



THE LAMPLIGHTER

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

September 2017

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RALLY SUNDAY: PANCAKES & PJ'S

Attention One and All!

As we kick-off another exciting year of Education, we invite EVERYONE to join us for Rally Sunday on September 10th at 9:00 AM. We will begin the morning with an ALL-CONGREGATION pancake and sausage breakfast. The fun continues with games and a short Bible study for all in attendance! All (youth and adults alike) are encouraged to wear their favorite pajamas. The youth are encouraged to bring their pillows and blankets to church! We hope you can join us for this FUN filled morning complete with prizes and surprises as we begin another year of Education!



RUMMAGE SALE - SEPTEMBER 2017

Hooray! Diana is back and of course she brings Charles with her!
Thank you God for your blessings.



The dates for this rummage sale will be September 15th & 16th and then September 22nd & 23rd. Yes, we are selling for two weekends. We will start our set up Sunday, September 10th (the Packers play Seattle at 3:25!), we will get started after Worship. You may also start bringing your rummage on the 10th. We need workers during the week starting at 9:00 AM and we will have someone in the building until at least 7:00 PM Monday through Thursday. Your help, for even an hour or two, will be needed and gratefully appreciated. Saturday the 16th we will need help at 3 PM to move things around to get the Fellowship Hall ready for Sunday. Then guess what, Sunday we can get it all reset! We will need help again the second

week to take care of the new things that we receive and reorganize. Please be sure to call the church kitchen at 786-0675 to be sure someone is there. On the Fridays & Saturdays we will need cashiers, baggers, helpers and reorganizers.

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 23rd IS WHEN WE WILL NEED LOTS OF HELP FOR CLEANUP! This is a really big deal because we must get everything packed up to be donated and get Fellowship Hall totally cleaned. **SPECIAL PROJECT THIS YEAR!** Our friend, Margaret Chalsma, left the contents of her house to be sold at the rummage sale. Of course this means that we need help to get the house emptied. Another big project especially for able bodied folks!

FOOD! Please continue your generosity in this endeavor.

It is a great time for fellowship as we eat together. Any questions about food, please contact Diana. This is a major fundraiser for us and truly helps us make our annual budget. It takes our whole family to be successful.

THANKS!

July 2017 Financial Summary

Operating Budget

Balance July 1st	(\$2,125.41)
Receipts	29,928.91
Expenses	(21,804.81)
Ending Balance—July 31st	\$5,998.69



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:

- Hosted COM Representatives, Margaret Jumomville and Terry McGinley, for Triennial visit
- Approved the Family Bike Trip on October 7th
- Approved Fall Clean-up on October 7th
- Approved 25% of Peacemaking Offering to West Salem First Responders



Hats off to:

- our August nursery helpers: Alyssa Byrnes, Tanner Jones, Sam Horton & Josie LaJeunesse
- our August liturgists: Becky Auna, Shayna Arndt, Charlie Evans & Helen Harold
- our August 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

Here We Go Again

There is something exciting about a new school year rolling around. When I was growing up, it was in August that I got that new pair of tennis shoes (yea), new school clothes (which were not my favorite things), learned of my new teacher(s) and new class mates (another yea). For some, all those “new things” was pure excitement. For others those new things filled them with fear about the unknown. As an adult, whose children are no longer at home or away starting a new school year, the start of a new school year doesn’t make such a large impact on my daily living. The start of school doesn’t change my going to bed and waking schedules. I know for some families this is a huge change from summer leisure to school schedules. The start of school doesn’t beckon me to go buy new clothes, new shoes, or school supplies, I can get those items anytime throughout the year if I so desire. I must say the start of school will change one thing for me, and that is the number of children I will be seeing on the road as I go to work will increase dramatically.



The start of school also indicates the beginning of new classes at church. Sunday School will begin in September, see the Rally Day article elsewhere in this Lamplighter. Your pastors are indeed grateful for those who train up our children at Sunday School. And then there is the startup of another year of confirmation classes which will be happening again on Wednesday evenings. Here we go again, seeking to prepare these young lives to accept Christ as their Savior, and choose to become a member of the church. Each new class brings new challenges and new personalities together. Even though the truth of the gospel has not changed these particular individuals call us teachers to “learn” as new way to teach the truth of God.

