



First Presbyterian Church of Taymouth  
**DECEMBER 2025**  
 Taymouth Tidings



**WELCOME!**

Sunday Worship Service—9:30am, Rev. John Scott Kroener, Pastor  
 Christine Callender- Social Media Director and Clerk of Session,  
 Dawn Patrick - Administrative Assistant and Christian Education Director,  
 Lynn Hauk- Treasurer , Floyd Roebuck- Youth Director  
 12517 Morseville Rd. Birch Run, MI 48415

Phone: (989)624-9473, Website: www.taymouthchurch.com

Email: taymouthchurch@msn.com, Facebook: Taymouth Presbyterian Church

Please call the church with any concerns or prayers.

**The office hours are Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday,  
 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. (Holidays hours do vary).**

*Prayer Circle*



To activate the church's  
 prayer circle please call  
 Cindy Rabe  
 (989) 624-9274.  
 Prayer requests are  
 conveyed by telephone.

Join us for a

**COOKIE WALK &  
 BAKE SALE**

Saturday, December 20, 2025  
 9:00am to Noon

First Presbyterian Church of Taymouth  
 12517 Morseville Rd., Birch Run, MI

Cookies are \$10.00 Large Container  
 and \$7.00 Small Container.



**Christmas Eve Service**

On Wednesday, Dec. 24, there will be one evening service at 7:00 p.m. Please join us as we celebrate the Birth of Jesus Christ with Holy Communion, song, Scripture and candlelight.

As we celebrate Christmas, you are welcome to donate a poinsettia or other floral arrangement in honor of a loved one. Please drop off flowers in the Geneva room, during office hours.



There will be a sign-up sheet for the memorial names.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WED.	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT.
	1	2 6:00 p.m. B & G	3 7:00 pm Bible Study	4	5	6 <i>Private Party</i>
7 9:30 am. Worship Service w/ <b>BRHS Band performing.</b> 10:30 a.m. Fellowship Hour, Sun- day School and Youth Group  2nd Sunday of Advent	8	9 9:45 am Finance 7:00 pm Session	10 7:00 pm Bible Study	11	12	13
14 9:30 a.m. Worship Service 10:30 am. Fellowship Hour, Sun- day School and Youth Group  3rd Sunday of Advent	15	16 NEWSLETTER ITEMS DUE  ANNUAL REPORTS DUE	17 7:00 pm Bible Study	18	19 	20 <i>9:00am- 12:00 pm Cookie Walk</i>
21 9:30 a.m. Worship Service <b>Christmas Program/Noisy Offer.</b> 10:30 am. Fellowship Hour  4th Sunday of Advent	22	23	24 7:00 pm <i>Christmas Eve Service w/ Holy Com- munion</i>	25 	26	27
28 9:30 a.m. Worship Service 10:30 a.m. Fellowship Hour  1st Sunday of Christmas	29	30	31	<b>DECEMBER</b>		

## MEMBER CARE

### *Reach Up, Reach Out, to Reach all!*

Church Family– Thank you! You have been so generous with your time and talents supporting Member Care.

The ladies that make up this committee are the best cooks ever. You are always willing to “try something new” . Thank You for sharing your great ideas.

My time on Session is done this coming January. We have grown so much Reaching within our church and out into our community.

Ladies all I can say is job WELL DONE and THANK YOU! Holly, Chair of Member Care

## PER CAPITA

The rate for 2025 is \$30.69 per member. As of Nov. 16th, \$2,491.41 has been received. The total due is \$3,222.

**WORSHIP SERVICES LIVE STREAM TO FACEBOOK, 9:30 A.M. SUNDAYS.**

Bulletins are available at [tymouthchurch.com](http://tymouthchurch.com).

## ANNUAL REPORTS DUE!

To all Committee chairs, please have your Annual Report turned into the Church Office by **December 16th**. You can either email it to the office or drop off a copy. **THANK YOU!**

## MISSIONS

Thanks to those who donated and made purchases at the Mission Market Place. Additional thanks to all who worked to make this happen . You still have an opportunity to buy items. So far, we have made over \$700 and counting to add to our mission fund. After the Cookie Walk and when it comes time to put all our monies together, we will have the privilege of giving to organizations who help people in need. Once again, we are grateful to everyone for making this possible.

