



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

January 2018

Inside this issue:

Financial Information	2
Pastor's Note	3
Movie Night	3
PW Information	4
Un-Hanging of the Greens	4
Confirmation Calendar	4
Game Day	4

2017 ANNUAL REPORT

We are again preparing to send the Annual Report via email to as many of you as possible. However, if you have not given us your email for the Lamplighter and we can send to you the Annual Report by email, please contact the church to provide that email. If you do not have email access, you can pick-up a hard copy available at church the week before the Annual Meeting, scheduled for Sunday, January 28th. If you have any questions, please call the church office at 786-0910 or email us at preschurchws@gmail.com.

ANNUAL MEETING

Each year we gather together to review where we have been as a congregation and chart our course for the new year and the future. You are encouraged to attend our annual meeting on **Sunday,**

January 28, 2018 immediately following the 10:15 AM worship service. We hope to see you there!



Making Giving to Church Easier

It is the aim of the Finance Committee and the Session to make donating to our church as easy and as convenient as possible. Everyone is now using credit cards and debit cards more frequently as well as having utility bills and other routine bills automatically deducted from a bank account. It was felt that this should be the case when giving to our church as well.

The church has contracted with Vanco to make this possible. You are now able to have money transferred from a bank account, from a credit card or from a debit card and have it sent to the church on a regular basis. The church will pay \$0.45 for each transaction from a savings or checking account. It will pay 2.75% of the amount plus \$0.45 when the money is transferred from a credit card or debit card. To use the service, you will need to advise Holly as to what amount you wish transferred, how frequently it should be done and where the money is to be transferred from. The money will then be deposited into the church's bank account and Holly will be informed that the transfer was made. The amount of the transfer can be changed at any time with a call to Holly.



It is the hope that this will make donating to the church as simple as possible.

The Finance Committee

November 2017 Financial Summary

Operating Budget

Balance November 1st	\$19,627.88
Receipts	17,118.96
Expenses	(22,398.07)

Ending Balance—November 30th \$14,348.77



PER CAPITA 2018

For 2018 the per capita is \$31.00. 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 Boy Scouts Building Usage on January 13, 2018
- Approved Pizza & Movie Night on January 19, 2018
- Approved Tub at Ft McCoy on January 27, 2018
- Approved Game Day at PCWS on February 25, 2018



Hats off to:

- our December nursery helpers: Julia Byrnes, Willis Jones, Alyssa Byrnes & Brigitta Haugen
- our December liturgists: Kevin Arndt, Sue Strauss, Charlie Evans, Nick Miller & Helen Harold
- our December acolytes: Jaycob Brown, Evan Noel, Ethan Crusan, Evan Crusan, Dane Bohnsack, Xander Wuensch, Lucy Raymer, Evelyn Raymer & Gavin Logging
- our December sound room: Tiffani LaJeunesse, Kelly Crusan, Grant Bohnsack & Genevieve Haugen



Elders

Class of 2018

Nick Miller
Kelly Crusan
Jane Foner
Barb Hopkins

Class of 2019

Shawn McAlister
Mike Siekert
Kristjan Sells
Kevin Aleckson

Class of 2020

Valerie Olson
Carolyn Lindeman
Charles Engel
Kathy Schedin

Deacons

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

Class of 2017 Kris Seeger, Jean Pearson, Diana Swim, Chris Winther and Helen Harold

A Note from Pastor Stephanie:

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven.(Ecclesiastes 3:1)

As this scripture from Ecclesiastes reminds us, we are about to begin a New Season - a new year! The New Year always brings a renewed interest in time. Many of us start the New Year reflecting on the past year and making resolutions for a better year ahead. It seems most often these resolutions revolve around diet and exercise. And as we all know, rarely are those resolutions kept - (speaking from personal experience!)

NEW YEARS RESOLUTIONS
DRINK LESS
EXERCISE
 BE MORE ORGANIZED
 Make new friends
LOSE WEIGHT
 Be More Positive
EAT HEALTHILY
 SPEND LESS MONEY

As we approach the New Year, maybe instead of looking at the surface issues of our lives, we could take more time and give more thought to reflecting on those things in our lives that really matter. (Not that diet and exercise aren't important!) It is also a time to give thanks for the many blessings of the past year, and for God's continued support through those difficult and challenging times.

The year 2017 has been a great year for our congregation! It has been a year of both healing and growth. We have supported each other during loss and difficult times. We have supported the wider church and those in need unknown to us. We have been unselfishly busy doing God's work. As we look back at the past year we have a lot for which we are thankful.

Looking ahead to the year 2018, one of those things that really matters in our lives is our church family. Rather than a New Year's resolution, I would suggest a New Year's commitment to the continuation of all that is good in our church lives and also to the many possibilities of service to others outside our community who need to experience God's grace and love through us, this family of the Presbyterian Church of West Salem.

No matter what the holiday, no matter what the time, we are called to be God's hands and God's feet in the world. May we strive to reach out to others this year as we continue to be living examples of God's love within and outside of our congregation.

As we open up our lives and hearts to the Spirit, I am positive that we will be amazed at what God has planned for us throughout the seasons of 2018! I wish all of you God's peace and blessing in the New Year!

Hugs, *Pastor Stephanie*



Movie Night Friday, January 19th

Join us for a night of movies and pizza. Pizza and soda will be served at 6:00 pm with movies starting at 6:30 pm. Baring technical difficulties, we will be showing "Wonder Woman" in the sanctuary and "Sing" in the large class room. The cost is \$5 per family to help cover the cost of the pizza. Yes, there will be popcorn!

