



THE LAMPLIGHTER

Presbyterian Church of West Salem
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Pastor Larry Olson &
Pastor Stephanie Steiner

April 2010

Inside this issue:

Financial Info	2
Pastor's Note	3
Easter Flowers	3
PW Information	5
First Communion Class	7
Vacation Bible School	7
SPARK	8
Just for Kids	10



Palm Sunday – March 28

Maundy Thursday – April 1, 6:30 PM

Good Friday – April 2, 6:30 PM

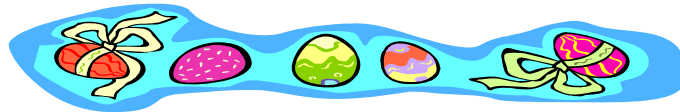
Easter – April 4:

Sunrise Service – 7:30 AM

Breakfast – 8:15-9:30 AM (plus Children's Activity)

Festival Service – 10:00 AM

Celebrate with us during this Holy Week!



THE SHACK



On Sunday, April 11th, we will begin reading “THE SHACK” by William P. Young. The Shack is a book that seeks to provide answers to the always timely question, “Where is God in a world so filled with so much pain?” The Membership and Evangelism Committee, with the support of the pastors, will be heading up the bible study portion of the book reading. It would be great if we could make this a congregation-wide bible study.

If you are interested in participating, think about what day and time each week works best for you to engage in discussion with a small group. Couples are welcome to be in the same group if they would like.

We hope you will take advantage of this opportunity to engage in bible study and meet some people in the congregation you may not already know.

February 2010 Financial Summary

Operating Budget

Balance February 1st	\$12,461.58
Receipts	9,598.53
Expenses	(13,832.06)
Balance February 28th	\$ 8,228.05



**To reach
someone in
the kitchen
via telephone,
please dial
786-0675.**

Thank you!

Highlights from Session:

- Special thanks to Howard and Todd Garves for auditing our financial records. Quoting from their report to session; “based on our review of the financial records for the years ending December 31, 2009, nothing came to our attention which would indicate an inappropriate or questionable use of Church funds. The Church is very fortunate to have dedicated and talented individuals such as Sue Strauss, Charles Engel, and Nelda Manter who volunteer a great deal of their time to maintaining the accounting records and investments in such an organized manner.”
- Approved to purchase up to 50 Hymnals from the coffee money to complete the order necessary.
- Approved Vacation Bible School for the summer of 2010. Also had a lengthy discussion about youth, their space and use of our facility by outside organizations.
- Approved contract with Lifetouch, at no charge to your family or the congregation, for a new picture directory for our congregation. You will hear more about this in the weeks to come. Every family whose portrait is taken will receive a free 8 x 10. Lifetouch has assured us no pressure sales will take place but there will be an opportunity for you to view and purchase if you want other photos.
- Approved to revise our vote from last month about recognition in the hymnal. Pictures may be submitted but they, along with wording, will be reduced to the 2 x 3 size and the session will place them into the hymnals.
- Approved to update our web site, using coffee money and limiting that expense to \$500.00

Hats off to:

- Lyle Miles, Beth Hinck, Tomi Carlson & Shirley Beaty mailing of the March issue of *The Lamplighter*
- our March nursery volunteers: Matthew Schnitzler, Chase Aleckson, Colin Hass & Brennan Gress
- our March liturgists: Lill Twining, Charlie Evans, Kathy Brummond & Kent Buehler
- Mobile Meals were delivered week of March 8-12 by: Bob Shaw, Greg Ashland, Nelda & Paul Manter, Susan & Charlie Evans and Bob & Marilyn Bahr. Thanks to all!



Elders

Class of 2010

Sue Strauss
Ray Ebert
Charlie Evans
Sharon Cullmann
Rachel Auna (Youth Elder)
Ethan Sells (Youth Elder)

Class of 2011

Jane Foner
Sherry Bonsall
Brian Lusk
Kevin Zoerb

Class of 2012

Mike Siekert
Ann Terry
Marcia Kazmark
Lisa Betsinger

Deacons

Class of 2010 Georgia Motes, Bev Onsrud, Ellie Zebell, Camille Lusk, Vickie Holt

Class of 2011 Helen Harold, Barb Reynolds, Amy Silbaugh, Joyce Garves, Howard Garves

Our Day of Days

The first Sunday of April is Easter Sunday, the day of days for the Christian. All other Christian special days are meaningless without the resurrection of Easter morning. But before I get ahead of myself lets back up one week to Palm Sunday (March 23, 2010).

