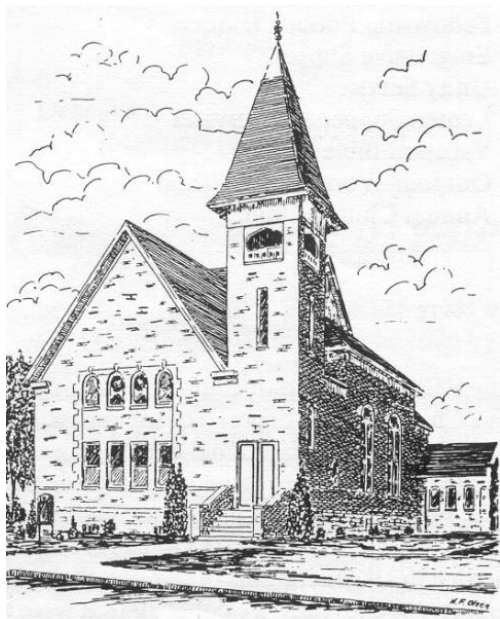


Faith Presbyterian Church
PO Box 307
108 Main St W
Silver Lake, MN 55381



Upcoming Events

- Dec. 8:** Christmas Music Sunday - Featuring Choir and Handbells
- Dec. 15:** A Service of Remembrance
- Dec. 22:** WOW Christmas Program
- Dec. 24:** Christmas Eve Worship Service with Communion – Handbells 4:45pm,
Service 5:00pm
- Dec. 25:** Christmas Day Worship Service – 10:00am

Worship Services – Sunday, 10am. Communion Services - the first Sunday of every month.

If you would like your newsletter emailed to you please contact Megan by email

faithfriends@embarqmail.com

Faith Friends Newsletter



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**What if today, we were just
grateful for everything?**

Pastor's Letter

As I am recovering on this November day, it is appropriate to offer thanks for Faith Presbyterian Church, both members and friends. I sincerely appreciate all your prayers and well wishes. Your faithfulness to Faith and your willing spirits are the strength of this congregation. May the blessing of the Lord be with you and your family during this Thanksgiving holiday.

I also want to express my desire to speak a blessing and prayer over you and your family in this most wonderful time of the year. Please allow Jesus to fill your heart with hope, peace, and love in this season.

As we approach the holidays, there is always the temptation to get caught in the commercialism of Christmas. I invite you to take time from all your holiday shopping to worship the true God. Consider bringing a special gift to the Church. Support a new mission. Give to someone in need. Attend worship, especially the individual services. Although, each year, Thanksgiving is skipped over to rush to gift-giving, take time to give thanks. Saying thanks does not cost anything, but it means the world to those who deserve appreciation. Remember, Jesus, wondered why only one leper returned to give thanks when ten were healed. Gratitude is a spiritual attribute.

If you are traveling this holiday season to be with family and friends, we pray for traveling mercies to accompany you and yours. May Christ sit with you as you gather around the table, share news of triumph and challenges, welcome new family members, and look forward to the new year.

From the Ashley family (Murphy, SanDawna, and Joy), we love and appreciate you and hope that the holidays will be filled with the wonder of the season. Happy Thanksgiving, Happy Advent, and Merry Christmas. May the Lord fill your life and grant you a Christmas miracle.

Sincerely,

Pastor Murphy Ashley



Session Report

Christmas greetings! How has this year gone by so quickly again?? Session is gearing up to start the new year strong and with the grace of God, three new Elders. Please consider accepting an invitation to become an Elder of our Church as it takes all of us to help make things run smoothly, especially in this time of transition. It is always good to have new people as Elders as new ideas are sometimes the exact thing that we need. May God bless you and keep you during this time of Advent.

Deb Jensen, Clerk of Session

Treasurer's Report

January - October, 2019: The general fund has total income of \$132,874. \$65,086 was a gift from an estate and \$61,602 came from offerings marked for Tithes and Offerings and Per Capita.

Just over half of our members marked their offerings for per capita, \$2,156. This means the church paid per capital expense to Presbytery of \$3,970 and of the \$3,970 paid, \$2,156 was given to the church by members designated for per capital expense. The remainder was paid from the general fund.

Overall, expenses are on target. January through October represents 75% of the year. Most areas are under this percentage. Church property is over due to Spring snow plowing and heating costs. This area will continue to have expenses and will be over budget due to weather conditions now that Winter is upon us.

