conducting a project regarding their Tribal Princesses. Each year, the girl selected as Princess represents the Tribe around the country. Professor de Montigny has interviewed a number of past Princesses and their families. Their stories show how serving as Princess helped them build self-esteem and develop skills to become successful adults. The Princess role prepares young women to become leaders in the community and reflects women's approaches to leadership.

Date: Thursday, October 22, 2026

Time: 1:30 – 3 p.m.

Presenter: Stephanie May de Montigny, Professor of Anthropology at UW Oshkosh

Coordinator: Lee Prellwitz

Location: Evergreen - Hybrid

25) Theatre: *Rounding Third*

Rounding Third is a comedy/drama by Richard Dresser that follows two mismatched Little League coaches through one turbulent season. Don is a win-at-all-costs veteran, and Michael is an idealistic newcomer. As the two men clash over conflicting coaching philosophies, the real issue of the play emerges: how should we raise our children—do we shield them from struggle and loss, or do we prepare them to be tough enough to always win?

Date: Saturday, October 24, 2026

Time: 2 p.m.

Coordinator: Pat Lowney

Location: Lucia Baehman Theatre, 1478 Midway Rd, Menasha, WI 56952 (This is the old UW-Fox Cities/UW Oshkosh campus)

Cost: \$22

Maximum Participants: 15

Note: Participants for this program must register and pay by Friday, October 2.

Payment must include a payment form, instructions can be found on page 4.

26) History of Musical Theater (Continued): 1970 to the Present

In the spring of 2026, Susan presented to Learning in Retirement. She took us on a history of American musical theater, but only up to 1970. In this presentation, she will continue from 1970 to the present. You will hear about important musicals that have made an impact on theater, with Susan explaining why. This will be a morning of fun. Even if you were unable to attend Susan's first presentation on the history of musical theatre, you will still be able to enjoy this presentation.

Date: Wednesday, October 28, 2026

Time: 10 – 11:30 a.m.

Presenter: Susan Rabideau

Coordinator: Pat Lowney

Location: Evergreen - Zoom Unavailable

27) Estate Planning 101: Getting Your Estate Plan in Order

Whether you are just getting started or have not revisited your plan in years, this session covers the essentials of estate planning under Wisconsin law. Tom Moniz, a shareholder at von Briesen & Roper, s.c., will walk through the core documents everyone should have in place, discuss the differences between wills and trusts, how marital property rules affect planning, ways to avoid probate, and common pitfalls to watch for. The presentation is geared toward a general audience, with plenty of time for questions. No prior knowledge is required; just bring your questions.

Date: Thursday, October 29, 2026

Time: 1:30 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.

Presenter: Thomas W. Moniz, Attorney at von Briesen & Roper, s.c.

Coordinator: Lee Prellwitz

Location: Evergreen - Hybrid

28) Healthy Lifespan

Improving the quality of life for individuals through direct services and population-based services. The Healthy Lifespan Division at Winnebago County Health Department works on various initiatives to enhance health outcomes and make the healthy people's vision come to life.

Date: Monday, November 2, 2026

Time: 1:30 – 3 p.m.

Presenter: Alana Erickson, Healthy Lifespan Division Supervisor at Winnebago County Health Department

Coordinator: Barb LeGault

Location: Evergreen - Hybrid

29) Old Farm Country Christmas

In *Old Farm Country Christmas*, Jerry Apps and Susan Apps-Bodilly invite readers inside farmhouse kitchens, one-room schoolhouses, rural churches, and snow-packed fields of Wisconsin, sharing Christmas stories from the Great Depression and World War II through the 1960s. Drawing on vivid family memories, interviews, and historical research, the authors recreate a time when holiday magic was handmade, heartfelt, and shared generously.

Date: Thursday, November 5, 2026

Time: 1:30 – 3 p.m.

Presenter: Susan Apps-Bodilly, Author

Coordinator: Lee Prellwitz

Location: Coughlin Center

30) Forensic Science: Wisconsin Crime Laboratory

Step into the world of real-life crime solving and forensic investigation! If you've ever been captivated by shows like *CSI*, this presentation is your chance to see how forensic science works beyond the screen. You'll explore the fascinating field services of the Wisconsin Crime Lab and discover how each area of analysis—from drug evidence to crime scene investigation—helps bring truth to light. Hear directly from an expert forensic analyst, who will share stories of real courtroom drama, unusual drug cases, and haunting crime scenes. Get ready for an experience that is as informative and educational as it is thrilling and unforgettable.

