



THE ANGEL



**A MESSENGER FROM
THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, LODI † WISCONSIN 53555**

WEBSITE: www.LodiPresbyterianChurch.org † **E-MAIL:** office@lodifpc.org † **PHONE:** 608-592-4310 † **FAX:** 608-592-2332

FIND US ON FACEBOOK! FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF LODI, WI

DECEMBER 2017



CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP SERVICE

Please invite family and friends to join us on Sunday December 24th at 7 p.m. for our Candlelight Christmas Eve Service. Everyone is welcome to join in this special celebration of the birth of Jesus.



SERVICE OF THE LONGEST NIGHT

December 20th we will gather for the service of the longest night. The holiday season can be relentlessly cheerful, it can be overwhelmingly busy and exhausting. You are invited to come and rest your soul in a gentle Taize style service. This is a come as you are, service, bring your worries, your grief, your tears, bring your doubts, your questions, your longings. Come as you are, and know that all that you bring is welcome. This service will begin at 6:30 p.m.

Please feel free to invite friends; Taize is uniquely ecumenical, non-denominational, and interfaith, as it is based solely on the psalms, something that we share with our Muslim and Jewish neighbors.

BECAUSE WE SING— A CHRISTMAS CONCERT

The holiday season is a time for music, so you are invited to attend a Christmas Concert featuring the Gale Singers Community Choir under the direction of Michelle Pare. This is a choir made up of folks from the Portage, Pardeeville, Lodi (Marcia Brown), and other surrounding communities. It will take place on Sunday, December 3 at 4:00 pm at the Portage Center for the Arts, Zona Gale Theater; 301 E. Cook Street in Portage. The concert will include a large number of sacred pieces and a few secular fun songs of the season. Admission is \$6.00 at the door. Plan to come and enjoy a delightful evening of music.

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STOCK UP ON *Stocking Stuffers*

**AND HELP OUT
OUR CHURCH AT
THE SAME TIME BY
SIMPLY ORDERING
SCRIP GIFT CARDS!**

**OUR SCRIP
ORDER FORM
IS INCLUDED
IN THIS
NEWSLETTER ON
PAGE 8!**



Message from Pastor Cyndi:

My friends,

I have struggled to write a letter this month because my heart is so full and there is so much to say that it has been difficult to condense it.

Today is Friday after Thanksgiving and I am so very aware of all we have to be thankful for. To live in such harmony and in such a community as we do is a blessing that many will never experience. This fall has been busy and full of love and kindness. The act of appreciating who we are, what we are, and how blessed we are is a holy one. It is to stop and notice that the everyday blessings we experience and truly amazing.

It is too easy to become numb and unconscious to the everyday blessings, to become busy and preoccupied and let those everyday blessings pass on by. On my property in Oregon I have an outhouse. I know, it sounds terrible, right? Except that, having to go outside, in the bitter cold, in the snow, in the early morning as the sun rises, in the evening when the stars blanket the sky and seem so close you almost feel like you could touch them, well it makes one stop and notice.

This wasn't something I really appreciated until I read an article one day about an elderly woman who had to move into town as her health was getting worse. She said that what she missed most was her outhouse. She said that more than anything she enjoyed sitting in her little outhouse and watching the world wake up in the morning. I was startled by this because it hadn't occurred to me that my outhouse was drawing me deeper into God's blessings, but this lady had no doubt.

To often the things we miss the most are things we failed to appreciate when they first come into our lives. The encouragement is to stop and take notice now. To appreciate the beauty and the mystery of this amazing life now. Look with the eyes of a poet, of a lover, and see in all things the mark of God's grace and love. Search it out, look with anticipation, and let your heart be full.