Ordinary Income is the difference between what we took in from offerings and what was paid out in expenses so far this year. The legacy gift received has helped us show net income. Without it we would have had an ordinary loss of -\$26,000 at this point in the year.

Other Income/Expenses shows the interest received on our bank accounts and interest and market change on our investments. As of October, the investment market was up and we see a paper gain of \$36.106. A paper gain is a positive number on our financials. This amount isn't something we could use for operating expenses unless we would sell the investment. We want our investments to stay in the market working for us until the day we would show an ordinary loss and have to sell investments to pay expenses.

We have a great deal to be thankful for! God Bless!

Margie Nelsen, Treasurer

Faith Presbyterian Church of Silver Lake

Budget vs. Actual

January through October 2019

	General	
	Jan - Oct	
	19	
Ordinary Income/Expense		
Income		
Miscellaneous Revenue	475	
Legacy Bequests - Estate Gifts	65,086	
Per Capita	2,156	Sunday's offerings +/-50 members
Mission Offerings	181	
Tithes/Offerings	59,446	Sunday's offerings
Pola Czesky Revenue	5,530	
Total Income	132,874	

Expense	Jan - Oct 19	Budget	Difference	% of Budget
Administrative	11,462	18,453	-6,991	62%
Christian Education	574	6,355	-5,781	9%
Church at Worship	2,902	4,760	-1,858	61%
Church Property	24,585	27,144	-2,559	91%
Mission	7,771	8,952	-1,181	87%
Stewardship	0	300	-300	0%
Pastoral Ministry	46,505	59,600	-13,095	78%
Total Expense	93,800	125,564	-31,764	75%
Net Ordinary Income	39,074			75% is target
Other Income/Expense				
Other Income				
49600 · Bank Interest	37		On Checking/Savings accounts	
70500 · Investment Interest & Dividends	11,201		Re-invested for long term	
70600 · Unrealized Gains and Losses	36,106		Available if the investment is sold	
Total Other Income	47,344			
Net Income	86,418			

Faith Presbyterian Church of Silver Lake

Balance Sheet by Class

As of October 31, 2019

	General	
ASSETS		
FCB General Checking	12,878	
FCB General Savings	21,343	
Hutchinson Coop Investment	112,345	
New Covenants Investments	402,677	
TOTAL ASSETS	549,245	
LIABILITIES & EQUITY		
Liabilities		
403b Pretax Retirement	200	Pastor's personal retire-
403b After Tax Retirement	200	ment plan – no church \$
FICA Liability	124	
Medicare Liability	29	

Federal Tax Liability	1	
Dostal Scholarship	175	
Peace & Witness	160	Due to Presbytery
Total Liabilities	889	
Equity		
Unrestricted Net Assets	461,937	
Net Income	86,418	
Total Equity	548,355	
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	549,245	

Deacons' Report

Advent Greetings from the Faith Deacons!

As always, the Deacons are ready to take requests for additional prayers for family, friends, and the community. You can give the church a call or contact any of us and we will keep that person/family in prayerful thought as long as needed. Our network of members responds in minutes and keeps the situations confidential, if desired. The same goes for home visits.

During this Advent and the fast approaching Christmas Season let us all be more aware of the folks that may need a special greeting during this time of the year. It doesn't take but a minute to give a call, hug, handshake, pat on the back, or just a smile to someone who may need a little bit of kindness. It is up to all of us to share a kind gesture with those we meet.

With the close of 2019 we want to recognize Helen Jensen, Joy Nunvar, and Barb Quast, as their term of service as Deacons expire; the Nominating committee will be seeking candidates. Thank you for your faithful mission to the church congregation. Remaining are Doris Wraspier, Betty Williams, JoLen Bentz, Linda Brooks, Margie Fronk and Linda Prochaska. May our prayer for good health, safe travels, a happy heart and home be yours this Christmas and into the New Year 2020.

JoLen Bentz



Personnel Committee Report

We conducted a season ending job evaluation interview with Carol. Brittany will be taking over the church cleaning duties for the winter months. The balance of the church job evaluations will be done by the end of the year. If anybody has any comments or concerns please address these to the Personnel Committee, thank you.

Doris, Bruce, and Nancy

Christian Education Report

The kids have been busy learning of Jesus and how we can be like him in our everyday lives. We are still in need of a few teachers to help in the rotation so if you would be gracious enough to give one Wednesday evening a month (or more 😊) to the children of our Church we would greatly appreciate it!!!

