



THE LAMPLIGHTER

Presbyterian Church of West Salem
625 W. Franklin St., P. O. Box 861
West Salem, WI 54669
Telephone (608) 786-0910 Fax (608) 786-4910
Email: preschurchws@gmail.com
www.presbyterianchurchwestsalem.com

Pastor Larry Olson &
Pastor Stephanie Steiner

February 2017

Inside this issue:

Financial Information	2
Pastor's Note	3
PW Information	4
Intergenerational Sunday School	4
Youth Group Activities	4
Confirmation	4
PW Calendar	6



JOURNEY TO JERUSALEM

As the crow flies, it is 6,200 miles from West Salem, WI. to Jerusalem, Israel. This year part of our Lenten journey will be to walk the miles from here to Jerusalem with Jesus. We will begin our Journey to Jerusalem with Jesus in Capernaum and go through Gadara, Mt. Tabor, Sychar, Jericho, Bethany and finally reach Jerusalem. Each week members of the congregation will be asked to log the miles they walk that week as we hope to reach our goal of 6, 200 miles at the end of our Journey. Throughout this adventure we hope to deepen our faith and practice getting regular exercise as we care for our souls and bodies this year.

On Ash Wednesday, March 1st, you will receive your travel passport that will be stamped every Wednesday at Worship and you will also receive all the details of our Journey to Jerusalem and alternate ways of getting miles if you are not able to do much walking. If you have a smart phone, we encourage you to download the "Pacer" free app to log your miles (or another app of your choosing). We will also have pedometers available for those who don't have a smart phone.

We hope you join us as we Journey to Jerusalem with Jesus!

Committee Lenten Soup Supper Assignments

March 8—Worship & Music and Stewardship & Mission

March 15—Finance and Building & Grounds

March 22—Community Dinner-All Committees help

March 29—Christian Ed and Membership & Evangelism

We will be serving soup, bread & butter, dessert & beverages from 5:00 to 6:00 with Worship at 6:30.

** Change in Office Manager Hours **

Mondays: 7:30—11:30 AM

Tuesdays: 7:30 AM—1:30 PM

Thursdays: 7:30 AM—1:30 PM

December 2016 Financial Summary

Operating Budget

Balance December 1st	\$1,082.30
Receipts	24,122.22
Expenses	(17,679.19)
Ending Balance—December 31st	\$7,525.33



PER CAPITA 2017

For 2017 the per capita is \$29.80. When submitting, please write in “per capita” on the memo part of your check or on the outside of your envelope.
Thank you!

HIGHLIGHTS FROM SESSION:

- Approved Brat Sale July 8th and September 2nd
- Approved Ski Trip to Mt. La Crosse February 26 from 1:00-6:00 PM
- Approved participating in the West Salem Business EXPO on March 19th from 11:00 AM-3:00 PM
- Approved Mission Trip to Bowler, WI, June 22nd—25th
- Approved receiving the four special offerings: One Great Hour of Sharing, Pentecost, Peacemaking & Christmas Joy

Hats off to:

- our January nursery helpers: Luke Noel, Garrett Byrnes, Chase Jones, Aly Cvikota & Shelby Knaack
- our January acolytes: Willis Jones, Evan Noel, Gavin Loging, Lucy Raymer, Ethan Crusan, Gideon Wolbrink, Julia Byrnes, Keahna Littlejohn & Dane Bohnsack
- our January liturgists: Nick Miller, Noah Garcia, Kathy Schedin, Jackie Siekert & Alanna Wuensch
- our January sound room: Tiffani Aleckson & Erick Sells
- A note of thanks to everyone for helping to get the Christmas decorations put away. Great family effort!



