

A MESSENGER FROM THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, LODI 9 WISCONSIN 53555

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

JANUARY-2020

Where the Light Begins

A BLESSING FOR THE SEASON

Perhaps it does not begin. Perhaps it is always.

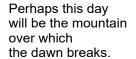
Perhaps it takes a lifetime to open our eyes, to learn to see what has forever shimmered in front of us

the luminous line of the map in the dark

the vigil flame in the house of the heart,

the love so searing we cannot keep from singing,

from crying out in testimony and praise.



Perhaps we will turn our face toward it, toward what has been always.

Perhaps our eyes will finally open in ancient recognition, willingly dazzled, illuminated at last.

Perhaps this day the light begins in us.

-Jan Richardson, from *Circle of Grace*: A Book of Blessings for the Seasons



Don't you love grabbing a cup of coffee and a bit of a snack after worship service? The Deacons need volunteers to host our Sunday Coffee Hour!

A new sign-up sheet is available in Fellowship Hall each month.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Blessing for The Season1
Scrip Form2
Message from the Pastor 3-4
Misc. Church News4
Jan. Schedules/Birthdays6
January Calendar7



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/HomeG oods \$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:

\$



Dear friends,

I have been overwhelmed with gratitude of late as the Christmas season has prompted so many of you to drop off Christmas cards, gift cards, cookies, even the gift of a new oven to help furnish my home. Your kindness has been abundant.

It is that time of the year when I find myself growing more contemplative, more reflective of all the blessings and gifts we have received. This year I have witnessed our ministry growing and shifting in unexpected ways. I have witnessed a growing desire to show up in our community and engage in active mission. Many of you have approached me with ideas or simply a deep desire to do more, to be more engaged, to see something happen in our community, in our church.

Our youth are growing up and doing the work of deep theological thought (did you know they wrote their own monologues for the Nativity program?). Our Sunday schoolrooms are no longer full though, and we miss the sound of small children racing up and down the stairs or trying to get seconds and thirds, and fourths, from the fellowship goodies.

Our musicians are busy with work and family matters, with school and dance, even as some of our members keep asking if we might resume our pick up choir (spoiler alert, we will!). Yet it also appears that our grief over the loss of our organ is beginning to subside, and Becky's amazing work decorating the chancel for Christmas has helped with this. Our worship continues to deepen with intentional silence and new rhythms, but we aren't sure exactly where we will end up. We can trust that, with God, it will be good, even if there are rough patches between now and then.

We have had a busy year, a year. Unlike many churches around us we have not seen a decrease in members over the last three years and even welcomed some new people to the church. We have worked to increase the attendance at the Pig Roast and welcomed new visitors. Our reputation as a gracious and hospitable church, particularly around funerals and times of grief, continues to be as strong as ever. Yet like most churches we are still wondering, "what's next?"

In the new year, I would like to invite the entire congregation into a time of discernment and deepening of our spiritual practices. We can do all things through God, but struggle to make events match our expectations. I would like to invite you all into a time of study, of listening for the Holy Spirit, of preparing to be surprised and moved, shifted, by the work of the Holy Spirit in our midst. I want to invite you to quiet the nay-sayer in your head, and trust that as we discern where God is leading us, it will be good, even if there are rough patches inbetween.

I would like to begin this process with a congregation wide book study of Neighborhood Church: Transforming Your Congregation into a Powerhouse for Mission by Krin Van Tatenhove. This book will not give us answers, but it will give us some really good questions and together will begin the earnest work of discerning God's will for our small but mighty church.

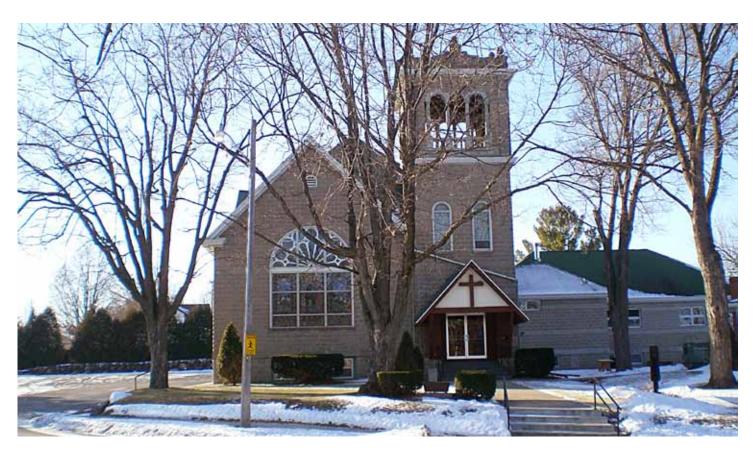
Continued from Page 3

Too often we feel as though we haven't got enough to offer, that we are too small, too rural, too stuck in our ways, or too ambitious, but we are not now, nor ever have been, powerful enough to disrupt God's plan for us. We know that all things change with time, and yet we want the change we embark on to be gentle and positive, to be fruitful and faithful.

