

From the Pastor's Desk

“Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.”

1 Corinthians 12:4-7

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

We are about to enter a new year as I write this article. God has blessed us in many ways in this past year and we have also walked through difficult times this past year. As I think about this past year, I remember the struggle of trying to get back to the good work of being your pastor. I started out this past year on medical leave, so I give thanks that I have made slow progress throughout this past year, and pray this next year will result in more improvement for my health.

January is the time of annual meetings, looking back at the past year, but more importantly looking forward to the year to come. This chapter of 1 Corinthians is one of my many favorite passages of Scripture. The Spirit gives us all a variety of gifts, services, and activities. Each one of us is uniquely created, which is good news! The gifts I have are different from the gifts each of you have. I give thanks for the many people who share their gifts, services, and activities with the church. We give thanks for everyone who participated in the many activities of our shared ministry, and I pray you all will say “yes” to participating again in 2025.

The true power of the Body of Christ is only realized when we all work together as one. The variety of gifts, services, and activities all working together represent the church. Each one of you has God-given gifts to be used in service to God and to one another. Each one of our gifts is different, so it is only when working together as one body, can all the gifts be used to the glory of God.

Not all of us are called to be preachers or teachers or musicians or elders or council members, but we are thankful for those who have those gifts and share them with others. Some of us have gifts used behind the scenes like baking or cooking or cleaning or fixing things or visiting people who are sick or quilting or administrative tasks and the list goes on and on. We are thankful for everyone who makes our Shared Ministry the Body of Christ as we work together with the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

The people of both of our individual congregations work together, but on a bigger scale our two congregations work well together. On an even bigger scale, I enjoy it when our two congregations work together with the Peace/Grue Parish. This is a beautiful picture of the Body of Christ working together to serve both God and one another. I look forward to another year of everyone using their gifts, services, and activities to achieve things we never could achieve on our own with the guidance of the Holy Spirit. There is strength and power when we work together as one. Praying for a very blessed year for each and every one of you!

In Christ,
Rev. Dr. Paul Snyder



January 2025 Newsletter Articles

Pastor Paul's Office Hours Pastor Paul tentatively plans to be in the office from 9:00 – 11:30 a.m. at OS-TML on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays and at First on Thursdays. There may be days the pastor won't be in the office because of visitation, so please make an appointment if you need to see him or stop by if his car is at church. Pastor Paul's email is psnyder100@gmail.com and his cell number 218-230-4081. Pastor Paul would love to hear from you, so don't hesitate to be in touch!!

Reminder Worship Times Switch in January Worship times beginning January 5th will be:



- 9:00 a.m. at First Presbyterian
- 10:30 a.m. at OS-TML
- Facebook Live service continues to be at 9:00 a.m.

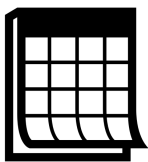
Communion will be celebrated in both congregations on Sundays January 5th and 26th. We will receive Communion by continuous Communion in person and those watching online are encouraged to prepare elements in your homes. All are welcome to the table!

Coffeehouse Worship in both congregations will be on Sunday, January 19th. Please join us for a more casual and relaxed worship atmosphere!

W.O.W. will resume on Wednesday, January 8th at 6:00 p.m. at First and will meet every Wednesday in January except January 1st.

Confirmation will resume on Wednesday, January 8th following Christmas break. Supper will be at 5:30 p.m. and class at 6:00 p.m. and will meet every Wednesday in January except January 1st.

Little Lights at First will meet Sundays following the children's sermon. There is a sign up in the narthex to teach.



- **Session** will meet Thursday, January 2nd at 7:00 p.m.
- **Council** will meet Monday, January 13th at 6:30 p.m.

Ashby Living Center Bible Study Pastor Paul will be leading on Wednesday, January 8th at 2:00 p.m.

WELCA Quilters meet Wednesdays at 9:00am in Dalton with coffee & treats.

