



THE LAMPLIGHTER

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

May 2012

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PENTECOST 2012

"So I send you." (John 20:21)

The apostle John tells us Jesus miraculously appeared to his disciples on the very day of his resurrection to assure them he had risen from the dead and commission them to continue his work upon his ascension to heaven. "Peace be with you," he told them. "As God has sent me, so I send you" (John 20:21). John also tells us Jesus breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit" (John 20:22). Luke's Gospel indicates that just before Jesus ascended to heaven, he told his disciples, "You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth" (Acts 1:8). God fulfilled these initial announcements of a new ministry for the disciples on the day of Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit descended on the church to empower the followers of Jesus Christ to proclaim the gospel in word and deed.

Each year on Pentecost Sunday we still celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit as a bringer of new life. With the Spirit's coming, we no longer need to settle for business as usual but can know the transforming, redeeming love of God that makes the impossible possible.

The Pentecost Offering is one of the four Special Offerings of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). When you give to the Pentecost Offering during Sunday morning worship, you help bring God's transforming, redeeming love to children at risk, guide and nurture young people's growing faith and provide opportunities for young adults to become spiritual leaders—all in the name of Jesus Christ.

Forty percent of the Offering stays within your own congregation to support ministries that help children at risk. The remainder is sent to the General Assembly Mission Council to support other programs that help youth and young adults and advocate for children at risk. *Thank you for your support of the Pentecost Offering.*



HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RECOGNITION



The following members of our church will be
graduating from high school this spring:

Eric Burdick Tanner Dunn Riley Holte
Kayla Rogers Matthew Schwier Ethan Sells

Please join us on Sunday, May 20th for fellowship at 9:30 AM for cake, coffee & juice and a special worship at 10:00 AM in their honor.

Congratulations 2012 Graduates!



March 2012 Financial Summary

Operating Budget

Balance March 1st	\$17,077.64
Receipts	11,082.87
Expenses	(12,486.24)
Balance March 31st	\$15,674.27

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

Thank you!

Highlights from Session:

- Approved the Garden committee: Jon Jones (chair), David Daoust, Becca Bohnsack
- Accepted with Thanks, annual audit which was done by Todd Kleiner and Mike Siekert
- There will be a church meal on August 5 immediately following Worship to kick-off Vacation Bible School
- Thanked David Daoust for his work on our Facebook page

Hats off to:

- Lynda Bahr, Tomi Carlson and Shirley Beaty the April issue of *The Lamplighter*
- our April liturgists: Todd Kleiner, Jane Foner, Bob Harold and Charles Evans
- our April acolytes: Alayna Aleckson, Mariah Terry, Alanna Wuensch, Martha & Genevieve Haugen, Grant Bohnsack, Sam Horton, Brendan Holt & Grady LaJeunesse



Sunday School Kids and Parents,

Sunday, May 13th we are asking all Sunday School students to help plant seeds and plants in the Kathy McKee Garden of Hope during Sunday School hour. Please have the children dress for getting dirty!

Summer Vacation is near! **The last day of Sunday School is May 20th.** We will be having a party during Sunday School hour to celebrate a great year! We hope to see you there.

~The Christian Education Committee

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Please Welcome New Members

On April 1st we had New Member Sunday and on that Sunday the following joined our congregation:

Heath, Rebecca, Garrett, Alyssa & Julia Byrnes Carol Hass

Lance, Deon & Christopher Hughey Shawn McAlister

Andy, Joy, Lucille & Evelyn Raymer Dan, Rose, Gideon, Josiah & Elsa Wolbrink

Welcome to all New Members!

Learning Something New

Remember when you were a child of maybe nine or ten, all you wanted to do was learn anything and everything. At that age life was new to you; everyday there was something new to learn and you couldn't wait to experience that new thing whatever it might be. Suddenly we are no longer a young child and learning becomes more difficult. What you once soaked up like a sponge now you have to work at to retain, (or at least that is my experience).



