



THE LAMPLIGHTER

Presbyterian Church of West Salem

December 2025

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....

Happy New Year!

No, I didn't send this out a month early. With Advent begins the new Christian Liturgical Calendar, our New Year.

No, I'm not going to quiz you on this. (Unless Lily asks for trivia questions again next Lent... hmmm...)

But it is worth remembering. We finish the old liturgical year with Christ the King Sunday and then begins anew with Advent, taking us from Celebrating the ultimate victory of Christ over Sin and then taking us back into the time when we call out to God, asking that a Savior be sent for us.

It's a pretty cool time. A time for recalibration, a time to hang decorations, a time to put up candles and remember what it is we do here as a congregation. And so, I say, yet again...

Happy New Year!

Pastor Dan





CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Classes start at 9 am

**Sunday School
Sunday Bible Study
Confirmation Classes**

**Youth Group (Jr. High through High Schoolers)
After church
Every other Sunday**

Nursery

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



**Presbyterian Church
Community Dinner**



**Wednesday
December 17th
5:00 to 6:00 p.m.**

West Salem Food Pantry Needs

Donating to the West Salem food pantry can make a world of difference. Many families are facing difficult circumstances, whether due to economic strain, job loss, or unforeseen emergencies. By contributing non-perishable food items, or financial donations, you can help ensure that your neighbors have access to the nourishment they need to get through these uncertain times. Your generosity provides not just food, but hope. We are all connected and together, we can make a difference. **At this time the food pantry needs donations of canned meat like spam and chicken, as well as canned soups, other than tomato and chicken noodle. Please place your donations in the shopping carts in the entry ways of the church.**



**December 2nd
11:30 – 4:30 pm
Fellowship Hall**

**Christmas Pageant
Sunday, December 21st
During Worship Service**





Hospital Visits 2025

If you have anyone in the hospital who would like a pastoral visit, please call a deacon listed below and they will contact Pastor Dan with your request. This includes yourself, family or friends.

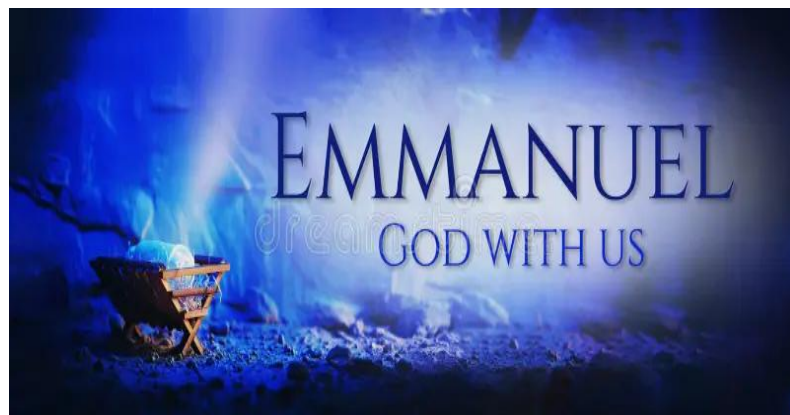
Deacons List:

Diana Engel: 608-786-1560
 Helen Harold: 608-786-0856
 Sara Oldenburg: 608-304-9926
 Valerie Olson: 608-786-1834
 Lois Sanwick: 608-788-5443
 Kris Seeger: 608-786-2696 (Home)
 608-461-1599 (Cell)
 Diana Swim: 608-386-9606
 Karen Quackenbush: 608-786-0992
 (Home)

Communion Sunday December 7th



*Fellowship Time
in the Fellowship Hall
9:15 – 9:45 am*



The ongoing mission of **The Presbyterian Women** is to support the Salvation Army and WINN (What I Need Now) by collecting needed items. This list will be updated as their needs change.

Thank you in advance for your support.

Salvation Army and WINN Needs

FALL AND WINTER NEEDS 2025

WINN – Updated list November 2025

Very warm men's winter gloves

> Long underwear sets:

small, medium, large and 2x

> Hand warmers

> \$10 Gift Cards for: Subway, Kwik Trip and McDonalds

Salvation Army - Bath towels, shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, Sheets, pillowcases, blankets, Sweatpants - men's & women's

All items can be placed in the purple tote at the back of the sanctuary, and we will get the items to the correct organization.

Holiday Market

Saturday, December 6, 9am-1pm

Cookie Walk – \$6/lb

Craft Fair – Outside Vendors and Congregation Crafters

Baked Breakfast Buffet – \$5.00/person, 5 and under free

Congregation: Sign-up sheet in back of Sanctuary for items needed and help. Please bring 4-5 dozen cookies per family for the cookie walk. Other baked goods accepted as well. All craft donations welcome. Bring cookies and crafts to the church by 7:30am on Saturday, December 6th.