Palm Sunday was the day Jesus entered Jerusalem riding on the donkey, the city people were waving palms and throwing them down, along with their coat's, before the coming King. But to whom were they looking forward, to a political king to rule in place of Pilate, to a conquering king destroying the Roman Empire or to a servant king who was willing to offer His life, an atonement for human sin?

The tide of public opinion turns against Jesus as quickly as Thursday simply because He didn't do what the people expected; betrayed by a fellow disciple for 30 pieces of silver. He then had to suffer the humiliation of a court and a public hanging on the cross. These are some of the events of Maundy Thursday and Good Friday (by the way we will be continuing our Lenten theme, Bread for the Journey, at 6:30 those two evenings, sorry there will be no soup supper either of those nights).

I must still say all of this is null and void without Easter Resurrection. Jesus who was dead is alive! Jesus who promised new life can show us new life because God raised Him from the dead!

Without resurrection, the birth of Jesus would have been like any of our births (except for the place).

Without resurrection, the good works of Jesus would have been like any of our good works (some peoples good works have been better than Jesus').

Without resurrection, the miracles of Jesus would have been like any miracle in our lives.

Without resurrection, His triumphal entry into Jerusalem by Jesus would have been like any great awards show (the Oscars, the Emmys etc.) and any person could have been the guest of honor.

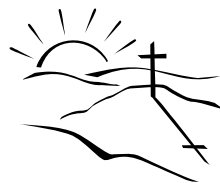
Without resurrection, the death of Jesus would have been in vain and our sin would still be weighing us down.

Without resurrection, there would be no joy for us, no possibilities of life eternal.

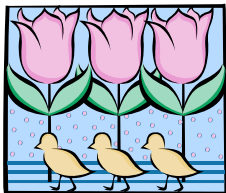
BUT Jesus was raised from the dead. Therefore all of these things above and many other things have great meaning for the Christian. Easter is our day of days. Because He lives we shall live as well. Rejoice then; Christ is risen; He is risen indeed!

Come join with us on this journey of joy knowing because of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ there is hope for all people.

Pastor Larry



EASTER FLOWERS



If anyone would like to donate flowers for Easter we would appreciate it. It has been brought to our attention that several church members are allergic to Easter Lilies. In view of this we suggest maybe tulips, hyacinths or something similar.

NEW HYMNALS



Music and Worship is still buying new hymnals if anyone wishes to purchase one in Memorial/ Honor/Celebration of someone special. Hymnals may also be purchased to keep at home. **All hymnal orders must be in by April 11.** You may have pictures or text only in the hymnals if you wish. If you wish to have a picture put in the hymnal you must provide us with one. They will be made a uniform size, approximately 2 x 2 3/4ths. An example of how these will look will be hanging in the fellowship hall. Hats off to Greg and Cindy Berg for offering to do this for us.