Thank you Thanks for the many cards, gifts and treats I received this Christmas season. It truly is a great joy to serve as your pastor!! Praying you all had a Merry Christmas and wishing you a Happy New Year! –*Pastor Paul*

Worship Time Change for January 19th Only First will be having their annual meeting on Sunday January 19th following worship so for this Sunday only worship times will be swapped with 9:00 a.m. at OS-TML and 10:30 a.m. at First.

Annual Meetings Please send annual meeting reports and any other items to Jaime ASAP and no later than **Friday, January 10th** to provide enough time to compile and print for review one week in advance of each meeting.

- **First Annual Meeting** on January 19th, First Presbyterian will hold their annual meeting following 10:30 a.m. worship at First.
- **OS-TML Annual Meeting** on January 26th OS-TML will hold their annual meeting and potluck following 10:30 a.m. worship at OS-TML.

First Presbyterian Per Capita Per Capita is paid in January for each of our active members. A small percentage of this goes to both the General Assembly and the Synod of Lakes and Prairies, but the majority of these funds stay in our local Presbytery of Minnesota Valleys. It would be appreciated if each active member could send in a donation of \$46.00 for per capita. This is an increase of \$1. Please mark your offering as “per capita.” Thanks for your support of this important mission of the broader church!

Habitat for Humanity is building a house in Dalton this fall. They are looking for local volunteer builders to help them complete the house. All skills are welcome to help. Everyone is useful. Must be 17 years old or older. They also are recruiting individuals and groups to provide meals for volunteer builders during the lunch hour. They are now in need of volunteers every week on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. If anybody or group would be interested in helping, please contact Paul Shol. His contact information is paul@ffhabitat.org or (office) 218-736-2905 (cell) 218-205-5739. Let’s support this local project!

Prayer Concerns: Kim Bailey, Eileen Rubish, Cari Ripley, Al Larson, Val Martin, Ron Breuer, Kristi Krause, Cookie Williams, Wes Kilker, Darcy Rylander, Pastor Paul Snyder, Marilyn Stevens, Darlene Akerman, and Lyle Skinnemoen.

Directory of Contacts

Please take the time to update your contact information to be compiled into a contact list booklet by completing the Google form [HERE](#). There are also paper forms at each church that can be completed and left on the office desks for Jaime to gather.



Jaime is in the process of putting the Booklets together to be available at the Annual Meetings in January. We will continue to update annually. If something changes, maybe you didn’t get your information submitted for 2025 and want to be included for 2026, please fill out the form. Thanks!

**Our Saviors Ten Mile Lake Church
Council Meeting—December 9, 2024 at 6:30pm**

Present: Pastor Paul, Kyle, Jerry, Teddy, Julie, Debbie and Stacy

Absent: Danielle

Devotions and prayer given by Pastor Paul.

The Secretary's report was reviewed, Jerry made a motion to approve the minutes, Dave second, motion carried.

Debbie presented the Treasurer's Report. The beginning balance at our last meeting on November 7 was \$4,774.09 total income was \$10,406.00 total expenses were \$11,496.48 leaving a balance of \$3,683.61. We discussed and agreed to take out a new 54-month CD for the Midwest bank CD maturing on December 23rd. We also agreed to allow the investment in the ELCA Mission Investment Fund that matures on December 27th to automatically renew with a 6 year fixed rate term investment. Julie made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report, Stacy second, motion carried.

Trustee's Report – Chris Ecker is going to fix the Bell Tower either now or next Spring, whenever he has time.

Deacon's Report – Julie will help with communion on December 22nd, Debbie will help on December 24th and Kyle will help on January 5th.

Shared Ministry Report – nothing to discuss

Old Business:

We discussed chapter 6 in the Sailboat Church.

Habitat for Humanity – continued work done on the house.

Christmas Fest – discussed what needs to get prepared to serve lunch at Christmas Fest.

New Business:

The 2025 Budget was discussed and was recommended for approval at the Annual Meeting. Dave made a motion to accept the 2025 Budget for approval at the Annual Meeting, Jerry second, motion carried.

