



THE LAMPLIGHTER

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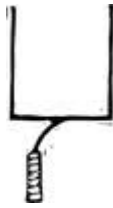
Pastor Larry Olson &
Pastor Stephanie Steiner

September 2010

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“Kick-off” Sunday



What would “Kick-off” Sunday be without good food...so we will “tailgate” in the parking lot after church. We will barbeque burgers and hot dogs and would like you to participate by bringing a dish by alphabet as follows:



A-F = desserts, G-L = salads, M-R = condiments & veggies, S-Z = appetizers. Food will be set-up in the back of your van/SUV/trunk so that you can go around, try the different dishes and visit with everyone, even have the opportunity to meet someone you haven't had a chance to talk with before.

Sunday School Registration will happen on “Kick-off” Sunday after worship. Come and meet and greet your new Sunday School teachers. Play games and get ready for the football game of your life! Sunday School classes will begin at 8:45 AM on September 19.

Adult Sunday School Registration will also take place on “Kick-off” Sunday. Two adult classes will be offered this fall. Bible 101 begins on September 19th at 8:45 for novice students. How and why we study the bible and tools that help us understand will be the topics of this class. For the more advanced thinker there will be a 6-week study of the Dead Sea Scrolls lead by Paul Bodine beginning October 10th.

High School Youth Registration will be a part of “Kick-off” as well. Sign-up for participation in this group and come and meet our new High School Youth leaders, Jenna & Nick Bonsall.

Sign-up for Worship Participation Opportunities. HERE IS YOUR CHANCE—sign-up to be a liturgist, greeter, head usher, coffee servers and choir/handbells.

Come and join in the fun as we “Kick-off” a new year!

Congregational Mid-Week Worship Opportunity

With the revamping of our Confirmation program, Mid-week Worship once a month will be required for the confirmands and offered for the entire congregation. This will be a teaching worship service and will run about 45 minutes. This Mid-Week Worship will be held on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 6:30 PM.

Confirmation begins at the first Mid-Week Worship on Wednesday, September 8th at 6:30 PM. This will be for all students grades 6th-9th.

July 2010 Financial Summary

Operating Budget

Balance July 1st	(\$ 1,218.41)
Receipts	10,051.16
Expenses	(14,548.64)
Balance July 31st	(\$5,715.89)



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

Thank you!

Highlights from Session:

- With great appreciation the session approved Nick and Jenna Bonsall as youth advisors for the 2010-2011 school year.
- Personnel recommended and session approved the purchase of a new computer for the church office.
- Deacons reported to the session.
- Funds received to help defray the cost of the Mexico Mission trip the Brummond girls experienced were distributed with \$310 returning to the youth account for mission purposes.

Hats off to:

- Lyle Miles, Beth Hinck & Zachary Rigotti for the mailing of the August issue of *The Lamplighter*
- our August nursery volunteers: Matthew Schnitzler, Chase Aleckson, Colin Hass, Brennan Gress and Grace Griffin
- our August liturgists: Sue Strauss, Bev Onsrud, Avis Evenson and Diana Swim
- Mobile meals were delivered to shut-ins the week of August 2-6 by our members; Bob Shaw, Greg Ashland, Paul & Nelda Manter, Charlie & Susan Evans and Bob & Marilyn Bahr. Thank you for your service! Anyone wishing to participate by delivering meals one evening during our church's week will be welcome. It takes about an hour from 4:30-5:30.
- Nick Miller for supplying the ice cream on Aug 15th for our ice cream cones after worship. The cones were donated by the West Salem Aquatic Center Committee.



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

A  FROM PASTOR STEPHANIE:

"Without sports, who would you follow?"

While on vacation, I read the above words on a billboard sign. As a pastor you can imagine my immediate response, "with or without sports, first you follow Jesus!" But more and more I think about what this message says about the generation of ESPN (who sponsored the billboard) worshippers and how much the media influences what we **follow**.

The literal meaning of the Greek word *akoloutheo* ("acolyte" comes from this word) means "to walk behind" or "to let another lead." A more figurative meaning is: to be a disciple of. What is it that leads you in your daily life? Who or what is it that you walk behind? The appropriate answer for anyone who calls him or herself a Christian is "Jesus." But can any of us honestly say that Jesus Christ has the most influence in our lives?

An experiment was conducted where hundreds of people were asked this two part question - Which person has been the most influential force in your life, and what was the nature of your relationship with this person? The results were:

First: the person most frequently named who most influenced others, though in some way superior, always treated the other as an equal. He or she didn't provide a service, but was a *friend* and a *servant* in the relationship. **Secondly**, in the stories that were told, the influential person was *genuinely interested* in hearing what the other person had to say. This was a sincere concern for the other person's well being. **Third**, the influential people were vulnerable and open about their own weaknesses. They were honest, and in that honesty asked for the other's help. They were not stingy receivers but had needs and expressed those needs openly.

