



THE LAMPLIGHTER

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

August 2019

Attention all kids ages 4K thru 5th Grade...

We hope you can join us August 4th-7th as we take you on an exciting African Safari adventure right here at the Presbyterian Church of West Salem! VBS 2019 will kick off on Sunday, August 4th with an evening picnic followed by awesome Bible lessons, experiments, and fun music each night August 5th-7th from 5:30 PM until about 8:00 PM. Our theme will be ROAR: Life is Wild, God is Good! Stay tuned for more details as our summer adventure nears. You won't want to miss it!



FALL RUMMAGE SALE



Fall Rummage Sale is scheduled for September 13th and 14th. Hopefully you are getting donations put together to help with this major fundraiser. We will need help with set-up starting Monday, September 9th through Thursday, September 12th. Your donations, time and purchases are what make this event the BIG success that it has been. Please be sure to get all your goodies together and fill up those boxes, bins and bags for the sale and get them to the church starting September 9th. Thanks so much for all your help!

Financial Update

The Finance Committee would like to take this opportunity to inform the congregation that the church income has been dropping these past few months. The months of June, July and August are usually the lowest income months for the church and we are just starting this period. The spring rummage sale brought in \$8,227, but church donations during May were low enough so that this money did not increase our checkbook balance. If donations to the church do not improve shortly, our operating checkbook balance will be in the red.

Hopefully, this does not happen.

~ The Finance Committee

Come for lunch and a treat at Hansen's IGA on September 14th!



Building and Grounds will be having a Brat and Bake Sale on September 14th from 9AM till around 2PM. Please stop by for a quick bite to eat as you go about your busy Saturday. Let's hope for good weather and good sales!

Secretary Office Hours until August 30th:

Tuesday - 7:30-12:30
Wednesday - 7:30-12:30
Thursday - 7:30-12:30

June 2019 Financial Summary

Operating Budget

Balance June 1st	\$5,054.24
Receipts	23,865.58
Expenses	(19,535.69)

Ending Balance—June 30th \$9,384.13



Prayer Chain

Helen Harold	786-0856
Sharon Shaw	786-0653
Vickie Holt	786-1659
Sharon Cullmann	608-797-1732
Sue Strauss	786-0758
Marilyn Bahr	786-0315
Diana Engel	786-1560
Becky Auna	786-0097

Hats off to:

- our July nursery helpers: Dane Bohnsack, Jaycob Brown, Julia Byrnes & Ethan Crusan
- our July liturgists: Kevin Arndt, Laura Burdick, Charlie Evans & Jenni Loring
- our July sound room: Grant Bohnsack, Genevieve Haugen & Tiffani LaJeunesse



Special Music—August Music Needed!

Do you have a talent to share with your church family? Maybe you can sing or play an instrument or have a talent for poetry or whatever that you would be willing to share. You may not feel that you can commit to a season of choir, but have a song in your heart waiting to be heard. Do you have a child or grandchild that is taking instrumental lessons? There is no better audience to listen to them than their loving and appreciative church family. Greg will post a sign-up sheet on the kiosk in fellowship hall with the available dates, please sign up as soon as possible. If you have questions or concerns please talk to Greg Meeuwsen or Barb Hopkins. Thanks for your consideration.



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.

Sincerely, Becca Bohnsack & Christian Education Committee

The Eagle Has Landed

50 years ago, the United States landed a man on the moon. It was a different generation; color TV was one of the new high-tech items of that day. A day when there were only 3 stations, when PBS was founded with Sesame Street as one of its first "hits" and when cable TV was in its infancy stages. Vietnam War and the civil rights movement were in full swing, flower power, bell bottoms and Woodstock were the rage. But on Sunday, July 20, 1969, when Apollo 11 landed on the moon, we heard some famous words spoken by Neil Armstrong, "The Eagle has landed" AND then later, "That's one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind." (By the way Brett Favre wasn't born until October 10th that year.)

For a brief moment in time this nation was unified. Statistics indicated that 93% of the homes in the US had televisions and 95% of those televisions were turned on to watch the lunar landing. Probably nothing else has come close to matching these numbers.

Later that year, November 14th, Apollo 12 landed on the moon but there was not the same interest as with Apollo 11 and by the time Apollo 17 landed on the moon in 1972 it was as if no one cared that the United States had sent 6 successful missions to the moon. That is barring Apollo 13 which experienced mechanical failure and "limped" back to earth, and their problems caused us to tune in again.

