

November, 2024

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

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 & EDUCATION COORDINATOR:

Karla Korish

ORGANIST & ADULT CHOIR DIRECTOR:

Ruth Mashak

FIRST SERVICE MUSICIAN:

Judy Bouffleur

MAINTENANCE:

Joel Cloutier



North Presbyterian Church of La Crosse, WI.

Pastor Scott's Scripts:

Melody Beattie once said, "Gratitude unlocks the fullness of life. It turns what we have into enough, and more. It turns denial into acceptance, chaos to order, confusion to clarity. It can turn a meal into a feast, a house into a home, and a stranger into a friend."

In 1st Thessalonians 5:16 Paul writes, "Be joyful, always pray continually... give thanks in all circumstances." Paul makes it clear that we are at our best, the church is at its best, when we share gratitude. As William Barclay writes, "There is always something for which to give thanks. Even on the darkest days there are blessings to count."

In the month of November, we as a country celebrate three very special days. On November 5th, our country exercises one of its most sacred privileges. The privilege to vote. I am thankful for the opportunity we have been given to be a part of the election of our representatives in government. In gratitude, let's vote. On Thursday, November 28th we as a country set aside a day to simply say thank you. We gather in homes, in community centers, and in a variety of places simply to count our blessings and to say thanks to God for our blessings and bounty. And finally, on Monday, November 11th, we as a country pause to say thank you to all our veterans and their faithful and honorable service to our country. From my father-in-law, to my uncle, to my Lt. Colonel golf coach, I have witnessed up close and personal three very special human beings who served in Vietnam. They will forever be heroes to me, as are all who have honorably served and sacrificed.

A few years ago, a pastor stood at the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial and watched as a man in tears lay a wreath at the base of the memorial. The pastor put his hand on the man's shoulder and the man said, "Twenty-five years ago, he stepped into the line of fire for me. The least I can do is say 'Thanks'."

Dear friends, the least all of us can do is say thanks to all who served and sacrificed so that we can enjoy our freedoms and opportunities. In this special month, let us give thanks in all circumstances and let us live a life full of gratitude!

See ya in church!

Pastor Scott

2024 COOKIE WALK

Saturday, December 14th



On Saturday, December 14th 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!

If you are unfamiliar with our Cookie Walk, Kelly Ostrem oversees this endeavor and will be available to chat with people about how it all works and what is needed following the next few Sunday services when she's available. If you'd like to call her instead, we'll get you connected!

Ways you can help to make this event a success:

- * Home-baking 5 to 10 dozen cookies (or more!) The more cookies, the more we raise for church projects.
- * Making candy (fudge, truffles, bark, divinity etc.....)
- * Donations for miscellaneous expenses: gloves, napkins, plastic wrap and materials, advertising
- * Setting up on Friday, December 13th
- * Serving at event, December 14th
- * Clean up after event, December 14th

Sign-up sheets will be in the Narthex

Holiday Shut-in Gift Bags

The Deacons are asking members & friends of the church for donations for the traditional holiday shut-in gift bags.

Items they'll be including are:

- * Cards
- * Hot Chocolate
- * Lip Balm
- * Lotions & Hand Soaps
- * Books
- * Candy & Snacks
- * Cookies
- * Flavored Crackers
- * Large Print Puzzle/Activity Books



Thanks for considering a donation to fill these baskets and spread the love this holiday season!

Please have the items to the church
by Sunday, December 8th



A **BIG** thank you to everyone who baked, tasted, and donated to our "Helping of Hotdish" event on Sunday, October 20th.

Because of your generous spirit, we raised \$1200 for the Rhyme family to assist in their recovery following their traumatic car accident.

And an additional "thank you" to our Deacons who matched the funds raised to assist this family even further!
We are the "Small Church with a Big Heart!"



SALVATION ARMY CHRISTMAS FOOD BASKETS

As in past years, we are partnering with the Salvation Army to create food baskets for families in our area. This year, we are looking to collect **200 bottles of vegetable oil.**

If you'd like to donate, please have the items to church by December 1st. We're also collecting monetary donations and will buy the oil for you if you'd like! Thanks for your support!



Christmas Poinsettias

Please order by December 1st!

It's not too early to be thinking about decorating our church with Christmas Poinsettias. This year we will be ordering from La Crosse Floral. Please fill this slip out and return with your check made out to **NPC-Poinsettia Fund.**

\$19	Pizzazz Poinsettia	Red	White	Pink
\$29	Brilliance Poinsettia	Red	White	Pink

Please circle the **SIZE** of plant you wish to purchase and the **COLOR** and fill out the information below:

Given by: _____

Given in Memory of: _____

Given in Honor of: _____

Some color substitutions may be necessary due to availability!

