



First Presbyterian Church of Taymouth

JANUARY 2023

Taymouth Tidings

WELCOME!

Sunday Worship Service—9:30am

Rev. John Scott Kroener, Pastor

Christine Callender-Clerk of Session, Janette Gonzales-Treasurer

Heidi Smith— Music Director, Dawn Patrick- Administrative & Financial Secretary , Christian Education Director

Ken Maurer-Custodian, Floyd Roebuck-Youth Director

12517 Morseville Rd. Birch Run, MI 48415

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

Email: taymouthchurch@msn.com

Connect on Facebook: Taymouth Presbyterian Church

Prayer Circle



To activate the church's prayer circle please call Cindy Rabe (989) 624-9274.

Prayer requests are conveyed by telephone.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF TAYMOUTH



WEDNESDAY
JANUARY 18
4pm-7pm

Spaghetti & Lasagna DINNER

Your choice- Spaghetti or Lasagna, or Both!

Includes breadsticks and side salad.

Carry out Only (Seating Available)

While Supplies Last

\$15



12517 MORSEVILLE RD, BIRCH RUN

(989) 624-9473

CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE

Church Office Hours

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.

We are here for you! (Holidays hours do vary).

WORSHIP SERVICES
LIVE STREAM TO FACEBOOK AT
9:30 A.M. EVERY SUNDAY

For those watching from home, bulletins are available at taymouthchurch.com.

PHONE NUMBER UPDATE

Bonnie Pratt has removed her land line for service. You can reach her on her cell phone at 989-798-4145.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 9:30 a.m. Worship Service 10:30 a.m. Fellowship Hour 10:30 a.m. Sunday School 1st Sunday of Christmas	2	3 7:00pm Building and Grounds	4	5	6	7
8 9:30 a.m. Worship Service 10:30 a.m. Fellowship Hour 10:30 a.m. Sunday School Baptism of the Lord	9	10 7:00pm Session	11	12	13 Family Game Night 7:00pm	14
15 9:30 am. Worship Service 10:30 a.m. Fellowship Hour 10:30 a.m. Sunday School 2nd Sunday after Epiphany	16	17	18 Spaghetti & Lasagna Dinner 4:00-7:00pm	19	20	21 Women's Conference
22 9:30 a.m. Worship Service 10:30 a.m. Fellowship Hour 10:30 a.m. Sunday School 11:00a.m. Missions & Member Care Meeting 3rd Sunday after Epiphany	23	24	25	26	27	28
29 9:30 a.m. Worship Service 10:30 a.m. Annual Meeting with a Light Luncheon 10:30 a.m. NO Sunday School 4th Sunday after Epiphany	30	31	<h1>JANUARY</h1>			



**First Presbyterian
Church of Taymouth**

**FAMILY
GAME NIGHT**

COME OUT AND PLAY THE GAMES YOU KNOW AND LOVE!
LEARN NEW GAMES AND MEET NEW PEOPLE!

BRING YOUR FAVORITES GAMES AND
SNACK FOOD TO SHARE

**JANUARY 13, Friday
FROM 7:00 - 9:00 PM**

FOR MORE INFORMATION
(989) 624-9473 | WWW.TAYMOUTHCHURCH.COM
12517 MORSEVILLE RD. BIRCH RUN, MI 48415

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Please join us for our
Annual Congregational Meeting

JANUARY 29th

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

The Annual Report will be
available starting January 15th.

Session and Building &
Grounds Committee are
asking that all hallways,
Fellowship Hall, and Sanctuary
Doors are kept **OPEN** for the
colder months. Increased
airflow will help our furnaces
be more efficient. Thank you
for your help!

“An Embarrassing Question”

I want to wish everyone a Happy New Year! As I look forward to embracing the year, 2023, I do so with our church's commitment of being a Matthew 25 Church of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). As a Matthew 25 Church, our congregation is called to actively engage in the world around us. Being a Matthew 25 Church means committing to act boldly and compassionately by embracing one or more of three areas of focus: building congregational vitality, dismantling structural racism, and eradicating systemic poverty.

The essence of ministering as a Matthew 25 Church lies in the 45th verse of the 25th chapter of the Gospel of Matthew: “Whatever you do to the least of my disciples, you do to me!” My New Year resolution is to follow Jesus' teachings, especially, this one, teaching myself and others to treat people with love and kindness.