Elders

Class of 2017

Lois Sanwick
Carolyn Lindeman
Carol Griffin
Valerie Olson

Class of 2018

Nick Miller
Kelly Crusan
Jane Foner
Barb Hopkins

Class of 2019

Shawn McAlister
Mike Siekert
Kristjan Sells
Kevin Aleckson

Deacons

Class of 2017 Kris Seeger, Becky Auna, Lill Twining, Rita Loging and Helen Harold

Class of 2018 Susan Evans, Charlie Evans, Jackie Siekert, Marilyn Bahr and Rita Thompson

A Note from Pastor Stephanie:

On Friday, January 20th, I made a trip to my hometown, Prairie du Chien, to visit the gravesites of my mom, dad, and brothers, Russell and Karl. I make a few trips there every year near the Anniversary of their death dates to remember them and pay my respects for being blessed by their presence in my life! This year on February 4th it will be 20 years since my mom died and on March 1st it will be 15 years since Russell died.

I extended my trip to Prairie this year by many miles so I could drive over several bridges that my brother, Russell and his company, Acme Construction, built. My favorite Bridge was built in Bridgeport on the way to Wyalusing campground for which Russell received a state award for the design of the bridge.

All bridges function basically the same way...they span a chasm. Bridges make it possible for someone to pass from point "A" on one side of the chasm to point "B" on the other side. Driving over some of Russell's bridges, I was once again reminded that as Christian people we are all called to be bridge builders in our lives. If we have a disagreement with another it is so easy to build a fence between us, but Jesus calls us instead to build a bridge so we can find our way back across the chasm that separates us. After all, Jesus is the greatest, highest and strongest bridge ever built over the river of sin and he invites us to strive to build bridges of love to those who are struggling to find a way back, a way in, a way across the bridge that separates them from being part of a family of God.

As disciples of Jesus Christ we are called to build bridges to lead the lost back across the chasm that has separated them from Jesus Christ. As disciples we are called to build bridges to those who feel forgotten or have strayed from the flock, so they can come back into the fold where they are loved by God and by us. We are called to build bridges to the hurting and helpless, to those who feel demeaned and less of a person to let them know that no matter who they are, God loves them, Jesus died for them and there is always a way for them to cross that chasm and come back "home" where they matter to God and to us!

I close with one of my favorite bridge stories that I hope helps us become even better bridge builders in our lives:

Once upon a time, there were two brothers. Their father had a large farm and when he became too old to work, he called his sons to him. "I am too old to work anymore," he said. "I will divide my farm in half and give each of you one half. I know that you will always work together and will be good friends."

When the brothers first started farming on their adjoining farms, they were the best of friends and would share everything together. Then, one day there was an argument between the two brothers and they stopped speaking to one another. For many years, not a word was spoken between them.

One day, one of the brothers was at his house when a carpenter came to his door and said, "I would like to do some work. Do you have any work that I can do?" The brother thought for a moment and then replied, "I would like for you to build a fence on my property. Build it down near the stream there that separates my farm from my brothers. I don't want to see my brother any more and I would like for you to build a high fence there please. I'm going into town and I'll be back this evening.

When he came back that evening, he was shocked to see that the carpenter had not followed his instructions. Instead of building a high fence there, he had built a bridge over the stream. The man walked down to take a look at the bridge, and as he did, his brother walked toward him from the other side. His brother said, "After all the terrible things I've done to you over the years, I can't believe that you would build a bridge and welcome me back." He reached out to his brother and gave him a big hug.

The brother then walked back up to his farmhouse to talk to the carpenter. "Can you stay?" he asked. "I have more work for you to do." The carpenter answered, "I'm sorry but I can't stay. I have to go, for I have many other bridges to build."

Building bridges of Love with you,

PW Breakfast Meeting

PW meets Thursday, February 2nd at 9:00 AM for a potluck breakfast. Please join us to learn what is ahead in 2017. Then we will tie two fleece blankets for New Horizons, one of our missions. Please join us for a time of fellowship and service.



BIRTHDAY OFFERING

The Birthday offering celebrates Presbyterian Women's history of mission giving. It was launched in 1922 to celebrate the 10th anniversary of Presbyterian women in the church. Since then it has become an annual tradition and has funded nearly 100 major mission projects that continue to make a difference in the lives of women and children. The offering will be received at the February meeting.

Bell Ringing Update

We had very profitable season of bell ringing this year with more people and more money being donated. Diana Engel was not listed in the last Lamplighter, but she rang on November 28. Jackie and Mike Siekert donated more of their time the next week after ringing for our church. This all means that 101 people rang bells at Hansen's IGA including churches, Boy Scouts, teachers, school girls, small children with adults and others. Salvation Army is very grateful.

