

First Presbyterian Chimes



First Presbyterian Church

101 West Oak Street

Osakis, MN 56360

Phone: 320-859-4550

Email: osakispc@midwestinfo.net

Website: osakispresbyterian.org

Facebook: Osakis Presbyterian Church

October 2023

SESSION

Rev. Paul Snyder, Moderator
Eva Withers, Clerk of Session

Class of 2023

Shirley Helberg
Keven Withers

Class of 2024

Eva Withers
Noreen Noyes
Randy Neumann

SESSION COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

Administration/Personnel:	Shirley Helberg
Christian Education:	Shirley Helberg
Memorials:	Keven Withers (chair), Noreen Noyes
Mission:	Session
Friendship Table:	Shirley Helberg
Parish Life:	Session
Property:	Keven Withers & Randy Neumann
Stewardship:	Session
Worship & Music:	Keven Withers, Noreen Noyes

PASTORAL CARE

For Pastoral Care Please Contact Keven Withers.

Keven Withers 320-808-7271

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Pastoral Leader: Keven Withers
Phone: 320-808-7271
Email: kwithers@midwestinfo.net
Clerk of Session: Eva Withers
Phone: 320-815-5594
Church Secretary: Eva Withers
Phone: 320-815-5594
Custodian: Keven Withers
Phone: 320-808-7271

Upcoming Events



Sunday, Oct. 1, 9:30 am Worship with Keven Withers in person
and via Facebook Live

Sunday, Oct. 8, 9:30 am Worship and Communion with Pastor Freund
in person and via Facebook Live

Sunday, Oct. 15, 9:30 am Worship with Keven Withers in person
and via Facebook Live

Sunday, Oct. 22, 9:30 am Worship with Keven Withers in person
and via Facebook Live

Tuesday, Oct. 24, 5:30 pm Session Meeting

Sunday, Oct. 29, 9:30 am Worship with Pastor Freund in person
and via Facebook Live



Oct. 13—Karen Freund

Oct. 14—Nikki Masssmann

Oct. 16—Deb Cody

Oct. 18—Adam Maloney

Oct. 29—First Presbyterian Church
123 Years!

Online giving is available on our website: osakispresbyterian.org

Click on the **Give Now** button in the upper right corner
You will be directed to a secure page set up by Presbytery

SEPTEMBER SESSION SUMMARY

The Session of the First Presbyterian Church of Osakis held their monthly meeting on Tuesday, September 2023.

The financial report for August 2023 was **received for review**, summarized, and approved, and is reported as follows:

Balance on hand August 1, 2023	\$1,190.79
August Income	7,430.59
August Expenses	-4,429.31
Balance on hand August 31, 2023	\$4,192.07

Clerk's Report:

- ◆ A letter received from a member was discussed.
- ◆ Term limit waiver form for Shirley was completed.
- ◆ Communion served September 3rd was 11.

Pastor's Report:

- ◆ The baptism of Allis Massman was September 17, 2023.
- ◆ Keven attended Boundary Training September 12.
- ◆ Our September 10 Service in the Park was discussed.
- ◆ Keven attended the Ministry Leaders' Retreat at Clearwater Forest September 17-19.
- ◆ Keven will attend Academy classes October 27-29. It was agreed the church will pay the cost plus travel expenses.
- ◆ It was agreed the church will pay for Keven to purchase "Feasting on the Word" 12 book set.
- ◆ Keven will be on the commission at Pastor Laura Messer's Installation at Faith Presbyterian Church on October 22.
- ◆ October Preaching Schedule:
 - ◇ October 1 – Keven
 - ◇ October 8 – Ernie – Communion
 - ◇ October 15 – Keven
 - ◇ October 22 – Keven
 - ◇ October 29 - Ernie

Items of interest from the meeting:

- ◆ Book Study – Session is doing a book study on "Sailboat Church". Chapters 6 and 7 were discussed at this month's meeting.
- ◆ Zoom – A Zoom account will be purchased in the next week.
- ◆ Printer – A new printer/scanner/copier was approved and purchased for the office.
- ◆ Osakis Area Church Sign – The sign has been ordered.

SEPTEMBER SESSION SUMMARY (continued)

- ◆ Sunday School – Shari will be teaching Sunday School beginning October 15th and will be taught on the Sunday's that Keven preaches. It will follow the gospel from the lectionary.
- ◆ Thank you cards for financial donations – guidelines were discussed.
- ◆ Trunk or Treat – Location to be determined. Volunteers needed for candy and to put together treat bags.
- ◆ Home School request for use of the building – On hold until they get more information.
- ◆ Osakis Lutheran Church request to explore a possibility of sharing a pastoral leader – we responded to a Lutheran member's request.
- ◆ Worship/Music – We will be adding Passing the Peace back into the Service.
- ◆ Property – It was approved to purchase LED bulbs for the sanctuary. We will also look into if our power company has rebates to switch to LED.