May God startle you with unexpected grace and love,

Cyndi

WORSHIP LEADERS

Dec. 3 Open
Dec. 10 Open
Dec. 17 Open
Dec. 24 Open
Dec. 31 Diane Lukins

USHERS

Dec. 3 Audrey Kohn and Dave Heebner
Dec. 10 Greg Manning and Rod Hanson
Dec. 17 Ron and Gale Nelson
Dec. 24 The Deacons
Dec. 31 Jim and Marcia Brown

GREETERS

Dec. 3 Greg Manning
Dec. 10 Dave Heebner
Dec. 17 Audrey Kohn
Dec. 24 Dudley Mehlretter
Dec. 31 Ron and Gale Nelson

COUNTERS

Dec. 3 Rod Hanson & Zack Dachel
Dec. 10 Herb Damsteegt & DeAnn Richards
Dec. 17 Ron Nelson & Jean Mulcahy
Dec. 31 Rod Hanson & Dudley Mehlretter

ACCOMPANISTS

Dec. 3 Rana Hughey
Dec. 10 Jean Mulcahy
Dec. 17 Anna Salzman
Dec. 24 Rana Hughey
Dec. 31 Anna Salzman



HAPPY BIRTHDAY IN DECEMBER!

We'd like to wish the following people a Happy Birthday! If your birthday is in December and your name is not listed, please let the office know the date of your birthday so that it can be entered in the computer.

12/4 MARK NELLEN

OLIVIA KING

12/14 NANCY STOCKS

12/18 DOROTHA

LEATHERBERRY

12/29 AMY SOPHA

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

(NEW) NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:

Deadline for the **JANUARY** Newsletter is **WEDNESDAY, December 27th at 9 a.m.** If you would like an article in the newsletter, you can e-mail the Church office at office@lodifpc.org or leave it on the desk in the church office.

BROWN BAG BIBLE STUDY

Bring a sack lunch and join us for a discussion of the Sunday sermon scriptures. Give your input and grow in your faith. This group also has the function of being a prayer ministry where we raise up those in need within our church and community and seek out ways to be a ministry together. Please consider joining this small group. Everyone is welcome. We meet each Wednesday at 11:30.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School time has begun! All students K-12 are welcome to join us after fellowship until 11:15 each Sunday morning. We will gather for a brief welcome and prayer before separating into our K-5 and 6-12 grade classrooms with dedicated, weekly curricula. Sunday School will be held each Sunday until late May, with exceptions for scheduled intergenerational activities. If you have an interest in teaching or participating as an adult discussion leader, please see the schedule below and speak with a member of the Christian Education committee. You can also use the sign-up forms in Fellowship Hall. In order to provide consistency for the "little ones", we are asking the teacher volunteers

to commit to a 12-week session for the K-5 classroom. The 6-12 grade teacher assignments will be week-by-week, as in the past. See below for the current schedule of teachers and planned intergenerational activities.

K-5 CLASSROOM

Dec. 10 – Feb. 25:

DeAnn Richards

March 4 – May 20: VACANT

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS

We are still in need of Sunday School teachers. The sign-up sheet is in fellowship hall. Our children are the future, come and help prepare them to be leaders in the church and faithful followers of Jesus!

YOUTH GROUP

Youth Group this year will be held at Lodi First Presbyterian Church. On the first Sunday of each month, a program will be held at church from 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm and led by Pastor Cyndi. A second adult volunteer will be needed each "first Sunday" to help facilitate the meal for the youth and to be on premises for the duration of the program. The "third Sunday" will typically consist of an intergenerational activity (see Sunday School schedule). The first meeting will be on October 1, and a volunteer

is needed to help with dinner on that date. Please let Cyndi know if you are willing to help.

Youth interested in attending should RSVP each month to Cyndi by emailing to pastor@lodifpc.org.

WOMEN'S RETREAT

Start the new year with a day of rest, creativity, good food and prayer. First United Presbyterian of Lodi and First Presbyterian of Baraboo will be co-hosting a women's retreat on January 6th from 9:30 – 3:30. Space is limited to the first 25 respondents. Price includes all art supplies and a healthy lunch with a cost of \$15 a person. Assistance is available on an as needed basis. See Pastor Cyndi or Pastor Lisa.

