



LIVING HOPE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Living Hope Presbyterian Church seeks to inspire and empower through the Gospel.

From the Pastor...

December 2022 Newsletter

The holidays are upon us. The mad dash from Thanksgiving to Christmas and New Years has begun. In a couple of days, the turkeys will be on the tables and folks will be gearing up for the Christmas shopping season. Tied up in all of these events are traditions that bring comfort, meaning, and memories.

In my family, a tradition that I remember fondly was the holiday meal, whether it was Thanksgiving or Christmas. My extended family would gather at my grandparents' house. The kitchen was the hub of activity. Because of the sights, sounds, and smells, the making of the mashed potatoes, right before the meal was prepared is indelibly etched in my memory: the call to make room between the stove and the sink, the billow of steam rising from the sink as the boiling water is poured off, the windows fogging up, the whir of the mixer going changing the chunks of white flesh into fluffy pillows mixed with milk and butter. While those gatherings don't happen in the same way anymore, mashed potatoes at Thanksgiving and Christmas still do. It is a tradition passed on from generation to generation.

Continued pg 2



Official Notice:
Congregational Meeting
Sunday Dec 4
After worship

Report of the Nominating
Committee

During the season of Advent we will be looking at other things that have passed from generation to generation. We will explore how the generations that have come before us have witnessed to God's presence in the world. We will see how God has met generations before in times of fear and trepidation. We will listen to ways that previous generations have struggled to respond to God's actions. We will also hear how we can pass our traditions on to future generations.



As we come towards Christmas, let us prepare for Christ to break forth into the world and our lives anew, by seeing how generations before us have participated in God's action and how we can become part of those generations to those coming after us.

In Christ, *Will*



Sunday School Mission Project

The Sunday School students are sponsoring a family through the Christmas Clearing Council this holiday season. They are asking the congregation's help in this worthwhile endeavor.

Ornaments with toy requests are on the tree in the Gathering Place outside the church office window. Take an ornament (or more), purchase the gift, and leave under the tree or place in the church office. Please sign the list by the tree and let us know who you are and what gift you are getting. Deadline to bring gifts in is Friday, Dec 9.

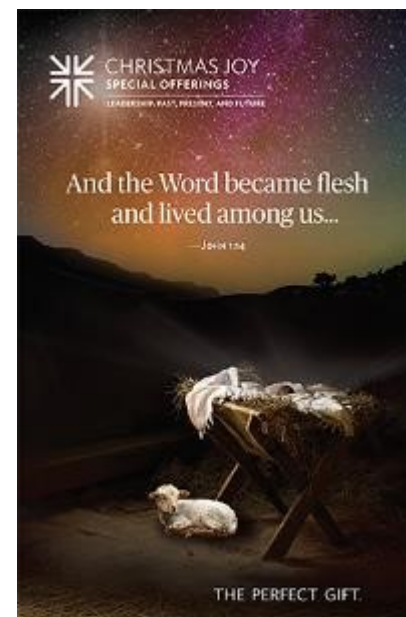
Would you like to donate money instead? Place your donation in the offering plate or leave for the church office and mark your envelope "SS Xmas Gift."

If you have questions, please talk with Marcia Sinner or Ann Tennyson. Thank you for helping the students to make a happy Christmas for a family in need.

Christmas Joy Offering

On Sunday, December 18, we collect the last of the Four for Four offerings for the PC (USA).

The Christmas Joy Offering has been a cherished Presbyterian tradition since the 1930s. The Offering distributes gifts equally to the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions and to Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color. The Assistance Program provides critical financial support to church workers and their families. Presbyterian-related schools and colleges provide education and leadership development while nurturing racial and ethnic heritage. This has been a Presbyterian commitment for nearly 140 years.



FINANCIAL UPDATE - As of October 31, 2022						
				Actual	Budget	Fav/(Unfav) Variance
Total Income - YTD				\$ 93,222.85	\$ 81,000.00	\$ 12,222.85
Total Expense - YTD				\$132,174.84	\$ 122,750.00	\$ (9,424.84)
Net Income - YTD October 31, 2022				\$(38,951.99)	\$ (41,750.00)	\$ 2,798.01
Unrestricted Funds as of October 31, 2022				\$314,978.81		
Gift and Memorial Monies not yet transferred				\$7,285.00	Actual Net Income \$ (31666.99)	

New Member/Affiliate Member Conversation

January 22 - after worship

Join us for a new members and affiliate member conversation in January, where we will talk more about what it means to be a Presbyterian and also go over the details of both full membership and affiliate membership. Affiliate Members keep their full membership at their home congregation, but also acknowledge their support for the Living Hope congregation.