The Christian story has not changed in those 50 years and some have become just as disinterested with the Christian message as this nation was about the later Apollo missions to the moon. Rather than remembering our God, we have turned to embracing our smart phones and our leisure time; embracing our sports teams (especially when winning) and our newest gadgets whatever they may be.

There is no way to manufacture excitement and enthusiasm for our faith, the newest music or a passing fad theology will not accomplish this. But then God was never into trying to persuade people. God only came to love people. We can accept or reject that love of God. Just as we could turn on or turn off our television to watch the lunar landing a half century ago.

God's call to us is to seek God first. To remain faithful. To love our neighbor. God's call is not necessarily to the first experience like Apollo 11 but to the subsequent landings which have become common and ordinary, which almost go unnoticed by the entire world.

Apollo 11 captured our attention because it was new, the first of a kind. God is one of a kind; God is creative, inspiring, loving, generous and forgiving. Maybe we are so used to the wonders of God that we fail to see them for what they really are, wonders. And if we see all that God continues to do, then what do you think? Should we turn on the "TV" and be a participant in the greatest event of life, the salvation of all who call upon the name of Jesus?

Come join us in worshipping this God who continues to amaze all who are willing to open their spiritual eyes and ears.

Pastor Larry

RALLY DAY WILL BE SEPTEMBER 15th

The entire congregation is invited to help Kick-off our year of education with Rally Day Festivities on Sunday, September 15th. The theme of the day will be, "WILD about Jesus" as we continue with the Roar VBS Safari idea. We will begin with Breakfast at 9 AM in the Fellowship Hall. After Breakfast we will have a "Mini-church service" followed by some exciting stations you can visit. You won't want to miss out on the start of a new year of Christian Education!



AUGUST VOLUNTEERS

HEAD USHER: Howard Garves **FELLOWSHIP (Serve/Clean-up):** Worship & Music Committee

LITURGIST & GREETER

4—Avis Evenson
11—Shayna Arndt
18—Nancy Olson
25—Becky Auna

NURSERY CARE

4—Aly Cvikota
11—Brigitta Haugen
18—Willis Jones
25—Tanner Jones

GREETERS (Fellowship Hall Doors)

4—Richard & Gwyn Calvetti
11—Nelda Manter
18—Greg Olson
25—Jane Wines

SOUND ROOM TECHNICIANS

4—Grant Bohnsack
11—Gideon & Josiah Wolbrink
18—Ethan Crusan
25—Genevieve Haugen



**Be included in the new
Presbyterian Church of West Salem
directory**

Lifetouch will photograph our families October 1-2.

[Click here to schedule your photography session](#)

Lifetouch



The sympathy of the congregation is extended to:

...Pat Meyer and family on the death of Harlan, July 15th.

...Pam Twining on the death of her aunt, Lynn Simmons, on July 23rd.

You will begin to see numerous references to a new member photo directory being created by a company called Lifetouch. The dates reserved for our photo sessions are Tuesday, October 1st, and Wednesday, October 2nd from 2:00-9:00 PM. If you wish to go online and schedule a time, the following link is up and running:

<https://booknow-lifetouch.appointment-plus.com/b0mnhpp4/>

No username or password is required to access. Families will create a unique username and password as part of the scheduling process.

Otherwise we will be signing people up on Sunday mornings beginning mid-August. If you have any questions, please contact Kathy Schedin at kathyschedin@yahoo.com or cell



BIRTHDAYS

1—Joan Gullickson, Evan Noel

2—Audrey Steinborn

4—Rose Lee

5—Justine Griffin

6—Kevin Aleckson

7—Sue Raymer, Robert Allen

8—James Schmidt, David Seeger, Sydney Fitzpatrick

10—Alanna Tweed

11—Kandi Holt

12—Laney Stephenson

14—Sharon Cullmann, Diana Swim

15—Patricia Hall, Jon Jones

17—Carissa Hass

19—Tom Bonsall, Ron Seeger

23—Ryan Beirne

24—Claudia Olson

25—Dane Bohnsack

26—Tanner Jones

27—Xander Wuensch

28—Jessica Noel

29—Kim Sweet, Alyssa Byrnes

30—Gary Willinger

31—Julia Byrnes

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Quick Look Ahead:



- Sunday, August 4th—Vacation Bible School Kick-off Picnic at 5:00
- August 5th-7th—Vacation Bible School from 5:30-8:00 PM
- Wednesday, September 4th—Confirmation Orientation for 6th-8th Grade
- Thursday, September 5th—PW Fall Meeting at 7:30 PM
- Fall Rummage Sale—Friday, September 13th and Saturday, September 14th

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.