



THE LAMPLIGHTER

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

February 2019

Adult Movie Night and Discussion!

The Membership and Evangelism Committee is presenting a movie discussion.



Come join us at the church Tuesday, February 19th and Wednesday, February 20th from 6:00 to 7:30 PM. We will be watching an inspiring movie about life, love and death called "An Interview With God". This movie is about an up and coming journalist who has a "Crisis of Faith" after visiting war torn Afghanistan. He questions his faith until his life takes a strange turn when he is granted an interview with a man claiming to be God. From all reviews this movie is very inspiring and shines light on our faith.



Family Movie Night - Small Foot

Join us for movie night on Friday, February 22nd

Pizza at 6:00 PM - free will donation

Movie at 6:30 PM - free, rated PG, runs 1 hour and 36 minutes

A Yeti is convinced that the elusive creatures known as "humans" really do exist.

Congregational Ice Fishing Afternoon

On February 10th, everyone is invited to come out ice fishing on Lake Onalaska from 1:00-5:00. We will get a fire going on the ice to roast marshmallows while we try to catch some fish! If you've never been ice fishing before, this is a great chance to give it a try. Contact Brian Baker for questions or more information (608)797-6575.



PW Breakfast Meeting

Please join us for a potluck breakfast at 9 AM on Thursday, February 7th in the large Sunday school room. After a short business meeting we will tie fleece fabric blankets for New Horizons. They are very appreciative of this mission project. Hostesses are Mary Tschida and Helen Harold. The Birthday offering will also be received.



Birthday Offering

The Birthday Offering was begun in 1922 and since then grants have been given to help women and children in our country and all over the world. Recipients for 2019 will be chosen in May after the Birthday offering money has been received. Envelopes will be found on the table in the gathering area and in the chair pockets. Please give generously.

December 2018 Financial Summary

Operating Budget

| | |
|----------------------|-------------|
| Balance December 1st | \$9,643.46 |
| Receipts | 31,905.43 |
| Expenses | (19,136.87) |

Ending Balance—December 31st \$22,412.02



Prayer Chain

| | |
|-----------------|----------|
| Helen Harold | 786-0856 |
| Sharon Shaw | 786-0653 |
| Vickie Holt | 786-1659 |
| Sharon Cullmann | 797-1732 |
| Elinor Johnston | 786-2441 |
| Marilyn Bahr | 786-0315 |
| Diana Engel | 786-1560 |
| Becky Auna | 786-0097 |

HIGHLIGHTS FROM SESSION:

- Greg Meeuwsen elected as Personnel Committee member
- Approved Brat Sale dates of June 8th and September 14th
- Approved Movie Night, February 22nd, movie will be *Smallfoot*
- Approved participation in 4 Special Offering this year



Hats off to:

- our January nursery helpers: Aly Cvikota, Brigitta Haugen, Willis Jones & Tanner Jones
- our January acolytes: Lily Oldenburg, Evelyn Raymer, Dax Pfaff, Xander Wuensch, Ethan & Evan Crusan & Kendall Stephenson
- our January liturgists: Helen Harold, Tracey Rogers, Kathy Schedin & Howard Garves
- our January sound room: Genevieve Haugen, Grant Bohnsack & Kelly Crusan



Elders

Class of 2019

Shawn McAlister
Mike Siekert
Kristjan Sells
Kevin Aleckson

Class of 2020

Valerie Olson
Carolyn Lindeman
Charles Engel
Kathy Schedin

Class of 2021

Barbara Hopkins
Sherry Bonsall
Becca Bohnsack
Greg Meeuwsen

Deacons

Class of 2019 Kris Seeger, Jean Pearson, Diana Swim, Chris Winther and Helen Harold

Class of 2020 Claudia Olson, Nancy Olson, Jackie Siekert, Rita Thompson and Lill Twining

Past, Present and Future

I began this pastor's page on December 22 – it was 22 degrees. Oh, by the way I'm thinking in the future that you would be reading this either at the end of January or the beginning of February depending on when this goes out and when you have time to read it and that is why I used the word WAS in the first sentence. I remember that early December snowfall that was so wet and heavy that after a couple days became chunks of ice. At the same time, I'm thinking about the future, what Christmas WILL be like.

I'm now writing on January 2, 2019. A New Year has arrived, I can hardly believe it. I think back to when I thought the year 2000 would never arrive, with all the fuss over computers not being able to navigate the new millennium and now we are getting towards the first $\frac{1}{5}$ of the way through that "new" millennium. And I think ahead to Ground Hogs day – just a month from when I'm writing yet in just a month, we will hear we either have or do not have six more weeks of winter.

Actually, I'm doing this page in segments to make the point that the present is tied to the past and the future much more than we would like to admit. What happened in the past certainly influences what is happening in the present. Just as what is happening right now on January 2nd will be influencing what will be by the time you are reading this page.