I came across a devotion written by Edward Hays, a Roman Catholic priest, who I admire for his spiritual insight. His devotion is entitled, “An Embarrassing Question,” which reflects upon Jesus' words (Mt. 25:45). I share this devotion with you from his book, *A Pilgrim's Almanac*, to ask you to help me become a Matthew 25 Christian pastor. He writes:

Suppose someone offered you a complete four-week vacation for two anywhere in the world, with all expenses paid. The only condition placed upon this gift is that you must first systematically tear off the wings of a butterfly, causing its death. Would you accept the free vacation on those terms? Take a few moments now to ask yourself this question.

I've asked that question to many people, and over 90% of them have responded, “No.” Then I ask them a second question: “Would you accept the same free vacation if the only condition were that you step on a cockroach?” After an embarrassing pause, 80% of those I asked answered, “Yes.” And some even added that they would crush a cockroach even if they were not given an all-expense-paid vacation.

How readily do we discriminate in our respect for life. Since a cockroach is a dirty, germ-carrying insect, we easily feel free to kill it without a thought. But a beautiful butterfly? This attitude, however, doesn't stop with insect life. Jesus, aware of our tendency to make such distinctions, said to us, “Whatever you do to the least of my disciples, you do to me!” (Mt. 25:45). Whatever we do to the law-breaking “cockroaches” of society, we do to Christ. Whatever we do to the disowned parts of ourselves, we do to Christ.” (Hays, pp. 82-83, *Forest of Peace Books*, Easton, KS, 1989)

I invite you to make one of your New Year's resolutions to be helping me in becoming a Matthew 25 Christian pastor, and leading our congregation to minister as a Matthew 25 Church. Please keep me in your thoughts and prayers throughout the year of 2023.

Thank you.



Shalom, Pastor Scott

NEWS FROM THE CLERK'S DESK

Christine Callender, Clerk of Session

The following items were discussed and approved at the Dec. 13th Session meeting:

Reviewed, updated, and/or approved Child Protection Policy, Sexual Misconduct Policy, Muriel Lakey & Bell CD sections of the By-Laws.

Approved request of termination of membership for Charlotte Needham as of November 26, 2022.

Budget proposed and approved of \$166,305 for 2023.

Presbytery meeting held at Bay City Westminster Presbyterian Church on Dec. 6th. Discussed what the Presbytery is supposed to be doing for the churches. Also, discussed and approved new disciplinary rules for the Book of Order for General Assembly. Next meeting in March 2023 via Zoom.

Family Game Nights approved: January 13, February 10, March 10, & May 12.

Approved Fish Fry for April 28, 2023.

Sent letter to Attorney General, waiting for response. Regarding Wayne Wellman.

Initial equipment purchased for Social Media. It will arrive by the end of the month. Only 2 more components are needed before installation can begin.

Discussed the distribution of Christmas gifts for the staff.

Bus Trip went well on November 29.

During the New Year's Eve Bonfire, the old prayer cards will be burnt.

Next session meeting: January 10, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.

Special Session Meeting held on Sunday, December 18, 2022.

Received word from the Attorney General that Wayne Wellman had responded. He stated he would like to be paid the original quoted estimate that had been agreed on during the time that he was here in September. We discussed our options and many thoughts were all spoken of including the fact that we know the work was not as expected and we are very unhappy with how things transpired. However, even though it is an unfavorable outcome, we agreed with 8 yays, 1 neutral, and 1 nay, by way of text that we should conclude our business and pay the original estimate.

****For a complete list of all items discussed at the Session meeting, please contact the church office or the Clerk.**

BUILDING & GROUNDS COMMITTEE

Thank you to **Ken Maurer** for replacing the toilet seat in the upstairs bathroom, putting rubber stoppers on the chairs in the Sunday School room, cleaning the gutters at the manse, and placing the yard stakes for snow plowing.

Our new snow plow provider will only be plowing the church parking lot and manse driveway. We need volunteers to shovel and salt the sidewalk for snow events -- please see the sign-up sheet in the fellow-

Lastly, another reminder: our HVAC expert recommended we keep all the doors to the sanctuary and hallways open during the winter season to help the furnace run efficiently. *Kerry Prout, 2022 Chair*

COFFEE HOUR VOLUNTEERS

A BIG thank you to those who volunteered to be coffee hour hosts!

If you would be interested in hosting, we can show you how!



Military Buddies Address Updates

Patrick, Logan, N
702 Quartermaster Rd Box 962
JBER, AK 99505

Justin Putnam
3713 Cesar Chavez Dr
Clovis, NM 88101

MISSIONS

Wow!! What a huge success our cookie walk was this year, as most of you know who heard me announce the results on Sunday, however, we managed to sell a few more things after the pancake breakfast (thanks Youth Group & Kitchen help) for a grand total of \$757.50. We could not have done it without the support of all of you who so generously donated to this fundraiser. Thank you so very much.

