

From the Pastor's Desk

“However that may be, let each of you lead the life that the Lord has assigned, to which God called you. This is my rule in all the churches.” 1 Corinthians 7:17

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

It is with a heavy heart that I write this article. As you know my beloved mom passed away in August. I really miss my mom as I talked to her most every night. She was my best friend and role model in faith and in life. She taught me that faith and life are connected. Faith should have an impact on how we live life in the secular world, and God's presence is not only within the four walls of the church when we gather, but God's presence is also in our daily lives.

The early church understood this. Jesus' ministry didn't just happen in the confines of the temple or synagogues. There are many stories about Jesus that happen in his every day life. The early church emphasized that faith was something to be lived out in the world. God claims our whole lives not just an hour on Sunday morning.

Both the Presbyterian and the Lutheran Church put an emphasis on vocation. What is vocation? Here are some definitions of vocation from the dictionary:

a particular occupation, business, or profession; calling.

a strong impulse or inclination to follow a particular activity or career.

a divine call to God's service or to the Christian life.

a function or station in life to which one is called by God.

Vocation certainly means our careers and God calls us to do different things. God calls all of us to serve God in the secular world. God also calls us to the vocation of family. We don't often think of that as a vocation but we serve God by caring for and spending time with our children, grandchildren or elderly parents. We serve God through service in the community, and that is a vocation as well. We even serve God in our leisure in how we love our neighbors.

This fall we will begin the Life of Faith Initiate in our congregations. This is not a new program but a paradigm shift. This paradigm shift focuses on what we do between Sundays rather than what we do inside the church. Worship should equip us to serve God in our every day lives. You can learn more about this initiative at www.lifeoffaith.info and on Sunday, September 14th we will watch an introductory video as part of our worship. The second Sunday of each month we will continue to use a video and learn more about this initiative. These worship services will feel more like a Bible study as we learn together as a congregation. It was not necessarily designed to be used in this way, but in our context, I feel this is the easiest and best way to get the information to our entire congregation. I hope you will join us as we enter into this journey to reclaim the mission and vocation that God gives us both as a community of faith and as individuals. Let us have open minds, so that we can follow the Spirit not only when we are together, but as we go out into the mission field, which is the world and the community in which we have been placed. Let us serve God each and every day wherever we are. Thanks be to God!

In Christ,
Rev. Dr. Paul Snyder

September 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!!

Thank You to everyone for all your thoughts, prayers, hugs, cards, and words of sympathy during this time of loss. Also thank you to all those who attended the funeral service for my mom. Your acts of kindness and love helped me and my family through a very difficult time. Pastor Paul Snyder

Change in Worship Times will begin September 14th with First worship at 9:00 a.m. and OS-TML worship at 10:30 a.m. Our Facebook Live service will continue to be at 9:00 a.m.

OS-TML THRESHING CLEANING DAY Monday, September 1st Labor Day, beginning at 9:00 a.m. we will clean down at the grounds and move the kitchen supplies down from the church. Many hands make quick work, so please join us!

Lake Region Threshers Community Worship will be held on the threshing grounds on September 7th at 8:00 a.m. There will be no service at OS-TML this Sunday, but First will worship at 10:30 a.m. Our online worship service will be at 10:30 a.m. for this Sunday only.

Life of Faith Initiative our two congregations will be joining the Life of Faith Initiative. The purpose of the Life of Faith initiative is to stir up a culture change that frees us to make the service by the baptized in the arenas of daily life the central focus of the church's mission. We will have an introductory video on Sunday, September 14th and every second Sunday of the month we will have a video and worship will be more like a Bible study as we learn about how the early church focused its life as it grew and flourished. This is a model that can be reclaimed for today's church!

First Communion Class for both congregations will be held on Wednesday, September 10th at 6:00 p.m. in Ashby. This class is for any child who has not attended a First Communion Class who is in 3rd grade or above. This class is for both children and their parents. Students will learn the meaning of Communion and common practices of the Lord's Supper in our congregations. First Communion Sunday will be on Sunday, October 5th at both churches.

Confirmation will begin with the First Communion class Wednesday, September 10th at 6:00 p.m. Confirmation students will meet with our First Communion class to review the meaning of the Sacraments. Parents do not need to attend this class unless they have other children taking the First Communion class. Parents of confirmation students are asked to attend confirmation class along with their students on Wednesday, September 17th at 6:00 p.m. We will go over the schedule for the year and talk about the purpose of confirmation. Beginning September 25th we will have supper at 5:30 p.m. followed by class at 6:00 p.m. All students in 7th grade or older are welcome to join us for confirmation.