Our next session meeting will be Tuesday, October 24 at 5:30 p.m. in person.

Eva Withers, Clerk of Session



We are looking at trying to do **Trunk or Treat** again this year on Halloween. Shari and Keven have been doing this the past couple years and it is always fun to see all the kids dressed up in their costumes. We generally hand out candy including a bag of treats from the church with our church information. This is a good way to connect and get information out to families in our community. We are looking for people to help purchase candy and small sandwich bags, plus help putting the bags of candy together. We also welcome anyone who would like to come join us that evening. We start about 4 and finish around 7:30 please let us know if you would like to participate.

From Valley Bridge, September 13, 2023

Meet Keven Withers **Student at The Academy,** **providing Ministry Leadership at the** **First Presbyterian Church in Osakis**

It was 21 years ago when a pastor first mentioned to Keven Withers of Osakis that he thought Keven would make a great pastor. It was not the right time in Keven's life, but he never forgot those words, and a seed was planted. Time passed, and eventually Pastor Randy Knuth came to serve the Osakis church. Pastor Randy also identified Keven as someone with pastoral gifts and began working with Keven to give him experience in the pulpit and in worship leadership. Pastor Randy would write a sermon that Keven would then read on occasion. As time passed, Pastor Randy helped Keven develop the entire worship service. Keven was gaining experience, and with it came a growing sense of call.

When Pastor Randy moved away from Osakis, Pastor Paul Snyder began serving as Keven's mentor. With Pastor Paul as a mentor, Keven would also have opportunity to do funerals and graveside services and even learn to moderate the Session. His confidence and sense of call would continue to grow. With encouragement from Pastor Paul, Keven decided that it was time to act. He would take classes through The Academy and begin preparing to seek a call and serve officially as a Commissioned Ruling Elder. Pastor Paul would help Keven join two groups that would offer support. One group is of pastors who study the scripture text together every week to help in the development of sermons. The other group is of new pastors supporting each other. In addition, Keven has joined the Ministerial Association in his town and will be attending our Ministry Leaders' Retreat.

Keven says that he has received financial support from his home church in Osakis, from the Presbytery and scholarships from the Synod and The Academy that have been helpful. This support has also helped to encourage Keven in developing his sense of call. He has now taken two classes at the Academy, during the week of Synod school, and is busily finishing up homework assignments for both. He suggests that it might be better to start with one class, but as much work as it is, he is nevertheless excited to have begun this process.

We celebrate the Osakis Church for being a church that has called a member into ministry, the pastors who helped Keven discover and develop his sense of call, the support he receives from so many, and Keven Withers, a new Commissioned Ruling Elder in the making!

Pastor's Corner

Greetings Church Family.

Fall seems to be in full swing with the changes in weather the colors of the trees coming out and the farmers out harvesting this year's crops. Fall has always been a favorite time of year for me as I prefer cooler temperatures and less bugs.

On September 10th we worshiped and had a potluck at Park Osagi. While the morning breeze was cool and the yellow jackets a bit too friendly, all who attended had a very enjoyable time and shared a wonderful meal afterwards. We plan to do this again next year but will plan for a little earlier date.

On September 12th I attended Boundary Training in Willmar. This is a requirement for Pastors and other Pastoral leaders to take every 3 years. It is also a requirement as a part of my Academy and CRE training.

Allis Moline Massmann was Baptized by Pastor Ernie during worship on September 17th. A wonderful service lead by Pastor Ernie with a delicious meal that followed made for a joyous day as we welcomed Allis into our church family.

Following the Baptism, I traveled to a Ministry Leaders Retreat at Camp Clearwater Forest. I was able to spend time and get to know better many of the Pastors in our Presbytery. There was plenty of time for self-reflection and rest and I did manage to get started on my homework assignments for the Academy. I do wish to thank all that helped make this happen and the encouragement to go.

I also wish to thank all who filled out sermon response forms during two of our worship services. This enabled me to complete my Preaching Class assignments. I have assignments to complete for my Old Testament class to finish yet plus some pre class reading and homework before my third class at the end of October.

I again thank everyone who has encouraged and supported me through this process of becoming a CRE.

As a reminder Church Services will begin at 10 am beginning November 5th for the winter months.

May the Peace and Love of God be with each of you.

Keven Withers, Ruling Elder





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