



Presbyterian Post
First Presbyterian Church
 Being God's Church, WE ARE. Living God's Vision, WE WILL.
 Being God's Church, I AM. Living God's Vision, I WILL.



Dear Church Members and Friends,

The Swiss theologian Karl Barth (1886-1968) is considered by many to have been one of the greatest religious thinkers of the twentieth century. There is a section in the first volume of his monumental Church Dogmatics entitled "The Miracle of Christmas." In it Barth describes the incarnation as the cornerstone of the Christian faith.

In the gospel of John we read, "And the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory..." (John 1:14). This gracious act of God means that God is present "in our World as a member of this world, as a Man among men." This is God showing us who He is and is, and it is our acceptance with God. The child of Bethlehem is the embodiment of God's reconciling love that has already taken place. This is the content of the Christmas message.

Think of it. The Word made flesh. God made human. Humans embraced in God. At Christmas we glorify and lift up an event like no other. An event which defies our comprehension, which has no precedent and can never be repeated. This "Christ Event" is not something we could achieve, not something we could even conceive had it not occurred "by its own power and not by ours." It is for us only to welcome it by faith.

In the Christmas miracle, in this altogether new and always new event, God puts all humanity on a wholly new footing. We stand as reconciled and made one with the Creator of all things. Nothing can separate us. The apostle Paul joyfully declares, "I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Romans 8:38)

Everything that happens in the Christ Event, his teachings, his healings, his suffering, his death, his resurrection and ascension, are recapitulations of the "Miracle of Christmas." This is God's revelation of Himself and of a new humanity. "Joy to the world, the Lord has come... Let heaven and nature sing!"

I wish for you the most sacred Advent season and the most glorious and joyful Christmas as we prepare our hearts and celebrate The Word Made Flesh.

Peace and Blessings,

Pastor Steve



OPERATIONS

Cash Flow Report for Month Ending 10/31/2024

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH FINANCIAL SUMMARY and
Treasurer's Narrative for Period Ending October 31, 2024

The gross operating income the 10 months through October was \$156,205. Contributions *excluding* Designated Funds for this period were \$155,246. Operating expenses were \$167,357. Our Net Income was **a negative \$11,152**. Income is averaging \$1,115 per month less then expenses.

For the same period in 2023 the income was \$160,011 (both years included contributions from IRA accounts). Operating expenses in 2023 were \$202,643 (in 2023 we had a full-time pastor).

Here is a breakdown of our expenses for 10 months in 2024

Administration (Staff & Office)	\$ 93,745
Study Committee Exp	538
Facilities (Utilities & Maint.)	51,419
Education	455
Congr Life & Missions/Per Capita	15,124
Communication	4,232
<u>Worship</u>	<u>1,843</u>
TOTAL	\$167,357

Checking Account Balance on 10/31/24 was \$6,652. This was enough to cover upcoming invoices and staff payroll for the beginning part of November. The later part of November we may need to transfer funds from the Operating Savings Account which depends on whether we will receive any special contributions such as those from IRA accounts.

We've received over \$15,000 to the Building Fund between July 1st and November 12th which will gave us funds to pay for some needed facility repairs. A portion was used to repay the Operating Savings Fund for the cost of the A/C unit that was installed in 2023.

Thank you to all who continue to support this congregation's needs and also reach out into the community through volunteering at various causes.

With the warm summer months behind us, The cooler weather is here which will increase the cost of natural gas and the electricity cost will go down a little. Let's all remember to turn off lights as soon as we are finished using any portion of the building. Some Sundays, I stay in the office to do a little of my financial duties, and many times I find lights left on.

May all of you enjoy the Thanksgiving weekend. We all have so much for which to be thankful. May God's blessings shine in your hearts.