Final segment of the pastor's page for February. It is now January 19th just after the pretty snow fall. If winter were this beautiful and this "easy" I can't believe anyone would want to be anywhere else. But as I have already stated that is because the months have not been bad, had they been bad I probably wouldn't be singing this tune.

I think of the bible as the history part of our spiritual lives, those both favorable and not so favorable people of the bible have an influence on how we live our lives for God. The hard part is bringing the past to the present in such a way that the past makes us a better person. The snow of early December, the New Years Celebrations are not past event prone to making us better people per say. But the words and actions we perform today might play a major role in the lives of another, especially a youth. Consider the present as your opportunity to make a better future for someone else. It might even make a better future for yourself.

The past is gone but it can assist us in being better people, the future is not here, nor can we bank on it coming just the way we wish. What we can bank on is that we have the present and we can choose to make it the best present ever. What do you think?

Pastor Larry

Everyone's Help Is Needed

As a part of this worshipping community a concern has come to our attention. Some congregants are afraid of being run into by children running through the church which could cause them to fall and possibly hurt themselves or the children.

In order to keep everyone safe, we all need to work together. Mom's & Dad's, we all know how challenging young children can be. Please don't be offended if someone else helps you guide your little one if there are safety concerns. All of us need to be aware of the possible safety concerns and feel comfortable gently reminding the children that the church and fellowship hall are walking zones. During the service, remind children that they need to remember to use their quiet voice or inside voice. Perhaps even ask them to whisper when the Pastor is speaking.

We all need to remember to be courteous to each other and the diverse needs that each of us have. Some of us are unsteady on our feet, some are holding babies or other very little ones, some have babies in their tummies, some are not able to hear very well, and some are just easily distracted by disturbances behind them. If everyone works together, we can keep all of us safe from harm.

Thank you for helping us to keep all of us safe! Worship & Music Committee



Teachers Needed

You may not be aware of this, but some of our Sunday school teachers have been teaching for close to 10 years. All of our teachers are volunteers and most of our teachers are parents. These volunteer teachers have done a tremendous job of sharing the bible with the children of our church, but even the best teachers need a break. We are in need of 3 or 4 people who may be interested in teaching.

We have a team teaching structure set up so that volunteers don't have to teach every Sunday. Our curriculum is kid tested and teacher approved! The Dig in curriculum has been very popular and the lessons are very easy to prepare. We have had 4 classrooms of students each Sunday broken down by age groups. If we can't find enough volunteers we will have to combine or eliminate classes.

We are also looking for a few volunteers that would be interested in watching our 3 year olds. This would involve a lot of toys and games!

We need You! Please search your heart. You might find that you are being called to share the word. Contact anyone on the Christian Ed committee if you have questions or would like to sit in on a class to see what it is all about.

Sincerely,

Becca Bohnsack

Christian Education Committee

FEBRUARY VOLUNTEERS

HEAD USHER: Nick Miller

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

LITURGIST & GREETER

- 3—Tracey Rogers
- 10—Jackie Siekert
- 17—Shayna Arndt
- 24—Barb Reynolds

NURSERY CARE

- 3—Keahna Littlejohn
- 10—Logan Oldenburg
- 17—Gavin Loging
- 24—Evan Noel

GREETERS (Fellowship Hall Doors)

- 3—Walt Willis
- 10—Mike Siekert
- 17—Kevin Arndt
- 24—Jerry & Janice Seeger

ACOYLTES

- 3—Liam Lambertson & Xander Wuensch
- 10—Cameron Lambertson & Josiah Wolbrink
- 17—Lily Oldenburg & Ayden Schuster
- 24—Bradley Baker & Jolie Meyer

SOUND ROOM TECHNICIANS

- 3—Grant Bohnsack
- 10—Tiffani LaJeunesse
- 17—Genevieve Haugen
- 24—Genevieve Haugen

FEBRUARY

CONFIRMATION SCHEDULE

4th—Bangor 8th Graders meet with Bangor Session at **6:30 PM**

6th—**5:00** Class in Bangor

13th—**5:00** Class in West Salem

18th—WS 8th Graders meet with West Salem Session at **7:00 PM**

20th—**5:00** Class in West Salem

27th—**5:00** Community Dinner

Enjoy a little laugh!

What do they call Pastors in Germany?

German Shepherds!



February 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
- 10—Valerie Olson, Erick Sells, Amy Kalember, Rylee Holven
- 12—Jeanette Kroll, Ray Ebert
- 13—Jocelyn Heller
- 14—Christine Siroin, Maddox Rogers

- 15—Brody Rogala, Anne Zalewski, Andrew Raymer
- 16—Faith Holt
- 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 LaJeunesse
- 26—JoDeen Kobishop
- 27—Nicole Griffin
- 29—Nathan Wilczynski

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Quick Look Ahead:



- **February 7th—PW Breakfast Meeting**
- **February 10th—Congregational Ice Fishing Day**
- **February 16th—Presbytery Meeting—here**
- **February 19th & 20th—Movie/Discussion**
- **February 22nd—Family Movie Night**

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.