The church will be open for donations until 7pm on Friday, December 5th. Contact the PW board with questions.

Becca Bohnsack 608-738-2975, Becky Auna 608 786 0097, Sharon Cullmann 608-797-1732, Jenni Loging 608-769-1883 or Val Olson 608-397-1568

Prayer Chain:

Becky Auna	608.786.0097
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



Tabitha Circle

11:30-2:30

Bring a lunch



Birthdays to Celebrate in December 2025

Shellee Dunn	December 01
Tomi Carlson	December 02
Barb Reynolds	December 02
Vickie Holt	December 05
Josiah Wolbrink	December 08
Kennedy Wolf	December 10
Deacon Meyers	December 14
Ryan Pfaff	December 14
Grace Griffin	December 15
Kevin Lee	December 17
Dana Hass	December 19
Shayna Arndt	December 27
Melissa Wolf	December 27



10 AM

Interested in joining our church?

Pastor Dan will be leading a New Membership class
on Sunday January 11th & 18th
at 9 a.m. in the chapel.

Please contact Pastor Dan, 608) 786-0910 or Vickie Bain, (608) 769-3041, if you are interested or have questions.

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

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



Exercise Group
Tuesdays and Fridays
9-10 AM



**A Special Congregational Meeting
to elect Elders and Deacons
will be held on Sunday, December 7th
immediately following morning worship**

December 2025 Worship Teams

Liturgists

December 7th	Nancy Olson
December 14th	Nick Miller
December 21st	Nick Miller
December 24 th	Debbie King-Quale
December 28th	Chris Winther

Sound Room

Elsa Wolbrink
Audrey Steinborn
Kelly Crusan
Lily Oldenburg
Carter Hill

Music:	Julie Baker, Lisa Jones, Caroline Sells
Head Usher:	Kelly Crusan
Communion:	Shawn McAlister, Kristjan Sells, Mike Siekert, Vickie Bain, Kelly Crusan

DEACONS

<i>Class of 2025</i>	<i>Helen Harold</i>	<i>Diana Swim</i>
	<i>Kris Seeger</i>	<i>Lois Sanwick</i>
	<i>Diana Engel</i>	
<i>Class of 2026</i>	<i>Karen Quackenbush</i>	<i>Valerie Olson</i>
	<i>Sara Oldenburg</i>	

ELDERS

<i>Class of 2025</i>	<i>Mike Siekert</i>	<i>Pamela Twining</i>
	<i>Shawn McAlister</i>	
<i>Class of 2026</i>	<i>Chris Winther</i>	<i>Jenni Loging</i>
	<i>Charles Engel</i>	<i>Nick Miller</i>
<i>Class of 2027</i>	<i>Kelly Crusan</i>	<i>Barbara Hopkins</i>
	<i>Kristjan Sells</i>	<i>Vickie Bain</i>



**PASTOR
VISIT**

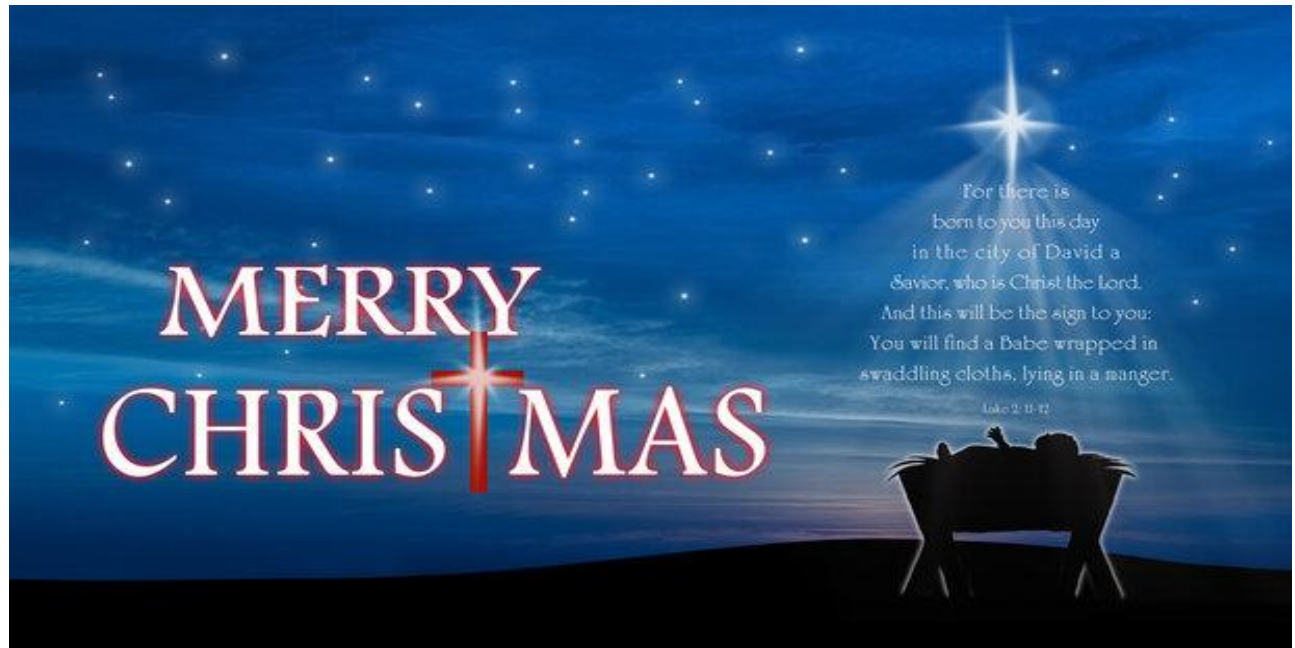
Would you like a visit from the Pastor? You are important to the Presbyterian Church of West Salem. Please contact the church office if you would like a pastoral visit or to set up an appointment with the pastor. Call 608-786-0910