This past week I was with a four year old grand niece. She was navigating around her mother's I-phone like it was second nature. She was bringing up games three and four swipes into the phone as if she had been doing it all her life. Come to think of it, she has been doing cell phone navigation most of her life. Anyway she got me thinking about how as we age we are more reluctant to try something new, to experience life with a child's excitement to learn. As we age we tend to like what was and what might be is a little scary to say the least. (No wonder we sit in the same seats Sunday after Sunday, no wonder we like our old comfortable shoes rather than the work to break in new shoes.)

Matthew 11:25-26 are recorded as follows; "At that time Jesus said, I praise You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that You have hidden these things from the wise and intelligent and have revealed them to infants. Yes, Father, for this way was well-pleasing in Your sight."

As I read this passage I began to consider some of the differences between children and adults; how one is eager to learn and one feels they have learned all they need to know, how one wants to try anything new and the other is fearful of anything new and how one wishes to see more and the other tends to be satisfied with what they can see right now. I realize I am overstating the case but the case needs to be made that we are to be as eager to learn of God as a child. We are to be as willing to try something new as children are. And we are to be willing to experiment even if we don't know the outcome.

God is seeking people of faith. People willing to say I don't know but I'm willing to follow the lead of Jesus. Children are like that, adults, well we think we have it all together and don't need to follow as blindly as a child.

So in God's infinite wisdom, God has hidden from us adults the childlike innocence that is necessary for complete faith. God has hidden from us adults a total trust in the power and purpose of God in our lives. God has hidden from us adults the complete desire to learn something new today. We adult don't want to be seen as unknowing, but learned.

As May approaches, trees once again have their leaves, flowers bloom, and seeds begin to sprout, let us remember that there is a cycle of life. Part of that cycle is to be a constant learner of what God and the world have to offer. Part of that cycle is that God uses even children to teach us adults something new. Be a learner; ask God to reveal to you that which you are to know.

Pastor Larry



2011-2012 CONFIRMATION NEWS

May Schedule:

- Wednesday Worship, May 9th
- Community Dinner is Wednesday, May 23rd from 5:00-6:00. 6th graders and mentors assist with this meal. 7th & 8th graders and mentors in the craft room.

MAY VOLUNTEERS

HEAD USHER: Mike Siekert

LITURGISTS

6—Avis Evenson
13—Diana Swim
20—Maraveen Mayer
27—Becky Auna

NURSERY CARE

6—Jamie & Kandi Holt
13—Wolbrink family
20—Sherry Bonsall
27—Ron & Kris Seeger

COMMUNION BREAD BAKER: Helen Harold

FELLOWSHIP (Serve & Clean-up):

Membership & Evangelism Committee



MAY BIRTHDAYS

2—Brian Gullickson, Marty Severson, Jane Wines
3—Hayden Gullickson, TJ Holven
4—Dax Pfaff, Brynn Auna
5—DeLaures Carlson, Hunter Meyer
6—Lyle Miles, Elinor Johnston, Jennifer Van Der Nest
7—Kevin Moorhead
8—Michael Ebert, Lester Hanson, Melissa Sprain
9—Neil Bain, Kathryn Ebert, June Lusk, Grady LaJeunesse
10—Randall Auna, Brendan Holt, Camille Lusk, Rita Thompson
11—Kenny Hauser, Linda Lusk
12—Greg Shaw
16—Michael Arndt
17—Tanner Dunn, Carol Griswold
18—Joy Martin, Kendall Stephenson
19—Mary Tschida
20—Rob Galbraith
21—Claude Lindeman
22—Jolie Meyers
23—Lindy Meyers, Kathy Anderson
24—Pam (Barnes) Van Riper
25—Carol Hass
26—Jacob Burdick, Mike Lusk, Abigail Knaack
27—Mary Fiers
28—Alanna Wuensch, Brynn Loging
29—Nick Miller, Stephanie Steiner
30—Kyle Schuster

ACOLYTES

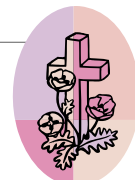
6—Laura Burdick & Carissa Hass
13—Autumn Schuster & Josie LaJeunesse
20—Grant Bohnsack & Dylan Noel
22—Martha Haugen & Alanna Wuensch

GREETERS

6—Avis Evenson & Lindy Meyers family
13—Diana Swim & Ted Yankee
20—Maraveen Mayer &
Bob & Marilyn Bahr
27—Becky & Rachel Auna

The sympathy of the congregation is extended to:

...the family of Ralph Onsrud on his death, April 15.



