

February 2025 Newsletter

After our congregational meeting and social hour last Sunday, I was able to join part of the congregational meeting at the church where my family attends. The meeting at St. Paul's Church was a lot longer than ours because our pastor in Owatonna has retired this month after 22 years, and the congregation is just beginning the process of setting things up for the coming months. There were a lot of questions, discussion and anxiety. But there was also a lot of hope and enthusiasm for what might happen down the road. As Sheryl Crow sang, "I think a change (a change) would do you good."

My takeaway is that churches can have a lot of positive energy if they focus on the hope and enthusiasm part of transition and not the anxiety and fear. Congregations are resilient and things have a way of working out—faithful people might call it the work of the Holy Spirit guiding us to solutions. I think it is important that we patiently wait for those solutions to become apparent, with the expectation that something good is going to happen.

A few years ago, I did some long-term pulpit supply for two small United Church of Christ congregations. Because of the small membership, small budget, and being very rural, they were afraid they would not be able to find permanent leadership. The denominational leaders told them they would be unlikely to find a pastor. I encouraged them to trust that God was preparing someone for them. I like to be an encourager even if I felt it was unlikely they would find anybody. But to my surprise, several candidates suddenly showed interest including one who was willing to move into the community and live in the parsonage. It was more than they hoped for, and they felt that God had blessed them.

Let's be hopeful and enthusiastic about our future. Let us continue to dream and pray that in the coming months we will find more than we hoped for in our next pastor.

See you in church...

Loren



**Deadline for March Newsletter
is February 21**



*Please keep Donna Dohrman, Elaine Gransee, Ruth Allen, Joyce Olson, Dick Wolff and Dick Hewitt in your prayers for renewed health and strength.



- February 1 Chris Holtz
- February 3 Howard Gransee
- February 11 Judy Patterson
- February 12 Emily Fogal
- February 14 Rebecca Stephans
- February 15 Alexander Fogal
- February 17 Peter Carlsen
- February 24 Genevieve Frodermann
- Ella Holtz
- February 25 Paul Pogalz



First Presbyterian Church

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www.presbykasson.org (website)

Pastor Loren Olson 507-676-3836
1875 Cedar Valley Dr NW presbypastor@kmtel.com
Owatonna, MN 55060 Call for anything needed.

Church Secretary **Church Office Hours**
Ann Driver 507-202-1632 Tues & Thurs
 10:30 AM - 12: 30 PM

My hours can be flexible as needed.

NOTE: Per Capita Commitment
This year our per capita commitment to the Presbytery and the General Assembly is \$40 per confirmed member. It would be nice to receive the 2025 per capita by March 16th, as our payment is due to the Presbytery by the end of March.

Treasurer’s Report:

The receipts do NOT include the non-cash items. Because the newsletter comes out before the end of the month, the treasurer’s report won’t be finished, so it will always be a month behind.

Treasurer’s Report:		
Receipts December 2024	\$	7,937.78
Expenses December 2024	\$	5,446.90
Balance December 2024	\$	2,490.88
Needed weekly	\$	2,149.70
Needed monthly	\$	9,315.34

Session Highlights
January 14, 2025 Meeting

Session approved the 2025 budget with a line-item addition: Search Expense.
Yearly reviews will be done the first week of February.
Communion dates were set for 2025.
The Session continues to discuss the mission of this church.
Committee Reports are due Jan. 17 for the Annual Meeting on January. 26, 2025.

P W CORNER

Happy Valentine's Day All,

Here we are in the second month of winter. So far we have had some cold weather but not a lot of snow which makes travel much easier, and nobody has had to do much shoveling yet. Actually my granddaughter, Mackenzie Sue, had to shovel snow where she lives in Dallas, TX just last week. This is not normal but she has had experience with that particular chore since she grew up in this area.

Since we are in the winter months, there are no PW activities this month. Our church is scheduled to deliver Meals on Wheels February 10th through the 14th. Many thanks again to all who take part in this worthy activity and BIG thanks to Sharon Law for keeping the schedule organized. Since we will be delivering on Valentine's Day, be sure to extend a happy day to all who receive these meals.

Many thanks also to all who volunteer to prepare and serve all the goodies and coffee for the fellowship time after worship each Sunday. This time of visiting and fellowship is very much appreciated by all who partake in it.

Church Concerns: Folmer and Jane Carlsen were flown home from their visit with their son, Roger, the week of January 13th. They both came down with pneumonia and were taken to St. Mary's Hospital in Rochester. At this point the report is that Jane is home but Folmer may have had to stay a day or two longer. I'm sure they would appreciate all your prayers and cards.

Our prayers continue to be needed for Donna Dohrmann, Elaine Gransee, Ruth Allen, Joyce Olson, Dick Wolff and Dick Hewitt as they deal with their health issues.