Luke 6:38. *"Give and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap"*

Respectfully submitted,

Lucy Jacob, Church Treasurer/Ruling Elder



Prayer Concerns

Members: Pat Potter; Jerry & Lynn Kolter; Lucy Jacob; Nina Dellinger; Donna Thompson; Mert Jacob

Members who are Nursing Home Residents:

White Oak Health Campus:
Jim Hallar; Ruth Erdmann & Naomi Ward

Service Men & Women

Walker Eifert (ARMY) (great nephew of Mert and Lucy Jacob); Brian Strantz (NAVY) (son of Tom & Julie Houck); Brad Switzer (USMC); Ensign Daniel Weathers (NAVY) (grandson of James Hallar); PVT Peyton Chaffin (son of Heather Chaffin); **All unspoken prayers**



Friends and Relatives

Elain Berry (Cinda Wilhite's sister); Jenny & Natalie Hanes (Judy Dowden's daughter & granddaughter & Gina Guy's sister & niece,); Holly Conner (Jenelle's friend); Mark Skidmore (Dennis Boyd's friend); Mike O'Farrell; Mindy & Jon Gutwein (Sara Phelps's friend); Kathy & Roger Maxwell (Dave & Tom Anderson's sister & brother-in-law); Ray Dulin; Fallon Wildrick (Jim Wildrick's granddaughter); Kimberly Dulin (Linda Fullerton's friend); Janet Anderson (Art Anderson's wife); Katelyn Creigh (Gary & Kim Creigh's daughter); Flor Sare; Fred Bailey (Richard's brother); Jim

Wanders (Naomi Ward's son); Kristin Arnone (Dennis & Roslyn Boyd's daughter); Kathleen (Jennifer Haskin's friend); Joey (Jennifer Haskin's friend's grandson); C.J. White (Judy Dowden's grandson & Gina Guy's nephew); Wayne Speicher (Mike & Liz Rice's friend); Maverick Davey (Chris & Linda Fullerton's great grandson); Brothers & Sisters in Christ at New Hope Lutheran Church.

Our Christian Sympathy is extended to the Family & Friends of Debbie Raderstorf. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers.

Sister Churches

First Presbyterian Church, Winamac, IN - Rev. Kimberly Powell
Christ Presbyterian Church, Winfield, IN
Meadow Lake Presbyterian Church, Wolcott, IN - Rev. Kevin Freischlag
First Presbyterian Church, Albion, IN
Chapel-of-the-Lakes Presbyterian Church - Rev. Chris Schaefer

Church Directory

Rev. Stephen Quinlan	Bridge Pastor
Jaci Smolek	Administrative Assistant
Lucy Jacob	Treasurer
Bill Cook	Custodian
Laura Lee	Choir Director
Marilyn Denton	Organist
Jeffrey Cameo	Media Specialist
Flordeliza Sare	Nursery
Jenelle Foddrill	Youth Group Leader



Website: monticellofpc.org
facebook.com/monticellofirstpresbyterianchurch

THE SESSION:

Rev. Stephen Quinlan	Moderator
Joy Bailey	Clerk of Session

CLASS OF 2024

Dan Flora, Jenelle Foddrill, Shelle Hay, Betsy Bossaer

CLASS OF 2025

Lucy Jacob; De Anna Paschen; Judy Bertram

CLASS OF 2026

Jody Headdy, Jay Janke; Dave Bramlage; Dave Anderson

THE DEACONS:

Reesa Flora	Moderator
TBD	Vice-Moderator
Mike Rice	Secretary
Andi Janke	Treasurer

CLASS OF 2024

Reesa Flora, Mike Rice
Margaret Sherry

CLASS OF 2025

Andi Janke, Mark Hay,
Donna Thompson

CLASS OF 2026

Theresa Baker, Greg Bossaer
Linda Fullerton; Amber Brothers

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN:

Donna Thompson	President
Susie Good	Vice President
Ardis Bramlage	Historian/Secretary
Theresa Baker	Treasurer

Program Leaders:

Spring: N/A
Fall: N/A
Christmas: N/A

Nominating Committee:

