

SPIRIT OF LIFE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

FAITH FLIGHT

HAPPY NEW YEAR
2014

January 2014

Happy New Year!

From new birth, Emmanuel, we quickly move into a new year. Both seek new beginnings, new opportunities, and new adventures. While December was a busy month to add a daily Scripture reading, I hope you found this to help ground us, giving us purpose for celebrating the triumphal entry of God entering. **Scripture is a treasure that helps us know our story, helps guide our journey, and helps shape us.** For this new year, I would like to continue to challenge us to be reading Scripture every day. May this be a life-giving and forgiving adventure that is motivated with the right intentions. If you miss a day, no sweat. Do not worry about trying to go back and catch up. This only turns a daily life giving exercise into burdensome marathons. Perhaps after reviewing this in a year or two, we will consider doing the Bible in a year. For now, I am providing the link to the daily lectionary readings.

<http://www.presbyterianmission.org/>

The daily lectionary includes a Gospel reading, an Old Testament reading, a reading from one of the epistles, and a morning and evening Psalm. You choose the work-out best for you. We will update our website to include a link on our home page to include the daily lectionary readings.

Many blessings to all of you and Happy New Year. I am looking forward to what God has in store for us in 2014.



Pictures from Cookies and Carols



VITAL SIGNS...for November

WEEK	ATTENDANCE		(+/ -)	CONTRIBUTIONS		(+/ -)
	2012	2013		2012	2013	
Week 1	50	46	-4	\$2,429.25	\$2,911.85	\$482.60
Week 2	53	52	-1	\$3,111.00	\$5,885.00	\$2,774.00
Week 3	56	60	+4	\$2,980.50	\$2,682.17	(\$298.33)
Week 4	50	68	+18	\$4,092.00	\$3,369.00	(\$723.00)
AVERAGE ATTENDANCE / TOTALS	52	57		\$12,612.75	\$14,848.02	\$2,235.27

For questions in regard to the church finances or your personal giving statement,
please contact our financial team: Barb Ostlund—Treasurer or Steve Raatz—Financial Secretary



January 1014

03 Rob Smith
04 Leslie Hohmann
05 Kishana Ambe
07 Denise Lewis
10 Rita Ryan
13 Jada Robinson
14 Shayne Mortimer
15 Steve Raatz
17 Barb Ostlund
17 Pat Skelly
21 Bruce Jacobson
21 Merry Close
25 Will Massey
30 Sandy Scheibe

**Spiritcare
Prayer Team
call 1.507.263.5975
952.423.2212 (office)**



CARD CARE LIST REMINDER :

If you had someone on Loving Community Ministry Team's Card Care List in December 2013 and wish them to remain on in January 2014, please resubmit them with an update to Ruth Shepard at:

rshepard2@frontier.com or 507.263.5975 or by filling out a blue Prayer Request card during worship.

*BE SURE TO CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX(S) ON THE LEFT SIDE OF THE CARD.

*NOTE: Each month our Card Care List starts with new and updated submissions only.

ATTENTION MEN ONLY

Men's Breakfast will be held at Perkins on Saturday, January 11, 7:15 a.m. All Church men are invited. Bring a friend to join us.

A Note from Highland Elementary School reads:

Dear Chris (and *Spirit of Life*),

We had a great start to the school year Highland thanks to the help of your congregation at *Spirit of Life*! The donation of school supplies came in handy as we had quite a few new move ins at the start of the September. Parents were relieved to know they didn't have to rush out for supplies and the kids could get right to their learning

Thanks for being such a great neighbor and supporting Highland students!

The Highland Staff

This note is on the bulletin board in the entryway.

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NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Alice Gracek

NEWS FROM THE WORSHIP AND MUSIC COMMITTEE:

A new year brings the opportunity to evaluate how we do things here at *Spirit of Life*, and try out some new processes. For the year 2014, there will be a different way of handling worship support with greeting and ushering: for each month of the year, one elder will be assigned to lead communion and coordinate the greeters and ushers; each member or regular visitor, and family, will be scheduled for one or two months during the year. Here are some of the questions this may raise in your minds:

"Who is proposing this new schedule?" The Worship & Music committee, with approval of Rob, Shari, & Session.

"Why do it this way?" The composition of our congregation has changed significantly since Pastor Rob started; a schedule like this ensures that all members and regular visitors, and pending new members (all those who are physically able to), have an opportunity to be included in roles supportive of our worship.

"Will I have to be there every Sunday of my assigned month?" There are enough people scheduled for the month, including the coordinating elder, to have a minimum of 4 people covering greeting and ushering every Sunday, so you don't have to be available every Sunday, but preferably 2 Sundays during the month.