Date: Friday, November 6, 2026

Time: 1:30 – 3 p.m.

Presenter: Robert Block, Retired Crime Lab Forensic Analyst at Wisconsin Crime Laboratory

Coordinator: Lee Prellwitz

Location: Evergreen - Hybrid

31) Supper with the Chef

Enjoy a culinary experience as a skilled Evergreen Chef demonstrates the creation of a specially crafted Comfort Food Classics menu made just for LIR. Relax, watch the techniques in action, and savor the flavors of each thoughtfully prepared dish.

Date: Monday, November 9, 2026

Time: 4:30 – 7 p.m., Cash bar opens at 4:30, Presentation at 5

Presenter: An Evergreen Chef

Location: Evergreen - Zoom Unavailable

Cost: \$20

Maximum Participants: 45 (members only)

Note: Participants for this program must register and pay by Monday, October 19.

Payment must include a payment form, instructions can be found on page 4.

Small bills are helpful for cash bar purchases.

32) Ceresco Prairie Conservancy & South Woods Park Association

Professor Wittler will present on Ceresco Prairie Conservancy—located just west of the lower Ripon College campus—these 130 acres of restored native prairie, oak savanna, and wetland habitat is a sustainability project started in 1997 as a partnership between the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and Ripon College. Professor Wittler will also present on South Woods Park, located just south of the lower Ripon College campus. South Woods Park and Annie Star Woods contain 55 acres of forest and several miles of hiking trails ranging from moderate to challenging in difficulty.

Date: Tuesday, November 10, 2026

Time: 1:30 – 3 p.m.

Presenter: Dr. George “Skip” Wittler, Retired Professor of Biology at Ripon College and Director of the Ceresco Prairie Conservancy

Coordinator: Lee Prellwitz

Location: Evergreen - Hybrid

33) Make-A-Wish Wisconsin

Learn about the mission and impact of Make-A-Wish Wisconsin, an organization dedicated to granting life-changing wishes for children facing critical illnesses. This presentation will explore the history of Make-A-Wish and how wishes are made possible through the support of volunteers, donors, and communities. Discover how a wish comes to life, from the initial referral to the unforgettable wish experience. Through inspiring stories of local wish children and their families, you'll gain insight into the powerful role a wish can play in a child's medical journey. Attendees will leave with a greater understanding of how hope, strength, and joy can make a meaningful difference during challenging times.

Date: Thursday, November 12, 2026

Time: 1:30 – 3 p.m.

Presenter: Lexi Gruber

Coordinator: Karen Kaempffe

Location: Evergreen - Hybrid

34) The Legacies of the American Revolution

The experience of the American Revolution left the new Americans with two major issues: a passion for freedom that had become a dominant aspect of the American character and a new Constitution. Dr. Woolley will discuss how this passion for freedom became part of the American character before and during the Revolution and how it contributed to the creation of the Constitution. He will then examine what has become of these legacies since.

Date: Monday, November 16, 2026

Time: 1:30 – 3 p.m.

Presenter: Dr. William Woolley, Retired Professor of History at Ripon College

Coordinator: Pat Lowney

Location: Evergreen - Hybrid

35) Understanding the Effects of Trauma

Traumatic events can happen at any age and have lasting effects on physical and mental well-being. Each person's experience is unique, but there are common causes, and with proper treatment and social support, many people can overcome the negative effects, experience an improved quality of life, and move toward healing.

Date: Wednesday, November 18, 2026

Time: 10 – 11:30 a.m.

Presenter: Taylor Connell, Screening Services Director at Samaritan Counseling

Coordinator: Barb LeGault

Location: Evergreen - Hybrid

36) Great Reads of 2026

Hear a presentation on many of the books published in 2026. Mr. McArthur will cover works of both fiction and nonfiction and he will also provide a hard copy of a 2026 reading list. In addition, he will select the third annual Lois Hedge Memorial Book to be presented to the Evergreen Library. And, **new this year**, two LIR members will each give a report on a book (which does not have to be a 2026 publication) that they read this year and would recommend to LIR members.