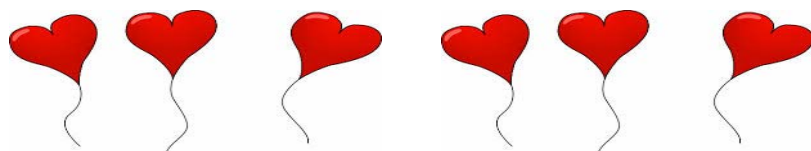
ALL INVITED—

Intergenerational Sunday school and Breakfast on Sunday, February 26

EVERYONE from 0 to 100+ is invited to attend Intergenerational Sunday School on Sunday, February 26th in the Fellowship Hall. We will begin at 9:00 AM with a Breakfast of Pancakes, Sausage, Egg cups, Fruit, OJ/Milk and Coffee sponsored by the Stewardship and Mission Committee. There will be a free-will basket out and proceeds will go toward the Family Mission trip back to Bowler, WI. this summer.

After breakfast we will gather around the theme, "A Faith that STICKS!" Come and join in on the food, fun and fellowship as we gather to study God's word with all ages! This would be a great day to invite your friends to join us!

The next
Red Cross Blood Drive
will be
Monday, February 13th
from 12:30-5:30 PM
Call Connie Blunck
for an appointment
at 786-0684.



FEBRUARY
CONFIRMATION SCHEDULE

1st—5:00 Meal & Class in Bangor
8th—5:00 Meal & Class in West Salem
15th—5:00 Meal & Class in West Salem
22nd—Community Dinner

Youth Group

February 26th from 1:00-6:00 PM we will be skiing at Mt. La Crosse. This will be a whole family event.

TBD—Sledding Party at Miller's.

Our final winter event will be to take the youth group rock climbing at UW-La Crosse. This will likely be scheduled for sometime in March.



FEBRUARY VOLUNTEERS**HEAD USHER:** Nick Miller**FELLOWSHIP (Serve/Clean-up):** Finance Committee**LITURGIST & GREETER**

5—Tracey Rogers
 12—Jackie Siekert
 19—Howard Garves
 26—Shayna Arndt

NURSERY CARE

5—Alyssa Byrnes
 12—Tanner Jones
 19—Sam Horton
 26—Josie LaJeunesse

GREETERS (Fellowship Hall Doors)

5—Shawn & Bethany McAlister
 12—Mike Siekert
 19—Joyce Garves
 26—Kevin Arndt

ACOLYTES

5—Lucy Raymer & Jaycob Brown
 12—Julia Byrnes & Keahna Littlejohn
 19—Ethan Crusan & Willis Jones
 26—Gideon Wolbrink & Gavin Logging

SOUND ROOM TECHNICIANS

5—Erick Sells
 12—Tiffani Aleckson
 19—Erick Sells
 26—Tiffani Aleckson

**Birthdays**

2—Ted Yankee
 3—Mason Gress
 5—David Motes, Jacob Cvikota, Kathy Schedin
 6—John Holt
 8—James Cullmann, Kelly Lusk, Genevieve Sprain
 9—John Schmaltz, Diane Adams, Jenna Bonsall
 10—Valerie Olson, Erick Sells, Amy Kalember
 12—Jeanette Kroll, Ray Ebert
 13—Jocelyn Heller
 14—Christine Matthews
 15—Broderick Rogala, Anne Zalewski, Andrew Raymer

16—Faith Holt, Faith Zoerb
 18—Andy Severson
 19—Pamela Eggen, David Miller, Michelle Servais
 20—Laura Burdick, Teresa Schnitzler, Janna Seeger, Kris Schwier
 21—LaVerne Torgerson
 23—Kathy Brummond, Robert Shaw, Aric Tourville
 25—Mary Winther, Tiffani Aleckson
 26—JoDeen Kobishop
 27—Nicole Griffin
 29—Nathan Wilczynski

The sympathy of the congregation is extended to:

...Harley Meyer family, on his death,
 December 27th.