We are excited for our children's Christmas program this year, "Who Came to Bethlehem?" A mystery with 2 detectives that search for who came to Bethlehem and why the birth of the baby Jesus is so important. Please join us on Sunday, December 22nd 10:00am as we find out the answers to these questions! Also stay after the program for Jesus' Birthday party!



Britany Jensen



Music and Worship



The Music and Worship Committee has had a busy fall planning all upcoming events. October 13, we welcomed the Minnetonka Flute Ensemble who inspired us with their many talents. They played the prelude, offertory, special music and postlude. On October 20th members 80 years old and over were honored. A short biography of each member was read and they were presented with a certificate. The following members were present and recognized: Mildred Friauf, Marjorie Stritesky, Donna Holm, Mabel Hlavka, Pearl Branden, Wane and Barb Micka, Ernest Svanda, Marlyce Bjork, Daniel Dostal and Carol Nuwash. Other members who were not present were Marian and Donald Adamek, Fran Knick, Ronald Makovsky and Karen Smutka, Dorothy Micka and Lorraine Trnka. A potluck dinner was enjoyed by all after the worship service. On November 17th all persons who do volunteer work at the church were recognized. There are too many jobs done by volunteers to list. Again, a potluck dinner was held. November 24th was Hanging of the Greens. This involved the entire congregation as each was given a decoration, as they entered, to place on the tree at the appropriate time. The WOW Children also sang during the Service.

The upcoming events for December are as follows: December 1 - Communion Service, December 8 - Choir and Handbell Christmas Music Sunday Service, December 15 - Service of Remembrance, December 22 WOW Christmas Program, December 24 - Christmas Eve Worship Service with Communion; Handbells 4:45 pm, Service 5:00pm, December 25 - Christmas Day Worship Service 10:00am.

Advent Devotionals are available. All members are encouraged to take one for the Advent Season. A Reminder that Pocket Change Sunday is the last Sunday of each month. Proceeds are used to help members in need. Jars are always on the back table and in the Fireside Room. Remember to bring your change, cash is also appreciated.

During Rev. Ashley's Medical Leave, the pulpit has been filled by Dr. Richard Lawrence and Dr. John McKay.

Concerns about worship can be brought to any committee member: Laura Pieper, Barb Wawrzyniak, Barb Quast, Bret Nelsen, Jacki Rossi and Dorothy Merrill.

Dorothy Merrill



Building and Maintenance

Members: Dorothy Merrill, Brent Posusta, Mark Krcil, Jerry Brooks, and Jerry Quast

Well it has been a busy fall. We found out that the boiler heating equipment needed some improvements by the furnace company, Foster Mechanical. All improvements have been completed as of November 18th. We really noticed an improvement in the Sanctuary and basement heating on November 17th.

When you have a chance, take a look the exit signs that have been installed. In case of loss of power each sign has a battery backup and security lighting that will activate in an emergency. All fire extinguishers have been checked and tagged. A plowing and shoveling contract has been approved. Right now, working to get ready for the Advent Season. The Nativity Scene has been moved to lawn near the manse. Thanks to all for your patience as we continue to do our Committee work.



Thanks again,
Jerry Brooks

Silver Sails Mariners

Silver Sails Mariners had their annual Halloween party on October 27th. After a short meeting, we enjoyed a delicious potluck dinner. Following the dinner, JoLen and Bonnie were in charge of the program and had a number of games for us to play. It was a fun afternoon.



Pack a good lunch

The Mariners will donate \$200.00 to GSL Schools for outstanding student lunch accounts. Mariners served coffee at fellowship hour after church on the 1st Sunday of Advent, December 1st.

We donated 15 pounds of food and \$25.00 from our Halloween party to the McLeod County Food Shelf.

Our next meeting will be in February 2020, everyone is invited to join us and become a member of this fun group.

