

Faith Friends Newsletter

September 2018

Fall Edition

Inside this edition:

Treasurer's Report	2-3
Session Report	3
Deacons' Report	3
Pastor's Letter	4
Pastor's Office Hours	4
Music & Worship	5
Common Cup Corner	5
News & Notes	6
Personnel Committee	6
Pola-Czesky Eat Stand	7
List of Elders and Deacons	7
Bible Trivia	8
Holy Humor	9

Chanhassen Dinner Theatre Trip

Now that summer has flown by...it's on to fun fall activities! We have group sales tickets at the Chanhassen Dinner Theatre for the Saturday, November 17, 2018, 1:00pm performance of Irving Berlin's "Holiday Inn". The cost for dinner and show is \$65.50/person which includes tax and gratuity (this is the senior price for everyone!). Deadline to sign up and pay is October 1 and the plan is to carpool to the theatre. My phone number is (320) 583-1060 and my address is PO Box 503, Silver Lake, 55381 if you want to mail your payment.

A brief description of the play:

"Jim leaves the bright lights of showbiz and meets Linda, a spirited school teacher with loads of talent to spare. They combine their talents and turn a farmhouse into a fabulous seasonal inn that presents dazzling performances to celebrate seven different holidays from Thanksgiving to the 4th of July. With spectacular dancing and sublime singing, it's sheer, old-fashioned, good time entertainment for all!"

Friends and family are MORE than welcome!

~Joleen Nowak



"If you're ever headed the wrong way in life, remember the road to Heaven allows U-turns."

Treasurer's Report

Please recognize the new formatting, this is an introduction to what will be presented at the year end. **Bold items are new.**

Revenue and Expense Statement: Investment earnings are listed below Net Income (Loss) from Operating because we are not using that money to run the church. It includes money we have earned and changes in the market price of our mutual funds. So not all of the investment earnings are in the checking account. Some amounts are gains for financial recording meaning it indicates a change in the market value of the investment. For example, we would have to sell and draw down money to recognize this as cash available to spend.

Balance Sheet: We have combined the investments that were previously listed separately from the general fund financials. This allows one place to reflect all of the general fund assets. The line Due to church from Cemetery Fund is an amount we will collect from the cemetery fund for the church paying for the lawn mowing expense of both the church and the cemetery. Liabilities: The church received grants for both Manse repair, \$7,000, and Stewardship conference expenses, \$3,150 some of which came in the month of August after these financials were printed. These items are listed as liabilities because we will only use that money for those purposes. As of July 31st, about half the bills were paid for the Stewardship conference before the revenue came to the church in August. That is why there is a negative number there.

Faith Presbyterian Church			
Revenue and Expenses			
General Fund			
		Jan-July	
		2018	Annual
		Actual	Budget
Income			
Church Rental		200	
Building Fund		50	
Per Capita		2,218	
Tithes/Offerings General Fund		<u>36,186</u>	
Total Income		<u>38,654</u>	
Expense			
Administrative Task	41%	7,010	16,991
Christian Education	55%	3,428	6,255
Church At Worship	31%	2,747	8,825
Church Property	55%	14,786	26,680
Partnership	37%	2,926	7,852
Pastoral Ministry	27%	<u>17,200</u>	<u>63,397</u>
Total Expense	37%	<u>48,097</u>	<u>130,000</u>
Net Income (Loss) from Operating		-9,443	
Interest Income or Investment earnings			
Interest		22	
Gains Reinvested Hutch Co-op		1,131	
New Cov't Dividends		1,300	
New Cov't Unrealized Gain/Loss		<u>3,820</u>	
Total Interest Income		<u>6,273</u>	
Net Income (Loss) including Interest		-3,170	

Faith Presbyterian Church	
Balance Sheet	
General Fund	
	Jul 31, 18
Assets	
First Community Bank Checking	25,744
First Community Bank Savings	26,310
Hutchinson Co-Op	97,913
New Covenant Mutual Fund Reserve	122,707
New Covenant Mutual Funds Czech	205,407
Due to Church from Cemetery Fund	<u>680</u>
Total Assets	<u>478,761</u>
Liabilities & Equity	
Donor's Scholarship Fund	73
Manse Repair through Grant	6,147
Stewardship Conf. through Grant	-226
Payroll Liabilities	44
General Liabilities	<u>106</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>6,145</u>
Equity	
Net Assets	475,787
Net Income	<u>-3,170</u>
Total Equity	<u>472,617</u>
Total Liabilities & Equity	478,761

Treasurer's Report (continued)

You will see from the negative Net Income (Loss) from Operating that the church's expenses are more than what is being collected from congregation members by \$9,443. Even though we have only spent 37% of our budget for 58% of the years' time, we are not breaking even! Session budgeted for more expenses than last year because we planned for hiring a Pastor and those expenses were estimated. Had we needed to spend what we budgeted our losses would have been worse than the nearly -\$10,000 of July 31st. So, income from contributions are not enough to cover regular expenses. This is concerning for the long term existence of our church. There are two ways to fix this, congregation members give more and/or the congregation works to increase membership by recruiting new members so we have a sustainable plan for the future of our church.