APRIL VOLUNTEERS

HEAD USHER: Mike Siekert

LITURGISTS

4—Jane Foner
 11—Todd Kleiner
 18—Tracey Rogers
 25—Vickie Bain

NURSERY CARE

4—Grace Griffin
 11—Jacob Cvikota
 18—Lindsey Buehler
 25—Lydia Sells

* with a Parent/Guardian/Adult,
 over 25, accompanying them

COMMUNION BREAD BAKER: Marie Haugen

FELLOWSHIP (Serve & Clean-up): Membership & Evangelism Committee



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 Jamie Holt, Bethany Saarem, Anne Galbraith | 20 Lynn Reedy |
| 2 Cindy Bergh, Jackie Siekert | 21 Pat Meyer |
| 3 Joe Faella | 22 Tina Baker, Kim Garves |
| 4 Wilbur Hauser | 23 Erika Crusan, Matthew Huston, Adrian Rice |
| 5 Jeremy Parsneau | 24 Mariah Berent, Beth Schlichenmeyer |
| 7 Joan Beebe, Mary Griffin, Todd Kleiner | 25 Jacob Holte |
| 8 Sally Baumgart, Joan Brown | 26 Rachel Brummond, Ryan Wessel |
| 10 Samuel Horton, Brooke Hauser | 27 Jeff Betsinger, Devin Carlson, Steve Anderson,
Kim Faas |
| 11 Kevin Zoerb, Michael Reedy | 28 Walter Balmer, Tim Rogers, Lydia Sells |
| 12 Caleb Thomas | 29 Jamie Betsinger |
| 13 Scott Horton | 30 Dave Arndt |
| 14 Daniel Sweet | |
| 15 Rick Brown, Brianna Holt | |
| 17 Fred Otto, Susan Hicks | |
| 18 David Griffin, Laura Lusk | |
| 19 Bob Eggen, Erik Onsrud, William Onsrud, Grace Onsrud, Linda Levendoski | |



Congratulations on the baptisms of :

Carter Jayden Hill
 Son of: Sean & Amity (Carlson) Hill
 on February 14
 and
Hannah Louis Kleiner
 Daughter of: Todd & Holly Kleiner
 on February 21



Just for Kids answer: The stone was rolled away from the door. An angel said to them, "He is not here, he has risen."





PW SPRING GATHERING

Reserve Saturday, April 10 for a trip to Muscoda for the PW Spring Gathering. Coffee and registration is at 9 A.M. The highlight for the day will be the speaker, Charlotte Johnstone, author of "The Forbearance Church", which appeared for several years in Horizon's Magazine. She has retired and written a book about the former. Some of us heard her speak at the synod gathering a few years ago and it was a hoot! In the afternoon Helen will be installed as JKPW moderator, a three year term. \$5.00 lunch reservations are due April 5. Helen will leave April 10 at 7 A.M. for Muscoda. Let's have a car load.

SPRING SALAD LUNCHEON – APRIL 7 – 11:00 TO 1:00

DIRECTION FOR DELIVERING YOUR FOOD

Many thanks to those who are bringing food, working at the Salad Luncheon, and bringing their friends to eat! The following are the directions for getting your food to the church on April 7. The church will be open at 6:45 AM. Please try to bring your food as early as possible as we need to get carry-outs started by 8:30 AM. Make sure you write your name on your containers and lids, also include the name of your salad or dessert. Please place the food in the designated place in the refrigerator or on the counter and check your name off the list so we know what has arrived. After the luncheon you will find your containers on the counter by the windows. Everyone is invited to the luncheon and please bring your friends! The cost is \$7 for adults, \$2 for children 6-10 and free for children five and under. Profits are used to support local and worldwide missions. We also provide for kitchen equipment and supplies.



FAMILY EASTER CONCERT

**Enter the Easter Week, by hearing
songs and music,
at the West Salem Heider Auditorium**

**with Michael Schroeder
on Palm Sunday, March 28, 2010
beginning at 7:00 PM**

This family event is the 1st performance on Michael's tour for release of his new CD "Worship"

Tickets are \$10.00 (>14 are \$5.00).
Tickets are general admission.

Tickets are being sold before the concert at Westview in West Salem or Living Word in Onalaska or can be bought at the Heider Center night of the concert (doors open at 6:00PM) or see Dorothy Schmaltz.



**Hope to see everyone there to
start the Easter week in
"Worship" !**

Thank You!

I wish there was a better word than "Thanks" to express my appreciation to my church family and the prayer chain for all the love, calls, cards, visits and prayers that were sent my way after my unexpected heart surgery and ongoing recovery.

A special thank you to Pastor Stephanie, Pastor Larry and Claudia for their visits, prayers and encouragement.

The power of prayer is amazing and John and I feel so fortunate for all the blessings bestowed on us.

From a most grateful heart,
Vickie Holt

FIRST COMMUNION CLASS

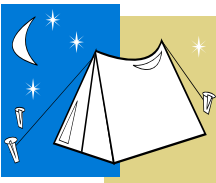


On Sunday, April 25th Pastor Larry and Pastor Stephanie will be teaching a Communion class for all Kindergarten thru 5th graders and their parents. If you are interested in learning more about Holy Communion please join us from 8:45-9:30 in the large classroom in the fellowship hall. Whether your children have communed yet or not, you are welcome to participate in the class. On Sunday, May 2nd we will recognize this class during worship and have them commune together. Any questions feel free to contact either of the Pastors.