Recent Session Highlights

- Set a date to ordain and install Ruling Elders and Deacons
- Set a date for the Annual Congregational meeting
- Approved a representative to the La Crosse area church safety/security network group
- Approved fundraising for the new Audio Visual System
- Approved holding new membership classes



PW Potluck Meeting – After church on Sunday, Dec. 14
ALL women of the church are invited to this meeting. We will decide on the disbursement of funds to various missions and talk about what's ahead in 2026. We will be taking up a collection for the Hunger Offering. Please consider attending!



Support Needed for the West Salem Food Pantry

This month the need is for items that they need for their home as well as food. Things like **toilet paper, paper towels, laundry soap, shampoo & conditioner, toothpaste, deodorant, and feminine hygiene products.** These items are often difficult to find the funds to purchase when on a very tight budget or with little to no extra income in the home. These are also items that tend to be “overlooked” as items that the food pantry would welcome as a donation.

Bring in some of these high demand items and place them in the shopping carts that are located between the entryway doors. Monetary donations are also welcome. Simply put your contribution into an offering envelope and mark it “Food Pantry” and we will make sure it goes to the pantry. **Let's fill the carts to overflowing with personal care items so that every family that uses the food pantry can have toilet paper in their home!**

Sanctuary A/V System Upgrades

The church has contracted with Lifeline A/V Systems of Platteville to do some major upgrades to our A/V system. The project was prompted by a few things. Our old mixing board (about 20 years old) is starting to fail, with three dead channels so far. The main video processor system failed completely this year, and we are currently using a loaner. The video streaming box has had intermittent failures, and is expected to be near end of life. You may have noticed that the back video screen has a darker area at the bottom, due to a failed row of LEDs. And then to enhance both our in-person and streaming experience, we wanted to add a second camera and increase the resolution of both cameras. With this upgrade, to save money, we will be retaining the main speakers, front TV screens, and sound room computer, and replacing the back TV screen ourselves. Lifeline will be installing a completely new video processing and streaming system, two new cameras, and a new sound mixer to replace both the old board and a separate mixer that handles only the pastor and pulpit mics. The new system will be much more user friendly as well, with simple touch screens for audio and video control. We expect the system to be installed some time between Christmas and Easter. The total price for the system is about \$37,000, and we are seeking donations to offset what would need to come from investment funds.

**If you would like to help, please just write “AV system”
in the memo line of your check. Thank You!**



The Giving Tree Mission - Helping a Family Grow Hope This Advent season, our Giving Tree mission is focused on raising \$1,300 to fund a Family Farm Bundle through the Presbyterian Giving Catalog. This life-changing gift will empower a family in need to start their own farm, providing them with livestock, tools, and essential training. **How You Can Help: Choose an envelope from the Giving Tree located at the back of the Sanctuary and any amount toward the farm bundle.** (Checks can be made to the Presbyterian Church of West Salem.) Every contribution brings us closer to our goal and helps sow seeds of sustainability and hope. **What's Included in the Bundle:** The Family Farm Bundle may include a variety of livestock such as chickens, goats, piglets, or even a cow—along with the necessary resources to care for them and cultivate a thriving farm. **Prefer to Give Differently?** You're also welcome to select individual items from the catalog that speaks to your heart. Whether it's a bag of seeds or a water filter, your gift will make a meaningful impact. Together, let's nurture a future of self-reliance and dignity for a family in need.

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 Worship - 10 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