

December, 2022

**NORTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

1327 North Salem Road

La Crosse, WI 54603

**NORTH STAR NEWS** is a non-profit publication containing information and concerns of members and friends of North Presbyterian Church of La Crosse, Wisconsin.

**Sunday Worship:**

8:00 AM (Indoors)

9:00 AM Sunday School

10:00 AM

Virtually - Sunday at 8am on our Facebook Page or Website

**Please contact us at:**

608-781-5690

office@npclax.org

Office Hours M-Th 9am-2pm

**PASTOR:**

Rev. Scott Skogen

**OFFICE MANAGER:**

Karla Korish

**PARISH ED. & YOUTH COORDINATOR:**

Reggie Lezpona

**ORGANIST & ADULT CHOIR DIRECTOR:**

Ruth Mashak

**FIRST SERVICE MUSICIAN:**

Judy Bouffleur



**NORTH STAR NEWS**

*North Presbyterian Church of La Crosse, WI.*

**Pastor Scott's Scripts**

When I was a little boy, I remember after all the dishes were washed following our Christmas Eve Dinner, all of our family would gather in our living room to open presents. My Grandma would take her place in the chair, enjoying her only glass of wine the entire year (Mogen David). My Grandpa would sit on the couch enjoying a Tom and Jerry. The rest of us would take our place and my brother Steve would act as Santa Claus and deliver the presents to all. I don't remember hardly any of the presents, but I do remember that room being full of love and joy.

It's been said that gift giving at Christmas is a tradition that started with Christians and then spread to a variety of other religions. In the Christian faith, gifts given at Christmas are symbolic of the gifts the three wise men gave to Jesus after his birth. The New Testament describes the three wise men journeying to Bethlehem and upon their arrival presenting Him with gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

Christian gift giving also has a strong association to St. Nickolas of Myra who was known for his fondness of giving people gifts. St Nickolas' kindness and generosity have inspired many a generation to sharing and exchanging gifts during the Advent and Christmas seasons.

It is in the spirit of the three wise men and St. Nickolas that we as a church offer the "Christmas gift exchange" sermon series:

- November 27<sup>th</sup>- Giving God our worry; God giving us peace.
- December 4<sup>th</sup>- Giving God our time; God giving our time meaning.
- December 11<sup>th</sup>- Giving God our grief and hurt; God giving us comfort and joy.
- December 18<sup>th</sup>- Giving God our penitence; God giving us forgiveness.

In this season of Advent and Christmas, our God is eager to exchange gifts with us. Eager to exchange our struggles, our burdens, and our regrets with His generous gifts of hope, peace, joy, and love.

Come join us this Advent season where we get in the Christmas spirit by exchanging gifts that matter the most.

Blessings this Advent and Christmas!

See you in church,  
Pastor Scott



## HOLIDAY GIVING TREE!

We are once again sponsoring children from the Northside Elementary School to make their holidays a bit brighter.

Ornament Tags are available for pick-up on the trees in the Narthex.

Wrapped Gifts with Ornament Tags attached must be returned to church by:  
**Sunday, December 11th**

## CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Sunday, December 11th after the 10:00 a.m. service  
This short meeting is to approve Pastor Scott's Terms of Call, approve Elders and Deacons for the class of 2025, and Nomination Committee for 2023.

## Holiday Shut-in Gift Bags

The Deacons are asking members & friends of the church to donate Candy and Snacks for the traditional holiday shut-in gift bags.



Please have the items to the church  
by December 4th



We will be sending around an envelope this year during worship services through December 11th for Pastor Scott and Debby's Christmas Card. Or, you are welcome to send cards to the addresses below:

Church Address:  
1327 North Salem Road  
La Crosse, WI 54603

Home address:  
537 Chestnut Drive  
Onalaska, WI 54650



THANK YOU!!!



## Women's Fellowship Christmas Luncheon

December 14th - Noon

Please join us at:

David Reay's on Main Street in Onalaska

Cost: \$20 for a buffet lunch

Games, Prizes, and Door Prizes!!!

Please bring a \$10 gift for an exchange game

Sign-up in the Narthex



## NPC Little Food Pantry: Winter

Please!!! No canned goods or glass jars in WINTER to avoid freezing and spoilage.

### Suggested Winter Donations:

- Ramen Noodles
- Raisins & Nuts
- Instant Potatoes/Stuffing Mix
- Dry Soups & Sauces
- Cereal/Oatmeal
- Crackers
- Powdered Milk
- Popcorn
- Rice



## JOIN US FOR CHRISTMAS CAROLING!

Sunday, December 4th 3:00-6:00 p.m.

On Sunday, December 4th, North Church will go caroling throughout the community. We will stop at care facilities and different memory units to share our gift of song. Dress warm as we will be singing outside at some of the facilities.

Snacks and refreshments at Erin Goggin's home after at 1409 Wood St.; La Crosse  
No need to bring anything.

MEET AT CHURCH AT 2:45!!!



## 2022 COOKIE WALK Saturday, December 10th 7:30-11:00 a.m.

On Saturday, December 10th we will be holding our annual Cookie Walk at North Presbyterian Church. We would like to ask everyone to participate in this fun filled event!