What could this mean in relationship to being a disciple of Jesus? Perhaps when we let Jesus influence our lives, he becomes the most influential person in our lives. Though superior, he knows what it is like to be human. He didn't come to earth to provide a service but rather befriended many people in his life. As a servant in his relationship with others he communicated God's love for all in tangible ways. **We can do that!**

In the stories we hear about Jesus in relationship with others he was genuinely interested in what the other person had to say. He didn't have to fake care or concern for others; he really cared for God's people, usually the ones who were on the fringes of society. **We can do that!**

The vulnerability of Jesus was expressed in a variety of ways. He openly wept at the death of his friend. He feared the coming days as he prayed in the garden of Gethsemane. He delighted in the presence of small children. He cried out from the cross for his Father. Jesus showed us an honest way to ask for help when he needed it. Maybe the best example was to recruit 12 guys and take them on the road with him. Jesus was open and honest about what he needed and was not afraid to ask for help. **We can do that!**

Following Jesus is never easy. It usually means that we give up our self-satisfying sainthood and let someone else lead our lives. The reality of the valuable message of the Christian gospel is best conveyed relationally, not through argument or debate. The invitation into an authentic sharing of Jesus in a world where words have become cheap and there are so many other competing invitations comes from the One who called you into the *good news*. People respond much more to how we feel about them and treat them rather than through what we try to tell them. **We can do that!**

Pastor Stephanie

Fall Rummage Sale

Please mark your calendars! The PW will host a **FALL RUMMAGE SALE** on Friday, September 17, 7:00-7:00 and Saturday, September 18, 7:00-3:00. A \$3.00 bag sale will start at 10:00 AM on Saturday. Please bring good, clean, usable items to the church starting on Monday, September 13. 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.



SEPTEMBER VOLUNTEERS

HEAD USHER: Greg Haugen

LITURGISTS

- 5—Anne Galbraith
12—Faith Zoerb
19—Tracey Rogers
26—Laurie Griffin

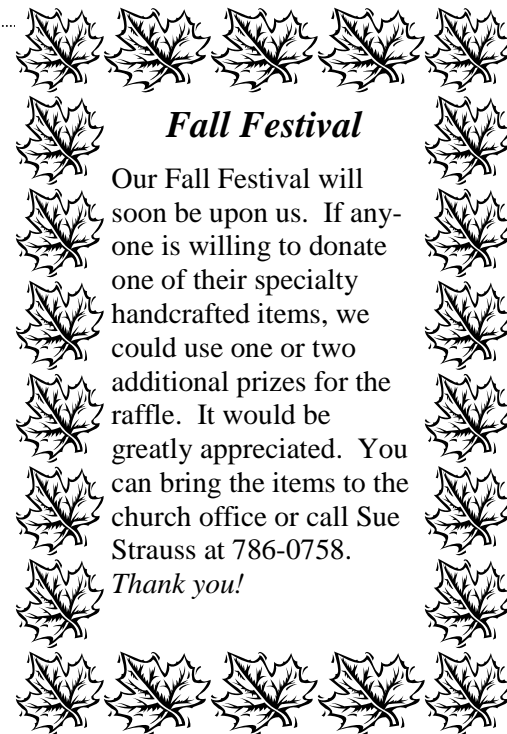
NURSERY CARE

- 5—Sean Horton
12—Kevin Kelley
19—Matthew Schnitzler
26—Lydia Sells

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

COMMUNION BREAD BAKER: Helen Harold

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



Fall Festival

Our Fall Festival will soon be upon us. If anyone is willing to donate one of their specialty handcrafted items, we could use one or two additional prizes for the raffle. It would be greatly appreciated. You can bring the items to the church office or call Sue Strauss at 786-0758.

Thank you!