...Bob Bahr, on the death of his brother, Walter
 Bahr on December 28th.

...Howard Garves, on the death of his brother,
 Richard Garves, December 28th

...Greg Haugen, on the death of his aunt, Jean,
 January 9th.

...JoDeen Kobishop, on the death of LaVerne
 Dubois, January 9th.

...Sharon Holven, on the death of her aunt, Carol
 Elland, on January 13th.

...Neil Bain, on the death of his brother, Robert
 Bain, January 23rd.

*Congratulations to*

Chris & Melissa Norman
 on the birth of
 Augustine Chase
 January 7th!



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

2017 CALENDAR (Cut out and SAVE)

MODERATOR: Helen Harold
VICE MODERATOR: Diana Engel
SECRETARY: Joyce Garves

FINANCE COMMITTEE: Helen Harold
 Joyce Garves, Nelda Manter
TREASURER: Nelda Manter



FUNERAL-WEDDING LUNCHEONS: Vickie Holt, Diana Engel, Nelda Manter, Co-Chair
MULDER ENTERTAINMENT: MUSIC: Helen Harold BINGO: Nelda Manter
SALAD LUNCHEON: Avis Evenson, Joyce Garves, Co-Chair, Diana Meeuwssen Publicity-Carolyn Lindeman
FALL FESTIVAL: CRAFTS: Nelda Manter, COOKIES: Sandy Schmidt, Carol Hass, Valerie Olson
RAFFLE: Sue Strauss **BREAKFAST:** Helen Harold, Diana Engel, Lynda Bahr

FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE
2 Breakfast, 9 AM Hostesses: Jean Pearson & Helen Harold Program: <i>New Horizons</i> Birthday Offering 13 Music @ Mulder's 6 & 20 Tabitha Circle, 2 PM	3 World Day of Prayer - West Salem Presbyterian Church 9:00-noon 1 Bible Study, 1 PM. 8 " " " 15 " " " 6 & 20 Tabitha Circle, 2PM	5 Salad Luncheon 29 Spring Gathering at First Presbyterian Church - La Crosse 3 & 17 Tabitha Circle, 2 PM	13 Mother-Daughter-Friend Banquet 6 PM By the Men of the Church 1 & 15 Tabitha Circle, 2 PM	6 Bingo @ Mulders, 2 PM 15 Picnic @ 11:30 AM, Diana Swim's Hostesses: Diana Swim & Diana Engel Program: "Thank You Know Presbyterian Women" Least Coin Offering 5 & 19 Tabitha Circle, 2 PM
JULY/AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
July 11 CWU Human Rights Celebration Southside Neighborhood Center, 4:30-6:00 PM July 3 & 17 Tabitha Circle, 2 PM ----- August 7 & 21 Tabitha Circle, 2 PM	7 PW Meeting, 7 PM Hostesses: Sharon Holven & Julie Baker Program: Purses with a Purpose and Snack Food Personality Test Thank Offering Fall Gathering - Frankville, IA 4 & 18 Tabitha Circle, 2 PM	3 Bingo @ Mulders, 2 PM 4 Bible Study, 1 PM 11 " " " 18 " " " 2 & 16 Tabitha Circle, 2 PM	11 FALL FESTIVAL 8:30 - 11:30 6 & 20 Tabitha Circle, 2 PM	7 PW Christmas Finger Food Buffet with coffee & punch, 6 PM Hostesses: Rose Lee & Sheryl Lee Program: "Three Women of the East" Hunger Offering 4 & 18 Tabitha Circle, 2 PM

Presbyterian Church of West Salem

625 West Franklin Street
PO Box 861
West Salem Wisconsin 54669

Quick Look Ahead:



- *February 2nd—PW Breakfast Meeting*
- *February 13th—PW Music at Mulder's*
- *February 13th—Red Cross Blood Drive*
- *February 18th—Presbytery Meeting, Video Conference*
- *February 26th—Intergenerational Sunday School*
- *February 26th—Youth Group Skiing at Mt La Crosse, 1:00-6:00 PM*

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.