Please also continue to pray for all who are in military service for our country, all in political office, public service, medical service, law enforcement, and Christian service; may God guide and protect them all. Also, everyone in California who is affected by the horrible fires truly need all our prayers and any support we might be able to give them.

AND NOW – some Valentine's Day fun -----

- * According to History.com, the oldest Valentine we have record of is from 1415. Charles, Duke of Orleans, wrote it to his wife while he was a political prisoner in the Tower of London.
- * Mass produced Valentines were first produced in the 1840's
- * Nearly 250 million roses are grown in preparation for Valentine's Day each year
- * American's spent nearly \$26 billion on Valentine's Day gifts in 2023
- * American pet owners spent an estimated \$751.3 million on gifts for their pets for Valentine's Day
- * Candy is the most popular gift given for Valentine's Day, but the biggest expenses are jewelry and activities.
- * Valentine's Day is a very popular day to "pop the question", after Christmas and New Year's Day

A Valentine's Day quote: "You come to love not by finding the perfect person, but by seeing an imperfect person perfectly."



MOTHER'S VALENTINE

Virginia Moore

The words don't go where they belong -- They wander here and there.
The pasting's also less than neat --- But does a mother care?
Indeed she cares not one small whit,
And the hug and kiss her child bestowes For the words say, "I love you",
She would not trade a valentine With the message say it's true.
For this loving little masterpiece Designed with artist's taste
Of sprawling words and paste.

VALENTINES

Virginia Hendrick

Some valentines may rightly be What you are best at giving.
You know what is your specialty,
It may be just a sincere smile What adds to joy in living.
It's then that someone sees in you When someone is despairing.
Reflection of God's caring.

NOW just some fun:

- * A dog gave birth to puppies near the road and was cited for littering
- * Atheism is a non-prophet organization
- * Two hats were hanging on a hat rack in the hallway. One hat said to the other: "You stay here; I'll go on a head"
- * I wondered why the baseball kept getting bigger. Then it hit me.
- * Two things to make your day better:
Do not watch the news. Stay off the bathroom scale.
- * Does your family say a prayer before you eat your food?
Nope. We're Italian!! My mom knows how to cook.

May you all have a very Happy Valentine's Day - enjoy lots of "Candy Heart Wishes" and "Hugs and Kisses".

Stay warm, healthy and happy and please be kind to one another.

Many blessings,
Sue

February is American Heart Month. In the USA, heart disease is the leading cause of death. High blood pressure, high cholesterol, smoking, and diabetes are a few key risk factors for heart disease.

Some healthy living habits to reduce risk of heart disease, and lower blood pressure, include:

- * eat healthful foods
- * maintain a healthy weight
- * be physically active
- * do not smoke
- * limit alcohol intake
- * get enough sleep - avoid caffeine and nicotine
- * manage stress - consider relaxation techniques, meditation, or yoga
- * get regular physical exams
- * contact your health care provider if your blood pressures or blood sugars are not controlled



Amanda, RN

Psalm 31:24 Be strong, and let your heart take courage, all you who wait for the LORD.

PW Recipe Corner



NOT YOUR MAMMA'S CHILI - from Carol Prenzlow

- 1 1/2 lbs hamburger
- 2 (15-oz.) cans chili beans
- 1 qt. tomato juice
- 1 bean can water
- 2-3 cloves garlic, minced
- 1/2 green pepper, chopped
- 1 large onion, chopped
- 4 stalks celery, chopped
- 3/4 c. chopped cilantro
- Salt & pepper
- Tabasco pepper sauce
- 1 tsp. chili powder
- 2 tsp. beef bouillon granules

Brown hamburger, add celery, garlic and onion. Season with salt, pepper and chili powder. Add tomato juice, chili beans and water. Add green pepper, cilantro and beef bouillon granules. Add pepper sauce to taste. Garnish bowls with more green pepper, cilantro, grated cheddar cheese or sour cream.

Some Upcoming Events

Mantorville Farmer's and Artisan's Market
All Saturdays in February
from 10:00 am - 2:00 pm.

Location: The Welcome Center
320 N Main Street



What: Family Movie Night

When:

Mon, Feb 10, 2025 at 05:30 pm - 6:00 pm

Where: Kasson Public Library

607 1st St. NW

Kasson, MN 55944

February might be the month of love, but let's not forget about the other emotions! Join us for Family Movie Night to watch those emotions go on quite the adventure in "Inside Out!" Bring your pillows, blankets, and snuggle friends for an extra cozy time. This movie is rated PG and is 102 minutes long. The movie will start at 5:30pm and there will be a small snack provided.

PURSE BINGO

Join us at Kasson American Legion for purse bingo!

Tickets are available for \$25 (\$30 on day of event) at the The Chocolate Shoppe (can call) in Mantorville or Harold's Club in Dodge Center at the pull tab booth.

Also available at the Kasson Legion.

Authentic COACH, MICHAEL KORS & KATE SPADE. (Come play where you get your choice of purse) Lots of fun!

