



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
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Pastor Larry Olson &
Pastor Stephanie Steiner

December 2019

There will be a Special Congregational meeting, Sunday, December 1st after Worship
Congregational meeting to act on Nominating Committee report
and issues concerning dissolution of relationship.

HANGING OF THE GREENS



Many hands make light work. So please join in the hanging of the greens on Sunday, December 1st after Special Congregational Meeting! Please help make our church glow with Christmas spirit by putting up our beautiful decorations.

Calling All Ringers!



We would like to get the hand bell choir going again this year, and Rachel Handrick is eager to lead it. It is open to kids 6th grade and up and all adults. If you are interested, please let Rachel know, or any Music and Worship Committee member.

Annual Holiday Dinner and Silent Auction

Mark your calendars for December 7th at 5:00 PM for the Annual Holiday Dinner & Silent Auction with live music. Silent Auction items are needed and can be dropped off anytime. Any questions see any member of the Membership & Evangelism and Music & Worship Committees. Thank you! (Details of Dinner are on page 5.)

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Join us on Sunday, December 15th during worship as our youth present our 2019 Christmas Pageant! This year's pageant will allow you to be the audience at a Science presentation discussing the "Stories of the Savior: Christmas." You will hear the creation story all the way through the birth of Jesus. It is sure to be a pageant you won't want to miss as we welcome the Christ Child into our hearts once again!



Celebrate the Season—Cherish the Traditions!

*~Have a happy holiday season! From The Presbyterian Church staff~
Pastor Stephanie, Pastor Larry, Kolly, Ed, Laura, Julie and Rachel*

October 2019 Financial Summary

Operating Budget

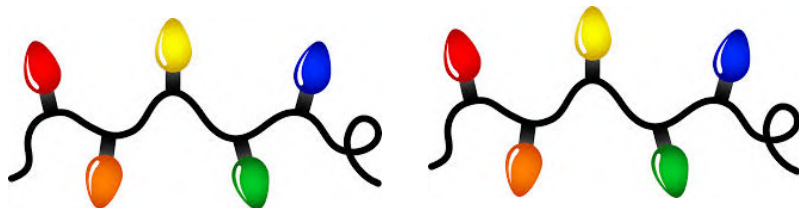
Balance October 1st	\$8,104.47
Receipts	15,389.94
Expenses	(24,570.23)



Ending Balance—October 31st (\$1,075.82)

HIGHLIGHTS FROM SESSION:

- Special Congregational Meeting will be Sunday, December 1st
- There will be a joint Worship with Bangor on Sunday, December 22nd
- Approved New Members for New Member Sunday, November 24th



Hats off to:

- our November nursery helpers: Ethan Crusan, Brigitta Haugen, Willis Jones & Junior Schmidt
- our November liturgists: Avis Evenson, Shayna Arndt, Martha Burdick & Jenni Loding
- our November sound room: Grant Bohnsack, Ethan Crusan, Gideon & Josiah Wolbrink, Anna Bohnsack & Genevieve Haugen
- our November acolytes: Xander Wuensch, Josiah Wolbrink, Bradley Baker, Evan Crusan, Emmitt Lambertson, Lily Oldenburg & Evelyn Raymer



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
Rose Cooper	608-369-3848

***Reports from Committees

for the Annual Report are
due in the office by

Sunday, December 15th.

***The Annual Meeting will be

Sunday, January 26, 2020.

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 Meeuwesen

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

What Does Christmas Mean to You?

In today's Christmas message, "the message of what humanity has to sell takes precedence over the proclamation of what God has to give." Handel H. Brown

I recently heard that retailers are concerned, because of the late Thanksgiving there are fewer days between the holidays for people to shop. Concern about loss of income because people don't have enough time to buy. That message begs us to answer the question, what does Christmas mean to me?

Christmas is about God, who came to live with human beings. Emmanuel – God with us. Therefore, all our family gatherings, all our various parties should be celebrating God coming to be with us. We gather because these family members and friends, are important to us. But in reality, we are only doing what God has first done with us, come to be with us. Therefore, as you celebrate this season, celebrate the togetherness God has taught us by sending the Son.

Christmas is God gave us a Savior. C.S. Lewis has said, "The Son of God came to humanity to enable humans to become the children of God." May all our Christmas celebrations, celebrate the opportunity for humanity to be the children of God.