"What if I have never ushered or greeted before?" Part of the role of the coordinating elder will be to act as your mentor, to ensure that you understand what you need to do. Greeting is self-explanatory—you just have to be in the entry with your name tag on at least 20 minutes before the start of the service. Ushering tasks are posted for your review on the wall at the usher's station; ushers also need to be present at least 20 minutes before the start of worship.

You will find the schedule for the year on the opposite page in this newsletter, and it will also be posted on the back wall of the sanctuary. If you don't see your name on the list, and you would like to be included, please let either Marge Lewis or Denise Lewis know. There will also be a sign-up sheet for people who are willing to do more than the months they are assigned, and are willing to fill in if more help is needed. Cookies and coffee will continue to be coordinated by the Deacons. The schedule of lay leaders will be determined separately, by Pastor Rob and the Worship & Music Committee. If, after you review the schedule, you know you will be unavailable the month/months you are assigned, please inform Shari as soon as possible, so the schedule can be adjusted.

Apple Dessert from Wynn Johnson

1 cup all-purpose flour
2 Tablespoons granulated sugar
1/4 teaspoon salt
1/4 cup butter or margarine
1/2 cup granulated sugar
1 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon
6 cups apples, peeled and sliced

1/4 cup butter or margarine
1/2 cup all-purpose flour
1/2 cup packed brown sugar
1/4 teaspoon salt
1/2 cup quick cooking oats
1/2 to 3/4 cup chopped walnuts

Heat oven to 350 degrees. Combine 1 cup flour, 2 tablespoons granulated sugar, 1/4 teaspoon salt and 1/4 cup butter, blend thoroughly. Press in 9x9x2 inch pan.. Mix 1/2 cup granulated sugar and cinnamon, toss with apples. Arrange apples on crust. Combine remaining ingredients, mix until crumbly. Sprinkle over apples. Bake 45 to 50 minutes until apples are tender and topping is golden brown. Serve warm or cool with whipped cream or ice cream if desired. 9 servings

2013

Officers

Session

Rebecca Brandt
Brian Gracek
Leslie Hohmann
Karen Johnson
Marge Lewis
Denise Lewis
Julie Raatz
Peggy Roeske
Chris Sachs

Board of Deacons

Duane Brause
Pat Buchholz
Alice Gracek
Loretta Hunt
Jerry Johnson
Janna Warren-Perry

Treasurer

Barb Ostlund

Financial Secretary

Steve Raatz

Please contact the
Clerk of Session,
Karen Johnson,
in regard to
membership
changes and any
Session member
with questions or
concerns.

NEXT LEADERSHIP MEETINGS

DEACON MEETING

8:00 p.m. on
Thursday,
January 9, 2014

SESSION MEETING/

6:30 p.m. on
Thursday,
January 16, 2014

Ministry Team assignments For 2014

<i>Coordinating elder and Communion lead</i>	<i>Month (#Sundays)</i>	<i>Assigned pool of ministry team assistants, to cover ushering and greeting</i>
Marge Lewis	January (4)	Ed and Alicia Mikoloski, and Ethan and Ashton [Alicia cell: 847-204-6820, Ed cell: 847-417-9142] Bill and Vickie Fischer [651-463-0077] Pat and Larry Buchholz [952-432-8358] Clarnell Holtz [952-236-2346]
Chris Sachs	February (4)	Lisa Smith, and Luke and Cole, Harriet Pedersen, Will Massey, Eric Scott and Grace and Luke, Carol Osweiler
Denise Lewis	March (5)	Susanne Plaszcz and 3 teens, Sayra Maberry, Jeff Mortimer, Michael and Ashlie , Josh and Danielle Ullom
Karen Johnson	April (4, Easter 4/20)	Jerry Johnson and Lyle, Alice and Ray Gracek , Bob and Ruth Shepard, Camille Burin, Trevor Swaim
Leslie Hohmann	May (4)	Merry Close and Minuette, Pat and Larry Buchholz, Deon Ford, Jacqui Warren and Janna Warren-Perry, Darrin and Randy Besse
Rebecca Brandt	June (5)	Darrion Brandt, Alvine Siaka and sons, Matt and Mary Hope, Ed and Alicia Mikoloski and sons, Walt Ullrich
Peggy Roeske	July (4)	Don Roeske, Quyen Le and sons, Howard and Sue Mayers, Bill and Vickie Fischer, Loretta Hunt, George and Carol Mutch
Julie Raatz	August (5)	Steve Raatz, Duane and Mary Brause and Kate, Bruce and Irene Jacobson, Rita and Paul Ryan, Barb Ostlund
Brian Gracek	September (4)	Sara Gracek and Ray , Jacqui Warren and Janna Warren-Perry, Lisa Smith and Luke and Cole, Penny Zrubek, Carol Osweiler
New Elder	October (4)	Darrin and Randy Besse, George and Carol Mutch, Fred and Wynn Johnson, Matt and Mary Hope, Marge Lewis
New Elder	November (5)	Eric Scott, and Luke and Grace, Bob and Ruth Shepard, Jerry Johnson and Lyle, Walt Ullrich, Denise Lewis
New Elder	December (4, and Christmas Eve)	Josh and Danielle Ullom, Duane and Mary Brause and Kate, Rita and Paul Ryan, Loretta Hunt, Chris Sachs