~Margie Nelsen, Treasurer

Session Report

Boy it's hard to believe it's almost fall. Where does the time go? It's also hard to believe that Rev Murphy Ashley Jr has been here 6 months. We've had fairly long session meetings discussing the future of Faith Presbyterian Church and changes we feel need to be made. The two main ones are Finances and what to do with the manse. We need to follow through on these discussions, and we'll need all of the congregation to work on these.

September 9th we'll be having our service outside, followed by a pot luck lunch which will be followed by a congregation meeting. The purpose of this meeting is to listen to the congregation, to get your views on anything in the church from cleaning the church to the work of the session. This is something we've never done before and probably should have, we'd like to hear the negative and positive. This is *your* meeting and *your* time to speak out. Hopefully you will!

~Gary Warner, Clerk of Session

Deacons' Report

Deacons' Mission Statement: *God's People, In God's Place, doing God's Work.*

The Deacons meet the second Sunday of each month following the worship service.

Sometime before the snow flies, we'll be scheduling a fellowship steak fry at the Legion. Please watch the bulletin for the date.

We continue on with our work with prayer concerns, visiting/contacting shut-ins, cards being sent for birthdays, thinking of you, sympathy and get well, as well as providing meals for those that might need a little helping hand. We are also available to provide transportation for appointments or errands. Please let one of us know if you know of someone in need of a call, meal, or visit. We can't do what we don't know!

Your deacons are: Jolen Bentz, Helen Jensen, Joleen Nowak, Joy Nunvar, Linda Prochaska, Barb Quast, Jacki Rossi, Betty Williams and Doris Wrspir.

~Joleen Nowak, Deacon Chair

Pastor's Letter

Dear Faith Presbyterian Church

In a few weeks, I will have been your Transition Pastor for six months. It is my pleasure and privilege to be at Faith Presbyterian Church. I began our transformation together at a moderate pace beginning on Palm Sunday, March 25, 2018. September brings a different pace to things. Vacations have ended, school is back in session, the weather is changing as fall flowers begin to bloom and leaves will require raking and disposal. Football is in the air while Churches and Ministries activities will start up again in full mode. This month we will continue to focus on the mission of the church, leadership needs, and stewardship. And I will attend the Stewardship Conference along with Elders Margie Nelsen and Doris Jerabek.

We look forward to bringing information back to share with the congregation.

Worship and fellowship are core values for Faith Presbyterian members. The worship committee, education committee, the session and I continue to pray and work together to ensure that your worship experience is meaningful and leads you closer to God. Also, children and youth are treasures of Faith. The congregation, through its mission, focus resources toward programs that improve the lives of families and youth. The fast-paced 21st-century culture with all the trappings makes spiritual formation more of a priority today.

The church is not in competition with sports or other extracurricular activities. However, society does make many families choose. Some of the best television programs are on Sunday morning at the same time as worship; this is true also of sporting events. Do we still have something to learn from Sabbath keeping?

I look forward to exploring this question together this fall. With this said, I encourage you to consider how worship attendance, church school, confirmation, and mission engagement shaped your life. Please do not overlook your children's spiritual growth.

Christian Education provides for encouragement during life's problems and many ebbs and flows. As foundational as reading and writing, faith helps the young to grow into adulthood as mature individuals that are principled and just. Remember proverb 22:6 "Train children in the right, and when old, they will not stray" (NRSV). More information will follow about Sunday School, Worship on Wednesday (WOW), and Confirmation Class. Adult Bible Study will begin in October.

We all must be committed to ministry together. Let us give as God has blessed us showing God loves each other.

Sincerely,

Pastor Murphy Ashley

Pastor's Office Hours

Wednesday: 10am - 3pm | Thursday: by appointment | 302-353-8483

Music & Worship

The Music & Worship Committee continued to meet during the summer months. Rev. Ashley suggested a few changes in the bulletin and worship order. It was decided to omit the announcements in the beginning of the service as they are in the bulletin. Anything new or urgent will still be announced. The order of worship has been altered a little. When there is a fifth Sunday of the month the Reader for that Sunday will be one of our youth.

