

Session Notes

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

Session met on Tuesday January 4th for our regular meeting. The scripture lesson for the evening was Luke Chapter 2 verses 1-7, Jesus birth. There was a lengthy discussion on the meaning and relevance of the birth of Jesus to Christians today. It was interesting the wide interpretation and opinion that exists within the Session. The important message was that although we have a variety of ways of interpreting what the passage means, Christ did come among us to show us how to live among our fellow Christians and work in His world. We reviewed feedback from the congregation regarding Advent & Christmas services and events over the past month. There were many very positive comments about each and every service. The many joys and concerns of the Congregation were shared and kept in our prayers.

The Session dealt with a number of items of business. We determined that a special meeting is required to progress to the next steps on the strategic plan. The planning for the Annual Congregational Meeting was completed. The meeting will be held on Sunday Feb. 27th and include a lunch. Reports will be available on Feb. 13th & all reports are due by Jan. 30th. We reviewed the Presbyterians Sharing Allocation request & have prepared an accepted allocation recommendation for the ACM. The Session also discussed the objectives for the upcoming joint Board/Session meeting.

Charlie Monette has provided the following financial summary:

	Dec. 10	YTD 10	Dec. 09	YTD 09
Blessings	\$22,504	\$108,837	\$18,600	\$103,627
Expenses	\$19,804	\$132,923	\$15,204	\$97,621
Difference	\$3,200	-\$24,084	\$3,396	\$6,006
Pres. Sharing	\$733	\$7,695 **	\$623	\$6,635**
CARE	\$5,912	\$23,680	\$4162	\$11,195

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

The Session reviewed our preliminary financial position for 2010. We had a very strong finish in December and there is a great deal to be thankful for. We had the goal of raising \$7,000 for Presbyterians Sharing in 2010 and raised \$7,695 for the work of our National Church. Expenses were in line with the revised budget that we shared in October. There were many blessings that we celebrate in December. Our beautifully decorated Christmas tree raised \$933 as we remembered family and friends with a Christmas ball. Our Youth raised \$1,154 with their Christmas pageant linger lunch & bake sale and grocery card sale. There was also very generous support from the congregation with givings being up \$7,750 over 2009. We finished the year with a deficit of \$24,086, but there have been memorial donations of \$4,620 made to the operating budget which means we should end the year with approximately \$3,000 in the bank. Thank you for all of the hard work and generous support.

Important dates to keep in mind:

Today – Communion

January 17th – Presbytery Visit, Congregation at 8:00pm

January 25th – Joint Board/Session Meeting

January 30th – ACM Reports deadline

Feb. 1st – Session Meeting

Feb. 5th – Session Strategic Plan Workshop

Feb. 13th – ACM Report distribution

Feb. 27th – Congregational Lunch and ACM