Date: Friday, November 20, 2026

Time: 1:30 – 3 p.m.

Presenter: Michael McArthur, Local History & Genealogy Librarian at Oshkosh Public Library

Coordinator: Lee Prellwitz

Location: Evergreen - Hybrid

37) Utah: A Photographic Journey

LIR members Erin and Jim Czech have traveled to Utah numerous times to camp, hike, and take photographs. Utah contains five national parks and eight national monuments, as well as many state parks and scenic byways. The Czechs invite you to join them as they share their photographs of this amazing landscape.

Date: Monday, November 23, 2026

Time: 10 – 11:30 a.m.

Presenters: Erin & Jim Czech

Coordinator: Lee Prellwitz

Location: Oshkosh Seniors Center

38) Theatre: *Christmas Stars*

Christmas Stars features a cast of over 250 performers of all ages in a dazzling holiday musical revue featuring favorite Christmas tunes.

Date: Saturday, December 5, 2026

Time: 1 p.m.

Coordinator: Pat Lowney

Location: Xavier High School, 1600 West Prospect Ave, Appleton, WI 54914

Maximum Participants: 25

Cost: \$16

Note: Participants for this program must register and pay by Friday, November 13.

Payment must include a payment form, instructions can be found on page 4.

39) Early Signs of Dementia: How to Approach a Loved One

Raising the issue of memory loss and the possibility of dementia can be difficult. While everyone's experience is unique, spotting early signs of dementia is important, and seeking advice from a physician or other trained professional about the signs and symptoms of dementia, including how to talk to someone if you think they may have dementia, can be important for all involved parties.

Date: Monday, December 7, 2026

Time: 10 – 11:30 a.m.

Presenter: Kristy Millar, Resource Coordinator at Fox Valley Memory Project

Coordinator: Barb LeGault

Location: Evergreen - Hybrid

40) The Meaning of the November Midterms

The November elections will reshape Congress, the governor's office, and the state legislature. Once the votes are counted, what lessons can we learn from the campaign season? Dr. Tony Palmeri will examine the results, explore why some candidates succeeded while others fell short, and help us make sense of the political landscape.

Date: Thursday, January 7, 2027

Time: 1:30 – 3 p.m.

Presenter: Tony Palmeri, Professor of Communications at UW Oshkosh

Coordinator: Kathi Sawall

Location: Evergreen - Hybrid

41) Women in the Clergy – Past, Present, & Future

Pastor Karen has been the minister at Federated Church in Green Lake for 30 years. She has personally experienced the systemic obstacles that women in the clergy frequently encounter, including the “stained glass ceiling,” which limits opportunities to advance into senior or more prominent pastoral roles. Women often face significant gender bias, wage disparities, and congregational resistance, frequently having to continually prove their calling to skeptical church members. Pastor Karen will reflect on the history of women in the clergy, her personal experiences over the past 30 years, changes she has seen, and what she anticipates for the future.

Date: Tuesday, January 12, 2027

Time: 1:30 – 3 p.m.

Presenter: Reverend Karen Gygax Rodriguez, Pastor at Federated Church of Green Lake

Coordinator: Lee Prellwitz

Location: Evergreen - Hybrid

42) Chef's Choice: A More or Less Perfect Union – Our Constitution at Risk

Those who attend will enjoy a meal prepared by Evergreen's Culinary Team, followed by a presentation. The presentation, which has been pre-recorded, features Judge Douglas H. Ginsburg examining the pressures facing the Constitution today and the ways in which the legislative, executive, and judicial branches may be contributing to those challenges through both action and inaction. He also explores whether Americans are ceding their rights so gradually that they may not realize it is happening.

Date: Thursday, January 14, 2027

Time: 12:15 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.

Presenter: Judge Douglas H. Ginsburg, United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit

Coordinator: Lee Prellwitz

Location: Evergreen - Zoom Unavailable

Cost: \$15

Maximum Participants: 60

Note: Participants for this program must register and pay by Wednesday, December 23.

Payment must include a payment form, instructions can be found on page 4.

