

Session Notes

A caring congregation of Christian faith, welcoming all, praising God, and seeking to do God's work

Session met on Tuesday December 7th for our regular meeting. The scripture lesson for the evening was John Chapter 1 verses 1-5 & 14-18 "light shining into the darkness". John is witnessing about Christ being the light of God who came amongst us in human form to share the light of God. This is a particularly relevant passage as we gathered for our Christmas meeting. We reviewed feedback from the congregation regarding services and events over the past month. The many joys and concerns of the Congregation were shared and kept in our prayers.

The Session took some time for fellowship and to enjoy the season by starting our meeting with a delicious pot luck dinner at the home of Gwen and Clint Gaebel. Advent and Christmas is always so busy with family and activities. We rejoice at the wonderful services planned for the Advent Season. Today we will enjoy the Pageant put on by our congregation and relish the wonderful turkey dinner prepared by our Youth Group. The longest night service is planned for those who find the Christmas Season difficult and there are 2 Candlelight Services on Christmas Eve. We realized that the children and Sunday school staff have missed the last 2 Communion Services. Session has approved a special Communion by intinction as part of the advent 4 service. The Session encourages all to come and take a little time enjoy this most Blessed season with our Church family. Please invite a friend or neighbor to join you.

Charlie Monette has provided the following financial summary:

	Nov. 10	YTD 10	Nov. 09	YTD 09
Blessings	\$11,204	\$86,582	\$11,503	\$85,028
Expenses	\$10,476	\$113,475	\$9,811	\$82,416
Difference	\$728	-\$26,893	\$1,692	\$2,612
Pres. Sharing		\$6,962 **		\$6,012
CARE		\$17,504		\$7,032

** St. Andrew's Presbyterian Sharing accepted allocation \$7,000.

The Session reviewed our financial position and give thanks for having a surplus of \$728 in November which is the first time monthly support has been greater than expenses all year. It appears that we will meet or exceed our commitment for Presbyterian's Sharing. We remain concerned that the Church has spent \$26,893 more than we have received. Please remember that all donations must be received and dated December 31st in order to qualify for a 2010 charitable tax receipt.

The Session wishes to share with the Congregation that St. Andrew's has received a bequest from the estate of Bee Griffiths. Bee was a long time member and Elder who was committed to St. Andrew's and to our C.A.R.E. project. Bee made provision for a final donation of \$5,000.00 to her Church to be used as the needs of the Church required. The Session voted unanimously to direct \$4,000.00 to the operating budget and \$1,000.00 to C.A.R.E. We praise God for the life, service and generosity of Bee.

The Session prays God's peace and blessing on you and your families during this blessed season. Have a very Merry Christmas and a safe and prosperous New Year.

Important dates to keep in mind:

Today – Advent 3, Pageant & Youth Linger Lunch

December 19th – Advent 4 & Communion

December 21st – Longest Night Service

December 24th – Christmas Candlelight Services 4:30 & 7:30

January 4th – Session Meeting

