



The Bell

January, 2025

Monthly Newsletter of the First Presbyterian Church Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin

JANUARY BRINGS US TO BAPTISM

God's blessings and welcome to the New Year. As always, it will take a bit to write the correct date on our checks and anything else you date. Please be patient with yourself.

Well the excitement of Christmas and New Years is done, but the reason for the season still remains. We need to continue listening to the words that Zachariah and Elizabeth told us about their son, John, and what he came to do. That he was sent to make the road straight and fill in the valleys for the one that was greater than he, Jesus Christ. He told us to repent and turn towards God. He showed this with the institution of baptism, a way that converts to the Jewish faith would normally be cleansed as they started their journey as a Jewish citizen. But John said everyone, including the Jewish people, needed to be baptized, repent and turn towards God.

So it is appropriate for us to remember this as we will celebrate baptism of Lord on Sunday, January 12 with a re-dedication of our own baptismal vows that was started by Pastor Ken Ribe when he came to guide you through the transition from one pastor to another. We remember the vow that we or our parents made for us years ago. We will finish off the month with the baptism of Hailey Jane Lucas on January 26, Rick and Jan Koepke's new granddaughter.

2024 was a great year for our church. 2025 is looking like it may be even better. As always, we are in God's hands and he gets all the glory, no matter how the year goes.

God Bless you all and your family as we go into this new year with a fresh feeling of great things to come. God bless you all.

Ed

WHAT BETTER WAY TO START THE NEW YEAR

“Well, now that Christmas is over, I guess we have nothing to do until next year” said Elmer Elf.

“January is so boring with nothing to do” said his brother, Edgar.

“But, I heard the Presbyterians have something planned for New Year’s Night that we might find interesting. Do you think we should check it out?” asked Elmer.

“What are they up to now?” questioned Edgar.

“Apparently New Year’s Night is also the first Wednesday of the month, and they are planning Mid-Week Church School for the young ones and games and dinner for the adults. I’ll bet they wouldn’t mind if we joined in. I was talking to Kevin Litten and he said he has Chinese food all set for the supper.” said Elmer.

“Sounds good to me.” said Edgar. “What time should I be there?”

“Come about 4:15 for the kiddies and 4:30 for the adults. Dinner will be at 5:30 if you can wait that long.” said his all-knowing sibling.

“See you there!” cried both elves.

CONGREGATION ELECTS NEW LEADERS

The congregational elected new leaders for the 2025 term.

The new leaders are Dr. Bill McDougall and Ruth Rosenow for Session, Mary Jo Reemstma, Beth Cripe and Barbara Williams for the Board of Deacons (Barbara replaces Margi Kohl and completes her term), John Jensen for the Endowment Board and Deb Buckli and Lynda Butek on the Financial Review Team.

These new leaders will begin their term on January 1.

PRESBYTERY WOMEN PLAN SPRING MEETING IN EAU CLAIRE

The First Presbyterian Church of Eau Claire will host the Spring Gathering and Annual Meeting of all the women of the Presbytery on Saturday, May 17.

The day’s agenda includes a gathering time beginning at 9:30, followed by worship, special offerings, a special presentation, lunch and finally the annual meeting.

The special presentation will include a Racial Ethnic Dialog or RED to fulfill the group’s purpose by “building an inclusive caring community” through the use of dialog as a tool for establishing trust and building relationships among and between women from different racial and ethnic groups.

First Presbyterian Church

2025 Hospitality Team Schedule

Updated 12-12-2024 tw

Team 1 <u>Anne Welke</u>	Team 2 <u>Rick Koepke</u>	Team 3 <u>Chuck Norseng</u>	Team 4 <u>Corine Boos</u>	Team 5 <u>Barb Shorrel</u>	Team 6 <u>Bonnie Gullickson</u>
John Jensen Bill & Donna Martin Larry Annett Margi Kohl Esther Frazier	Jan Koepke Lynda Butek Mary Jo Reemtsma Winston Baker Scott Legwold	Ruth Rosenow Barb Williams John Hillery	Abendroths Gene Peissig Kevin Litten	Ellen & Todd Teske Jackie Reich Bill & Deb McDougall	Marlys Daniels Beth Cripe Ryan & Sara Reemtsma Barbara Ray Bob Bodeau

<u>Jan '25</u> <u>Tm</u> 5 1 12 2 19 3 26 4	<u>Feb '25</u> <u>Tm</u> 2 5 9 6 16 1 23 2	<u>March '25</u> <u>Tm</u> 2 3 9 4 16 5 23 6 30 1	<u>April '25</u> <u>Tm</u> 6 2 13 3 20 4 27 5	<u>May '25</u> <u>Tm</u> 4 6 11 1 18 2 25 3	<u>June '25</u> <u>Tm</u> 1 4 8 5 15 6 22 1 29 2
<u>July '25</u> <u>Tm</u> 6 3 13 4 20 5 27 6	<u>Aug '25</u> <u>Tm</u> 3 1 10 2 17 3 24 4 31 5	<u>Sept '25</u> <u>Tm</u> 7 6 14 1 21 2 28 3	<u>Oct '25</u> <u>Tm</u> 5 4 12 5 19 6 26 1	<u>Nov '25</u> <u>Tm</u> 2 2 9 3 16 4 23 5 30 6	<u>Dec '25</u> <u>Tm</u> 7 1 14 2 21 3 28 4

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