Parents! It has come to the attention of the Christian Education committee that there is once again interest in having a Vacation Bible School this

summer. Because of the size and scope of such an activity, we want to hear from YOU regarding your family's likelihood of participation. Though no date has been set, we are thinking early August would be best, with the program running one week. For those interested, a sign-up sheet will be posted on the kiosk in the fellowship hall. Since we can't do this alone, we'll also have a sign-up for adults willing to help out, possibly forming a VBS sub-committee. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Larry or anyone on the Christian Education committee. Thanks!



Campers & parents!!! Believe it or not, summer will be upon us before we know it, so it is once again time to check out summer Bible camps.

As in the past, the Christian Education committee has limited scholarship money available for campers, so please let us know by the end of April the specifics of your particular camp, (ie where, when, how much, etc). At our committee meeting in May, (some camps have early registration deadlines), we will review the requests for funds and determine how much can be allotted to each camper based on the number of children applying. As in years past, we may ask your camper to give a very brief overview of their camping experience to the congregation in the fall. If you are unfamiliar with camps in the region, CE can list several that have served our youth over the years. Most, if not all, of the camps have websites showing activities, dates, prices, directions, etc. Additionally, this year, John Knox Presbytery is offering to donate \$100 per camper that attends a Presbyterian Bible camp. The strict deadline for applying for that money is May 31, so don't dawdle! (NOTE: The only Presbyterian camp in the region is Camp Wyoming in Wyoming, Iowa.) If you need further information, please contact Pastor Larry or anyone on the Christian Education committee. Thanks!

Sunday School Teacher Recognition



One of the greatest experiences in life is seeing the lights go on in a young person's life. Maybe it is when they first learn to read, maybe it is when they capture the idea or thought behind a teachers words. It even happens when the youth catches adult humor for the first time.

On Sunday, March 21st during worship we recognized our seven Sunday School Teachers for their diligent work in teaching our children this past year, thanking them for imparting wisdom and insight to our children. Those recognized were Ann Terry preschool, Jenny Loging, Kandi Holt and Erica Parsneau 1st and 2nd, Barb Reynolds and Amy Silbaugh 3rd and 4th, Anne Galbraith 5th and 6th and Caroline Sells and Kristine Buehler for assisting the pastors with confirmation. These dedicated ladies deserve our thanks for the hours of service to the church and our children. We have thanked them publically, please make an effort to thank them individually.



SPARK....

We now have an official name for our group. We were formerly known as the thirty something group and now that we have met and have determined our vision we believe that SPARK is the best fit. Think of it as an opportunity to explore your spirituality, friendships, life struggles, life celebrations through the word of God. Over the next couple months we are planning on joining the church in the book reading of The Shack. We are also planning on running the 5k in the Fitness Festival in La Crosse and the 5K during June Dairy Days. If this is something that would fit into your life please don't hesitate to talk to anyone that is in the group, or stop by our next gathering on Sunday, April 11 after church. We will be discussing the first two chapters of The Shack.



The Spring Rummage Sale is set for May 14th from 7AM to 7 PM and for May 15th from 7AM to 3 PM. This is the same weekend as the All Village Rummage Sale. We will be having our Mother, Daughter, Friend Banquet the weekend before and would therefore request that all rummage be brought to the church starting on Monday, May 10th.



The church staff would like to wish you and your family a Happy Easter!

Pastor Larry, Pastor Stephanie, Sharon Holven, Julie Baker, Sarah Horstmann, Ed Lusk and Holly Rigotti

We would like to offer a little added fun this month. Write down your 6 correct answers to the following trivia questions, give them to Pastor Larry or Pastor Stephanie the Sunday following Easter, April 11, and be entered in a drawing for a free _____!

1. Easter is the end of the season of Lent—how long does Lent last? (Not including Sundays.)
2. For how many pieces of silver did Judas betray Jesus?
3. In what capital city was the Last Supper held?
4. Where was Jesus praying when he was arrested?
5. What do Christians celebrate on Easter Sunday?
6. How many days did Jesus remain on Earth after his resurrection?