These funds help the Mission Committee when a need arises (like helping missionaries in the Ukraine when we don't have a fundraiser specifically to support a request). We are so happy to make donations to places such as the Underground Railroad and let's not forget our furry friends.

We already have plans for our "Fill the Shoeboxes", the Peace offering and One Great Hour. This year we are doing our Mission Market Place once again in the fall and we invite all our crafters to help make this as successful as the cookie walk. For those of you who love to make THINGS but already have enough of THINGS, we invite you to donate them to this fundraiser.

We have an open invitation to anyone who would like to join Missions or Member Care whether it be the "jump in with both feet" or just one project or a suggestion, you are invited to share.

As we close this year, we wish you a very Merry Christmas and a new year full of Blessings.

Peace, Janette Gonzales, Chair

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Way to go to all our children and youth!! On Sunday, December 18, the children performed in the Christmas program and the youth put on a Pancake Breakfast! Everything was great and well done! Thank you to Jaxon, Ally, Peter, Frances, Nellie, Grace, Kathryn, Sadie, Benjamin, Brianna, Rowen, Grant, Paislee, Nathan, Kylie, Calob, Carissa, Levi and all the parents and family that helped make it all work! We are truly blessed!

Happy New Year, Dawn Patrick, CE Director



Our prayers are with Dick Leach and family in the passing of Sharon Leach on December 21, 2022. She was a very active member at First Presbyterian Church of Taymouth having served on Session for 18 years and had been the Clerk of Session for 15 years. She loved music and sang in the choir. She was a true disciple of Jesus Christ. Sharon has entered the Church Triumphant, the everlasting fellowship which God has prepared for all those who love him and follow him. In sure and steady faith, we commit Sharon into the hands of Almighty God, "Blessed are the dead who from now on die in the Lord...they will rest from their labors, for their deeds will follow them." (Rev. 14:13). A service of witness to the Resurrection took place on Wednesday, December 28.



COMMUNITY RESOURCES

PERSONAL AND HOUSEHOLD ITEM ASSISTANCE

Emmaus House of Saginaw: Provides a free thrift store. Items include: clothing, household items, linens, towels, toys, shoes, furniture, and some appliances. All items were donated, and donations accepted. Open Mon. -Sat. 9:30a.m. -3:30p.m. 733 South 14th St. Saginaw MI 48601

BABY SUPPLIES

Baby Pantry: Christ Lutheran Church of Birch Run, located at 8101 Poellet St, is host to the local Baby Pantry. Call the church office at (989) 624-9378 for hours of operation.

CAN Council Great Lakes Bay Region: Provides diapers to families in need for Saginaw and Bay County Residents. Call (989) 752-7226 for contact free pick up. 1311 North Michigan Ave. Saginaw MI 48602

FOOD PANTRIES

Ss. Francis & Clare Catholic Church: is host to a Community Food Pantry. Hours are, Mon. 9:00-11:30 am, Wed. 1:00-3:00 pm, or by appointment. (989) 624-9098 12157 Church St., Birch Run.

Birch Run Taymouth CARE Program: is part of the Community Education at (989) 624-6229

Old Town Christian Outreach Center: hosts food distribution every Saturday from 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. *or when food runs out.* 600 Gratiot Ave. Saginaw, MI 48602 (989) 249-8696

Please visit fbem.org for more food pantry locations.

STEWARDSHIP

Dear Church Family and Friends!

Thank you all for your prayers and continued support of our Church and missions. Without all of you, we wouldn't be able to do all we do!

The new budget year begins on January 1, approved by Session in December. We are excited to be making some changes to different parts of the finances. For example, you may have noticed in your new giving envelope boxes, that you do not have an envelope for Major Projects. We are now focusing and directing those funds to the General Fund. Per capita and Initial giving will remain in the budget.

Also new this year, we extend a warm welcome and congratulations to Christine Callender on officially joining the staff as the Social Media Director. Christine has been volunteering her time, energy, and talent in this role for a few years now. The Finance Committee, Personnel Committee, and Session all agree that what she does for our church is immensely valuable and will keep us current with today's technology. Thank you Christine for all you do!

The 2023 Per Capita rate is **\$29.77 per member.**

Blessings to you all!

Dawn Patrick
Financial Secretary



QUARTERLY GENERAL FUND BUDGET

	Needed	Received	Difference
Q1 Jan-Mar	29,510	26,996	(-)2,514
Q2 April-June	29,760	35,087	(+)5,327
Q3 July-Sep.	29,760	28,657	(-)1,103



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