Ashby Living Center Bible Study Pastor Paul will be leading a Bible study on Wednesday, September 10th at 2:00 p.m.

Communion will be celebrated on September 7th at First and September 28th in both congregations. 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!

Council will meet on Thursday, September 18th at 6:30 p.m.

Session will meet on Monday, September 8th at 6:30 p.m.

Coffee House Worship will be on Sunday, September 21st in both congregations. Please join us for a more casual setting as we worship the Lord together.

W.O.W. will begin this fall. The schedule has not been set yet.

WELCA Quilters will begin meeting at 9:00am on Wednesdays along with coffee and treats. Join us!

Annual Fall Hotdish Supper at First has been scheduled for Sunday, October 26th from 4-7 p.m. in our fellowship hall.

Prayer Concerns: Ashtyn Lill, Corlin (Debbie Wilke's brother), Trevor Schlosser, Cookie Williams, Karen Hansel, DeEtte Johnson, Eileen Rubish, Cari Ripley, Ron Breuer, Kristi Krause, Darcy Rylander, Lyle Skinnemoen, and the families of Janet Welch, Wes Kilker and Ethelynn Snyder.



We're excited to invite you to join us for monthly revivals, a time of community worship and fellowship open to all believers.

Each month, we'll gather to lift up the name of Jesus, worship through music, and reconnect with God.

The next revival will be held at **Melby Park** on Pelican Lake along County Road 10 near Ashby on **Sunday, September 14th at 5:30pm.**

Bring a picnic dinner, bring your family and friends, and come as you are. Don't forget a lawn chair or blanket! We can't wait to worship with you.

"Will You not revive us again, that Your people may rejoice in You?" -Psalm 85:6

Our Saviors Ten Mile Lake Church
Council Meeting—August 11, 2025 at 6:30pm

Present: Pastor Paul, Julie, Danielle, Debbie, Jerry and Kyle Absent: Ted

Devotion was discussion of chapter 9 “Preparing for Storms” from the book Sailboat Church followed by prayer.

The Secretary’s Report for the June 9th meeting was reviewed. Motion made by Julie to approve the minutes; Jerry seconded. Motion carried.

Treasurer’s Report was presented by Debbie. The beginning balance at our June meeting was \$2,004 with a total income of \$15,155 and expenses of \$14,960 leaving a balance of \$2,199. It was necessary to transfer \$3,000 from the general savings account to cover expenses for the month of June. The rebate check from Otter Tail Power for the heat pump was received. Gifts of \$2,500 were received to the cemetery, with \$1,500 designated toward the paving project. Motion was made by Danielle to approve Treasurer’s Report and seconded by Julie. Motion carried.

Pastor’s Report: Pastor Paul provided an update which included officiating at a funeral for Grue, baptism at Peace and discussing with Pastor Julie upcoming joint events and services between our four churches. We had a successful Vacation Bible School with close to 70 kids attending.

Trustee’s Report: Julie is working on repairs to the bell tower. Replacement glass has been ordered for the front door and Fergus Glass will install soon. Windowsills in the Narthex are rotting and will need to be replaced.

Deacon’s Report: Danielle will assist with the August 24th communion.

Shared Ministry: Minutes were reviewed from the August 6th Shared Ministry council meeting. The next Shared Ministry council meeting will be on November 17th to set the 2026 budget.

Old Business:

Pastor Paul will be on vacation August 25-31. Kathy Terpsta will provide pulpit supply on August 31.

The asphalt paving for the cemetery is expected to be completed this fall.

Preparations are underway for the threshing food stand and church service.

The joint service and picnic will be held on August 17. First Presbyterian will be hosting.

Pastor Paul will be attending a Leadership Retreat at Clearwater Forest, September 21-24.

New Business:

Worship times will change starting on Sept 14th through year-end with 10:30 am services at Our Savior’s-Ten Mile Lake.

Due to the first Sunday in September being the service at the Threshing grounds council decided on only one communion service in September – September 28.

Shared Ministry approved a December 26 - January 1 vacation request for Pastor Paul. We will have a video sermon on December 28 and there will be no communion.

Pastor Paul will be attending the NWMN Synod Fall Theological Seminar Sept. 14-16 at Luther Crest Bible Camp.

The Joint Thanksgiving Service will be on Tuesday, November 25th at 7:00 pm.

