



First Presbyterian Church of Taymouth

DECEMBER 2024

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,
Heidi Smith— Musician, 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.

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.

Christmas Eve Service

On Tuesday, 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 the Sacrament of Holy Communion and the lighting of the Christ Candles.

ANNUAL REPORTS DUE!

To all Committee chairs, please have your Annual Report turned into the Church Office by **December 19th**. You can either email it to the office or drop off a copy.

THANK YOU!

Join us for a


COOKIE WALK & BAKE SALE

Saturday, December 21, 2024
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.

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WED.	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 9:30 a.m. Worship Service w/ Holy communion 10:30 am. Fellowship hour and Sunday School & Youth Classes 1st Sunday of Advent	2 7:00 P.M. GRIEF SUPPORT	3 6:00 p.m. B & G	4 7:00 pm. Bible Study	5	6	7
8 9:30 am. Worship Service 10:30 a.m. Fellowship Hour Sunday School & Youth Class 2nd Sunday of Advent	9	10 11:00 am Finance 7:00 p.m. Session	11 7:00 pm. Bible Study	12	13	14
15 9:30 a.m. Worship Service w/ High School Band Ensemble 10:30 am. Fellowship hour and Sunday School & Youth Classes 3rd Sunday of Advent	16	17 Newsletter Items Due 6:00 p.m. Viability	18 7:00 pm. Bible Study	19 Annual Reports Due.	20	21 9:00 am- 12 Noon. Cookie Walk
22 9:30 a.m. Worship Service w/ Children's Christmas Program, Noisy Offering 10:30 a.m. Pancake Breakfast 4th Sunday of Advent	18	24	25 	26	27	28
29 9:30 a.m. Worship Service 10:30 a.m. Fellowship Hour No Classes 1st Sunday of Christmas	30	31	DECEMBER			

MISSIONS

The Cookie Walk is fast approaching on Saturday, Dec. 21st, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.. Please help support this fundraiser with all your special holiday treats! The monies raised will benefit a couple different charities in the beginning of the new year.

Winter Love

We need your help in keeping little hands and heads warm. On cold brisk days, going out for recess without proper protection could be a painful experience.. Mission Committee is partnering with CARE of Birch Run/Taymouth Township to provide needy children with hats, mittens, and gloves. Their teachers will distribute them as needed.

We will begin collecting these items December 15 through January 12. There may be after Christmas sales to help with your shopping. A display will be set up in the Fellowship Hall for drop off of product. Thank you in advance for your contributions!

Beverly Robertson, Chair

CHURCH DIRECTORY

The Church Directory has been compromised! We apologize for the scams that have and may still result from this. Do not respond to calls, texts, emails, or messages asking for gift cards, cash, etc. If you have any questions, please contact the church office.

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

A new gathering for anyone experiencing loss or grief in any form and for any reason is invited to attend this group on the first Monday of the month starting in December at the Christ Lutheran Church in Birch Run from 7:00- 8:00 pm. This is open to anyone who would like to talk about what they are experiencing and receive support through listening, information and prayer. For more information, please call the church at 989-624-9378.

“Preparing for Jesus’ Arrival”

According to our Christian tradition, “Advent” means coming or arrival: “This word has a double significance, as in Advent we celebrate Christ’s coming into the world and look with longing for his coming again. The season of Advent begins with an emphasis on final things (eschatology). We watch and pray with expectant hope of the establishment of God’s justice and the return of the Prince of Peace. As the weeks of Advent progress, the focus shifts to thanks and praise for the birth of the One who has already come—Jesus Christ our Savior. The origin of the season of Advent is uncertain. It may have been patterned after the season of Lent as a period of penitence before Christmas.” (Book of Common Worship, p. 163, 2018)

As I read this brief synopsis about the meaning of Advent, I reflect on the idea of Advent being a period of penitence. According to the Webster’s New Collegiate Dictionary, “penitence” implies a person’s sad and humble realization of and regret for one’s misdeeds (1980, p. 840). Our church practices this sacred act of penitence weekly. We pray every Sunday a prayer of confession in unison and in silence. Our unison prayer is printed in the bulletin. Our silent prayer is printed in our hearts.

