

OCTOBER

Newsletter

Celebrating, Serving, Loving & Growing with God and Each Other

909 Marschall Road / Shakopee, MN 55379 / 952-445-3562 / shakopecfpc@gmail.com

OCTOBER MISSION OF THE MONTH



**Good News!
Great Joy!**

Pack a box. Impact a life.



Hope as an Anchor
Hebrews 6:13-20

When life gets harder and the wind blows our life upside-down what do we do? What keeps us from tipping over the boat? When we are under tension and stress or feeling like facing a stormy sea, do we need hope?

We all face great storms in our lives like death, sickness, aging, doubts, fears, and an end of a relationships. The most devastating words in any language is to say or receive this message “there is no hope”. When we go to the hospital usually the first thing we want to know is the diagnosis of our sickness, the most important thing is to hear how they can treat the problem. The scary thing is often not the name of the disease but to hear that is no hope, or that we are running out of options, or that we tried everything and it did not work.

Everybody needs hope, and hope needs belief, so we all need to believe in someone or something. You can imagine hope is like thinking that we are running toward bridges and not walls. Walls are telling us that we can't go anywhere or any further; or we are trapped here and there is nothing you can do. During the journey of our life we may have made bad or poor choices which left us with scars and holes in our life. Bridges are telling us there is something we can do to fill these holes in our life. Hope is about insisting that there is a bridge somewhere to connect the dots in our life so we can pass from the past to the future through the present.

When we throw our anchor of hope, we need to connect it to something that is solid and stable, who are you attached to? Who do you trust? Find people, things, and places where you can attach your anchor of hope to them. When circumstances get out of control and pressures threaten to overwhelm us, we know that God is here in you and in everybody who cares about you. You can trust God is working in your life even if you can't see the invisible hands.

Hope is not just a wishful thought, but it's real so you can feel it, Hope is visible so try to see it in you and in others. Hope is like a living plant so water it and it will grow deeper in your heart. Hope is a fruitful plant so you can harvest the fruits if you are patient. Give the plant of hope time to grow and to bear fruits for you and for others.

If everything's taken away from you, remember you still have something that nobody can take from you “Never give up hope” the Anchor of hope will hold you firm.

Hope, Peace, Joy

Rev. Medhat S. Yoakiem

Stated Session Minutes
First Presbyterian Church, Shakopee, MN
Thursday, August 17, 2023

Call to Order and Establishment of Quorum: A quorum was established.

Opening prayer and devotions were led by Loren Wolfe.

The stated session meeting of the First Presbyterian Church of Shakopee was called to order at 6:30 on Thursday, August 17, 2023 by Moderator Medhat Yoakiem.

Roll Call

Class of 2023

LuAnn Amberson

Loren Wolfe

Class of 2024

Rene' Vanoni

Class of 2025

Edie Cook

Michel Makem

Paul Sindze

Excused: Michel Makem

M/S/C to approve the agenda

Clerk's Report

M/S/C to approve minutes of July 20, 2023 Stated Session meeting.

Deacon's Report

Deacon's minutes were received.

Worship and Faith Formation LuAnn Amberson

Bibles will be given to children on September 10 with a Potluck Dinner hosted by Deacons with help from the Worship Committee.

Thursday Chats: September 14, October 12, November 9, and December 14

Thanksgiving Potluck on November 19, hosted by Deacons, Worship will help

Decorate church for Christmas possibly on Nov 28 at 6pm. Sing-Along Service on Dec 31

M/S/C On Sunday, December 24th, there will be a regular Worship Service at 10 A.M. and a Christmas Eve Service at 6 P.M.

Administration and Finance Report Rene' Vanoni

Affinity is progressing with work for the water source. Discussion was held about financing this endeavor. The County has some grant money that is possibly available. Also the Presbytery Grant for 2022-23 included the Garden plots so remaining money could be used.

Mission Edie Cook

Presented financial report of income/expense for 2023 Missions so far.

Personnel Loren Wolfe

No meeting

Pastor's Report

He is developing relationships with members of the congregation. He had a good meeting with Worship and Faith Formation

M/S/C to accept all reports

Old Business

The "Music on Marschall" will host the 4th meal/concert on August 28, 2023. Loren Wolfe is the musician and Domino's Pizza and Pasta will host the meal.

The sound system discussion was put on hold at this time.

New Business

Please be aware of Deadlines set by the office staff for newsletter and session packets.

Loren will contact Pastor Meg to formally thank her for all her time with us.

Rene Vanoni will have devotions at the September 21, 2023 meeting.

Communion Servers for September 3, 2023 are Rene Vanoni and LuAnn Amberson.

M/S/C to adjourn at 8 p.m.

Pastor Medhat closed with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Edie Cook, Clerk of Session



October 4
John Lindmeyer

October 14
Roberta Crider

October 19
Ruby Hughes

October 30
Victorine Akufongwe



Mondays
October 9
&
October 23

Fellowship
Hall



PRAY FOR OUR FAMILIES

October 1
Sue Sergeant

October 8
Mary Etta Shiner

October 15
Paul & Arlette Sindze
Romeo-Tyler-Mary Faith

October 22
Evaniste & Benedictine Tafoka
Genese-Gaëlle-Fotso

October 29
Sue Taylor



PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Donna Beeney Family
Linda Brooks
Alice Larsen
Matthew Durban
(Barbara Metz' Grandson)

LET US PRAY

DEACONS NEWS

If anyone serves me, he must follow me; and where I am, there will my servant be also. If anyone serves me, the Father will honor him.