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1- Ben Sprain, Caden Endres | 18- Brendon Haverly/Ghelfi, Kyle Koeneke |
| 2- Julie Baker | 19- Braxton Ghelfi, Jacob Servais, Laurie Chambers |
| 3- Scott Miller | 20- Sean Hanson, Mathew Sweet |
| 4- Zoe Johnson | 21- Dylan Van Riper, Drew Turgeon |
| 5- Dick Calvetti | 24- Jeffrey Bangsberg, Marcia Kazmark |
| 6- Lloyd Fried, Carol Griffin, Jenny Logging,
Maraveen Mayer | 25- Ben Hauser, Sally Holte |
| 8- Ethan Crusan | 26- Howard Raymer, Amanda Schaub |
| 9- Evan Crusan, Jean Johnson, Stacy Sandhoefner | 27- Bonnie Ziebell |
| 11- Betty Marx | 28- Greg Bergh, Lynn Lieder, Ellie Zebell,
Alisa Sarver |
| 12- Nena Reynolds | 29- Dorothy Hicks |
| 13- Ashley Martin, Bev Onsrud, Kayla Rogers,
Casey Pfaff | 30- Darren Dunn, Dan Miller |
| 14- Ross Auna | |
| 16- Emily Winther | |
| 17- Lena Faella | |

Birthdays! It was brought to our attention about a birthday that was missed in August. Upon some research it was found that our membership program does not recognize babies until they are on to their 2nd birthday. Please bear with us with any birthdays of babies from here forth, they will need to be entered manually and not rely on the membership program. A reminder call would also be appreciated to do a double check. Babies who are turning two are showing up. Happy Birthday to all the 1 year olds who have been missed and thank you for bringing this to our attention!

Just for Kids answer:

“There is a time for every-
thing, and a season for every
activity under heaven.”



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN MEET SEPTEMBER 9th

Where do our mission dollars go? Some stay right here at home as we listen to Rachel and Mary Kate Brummond tell how our money was used for their Mexican experience. We're hoping Kyle Rogers is available to tell us about his work in Haiti. We'll also hear from Georgia Motes and Helen Harold who will tell us about the Synod Gathering at Buena Vista College in Iowa. We will make plans for the Fall Workshop to be held on September 21st and vote on our mission pledge. Lots going on---plan to attend the meeting on Thursday, September 9th at 7 p.m. beginning with dessert hosted by Marilyn Bahr and Becca Bohnsack.

PW BIBLE STUDY We've had to change the dates for the PW bible study due to many conflicts in September. The new dates are : Wed., September 29th at 1 p.m. and continuing every Wed. through November 3rd. We will meet in the room between the offices. The study is the book of Revelations. Pastor Larry will give an overview at the Fall Workshops on September 21st. It is an exciting study including radio interviews with Elder John on Patmos Island, written by Dale Lindsay Morgan who creatively brings the book to life for our times. Come and enjoy a cup of coffee and cookies while we learn.

PW FALL WORKSHOP PW Fall Workshops will be held at West Salem on Tuesday, September 21st beginning at 9:30 with registration and coffee. The next day the workshop will be at Postville, IA. Pastor Larry will lead an overview of the bible study on Revelations at both places. Our women will serve the \$6.00 lunch, handle the registration and other details at our church. The theme is Immigration and we are privileged to have John Rosenal from Arcadia as our speaker. He has hired Mexican workers for several years and will bring Shaun Duvall who is the founder of Puentes/Bridges which seeks to build bridges between the two cultures. Three workshops will be offered on health kits, faces of children and other projects. Plan to attend this very interesting and informative event.

THANK OFFERING The Thank Offering for 2010 goes to 31 projects here and around the world in which at least 40% goes to health related needs. A sampling of some of the projects are: Hope Presbyterian Church in Spicer, MN who receive \$20,000 for victims of house fires and natural disasters; \$15,000 to First United Presbyterian Church in Belleville, IL to provide dental work for children and publicize the program in the community; \$7,800 to Adol Church in Southern Sudan to build a Sunday School Building for an existing church. There are envelopes in the Lamplighter and in the chair pockets. Please give generously. The offering will be received at the September 9th PW meeting and dedicated at the fall workshop.

Cancer Benefit Dinner

A fundraiser Cancer Benefit Dinner for Dorothy Nelson of West Salem is being held on Saturday, September 18th at 3:00 to 8:00 PM serving a Meatball dinner. This event is being held at the American Legion in West Salem. Other events happening during the evening until 11:00. **WE ARE NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS.** Dorothy has battled cancer three times so **WE WANT TO HELP PAY OFF HER DEPT!** This is open to the public.