Presbytery Meeting Recap

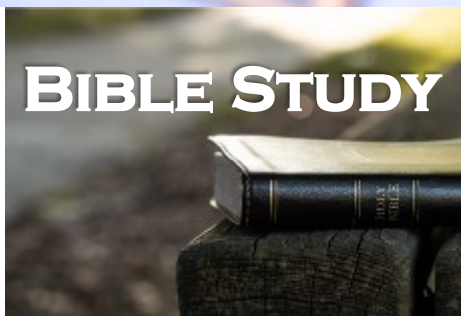
Thank you to Dorothy Dieter and Barb Foy for helping serve at the quarterly Presbytery Meeting that was held at Living Hope on November 19.

At the Presbytery meeting, our official minutes, Manual of Operations, and Roll book were all reviewed. This is an annual review, which had been postponed for two years with COVID, so all of the area churches have three years to review. We passed with no exceptions.



Advent Devotional - Nov 27 thru Jan 6

Advent Devotionals are available at church. If you have not picked one up yet, please write your name on the list and one will be printed and delivered to you on Monday Nov 28 or Tuesday Nov 29



Monday Bible Study

Mondays at 9:45 AM

Join us for a discussion about the coming Sunday's lectionary readings either in-person in Fellowship Hall or watch on Channel 966 .

- | | | |
|--------|---------------------------------|------------|
| Dec 5 | Isaiah 40:1-11; Matthew 1:18-25 | for Dec 11 |
| Dec 12 | Isaiah 35:1-10; Luke 1: 39-56 | for Dec 18 |
| Dec 19 | Isaiah 57:7-10; John 1:1-14 | for Dec 25 |

We will be off for two weeks until Jan 9, 2023.



Poinsettia Dedication Form

As we plan for our Advent and Christmas season, we again offer for you to contribute toward this beautiful display by donating any amount toward the Poinsettia Fund. Donations **above** the cost of the plants will be donated to a charity selected by Mission/Session. This form can be used to designate "in honor of" or "in memory of."

Your name: _____

Given in memory of : _____





Given in honor of: _____

Donation amount: \$ _____

Donation (checks or cash) must accompany your form. Please place this donor form and payment in the offering plate, or give to Lisa in the church office. Donations are accepted until Monday, December 19, 2022 to have your loved ones included in the Memory/Honor page.



DECEMBER 2022

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4 Advent 2 10 AM Worship - with Communion  	5 9:45 AM Bible Study—FH	6 6:30pm Finance Meeting	7	8	9 Sunday School Gifts due to the office.	10
11 Advent 3 8:45 AM Sunday School 10 AM Worship 11:30 AM Session 	12 9:45 AM Bible Study—FH	13	14	15	16	17
18 Advent 4 10 AM Worship Joy Offering Received	19 9:45 AM Bible Study—FH	20	21	22	23	24 6:30 pm Christmas Eve Worship
25 10 AM Worship 	26	27	28	29	30	31
<div style="border: 2px solid blue; padding: 10px;"> <p>The office is closed this week. Lisa will be stopping in, but no official office hours. For year end donations, please have your offering to the office by December 30, 2022</p> </div>						



We are a connectional church...connected in faith to God – Father, Son, Holy Spirit. Jesus taught us that prayer connects us to the Divine...and to each other.

Each month we list our faith community. Every family has a date when we ask you to hold them in prayer.

December Prayer Calendar



Did we miss your birthday or anniversary?
Please let the office know so we can
update our files.

The Care and Concern of the Congregation is with:

Nov Attendance

Average in person: 41

Average on Zoom: 5

Total Average Attendance: 46

(we cannot track how many people
watch on Ch 966)



Update on Dedication Sunday

Thank you to all those that have pledged for 2023. We have received more pledges this year than the last two years, and your giving has increased as well.

We welcomed many new pledgers - members, affiliates and friends of the congregation.

Your willingness to be Committed Together and share that pledge is most sincerely appreciated by your chosen leadership.

Thank you.



LIVING HOPE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



W156 N4881 Pilgrim Road, Menomonee Falls WI 53051

www.LivingHopePCUSA.org

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Will Houts

Email: Pastor@LivingHopePCUSA.org

Office: (262) 599-8340 Cell: (262) 949-1830

Administrative Assistant: Lisa Quinn

Email: Office@LivingHopePCUSA.org

Office: (262) 599-8341

Office Hours: Mon and Tu 8:30-12:30 (remote email rest of the week)

Clerk of Session: Kathryn Fresch

Treasurer: Steve Sinner

Church Musician: Teresa Ledford

2022 Session Members: Michael Brady, Dorothy Dieter, Barb Foy, Joe Fresch, Kathryn Fresch, Mike McBride, Curtis MacDonald, Marcia Sinner

2022 Deacons: (A-B) Tom Tennyson (C-F) Ann Tennyson (G-K) Diane DeBoer – Moderator
(L-O) Cherie Andrus (P-R) LaVonne Gardner (S-Z) Ken DeBoer