

# 2026

A photograph of a city skyline at night, with various buildings and lights visible. Several fireworks are exploding in the dark sky, creating bright, starburst patterns. The overall scene is festive and celebratory.

*Happy New Year  
to Everyone.*

Glory to God in the  
highest heaven and peace  
to us on earth.

## From the Church Office

### FINANCIAL REPORT—Month Ending 11/30/2025

**Monthly requirement to meet our budget \$12502.94**

Total Income	\$ 9606.40
Total Expenses	\$87132.19
Net Income	\$ -77525.79

**Thank you** for supporting our church

### Sunday Worship Attendance 2025

Dec 7	22
Dec 14	32
Dec 21	26
Dec 24	50
Dec 28	27



### January Birthdays

8th	Jan Kuleta	24	Kate Systad
15th	Kathy Burger		
18th	Wanda Burke		
25th	Brenda Miller		

**Head Usher: Gloria Phelps**

**Date**

**Liturgist**

**Greeter**

**Jan 4**

**Mary Hayes**

**Duane Hayes**

**Jan 11**

**Libby Underhill**

**Nancy Weber**

**Jan 18**

**Ruth Andersen**

**Barb McGregor**

**Jan 25**

**Libby Underhill**

**Nancy Weber**

**Communion: Set-up Nancy Weber**

**Serve Terri Murray and Cheryl Hiltz**

**Kitchen: Brenda Miller with helpers Palmer Berg, Terri Murray, Nancy Weber**

The **Congregational Meeting** will be held Sunday, January 25th directly following the service. Please plan on attending to review the last years state of the church and to vote on the budget for the year 2025.

## Supper Club



Please call Dianne Roholt directly at 218-444-2859 for your reservations!

This is an evening full of joy, laughter and good food.

**All are welcome!**

## **First Presbyterian Church**

**Bemidji, MN**

**November 18, 2025**

**APPROVED: 12-16-25**

The monthly stated meeting of the session of First Presbyterian Church was held in the Conference Room on November 18, 2025, at 1:00 pm. The meeting was opened with prayer by Moderator, Pastor Chip Holt.

**ELDERS PRESENT CONSTITUTING A QUORUM:** Darlinda Coe, Duane Hayes, Terri Murray, and Libby Underhill. **\*Note:** Bev Novak has moved to Grand Rapids, MN.

### **QUORUM DECLARED**

### **ADOPTION OF AGENDA – MSP**

**MEETING MINUTES - MSP** to approve the minutes from the October Session meeting.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

- Email from Linnea Mostad. She will convalesce in the Cities through Christmas.
- Information from the Bemidji Food Shelf regarding SNAP benefits
- Letter from PB Communications regarding security/privacy information – Darlinda will take care of this.
- Thank-you letter from PCUSA regarding our benevolences to the Pentecost offering and One Great Hour of Sharing offering.

### **CLERK'S REPORT**

First Presbyterian Church, Bemidji, MN, Clerk's Report – November 18, 2025

**Weddings:** None

**Baptisms:** None

**Deaths:** None

**New Members:** None

**Return to Active Membership:** None

**Request Transfer of Membership:** None

**Removed from Membership Roll:** None

**Communion:** November 2, 2025: 23 served

**Membership** as of November 18, 2025: 60

### **Sunday Worship Attendance:**

Oct. 12th: **22**   Oct. 19th: **20**   Oct. 26th: **20**   Nov. 2nd: **23**   Nov. 9th: **18**   Nov. 16th: **28**

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- **Administration/Personnel:** Chairperson: Duane Hayes; no report
- **Buildings & Grounds:** Chairperson: Terri Murray; Chip gave a repair update – peaked roof is done, masonry is done; repairs to the inside will be prioritized.
- **Finance Report & Stewardship:** Chairperson: Bev Novak; Cheryl reviewed the financial reports for October.
- **Adult & Christian Education:** Chairperson: Linnea Mostad; no report
- **Outreach:** Chairperson: Linnea Mostad; First Presbyterians served at the Bemidji Food Shelf on October 24th and will serve again on November 28th. Tubs of Love will be due December 16<sup>th</sup>. The Boy Scouts will do one tub, and the congregation and Circle will do the other.
- **Worship & Music:** Chairperson: Darlinda Coe; The Scout troop will set up the Christmas tree prior to Advent. Christmas Eve service will be held December