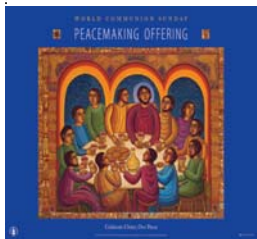
HELP FOR HAITI

We will be collecting supplies for Haiti through September. We are collecting: soap, washrags, toothbrushes and toothpaste. Because Kyle Rogers wasn't able to bring supplies with him on this trip we will be delivering our donations to Faye from the Presbyterian Church of LaCrosse. She will be going to Haiti in January. *Thank you for your support!*



The 2010 Peacemaking theme is:

“Celebrate Christ, Our Peace”



The apostle Paul was in prison when he wrote the words from which we take this year's Peacemaking Offering theme: "For he (Christ) is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us" (Ephesians 2:14). In these words Paul reminds two groups within the church (Jewish Christians and non-Jewish Christians) that the divisions they were used to living under didn't hold any more. Christ had broken down the walls of separation, and now the followers of Christ were to live as one family in peace, as the body of Christ. Though our divisions go by different names, the words are still true today.

This year we celebrate the thirtieth anniversary of Peacemaking: The Believers' Calling, the statement adopted by the 192nd General Assembly (1980) of the United Presbyterian Church in the USA that affirmed the centrality of peacemaking to the gospel message and to our lives as Christians. May we renew our commitment to the work of peace as followers of Christ, our peace, who shows us the way to live as peacemakers in our world.

An offering envelope is included with this newsletter. It should be returned by October 3, 2010 which is dedication Sunday. Our congregation retains 25% of the total received, which goes to support a local project such as New Horizons, Salvation Army, etc. Thanks for your consideration.

- Mission & Stewardship Committee

CROP Walk 2010

Plans are in full swing for the **2010 CROP Walk on October 10 (10/10/10!)** at Myrick Park in La Crosse at 12:45. The planning team is excited about this year's Walk as we remember the spirit of our walkers last year. It was a great day for 144 walkers who raised nearly \$9000 to help fight hunger both here and around the world. Hot dogs and soda from Wesley United Methodist provided a great celebration on our return.

Hunger continues to be a pressing issue in our local area. WAFER reports that thus far this year, they have given out 10,500 food packages. The other local recipients of CROP Walk money, Onalaska Emergency Foodbasket, WIC, and Hmong Mutual Assistance, continue to assist rising numbers of people who are dealing with food insecurity.

FUTURE LAMPLIGHTERS

With the new website we have added the Lamplighters to it so you can view them online. Please take time to look at them on the website. If you are able to access the Lamplighters by the website, would you like to go paperless and not have the Lamplighter sent to you via postal service? If you would like to discontinue receiving the Lamplighters by mail, please call the church office and we will add your name to a list of those not being mailed. The Lamplighters on the website will not offer the Kids page or the monthly calendar but there will be a calendar on a separate page on the website and it will have the same calendar information. Please consider going paperless!

Volunteers Needed in Milwaukee Area

(This information was submitted by the Presbytery office)

Thank you for the continued support for the flood clean-up recovery efforts in the City and County of Milwaukee. Due to the efforts by VOAD and the organizations that work with VOAD, we have cleaned over 80+ homes. There has been an outpouring of volunteer assistance over the past three weeks from in-state and out-of-state volunteers. Due to the increased need for assistance of elderly, disabled and special needs populations over the past week, we need more volunteer groups to assist our efforts. Nechama, Americorp and COAD have continued to train and deploy volunteers to various locations over the past couple of weeks however 130 to 140 homes are in need of assistance according to Dan Hoelt from Nechama and Linda Botts from COAD.

We are looking to continue the volunteer cleanup effort during:

August 25th through September 10th

Equipment and training will be provided, but we ask that you bring comfortable clothes and boots.

All interested volunteer groups should contact Chad Ostlund at #323-898-8539 or chad_ostlund@yahoo.com.

Causeway Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers, Inc.

We are looking for a volunteer to be an Arts Buddy to a West Salem woman. This would involve attending live performances at LaCrosse Community Theatre, Viterbo Fine Arts, UW-L Toland Theatre, Marie W. Heider Center for the Arts and the LaCrosse Area Jazz Society. For a small fee that is usually paid by the recipient both people can attend. Tickets are obtained from the Causeway office.

We hope someone will be interested in doing this. You may call the Causeway office at 775-9999 (M-W-F, 9:00-noon) or Joan Beebe at 786-0851 for more information.

The schedule of events for 2010-2011 will be available by September 1st from the Causeway office.

Wedding



Congratulations to:

Matt Marquis & Jennifer Gilman

who were married on August 6

and

Rex Stephenson & Laura Cullmann

who were married on August 7

and

Kevin Lee & Rosalie Olson

who were married on August 21!

Best wishes to the newlyweds!



Congratulations on the following baptisms:

Grant David, Anna Rebecca and Dane Christopher Bohnsack,

children of Dave & Becca Bohnsack,

who were baptized on August 8

and

Elly Rose Christianson,

daughter of Seth and Katie Christianson,

who was baptized on August 15!