Next up, the Cookie Walk will take place on Saturday, Dec. 20th from 9:00 am to 12:00 noon. All are invited to support Missions with your wonderful donations of baked goods-cookies, breads, etc. Set-up will be on Friday, Dec. 19th. All proceeds will benefit various charities.

Beverly Robertson, Chair

## “Discover the Christmas Spirit”

While driving through Saginaw last week, I tuned into a local radio show airing from Delta College’s National Public Radio (NPR) station. This radio program plays a wide variety of music, especially old songs which many people have long forgotten. Songs include instrumental, vocal, choral, classical, jazz, ragtime, big band, rock’n’roll, bluegrass, folk, country and western, and much more. Many of the songs are old-time favorites of past generations.

After playing popular songs from past centuries, the DJ put on the Christmas carol “Do You Hear What I Hear?” To say the least, I was surprised how greatly moved I was by this beautiful carol, especially, driving amid a normal flow of traffic in downtown Saginaw. I was not expecting to hear a Christmas carol announcing Jesus’ birth (Luke 2:8-15) with an angelic voice.

I became joyful to hear Jesus is coming to every corner of the world by way of every person’s heart, soul, and mind! I became hopeful to hear Jesus is coming amid our world’s normalcies and abnormalities. This is good news!

The season of Advent is a time for us to prepare for the coming of Jesus. Advent means coming or arrival. Advent begins with an eschatological message about the final days, the second physical coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and progresses towards a focus upon the birth of the one who has already come—our Lord Jesus Christ. The primary symbolism of Advent is lighting of the Advent candles reflecting God’s light growing in darkness—leading up to the coming of Jesus Christ, the light of the world.

Christmas is the church’s celebration of the incarnation and nativity of Jesus Christ. We celebrate Jesus’ birth with immense joy by bearing witness to Christ’s light, the light that darkness cannot overcome. The season of Christmas spans twelve days between the Nativity of the Lord (December 25<sup>th</sup>) and the Epiphany of the Lord (January 6<sup>th</sup>).

Advent and Christmas carols tell us God’s story of salvation. I would like to invite you to three Wednesday nights (December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, & 17<sup>th</sup>), from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., in the church’s fellowship hall where we can gather to study the history and theology of Christmas carols. Shalom, Pastor Scott



### NEWS FROM THE CLERK'S DESK

Christine Callender, Clerk of Session

The following items were discussed and approved at November's Session meetings:

- The session excused Dawn and Christine from the meeting while they reviewed next year's budget. The budget was approved during this time to include staff salaries.
- Session also approved campaign material and letters to the congregation.
- Checking account balance currently stands at \$24,286.93 and the savings account balance stands at \$36001.26; this includes Muriel Lakey scholarship and other savings.
- Session was told that the letter that was sent to the old painter was accepted but we had not heard back. New railings were donated by Tom Norton and installed in the front hall.
- There were two people at the confirmation class this year.
- The camera bases are up. The cameras are being charged and then will also be put up.
- The Birch Run High School Band will be performing on December 7th, and they will be provided with a monetary gift and a free will offering gift as they're in need of new uniforms.

Next meeting December 9, 2025.

\*\*For a complete list, please contact the church office or the Clerk.

## BUILDING & GROUNDS

- Thank you to everyone for helping clean the church! Your help is needed and appreciated! We meet on Tuesday mornings at 9am. It takes about 1 hour. There is a list in the upstairs utility closet that helps keep track of what is getting done weekly. Thank you Holly for your help!
- The rummage sale final profit was \$3,023.78! Thank you to all the workers and the donations!
- **Pasty Sales went great! Thank you for all the helpers, donations of product and monetary, Meijer, and Star of the West! We had no cost to making them!**
- Thank you to Andy Rudzitis for finishing the manse painting.
- Thank you Tom and Laura Norton, for your donation to the purchase of two new hand railings on the south ramp by the coat rack. Thank you, Andy Rudzitis and Jim Maher, for all the prep work and installation.
- Thank you Kelly Blessing for donating our new Donation box! Thank you Rick Hauk for installing the box.
- Thank you Rick Hauk and Andy Rudzitis for removing bugs in the light fixtures.
- Thank you Rick Hauk for fixing the wall shovel after it fell.
- We are looking for Snow shovelers this winter. Please see the sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall.
- Huge THANK YOU to all the Building & Grounds team who work so hard to keep things working and looking great!!!