N/A



SESSION NEWS

October 22, 2024 Mini Minutes

The October 22, 2024 Regular Session Meeting was called to order by Moderator Rev. Stephen Quinlan at 6:30 p.m. in the new conference room. Devotions for the evening were given by Shelle Hay. The docket was approved and the September 24, 2024, minutes were approved as presented. The Communion Count was 73. The Congregational Self-Study Team presented their report for approval by the Session. It will be presented to the congregation at our Congregational Meeting on Sunday, November 17th following worship. The Session approved the narrative, new Mission Statement, and the recommendation to hire a financial consultant to review our church finances.

Elder Headdy reported for the Nominating Team. Elders nominated were: Liz Rice, Joy Bailey, and Tom Anderson. Deacons nominated were: Susie Good and Richard Bailey. Nominations for the Pastoral Nominating Committee were: Jenelle Foddrill, Shelle Hay, Leslie Goss, Jay Janke, Dave Winings, and Marvin Good. These will be voted on at the November 17th Congregational Meeting.

The Administration Team presented proposed changes to the By-Laws that will be voted on at the Annual Meeting in February. The Session approved these changes. The Facilities Needs Team reported that they have selected a handrail for the Sanctuary, and they have found a company that will make and install the handrails. The gutter guards project is completed. Dave Anderson will make the needed repairs to the boiler, and it will be inspected on October 25th.

The Communication Team has ordered 2 new mics for the choir loft. The team is also in the process of switching to a new, updated website which will have an SSI certificate (security). They have paid for Web.com to build the site and manage it for a year. Ads for the PW Bazaar were placed at the News and Review and on WMRS. Pastor Quinlan has spent 47 hours in the office during October. Preparation for services on October 6,13,15, and 20 total 15 hours. He moderated one Session Meeting and has made 7 Pastoral Contacts. He performed the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper once. Other activities were staff meetings, fellowship, committee meetings and work at home.

There being no further business, the Session voted to adjourn the meeting with prayer at 7:50 p.m. Our next meeting will be a Joint Meeting with the Deacons on December 10th.

Clerk of Session, Joy Bailey



ADMINISTRATION

Annual Committee reports are due

January 20, 2025!

Please submit by email to admin@monticellofpc.org.

Any questions please ask Jaci.



Important Notice from the Administrative/Finance Team:

1. Donations for 2024 (per IRS rules) must be delivered or mailed (postmarked by 12-31-2024) in order to claim a charitable contribution deduction for 2024. Checks that are placed in the church offering during the first worship service in 2025 will not qualify for a charitable contribution deduction in 2024, even if the check is predated to 2024 or was actually written in 2024. However, checks that are written, mailed and postmarked in 2024 will be deductible in 2024 even if the church does not receive them until 2025.

2. To ensure the deductibility of your church contributions do not file your 2024 income tax return until you have received a written acknowledgement of your contributions from the church. Some of your contributions may not be tax-deductible if you file your tax return before receiving a written acknowledgement of your contributions from the church. (This is an IRS rule)

Statements will be available no later than January 26, 2025. So please look for them in the fellowship hall.



2025 Offering Envelopes

The 2025 offering envelopes will be available in the Fellowship Hall at the end of December.

Please pick up your envelopes after the service.

If you are currently not receiving offering envelopes and would like a box, please contact Lucy Jacob.



EDUCATION NEWS

Advent devotionals will be available in the Narthex. Please feel free to pick one up as Advent will begin on December 1st. The ushers can assist you in finding them.