Communion – we discussed the way we provide communion today. It was decided to keep doing it the same way for now.

It was discussed that when W.O.W. sings, there will only be one worship service.

Calendar Items:

- Saturday, December 14th Meal at Community Center for Christmas Fest
- Wednesday, December 18th 7:00 p.m. Blue Christmas Service at First
- Tuesday, December 24th 5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service at OS-TML
- Wednesday, December 25th 10:30 a.m. Christmas Day Service at First

The next Council meeting will be January 13th at 6:30 p.m.

We closed with The Lord's Prayer.

Regular Session Meeting December 10, 2024

The regular meeting of the 1st Presbyterian Church of Ashby was held at 7 PM on December 10, 2024. Those present were Moderator Rev. Dr. Paul Snyder, Ruling Elders: Gwyn Risbrudt, Jim Rylander, Troy Johnson, Donna Fay Grover, and Treasurer: Jim Risbrudt. Absent with excuse: Kim Bailey, Ron Bowman and Barb Dewey.

The meeting was opened in prayer by the Moderator. The Mission Statement was read. The moderator led a discussion on duties of the Moderator from the Book of Order. A quorum was present and the docket motion to approve was made, seconded and carried (MSC).

Treasurer's Report: Checking: \$3,996.74, Savings: \$19,964.86, Memorial \$3,331.88, Music: \$7,962.51, Dishwasher: \$2,034.98, L&L Camp: \$1,481.13, Grover Bible: \$412.80, Building/Maint: \$6,701.30, Starnar: \$1,184.39. Treasurer's report MSC. The 2025 budget has not been completed and it is possible to have a special meeting to approve. Minutes of November meeting MSC.

Pastor's Report: Communion celebrated at 1st Presbyterian with Rev. Dr. Paul Snyder at Sunday services December 1, 2024 with 33 communicants and those on Facebook live. Pastor has done one visitation, led Bible Study at Ashby Living Center, Zoom meetings of Multi-Parsh, text study by Zoom and Fergus Falls conference meeting at Zion in Fergus. Discussion of Chapter 6 Sailboat Church.

Communications: Thank you from Haiti Eye mission for donation.

Committee Reports:

Buildings & Grounds: Discussion on replacing the front door when warmer weather arrives.

Christian Education: WOW Christmas party December 11.

Worship: Blue Christmas service Wednesday, December 18 at 7 PM. No coffee house worship on 3rd Sunday-services upstairs. No communion on Sunday December 21. Christmas Day service 10:30 AM with communion, no coffee. Change of Worship times in January: 9 AM at 1st Presbyterian, 10:30 AM at Our Savior's Ten Mile Lake Lutheran. Annual meeting January 19, 2024 with change of worship times to 10:30 am that Sunday.

New Business: Barb, Donna and Gwyn will meet to set up serving groups. Nominating committee: Bob & Donna Grover have agreed to serve as financial secretaries. Session voted to allow church members to walk at church for exercise.

Next meeting is set for January 2, 2025 at 7 PM. MSC to adjourn the meeting and it was closed by all praying the Lord's Prayer.

