



THE LAMPLIGHTER

Presbyterian Church of West Salem
December 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....

It's hard to believe that I am already writing the final Lamplighter of 2024. A whole lot has happened this year, sometimes it feels like it went dizzingly fast, other times achingly slow.

As I look back on this year in the future, I will remember a time of great anxiety in my own life, due to changes and pressures both within and without as I sought to understand a world that had changed greatly from what came before. And more changes are on the way!

This is, of course, the way things work. The way TIME works. Nothing lasts forever, and when things end, sometimes it is a sad thing, sometimes it is a happy thing. Even more often, it somehow manages to be BOTH.

What is important is that we remember that God remains with us through all of it, joining in our joy for the good, joining in our sorrow for the bad, and helping us to somehow navigate when things are both.

Have a very Happy Holidays, and let's remember as we go into the New Year to continue leaning on our God for all the surprises 2025 has to offer.

Pastor Dan





CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Sunday School
9 am

Sunday Bible Study
9-9:45 am
Galilee Room

Youth Group (Jr. High through High Schoolers)
6-7 pm at Church

Confirmation Classes
9:15 am in Chapel

Nursery

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



"Since the 1930s, the Christmas Joy Offering has been a cherished Presbyterian tradition. Each year the offering distributes gifts equally to the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions and to Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color.

The Assistance Program provides critical financial support to church workers and their families and Presbyterian-related schools and colleges provide education and leadership development while nurturing racial and ethnic heritage. This has been a Presbyterian commitment for nearly 140 years.

This offering will be collected through December 24th. As we make our way to the manger celebrating the wondrous birth of the Christ child, please consider a gift to this worthwhile offering once again this year.

Thank you!"



Handbell Practices
6:30 pm
Thursday Evenings



Choir Practice
7:30 pm
Thursday Evenings
No practice on December 26th

Need more information
contact Vicki Arndt at 608-790-1210,
email Arndt.vicki@gmail.com, or
catch me in church!



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
Helen Harold: 608-786-0856
Vickie Holt: 608-786-1659
Kris Seeger: 608-786-2695 (Home)
608-461-1599 (Cell)
Diana Swim: 608-386-9606
Karen Quackenbush: 786-0992 (Home)
Diana Engel 608-786-1560
Lois Sanwick 608-788-5443

Presbyterian Church Community Dinner



**Wednesday, December 18th
5:00 to 6:00 p.m.
In-House**



Fund raiser for Presbyterian Women's missions

Saturday, December 7th

9am-1pm

Cookie Walk – Homemade Goodness \$6/lb

Craft Fair – Outside Vendors and Congregation Crafters

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

Congregation: 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 before 7 pm on Friday, December 6th.

Craft Vendors: Tables are available for \$25. Set up starts at 7am Saturday, December 7th.

**Please contact Becky Auna to rent a table,
608-786-0097**

Contact the PW board with questions.

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



During the upcoming season of Advent, the Stewardship & Mission Committee is once again sponsoring a "Giving Tree," with funds going to the purchase of items from The Presbyterian Giving Catalog. Gifts to the Presbyterian Giving Catalog are signs of our gratitude: feeding the hungry, comforting the brokenhearted and sharing our faith with young and old. By joining our gifts together, however large or small, we expand our witness to God's gracious and abundant work in the world.

We will have a tree set up in the back of the sanctuary that will have envelopes with varying dollar amounts and causes printed on them. For example, one envelope will be for giving a \$10 donation going toward the purchase of farming tools, while another envelope will be for giving a \$25 donation going toward the purchase of a family of chickens, and so on.

We hope you would consider making a gift to our 2024 Giving Tree. It will be fun to see what our congregation can purchase this Advent season for those in need around the world. Thank you!"

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 |



*Fellowship Time
in the Fellowship Hall
9:30 am*



Tabitha Circle

**1st and 3rd Mondays
from 11:30-2:30
Bring a Lunch**



**Exercise Group
Not on December 24th or 27th
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 December 2024

| | |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| 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 |



**Christmas Pageant
December 15th**

**Rehearsals will be
December 1st at 9 am
December 8th at 9 am
December 14th at 4:30 pm – Pizza afterwards**



**December 14th
6 pm**

December 2024 Worship Teams

Liturgists

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------------|
| December 1st | Nancy Olson |
| December 8 th | Nick Miller |
| December 15th | Shayna Arndt |
| December 22nd | Chris Winther |
| December 24 th | Barbara Hopkins |
| December 29 th | Helen Harold |

Sound Room

| |
|-----------------|
| Brynn Logging |
| Elsa Wolbrink |
| Kelly Crusan |
| Ethan Crusan |
| Gideon Wolbrink |
| Kelly Crusan |

| | |
|-------------|---|
| Music: | Greg Meeuwssen, Caroline Sells, Vicki Arndt, Julie Baker |
| Head Usher: | Kelly Crusan |
| Communion: | Kelly Crusan, Sherry Bonsall, Diana Engel, Becca Bohnsack, Nick Miller, Gideon Wolbrink |

Per Capita

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

The Per Capita is \$36.30 per member for 2024

ELDERS

| | | |
|----------------------------------|--|--|
| <i>Class of 2024</i> | <i>Becca Bohnsack</i> <i>Sherry Bonsall</i> | <i>Kelly Crusan</i> <i>Greg Meeuwssen</i> |
| <i>Class of 2024 Youth Elder</i> | <i>Gideon Wolbrink</i> | |
| <i>Class of 2025</i> | <i>Mike Siekert</i> <i>Shawn McAlister</i> | <i>Shayna Arndt</i> <i>Pamela Twining</i> |
| <i>Class of 2026</i> | <i>Chris Winther</i> <i>Charles Engel</i> | <i>Jenni Logging</i> <i>Nick Miller</i> |

DEACONS

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



January 23rd
11:30 – 4:30 pm
Fellowship Hall

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

or preschurchws@gmail.com

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

Shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, razors, body soap, sweat pants, sweatshirts, t-shirts, towels, tampons, men's winter gloves, men's long underwear, men's long sleeve under shirts, and hand warmers.

Gift cards from McDonald's and Subway

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.

Ecumenical Christmas Service
December 11th at 7 pm



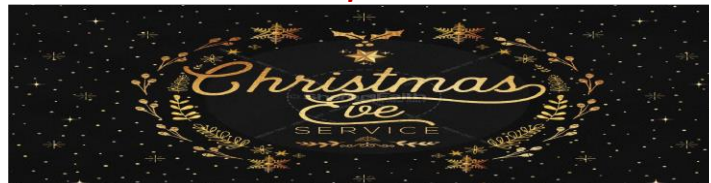
Communion Sunday
December 8th



Congregational Meeting
December 15th After Service



Tuesday, December 24th
6 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 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.