OUR CHURCH AT WORK

	<u>December 1st</u>	<u>December 8th</u>	<u>December 15th</u>	<u>December 22nd</u>	<u>December 29th</u>
<u>ACOLYTES</u>	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
<u>ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTER</u>	Marsha Oilar & De Anna Paschen	Leslie Goss & Ardis Bramlage	The Denton Family	Dan & Reesa Flora	None
<u>DEACON</u>	Amber Brothers	Greg Bossaer	Theresa Baker	Reesa Flora	Mike Rice or Andi Janke
<u>FELLOWSHIP</u>	Donna Thompson Stephanie Dellinger Linda Fullerton	Reesa Flora Janet Anderson Brittany Hannon	Leslie Goss Margaret Sherry Shelle Hay	Liz Rice Kim Powers Shelle Hay	Jenelle Foddrill Jennifer Haskin Ros Boyd
<u>FLOWER CALENDAR</u>	None	None	None	None	None
<u>LITURGIST</u>	Greg Bossaer	Shelle Hay	Dan Flora	Jim Leverenz	Reesa Flora
<u>POWERPOINT and STREAMING</u>	Jenelle Foddrill Amber/Betsy	Dan Flora Jenelle/Betsy	Mike Rice Amber/Betsy	Greg Bossaer Betsy Bossaer	Dan Flora Amber/Jenelle
<u>USHERS</u>	Linda Land	Bonnie Kelly	Jane DeMay	Jody Headdy	Andi Janke



INVITING PEOPLE/MISSIONS

Salvation Army Bell Ringers Needed!!!

The White County Salvation Army will be ringing bells this year during the Christmas season to raise funds to help families in need in our community. Our church has been asked to help with this worthwhile project. We will be ringing inside at Kroger north door on Friday December 13th and Saturday December 14th. Each shift is 2 hours beginning at 10am and ending at 8pm. (if 2 hours is too long, we can have 1 hour shifts.) If you cannot help on December 13th or 14th, you can sign up to help at other locations and times. Please consider ringing the Salvation Army bell this holiday season and representing our church. Our wonderful congregation has helped with this outreach and supported the Salvation Army for many years! Call or email Andi Janke (574-583-9848 or jayandijanke@gmail.com) with questions or to sign up to ring. You can also sign up at RegisterToRing.com.



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN NEWS



**PW Christmas Gathering is Monday, December 2nd
at 6:00 p.m. Please sign up in the Narthex and/or
the office.**

Come and enjoy some Christmas Spirit!

MISSION/CONGREGATIONAL LIFE NEWS




December 1st
 Allen & Robin Price


	<u>December 8th</u>	<u>December 24th</u>	
	Karen Wood	Andrew Hay	
	<u>December 13th</u>	Linda Maudlin	
	Emma Bush	Michael Sherry	
	<u>December 16th</u>	<u>December 25th</u>	
	Howie Reiff	Susan Good	
	<u>December 21st</u>	<u>December 31st</u>	
	Catherine Smith	Pamela Hollingsworth	



REMINDER

Food Pantry Pick-up

December 24th - December 28th

For questions, contact Mark Hay.



SOUP FOR SOULS

The Methodist Church hosts Soup 4 Souls on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month from 4:15 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Our church is responsible for the 4th Tuesday of each month. We need to provide at least two people to work and donate two plates of brownies. Volunteers are needed. Please contact Judy Bertram if you are willing to serve.



Chair Exercise Class

The Chair Exercise Class for mature adults and those with mobility limitations is scheduled for 10:00 am to 11:00 am.; classes will be held every Tuesday and Thursday. Please come and join the fun!!

Christmas & New Years

Office will be closed to observe Christmas on Tuesday & Wednesday, December 24th and 25th. The office will reopen on Thursday, December 26th.

Office will be closed to observe the New Year on Tuesday and Wednesday, December 31st & January 1st. The office will reopen Thursday, January 2nd.



HEART Fellowship

Heart Fellowship will have their monthly meeting from 11:15 to 1:00 on Tuesday, December 10th. A vocal group from the Roosevelt Middle School Music Department will be sharing their talents for those in attendance. Plan to attend and enjoy these talented students. For reservations please call the church office prior to noon on Monday December 9th, or see the sign up sheet in the Narthex that previous Sunday. Reservations are necessary for food preparation.

THANK YOU !!!!