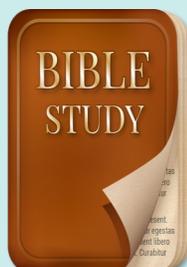
Terri Rudzitis, Building & Grounds Chair



## ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Bible Study will take place  
Wednesdays, December 3rd,  
10th, and 17th, at 7:00 pm. The  
topic will be Christmas Carols.

All are welcome!



## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

“The Greatest Commandment”, Matthew 22:37-39.

Please join us for a Puppet Presentation of “The Symbols of Christmas” on Sunday, Dec. 21, during the Worship Service. A noisy offering will be collected and children will receive their annual treat bags from Joe Bell.

Thank you to Emma Dice and Jaxon Reed for attending the Confirmation Class on Nov. 8th. We had a good time going over a lot of topics!

Dawn Patrick, CE Director

Please join us for our  
Annual Congregational Meeting  
**JANUARY 25th,**  
**2026**

BEGINNING RIGHT AFTER  
WORSHIP IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL,  
WITH A LUNCHEON BY MEMBER CARE.

The Annual Report will be  
available January 11th.

## CHURCH VIABILITY COMMITTEE

VIABILITY, THE ABILITY TO  
CONTINUE AS INTENDED,  
TO BRING PEOPLE TO JESUS  
CHRIST.

The next meeting will be scheduled soon. Thank you to the Committee for all their hard work.

Chair— Richard Leach



## COFFEE HOUR VOLUNTEERS

A BIG thank you to those who have volunteered to be coffee hour hosts! *If you would be interested in hosting, we can show you!*



## MEAL TRAIN

This wonderful outreach to our church family is in need of a new coordinator. Please let the church office know if you would be interested. This program organized willing participants to provide meals to those who may be injured, healing from surgery, sick, etc.. We THANK Carolyn and Rich Weston for giving of their time to this loving program for many years!



### MONTHLY GENERAL FUND

Received	Needed	Difference
January \$11,455	\$10,000	(+) \$1,455
February \$8,061	\$10,000	(-) \$1,939
March \$14,620	\$10,000	(+) 4,620
<b>First Quarter 2025</b> *Not included are Missions or Special Projects.	<b>Received \$34,136</b>	<b>Expenses \$30,050.85</b>
April \$10,067	\$10,000	(+) 67
May \$10,110	\$10,000	(+) 110
June \$17,127* <small>*Amount reflects "once-a-year" contribution items.</small>	\$10,000	(+) 7,127
<b>Second Quar. 2025</b> *Not included are Missions or Special Projects.	<b>Received \$37,304</b>	<b>Expenses \$33,052</b>
July \$10,946	\$10,000	(+) 946
August \$12,100	\$10,000	(+) 2,100
September \$8,601	\$10,000	(-) 1,399
<b>Third Quar. 2025</b> *Not included are Missions or Special Projects.	<b>Received \$31,647</b>	<b>Expenses \$29,246</b>
October \$12,462	\$10,000	(+) 2,462

# Youth & Children's Christmas Program



21st  
DECEMBER

Please join us during the Worship Service for a special story of The Symbols of Christmas

Noisy Offering will also be collected.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO US!

**THANK YOU ALL!** We are so very thankful and blessed by all your donations during our Birthday month! The following items were received: Stamps- 9 books and 3 rolls, Coffee- 7 containers, Creamer- 2, Clorox wipes- 8, Napkins- 18 packs, Plates- 6 packs and a case of 500, Hand Sanitizer- 5, Kleenex- 31 boxes, Paper towels- 62 rolls, Copy paper- 1 case and 8 packs, Styrofoam coffee cups- a whopping 3,459 cups!!