In Luke’s Gospel (11:24-26), Jesus tells a story about a man who cleansed his inner house of an evil spirit. That spirit wandered about and, finding nowhere else to live, finally returned to find its old house clean and tidied. This evil spirit then invited seven other spirits far worse than itself to come and live there with it. At first reflection it might seem Jesus was telling us not to cast out one evil habit lest seven worse ones come along. Actually, it was a matter of not going far enough.

We need to remember Christianity is concerned with more than just with the “Thou shalt not’s.” If we only remove evil and do not fill our inner empty houses with goodness, we have created a vacuum into which even greater evil can enter. Our religious and spiritual lives require an active performance of good and not just simply the removal of evil. Our thoughts and acts of unkindness toward another person require replacing them with positive thoughts and acts of kindness. (Hays, A Pilgrim’s Almanac, p. 200, 1989)

Advent is a season of penitence where we are guided by the four Advent candles of Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love to cleanse and scrub our inner houses of evil. Christmas is the season where the Star of Bethlehem guides us in decorating our inner houses with goodness and charitable deeds due to the birth of the One who has already come—Jesus Christ our Savior. 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 meeting.
- Scott Ostrom visited us to let us know his mothers memorials given to the church along with money Lillian set aside for the church, will be used to establish an endowment for our church. He and his wife will be getting it set up and they will be working with us to implement the usage of funds as Lillian would want. This endowment will be a living memorial to support various aspects of our church that Lillian loved.
- Per Capita for 2025 is \$30.69, total amount due by the end of 2025, \$3,222.00. This will get paid monthly, \$268.50, to the Presbytery. \$1,900.00 was moved into the savings account as part of our plan to build a 3-month savings fund to cover bills in case of hardships at the church.
- Next Presbytery Meeting is on December 10, 2024, in Flint.
- Viability meeting met on Oct. 10, 2024. They have gone through all the surveys and will be meeting on November 21, 2024, to begin planning.
- Car Show: Sept. 27, 2025; and Rummage Sale: Oct. 9 & 10, 2025- New date. These will be finalized at the December meeting.
- We have 2 outstanding memorials and with the funds that have come in from the car show, silent auction, vow renewal, & Pasties; those memorials will now be fulfilled. Then any remaining funds will be put into the savings for our savings fund.
- There has been a Board of Pensions change for Pastor. It helps save the church \$7,489.80. With that savings, we will be helping Jane with her Medicare and medicine cost and we will still be saving \$4,549.80. Session has approved this change.
- Missions would like to partner with the Birch Run/Taymouth CARE for the school for grades Pre-school-3rd grade and help them collect winter things for those needing it. More details to come.
- Member Care will be taking care of Annual Meeting Luncheon.
- Pastor has been given one extra day of vacation and is adding it to next years’ time as he was needed at the beginning of his last vacation this year. Christmas gifts will be given to the Pastor and volunteer staff this year. Next meeting December 10, 2024.

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

BUILDING & GROUNDS

- Thank you Rick Hauk for installing new elevator directional signs outside of the church.
- Thank you Rick Hauk for changing batteries in smoke detectors and CO detectors.
- Thank you Rick Hauk and Jim Maher for installing the gutter covers on the manse.
- Thank you Dennis Neahusan, Rick Hauk, and Jim Maher for removing air conditioning units for the winter.
- Thank you Jim Maher for “closing” the outside Sanctuary windows.
- Thank you to everyone that has been cleaning the church. We still need help every Tuesday at 9:00 a.m.
- The Pasty sales are still climbing! We have a total of \$2390 so far. Thank you All!

Terri Rudzitis, Building & Grounds Chair

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Our youth and children are busy getting ready for the Christmas program on December 22, during the worship service. A program that will be puppet’s telling the story of Jesus’ birth with the help of the children. Also, there will be a noisy offering collection and Pancake breakfast fundraiser. Please join us for a wonderful morning celebrating Jesus!

The new set up for the Sunday School classes is under way. Children in 3rd grade and younger meet in the Sunday School room and are led by Elizabeth Roebuck or Megan Schrubbe. The Youth Group, along with 4th grade and up, meet in Ms. Dawn’s office for class time. We are excited that we can offer the flexibility in learning styles for our young people. Please let us know if you have any questions.

“Shine Jesus’ Light” and the verse “When I’m afraid, I put my trust in you” Psalm 56:3.

Blessings, Dawn Patrick, CE Director



WORSHIP SERVICES LIVE STREAM TO
FACEBOOK, 9:30 A.M. SUNDAYS.
Bulletins are available at taymouthchurch.com.