Pastor Paul and Pastor Julie are discussing having a joint Blue Christmas Service.

A date will be set for the required Church Safe Training for W.O.W. leaders.

1st Communion Class for all third grade and above will be held on September 10th at First Presbyterian at 6:00 pm with the First Communion Service at both churches on October 5th.

Confirmation meeting with parents and students on September 17th at 6:00 pm at First Presbyterian.

Next council meeting will be September 18th at 6:30 PM.

We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Debbie Wilke, Acting Secretary

Our Savior's-Ten Mile Lake Financial Review

Year to Date as of August 21, 2025

Income

Offerings	\$	41,114.34	
Lenten Offering/Meals		772.00	
Easter Breakfast		288.00	
Coffee Money		288.50	
Transfer from General Savings		27,709.42	
Minnesota Propane Assn - furnace rebate		200.00	
Donations		1,260.00	
Total Income			\$ 71,632.26

Expenses

Staff Ministry	\$	41,301.87	
Missions		3,940.17	
Worship and Service		1,371.58	
Church Home		14,480.61	
Maintenance		15,769.07	
Miscellaneous		631.79	
Total Expenses			\$ 77,495.09

Account Balances:	Aug. 21, 2025
Checking	\$ 1,836.90
General Savings	135,811.09
Memorial Savings	1,741.89
Ellen & Pat Welch Scholarship Fund	537.49
Our Savior's Cemetery	79,476.91

Gifts of \$2,500 were received to the Our Savior's Cemetery. Our appreciation to those providing these gifts.

Regular Session Meeting August 7, 2025

The regular meeting of the 1st Presbyterian Church of Ashby was held at 6:30 PM, August 7, 2025 at the church. Those present: Moderator Rev. Dr. Paul Snyder, Ruling Elders: Janet Larson, Jim Risbrudt, Troy Johnson, Donna Fay Grover, Gwyn Risbrudt and Clerk Barb Dewey. Absent with excuse Kim Bailey.

The meeting was opened in prayer by the Moderator Pastor Snyder. The Elders present watched Boundary Training #2 video with discussion following as required by Book of Order/Presbytery. The new harassment policies will be printed in newsletter. The Shared Ministry mission statement read together. A quorum present and Docket voted approved with additions.

Treasurer's Report: Checking: \$13,156.48, Savings: \$17,486.25, Memorial Fund: \$3,377.33, Music: \$8,535.39, Dishwasher: \$2,038.06, L&L Camp: \$1,483.37, Grover Bible: \$413.43, Building/Maint: \$7,667.71, Starnes: \$2,069.52. Still \$1,870 due on Per Capita which will soon be paid. The Shared Ministry fund is able to let us skip a payment in November which will help with insurance bill due at that time. The report was voted approved. The minutes of the June 19th meeting were voted approved.

Pastor's Report: Communion celebrated with Pastor Snyder at Sunday Worship services on June 22, 2025 with 24 communicants, July 6, 2025 with Jerry Peterson SAM and 23 communicants and July 27, 2025 with Pastor Snyder and 32 communicants and August 3, 2025 with Rev. Dr Snyder and 22 communicants and those on Facebook live. Pastor was at Synod Camp/ taking vacation June 23- July 6. Will be on vacation August 25-31 and Kathy Terpstra, CRE will be preaching and serving communion. Pastor Snyder lead Bible Study and did communion with Janet Larson, Elder at Ashby Living Center. Participated in Habitat build day. Officiated at Janet Welch funeral at Olson Funeral home. Helped with VBS, attended pastor and Zoom meetings, did home and health care center visitations.

Session voted time for Pastor Snyder: ELCA Fall Theological Seminar Sept 14-16 at Luther Crest and vacation of December 26-January 1, 2026. December 26th we will have a video sermon. Session voted Communion will be on Christmas Day and not on December 26th.

Communications: Thank you received from Presbytery for the One Great Hour of Sharing \$350 donation.

Committee Reports:

- **Shared Ministry:** The 4 church Joint Service and picnic will be 10:45 AM on August 17, 2025 at Ashby Park. Pastor Julie will do sermon, Pastor Snyder will do bulletin. We will provide reader and host. Joint Thanksgiving service will probably be at Grue Lutheran on November 25th at 7 PM. Possible Joint Service with Peace/Grue for Blue Christmas Service. Joint Session/Council/Shared Ministry meeting to do budget November 17 at 6:30 PM in Ashby.
- **Buildings and Grounds:** Donna will check on replacing front door. Jim working on coffee pot
- **Christian Education:** Community VBS held July 28-30 with 70 kids. WOW-Safe Training date to be determined. Kelli Weinandt and a team will be leading WOW. 1st Communion Class will be September 10th at 6 PM for 3rd graders and up. Confirmation students with parents will meet September 17 at 6 PM.
- **Worship:** Change in Worship times starts September 14, 2025 (after September 7th Dalton Threshing Days) to 9 AM at 1st Presbyterian, 10:30 at OSTML.