We will be celebrating birthdays every first Sunday of the month. All members who have a birthday during the month will be listed in the bulletin, "Happy Birthday" will be sung, and during coffee fellowship a birthday cake will be provided by the PW.

A combined service with Grace Bible Church was held during Pola-Czesky Days on Sunday, August 5, in the Legion Park.

The Pork Chop/Sweet Corn Supper was again successful. Very delicious corn was donated by Jim Hlavka. This was held Thursday, August 23.

An Outdoor Service will be on September 9. It will be held right between the church and manse so please bring your lawn chairs. A potluck dinner will follow with chicken being furnished by this committee.

On Sunday, August 26, this committee met with members who were interested in the future of our children's worship. It was the consensus of the members that WOW will continue on Wednesdays. Members volunteered to form a Christian Education Committee; they are Molly Posusta, Brittany Jensen, Deb Jensen, Jerry Brooks, Jan Wanous, and Rev. Ashley. Rev. Ashley will have some sort of Sunday School at 9am on Sundays also. Classes will start in a few weeks.

A Senior Recognition Sunday will be held on October 7 for members over 80. Details of the event to follow.

Anyone having an issue or comment about worship, please contact one of the committee members: Bonnie Sustacek, Laura Pieper, Barb Quast, Jacki Rossi, Barb Wawrzyniak, and Dorothy Merrill.

~Dorothy Merrill

Common Cup Corner

Common Cup events have been in full swing and there is a lot going on this fall. Over the summer we collected Kleenex and paper towels for the school supply drive. Even though we didn't donate as much as other years, JoLen and I appreciate and thank everyone who did contribute. Common Cup served over 500 children throughout the county who now have the supplies they needed to begin school this year.

In October our church is asked to donate diapers for the Diaper Drive that they hold every month. Please donate a package of diapers if you can - sizes 4,5,6 are the sizes they need at this time.

The coat drive will be held this year so if you have a good, gently used coat to donate please bring it to church and put it in the boxes which will be put out for men's, women's, and children's coats. The deadline for the coat donation will be October 14th as distribution will be that week.

~Barb Wawrzyniak

♪ Choir and Handbells News & Notes ♪

The summer has flown by for another year and it is time to get back to having the choir singing on Sunday mornings again. We appreciate all those who provided Special Music throughout the summer months by sharing their talents with everyone. In the coming year we look forward to singing songs of the season and bringing a message to you through our songs. We are always looking for new members to join us, so if you enjoy singing or playing an instrument we would love to have you join us on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 p.m.

Handbells will be playing more often this year as we know how much they are enjoyed by everyone. Practice for handbells will begin in October. Music has always been an important part of our worship and we hope to continue sharing our music with you through the choir and bells.



~Barb Wawrzyniak

Personnel Committee

The Session received the resignation of the position of the Christian Education Director. At this time, the Session and the Music & Worship Committee are actively seeking volunteers for teaching WOW classes and for being on the Christian Education Committee. Those currently on this committee are: Molly Posusta, Brittany Jensen, Deb Jensen, Jerry Brooks, Jan Wanous, or Rev. Ashley. If you'd like to join the Christian Education Committee, please speak with someone on the committee or with someone on the Music & Worship Committee.

The Session also received the resignation of the Church Secretary. The Session is actively searching to fill this position. If you or someone you know is interested in this position, please contact the Personnel Committee for more details or apply online at: <https://www.indeedjobs.com/faith-presbyterian-church-bf57b10>

~Doris Jerabek and Bruce Svanda



Pola-Czesky Eat Stand Report

The eat stand again did very well at Pola-Czesky Days. Early in the event we ran out of Pretzels and Cotton Candy. The financial report for 2018 is:

Sales	\$2,496.00
Expenses	(\$1,112.65)
Less 15% Pola-Czesky	(\$ 207.50)
<u>Pop/water sales</u>	<u>\$ 187.58</u>
Deposit to General Fund	\$1,354.43



Coupons for meals were given out at Music in the Park and coupons for snow cones at kiddie games. 58 snow cones and 5 meals were given out.

Tips collected were \$61.50 donated to Common Cup.

The Pola-Czesky Eat Stand Committee would like to thank everyone who helped with the eat stand from set up, clean up, at the actual event, and moving equipment, etc.

Committee members:

Pat & Stand Horstmann, Ken & Dorothy Merrill, Jan Wanous, and Betty Williams

Thanks again!