John 12:26



October already! Fall is in the air.....

The Welcome Back Fall potluck went very well. Thanks to the Music and Worship team, the Deacons, and all who helped to make it possible.

Save the date for the Thanksgiving potluck on November 19th. More info to follow next month.

We would like to thank Mary Etta Shiner for all the Prayer shawls she has made and donated over the years. She is no longer able to make them, and we are running low! If anyone knits or crochets, we would love to have a few more on hand. Please let Mary Wolfe or Carol Balance know if you are able to help us out.

The Photo Boards in the Fellowship Hall is almost complete. We have just a few more pictures to get. If yours is not up, let me know. I will be happy to take your picture and get it on the board. (Mary Wolfe)

"Give a ride" : If you are in need of a ride, you can contact Jim Perry at 612-220-7977, and he will make sure someone will pick you up.

Please contact a Deacon if you would like a visit, or have any needs.

In Christ's love,

Shirley Ackerman	952-334-3202	Verneil Ewert	952-237-2201
Linda Brooks	952-240-9502	Lyle Crider	952-496-0822
Marinda Gay	952-445-1031	Jim Perry	612-220-7977
Rose Schmitz	612-670-6309	Harriet Volding	218-209-1982
Mary Wolfe	952-393-3973		

Mark Your Calendars and Plan to Join Us for our

Thursday Chat

Each chat will include scripture reading, selection from the Upper Room and discussion questions. ~ with treats following



Thursday, October 12 – November 9 – December 14
2:00 pm

October 12 Leader: Pastor Medhat Yoakiem

November 9 Leader: Jan Oliverson

December 14 Leader: TBA

First Presbyterian Church - 909 Marschall Road - Shakopee, MN
952-445-3562



Pastor Medhat presenting bibles to Mary Faith, Romeo, Gaelle, Tyler and Genese on September 10, 2023.



What is Per Capita and Why Should You Pay It?

Per Capita has been a part of our history for over 160 years.

It was first used to enable commissioners from all areas to attend meeting of the General Assembly.

Per Capita is an apportionment, a means of fairly sharing the costs of governance across the Presbytery, Synod and General Assembly.

It's not a tax, or an assessment, or "dues".

Yes, it is a voluntary offering, but to pay Per Capita is a responsible way to sharing costs that fairly belongs to the entire Presbyterian Church.

Shakopee First Presbyterian Church takes its responsibility very seriously and makes every effort to be good stewards of the gift you give.

Soon we will pay the 4th. quarter of our share of the Per Capita to the Presbytery.

We know some of you have paid the Per Capita, and we thank you for that.

It's not too late to consider to pay the **\$ 37.50** to help offset your Per Capita by placing a check in our Sunday offering, with Per Capita, in the memo. We thank you for doing so.

God bless you all.



CAN YOU HEAR ME?



You probably remember the Verizon commercial; “**Can you hear me now**”!

As we age our hearing diminishes and we hear; “**We cannot hear**”?!?

To compensate this, we have earphones for people to use.

It was brought to our attention that we do not have enough earphones!?!

The Deacon’s and the Admin/Finance/Property Committee have discussed this shortcoming, and listened to the congregation.

The Deacon’s made the offer to purchase additional earphones with Memorial Money.

In the same instance we heard, how is sanitation achieved with this devise?

The earphones get wiped clean after each worship service, but the fabric cover over the headset might not be up to your standard.

To make everyone happy we suggest; Use the church supplied earphones, or purchase for up to **\$175.00** your personal earphone which stays in your possession.

Please let Mary Wolfe or Carol Balvance or Rene Vanoni know within the first two (2) weeks of October what your intensions are.

Thank you

Leacons -

The beautiful mum plant you sent was so thoughtful. It sits by my front door and reminds of Steven who was so loved and deeply missed.
Dorrie Beene



EXCITING NEWS!

Music on Marschall

FPC has been awarded \$15,000 for 2023-24 to continue and expand "Music on Marschall".

The present committee of Edie Cook, Miranda Gay, Rene' Vanoni, and Loren Wolfe invites you to join this committee to help create new concerts and new ideas for the coming season.

Part of the grant is to incorporate activities for children so we are especially looking for what the children in our church and community would enjoy.

Please contact the church office (952-445-3562) or Edie Cook (952-445-4864) for more information.

We need

YOU!



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

(Shoebox gifting)



The Southern Twin Cities Operation Christmas Child team invites you to join them on Saturday, October 7th to meet Luis Gonzalez and learn more about Operation Christmas Child.

Luis grew up in Panama and received a shoebox gift from OCC that changed his life forever. Luis's inspiring story is suitable for all ages - children are welcome!

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7 at 10AM-11AM

Berean Baptist Church
309 County Road 42E
Burnsville, MN 55337
Enter Door 4
Room 114