My check is included for: _____ (qty) \$ _____ = \$ _____



NOVEMBER
BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| 1 Jane Hulke | 18 Tyler Church |
| 2 Joan Kautz | Evan Koxlien |
| Dave Lezpona | Mike Hutson |
| 3 Chuck Nick | 20 Heather Church |
| 4 Aaron Ottum | 22 Elias Johnson |
| Carmen Adams | Paul Miller |
| 5 Judy Loomis | Paul Church |
| Maureen Tabbert | 23 Darla Severtson |
| Justin Stakston | Kathy Patros |
| Bennet Hutson | 25 Yvonne Wilson |
| 6 Liz Mansky | Sharon Miller |
| 7 Brad Ostrem | 27 Joan Schilling |
| Cortney Molling | 28 Karon Carpenter |
| 8 Rob Bean | 29 Roger Reader |
| Isabella Burelbach | Konrad Ernst |
| 9 Reggie Lezpona | Vincent Bahr |
| 11 Paula Paulus | 30 Josh Redenbaugh |
| 14 Sharon Opitz | |
| Ruth Williams | |
| Lucy Richgels | |
| 17 Jeff Holmquist | |

SPARK! Cultural Programming for People with Memory Loss

This is a FREE cultural program for people living with early to mid-stage memory loss and their care partners. Programs are designed to keep participants actively engaged in their communities by providing experiences that stimulate conversations, provide peer support and inspire creativity.

Events are held at Clearwater Farm in Onalaska on the Third Wednesday of every month from 10:30 a.m.– 12:00 p.m.

Upcoming events are:

- Gobble & Grow: A Harvest of Thanks on November 20th
- It's a Farm-tastic Life: Happy Holidays on December 18th

To register, call or email:
Aging and Disability Resource Center
(608)785-5700
adrc@lacrossecounty.org



HOLIDAY GIVING TREE!

We will be sponsoring children again this year from Northside Elementary School

Ornament Tags will be available for pick-up on: Sunday, November 24th

Gifts with Ornament Tag attached must be returned to church by:
Sunday, December 15th

Thank you for helping to make Christmas a special time for our neighborhood families!

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

On Sunday, November 3rd at the 10:00 a.m. service, we are honored to be welcoming new members into our church family. If anyone is still interested in joining, please contact Pastor Scott or the church office.
(608)781-5690 or office@npclax.org



Hosted by: Pastor Scott & Debby
Pastor Scott & Debby will be providing pulled pork.

WHEN: Tuesday, December 17th

TIME: 12 Noon

WHERE: North Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall

WHAT TO BRING: A dish to share of your choice such as salads, fruit, Hors d'oeuvres, or desserts

**Let us join together for a little Holiday cheer!
Everyone is invited!!**

**SAVE THE
DATE!**



JOIN US FOR CHRISTMAS CAROLING!

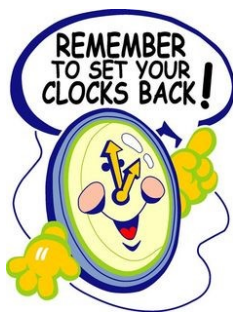
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8th: 3-6:00 P.M.

We meet at the church and then caravan to various care facility locations.



The kid's will be sharing their story of Christmas with us at the 10:00 worship service on Sunday, December 22nd.

Plan to be here and catch the Spirit!



DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS

Please remember to set your clocks
BACK one hour
before you go to bed on
Saturday, November 2nd!

Mark your calendars!

NPC will be bell ringing for the
Salvation Army Red Kettle Campaign

Monday, December 16th
from 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Location: Onalaska Festival Foods

Shifts will be one hour to get lots of people involved!

Grab a Friend & Volunteer!

There will be sign-up sheets in the Narthex or call
the church office to participate.

Make it extra fun by singing Christmas Carols and dressing in
festive holiday wear!



2025 Giving Envelopes Available Soon!

2025 offering envelopes will be available in the Narthex. You will find several “extra” envelopes along with your weekly offering envelopes to make your giving easy.

- Initial Offering Envelope: Helps defray the cost of the box of envelopes. Suggested contribution is \$5.00.
- Blue Per Capita Apportionment Envelope: 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 confirmed, active members for 2025 is \$40.00.**
- Pink Building Fund Envelope: Helps offset our building and maintenance costs.
- Blue and White “One Great Hour of Sharing” Envelope: This February offering supports Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People.
- Purple “Christmas Joy Offering” Envelope: November offering that provides financial assistance to individuals and families that have dedicated their lives to the church and supports education and leadership development for students attending Presbyterian related schools and colleges.

Online giving also includes these offering opportunities. If you are not currently utilizing the online giving option, please consider doing so. It is easy to do and assists in making our financials run smoothly.

To set up contributions on-line, please visit our website (www.npclax.com) and select the “giving” tab for a variety of options.

NPC Little Food Pantry Suggestions for November

- Instant Potatoes/Rice
- Cereal/Oatmeal Packets
- Ramen Noodles
- Tuna Packets (switching away from cans for winter)
- Crackers/Microwave popcorn
- Granola Bars/Fruit Snacks/Nuts





November 2024



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 
3 Reception of New Members 10:00 a.m. 	4	5	6 Knit/Crochet Group 10:00 a.m. 	7 Vaccination Clinic 1-3:00 p.m. Fellowship Hall 	8	9
10	11 	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20 Session Meeting 7:00 p.m.	21	22	23
24 Giving Tree Tags Available 	25	26	27	28 Office Closed 	29	30