As children begin a new school year it is a good time for those outside of those school year ages to consider what they need to get going on. Maybe we have slacked off on our devotional time with God, this is a good time to get going again. Maybe we have not taken the time to read the bible, digesting its truth for our lives. Pick it up and start anew refreshing yourself with the Word of God. Maybe we have taken some time off from worship, well we still are worshipping at 10:15 a.m. every Sunday and we would love to have us all gathered together worshipping our God.

One of the theological issues addressed in Seminary is the idea of human “free will”. God has given each of us free will, we can do what we want and God will not stand in our way. With the onset of school, it might just be time for us to exercise our free will and get going again, working on our spiritual health and lives.

The law requires schooling for children, God has set us free to choose to get going again. As we head into the fall may we choose to serve and worship our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. May we choose to get going and say to ourselves, “here we go again”.

Pastor Larry

Come for lunch and a treat at Hansen's IGA on September 2nd!



Building and Grounds will be having a Pork Chop Sandwich/Brat and Bake Sale on September 2nd from 9AM til 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!





PW NEWS

Ten women met Thursday, August 10th, at Valerie Olson's home for a potluck lunch. A wonderful selection of food was enjoyed around the pool on a beautiful sunny day.

A short business meeting was held followed by a skit titled "Who is a Presbyterian Woman?" performed by Jane Foner and Nelda Manter. It was thought that they could spot a Presbyterian Woman anywhere in a crowd but after summing up the projects, locally, nationally, and internationally that PW are involved in, it was decided that Presbyterian Women are everywhere doing a wide variety of work.

PW MEETING SEPTEMBER 7th

All women are invited to join us on Thursday, September 7th in the church dining room for dessert followed by a short business meeting and the program. Hostesses are Sharon Holven and Julie Baker. We will take the "Snack Food Personality Test" which will let you find out what you are really like! You will be in for a pleasant surprise. Then we will fill twenty purses with items most often found in women's purses. The purses will be given to Salvation Army for women to have as they arrive at the shelter. Often the women come with very little. Please join us for an interesting evening.

NEEDED: A woman is needed to serve on the John Knox Coordinating Team as a Member at Large. This is the easiest job you could ever do but at the same time being very helpful to the rest of the team. You would need to attend two meetings, one in the summer and one in the winter from 10 AM -12 PM at our church! How convenient! Your job? Help plan the spring and fall gatherings and to help decide on mission projects for the Presbytery. A benefit: You will meet women from all over our Presbytery. Please consider this EASY job and let Helen (786-0856) know if you are the least bit interested or have any questions.

FALL GATHERING, September 30th at Frankville, Iowa

The PW Fall Gathering will be on Saturday, September 30th at Frankville Presbyterian Church in Frankville, Iowa. Coffee is at 9:30 AM with the meeting beginning at 10 AM. Lunch is \$6.00. The theme is "The Bible Speaks to Us." The speaker, from Midwest M.B.T.C. will tell how they help people with addictions. We are asked to bring donations for Midwest, such as toilet paper, hand soap, dish soap, trash bags, paper towels and Kleenex. There is a box for donations in the back of the church. Please tell Carolyn Lindeman, 786-0028, if you plan to attend the gathering.

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED

Notice the poster on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall. It tells about the CWU fund raiser on Monday, September 11th from 4:30-6:00 PM at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 420 West Ave. So., La Crosse. The speaker is Carolyn Colleen Bostrack, "From Hopelessness to Hopefulness" Tickets are \$7.00 and include hors d'oeuvres. The money goes towards scholarships for non-traditional women who attend Western. CWU has been sponsoring the fund raiser for many years. You may get tickets from Helen Harold or Rita Logging.

*****DON'T FORGET: RALLY DAY IS SEPTEMBER 10th!*****

Thank You!

A **big THANK YOU** to the congregation for the donations made towards the School Supply fund. This money will be helping the children in our community. It will be available for use at the school's discretion to help needy children with supplies throughout the year. ~ Stewardship & Mission Committee

Coupon Books for Sale

The beginning of August we started selling coupon books for \$20, with a value in savings of over \$4000. These books have numerous coupons for businesses in the La Crosse area, including Winona and Viroqua. We will be selling these before and after church each Sunday through the end of September. The proceeds from these sales will go towards helping needy children in our area with school supplies.