TICKETS ARE \$25 AND AVAILABLE NOW AT THE CHOCOLATE SHOPPE (CAN CALL) IN MANTORVILLE, KASSON AMERICAN LEGION OR AT HAROLD'S CLUB IN DODGE CENTER DURING BOOTH HOURS.

Designer Purse
BINGO

SATURDAY,
FEBRUARY 1ST
1 PM AT

KASSON AMERICAN LEGION
212 W. MAIN STREET
KASSON, MN 55944

*Authentic
Coach, Michael
Kors & Kate
Spade Bags*



Mantorville Restoration Assoc.
Box 311 Mantorville, MN 55955
MN License 01982

Name: _____ Date: _____

Groundhog Day

February 2nd

DIRECTIONS:
Find and circle the
vocabulary words
in the grid. Look
for them in all
directions including
backwards and
diagonally.

- BURROW
- CANDLEMAS
- CLOUDY
- DEN
- EMERGE
- FEBRUARY
- FORECAST

C	C	X	B	T	S	D	V	X	N	P	C	B	T	G	F	T	Y	T
P	W	P	N	K	Y	H	Z	B	P	B	S	L	G	S	Q	W	C	Z
E	L	O	H	W	E	A	T	H	E	R	U	U	I	O	P	R	Q	C
V	J	D	V	H	B	W	N	B	S	S	U	N	S	H	I	N	E	A
K	S	V	N	G	Q	U	D	P	T	S	T	D	C	I	P	U	A	N
V	H	U	Y	V	S	P	R	R	J	O	T	C	O	B	J	G	L	O
W	O	Z	Z	F	I	L	R	M	L	T	C	J	E	M	P	E	L	
C	G	A	B	F	N	F	X	R	O	S	W	D	Y	R	U	S	E	
D	A	Z	I	G	J	N	A	W	A	M	M	N	O	N	U	Z	U	M
S	E	E	G	R	E	M	E	C	E	K	Q	O	U	A	E	A	T	A
N	F	S	S	U	F	E	E	U	W	E	C	C	O	T	E	W	A	S
Y	E	B	G	J	B	R	E	G	D	S	K	E	L	E	F	W	R	P
E	S	D	G	R	O	U	N	D	H	O	G	S	C	O	N	E	S	
H	R	R	K	F	J	H	F	N	O	I	T	C	I	D	E	R	P	N
S	U	U	W	O	O	D	C	H	U	C	K	P	A	X	G	C	M	A
P	A	K	O	G	C	P	W	H	Y	A	F	H	E	G	I	O	E	T
R	R	O	Y	E	N	W	A	T	U	S	X	N	U	P	Z	T	U	
Y	X	G	D	F	L	K	N	V	Y	W	I	N	T	E	R	O	R	
X	J	F	G	N	I	N	R	O	M	Z	N	E	M	O	E	E		



- | | |
|------------|--------------|
| GROUNDHOG | PUNKSUTAWNEY |
| HIBERNATE | SECOND |
| HOLE | SHADOW |
| MARMOT | SIX WEEKS |
| MORNING | SPRING |
| MYTH | SUNSHINE |
| NATURE | TEMPERATURE |
| OMEN | WEATHER |
| PHIL | WINTER |
| PREDICTION | WOODCHUCK |

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FEBRUARY Kid's Page

Give thanks
to the Lord
for He is good;
His love
endures forever.

Psalm 107:1

We love
because
He first loved us.

1 John 4:19

You are
fearfully
and wonderfully
made.

Psalm 139:14

FOLLOW ME
AND I WILL
MAKE YOU
FISHERS OF MEN.

MATTHEW 4:19

Do not fear,
for I am with you;
do not be afraid,
for I am your God.

Isaiah 41:10

He has made
everything
beautiful
in His time.

Ecclesiastes 3:11



FEBRUARY 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
Communion 2	3	4	5	6	7 National Wear Red Day	8
Groundhog Day 9	10	11	12	13	14 Valentine's Day	15
Super Bowl 16	17	18 Session 5:30 pm	19	20	21 Deadline for Mar Newsletter	22 Washington's Birthday
23	24	25	26	27	28	1

Meals on Wheels



February 2025
 is Observed as
Black History Month
American Heart Month
February Birthstone - Amethyst
February Flower - Violet/Iris

FEBRUARY



AMETHYST

Amethyst signifies peace, temperance, serenity and royalty. Wearing this birthstone during the month of February may strengthen relationships and provide courage when it is needed.

FEBRUARY

Iris

Faith, valor and wisdom



The three upright petals on an iris are said to represent the faith, valor and wisdom it symbolizes. The iris also became the national symbol of the French, the fleur-de-lis.

Violet

Watchfulness, loyalty and faithfulness

As well as the positive symbols of violets, it is said that if you dream of a violet this is a promise of advancement in life.