Newsletter – Spirit of Life Presbyterian Church Session Minutes – November 21, 2013

A quorum was present (7 of 9 Session members) for the Session meeting on November 21, 2013. Pastor Smith offered an opening prayer and devotion based on 1 Chronicles 29:11-13, what are we thankful for – family, health, church membership increasing, success of M&M.

Pastor Rob gave his report. There were no actionable items.

The financial report was presented by Barb Ostlund. Thanks to the family of Anita Storlie for the memorial given to the church. It was moved, seconded and carried that we accept the financial report.

Minutes of the October 17, 2013 stated Session meeting, November 1, 2013 e-vote, and November 10, 2013 Special Session Meeting were read and approved. Attendance was reviewed. Ruling Elder Commissioner for 2014 will again be Rebecca Brandt.

Team Reports were given. Christian Ed committee had no report. Outreach committee report was given by Peggy Roeske. It was decided to have Rebecca paint the plywood signs and Karen letter them for the coming Christmas activities (Carols and Cocoa and Christmas Eve). It was moved, seconded and carried that \$75 be put in the 2014 budget for Crop Walk church sponsorship. There was a discussion on whether Wednesday Club would continue on Wednesday since that is also M&M day. It was suggested that this decision be left up to the Wednesday club. Worship and Music committee had no report. Community Service report was given by Chris Sachs. Two families were adopted for Armful of Love gifts. Volunteers are invited to work at the warehouse for Operation Christmas Child on Dec. 17th. Dec. 8th cookies were packed and mailed to college kids and tins were packed for older members of the church (and delivered by the Deacons). Julie Raatz added that we have collected enough donations to sponsor two children from the Matsiko World Orphan Children's Choir for one year. No Session action was required. Finance Committee reported that the audit was conducted on September 21, 2013. Rebecca reported that an audit protocol is needed so she is developing this. Quarterly statements will be available at the church for 4 weeks for pick up and then will be mailed if they haven't been picked up. There was no Stewardship report. HUB report was given by Denise Lewis that the trees have been trimmed. There was no Session action required. Personnel committee had no report. Deacon's report from the November 14, 2013 meeting was submitted by Loretta Hunt, recording secretary for the Deacons. There was no Session action required.

Old Business

The mentoring project will be delayed until next month. Worship and Music committee developed a spreadsheet assigning Session members to be monthly coordinators for Ushers and Greeters. Pastor Rob will coordinate Lay Leaders. Deacons will be the monthly coordinators for coffee/cookie hosts.

Session members and Deacons were reminded of the Christmas party at Pastor Rob and Lisa's house, Saturday, December 21, 2013.

New Business

There was no new business.

Concerns and joys of individuals were expressed and prayers were offered to close the meeting.

Clerk of Session, Karen Johnson



MEET IN THE MIDDLE ***Spirit of Life's mid-week ministry***

Meeting in the middle of the week; meeting between generations; meeting to share our faith!
*Wednesdays are filled with excitement, spiritual highs, companionship,
and a warm meal to keep the spirit moving at Spirit of Life Presbyterian Church.*

- ⇒ **School Age children** are welcome to come after school (2:30pm).
- ⇒ They will find: Snacks, activities, time to complete homework, a community building time and at 6pm a family style meal will be served.
- ⇒ **Youth** are also welcome after school (2:30pm). Youth programs (youth group & confirmation class) will begin after the 6pm meal.
 - ◇ 6:30-7pm community building together
 - ◇ 7-8pm Confirmation & youth group break out
- ⇒ **Adults** are welcome to come and participate in any of the children's / youth activities.
- ⇒ **Adults** are welcome to come for the meal (6pm) and be a mentor for our children.

2014 dates include Jan 8, 15, 22, 29, Feb 5, 12, 19, 26, Mar 12, 19, 26. April 2, & 9.