As you plan for Christmas reflect on the 'Christmas gift suggestions' of author Oren Arnold;

"To your enemy, forgiveness.

To you opponent, tolerance.

To a friend, your heart.

To a customer, service.

To all, charity.

To every child, a good example.

To yourself, respect."

On behalf of the pastors and the staff of the Presbyterian Church of West Salem, we are thankful for all of you. We wish you a Christ filled season and may the joy of Emmanuel, God with us, follow you all your days.

Pastor Larry

NOTE TO ALL:

The December

**Community Dinner
will be**

**Wednesday, December 18th!
Please mark your calendars!**

December Special Services

Youth Christmas Pageant—

During Worship December 15th

Christmas Eve Worship Services:

5:00 PM— at both West Salem and Bangor





PW ADVENT EVENT

Please join us on Thursday, December 5th to celebrate the beginning of Advent. At 6 PM we will enjoy a potluck finger food buffet along with coffee and punch. We will receive the Hunger offering. Following a short business meeting and installation of officers we will move to the sanctuary where the program: "I Knew You Would Come", will be acted out by Rose Wolbrink and her two sons. Hostesses are Vicki and Kandi Holt. Please join us to give yourself a head start on a beautiful Christmas season.

PW Fall Festival Update

We had another successful Fall Festival thanks to all who baked cookies, donated raffle items, provided food for the breakfast, made craft items, and also worked. Special thanks go to: Sue Strauss for taking charge of the raffle; Helen Harold for making the cinnamon rolls; Becky Auna, Kathy Schedin, and Elinor Johnston for making most of the craft items; and to David Miller for donating the squash and pumpkins. Our profit is \$497.50 from the breakfast, \$537 from the raffle, \$766 from the cookies, and \$810.00 from the crafts/squash, which is a total of \$2610.50. We did it - we set a new record for the Fall Festival! This could not be possible without cooperation from everyone. So, thank you, thank you, thank you!! The winners of the raffle were: Rita Thompson—\$50.00; Kandi Holt—Le Coulee Cheese Gift Certificate; Alice Sprain—Chair; Jackie Siekert—Carved Duck; Fran Leicht—Pillowcases; John Schmidt—Carved Figure; Mike Siekert—Baby Sweater; Michael Servais—Cross Stitch Picture; and Peggy Green—Flowers.

+++++

We are the Church Together

The Christmas Joy Offering 2019, our last special offering this year, will be collected during December. The advent season is a time for thinking of others and giving gifts so please consider contributing to our church workers. The funds collected are used to support past, present and future leaders through educational support and financial assistance.

Thanks to all who have generously given this year to Presbyterian Mission.

Coulee Region Hunger Walk Run

The Walk took in \$14,641 with \$5,329.25 going to each WAFER and Hunger Task Force. Of the 39 others, the Community Care and Share Food Pantry received the most which was \$384.00. In addition, members of our church family gave \$650 specifically to our food pantry. Thanks to all who gave for hunger.

DECEMBER

Sunday School Information

- * No Sunday School on 12/1 (Thanksgiving weekend)
- * Christmas Pageant practice on Saturday 12/14 at 4:00 pm with pizza after
- * No Sunday School on 12/22 or 12/29

DECEMBER CONFIRMATION SCHEDULE

- 4th, 11th—5:00 Class
- 18th—5:00 Community Dinner
- Christmas Eve Worship

Holiday Dinner, Silent Auction & Craft Sale

Saturday, December 7, 2019

Presbyterian Church of West Salem
625 West Franklin St., West Salem, WI

Dinner – 5:00 to 6:30 pm

Silent Auction – 5:00 to 6:15 pm

Crafts & Goodies for sale throughout the evening

The whole community is invited to this fun holiday event! Come join us for dinner, silent auction, and a craft & goodies sale. **Live music provided by the Driftless River Band.** There is even a space to dance!!

Dinner

\$8.00 for Adults

\$4.00 for children ages 3-11

Free for children 2 years & under

Menu

Taco Bar with all of the fixings including, but not limited to, sour cream, chips, salsa, refried beans, cheese, and much, much more, dessert, and a beverage.

For more information & to purchase tickets contact:
Presbyterian Church of West Salem 608-786-0910



Our Savior's Lutheran Church

359 North Leonard Street
West Salem, WI 54669
608-786-0030



Jonathan M. Schmidt, Pastor
Jean R. Schmidt, Pastor
E-Mail: office@oursaviorswestsalem.org
Web Site: oursaviorswestsalem.org

September 16, 2019

Presbyterian Stewardship and Mission Committee
P.O. Box 861
West Salem WI 54669

This is where we
sent the 40% of
Pentecost offering
Kept locally.

