



THE LAMPLIGHTER

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

July 2017

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ATTENTION KIDS!

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PLEASE PLAN TO JOIN US FOR VBS 2017!

We will kickoff a fun-filled week on Sunday, August 6th immediately following church. We will have an all congregation lunch followed by a ping pong tournament! The fun continues from 5:30-8:00 pm, Monday, August 7-Wednesday, August 9th! Our theme this year is "Conquer the Day, Mega Sports Camp!" We hope you can join us for some awesome Bible lessons, games, food, and sports FUN! It's sure to be an activity filled week! See you there!

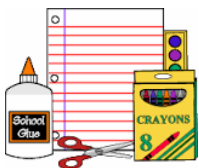


Outdoor Church Service & Walkway Dedication—July 16th



The church service on July 16th is going to be very special. The service will be held outdoors in the "back yard" of the church. During this service there will be a dedication of Patrick Zalewski's walkway project. **Please bring lawn chairs or blankets to sit on (also umbrellas for shade, if you like).** There will be a tent area for those of you who cannot tolerate sunshine. An ice cream social will be held immediately following the service. Children's activities will be available during the social. If it rains, the service will be moved indoors. We look forward to seeing you at this unique service.

HELP SUPPORT AREA CHILDREN



During July and August, the Presbyterian Church of West Salem will be collecting donations to be used to help needy children in the West Salem School District. These donations will allow us to purchase gift cards that will then be distributed by the school guidance counselor on an as needed basis to children/families who cannot afford to purchase necessary school supplies. These gift cards may even help a family purchase gloves, mittens or boots for their child/children who have none. Even just \$5 can make a difference to a struggling family.

To support this mission, envelopes for donations will be in a prominent spot in the back of the church. Or you may send in a donation to the church office, noting that it is to support WS Student Supplies.

A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed. — Proverbs 11:25

Please know that your donation will be helping children **here**, in **our** community. *Thank you so much!*

~ Stewardship & Mission Committee

May 2017 Financial Summary

Operating Budget

| | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|
| Balance May 1st | \$310.89 |
| Receipts | 21,689.02 |
| Expenses | (21,575.63) |
| Ending Balance—May 31st | \$424.28 |



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:

- Discussion on low financial operating budget
- Upcoming New Member class
- Approved canoe trip—July 15th
- Approved Mt Olympus outing either August 21 or 22
- Outdoor service & ramp dedication July 16th
- Can you help support Elementary School supplies?



Hats off to:

- our June nursery helpers: Genevieve Sprain, Anna Bohnsack, Connor Brown & Genevieve Haugen
- our June liturgists: Becky Auna, Jackie Siekert, Howard Garves & Avis Evenson
- our June sound room: Tiffani LaJeunesse, Grant Bohnsack & Kelly Crusan



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 Logging and Helen Harold

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

What a Mountain!

This month I'd like for you to consider, expectations. We all have expectations, some are small and some are large. At a restaurant, we expect our food to be fully cooked. At a concert, we expect the vocalist or band to be pleasing to our ears. We expect law enforcement to be just, preachers to be honest, teachers to present their material in an understandable fashion. At times our expectations are met, sometimes they are surpassed and sometimes our expectations are not met at all.



You will be reading this after I have come home from hopefully seeing the highest point on the North American Continent, Denali. I have a grand expectation, as I write this letter before leaving and that expectation is this: I will actually see the mountain. From what I hear some never see the mountain because it is cloud covered the entire time they are present.

I expect many will ask about our Alaskan adventure upon our return, and my second expectation is I will be able to tell you we had a blast, it was wonderful, what a mountain! My problem is this: this Lamplighter article is due before I return home, so I'm writing this before I have even left to head north to Alaska.

Expectations are a huge part of faith. We expect for Jesus to do what He has said He will do. We expect the indwelling of the Holy Spirit to empower us to remain faithful. We expect the promise of eternal life to be true. We expect our faith is not in vain and that we will receive a crown of glory at some later point in time. And we expect the church to support us in our time of need.

Here is the thing – I believe there is a big mountain named Denali – which stands above all others in this Continent even though I have yet to see it with my own eyes. And even if I come home and tell you I never saw the mountain, I will still tell you I believe it is there. I hope I get to see Denali but my belief in its existence is not dependent upon my actually seeing it in person.

Faith is a very similar idea. Christ calls for us to believe even if we cannot or have not seen with our eyes. To believe and act on that belief is the call Jesus makes for our lives. At times, we are to believe without seeing and at other times we can say I have seen it with my own eyes.

Pastors can talk until they are blue in the face about faith, telling all faith is real. There are times we experience faith through others. Believing because they have seen. And there are times we need to experience faith for ourselves, see the mountain if you will. When we experience faith for ourselves we can say, what a mountain! When we have not seen for ourselves, we can still say, others have seen it and told me about it, therefore I believe.

That brings me back to expectations, what do you expect from our God? I say, expect God to amaze you, so you will say with me, what a mountain!

Pastor Larry

SUMMER CONGREGATIONAL CANOEING DAY

Everyone is invited to join in the fun as we canoe the Black River! On Saturday, July 15th from 1pm-5pm we will canoe starting at the Highway 35 bridge near Holmen. Plans are to possibly take out the canoes at Lytle's Landing if a lot of time is spent playing on sandbars or continue all the way to Brian and Molly Baker's house for those who prefer more peaceful paddling. It promises to be a great time with your church family! A sign up sheet will be located in the entryway between the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall. If you have any questions, contact any member of the Christian Education Committee. Hope to see you there!"