43) Movie Time: *Maxed Out*

Based on the book by James D. Scurlock, *Maxed Out* explores an uncomfortable reality. When Hurricane Katrina ravaged America's Gulf Coast, it laid bare the fact that America is not only far from being the world's wealthiest nation but is also burdened by staggering levels of individual and government debt. *Maxed Out* takes viewers on a journey deep inside the American debt lifestyle, where everything seems fine as long as the minimum monthly payment arrives on time. Most of us may have that sinking feeling that something is not quite right, but we are told not to worry. After all, there is always more credit! *Maxed Out* reveals how the modern financial industry really works, explains the true definition of a "preferred customer," and explores why the poor are getting poorer while the rich are getting richer. By turns hilarious and profoundly disturbing, *Maxed Out* paints a picture of a national nightmare that is all too real for many Americans.

Date: Friday, January 15, 2027

Time: 1:30 – 3 p.m.

Presenter: Lee Prellwitz

Coordinator: Lee Prellwitz

Location: Evergreen - Zoom Unavailable

Note: If you plan to attend the January 22 presentation on "Debt," you should watch "Maxed Out".

44) Bats of Wisconsin

Bats have been the villains in many stories throughout history, but is that really fair? In reality, bats are the unsung heroes of the night sky, saving countless Wisconsin crops from insect attacks. Learn bat biology, explore the different bats that live in Wisconsin, and discuss why these flying mammals are more important than you may think.

Date: Thursday, January 21, 2027

Time: 1:30 – 3 p.m.

Presenter: Ally Noll, Naturalist at Mosquito Hill Nature Center

Coordinator: Joel Kluessendorf

Location: Evergreen - Hybrid

45) Debt: Who Owes It? Who Collects it?

After a brief overview of the often-incomprehensible federal debt numbers, the presentation will focus on personal debt, including credit card debt, student loans, payday loans, healthcare costs, and evictions. The concepts of discounted cash flow, the time value of money, present and future value, adjustable-rate mortgages, the Rule of 72, and the theory of big numbers (think of the federal debt) will be discussed. A few sample problems will be solved to demonstrate how debt can accumulate over time.

Date: Friday, January 22, 2027

Time: 10 – 11:30 a.m.

Presenter: Lee Prellwitz

Coordinator: Lee Prellwitz

Location: Evergreen - Hybrid

Note: If you plan to attend this presentation, you should attend the January 15 showing of "Maxed Out".

Additional Learning and Entertainment Opportunities

LIR is fortunate to be part of a community rich with educational and cultural programming. Throughout the year, LIR will continue to share additional learning and entertainment opportunities from UW Oshkosh, Ripon College, and a variety of other local organizations whose speakers, panels, and presentations align with LIR's lifelong learning mission. Some of these programs may also be available for virtual participation.

Beginning this year, members may choose during membership registration whether they would like to receive email notifications about these additional opportunities or opt out. Those who opt in should watch their email throughout the semester for updates on upcoming programs.

Members may also update their preferences at any time by contacting the LIR office to be added to or removed from the email list for additional learning and entertainment updates.

Course Locations

Coughlin Center, 625 E County Rd Y, Oshkosh, WI 54901

Evergreen, 1130 N Westfield St, Oshkosh, WI 54902

Jesuit Retreat House, 4850 Fahrnwald Rd, Oshkosh, WI 54902

La Sure's Banquet Hall, 3125 S Washburn St, Oshkosh, WI 54904

Lucia Baehman Theatre, 1478 Midway Rd, Menasha, WI 56952

Mosquito Hill Nature Center, N3880 Rogers Rd, New London, WI 54961

Oshkosh Seniors Center, 200 N Campbell St, Oshkosh, WI 54902 (Main Building)

Xavier High School, 1600 W Prospect Ave, Appleton, WI 54914

Tours: This semester all tours and entertainment will be self-drive programs. The address of the tours are printed above and within the course descriptions. Any additional details will be provided to those who register.



Hearing Loop Availability: A hearing loop is available for hearing aid users at the following locations: Coughlin Center, Evergreen, Lucia Baehman Theatre, Mosquito Hill Nature Center, Oshkosh Seniors Center, and Xavier High School.

Course Delivery Instructions

Programs are offered in two formats:

In-Person: All programs can be attended in person at the location listed in the course details.