WEDNESDAY CLUB

For Wednesday Club's January Meeting this month, Dr. Loren Stockton, Chiropractor, has been invited to speak on the topic of "Healing Hands of Chiropractic." He will speak about the benefit of regular chiropractic treatment. Join us on January 8th.

Lectionary Texts and Service Highlights	
Sunday January 5 Jer. 31:7; Ps. 147:12-20; Eph. 1:3-14; John 1:(1-9) 10-18	Sunday January 12 Isa. 42:1-9; Ps. 29; Acts 10:34-43; Matt. 3:13-17
Sunday January 19 Isa. 49: 1-7; Ps. 40: 1-11; Cor. 1:1-9; John 1:29-42	Sunday January 26 Isa. 9: 1-4; Ps. 27:1, 4-9; Cor. 1:10-18; Matt. 4:12-23

YOUTH NEWS

Youth Group will meet in the youth room right after church.

Wednesday nights we share in a meal at 6:00 p.m. followed by youth gathering and confirmation.

Information about our Mission Trip for 2014 to Chandler Oklahoma. Cost for the trip will be \$442.00 plus the cost of travel and personal expenses, which will vary depending on the number of participants and mode of transportation. We have reserved 20 spaces and we can add more if the interest is there. One adult is needed for each 5 youth and both male and female chaperones are needed.

Payments: A non refundable deposit should have been made already to hold your spot. Second payment of \$171.00 is due March 1. Final payment is due May 1 of \$171, minus fundraising. After this date there are no cancellations and no return of any fees. If financial assistance is needed please contact Pastor Rob Smith. Watch for more Youth News in the Sunday Bulletin.

Communications Policy Statement

It is Spirit of Life's policy to...

- ▶ *list names, and place photos of members associated with church events, in the newsletter and on the website.*
- ▶ *Spirit of Life also acknowledges birthdays (month & day) in the newsletter, during the member's birthday month.*
- ▶ *Finally, Spirit of Life plans to put a copy of the monthly newsletter on its website.*

Any member who does not want his/her name, likeness, or birth month listed in these, or any other church publications, is requested to contact the church office with a formal request to keep their personal information confidential.

Send newsletter articles, announcements, or info to: spirit@spiritoflifeav.org or drop them in the Faith Flight mailbox in the office.

SPIRIT OF LIFE STAFF

PASTOR Rev. Rob Smith:
pastorrob@spiritoflifeav.org - 952.807.4413

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR Shari Shaw:
spirit@spiritoflifeav.org - 952.423.2212

MUSIC DIRECTOR Kate Olaf:
music@spiritoflifeav.org - 952.423.2212

NURSERY CAREGIVER Trista Hansen:
spirit@spiritoflifeav.org - 952.423.2212

OFFICE spirit@spiritoflifeav.org / www.spiritoflifeav.org
14401 Pilot Knob Road / Apple Valley, MN 55124
952.423.2212

Office Hours

10:00am—3:00pm M-Th

Pastor

10:00 AM—3:00 PM Tu

10:00 AM—3:00 PM W

10:00 AM—3:00 PM Th

FOR PASTORAL EMERGENICES
PLEASE CALL 952.807.4413



**NEWSLETTER
DEADLINE**

10 PM ~ SUNDAY, JANUARY 19
for the February issue.



14401 Pilot Knob Road
Apple Valley, MN 55124

Office 952.423.2212

spirit@spiritoflifeav.org
www.spiritoflifeav.org

Mission Statement

Spirit of Life Presbyterian Church, created by the Holy Spirit, seeks to be a loving community where all can grow in faith while serving and worshipping the God made known in Jesus Christ.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Jan 5	Tony Winters visiting Pastor
Jan 6	8:30AM New Sociables
Jan 8	Wednesday Club M & M /6PM Family Style Dinner / Youth
Jan 9	Deacon Meeting 8PM
Jan 11	Men's Breakfast at Perkins
Jan 12	Small Group 6PM—location TBD
Jan 14	Diamond Path Home Owners Assoc meeting
Jan 15	M & M / 6PM Family Style Dinner / Youth
Jan 16	Session 6:30PM
Jan 19	Newsletter Deadline Small Group 6PM
Jan 22	M & M /Family Style Dinner / Youth
Jan 27	ADHD and other disabilities presentation at Shepard of the Valley Church 6:45PM
Jan 29	M & M /6PM Family Style Dinner / Youth

Weekly Events

MON	Cubs @ 6PM	TUES	Scouts @ 6:30PM
WED	6:30PM BELLS, Scouts	THURS	Cubs @ 6PM

Sunday Worship 10:00 AM

Sunday School/Youth Group/Adult Ed 11:10 AM (September thru May)

* Nursery provided during Worship & Education time