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THE LAMPLIGHTER

Presbyterian Church of West Salem 625 W. Franklin St., P. O. Box 861 West Salem, WI 54669 Telephone : 608-786-0910 Email: preschurchws@gmail.com www.presbyterianchurchwestsalem.com

September 2021

Updated protocols for Covid-19.

Session has considered the May 13 guidance from the CDC on the wearing of masks by vaccinated individuals. The CDC does leave it up local jurisdictions, businesses, and venues to set their own rules for Covid protections.

The following guidelines will be followed to ensure a safe experience for In-person Worship:

- Due to the rise in Covid cases, masks will be required during services regardless of vaccination status.
- Seating has returned to normal (pre-Covid) capacity.
- There will be live song leaders and special music. Worshipers are welcome to sing along.
- For the children's message, kids are invited to come up front. There will be marks on the floor for them to sit on to maintain social distance.
- Offerings will again be collected by the ushers.
- There will be no nursery provided.



Look for Sunday School and Youth Group updates to come soon! If you are interested helping with Sunday School, please reach out to Becca Bohnsack <u>rjbohnsack@gmail.com</u> or Sara Oldenburg <u>sara.odnbg@gmail.com</u>. Fully prepared lessons can be provided. A fun and engaging "DigIn" Curriculum is the source for the lesson plans.

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Hello, Hello, PCOWS!

We are living at an interesting intersection in the life of the Church. The Pandemic has been horrible, and it isn't over yet, as rising Delta variant cases mean that the Session has had to reverse some decisions in order to keep those of us who can't be vaccinated yet safe.

But it has also been an opportunity. We watched as Churches enhanced their online capacity, and found (to some of our surprise) that there was interest. And suddenly, the old lines that decided who attended what church didn't matter as much anymore. At Rose's (my wife) church, folks who had retired and left for Florida years before were suddenly able to attend worship at their preferred home church, despite the distance. Folks unable to leave their homes suddenly had as much access as everyone else.

I don't think I can overstate how important that realization was.

Now I don't want you to think that we will be neglecting In-person worship. As conditions allow, we will continue to seek to worship God together to the very best of our ability, and based on early returns with our worship leaders, the best of our ability will be REALLY good.

But we also will be looking to improve how we reach out to those who cannot get to our building on a Sunday Morning, whether due to distance, schedule, health, or world events, and find ways for them to not just observe, but to be a part of our congregation as fully as we can make it happen.

We don't have the answers yet. And we have a lot of other duties as well, caring for our members, our community, being a beacon of light in a dark world, sharing love with those who need it. But I am looking forward to finding those answers with you, even as I get to know you and serve you as Pastor in the more traditional ways we understand.

God's work continues, even in difficult times. And as the Bible makes clear, when God wants God's people to move forward, the means of moving us aren't always gentle.

So let's get to work!

Pastor Dan

<u>Prayer Chain</u>	
Helen Harold	786-0856
Sharon Shaw	786-0653
Vickie Holt	786-1659
Sharon Cullmann	608-797-1732
Marilyn Bahr	786-0315
Diana Engel	786-1560
Becky Auna	786-0097
Rose Cooper	608-369-3848



Highlights from Session Meeting

- Due to poor attendance, preservice fellowship has been discontinued.
- Masks will again be required during service until the Covid infection rate is below 8 cases per 100,000 residents in La Crosse County.
- Communion will be observed the first Sunday of each month. The intinction method will be used.

September Birthdays

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<u>September 1</u> Benjamin Sprain

September 2

Julie Baker

<u>September 5</u>

Richard Calvetti

<u>September 6</u> Carol Griffin Jennifer Loging Maraveen Mayer Vivica Wolf

<u>September 8</u> Ethan Crusan

<u>September 9</u> Evan Crusan <u>September 11</u> Landon Pliner

September 13 Kayla Pliner Casey Pfaff

September 15 Cecelia Steinborn

<u>September 18</u> Kyle Koeneke Brendon Haverly/Ghelfi

September 19 Braxton Ghelfi Jacob Servias Laurie Chambers Charli Pfaff Debra Allen

<u>September 20</u> Tate Pfaff

September 26 Kristin Kreibich

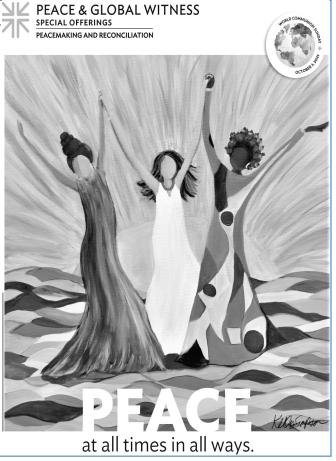
September 28 Greg Bergh Alisa Sarver

September 30 Darren Dunn



For many years, our congregation has supported the Peace & Global Witness Offering. It is one of our four special offerings collected throughout the year. The Peace and Global Witness Offering will be collected starting September 5 thru October 3rd (World Communion Sunday). This offering encourages the church to cast off anxiety and fear, discord and division, and embrace our God's mission of reconciliation to those around the corner and around the world. Our congregation gets to retain 25% of this offering to be used for Peacemaking opportunities in our own community. Please be in prayer about this offering and consider a gift to this worthwhile cause.