God calls all of us, not just ruling elders, or deacons, not just your pastor, but all of us, to faithfully follow, to practices that will deepen and enliven our faith and understanding. We can take great comfort in last Sunday's scripture from Isaiah, not even a fool can get lost when God is leading the way. We are enough. We have enough. We have God to lead us and guide, to sustain us and provide for us.

Grateful to serve with you, Pastor Cyndi

A great many thanks to everyone who worked together to make this advent and Christmas season so wonderful!



CARDS & NOTES

If you would like to drop a card or note to Mike Morgan, the following is his new mailing address:

Michael John Morgan #332727 Redgranite Correctional Institution P. O. Box 925 Redgranite, WI 54970-0925

BIBLE STUDY AND COFFEE

Start the New Year off by joining us on Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. in the church library for coffee and great conversation on the Sunday sermon. This is a small group which is also a prayer ministry. Look forward to seeing you on Wednesdays.

COFFEE HOUR VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Deacons are asking for volunteers to host our Sunday Coffee Hour! Sign-up sheets are available in Fellowship Hall for each month.



WORSHIP LEADERS

Jan 5 Open

Jan 12 Open

Jan 19 Open

Jan 26 Open

USHERS

Jan 5 Dennis and Nancy Stocks

Jan 12 Zack and Jenny Dachel

Jan 19 Dave Heebner and Greg Manning

Jan 26 Richard and Vonda Lee Schmidt

GREETERS

Jan 5 Open

Jan 12 Open

Jan 19 Open

Jan 26 Open

COUNTERS

Jan 5 Diane Lukins and Jean Spataro

Jan 12 Ron Nelson and Zach Dachel

Jan 19 Jeff Leckwee and Dudley Mehltretter

Jan 26 Diane Lukins and Jean Spataro

ACCOMPANISTS

Jan 5 Recorded Organ Accompaniment

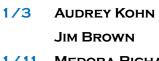
Jan 12 Rana Hughey

Jan 19 Anna Salzman

Jan 26 Rana Hughey

HAPPY BIRTHDAY IN JANUARY!

We'd like to wish the following people a Happy Birthday! If your birthday is in January 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.



1/11 MEDORA RICHARDS

1/13 JAMES MORGAN

1/14 HUDSON BECK

1/15 LUKE HUGHEY

MATHIAS HUGHEY

1/18 ADRIANNE TRITT

1/19 GENE SMITH

1/24 BRAD BALLWEG

1/27 DALTON RICHARD

GREG MANNING

KIM KREKLOW

1/30 HEATHER MULCAHY



NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:

Deadline for the **FEBRUARY** Newsletter is **WEDNESDAY**, **January 22nd 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.

January 2020

MONDAY	IDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			New Year's Day	2	೮	4
	9	7	Mid-week Bible Study, 9:30 a.m. Deacons, 6:30p.m. Committee, 7 p.m.	6	10	11
	13	14	15	16	17	18
			Mid-week Bible Study, 9:30 a.m.			
	20	21	22	23	24	25
uther	Martin Luther King Jr. Day	Session, 6:30 p.m.	Newsletter Deadline, 9 a.m. Mid-week Bible Study, 9:30 a.m.			
	27	28	29	30	31	
			Mid-week Bible Study, 9:30 a.m.	Our House, 9 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 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 2019 Mae Stocks Herb Damsteegt

Zack Dachel

ı

ı

ı

Class of 2020 Diane Lukins Jean Spataro

Class of 2021 Dudley Mehltretter DeAnn Richards Jeff Leckwee

Ron Nelson DeAnn Richards, Clerk of Session

BOARD OF DEACONS

Class of 2019 Patty Seiler Pam Odorizzi

Class of 2020 Marcia Brown Sandy Deselle Dave Heebner

Class of 2021 Gale Nelson **Bobby Hanson** Laurie Fryman



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 258 LODI STREET Lodi, WI 53555