



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

FIRST

PRESBYTERIAN

CHURCH

Our mission is to know Christ, serve Him,
and make Him known.

~ Gathering Before the Word ~

Welcome

Pastor Eddie

Prelude

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Setting by Kelsey

Lighting of the Candles

Caylin Lowder & Mary Gray Petersen

Choral Call to Worship

Wait for the Lord

Chancel Choir

Lighting of the Hope Candle

Jason & Lindsay Leece

***Responsive Call to Worship No. 480** *Wait for the Lord*

***Hymn of Praise No. 67**

Blessed Be the God of Israel

FOREST GREEN

Prayer of Adoration and Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For Thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen."

Prophecy of Hope

Isaiah 9:1-7

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***Hymn of Assurance No. 329**

Lead Me, Guide Me

Akers

~ Proclaiming the Word of God ~

Concerns and Celebrations of Our Church Family

Word with our Children

Michelle Walker

Offering and Anthem No. 63

My Soul in Stillness Waits

Haugen

Chancel Choir

***Scripture Reading**

Romans 1:1-7

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Sermon

"The Scandal of the Gospel"

Pastor Eddie

~ Responding to the Word of God ~

***Sending Song No. 492** *Come, Thou Almighty King* ITALIAN HYMN

***Prayer and Benediction**

***Postlude** *From God the Father, Virgin Born* Setting by Seim

***All who are able, please stand.**

CCLI# 222113

welcome

We are delighted that you are worshiping with us this morning, and hope you find today meaningful and refreshing. Visitors are asked to fill out a Visitor Information Card, located in the pew, and place it in the offering plate. Prayer Requests may be noted on the reverse side of the card.

Children's Activity Bags are available for children aged 3 to grade 5. They include a children's bulletin related to the Sunday sermon, crayons, and scrap paper.

Children's Church is available for children 4 years through 2nd grade. After the "Word with our Children", they will be escorted to their classroom in the Nursery.

A Nursery is available for newborns through age 4. It is located in the Educational Building. If you need assistance or directions, an usher would be happy to help you!



An Advent Devotional, *Think on These Things*, has been prepared by Pastor Eddie and Michelle to assist you in your advent preparations. Please pick up your copy in the Narthex. A digital copy is also available on our website.

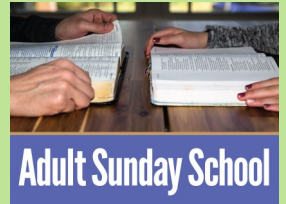
Thanks to all who have contributed to the "Building on the Cornerstone" campaign. To date, almost \$130,000 has been contributed towards the goal of \$210,000, or just over 60% of the goal! This effort will make improvements to the appearance, safety, security, and maintainability of the church's outdoor property. If you wish to contribute, write a check to the church with 'Cornerstone' on the memo line, or give through the church website.





TODAY is the last day to place your poinsettia orders. Order forms are in the Narthex. Please be sure to put "Poinsettia" on the memo line of your check.

Adult Sunday School will meet for combined classes on December 7, 14, & 21. We will gather in the Fellowship Hall at 10am. There will be **NO** Sunday School, for any ages, on December 28 .



First Presbyterian Youth will present "And the Song Goes On," a Christmas musical, on Sunday, December 7 at 7:00pm! Join us for a delicious dinner at 6:00pm, and bring a dessert to share. If you need a ride, please see Eddie or Michelle. Invite friends and family to join us as our youth remind us the Reason we celebrate...and sing!

Christmas Play Practice continues, as the youth prepare for our presentation! Upcoming practices include:

Sunday, November 30 - 12:30-2:30pm in F. Hall (lunch provided after church)

Wednesday, December 3 - 6:00-7:30pm in F. Hall (dinner at 5:30pm)

Saturday, December 6 - 10:00am-12pm Dress Rehearsal



The First Presbyterian Chancel Choir invites you to "A Family Christmas Celebration" on Sunday, December 14 at 7:00pm. Spend an evening listening to the beautiful music of the season. Our youth and special guest musicians will also lend their talents. If you need transportation, see Michelle or Eddie. All are welcome!



The JOY Group invites all Seniors for a Christmas Lunch on Wednesday, December 10th at the home of Ron & Alpha Barger. The main dish and drinks will be provided. Bring a wrapped gift costing less than \$10. Please sign up to bring a side dish or dessert in the Narthex by NEXT Sunday, December 7th.





The Navigators' Sunday School Class Christmas Party will be Wednesday, December 10 from 6:30pm-8:30pm. Wear fun Christmas attire (there will be an ugly sweater contest!), and bring your favorite treat or snack to share. Dinner, dessert, and a hot chocolate bar will be provided. Bring a \$10 gift and come for fun, games and fellowship. Please RSVP to Tracy Caskey or sign up in the Narthex by NEXT Sunday, December 7.

