

First Presbyterian Chimes



First Presbyterian Church

101 West Oak Street

Osakis, MN 56360

Phone: 320-859-4550

Email: osakisp@midwestinfo.net

Website: osakispresbyterian.org

Facebook: Osakis Presbyterian Church

March/April 2025

SESSION

Rev. Dr. Paul Snyder, Moderator

Eva Withers, Clerk of Session

Class of 2025

Shirley Helberg

Nikki Massmann

Class of 2026

Eva Withers

Noreen Noyes

Shari Maloney

Pastoral Leader

Keven Withers

SESSION COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

Administration/Personnel: Shirley Helberg

Christian Education: Shari Maloney

Memorials: Noreen Noyes, Nikki Massmann

Mission: Session

Parish Life: Session

Property: Keven Withers, Nikki Massmann

Stewardship: Session

Worship & Music: Noreen Noyes, Shari Maloney

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, Mar. 2, 9:30 am Worship and Communion with Keven Withers in person and via Facebook Live

Tuesday, Mar. 4, 5:30 pm Session Meeting

Wednesday, Mar. 5, 6:30 pm Ash Wednesday Service

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

Thursday, Mar. 13, 9:00-11:00 am Footcare Clinic

Sunday, Mar. 16, 9:30 am Worship with Keven Withers in person and via Facebook Live

Sunday, Mar. 23, 9:30 am Worship with Keven Withers in person and via Facebook Live

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



Mar. 4—Joan Bischoff

Mar. 7—Alice Maloney

Mar. 14—Pastor Ernie Freund

Mar. 27—Adam & Hanna Maloney

Mar. 27—Justin & Nikki Massmann

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

Upcoming Events



Sunday, Apr. 6, 9:30 am Worship and Communion with Keven Withers in person and via Facebook Live

Thursday, Apr. 10, 9:00-11:00 am Footcare Clinic

Sunday, Apr. 13, 9:30 am Palm Sunday Worship with Keven Withers in person and via Facebook Live

Thursday, Apr. 17, 6:30 pm Maundy Thursday Service
5:30 pm meal before service

Sunday, Apr. 20, 9:30 am Easter Sunday Worship with Keven Withers in person and via Facebook Live

Sunday, Apr. 27, 9:30 am Worship with Keven Withers in person and via Facebook Live



Apr. 3—Pastor Paul Snyder

Apr. 6—Elmer Johnson

Apr. 17—Ilene Olson

Apr. 25—Shari Maloney



Would you like to help decorate the sanctuary for Easter? We will be ordering Easter Lilies from Colorful Seasons Garden Center.

The price to order is \$14.24.

MARCH SESSION SUMMARY

The Session of the First Presbyterian Church of Osakis held their monthly meeting on Tuesday, March 4, 2025.

The financial report for January 2025 was **received for review**, summarized, and approved, and is reported as follows:

Balance on hand January 1, 2025	\$18,425.25
January Income	1,559.43
January Expenses	-5,036.68
Balance on hand January 31, 2025	\$14,948.00

The financial report for February 2025 was **received for review**, summarized, and approved, and is reported as follows:

Balance on hand February 1, 2025	\$14,948.00
February Income	1,950.19
February Expenses	-6,226.72
Balance on hand February 28, 2025	\$10,671.47

Communications and Correspondence

Thank you notes from: Todd County Food Shelf, United Way of Douglas County, Osakis Senior Center, and Presbyterian Ministry Engagement and Support for our Christmas Joy Offering.

Communion Served February 2nd was 3.

Communion Served March 2nd was 7.

Clerk's Report – Membership is 21.

Anti-Racism Policy – The session discussed and approved an Anti-Racism Policy.

Pastor's Report:

Academy Class – Keven is in the 5th week of a 6-week course on Pastoral Care. His next class is in May in Okoboji and then his final 2 class will be in July.

Keven reported on the Presbytery Meeting March 1st in Foley

Home Visits – Keven visited Madelyn Hale as part of his homework assignment. He will visit the others with the Annual Reports in the coming weeks.

Galeon Services – Keven has Galeon Services on March 9th and another service in April.

Preaching Schedule – Pastor Ernie is on vacation until Easter and has requested to cut back more when he returns.

