

January

NEWSLETTER



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

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

JANUARY MISSION OF THE MONTH

Cooking For All

Food Rescue

Community Meals

SFSP/CACFP

Street Outreach

Produce Markets

The HUB

Advocacy



OUR GROWING IMPACT

We have steadily increased the number of free, healthy meals served to Minnesotans in need. In 2022, we served over 4.6 million meals and are on pace to serve over another 4 million in 2023.

OUR MEALS:

- Alleviate** food insecurity and hunger.
- Relieve** the stress of poverty, financial insecurity and homelessness.
- Bring** fresh produce to food deserts.
- Lessen** the effects of hunger on student achievement.
- Offer** social service resources to an aging population.
- Ease** loneliness and isolation.
- Instill** healthy eating habits.
- Fight** food-related physical and mental health conditions.

MEALS TO-GO

We serve meals to food insecure individuals, healthy meals and water monthly to one of our community meal sites across the state.

VOLUNTEER

Join our team and help us cook and serve free healthy meals at our community meal sites and work in the community kitchen.

DONATE

Support our mission of feeding Minnesotans in need. Donate \$20 worth of food to the bank, the market or \$100 of more to our organizing.



Travelling From 2023 To 2024?

1 Kings 17:8 – 24

Luke 7:11 - 17

According to Webster's dictionary, a pilgrimage is most often a trip to a shrine or a sacred place. Pilgrim's travel to a destination believing that they will have an experience of God's presence there. We can describe a mission trip as a pilgrimage, where we're traveling to a holy place, a site where we will encounter God. we serve others, we enter into the mystery of God's abundance both through what we give and through what we receive.

Elijah and Jesus recognized the widows' difficulty and moved by a sense of compassion, healed the sons. But healing wasn't the only gift they offered. With their sons' lives, the widows received an even greater gift: hope for the future. For the widow of Zarephath hope was accompanied by a newly recognized faith in Elijah's God. In Luke's story those who witnessed the miracle of healing were able to see Jesus in a new way.

When we turn to those who are in need, and become like pilgrims: walking with them, listening to their stories, learning from them, we're not only better able to meet their needs, but we also receive insight and understanding. This can transform our lives.

If we consider all of life to be a pilgrimage, maybe we, like those faithful humans, can be open to holy encounters in everyday life.

Look around you right now. How well do you know the needs of those sitting nearby? Have you heard his/her story? Do you know what he/she been longing for?

Gordon Cosby once said, "Always remember that each person you see...sits next to his or her own pool of tears." Each and every one of us has a story to tell. The stories are many, and varied, revealing both our individual human pain and our hope. Enjoy your trip in life because you are not traveling alone. We are on the road together surrounded by God's hand, are you able to see!!

Peace, Shalom, Salam in Christ,
Pastor. Medhat Yoakiem

Stated Session Minutes
First Presbyterian Church, Shakopee, MN
Thursday, November 16, 2023

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

Opening prayer and devotions were led by LuAnn Amberson.

The stated session meeting of the First Presbyterian Church of Shakopee was called to order at 6:30 on Thursday, November 16, 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

All were present.

M/S/C to approve the agenda

Clerk's Report

M/S/C to approve minutes of October 26, 2023 Stated Session meeting.

Correspondence was relayed from the Presbytery: 1) The grant website is www.ptcaweb.org/apply-for-grants.) They have no stance on alcohol served in individual churches. 3) Clerk of Session should bring minutes to Presbytery to be audited.

Session agreed that Diana and Jan should be asked to handle the prayer chain.

Deacon's Report Deacon's minutes were received.

Worship and Faith Formation LuAnn Amberson

Suggestion to have brief training sessions for ushers and communion servers.

Mission and Outreach Edie Cook

Missions for January –April have been chosen. January: Loaves and Fishes, February: CAP, March: Kenya Kids Easter Baskets, April: One Great Hour of Sharing.

Administration and Finance Report Rene' Vanoni

Financial update was given. 38 pledges have been made.

A quote was received for an electronic sign. The committee does not feel this is a good use of money at this time.

Personnel Loren Wolfe (no meeting)

Nominating Committee LuAnn Amberson

The committee has met and is making progress to fill Deacon and Elder positions.

Pastor's Report

With 5 months of working at FPC, Pastor Yoakiem is developing relationships with members of the congregation. He hopes to plan a Vision retreat in the spring or summer.

M/S/C to accept all reports

Old Business

- 1) Discussion was held on buying an electronic sign. Fundraising suggestions are needed before proceeding.
- 2) Discussion was held on the Presbytery's stance on alcohol use in the church building. After reviewing the insurance and permit requirements, it was decided to drop this issue.
- 3) The roof was fixed for a cost of \$250.00.

New Business

Loren will have devotions at the December 21, 2023 meeting.

Communion Servers for December 3, 2023 are Paul Sindze and Michel Makem

M/S/C to adjourn at 8:00 p.m.

Pastor Medhat closed with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Edie Cook, Clerk of Session

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

If you were **BORN**
in **JANUARY**,
That means
you are **INTUITIVE,**
CREATIVE,
thoughtful
WISE BEYOND your YEARS,
FUN-FLoving, And HAVE A
BIG HEART.

January 1
Sheila Obeng
Pauline Akufongwe

January 7
Gary Hughes

January 14
Butch Jenny

January 12
Linda Brooks

January 24
Dawn Durbin

January 13
James Schanus

January 25
Rose Schmitz



Donna Beeney Family
Linda Brooks
Ruth Wittek
Sue Sergeant Family
Joy Ruth Winter Family



LET'S
PRAY
FOR OUR
FAMILIES

January 7
Dave and Barb Willemsen

January 14
Ruth Wittek

January 21
Loren and Mary Wolfe

January 28
Pat Zwart

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

Happy New Year!! It's hard to believe that 2023 has come to an end. Welcome 2024!

The Deacons ended the year with lots of activity. After the Thanksgiving Potluck in November, we moved on to Christmas, and filled the traditional Christmas treat bags for the kids. They were handed out after the morning Christmas Eve service, after they put on their Christmas program.

We continue to call, visit, and send cards. Be sure to let one of us know if you would like a visit.

"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		





COME, LET US WORSHIP THE



Our children presented 'Come Let Us Worship The King' on Christmas Eve morning. Betty Curious interviewed each of them and they shared the Bethlehem story through the eyes of Mary, Joseph, the angels, a shepherd, and a wiseman. They closed the program with a wonderful song called 'Come Let Us Worship The King'.



Mark Your Calendars and Plan to Join Us for our

THURSDAY CHATS

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



2:00 pm

January - no chat

February 8th - Led by Pastor Yoakiem

March 7th - Led by Lyle Crider

April 11th - Led by Jan Oliverson

May 9th - TBA

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH - 909 MARALL ROAD - SHAKOPEE, MN - 952-445-3562

GAME DAY



Monday - January 8 & January 22
Fellowship Hall



Faith

sees the invisible,
believes the unbelievable,
and receives the impossible.

-CORRIE TEN BOOM-

*Have a Blessed
New Year*

-2021-



**CAP Agency - Community Action
Partnership of Scott Carver & Dakota
Counties · Follow**



40m · 🌐

At [Shakopee First Presbyterian Church](#), the spirit of giving is alive and well! We are so thankful for their generous donation of over 20 holiday bags for our CAP Seniors! Their support for our holiday program creates a meaningful connection for so many during this special season - THANK YOU!

[#hopefortheholidays](#)
[#adoptasenior](#)
[#capscd](#)





First Presbyterian Church
Shakopee, MN

ANNUAL Congregational Meeting



Sunday, January 28, 2024
Immediately Following Service