Congratulations on the following baptisms:

William Andrew Heeter
on April 8th

Parents: Matthew Heeter & Stephanie Sweet

and

Ellanore Margaret Zellmer
on April 15th

Parents: Shawn & Eve Zellmer



Please mark your calendars! The PW will host a **SPRING RUMMAGE SALE** on Friday, May 11th, 7:00-7:00 and Saturday, May 12th, 7:00-3:00. Please bring good, clean, usable items to the church starting on Monday, May 7th. We will be setting up during the week. Call Diana Engel at 786-1560 if you are able to help or if you have items that you would like to have picked up.



MAY FRIENDSHIP DAY May Friendship Day for Church Women United is at Trinity United Church of Christ in La Crosse on Friday, May 4th beginning at 9:30 with brunch at a cost of \$5.00. The program is "Listen to My Sisters" where women tell stories of their ancestors that led them to dream and move, leading us to the unity that we have as we work together for a world of peace and justice. Wonderful music will be included. This will be a good day. Please give reservations to Helen, 786-0856 by April 29th. If you would like a ride, Helen will leave West Salem at 8:45 AM.

SALAD LUNCHEON THANK YOU NOTE

The salad luncheon committee - Avis Evenson, Joyce Garves - co-chairpersons, Carolyn Lindeman - publicity, plus Dixie Fladhammer, Diana Meeuwsen, Kandi Holt, and Rita Logging - want to thank all the people who made the Salad Luncheon a success.

The church gets involved in the luncheon wholeheartedly as you can see by the following list: 60 people made salads, 45 people made desserts, 17 people made or contributed other foods such as deviled eggs, veggie pizza, fruit, pickles, olives, rolls, etc. 31 people worked on the following: Publicity, arranged tables and chairs, decorated and set tables, sold tickets, greeted the public as hostesses, filled carryout containers, waited on tables, poured beverages, washed and dried dishes, cleaned the kitchen, and handled many other details.

The new arrangement for the serving tables made the lines flow smoother, faster and without congestion.

The linens for the tables were donated by Aramark Co. and greatly appreciated. They made the tables look elegant!

We served 284 people and grossed \$2,365.96. \$171.00 of that came from monetary donations. [Some donations are still coming in - thank you!] Expenses were \$104.11 giving us a profit of \$2261.85, so far.

Thanks again for working together to help the Presbyterian Women continue local and world wide mission as well as helping our own church.

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Sky Lanterns Release Set for Memorial Day Weekend



After the Sunday service on Memorial Day Weekend, we will be releasing sky lanterns in memory of those close to us that have gone on before us. If you have seen sky lanterns before, you know how moving the effect can be. Sky lanterns are basically small hot air balloons made of paper, fully biodegradable and safe for the environment. Anyone who wishes to may release as many lanterns as they like. We request that \$2.00 be paid to the church for each lantern to cover the cost. So we know how many to order, please sign up in advance. You can sign up on the sheet on the kiosk, or call Holly in the office, or send her an e-mail.

We are looking for a few performers for Summer Music!



Summer will soon be upon us, which means our wonderful choir will be taking a much deserved break. We'd like to continue enhancing our services with special musical selections. It adds so much to our worship experience, and people are always so appreciative of what others have to offer. No professional training is required, and anything is welcomed – instrumental or vocals, solos or groups, from very young to very old. If you've always thought about MAYBE doing something, why not give it a try now? If you are interested, please sign up on the sheet in the Fellowship Hall. *Thank you!*

