



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

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FEBRUARY MISSION OF THE MONTH



CAP AGENCY
COMMUNITY ACTION PARTNERSHIP
OF SCOTT CARVER & DAKOTA COUNTIES



From the PASTOR'S DESK

Pastor Medhat Yoakiem



Jeremiah 18: 1-10 Another Chance

We can see in this story that Jeremiah visited to the potter's house so he can listen to God's talk with through many ways. Sometimes God communicate with us through places or people who are not in our plan or beyond our human expectation. We expect God's talk to be in a supernatural way and we can easily miss God's voice because of our expectation. How many times have we thought about hearing God's messages in what we do in our daily life, or in what we see in different places, or in different people we meet.

Jeremiah is the example of the believer who is ready to listen to God's voice and to see things from a different perspective. Visiting the potter's house in the ancient world was like a normal activity and normal scene. God asked Jeremiah to listen and to keep listening as continuing process. While Jeremiah was listening, he was watching the process of making a vessel and he observed the relationship between the clay and the potter. Jeremiah learned the lesson visually and audio.

The potter tried to do his job as a maker of a vessel and something went wrong through the process. The potter took the clay remake the vessel. Life provides illustrations of the divine Word if we pay attention.

The Word of God is communicated through pictures, words, and through watching the common occupations of life. We are often rushing through this life so we have no chance to see or to hear God's voice unless we slow down to notice what is around us.

But there are messages about life from all of life, if we will just stop and listen.

What is significant about this passage is that Jeremiah received not one, but two words from God. At first he was told just to go down to the potter's house to watch him at work. So, Jeremiah went, and saw the potter's work spoiled and reworked. Only when he saw the result of his trip then the second word come from God. This second word understood the potter's rebuilding action as a symbolic of God's ability and interest in finishing (and rebuilding) the people of God. All of life, all of a people's history, was caught up in that one little image of a potter working his clay.

God is like the potter, He can put an end to the clay or reform it in whatever shape. The decision about the future of this clay depends on the flexibility and the acceptance of God's work to re-shape our lives and to rearrange our values to be the people of God. According to the text God is always working on doing things better reshaping our life if we are voluntary gave God the chance to work in us and through us.

I hear the warning words about not obeying God not as a threat but as a chance from God to us. God is working with us in life to share God's work in through all history. God is about listening, acting,

Stated Session Minutes
First Presbyterian Church, Shakopee, MN
Thursday, December 21, 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, December 21, 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 November 16, 2023 Stated Session meeting.

Sue Sergeant died on November 9, 2023 and her memorial service was held at FPC on November 29, 2023.

Joy Winter died on August 2, 2023.

An overview of grants given by the Presbytery was presented.

M/S/C to accept the changes in membership.

Deacon's Report Deacon's minutes were received.

Worship and Faith Formation LuAnn Amberson

M/S/C to have 6:30 p.m. worship services on Wednesday, February 14 for Ash Wednesday and March 28 for Maundy Thursday.

Mission and Outreach Edie Cook (No meeting)

Administration and Finance Report Rene' Vanoni

Meeting was held on December 7. A big thank you to Paul, Michel, and families for their musical presentation last Sunday.

M/S/C to approve the 2024 budget.

Personnel Loren Wolfe (no meeting)

Nominating Committee LuAnn Amberson

The slate of officers has been completed for voting at the Annual meeting. Nominations will be taken from the floor if the person has given prior approval.

A suggestion was made that installation and ordination of new officers take place on Feb. 4.

Pastor's Report

Pastor Yoakiem is enjoying working with all the teams. In January his focus will be pastoral care.

M/S/C to accept all reports

Old Business

- 1) No fundraising suggestions for an electric sign have been pursued.

New Business

M/S/C to accept building request from Shakopee Rotary for January 23 from 11:30-1:30.

Announcement needs to be made for three weeks prior to Annual Meeting on Jan. 28, 2024.

Discussion was held on who is in charge of updating Web site and Facebook.

Rene' Vanoni will have devotions at the January 18, 2024 meeting.

Communion Servers for January 7, 2024 are Rene' and LuAnn.

M/S/C to adjourn at 7:50 p.m.

Pastor Medhat closed with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Edie Cook, Clerk of Session

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

February 9

BERGE HANSEN

February 15

DENISE JOHNSON

February 17

KATHY PORTER

February 22

BILL ENGEL

FEBRUARY BORN

Witty and intelligent.
Outgoing person.
Smart and attractive.
Altruistic.
Peace lover.
Faithful towards loved ones.
Very sensitive.
Honest to the core.
Loves to spend money.
Modest and humble.
Creative mind. Dominating personality.
Ambitious towards life.
Never give up spirit.
Good listener.
Superstitious.
Entertainment lover.

