



THE LAMPLIGHTER

Presbyterian Church of West Salem

February 2024

Trusting in the saving grace of Jesus Christ and guided by the Presbyterian tradition, the vision of the Presbyterian Church of West Salem is to provide a friendly and open environment that encourages spiritual growth for people of all ages.

From the Pastor's Desk....

If there is one word that I think can define how this last year went, it is music. In fact, I think it is bigger than that, so let me put it this way:

MUSIC!

The return of the choir and bell choir, along with the continued contribution of our many other talented musicians, defined the year of worship in the Presbyterian Church of West Salem. Back over summertime, a survey was released asking what people were looking for in worship. There were a number of ideas, but the only consistent one was: We want more music.

Shortly thereafter, Vicki Arndt came back on as Choir Director, and the difference could be seen almost immediately, not only in the liveliness of our worship services, but in our attendance. It seemed like everyone had more energy, and it showed in other facets of our worship life as well, and even drove strong participation and attendance in ecumenical services with Our Savior's Lutheran and St. Theresa's Catholic Churches.

I want you to know... I've heard the message and look forward to an even greater variety of music in 2024, as well as opportunities for musicians who are not yet a part of our regular worshiping life.

Other aspects of life in the church have seen some change. We had the last of our rummage sales, the end of an institution that started to help finance an associate pastor position and became a regular part of the budget, run by a hard-working team of volunteers. The absence of rummage sale money from the budget will be a change, but I also want to point out something important as we look at it.

Change is good, change is normal, change is a sign of life. Ministries come and go. What we can't do is allow fear of the future to push us to cut back on ministry. The rummage sale ended because the team that ran it was tired, and there was no one to take their place, but new opportunities will arrive, and it's up to us to step forward and take them, and to continue to use the money we have to drive new opportunities.

At the end of 2023, we had three separate giving initiatives going, and we rose to those initiatives with flying colors. So, as you read this report, and look at the budget, I don't want you to see reduction, or retraction. I want you to see a church of great generosity, and great resources, from money, to physical plant, to our super-talented people.

Let us take that mindset of optimism and generosity going forward, so that we will always look forward... not back.

Pastor Dan



CHRISTIAN
EDUCATION

SUNDAY SCHOOL

9:00 am – Grades 2-5, Youth Group

During Church – Grades K-2nd

Kids will be dismissed to Sunday School following the Children's Message

Families with 2nd graders can decide if their child is ready for the older group and enjoys listening to the sermon and participating in the rest of the church service or if going with the younger group during the service is a better fit.

Nursery

*Available for 4K and under only
No staffing available*



Adult Bible Study

Sundays from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m.
in the Fellowship Hall

We will focus on the lectionary scripture presented that Sunday.

Bring your Bible or use one from the church.



Handbell Ringers Practice
Thursdays at 6:30 pm

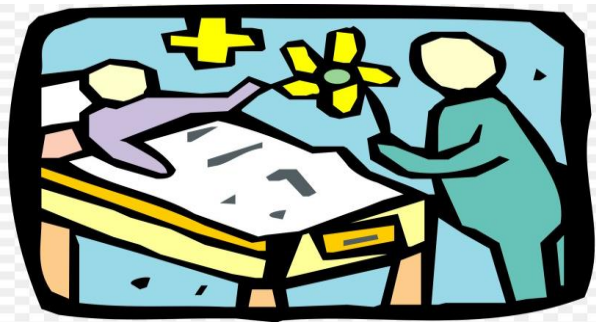


February 14th
6:30 pm



Thursday Evenings
at 7:45 pm





Hospital Visits 2024

For many years, the Deacons of the church have been contacting Gundersen Pastoral Services weekly for the names of our parishioners that have been hospitalized. The intention of these calls was to provide Pastor Dan the information in order for him to provide a visit to the hospitalized individual.

New in 2024, Deacons will no longer be making these calls to the hospital. Instead, we ask that anyone planning a hospital stay or friends/family of anyone unexpectedly hospitalized, please contact one of the Deacons to arrange for prayer, support, and/or a visit from Pastor Dan.

Deacons List:

- Becky Auna: 608-786-0097
- Carol Griffin: 608-786-3236 (Home)
608-780-6763 (Cell)
- Helen Harold: 608-786-0856
- Vickie Holt: 608-786-1659
- Jenni Logging: 608-769-1883 (Cell)
- Kris Seeger: 608-786-2695 (Home)
608-461-1599 (Cell)
- Jackie Siekert: 608-451-0058
- Diana Swim: 608-386-9606
- Karen Quackenbush: 786-0992 (Home)

Presbyterian Church Community Dinner



**Wednesday, February 28th
5:00 to 6:00 p.m.
In-House**



**Communion Sunday
February 4th**



For over 70 years, One Great Hour of Sharing has provided Presbyterians a way to share God's love with our neighbors in need around the world.

The three programs supported by One Great Hour of Sharing - Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People - all work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need.

From initial disaster response to ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance, and hope.

As we move through this Lenten season, we hope you would consider a gift to this worthwhile offering with worldwide impact.

We will be collecting gifts until Easter Sunday.