The following are all the activities you can sign-up for to make this Cookie Walk the best ever:

- \* Home-baking and decorating 5 to 10 dozen colorful Christmas Cookies. The more cookies, the more we raise for church projects.
- \* Making candy (fudge, divinity etc.....)
- \* Donations for Tribune and Onalaska Life ads
- \* Donations for miscellaneous expenses: gloves, napkins, plastic wrap and materials
- \* Setting up on Friday, December 9th
- \* Serving at event, December 10th
- \* Clean up after event, December 10th

Sign-up sheets will be in the Narthex

### TAX TIPS FROM OUR TREASURER:

IRS regulations require that all contributions for 2022 be dated and/or postmarked by December 31, 2022

All contribution statements will be mailed on or before January 31, 2023.

Thanks  
Terry Thomas  
North Presbyterian Church Treasurer

**If you haven't picked-up your Contribution Envelopes for 2023, they are available for pick-up in the Narthex anytime before or after Worship service and during office hours Monday - Thursday 9am-2pm.**

**If you're considering a switch to online giving (which assists the church with costs), please visit our website ([www.npclax.com](http://www.npclax.com)) and select the "giving" tab for a variety of options.**

### 2022 PER CAPITA APPORTIONMENT:

Per Capita is "the tie that binds" - annual giving that unites the entire church in the ongoing and essential work that guides the Office of the General Assembly, the life of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and benefits every congregation and every mid council ministry. Per capita is the primary source of funding for the office of the General Assembly, and is how Presbyterians mutually and equitably share the costs of coming together to discern the Spirit's leading for the future.

**The Per Capita amount for North Presbyterian members for 2023 is \$35**

**"Members" includes everyone who has been confirmed as an "Active Member"**

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY DECEMBER

- |    |                     |    |                  |
|----|---------------------|----|------------------|
| 1  | Joan Zielke         | 17 | Holly Grimsli    |
| 3  | Chris Lezpona       | 18 | Bonnie Clements  |
| 4  | Pat Markos          |    | Matthew Bahr     |
| 7  | Scott Hauser        |    | Cooper Molling   |
| 8  | John Conder         | 19 | Cathy Harris     |
|    | Carol Bassuener     |    | Danielle Martell |
|    | Kathy Sierp         |    | Linda Thompson   |
| 9  | Trish Biemiller     |    | Tiffany Bean     |
| 10 | Karen Weis          | 20 | Andrew Akey      |
|    | Andrew Martell      | 22 | Kay Bjorge       |
|    | Tina McWain         | 23 | Emily Vien       |
|    | Lance Jurgensen     | 25 | JESUS            |
| 11 | Kathleen Snyder     |    | Henry Richgels   |
| 13 | Chase Ostrem        |    | Lloyd Payne      |
| 14 | Linda Payne         |    | Brady Olson      |
| 15 | Mason Mihalovic     | 27 | Barb Akey        |
| 16 | Lisa Colburn        | 29 | Ron Carpenter    |
|    | Ted Roberts         | 30 | Dick Palm        |
|    | Julie Connelly      |    | Jacob Bahr       |
|    | Katherine Burelbach |    |                  |

**NPC bell ringing for the Salvation Army**

**Tuesday, December 13th**

**Location: Onalaska Festival Foods**

Shifts from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Sign-up in the Narthex

If someone else is signed up during a time that works for you, please join them! The more the merrier!





Children's Christmas Program  
Sunday, December 18th at the  
10:00 A.M. service.

The kids are doing a spectacular job singing since  
they've been able to join their voices again!

Please make every effort to be here for our choir  
practices during the Sunday School hour on  
**Sunday, December 4th and Sunday, December 11th**  
to prepare for the program

**Final rehearsal will be held on  
Saturday, December 17th at 9:00 a.m.**

***Cookie Decorating,  
Ornament Making, & Hot Chocolate  
following rehearsal***



Never Alone Dinner  
Monday, December 19th  
5:30 p.m.

Please join us for a time of fellowship and support during  
this holiday season.

Erin Goggin's home: 1409 Wood St., La Crosse  
A wonderful lasagna meal and dessert will be served

**CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES**  
**Friday, December 24**

**3:00 P.M. Candlelight Service**

**5:00 P.M. Candlelight Service**



**CHRISTMAS DAY  
SERVICE**

**10:00 A.M.**



# December 2022



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	28	29	30	1	2	3
<b>4</b> <b>CHRISTMAS CAROLING</b>  <b>CANDY &amp; SNACKS DUE FOR SHUT-IN BASKETS</b>	5	<b>6</b> <b>FUN BUNCH</b>	7	8	<b>9</b> <b>COOKIE WALK SET-UP</b>	<b>10</b> <b>COOKIE WALK</b>
<b>11</b> <b>CONGREGATIONAL MEETING</b>  <b>GIFTS DUE FOR NORTHSIDE ELEMENTARY</b>	12	<b>13</b> <b>NPC BELL RINGING @ ONALASKA FESTIVAL FOODS</b>	<b>14</b> <b>SESSION MEETING</b> <b>WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP OUTING</b>	15	16	<b>17</b> <b>CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM REHERSAL 9 A.M.</b>  <b>COOKIE DECORATING FOLLOWING</b>
<b>18</b> <b>CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM 10 A.M.</b>	<b>19</b> <b>NEVER ALONE DINNER</b>	20	21	22	23	<b>24</b> <b>CANDLELIGHT SERVICES 3 PM &amp; 5 PM</b>
<b>25</b> 	26	27	28	29	30	31