Mark your calendars for Christmas Caroling to our homebound church family! We will carpool from the church on Wednesday, December 17 at 6pm and travel to several homes nearby. Desserts and hot drinks will await our return. Come make a joyful noise with us!



Invite family and friends to our Candlelight Christmas Eve Service on December 24! This year, we will gather at 5:30pm for a time of worship and reflection.



The First Pres Giving Tree is in the Narthex! This year's beneficiaries will be Shady Brook Elementary families and Meals on Wheels recipients. Each item requested is tied to the tree with 2 tags. Write your name on one tag and place it in the bag under the tree. Take the other with you, and attach it to the item you purchase when you return it. Deposit your gift in the corresponding gift bin under the tree by Sunday, December 14. Please only wrap the gift if the tag indicates it should be wrapped! See Sue Maiocchi or Janet Harte with questions.



Linda's Closet is open the 1st & 3rd Tuesdays from 11:00am -1:00pm. Other Tuesdays are "work days". The closet will be closed from December 17 - January 5 and will reopen Tuesday, January 6.
Current needs:
boys clothes, sizes 2-16
costume jewelry
new underwear for all



Thank you for donating to the First Pres Blessing Fence!

See Sam or Kay McAllister if you can help with current needs:

- small cosmetic bags
- feminine products
- new/gently-used towels

PRAYER CONCERNS

Help us keep Prayer Concerns current with weekly updates.

Email the church or note on a prayer card & place in the offering plate.

CHURCH FAMILY

- Debby Baker - health concerns
- Susan Baker - pneumonia
- William Baker - recovery from fall
- Tony Rary - multiple myeloma treatments
- Carol Lowder - treatments are finished!
- Regina Starnes - health concerns
- Jeff Barnhardt - kidney stones
- Steve Goodnight - recovering at home
- Bonnie Goodnight - caring for her father, Lester Watts
- Jerry Phillips - health concerns

FAMILY & FRIENDS OF CHURCH

- Diane Belotti's daughter, Julie - recovery from foot surgery
- Diane Belotti's brother, Robert Hudak - recovery from spine surgery
- Thomas "Bran" James (friend of Pam Hooks) - 10-yr-old - stem cell treatment in January
- Rachel Duval (Sam McAllister's granddaughter) - cancer
- Kim Stipe (Kay McAllister's daughter) - cancer

HOMEBOUND

- Barbara Hancock - Home
- Loretta Young - Five Oaks
- Linda Bost - Best of Care

This Week @ FIRST PRES

Sunday, November 30

1st Sunday of Advent

9:30am - Morning Coffee
10:00am - Sunday School
11:00am - Worship Service
12:30-2:30pm - Youth Play Practice
(Lunch provided)

Monday, December 1

2:00pm - Dorcas Circle

Tuesday, December 2

11am -1:00pm - Linda's Closet
12:00pm - NA
3:30pm-6pm - Peek NexGen
6:30pm - Session Meeting

Wednesday, December 3

5:30pm - Youth dinner
6:00-7:30pm - Play practice
6:00pm - Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, December 4

10:30am - Ladies Bible Study
12:00pm - N/A

Saturday, December 6

10:00am -12pm - Youth Play Dress
Rehearsal

Next Sunday, December 7

2nd Sunday of Advent

9:30am - Morning Coffee
10:00am - Adults combined Sun. School
11:00am - Worship Service
6:00pm - Fellowship Dinner
7:00pm - Youth musical "***And the Song Goes On***"

SERVANTS

Elder Lock-Up: Jeff Barnhardt

Children's Message This Week:

Michelle Walker

NO Children's Message Next Week

Children's Church This Week: Sharon Cranford

Children's Church next week: Risa Little

Acolytes This Week: Caylin Lowder & Mary-Gray Petersen

Acolytes Next Week: Cierstyn Lowder & Landon Walker

Nursery: Sharon Cranford & Roxanne Spencer

Nursery Next Week: Risa Little

Ushers: Jill & Phil McLain, Tony Rary, Lynn Sechler

Ushers Next Week: Phil Smith, Pam Hooks, Ryan Walker, Jeff Barnhardt

Greeters: Phil McLain & Jeff Barnhardt

FINANCIALS FOR OCTOBER

YTD Income \$243,554.45

YTD Expenses \$251,790.65

YTD Budget \$266,349.20

Last week's attendance: 11/23/2025

Worship AM - 123

Sunday School - 73

SERMON NOTES

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SESSION - ACTIVE ELDERS

Raegan Swaringen

Cookie Hamilton

Sue Maiocchi

Sharon Cranford

Chris Lowder

Phil McLain

Tony Rary

Ken Sparks

Jeff Barnhardt, Clerk

Pastor Eddie Spencer, Moderator



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