

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

December 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, Dec. 3, 10:00 am Worship and Communion with Pastor Freund
in person and via Facebook Live

Sunday, Dec. 10, 10:00 am Worship and with Keven Withers in person
and via Facebook Live

Sunday, Dec. 17, 10:00 am Worship with Keven Withers in person
and via Facebook Live

Sunday, Dec. 24, 10:00 am Worship with Keven Withers in person
and via Facebook Live

Sunday, Dec. 24, 5:00 pm ***Christmas Eve Candlelight Service***

Sunday, Dec. 31, 10:00 am Worship with Keven Withers in person
and via Facebook Live



Dec. 13—Lincoln Massmann

Dec. 19—Richard Melin

Dec. 23—Eva Withers

Dec. 24—Marvin Noyes

Would you like to help decorate the sanctuary for Christmas this year? We will be ordering Poinsettias from Colorful Seasons Garden Center. The price to order is \$11.89. Need to order before December 15.



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

NOVEMBER SESSION SUMMARY

The Session of the First Presbyterian Church of Osakis held their monthly meeting on Tuesday, November 28, 2023.

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

Balance on hand October 1, 2023	\$3,829.26
October Income	55,847.15
October Expenses	- 43,826.86
Balance on hand October 31, 2023	\$15,849.55

The 2024 Budget was discussed and approved.

Communications and Correspondence

- ◇ Church Copyright License vs Hymnal Plus coverage was discussed. CCLI Copyright License will be purchased.
- ◇ Letter from a member was discussed regarding the Memorial Fund Checking Account.
- ◇ Communion Served October 1st was 7
- ◇ Communion Served November 5th was 4.

Clerk's Report – Membership is 21.

Pastor's Report:

- ◇ Keven reported on the Congregational meeting held November 19th.
- ◇ Keven shared an invitation from Pastor Ernie and Karen to their home on December 3rd to Session members.
- ◇ December preaching schedule:
 - ◆ December 3 – Ernie
 - ◆ December 10 – Keven
 - ◆ December 17 – Keven
 - ◆ December 24 – Keven
 - ◆ December 31 - Keven
- ◇ Pastor Ernie will be having surgery January 31st and will be out for February and part or all of March.
- ◇ Keven will work on the Stewardship letter this coming week.
- ◇ New Session members Ordination and Installation is planned for January 21st pending Pastor Ernie approval and member availability.

Items of interest from the meeting:

- ◇ Book Study – Session is doing a book study on "Sailboat Church". Chapters 10 and conclusion were discussed at this month's meeting.

NOVEMBER SESSION SUMMARY (continued)

- ◇ Osakis Area Church Sign – The sign is finished and was installed on Monday, November 27th.
- ◇ Sunday School – has started. There have been three classes so far. New students are welcome.
- ◇ Marketing/Reaching Out – We will continue with door hangers.
- ◇ Worship and Music – Noreen will sing a solo before Christmas.

Our next session meeting will be Tuesday, January 23 at 5:30 p.m. in person and via Zoom.

Eva Withers, Clerk of Session



Recently a stewardship letter was sent out for 2024. If you haven't sent in your pledge card, please prayerfully consider what you can give in 2024 and return the card to the church as soon as possible. Also, if you have unpaid pledges for 2023, please pay them by the end of 2023 if you are able to.



Reports for the annual report are due January 14th. Please have them in on or before January 14th.



Christmas Eve

Our Christmas Eve Candlelight Service will be in person and via Facebook Live this year. The service will be held at 5:00pm on December 24th and will include a candle lighting towards the end of the service. Please have a candle ready if watching at home so you can join in while "Silent Night" is being played

Pastor's Corner



Greetings.

I hope everyone has been enjoying the nice mild weather we've been having. I know I have been enjoying it and have been getting quite a bit done before we actually have snow.

December 3rd, we began a new church year with the beginning of Advent. The season of Advent is a time for us to take time and reflect and prepare for the coming of our Lord and Savior, not only at Christmas but also the second coming of Christ. I encourage everyone to come join us in this season of Advent as we light the candles of Hope, Peace, Joy, Love, and the lighting of the Christ candle on Christmas Eve. Since Christmas Eve is on a Sunday this year, we will have our regular worship service in the morning and then a Candlelight Service in the evening.

December 31st, will be my last day as an active Ruling Elder. My role as Pastoral Leader in the church has been changing and this past year, I made the decision in the best interest of the church I should no longer serve in that role. I will still attend Session meetings but not have voting rights.

Beginning in January we will have a newly ordained and installed Ruling Elder. We look forward to Nikki Massmann joining Session along with Shirley Helberg who has agreed to serve another term.

This week I was elected to serve on the Commission on Presbytery Life for a 3-year term. This is a Presbytery Committee and serving on this committee lets me be more active in the Presbytery as a representative of our church. This also will meet one my requirements for becoming a Commissioned Ruling Elder, or CRE.

On behalf of the Session, I would like to extend a Thank You to Pastor Ernie and his wife Karen for inviting current, and newly elected Elders, to their beautiful lake home in Alexandria on Dec. 3rd for lunch and fellowship. Those who were able to attend enjoyed a delicious meal and thoroughly felt their wonderful hospitality.

I hope everyone has a wonderful and meaningful holiday season and may the Love and Peace of God be with you all.

Keven Withers

DECEMBER

Merry
Christmas



You are invited to help light our church in the spirit of love and life. Donate as a living tribute to or in memory of your loved ones and friends.

This year, the proceeds will be donated to Love Inc., a Christian non-profit agency whose purpose is to network local churches into a partnership that links their resources and services to help our community members in need as well as looking beyond the need to engage with the person.

To donate, please mail to First Presbyterian Church, 101 West Oak Street, Osakis, MN 56360. The names will be shared towards the end of the Advent Season and in the next quarterly newsletter.

Thank you for your spirit of giving during this season. May you enjoy the spirit of living throughout the next year as the light of Christ's love brightens your way.

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SHINE A LIGHT OF LOVE

Name: _____

Enclosed is my donation of \$5.00 each to "light up" _____ (number) symbolic lights around our church.

Please print clearly the names you are honoring.

In Memory of:

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

In Living Tribute to:

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____



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