Hybrid: Programs labeled “Evergreen - Hybrid” can be attended in person or viewed via Zoom. Registration is encouraged for both in-person and virtual participants. If you plan to attend via Zoom, please indicate “yes” when prompted during registration. While virtual participants may not have the full in-person experience, you can enjoy the program from the comfort of your home. Please note that not all Evergreen programs are available virtually.

Virtual Viewing Reminders:

- Links for all hybrid programs will be sent from Timely Network Inc. to those who register. Please keep these emails for your records.
- Please turn off your camera and microphone when viewing a presentation.
- Closed caption is available. If you want to use it, click on “Live Transcript” and select subtitles.
- To ask a question, click on the word “Chat” at the bottom of your screen and type in your question.

September 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 Readers' Choice 2-3:30pm	3	4 Garden Group 10-11:30am	5
6	7	8	9 <i>The Great Gatsby</i> 130-3pm Evergreen	10 Pre-Planning Cemetery & Funeral Arrangements 1:30-3pm Evergreen	11 Christian Citizenship 1:30-3pm Oshkosh Seniors Center	12
13	14 The Show Must Go On! 10-11:30am Evergreen	15 Tour: Jesuit Retreat House 10-11:30am Jesuit Retreat House	16 Meaning, Purpose, & Legacy 10-11:30am Coughlin Center	17 Curriculum Committee 10-11:30am	18 Admin/ Finance & Membership/ Promotion Committee 10-11:30am	19
20	21 9/11: A Day No One Will Ever Forget 10-11:30am Evergreen	22 Life Writing Group #1 10-11:30am Nutrition & Medications 1:30pm-3pm Evergreen Life Writing Group #2 1:30-3pm	23 From the Wiernermobile to Main Street 10-11:30am Evergreen	24 Steering Committee 10-11:30am	25	26
27	28 Chef's Choice 12:15-2:15pm Evergreen	29 Winnebago County K9 10-1130am Evergreen	30			

October 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Chancellor of UWO 10-11:30am Evergreen	2 Garden Group 10-11:30am Antarctic 1:30-3pm Evergreen	
4	5	6 English Cottages 10-11:30am Evergreen	7 Crypto Scams 10-11:30am Oshkosh Seniors Center Readers' Choice 2-3:30pm	8 Leadership Oshkosh Encore 10am-2pm	9	10
11	12	13	14 Travel Planning 10-11:30am Evergreen	15 Fall Luncheon 11am-2pm	16 Mosquito Hill: Prescribed Fire 1:30-3pm	17
18	19 Admin/ Finance & Membership/ Promotion Committee 10-11:30am	20 Life Writing Group #1 10-11:30am Life Writing Group #2 1:30-3pm	21	22 Steering Committee 10-11:30am Tribal Princesses 1:30-3pm Evergreen	23	24 Theatre: Rounding Third 2pm Lucia Baehman Theatre
25	26	27	28 History of Musical Theater (Continued) 10-11:30am Evergreen	29 Estate Planning 101 1:30-2:45pm Evergreen	30	31

November 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Healthy Lifespan 1:30-3pm Evergreen	3	4 Readers' Choice 2-3:30pm	5 Old Farm Country Christmas 1:30-3pm Coughlin Center	6 Garden Group 10-11:30am Forensic Science 1:30-3pm Evergreen	7
8	9 Supper with the Chef 4:30-7pm Evergreen	10 Ceresco Prairie Conservancy 1:30-3pm Evergreen	11	12 Make-A-Wish 1:30-3pm Evergreen	13 Curriculum Committee 10-11:30am	14
15	16 Admin/ Finance & Membership/ Promotion Committee 10-11:30am Legacies of the American Revolution 1:30-3pm Evergreen	17 Life Writing Group #1 10-11:30am Life Writing Group #2 1:30-3pm	18 Effects of Trauma 10-11:30am Evergreen	19 Steering Committee 10-11:30am	20 Great Reads 1:30-3pm Evergreen	21
22	23 Utah 10-11:30am Oshkosh Seniors Center	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

December 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 Readers' Choice 2-3:30pm	3	4 Garden Group 10-11:30am	5 Theatre: <i>Christmas Stars</i> 1pm Xavier High School
6	7 Early Signs of Dementia 10-11:30am Evergreen	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15 Life Writing Group #1 10-11:30am Life Writing Group #2 1:30-3pm	16	17 Leadership Oshkosh Encore 10am-2pm	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