## **Emergency Notifications**

Session has implemented a "Call List" from the Church Directory in the event of cancellations. Each Session member will be calling from their list at the direction of the Pastor. Also, church event cancellations will appear on our local news channels- WNEM TV5 and NBC25.



## LIVING NATIVITY



DECEMBER 5, 6, 7, 2025 IMMANUEL LUTHERAN

Travel to the ancient town of Bethlehem to pay your taxes and be counted in the Roman census. Hear the shepherds talk about the angels' proclamation. Listen to the prophet talk of signs and wonders. Enjoy the city alive with activity and experience having no room at the inn. Avoid the anger of the Roman soldiers and tax collectors. See the peaceful baby Jesus asleep in the manger. Experience all this, and more at the inspirational "Living Nativity" outdoor Christmas walk.

This is a free 30 minute walk and is mainly an outdoor event, so dress for the weather. A cement path is now in place to accommodate strollers and wheelchairs. An interpreter will be provided for hearing impaired groups upon request. Please call. After the walk-through, everyone is invited to enjoy light refreshments and good fellowship. For more information please contact Immanuel Lutheran Church at (989) 754-0929, 8220 E. Holland Road, Saginaw, 4860.

Also please visit our website for more information and photographs at [www.frankentrost.org](http://www.frankentrost.org) or Facebook (Living Nativity Frankentrost)

### Presentation dates & times:

**Friday, Dec. 5, 2025: 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.**  
**Saturday, Dec. 6, 2025: 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.**  
**Sunday, Dec. 7, 2025: 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.**

This will be our 29th year of presenting this wonderful reenactment of the birth of Jesus. It has been well attended as we usually have

## PER CAPITA

**The rate for 2025 is \$30.69 per member.**

### WHAT IS PER CAPITA?

PER CAPITA has been part of our funding history for over 150 years. When presbyteries, synods, and the General Assembly meet, they are conducting the legislative and judicial business of the church and incur necessary expenses. There are also some necessary administrative expenses involved which enable these ecclesiastical, legislative, and judicial functions to be performed. Historically, per capita has been used to fund these. Importantly, per capita funding enables governing councils to make decisions regarding distribution of mission dollars without itself being funded by those same dollars.

The whole church shares in these expenses since everyone who is a member shares in the benefits of this system of church government. Per capita provides for the financial participation of all local churches as part of a connectional and representative church, thus providing for unity and mutual responsibility within the church.

### HOW IS PER CAPITA CALCULATED?

The Per Capita Apportionment in the Presbytery of Lake Huron is based on a portion of certain salaries and expenses which are part of the operating expenses of the Presbytery.

Per Capita is the cost of being a Presbyterian, and if each member pays the per capita amount above his/her pledge or regular giving, pressure on the local budget is reduced.

### Paying per capita is similar to:

- contributing one's dish to a potluck meal
- paying to be connected to the internet
- paying for the benefit of utilities, like electricity, gas, water
- pitching in with others to pay for gasoline on a road trip

In order to keep presbytery's per capita rate from escalating the per capita portion of the budget is subsidized with a distribution from Presbytery's investments.

### WHERE DO OUR PER CAPITA DOLLARS GO?

The amount that is set for per capita apportionment is a calculation based on the number of church members and the budget established annually by each governing body. At the presbytery level per capita pays for a number of items including:

- the mortgage payment on the presbytery office
- the office of the Stated Clerk including his salary and that of the Recording Clerk
- salaries of the Financial Secretary, Treasurer and the Administrative Assistant
- insurance coverage, legal counsel, annual audit
- costs associated with operating the presbytery office meeting costs for our standing units

# Generosity: Time, Talents, Resources



STARS  
ARE LIKE  
GOOD  
FRIENDS  
YOU CAN'T  
ALWAYS  
SEE THEM  
BUT YOU  
KNOW  
THEY'RE  
ALWAYS  
THERE





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