~ Worship & Music Committee

Summer Camp Scholarships

With spring just around the corner, it's once again time to look into summer Bible camps. As in the past, the Christian Education Committee has limited scholarship money available for campers. This year the Committee is asking for those interested in a camp scholarship to complete an application and provide a short essay as to why you want to go to camp. These applications are due in the church office by May 13th. All applications will be reviewed at that time and it will be determined how much can be allotted to each camper based on the number of children applying. As in past years, we may ask camper's 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, listed below are several that have served our youth over the years. You can obtain further information regarding activities, dates, cost, directions, etc. by visiting their websites. If you need further information, please contact anyone on the Christian Education Committee. Committee members are: Becca Bohnsack, Nick Miller, Diane Rogala, Sharon Cullmann, Kate Ebert, Melissa Sprain and Chase Aleckson

www.lxabc.org Living Waters Bible Camp Westby, WI – 35 miles, 40 minutes

www.sugarcreekbiblecamo.org Sugar Creek Bible Camp Ferryville, WI – 51 miles 1hr

www.villagecreek.net Village Creek Bible Camp Lansing, IA – 50 miles 1 hr

www.campwyoming.net Camp Wyoming Wyoming, IA – 175 miles 3.5 hours

www.abcamp.org Arrowhead Bible Camp New Auburn, WI – 125 miles, 2 hours

www.fortwilderness.com Fort Wilderness McNaughton, WI – 233 miles, 3.5hrs

Presbyterian Church of West Salem

Summer Camp Scholarship Application

Today's Date _____

Student Name _____

Parents' Names _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone Number _____

Email _____

Camp You Will Be Attending _____

Date You Will Be Attending _____

Cost _____

Please write a short essay about why you want to go to camp:

All applications are **due to the church office by May 13, 2012.**

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High School Youth Group

High School Youth Group

We have a number of events planned for High School Youth in the next few months:

1. Youth Work Camp through Habitat for Humanity

Marquette, MI, **June 30 to July 7** - \$100 per person, includes; food for the week, transportation there and back, and donations made to Habitat for Humanity for tools and for the church for the hospitality

Accommodations – Habitat for Humanity will provide noon meal, all other meals provided at the church. Sleeping in church basement with males on one side of the church and females on the other. Showers are available at a nearby park.

One day during the week will be a sightseeing day. We will watch the 4th of July fireworks over Lake Superior.

Spending money will be necessary for the day of sightseeing and for any personal purchases.

Numbers are limited and the **deadline for registration is May 1**. What a great opportunity for our youth.

2. Day Camp at Sugar Creek Bible Camp

July 25th our youth ages 5 – 11 will be having a Presbyterian Church of West Salem Day Camp at Sugar Creek and the High School Youth have been asked to assist in that camp. We need to know the number of High School students who will attend y May 1.

3. Regular Meetings



Regular meetings on the first and third Wednesdays at 7:15 PM through May. On the first Wednesday we have conversations around spiritual issues facing teenagers and on the third we have a fun night, games, music or simply hanging out laughing with each other. Come join us!

4. A day in the Dells

Look forward to a day in the Dells in the coming months.

Hey High School Youth you have your own Facebook Page check it out and become a friend!

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/272621909465022/docs/>

PER CAPITA 2012: Per Capita is a financial responsibility for every adult member of a Presbyterian congregation. For 2012 the per capita will be \$27.63. When submitting, please write in “per capita” on the memo part of your check or on the outside of your envelope. **Thank you!**

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**625 West Franklin Street
PO Box 861**

West Salem Wisconsin 54669

Non-Profit Org.

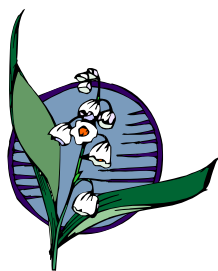
U.S. Postage
PAID

Permit No. 22

West Salem, WI 54669

Change Service Requested

At A Glance:



- *May 5—Mother/Daughter/Friend Banquet*
- *May 11 & 12—PW Rummage Sale*
- *May 20—Graduate Recognition*
- *May 26—Building & Grounds Brat & Pork Sandwich Sale at Hansen's IGA*
- *May 27—Sky Lanterns Launch as memorials*

The Lamplighter is published monthly by the Presbyterian Church of West Salem to inform church members and friends about the events, programs, and mission of the congregation. Information for **The Lamplighter** is to be submitted to the church office **by the 15th day of each month.**

Please inform the church office of any change in your address.