PRAYERS

Please keep Dorothea Leatherberry in your prayers as she adjusts to her new home and surroundings. She would love to hear from her church friends. Also, Dorothea's birthday is December 18th.

Dorothea Leatherberry
403 Lowville Road
Room 203
Rio, WI 53960



Christmas Stars

I/we would like to sponsor a Christmas star to adorn the Sanctuary during the Christmas season and provide a donation to Reach Out Lodi.

I/We would like the Bulletin to read:

In Memory of _____

In Celebration of _____

In Recognition of _____

In Honor of _____

(Your name)

(Your telephone number)

Please make check out for \$10 to 1st Presbyterian Church, mark it for a "Christmas Star", and drop it in the offering plate or at the Church office. Orders will be taken through December 17, 2017. Your Christmas star(s) can be taken home to decorate your future trees after the December 31 Sunday service.

SCRIP

I challenge you to see if there are at least 5 different vendors that you could use scrip for.....visit www.shopwithscrip.com to find the list of the over 700 vendors to see if you use them. If you do not use a computer, I have them printed in a binder so you can look through it after church too.

There are physical cards (that you need to wait about a week to get and have shipping costs to the order) AND there are ONLINE E-CARDS (called ScripNow) that go directly to your online shopwithscrip account (that are received within minutes of the order being placed and have NO shipping costs).

You can send the online cards AS A GIFT through emails also--this includes a special note from you

and you can choose when it is sent (specific date...like Christmas or birthday).

You can also pull up these online cards with your phone and pay retailers directly from your phone--they scan your barcode right from your phone (no paper, no waiting).

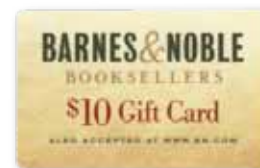
You can even pay for your order directly from your checking account with PRESTO PAY...for any kind of card (physical or online)...and it only costs 15 cents a transaction. No more running around to get a check to someone! Convenient!

A lot of physical cards can be kept and RELOADED anytime payment is received (by check or PrestoPay). We use them for our gas cards because we shop for gas at the BP gas stations. There is one is each vehicle (red van, black van and red truck) and whoever has it can pull it out of

the glove box and use it at the pump. Another example is Subway cards. Each person has there own because we are not always together when we eat there. I load these monthly or biweekly when we need them or when Paul gets paid, which ever is needed.

A person using scrip made this comment, "We didn't spend a dime more than we normally would have on gas, groceries, dining out and gift giving. It is basically free money. Why wouldn't people do this? It's an awesome way to help out!"--Doreen W. I agree with her, there are so many reasons get started on using the Scrip Program!! Start today!! Call me with any questions about getting you started or using it more than you have in the past!

Martha Ammann
Cell 608-220-5592



SCRIP OPTIONS FOR YOUR DAILY AND SEASONAL EXPENSES:

EXPENSES

New Clothes

Toiletries & everyday items

Travel: Flying or driving?

Transportation: need a ride

Hotels

Food: Eating Out

Excursions

SOLUTIONS

Clothing & accessory retailers, options for the whole family

Grocery & Pharmacy stores

3 major airlines OR almost any gas station

Rental cars or just a ride from point A to B

List of hotels is numerous

Favorite chain restaurants

While not every single shop or activity, we do have prepaid gift cards

EXAMPLES

JCPenny, Kohls, Shopko, Target, Lands End, Old Navy

Walgreens, CVS, Roundys, Piggly Wiggly, Cub Foods, Whole Foods, Walmart, etc

Southwest, Delta, American, Carnival, Marathon, Exxon, Kwik Trip, BP, Mobil, Shell