24<sup>th</sup> at 3pm. The church is scheduled to host the Bemidji Area Churches Musician concert on Wednesday, June 24, 2026. Darlinda mentioned it is difficult finding liturgists.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- The Annual Community Christmas Carol Sing Along will be held Sunday, December 7<sup>th</sup> at 3pm. An ad will be placed in the paper. The congregation is asked for help in posting flyers around town.
- Hope House will use the Fellowship Hall and kitchen to hold its annual Thanksgiving dinner on November 18<sup>th</sup>. Cheryl and Terri will share duties of being on hand during the dinner.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

- Libby reported that the old church website is now nonexistent.
- Chip asked that the elders consider assets of the church. After discussion, the music and the church's excellent acoustics plus the welcoming nature of the congregation were highlighted. Chip encouraged the session to consider visions of the church revolving around these assets for future discussion.

**Next Meeting: Tuesday, December 16, 2025,** at 1:00 pm. in the conference room.  
Chip will moderate.

**MSP** to adjourn with prayer at 2:10pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Libby Underhill  
Clerk of Session



## **Benevolence for the month of January**

### **Bemidji Village of Hope**

**We are an Emergency Shelter for families that experience  
Homelessness**

**Homelessness doesn't take a break,  
so neither do we.**

#### **A DAY IN THE LIFE...**

A single Dad came into the office overwhelmed. "I don't think I can do this anymore. Everything is so hard." We shared a cup of coffee and called the Housing Navigator who scheduled an appointment to see him the next day. His two teen age daughters were upset and the case manager spend an hour with them, and we called Evergreen for some family counseling. "I'm so glad I don't have to do this alone". He left with a feeling of accomplishment and ready to keep going


A young woman walked down the hall of the shelter, eyes down cast and shoulders slumped. She just got all six of her girls on the bus for school, her youngest going for the first time. She herself had been homeless since she was 14. She was ready to find a job, but said "I have no skills". We talked about what it takes to keep six girls healthy, happy and on time for school! Who budgets? "I do" Who cooks and Cleans? "I do" We talked about all the amazing skills she has, she started applying for jobs and found one she loves. Shortly after, she got her FIRST HOUSE. Life changing!

A young girl had been in and out of treatment. She had a 3-year-old with her, but her oldest daughter was not living with her. She was very reluctant to attend our Rent Wise Life Skills class but after three weeks she decided to come. She was so engaged, and afterwards said "That is exactly how I've been thinking and now I know what I can do to change that around. You guys treat me like I matter.

When families come to Village of Hope, they are at the lowest spot in their lives. They are exhausted and frustrated. They don't trust themselves or others. By working together, and building relationships, we start to rebuild their confidence and hope. We are so much more alike than different and pointing that out makes all the difference to a heartbroken family.

**Sundays**  
**10:00 am**  
**Worship**  
**11:00am**  
**Fellowship**



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 	2  6:00 Scouts Lock In	3
4 Pastor Chip Communion Fellowship	5 6:15- 6:45 Bell Choir  7pm Scouts	6	7  6 pm Calvary Chapel	8 Jan Kuleta 100 B-Day	9	10
11 Pastor Chip	12 6:15- 6:45 Bell Choir  7pm Scouts	13 12pm VA	14 12pm Va  6 pm Calvary Chapel	15  1:00pm PEO	16	17
18 Pastor Chip	19 6:15- 6:45 Bell Choir  7pm Scouts	20  1:00pm Ses- sion	21  6 pm Calvary Chapel	22	23	24
25 Pastor Chip Congregational Meeting	26 6:15- 6:45 Bell Choir 7pm Scouts	27  12pm VA	28 12pm VA  6 pm Calvary Chapel	29	30	31



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