Increase Keven's Pulpit Supply pay - It was discussed and agreed to increase Keven's Pulpit Supply pay. All other pulpit supply will remain at

MARCH SESSION SUMMARY (continued)

Items of interest from the meeting:

Funeral lunches – We will find the funeral lunch sheet for our next meeting and discuss what we are able to continue to provide.

Footcare Clinic volunteers for March and April were discussed.

125-year Celebration event planning – We are planning on October 5th after church service for our Celebration.

Future Discrimination Policy, Social Media Policy, and Boundary Training Video – we will continue to discuss a policy at each future meeting.

Marketing/Reaching Out (ongoing) – We will start doing door hangers as weather improves.

Additional Committee Reports

Worship and Music – Palm Sunday there will be Special music.

Property – There are loose tiles in the fellowship hall floor. Keven will work on them after class ends. Someday the floor in the fellowship hall will need to be replaced.

Memorials – Keven will order candles before our next meeting.

Christian Education – We discussed, and will look into, if it's possible to do Vacation Bible School.

Our next meeting will be Monday, May 5 at 5:30 p.m. in person

Eva Withers, Clerk of Session



Pastor's Corner

Greetings.

I hope everyone survived the cold winter this year. According to the calendar spring is here. Yesterday when I went for an early morning walk, I could see a couple of Robins singing and then this morning I saw one in the neighbor's yard, a sure sign of spring. Before we know it, the trees will start budding and spring flowers will start poking up out of the ground as we experience new life once again.

On Ash Wednesday we enjoyed a small meal and worshiped together with imposition of ashes and communion to begin our Lenten journey. We continue to worship each Sunday morning following Jesus to the Cross. We have been worshiping in the Parlor since Epiphany and will soon move back to the Sanctuary for Palm Sunday and Holy Week, which will include a Maundy Thursday Service with communion, and share the story of Jesus' crucifixion. There will be a meal provided at 5:30 before the service on Thursday evening. Easter Sunday will be our traditional witness to the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Just like spring we will experience new life once again.

I encourage all who are able to join us on this journey during this Lenten and Easter season.

This winter we saw the completion of the window project come closer to the end with staining and painting being completed. The project has turned out very well and is a great improvement to our church building. We still need to purchase and install some blinds which we hope to do soon.

Recently I completed an Academy Class on Pastoral Care. The class spanned six weeks with an assignment each week. This class kept me busy, but I did learn a lot about pastoral care. My next two classes will be in July at Synod School so I will be getting a short break to get caught up on a couple of other assignments. I have three classes left to take so I am getting closer to completion. I appreciate the continued support and prayers on this journey.

Our Footcare Clinic continues to do well, and with the freewill offering we will be able to give extra Mission funds to Minnesota Adult and Teen Challenge as well as Someplace safe. This has been a wonderful mission project for our church and it feels good to be able to help the community through service and monetary funding. If you would like to help with this mission project let me or one of the session members know.



Pastor's Corner (continued)

Coming up Sunday, May 18th will be Baccalaureate for this year's graduating students. I will again be participating in this service through the Osakis Ministerial Association. I encourage all to attend and support the Osakis High School seniors as they continue on their journeys from high school. It is a very meaningful ecumenical worship service.

The 125th birthday of the church. We have tentatively set Oct. 5th 2025 to celebrate this milestone in our church's history and ministry. We will be inviting former pastors and members as well as the community. We are planning on a worship service with communion, followed by a lunch and then a short program. If anyone would like to help plan for this let Shari or myself know. We would also encourage anyone who may have pictures, history or memories that they would like to share to let us know. The more history and memories we can gather will make this celebration more meaningful. 35 years ago, the church wondered how many people may be around for our 100th anniversary so they decided to do a 90th and we went on to celebrate 100 years. At 125 years I think it is time to celebrate again. So, mark your calendars and invite your family and friends to this milestone celebration.

I would like to remind everyone that I am available for pastoral visits. You can reach at 320-808-7271.

May the peace and love of Christ be with you all.

Keven Withers



We are planning our **125-year Celebration** for
Sunday, October 5th

following our Worship Service.

We are looking for volunteers to help with planning.

Please contact Keven Withers or Shari Maloney if interested



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