NEW HORIZONS COLLECTION

There is a collection under way now for New Horizons. They are in need of new socks and underwear for men, women and children. We will be collecting these items through July 9th. Please put any donated items in the box at the back of the church. Thanks for your help!



HUMAN RIGHTS CELEBRATION

"Kindling New Fires of Hope" is the theme for Church Women United's Human Rights Celebration at the Southside Neighborhood Center beginning at 4:30 p.m. with a pot luck meal. An award for human rights will be presented. Our donations of new socks and underwear for men, women and children will be brought to this celebration. Please join us for this special event. The Neighborhood center is located at 1300 6th St. South in La Crosse.

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Come for lunch and a treat at Hansen's IGA on July 8th

Building and Grounds will be having a Brat and Bake Sale on July 8th from 9AM till around 2PM. Please stop by for a quick bit to eat as you go about your busy Saturday. Our committee would appreciate any bake goods that you could contribute and they should be wrapped to sell and brought to the church kitchen. Let's hope for good weather and good sales!

Summer Special Music Needed



Musicians, vocalists, instrumentalists of all ages and abilities: **WE NEED YOU!** The Worship & Music Committee is looking for individuals or groups to share their musical abilities during worship services during the months of June, July, and August. Please contact Greg Meeuwsen at 608-786-2812 and he would be more than happy to find a Sunday that works with your summer schedule.

MUSIC BRINGS PEACE AND LOVE

Thanks so much to our incredible director, talented singers and musicians in the choir. You have added so much to our Worship services through your hard work and dedication! You light up worship with your beautiful singing, directing, and playing.

IT'S GARDEN TIME!

Our goal is to try Tuesday evening around 5 PM for working in the garden. All are welcome to enjoy the outdoors and get to know more people. We are very excited to have taken this project over and look forward to also meeting more people of the church. Hope to see you there!

~ Janice and Jerry Seeger



RUMMAGE SALE

Thanks to many wonderful people the May rummage sale was a big success! It takes many hours of hard work and dedication to pull off this wonderful event and help our general budget. Seeing the smiling (most of the time!) faces daily is a pleasure and a reminder of how much of a family we truly have become. The food was delicious, wonderful, and truly appreciated by all - thanks! Even without a lot of furniture or big items, we were able to make over \$6200! It takes a team effort to create this success from the donators, workers, cooks, & shoppers, September is coming and so is another rummage sale! Please start gathering your rummage and try to become part of the fun by donating some time to this church wide effort! **THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!** God has blessed us greatly to be able to celebrate this success.

JULY VOLUNTEERS

HEAD USHER: Brian Baker

FELLOWSHIP (Serve/Clean-up): Worship & Music Committee

LITURGIST & GREETER

- 2—Jane Foner
- 9—Kathy Schedin
- 16—Laura Burdick
- 23—Becky Auna
- 30—Jenni Loging

NURSERY CARE

- 2—Luke Noel
- 9—Garrett Byrnes
- 16—Chase Jones
- 23—Aly Cvikota
- 30—Shelby Knaack

GREETERS (Fellowship Hall Doors)

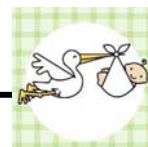
- 2—Lynda Bahr
- 9—Alan Schedin
- 16—Clark & Martha Burdick
- 23—Virgil & Rita Thompson
- 30—Terry Loging

SOUND ROOM TECHNICIANS

- 2—Grant Bohnsack
- 9—Tiffani LaJeunesse
- 16—Kelly Crusan
- 23—Tiffani LaJeunesse
- 30—Kelly Crusan

The sympathy of the congregation is extended to:

...the family of Ilene Buol. Ilene died on June 8th.



Congratulations to
 Dustin & Danielle Wehrs
 on the birth of
 Chloe Elizabeth on June 5th!
and
 Sean & Adina Heller
 on the birth of
 Evelyn Autumn on June 11th!

Secretary Office Hours for
July 14th - September 1st:
 Tuesday - 7:30-12:30
 Wednesday - 7:30-12:30
 Thursday - 7:30-12:30



Birthdays



| | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|--|
| 1—Susan Strauss | 14—Koen Molling | 30—Shelby Knaack |
| 3—Ben Baker, Tim Fladhammer, Eugene Denson | 15—Martha Haugen | 31—Roger Auna, Paul Raymer, Anna Bohnsack, Alan Schedin |
| 4—Debra Killian, Conner Dunn | 16—Chase Jones | |
| 5—Jaime Daoust, Autumn Schuster, Aliana Jones | 18—Mildred Evans, Danielle Seeger | |
| 6—Claire Sweet | 20—Robert Bahr | |
| 8—James Mayer | 21—Michael Servais | |
| 10—Chris Winther | 22—Sherry Bonsall | |
| 11—Eric Burdick | 24—Elsa Wolbrink | |
| 12—Kristine Seeger, Danielle Dillard | 25—Kelly Crusan | |
| 13—Jordan Beirne, Noah Garcia, Dylan Noel, Ayden Schuster, Drew Kreibich, Andrew Benzing | 27—Conrad Miller | |
| | 28—James Olson | |

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Quick Look Ahead:



- *July 8th—Hansen's IGA Brat Sale*
- *July 15th—Congregational Canoeing Day*
- *July 16th—Sidewalk Dedication during Worship*
- *August 6th—9th—Vacation Bible School*

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.