Dear Friends at West Salem Presbyterian Church,

Greetings! As the summer is winding down, we offer to you our very sincere thanks for your support of "Feed Our Children – West Salem." In our sixth year, this ministry provided over three thousand meals to children in West Salem during the summer months. While some perhaps did not need a free meal, a lot of them did, and for them this ministry made a huge difference.

At Our Savior's we are very aware that this is a community venture, and that it takes the support of the whole community to make it happen. Your contribution was especially significant, and we are grateful for your partnership as we seek – together – to meet the needs of children in West Salem.

We look forward to working together next summer in feeding our children. We hope you will join with us again. Regardless, we are deeply appreciative of your support of the ministry that has already taken place.

So, **thank you!** We are grateful to you for your support of this outreach, and we offer you our thanks for your partnership with us. **We simply cannot do this without you!** May God bless you and all the faithful at the West Salem Presbyterian Church as you continue to serve our community.

In Christ,

Jonathan M. Schmidt
Pastor

Angie Hemker
Director, Feed Our Children



Columbarium Update

What is it?

The columbarium is for the inurnment of the cremated remains of a person.

Where is it?

The columbarium was delivered and set on a re-enforced concrete pad this Fall near the Church garden on the East side of the building. Landscaping work has started and will finish in Spring with patio area, bench and sidewalk access.

When can people reserve niches?

The Buildings & Grounds Committee is registering the columbarium with the State of Wisconsin in preparations for making niches/spaces available. Stay tuned for more information soon about when reservations will be accepted.

There are 48 niches, 24 on each side. If desired, each niche can accommodate two urns. The cost is \$860 per niche which includes engraving of the person's name and dates.

DECEMBER VOLUNTEERS

HEAD USHER: Kevin Aleckson

FELLOWSHIP (Serve/Clean-up): Building & Grounds Committee

LITURGIST & GREETER

1—Charlie Evans

8—Nancy Olson

15—Jane Foner

22—Barbara Hopkins

24—Laura Burdick

29—Nick Miller

NURSERY CARE

1—Jolie Meyers

8—Keahna Littlejohn

15—Logan Oldenburg

22—Gavin Logging

29—Evan Noel

GREETERS (Fellowship Hall Doors)

1—Susan Evans

8—Greg Olson

15—David & Jessica Noel

22—David & Karen Wolf

24—Martha Burdick

29—Lill Twining

ACOLYTES

1—Dax Pfaff & Brynn Logging

8—Elsa & Josiah Wolbrink

15—Xander Wuensch & Bradley Baker

22—Evan Crusan & Liam Lambertson

29—Cameron Lambertson & Brynn Logging

SOUND ROOM TECHNICIANS

1—Grant Bohnsack

8—Genevieve Haugen

15—Ethan Crusan

22—Anna Bohnsack

24—Genevieve Haugen (Christmas Eve Worship at 5:00 PM)

29—Gideon & Josiah Wolbrink

The sympathy of the congregation is extended to:

...Bob & Lois Elliott on the death of their daughter, Arlene, on November 1st.

...Mike Siekert and family on the death of his father, Irvin, on November 17th.



DECEMBER

BIRTHDAYS

1—Shellee Dunn

2—Tomi Carlson, Barb Reynolds

5—Vickie Holt

8—Josiah Wolbrink

10—Kennedy Wolf

11—Kristine Buehler

14—Deacon Meyers, Ryan Pfaff

15—Grace Griffin

17—Kevin Lee

18—Charlene Haverly

19—Dana Hass

23—Lindsay Eggen

27—Shayna Arndt, Alexander Carlson, Melissa Wolf, Henry Nickerson, William Heeter

28—Ellanore Zellmer



Presbyterian Church of West Salem

**625 West Franklin Street
PO Box 861
West Salem Wisconsin 54669**

Quick Look Ahead:



- Special Congregational Meeting—December 1st following Worship
- Hanging of the Greens—December 1st
- Dinner/Entertainment/Silent Auction December 7th at 5:00 PM
- PW Finger Food Buffet—Thursday, December 5th at 6:00 PM
- Sunday School Christmas Pageant—Sunday, December 15th

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.