2024 Per Capita
\$38.50 per member

LET'S PRAY FOR OUR FAMILIES

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Donna Beeney Family
Linda Brooks
Ruth Wittek
Terri Maidment

February 4
Shirley Ackerman

February 11
Pauline Akufongwe

February 18
Delphine Akufongwe
Faith, Fortune, Royle

February 25
Michel Makem & Victorine Akufongwe
Duplex, Joel, Nina, Randy

LET US PRAY

Continued from page 2...

building and planting, even when He puts an end to something. We believe that God is in all these. These are the work of God as we live our lives.

Jeremiah urges us to look for the divine lessons from the common activities of life, to listen for the second word from God, to try to discern meaning in the historical course of events before us. Maybe we feel history repeats itself but we can learn to do things in a different way. Listening is a continuing process and God's revelation is gradually revealed if we keep listening and keep moving in his direction.

How can God's people grow and remain secure?

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



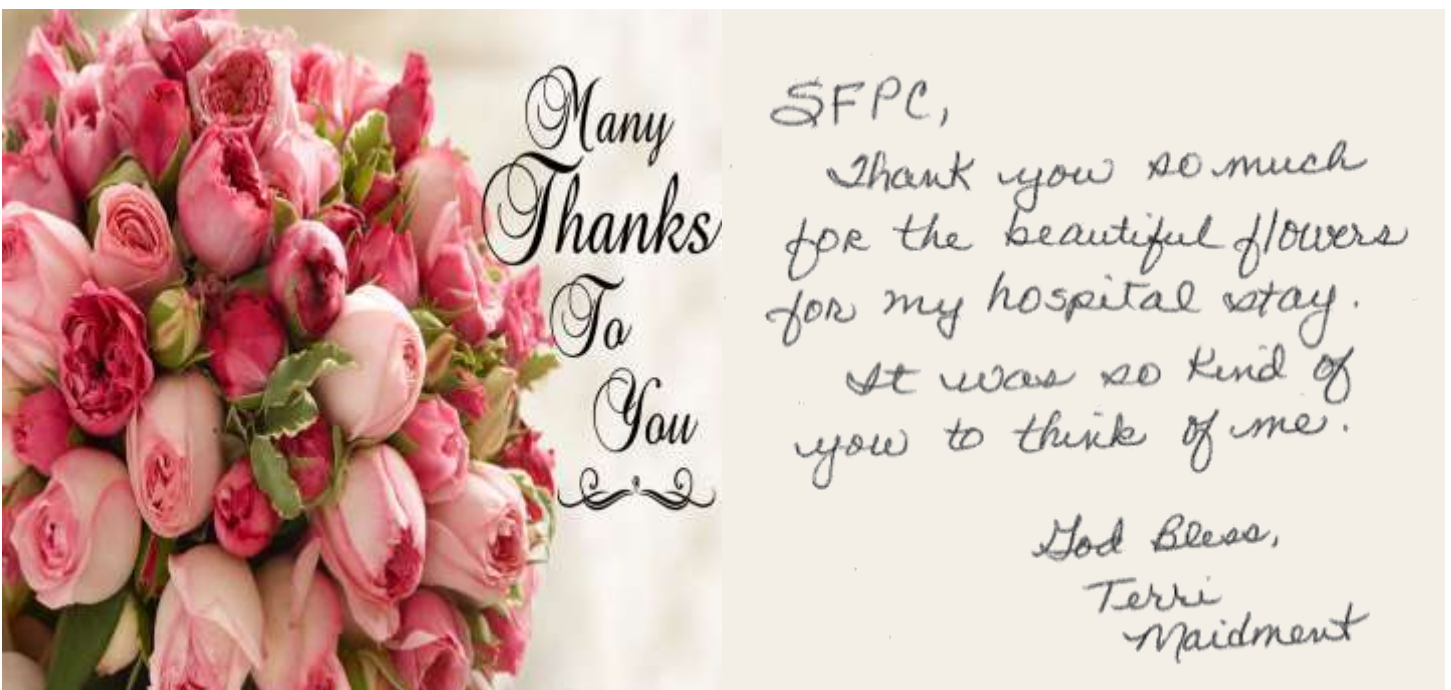
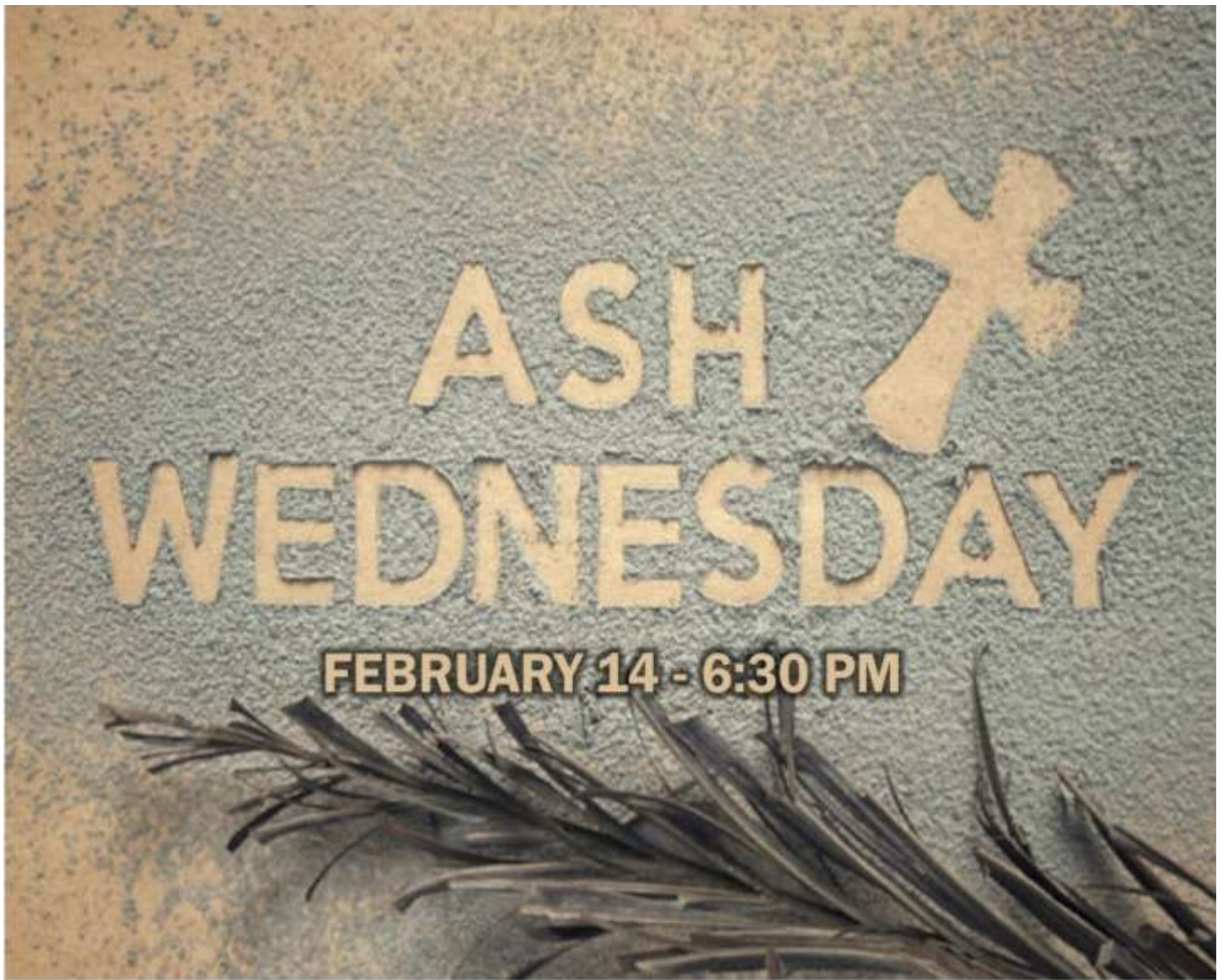
It's that time of year again, when we have several Deacon's that have terms that are up. We would like to thank our outgoing Deacons for their service and commitment to this church. Linda Brooks, Jim Perry, and Harriet Volding have been faithful servants, and we wish them well. The new Deacon's will be announced next month, as they will be voted in at the annual meeting.

We continue to call, visit, and send cards. Be sure to contact one of us if you would like visit, or have any needs that we can help with.

"GIVE A RIDE": If you need a ride, you can still contact Jim Perry at 612-220-7977, and he will make arrangements for someone to pick you up.

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 CHATS

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



2:00 pm

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 MARSHALL ROAD - SHAKOPEE, MN - 952-445-3562

GAME DAY



Monday - February 12 & February 26
Fellowship Hall