January 2027

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6 Readers' Choice 2-3:30pm	7 November Midterms 1:30-3pm Evergreen	8 Garden Group 10-11:30am	9
10	11	12 Women in the Clergy 1:30-3pm Evergreen	13	14 Chef's Choice 12:15-2:15pm Evergreen	15 Movie: <i>Maxed Out</i> 1:30-3pm Evergreen	16
17	18 Admin/ Finance & Membership/ Promotion Committee 10-11:30am	19	20	21 Steering Committee 10-11:30am Bats of Wisconsin 1:30-3pm Evergreen	22 Debt 10-11:30am Evergreen	23
24	25	26 Life Writing Group #1 10-11:30am Life Writing Group #2 1:30-3pm	27	28	29	30

THANK YOU!

Learning in Retirement extends its thanks and appreciation to the individuals and organizations listed below who have given their time and shared their wealth of knowledge and skills to enrich the programs from which our members benefited greatly during the Spring 2026 semester.

Spring 2026 Guest Presenters

- Michael Jasinski, UW Oshkosh
- Gordon Hintz, Winnebago County
- Attic Theatre Inc.
- Dr. Martin Farrell, Ripon College (Retired)
- Joe Hatcher, Ripon College (Retired)
- Dawn Fiedler
- Chris Henry, EAA Museum
- Colleen Van Rooy & Steffanie Weil-Sorenson
- Leah M. Litman, University of Michigan
- Adam Brandt, Mosquito Hill Nature Center
- LaReina Tipping
- Brian Smith, Ripon College (Retired)
- Lara C. Hansen
- Oshkosh Community Players
- Michael McArthur, Oshkosh Public Library
- Erica Suchyta, Neenah Historical Society
- Dr. Edward Linenthal, UW Oshkosh (Retired)
- Jean Skeels
- Susan Rabideau
- Dr. JJ Allen, Hometown Pharmacy
- Peter Glick
- Lynda Drews
- Laura Fiser, The Paine
- David Sakrison, Ripon College
- Robert Block, Oregon Area Historical Society
- Kelly Reyer, Winnebago County Solid Waste
- John Cross, UW Oshkosh Retired
- Deb Daubert
- Cindy Warner
- Hannah Keeler
- Nick Musson, Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources, Inc. & Denise Jess, Wisconsin Council of the Blind and Visually Impaired.
- Dr. Tony Palmeri
- Ally Noll, Mosquito Hill Nature Center
- C. Peter Knigge
- Shane Boeder, Ph.D.
- Paul Spanbauer
- Kristy Millar
- Arnold Shober, Lawrence University
- Mark Walker and Steve Owen
- Amy Albright, Discover Oshkosh
- Mary Allen
- Chu May Paing, Ph.D.
- Randy Domer

Host Locations

- Coughlin Center
- Evergreen
- Four Wheel Drive Seagrave Museum
- Gibson Community Music Hall
- Knigge Farms
- Mosquito Hill Nature Center
- Oak Park Place
- Oshkosh Seniors Center
- The Grand Oshkosh
- Vaudette



Learning In Retirement

Are you looking for something to
keep yourself sharp, active, and involved?
Then join a community of lifelong learners!

Learning in Retirement (LIR) at Evergreen,
in partnership with UW Oshkosh, is a member
directed adult learning group promoting lifelong
learning for older adults.

**The annual membership fee of \$105
(July 1-June 30) includes unlimited access to:**

- Learning sessions led by experts in their fields
- Member-led interest groups
- Tours of business, industry, museums, and gardens
- Music and theater performances



Highlights for the Spring Semester:

- **NEW** Special Interest Group:
Leadership Oshkosh Encore
- Cryptocurrency Scams
- Chef's Choice Luncheons and
Supper with the Chef
- September 11th:
A Day No One Will Ever Forget
- Perspectives from the Chancellor
of UW Oshkosh
- Fall Luncheon at La Sure's Banquet Hall
- Tours: Jesuit Retreat House and
Mosquito Hill
- Forensic Science:
Wisconsin Crime Laboratory