Thank you from the Stewardship & Mission Committee!





We are looking ahead to having our Fall Festival once again which means we are looking for items for our raffle. Please call Lois Sanwick(788-5443) or Helen Harold(786-0856) if you would like to donate a craft item, homemade candy, or something else. Sue would be happy that we are still having the raffle even though she cannot be here.

Fall Stewardship Campaign



With autumn soon upon us, it is once again time to begin our fall stewardship campaign. This year our theme is "The Secret of our Strength." Watch your mail for this year's letter and pledge card and be in prayer about your giving for 2022. The return of your pledge cards gives the Finance Committee a direction for the upcoming year when planning our budget. Through our giving of our time, talents, and financial gifts, we continue to be a light of Christ in our church, our community, and the world.



We are having our regular Fall Rummage Sale on September 17th from 7 AM to 7 PM and on September 18th from 7:30 AM to 3 PM. This sale will include lots of Fall and Winter items. We have:

- * Coats & sweaters
- Boots
- * Winter hats & mittens

- * Fall/Winter Holiday Decorations
- Hunting clothes
- Multiple heaters

We will have lots of regular rummage as well.

Please plan on helping set up starting the week of September 5th. Please call Diana Engel at 608-386-0860 or Jean Pearson at 608-786-3344 to set up a time to work. We will also need lots of help on September 18th after 3 PM to clean up after the sale.

We will be accepting clean, usable items for the sale starting on September 13th.



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HATS OFF TO:

All those who have helped with the Live Stream Worship Services in August Greg Meeuwsen, Barbara Hopkins, Julie Baker, Sara Oldenburg, Ethan Crusan, Isaku Saito, Anna Bohnsack, Helen Harold, and Pastor Linda.



		Je Je	tember 2021	021		
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 7:00 AA & Al-Anon	0	ſ	4
5 10:15 Worship- communion	6 1pm Tabitha Circle	7	8 7:00 AA & Al-Anon	6	10	11 IGA Brat Sale
12 10:15 Worship	13 Committee Meetings	14 9am Quilt Group	15 12:00-4:00 WIC 7:00 AA & Al-Anon	16	17 7AM Rummage Sale	18 7AM Rummage Sale
19 10:15 Worship	20 Ipm Tabitha Circle 7:00 Session Meeting	21	22 5:00 Community Dinner 7:00 AA & Al-Anon	23	24	25
26 10:15 Worship	27	28 9am Quilt Group	29 7:00 AA & Al-Anon	30		

Elders

Class of 2021

Barbara Hopkins Sherry Bonsall **Becca Bohnsack** Greg Meeuwsen

Class of 2022

Anna Bohnsack—Youth Shayna Arndt **Kristjan Sells** Nancy Olson Mike Siekert

Class of 2023

Sara Oldenburg Nick Miller **Charles Engel Richard** Calvetti

Deacons

Class of 2021

Norm Sanwick Lois Sanwick Helen Harold Diana Swim **Rose Wolbrink**

Class of 2022

Becky Auna Vickie Holt Janice Seeger Jackie Siekert Mary Tschida

Community Dinner 2021

For the Community Dinners people will drive up to the church under the canopy and remain in their cars. They will be asked how many dinners they would like: the Community Dinner workers will bring them out and put them in their car.

The next drive through Community Dinner - Wednesday, August 25th 5-6 PM.

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Per Capita is an obligation for each member of the Presbyterian Church. The Per Capita is \$33.70 for 2021.

Tithes and Offerings can be mailed to:

> **Presbyterian Church PO Box 861** West Salem, WI 54669

Please do not use the church street address. Presbyterian Church of West Salem

625 West Franklin Street PO Box 861 West Salem Wisconsin 54669

Read all about it:

- Drive-thru Community Dinner Wednesday, Sept, 22 at 5:00 PM
- Mark Your Calendars: Fall rummage Sale Sept. 17-18

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 <u>by the 15th day of each month.</u>

Please inform the church office of any change in your address.