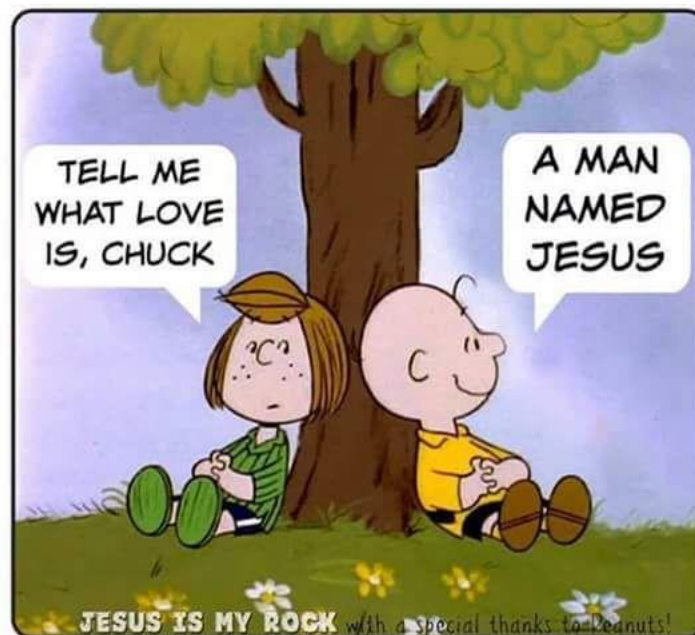
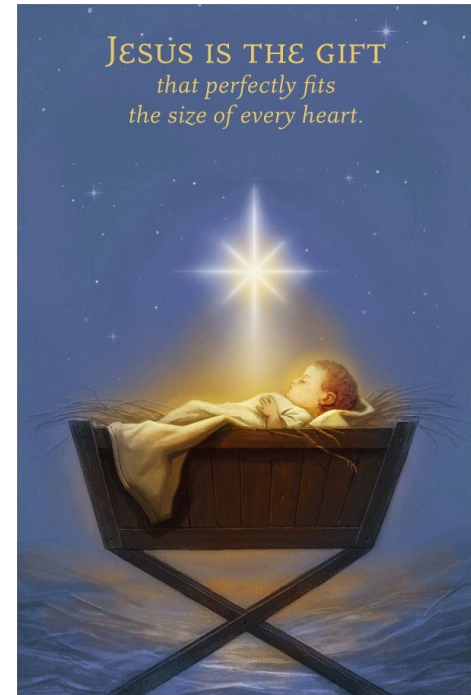
Skipper, Jerry Brooks



News and Notes

"And He came to us. God's love revealed - all found in this newborn child". Jesus's birth is a gift to us. As we go through each week of Advent leading up to Christmas Day we often are planning, shopping, baking and decorating for that one special day when we gather with friends and family to celebrate the birth of Jesus. Sometimes we are so involved in everything else that we forget about the wonderful gift that He is to us. This year the choir and handbells will have their music Sunday on December 8th during the 10 a.m. Worship Service. Come and help us celebrate the birth of God's greatest gift to us through the songs of Christmas. We will be preparing your hearts and minds with Advent songs also as we watch and wait for his coming. This time of year, is always special in the church as we sing the beloved carols of Christmas. On Christmas Day we will be having a 10 a.m. Worship Service and singing many of your favorite Christmas hymns.

Barb Wawrzyniak



Presbyterian Women

Again, we are a small group but we keep our projects going. We sent \$25.00 for the Advent Devotional Booklets. They are free but those who use them do enjoy them.

Approval for our Thank Offering was given by the Session. The offering was collected through December 1, 2019.

Our Bible Study is about the Ten Commandments. It is eye opening to understand why God sent us these commandments.

If you have the time please join us as you will learn more about the commandments while enjoying a cup of coffee and a snack.



Merry Christmas from your Presbyterian Women,
Donna Holm, Secretary

CAST & CRU RESTAURANT

Old Log Theatre Re-Cap

On Sunday, November 24, 29 Faith members, family and friends caravanned their way to the Old Log Theatre to see "A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder". Lunch was enjoyed at the attached restaurant, "Cast & Cru" prior to the afternoon performance. Murder, mystery, music and comedy, how can you go wrong! If you see other events or performances you think others would enjoy, let me know. I'd be glad to check it out for another potential group outing.

Joleen Nowak



Faith Presbyterian Church

108 West Main Street
PO Box 307
Silver Lake, MN 55381

(320) 327-2452

faithfriends@embargmail.com

Church Office Hours:
Wednesday, 11:00-3:00
Thursday & Friday, 8:00-12:00

Sunday Morning Worship
10:00 AM

Church Staff

Pastor
Rev. Murphy Ashley Jr.
302-353-8483

Secretary
Megan Bisek

Clerk of Session
Deb Jensen
320-583-8100

Organists
Barb Wawrzyniak
Jacki Rossi
Dorothy Merrill

Web Page:

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