New Business: Session book Presbytery audit July 10 at Federated in Fergus-Books approved. Session voted to have Fall Supper on Sunday evening October 26, 2025 starting at 4 PM. Session voted permission for Lions Club to use facilities for meetings (usually 3rd Monday of the month). Next Session meeting will be September 8, 2025 at 6:30 PM. The meeting was voted adjourned and closed by all praying the Lord's Prayer.

Moderator: Rev. Dr. Paul Snyder

Clerk of Session: Barb Dewey

**Shared Ministry Council Meeting
6:30 PM August 6, 2025 at First Presbyterian**

President Troy Johnson opened the meeting. Members present were Pastor Paul, Troy Johnson, Kyle Frigaard, Jim Risbrudt and Joan Helgeson.

Pastor Paul opened with devotions and prayer.

Minutes were reviewed and a motion was made by Jim to approve the minutes, Kyle second. Motion carried.

Jim presented the Treasurer's Report, Joan made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report, Kyle second. Motion carried.

Old Business

The joint picnic with OSTML, First, Peace and Grue will be held in the Ashby Park on August 17th at 10:45 AM with Peace church hosting.

Pastor Paul will attend Continuing Ed at Clearwater Forest Ministry Leadership Retreat September 21-24.

Pulpit Supply for August 31st will be Kathy Terpstra.

New Business

Change of worship times will begin on September 14th because of threshing.

Lake Region Threshers Community Worship is at 8:00 AM on September 7th.

Safe Training/Teachers' meeting for W.O.W. date is to be determined.

The Fall Theological Conference NWMN Synod will be September 14-17th at Luther Crest.

The 1st Communion Class is September 10th at 6:00 PM at First. First Communion will be on October 5th.

Confirmation meeting with parents will be on September 17th at 6:00 PM at First.

The Joint Thanksgiving Service will be Tuesday, November 25th at 7:00 PM at Grue or Peace.

We discussed a possible Joint Blue Christmas Service with Peace/Grue.

Pastor Paul requested a tentative vacation for December 26-January 1. Joan made a motion to accept this request, Jim second. Motion carried.

Pulpit supply for December 28th will be a video sermon. There will be no communion on that Sunday.

The 2026 Budget will be on the agenda at the November 17th meeting. Members from session and council are to be at the meeting.

The next meeting will be on November 17th at 6:30 PM.

We closed with the Lord's Prayer.



OS-TML Worship Leaders

September

Debbie Wilke

First Disciple Team

September

Al & Janet Larson

Cliff & Val Martin

Altar Guild

Debbie Wilke

September Birthdays

1 Tina Frigaard
1 Bonnie Blondeau
2 Taanna Henningsen
4 Ashtyn Lill
7 Ruth Karlgaard
8 Emma Thormodson
13 Danette Thormodson
15 Sara Hage
20 Jaime Sorenson
23 Saoirse Stevens
24 Bonnie Borgrud
25 JoAnn Ecker
29 Winnie Thompson





First Presbyterian Session Members

Barb Dewey – *Clerk of Session*
Jim Risbrudt – *Treasurer*
Donna Fay Grover
Kim Bailey
Troy Johnson
Gwyn Risbrudt
Janet Larson

Shared Ministry Council

Troy Johnson- *President*
Kyle Frigaard- *Vice President*
Jim Risbrudt- *Treasurer*
Kim Bailey- *Secretary*
Joan Helgelson
Debbie Wilke



OS-TML Church Council Members

Kyle Frigaard - *President*
Jerry Thormodson- *Vice President*
Debbie Wilke - *Treasurer*
Danielle Schroeder
Julie Walvatne
Ted Frigaard

Women of the ELCA President

Peggy Lien

Board of Education

Ashley Lee

Endowment Fund Board

Deb Thormodson
Julie Olson

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



September

SHARED MINISTRY STAFF

Reverend Doctor Paul Snyder

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

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

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WORSHIP SCHEDULE

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP SCHEDULE September-December 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