Thank you! Stewardship & Mission Committee

VALET SERVICE



We are planning to get our valet service started September 10th. This service is being instituted to make coming to church easier for those with a need. You will be able to get your passenger or passengers out of the car and proceed directly into the building. Our valets will have bright vests on and give you a claim ticket so your car will be delivered back to you after the service. These very special folks are not trained, nor are they able to help unload your passengers, but they will gladly park your car. Your keys will be secured with a ticket matching your ticket. There may be a few bugs to be worked out so please be patient with us. The plan is to park the cars at the east end of the parking lot. Thanks in advance for your patience. The goal is to make it easier for those folks that need some additional help. Anyone interested in being a valet please contact Jane Foner at 783-4046.

ENJOY THE OUT-OF-DOORS IN OCTOBER!



A Family bike ride is being planned for October 7th, meeting at the church at 1:30 PM. We will either bike the Root River Trail or the Sparta Bike Trail. Both trails are well groomed and the Root River Trail is paved. Both routes are fairly flat and appropriate for all levels of riders. Plan for about a two hour ride with a playground stop at the halfway point. Please stay tuned for more details. See anyone on the Christian Education committee with questions.

PEACEMAKING OFFERING

One of the four special offerings that our church donates to is the Peacemaking Offering. This begins on September 3rd and runs through October 1st. This 4 week period is designed to deepen our pursuit for peace, encouragement, and inspiration. With this offering, our congregation keeps 25% of the proceeds and can donate this amount to an organization in the community. This year we have chosen the West Salem First Responders as the recipient. Please give generously. Thank you!



Confirmation Orientation will be held at 5:30 PM on Wednesday, September 6th for all 5th-8th graders and parent(s)/guardians **at First Presbyterian Church of Bangor.**

3rd Grade Bibles will be given out on Sunday, September 10th during Worship for all our 3rd Graders. Parents/Guardians will be part of this on Rally Day.

SEPTEMBER VOLUNTEERS

HEAD USHER: Shawn McAlister

FELLOWSHIP (Serve/Clean-up): Christian Education Committee

LITURGIST & GREETER

3—Nick Miller
10—Avis Evenson
17—Alanna Wuensch
24—Nancy Olson

NURSERY CARE

3—Julia Byrnes
10—Genevieve Haugen
17—Willis Jones
24—Keahna Littlejohn

GREETERS (Fellowship Hall Doors)

3—Joan Brown
10—Penny Wherry
17—Crystal Wuensch
24—Greg Olson

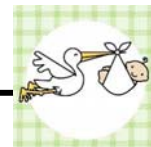
SOUND ROOM TECHNICIANS

3—Grant Bohnsack
10—Tiffani LaJeunesse
17—Kelly Crusan
24—Tiffani LaJeunesse



The sympathy of the congregation is extended to:

...Gail Griswold on the death of her son, John Griswold, who died on August 22nd.



*Congratulations to
Jake & Kelsie Miller
on the birth of
Everett Jacob
on August 17th!*

SEPTEMBER CONFIRMATION SCHEDULE

6th—5:30 Confirmation Orientation held at First Presbyterian Church of Bangor
13th—5:00 Class in West Salem
20th—5:00 Class in West Salem
27th—5:00 Community Dinner



Birthdays

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1—Benjamin Sprain | 18—Brendon Haverly/Ghelfi, Kyle Koeneke, Hayden Bonsall |
| 2—Julie Baker | 19—Braxton Ghelfi, Jacob Servais, Laurie Chambers, Charli Pfaff, Debra Allen |
| 5—Richard Calvetti | 20—Tate Pfaff |
| 6—Carol Griffin, Jennifer Logging, Maraveen Mayer | 26—Kristin Kreibich |
| 8—Ethan Crusan | 28—Greg Bergh, Verlyn Lieder |
| 9—Evan Crusan | 29—Dorothy Hicks |
| 12—Nena Reynolds | 30—Darren Dunn |
| 13—Beverly Onsrud, Casey Pfaff, Kayla Pliner | |
| 15—Cecelia Steinborn | |

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**625 West Franklin Street
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Quick Look Ahead:

- *September 2nd—Hansen's Brat Sale*
- *September 6th—Confirmation Orientation*
- *September 7th—PW Dessert Meeting*
- *September 10th—Rally Day!*
- *September 15th & 16th and 22nd & 23rd—Fall Rummage Sale*
- *September 30th—Fall Gathering*



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.