Thank you for your continued support of this life changing Presbyterian special offering.

The Stewardship & Mission Committee

Prayer Chain:

Becky Auna	608.786.0097
Marilyn Bahr	608.786.0315
Rose Cooper	608.369.3848
Sharon Cullmann	608.797.1732
Diana Engel	608.786.1560
Helen Harold	608.786.0856
Vickie Holt	608.786.1659
Sharon Shaw	608.786.0653



*Fellowship time
in the Fellowship Hall
9:30am – 10:00am*



Tabitha Circle

Bring your crafts and join us!
The first and third Monday
of each month from 11:30-2:30 pm.
Bring a sack lunch and
take a break to eat together



Exercise Group
Tuesdays and Fridays
9-10 AM
Fellowship Hall

**Tithes and Offerings
can be mailed to:**

Presbyterian Church of West Salem
PO Box 861
West Salem, WI 54661



Birthdays to Celebrate in February 2024

Charlotte Steinborn	February 02
Ted Yankee	February 02
Mason Gress	February 03
Jacob Cvikota	February 05
Kathy Schedin	February 05
Jim Cullmann	February 08
Kelly Lusk	February 08
Genevieve Sprain	February 08
Amy Kalember	February 10
Valerie Olson	February 10
Ray Ebert	February 12
Jocelyn Heller	February 13
Maddox Rogers	February 14
Christine Siroin	February 14
Andy Raymer	February 15
Anne Zalewski	February 15
Faith Holt	February 16
Dave Miller	February 19
Laura Burdick	February 20
Teresa DeLong	February 20
Kris Schwier	February 20
Janna Seeger	February 20
Kathy Brummond	February 23
Kayleighanna Wrencher	February 24
Tiffani LaJeunesse	February 25
Mary Winther	February 25
JoDeen Kobishop	February 26
Nicole Griffin	February 27

February 2024 Worship Teams

Liturgists

February 4 th	Chris Winther
February 11 th	Shayna Arndt
February 14 th	
February 18 th	Caroline Sells
February 25 th	Josiah Wolbrink
February 28 th	

Sound Room

Elsa Wolbrink
Kelly Crusan
Gideon Wolbrink
Dane Bohnsack
Kelly Crusan
Evan Crusan

Music:	Julie Baker, Greg Meeuwsen, Lisa Jones, Vicki Arndt
Head Usher:	
Communion:	Becca Bohnsack, Kelly Crusan, Becky Auna, Sherry Bonsall, Greg Meeuwsen, Kris Seeger

Per Capita

Per Capita is an obligation for each member of the Presbyterian Church.

The Per Capita is \$36.30 per member for 2023

ELDERS

<i>Class of 2024</i>	Becca Bohnsack Sherry Bonsall	Kelly Crusan Greg Meeuwsen
<i>Class of 2024 Youth Elder</i>	Gideon Wolbrink	
<i>Class of 2025</i>	Mike Siekert Shawn McAlister	Shayna Arndt Pamela Twining
<i>Class of 2026</i>	Chris Winthers Charles Engels	Jenni Loging Nick Miller

DEACONS

<i>Class of 2024</i>	Becky Auna Karen Quackenbush	Vickie Holt
<i>Class of 2025</i>	Helen Harold Kris Seeger Diana Engel	Diana Swim



**February 11th
After Worship Service**

Calling all Soup and Bread Lovers!

***This Lent we are continuing our Lenten Soup Series,
and we need Soup Volunteers!***

***If you can bring a Pot of Soup or bread for
one of our Wednesday Night Soup Suppers,
please sign up at the back of the church,
or contact the church office. Thanks!***



Would you like a visit from the Pastor?

You are important to the Presbyterian Church of West Salem. Please contact the church office if you would like a pastoral visit or to set up an appointment with the pastor. Call 608-786-0910 or preschurchws@gmail.com



Giving Tree/December Mission Projects

The Stewardship & Mission Committee would like to offer our thanks to all of you for your many donations and gifts to our church mission projects during the Advent season.

From providing gifts to 18 residents at Mulder's, to filling bags with supplies and care items for the homeless, to giving to the Christmas Joy Offering, and finally to giving gifts for the Presbyterian Giving Tree, your selfless spirit was shining bright! Our church shared the light of Christ with our local community and the greater world!

Thank you all!



February 21st – March 20th
Wednesdays
5pm - 6pm

Mid-Week Lenten Services

February 21st – March 20th

Wednesdays

6:30 pm



Please submit newsletter information
to the office by the 15th of each month:
preschurchws@gmail.com

Stay Connected!

Visit our website: www.presbyterianchurchwestsalem.com



625 W Franklin Street • West Salem, WI • 54669 • 608.786.0910

Sunday School 9:00 am • Adult Bible Study 9-10 am - Sunday Worship 10:15 am

OFFICE HOURS

Pastor Dan McCurdy • Monday through Thursday 8:45 am. - 2:00 pm.

DanielSMcCurdy@gmail.com • 330.465.4794

Church Office • Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday from 8:30 am. – 1:30 pm.
preschurchws@gmail.com