Elders

Donna Morang, Margie Nelsen, Brent Posusta, Gary Warner, Laura Pieper, Jerry Quast,
Doris Jerabek, Bruce Svanda, and Jan Wanous | **Clerk:** Gary Warner

Christian Education: Donna Morang

Worship & Music: Laura Pieper

Memorial: Gary Warner

Mission: Jan Wanous

Personnel: Doris Jerabek, Bruce Svanda

Building & Maintenance: Brent Posusta, Jerry Quast

Budget & Finance: Margie Nelsen

Membership: Margie Nelsen

Nominating Committee: Brent Posusta, Donna Morang, Margie Nelsen, Ken Merrill, Helen Jensen, & one deacon

Deacons

Jolen Bentz, Helen Jensen, Joleen Nowak, Joy Nunvar, Linda Prochaska, Barb Quast,
Jacki Rossi, Betty Williams, and Doris Wraspir | **Chairperson:** Joleen Nowak

Bible Trivia

(answers on page 9)

Young Believer (Ages 5-14)

- Who got thrown into a den of lions but didn't get hurt?
 - Daniel
 - Harry
 - Andrew
 - Kyle
- What did Noah tell the people to do?
 - go to war
 - repent
 - build a library
 - make him a nicer place to live

Believer (Ages 12-17)

- Which woman of the Bible gave birth to Jesus?
 - Magdala
 - Mary
 - Margaret
 - Martha
- What was the name of Moses' sister?
 - Naamah
 - Phoebe
 - Miriam
 - Jemima

Scholar (Adults)

- Whose name was changed to "Abraham"? (Genesis 17:5)
 - Rahab
 - Abel
 - Abram
 - Ham
- What would happen to those in Abraham's family who broke the covenant with the Lord? (Genesis 17:14)
 - They would be killed
 - They would be unable to bear children
 - They would become like Cain's children
 - They would be cut off from the Lord's people

Scriptorian (Adults)

- How did Moses heal the bitter waters of Marah? (Exodus 15:25)
 - He poured olive oil in them
 - He washed himself in them 7 times
 - He cast a tree into them
 - He touched them with his rod
- What did God send to feed the murmuring children of Israel? (Exodus 16:13-15)
 - Deer and fish
 - Bread and quail
 - Corn and barley
 - Wheat and seeds

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Holy Humor



A bus full of ugly people had a head on collision with a truck. When they died, God granted all of them one wish. The first person said, "I want to be gorgeous." God snapped his fingers and it happened. The second person said the same thing and God did the same thing. This went on and on throughout the group. God noticed the last man in line was laughing hysterically. By the time God got to the last ten people, the last man was laughing and rolling on the ground. When the man's turn came, he laughed and said, "I wish they were all ugly again."



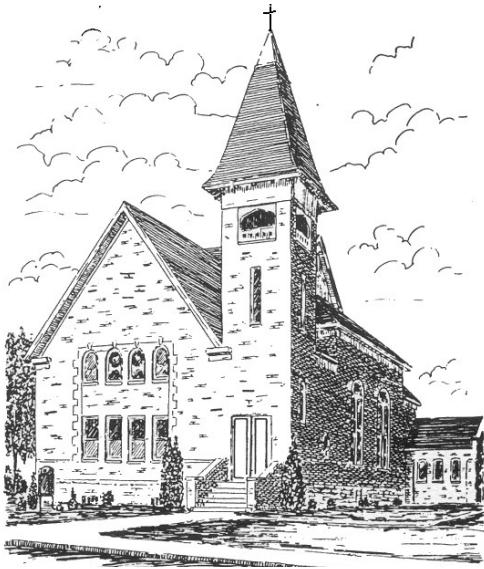
"I downloaded them from a cloud."

A minister told his congregation, "Next week I plan to preach about the sin of lying. To help you understand my sermon, I want you all to read Mark 17."

The following Sunday, as he prepared to deliver his sermon, the minister asked for a show of hands. He wanted to know how many had read Mark 17. Every hand went up. The minister smiled and said, "Mark has only sixteen chapters. I will now proceed with my sermon on the sin of lying."

FAITH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Upcoming Events

September 9th: Outdoor Worship Service, Potluck, and Congregational Meeting - Bring a lawnchair and a dish to share.

October 1st: Deadline to sign up for the Chanhassen Dinner Theatre Trip - see page 1 for details.

October 7th: Senior Recognition Sunday to recognize members over 80 years old.

October 14th: Deadline to bring in coats for the Common Cup Coat Drive.

October 28th: Deadline to bring in diapers for the Common Cup Diaper Drive, sizes 4,5,6 needed.

November 17th: Chanhassen Dinner Theatre Trip - RSVP needed by October 1st, see page 1.

Worship Services every Sunday at 10am. Communion Services the first Sunday of the month.
Choir practice Wednesdays at 6:30pm beginning September 12th.
Deacons meet the second Sunday of the month after church.
Music & Worship Committee next meeting is September 12th at 7pm.