Pancake Breakfast

Sunday, December 22nd
Following Worship Service

Adults-\$6.00
6 to 12 years old-\$3.00
Children under 5 years - Free

Pancakes
Bacon
Sausage
Applesauce
Coffee, Milk, &
Orange Juice

Proceeds to benefit the Youth Group

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THE SUNDAY SCHOOL CHILDREN AND YOUTH

invite you to-

"And the Animals Talked"

Please join us on
Sunday, Dec. 22, 2024,
9:30 am, for this special
Puppet Program
and Noisy Offering
collection.

Merry Christmas

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STEWARDSHIP

Dear Church Family and Friends!

The Finance Committee, with approval from Session, has made some decisions that will benefit the church. First, most event monies raised this past fall will be put into the savings account. Second, Rummage sale and Pasty profits will help pay for the elevator inspection and take care of two outstanding memorials- kitchen carts and security cameras. Third, Pastor Scott will receive an extra "Sunday" vacation day to be used next year. This vacation day is to replace the one he voluntarily gave up to help Deb and Rob Minard the day of Rob's medical emergency. The amount of this bonus day is \$150.00.

Next, our Per Capita commitment for 2025 is \$3,222.00. Session voted to request from Presbytery a deferred payment of \$268.50 per month. The per member rate for 2025 is \$30.69. The Basic Mission commitment to the Presbytery and General Assembly was approved at a yearly total of \$1000.00 or \$83.00 a month.

Two new Money Counters have started training- Olivia Jones and Sherrie Brown. They have also agreed and have been accepted by Session to become members of the church! Thank you Olivia and Sherrie for volunteering and joining the church! Thank you also to Bonnie Pratt and Holly Wendzik for all their "extra" money counting during the training and medical situations.

I wish to express my heartfelt gratitude to the Finance Committee for all their help and ideas this past year. Many discussions, thoughts, and plans were put in place to benefit the church that we all love so very much! With God's blessing, we are moving into a new year in a much better place and ready for a an uplifting 2025! I also want to THANK all of you for your support and prayers through all our ups and downs. We are truly a blessed community of faith that is not afraid to let the Lord lead us where he wants us! Please continue to pray for this committee, all the Session members, Pastor, staff, and congregation!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year Blessings,
Dawn Patrick, Financial Secretary

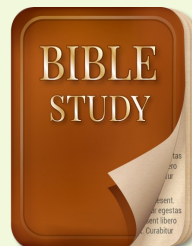
MONTHLY GENERAL FUND

Received	Needed	Difference
January \$10,456	\$13,000	(-) 2,544
February \$ 8,656	\$13,000	(-) 4,344
March \$12,781	\$13,000	(-) 219
April \$10,052	\$13,000	(-) 2,948
May \$14,178	\$13,000	(+) 1,178
June \$15,955	\$13,000	(+) 2,955
July \$10,402	\$13,000	(-) 2,598
August \$10,992	\$13,000	(-)2,008
September \$11,862	\$10,000	(+)1,862
October \$11,933	\$10,000	(+) 1,933



ADULT BIBLE STUDY

All are welcome to participate in the study on the book of Revelation. Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m.



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!*



LIVING NATIVITY

Immanuel Lutheran Church of Frankentrost will be hosting their 27th Annual Living Nativity – **A Journey to Bethlehem**, on December 1-3. This is a 30 minute outdoor walk, so dress for the weather. Experience the sights and sounds of Bethlehem on that blessed night when Jesus Christ was born. Fellowship and refreshments will follow in the school.

Fri. Dec. 6– 7-9 p.m., Sat, Dec. 7– 6-8pm. ,
Sun. Dec. 8– 6-8p.m.
8220 E. Holland Road, Saginaw, 48601

STUDY FOR CHURCH
VIABILITY COMMITTEE

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

The committee met on Thursday, November 21st to begin summarizing the survey questions and answers. We will be working on the final draft of results for Session review. The next meeting is on Tuesday, December 17th at 6:00 p.m.

Chair- Richard Leach



Winter Love



Please help Missions collect hats, mittens, gloves, and scarfs for the children preschool thru third grade in Birch Run.

Collection will take place from December 15- January 15. Product may be dropped off in the Fellowship Hall by the coat rack display. For more information, call (989) 624-9473.

MEMBER CARE

Reach Up, Reach Out, to Reach all!