Avis, Budget, etc

Hotels.com, Best Western, Choice Hotels,

Red Lobster, Olive Garden, Arby's, Subway,

Visa (taken at Costco), Discover

Lodi First Presbyterian Church

See WWW.SHOPWITHSCRIP.COM for a list of ALL vendors. Please CALL & ASK if you have any questions. Most vendors have higher amounts than what is listed. Check out the SPECIALS tab online for short term promotions on higher rates!--Martha 608-220-5592

Name	Customer #
Check #	Order Date

Product	%	QTY	Total
Ace Hardware \$25.00	4%		\$
Amazon.com \$25.00	2.5%		\$
Applebee's® \$25.00	8%		\$
Arby's \$10.00	8%		\$
Barnes & Noble \$25.00	8%		\$
Bath & Body Works \$25.00	13%		\$
Bed Bath & Beyond \$25.00	7%		\$
Best Buy® \$25.00	4%		\$
Best Western International \$25.00	12%		\$
BP \$50.00	1.5%		\$
Build-A-Bear Workshop \$25.00	8%		\$
Burger King \$10.00	4%		\$
Cabela's \$25.00	11%		\$
Chili's Grill & Bar \$25.00	11%		\$
Comfort Suites \$50.00	4%		\$
Copps (WI only) \$100.00	4%		\$
Copps (WI only) \$50.00	4%		\$
Cousins Subs \$10.00	9%		\$
Cracker Barrel \$25.00	8%		\$
Dairy Queen \$10.00	3%		\$
Dick's Sporting Goods \$25.00	8%		\$
Disney \$25.00	3%		\$
Domino's \$10.00	8%		\$
Dunkin' Donuts \$25.00	3%		\$
Family Video \$10.00	12%		\$
Fandango \$25.00	4%		\$
Festival Foods (WI) - Skogens \$25.00	3%		\$
Foot Locker \$25.00	8%		\$
GameStop \$25.00	3%		\$
Gap \$25.00	14%		\$
GNC \$25.00	8%		\$
Home Depot \$25.00	4%		\$
HomeGoods \$25.00	7%		\$
Hotels.com \$100.00	6%		\$


Product	%	QTY	Total
iTunes® \$25.00	5%		\$
JCPenney \$25.00	5%		\$
Jo-Ann Fabric and Craft Stores \$25.00	6%		\$
Kmart \$25.00	4%		\$
Kohl's \$25.00	4%		\$
Kwik Trip \$100.00	4%		\$
Kwik Trip \$25.00	4%		\$
Kwik Trip \$50.00	4%		\$
L.L.Bean \$25.00	16%		\$
Lands' End \$25.00	16%		\$
Macy's \$25.00	10%		\$
Marathon \$25.00	3%		\$
Marcus Theatres \$25.00	9%		\$
Menards \$25.00	3%		\$
Michaels \$25.00	4%		\$
Mobil \$50.00	1%		\$
Noodles & Company \$10.00	8%		\$
Office Depot / Office Max \$25.00	5%		\$
Old Chicago \$25.00	6%		\$
Olive Garden® \$25.00	7.5%		\$
Outback Steakhouse \$25.00	8%		\$
Panera Bread \$25.00	8%		\$
Papa Murphy's Pizza \$10.00	8%		\$
PetSmart \$25.00	5%		\$
Pick 'n Save (WI only) \$100.00	4%		\$
Pick 'n Save (WI only) \$50.00	4%		\$
Pier 1 Imports \$25.00	9%		\$
Piggly Wiggly (WI, IL only) \$100.00	3%		\$
Piggly Wiggly (WI, IL only) \$25.00	3%		\$
Piggly Wiggly (WI, IL only) \$50.00	3%		\$
Pizza Hut (Not AK or HI) \$10.00	8%		\$
Pizza Ranch \$25.00	8%		\$