Contact the Christian Ed committee with questions.



PW Christmas Finger Food Buffet Meeting

The annual PW Christmas Finger Food Buffet was held Thursday, December 7th in the church fellowship hall. Cheryl and Rose Lee created a festive decor and were hostesses serving coffee and punch. Twenty women enjoyed the wonderful array of appetizers and desserts.



A short business meeting was held followed by Vickie Holt leading the Installation of officers for 2018. They are: Helen Harold - Moderator, Diana Engel - vice moderator, Joyce Garves - secretary, Nelda Manter - treasurer, and Sharon Shaw - nominating.

Becca Bohnsack, Jenny Logging, and Rose Wolbrink 'starred' as the "Three Women From The East", narrated by Diana Engel. The women portrayed the wives of the three wisemen giving a little different slant on the Christmas story. Christmas carols were sung accompanied by Caroline Sells on piano. Tiffani LaJeunesse helped in the sound booth.

February will be a brunch potluck at 9 AM followed by a business meeting and a sewing project for New Horizons.

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TAKING DOWN CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS



Un-hanging of the greens: on Sunday, January 7th, we will be taking down the Christmas decorations and stowing them back in the basement right after the worship service. Please help if you can as many hands make light work.

A big THANK YOU to all for making our Holiday dinner, silent auction, and goodies evening such a huge success!

The session committees of Membership & Evangelism and Worship & Music appreciate your participation and support for this FUNdraiser. We are so appreciative of the generous donation of potatoes from Westview. Greg Meeuwesen and the Driftless River Band played great music and added to the festivities. Holly did a creative job on our silent auction slips, she even left the originals out, as well as red paper, for us when we needed to make more. Also a big thank you to Ed, Charles and Shawn for setting up tables for dinner and silent auction items. We had many great silent auction items donated. It is fun to watch some of the bidding wars! In all it was a very successful evening with a profit of \$1730! We have a wonderful and supportive church family and we are Blessed. Thanks to all!

Family Tabletop Game Day



Watch for more details coming for a game day on February 25th in the fellowship hall!

There will be many different games for adults and families. We'll also enjoy snacks while we fellowship together.



FROZEN APPLE PIES FOR SALE
- **\$8.00 EACH!** Get them before they are gone! See Diana Engel for pies.

JANUARY

CONFIRMATION SCHEDULE

- 3rd—5:30 Class in Bangor
- 10th—5:00 Class in West Salem
- 17th—5:00 Class in West Salem
- 24th—5:00 Community Dinner
- 31st—5:00 Class in West Salem

JANUARY VOLUNTEERS

HEAD USHER: Charlie Evans

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

LITURGIST & GREETER

- 7—Jane Foner
- 14—Nancy Olson
- 21—Howard Garves
- 28—Kathy Schedin

NURSERY CARE

- 7—
- 14—Anna Bohnsack
- 21—Connor Brown
- 28—Luke Noel

GREETERS (Fellowship Hall Doors)

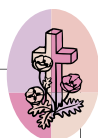
- 7—Helen Harold
- 14—Jean Pearson
- 21—Joyce Garves
- 28—Alan Schedin

SOUND ROOM TECHNICIANS

- 7—Grant Bohnsack
- 14—Tiffani LaJeunesse
- 21—Genevieve Haugen
- 28—Genevieve Haugen

ACOLYTES

- 7—Jolie Meyers & Kendall Stephenson
- 14—Gideon & Josiah Wolbrink
- 21—Ava Schuster & Evan Noel
- 28—Ethan & Evan Crusan



The sympathy of the congregation is extended to:

...Gail Griswold family on her death on November 23rd.

...Xinmin Lu family on his death December 15th.



*Congratulations to
Austin & Pauline Leigh
on the baptism of
Mariella Judith
on Sunday, December 3rd!*

JANUARY Birthdays

- 1—Fred Dodd, Larry Olson
- 2—Martha Burdick
- 3—Howard Garves, Sandra Schmidt
- 4—Rebecca Auna, Patricia Ruetten, Lucille Raymer
- 5—Leeann Krall, Kenneth Hauser, Shanna Roe
- 7—Cindy Ashland
- 8—Dave Bohnsack
- 9—Terry Miller, Ernest Tourville, Debbie Tourville
- 10—Glenda Koeneke, Rita Logging, Garrett Byrnes
- 14—Sharon Holven, Alexandra Galbraith, Emily Pickar
- 16—Rose Wolbrink, Kent Buehler
- 18—Rebecca Byrnes

- 19—Katelyn Carlson, Kaitlin Seeger, Matthew Schwier, Siekert
Maureen Longcor, Michael
- 20—Brian Lusk, Dorothy Schmaltz, Patrick Zalewski
- 21—Brian Baker, Elgin Brown
- 22—Michelle Lusk, Luke Noel
- 23—Bradley Baker, Doris Riniker
- 25—Dixie Fladhammer, Aubrynn Kreibich, Jean Pearson, Dustin Wehrs
- 26—Ethan Sells
- 27—Kevin Arndt, Nancy Olson
- 28—Doris Carlson, Ed Lusk, Alexis Shaw
- 29—Delores Torgerson
- 30—Diane Rogala, William Silbaugh
- 31—James Beebe, Diana Meeuwesen

Presbyterian Church of West Salem

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Quick Look Ahead:

- *Installation/Ordination of Elders and Deacons—Sunday, January 7th*
- *Movie Night—Friday, January 19th*
- *Annual Congregational Meeting—Sunday, January 28th*

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.