Moderator Rev. Dr. Paul Snyder

Acting Clerk of Session: Donna Fay Grover

January
OS-TML Worship Leaders
Peggy Lien

January
First Disciple Team
Gary & Gail Olson
Butch & BJ Rylander

Altar Guild
Bonnie Borgrud

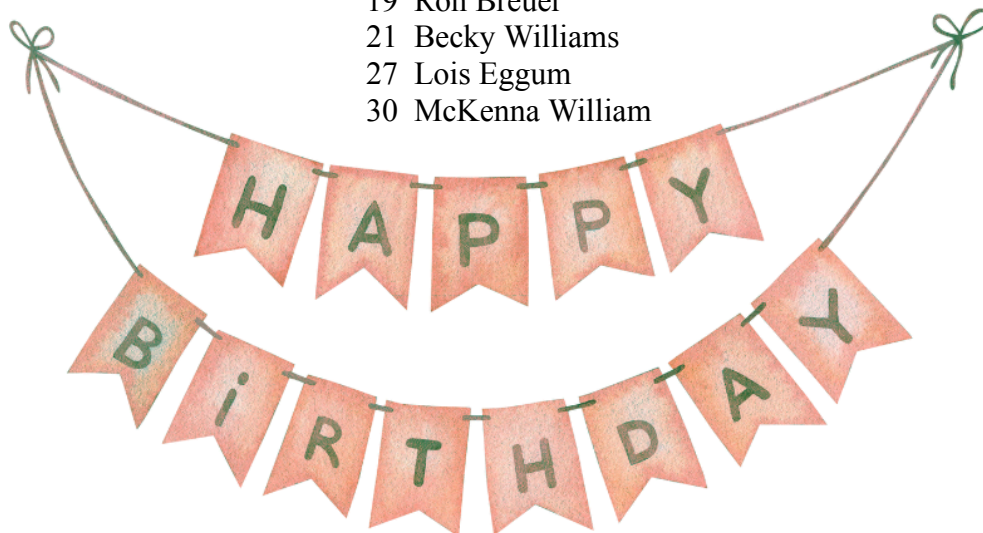
*****Confirmands will assist with reading scriptures during the school year.*****

OS-TML
January 5 – Alison Heeter
January 12 – Open
January 19 – Open
January 26 – Open

FIRST
January 5 – Saoirse Stevens
January 12 – Brooks Rylander
January 19 – Henry Olson
January 26 – Brynn Jensen

January Birthdays

- 2 Donna Fay Grover
- 3 Lois Ellingson
- 4 Sienna Williams
- 6 Steve Moss
- 10 Dain Nelson
- 13 Don Moen
- 15 Shaun Anderson
- 17 Steve Anderson
- 17 Gretchen Ness
- 18 Sharen Anderson
- 18 Ashley Schroeder
- 19 Ron Breuer
- 21 Becky Williams
- 27 Lois Eggum
- 30 McKenna William





First Presbyterian Session Members

Barb Dewey – Clerk of Session
Troy Johnson
Donna Fay Grover
Kim Bailey
Ron Bowman
Gwyn Risbrudt
Jim Rylander
Jim Risbrudt – Treasurer

Shared Ministry Council

Troy Johnson- Vice President
Kim Bailey
Jim Rylander
Jim Risbrudt- Treasurer
Jerry Thormodson- President
David Olson
Joan Helgeson- Secretary
Julie Olson



OS-TML Church Council Members

Julie Walvatne
Danielle Schroeder
Stacy Hansel- Secretary
Debbie Wilke - Treasurer
Dave Olson- Vice President
Ted Frigaard
Kyle Frigaard - President
Jerry Thormodson

Women of the ELCA President

Peggy Lien

Board of Education

Ashley Lee

Endowment Fund Board

Deb Thormodson

Our Savior's Cemetery Board

David Schroeder, Sexton
Kyle Frigaard
Dean Thorsen
Gaylan Thormodson
Larry Sonmor

Our Savior's Lutheran Church
105 South Central
PO Box 158
Dalton, MN 56324
RETURN ADDRESS REQUESTED



January

SHARED MINISTRY STAFF

Reverend Doctor Paul Snyder

OS-TML Office & Pastor's Study: 589-8454 Cell: 218-230-4081

105 S. Central Ave, PO Box 158, Dalton, MN 56324

First Presbyterian Church: 747-2744 - 202 Nelson St, PO Box 14, Ashby, MN 56309

Office Administrator: Jaime Sorenson Cell: 507-276-8237

Office Email – sharedministryashbydalton@gmail.com

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP SCHEDULE January-April 2025

9:00am – First Presbyterian Worship

Holy Communion the 1st & 4th Sunday

3rd Sunday Coffeehouse Worship

10:30am – Our Savior's-Ten Mile Lake Worship

Holy Communion the 1st & 4th Sunday

3rd Sunday Coffeehouse Worship

ONLINE SERVICES live at 9:00am on Facebook