Product	%	QTY	Total
Qdoba Mexican Grill \$25.00	7%		\$
Quality Inn \$50.00	4%		\$
Red Lobster \$25.00	8%		\$
Roundys (IL and WI only) \$100.00	4%		\$
Roundys (IL and WI only) \$50.00	4%		\$
Sears \$25.00	4%		\$
Sentry \$50.00	3%		\$
Shopko \$25.00	3%		\$
Shutterfly \$25.00	9%		\$
Speedway \$25.00	4%		\$
Staples \$25.00	5%		\$
Starbucks \$25.00	7%		\$
Steak 'n Shake \$10.00	8%		\$
SUBWAY® Restaurants \$10.00	6%		\$
SUBWAY® Restaurants \$50.00	6%		\$
SuperAmerica \$25.00	4%		\$
T.J. Maxx/Marshalls/HomeGoods \$25.00	7%		\$
Taco Bell \$10.00	5%		\$
Target \$25.00	2.5%		\$
Texas Roadhouse \$25.00	8%		\$
TGI Fridays® \$25.00	9%		\$
Visa® Five Back™ Gift Card \$50.00	1.25%		\$
Walgreens \$25.00	5%		\$
Walmart \$25.00	2.5%		\$
Walmart \$50.00	2.5%		\$
Whole Foods Market \$25.00	3%		\$

Make Checks Payable To: *Lodi First Presbyterian Church Scrip*

Total Due All Columns: \$

DECEMBER 2017

Sunday							Monday							Tuesday							Wednesday							Thursday							Friday							Saturday						
November 2017 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30							January 2018 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31																																									
3 Worship, 9 a.m. Fellowship- 10 a.m.							4							5							6							7							8							9						
10 Worship, 9 a.m. Sunday School, 9:30 a.m. Fellowship, 10 a.m. Deacon's Cookie Sale, 10 a.m.							11							12							13							14							15 Pastors Gathering at Good Sam's, 10:30 a.m.							16						
17 Worship, 9 a.m. Christmas Pageant Congregational Meeting Fellowship, 10:30 a.m.							18							19							20 Good Sam's Worship Service, 10:30 a.m. Service of the Longest Night, 6:30 p.m.							21 Devotions at Our House, 10 a.m.							22							23						
24 Worship, 9 a.m. Sunday School, 9:30 a.m. Fellowship, 10 a.m. Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, 7 p.m.							 25 Christmas Day							26							27							28							29							30						
31 New Year's Eve Worship Service, 9 a.m. Fellowship, 10 a.m.																																																

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

258 Lodi Street
Lodi, WI 53555
Phone: 608-592-4310
Fax: 608-592-2332

PASTOR: CYNDI WUNDER

E-Mail address: pastor@lodifpc.org

Choir Director: Position Open
Custodian: Lori Harrenstein
Stephen Ministry Leader: Diane Lukins
Church Secretary: Pat Craig
Financial Secretary: John Griffing
Church Secretary's Office Hours:
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday
9:00 a.m.
Nursery Available

**SUNDAY SCHOOL
(DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR)**

10:15 a.m.

Newsletter Graphic Design: Jim Salzman

THE SESSION

Class of 2017

Ron Nelson
Jeff Leckwee
Jean Spataro

Class of 2018

Rod Hanson
DeAnn Richards
Dudley Mehlretter

Class of 2019

Zack Dachel
Mae Stocks
Herb Damsteegt

DeAnn Richards, Clerk of Session

BOARD OF DEACONS

Class of 2017

Linda Damsteegt
Sandy DeSelle
Becky Beckwith

Class of 2018

Bobbie Hanson
Gale Nelson
Nancy Stocks

Class of 2019

Ryan Beck
Leah Brisky
Mark Fryman

STEPHEN MINISTERS

Diane Lukins, Stephen Leader
Marcia Brown
Herb Damsteegt

Jane Jones
Beth Sokol
Dorothy Richards



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
258 LODI STREET
LODI, WI 53555

Lodi Presbyterian Church