October 27th was Fall Bingo Celebration at the Birch Run Fields Assisted Living. Eight residents and three family members attended. Pop and chocolate is a winning combination for prizes. It is always the "BEST" day ever! Staff and Residents and Families feasted on Apple and Chocolate pie for dessert.

November 17 was our Annual VA card making day. This is our 4th year. 181 Hallmark quality cards were made. So much talent! Pastor Scott even made cards. Each year more cards have been made. These cards allow the residents to send holiday cheer to friends and family.

Thank-You Bonnie for always finding good "Front Door" messages.

Watch the newsletter for upcoming events. As always, thank you for your support!
Holly, Chair of Member Care

Please join us for our
Annual Congregational Meeting

JANUARY 26th
2025

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

**The Annual Report will be
available January 15th.**

THANK YOU for all the great supplies given for our Birthday celebration! We are grateful and blessed! In addition to the product already received, more stamps have been donated and a set of TV trays was given for use in the upstairs offices.

MEAL TRAIN

If you are injured, healing from surgery, sick, etc., and would benefit from a few meals brought to you from your church family, or if you would be willing to make a meal for someone in need of this blessing, please call Carolyn Weston at 989-798-0212.

Christ Lutheran Church Presents

Second Annual

Winter

GLow DINNER & QUARTER AUCTION

8101 POELLET ST. BIRCH RUN, MI 48415

January

SATURDAY 18 1PM

2025

\$15
INCLUDES HAM AND TURKEY DINNER, BEVERAGE, AND PADDLE

EACH TICKET PURCHASED ENTERS YOU INTO A RAFFLE FOR A GRILL PACKAGE LICENSE #R77536

BRING QUARTERS WITH YOU OR BUY \$10 ROLLS AT EVENT

TICKETS AVAILABLE TO PURCHASE AT CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH OR VENMO. CALL (989)624-9378 WITH QUESTIONS

Venmo @PastorT-1
Please include name in the text box

DOORS OPEN AT 12PM AUCTION TO FOLLOW DINNER.

First Presbyterian Church of Taymouth

FAMILY GAME NIGHT'S

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.

Friday's 7:00 - 9:00 pm
January 10
February 14
March 14
April 11
May 9

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

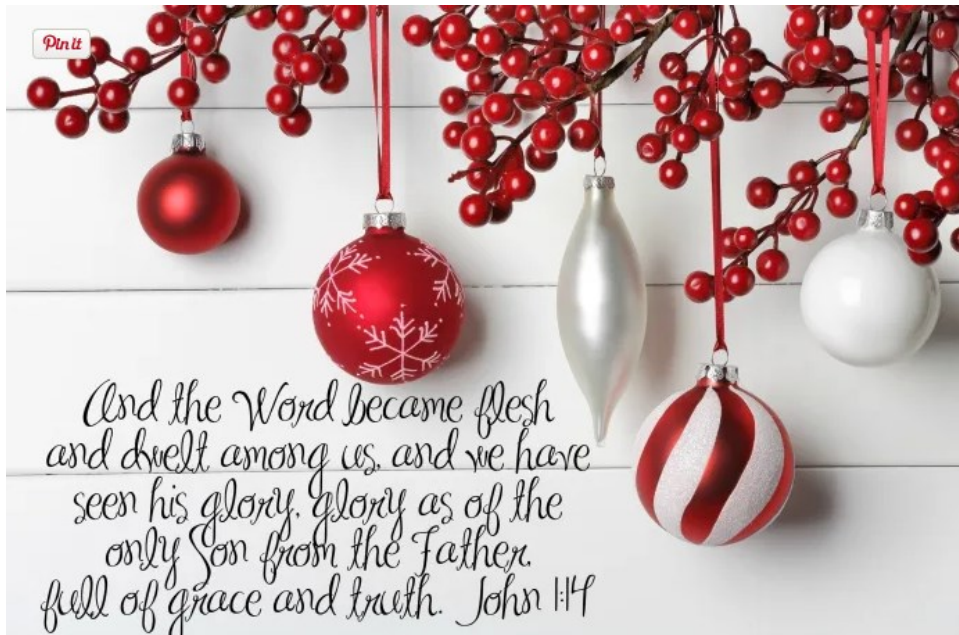
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Life at Taymouth!



THE
TO
SUCCESS
IS TO
PUT
GOD
FIRST





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