

PASTOR'S LETTER FOR

JANUARY 2021



Greetings Friends!

Happy New Year! We are finally in 2021!
It seems like 2020 was the year that would not end.

I am excited for this new year and the hope that it brings. We have hope in the vaccinations that are being distributed that the world can begin healing.

Our Zoom Bible Study on Tuesday mornings and Wednesday nights has been going well. We had a great group exploring the incarnation during Advent. It is great to be in fellowship and grow in our faith together.

We are doing a study on Christian Practices starting Tuesday January 5 at 10am and Wednesday January 6 at 7pm. Our first discussion will be on the Christian practice of prayer. Join us as we reflect on how to talk to God!

I know we are all anticipating our return to in-person worship that is tentatively scheduled for Sunday January 17, 2021 at 10am. Worship will not look the same as it did, but it will be great to be together. I continue to pray that the numbers will decline, and it will be safe to gather again.

We will be having a congregational meeting after church on Sunday January 31. More information will be sent out about this meeting in the coming weeks.

I am so grateful to Paulette Riedel, Jennifer Mittelstadt, and Mike Prenzlowl for faithfully serving on Session. I encourage you to thank them for their leadership, they have worked hard, and have showed us what it means to be servant leaders. Thank you!

Thanks to everyone who has continued to make our worship services happen on Facebook and the DVDs. I am so very thankful for Ann Driver, Gayle and Dan Kaufeld, Sheryl Scholer, Arlin Brigham, Paul Riggs and Amy Borgstrom.

My verse for us this month comes from Lamentations 3:22-24: The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, His mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness. "The Lord is my portion," says my soul, "therefore I will hope in him."

May this new year remind us to have hope in Jesus Christ and that we serve a merciful God whose mercies are new every morning!

I am so grateful to be your pastor.

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Amanda

[February Newsletter](#)
[Deadline January 20 -](#)
[8 AM](#)

Born in January

Jan. 1	Dan Driver
Jan. 5	Ann Driver
Jan. 6	Bob Tracy
Jan. 7	Cora Holtz
Jan. 11	Lucy Gransee
Jan. 14	Paul Riggs
Jan. 15	Mackenzie Brainard
	Roberta Pogalz
Jan. 16	Rose Horsman
Jan. 17	Mark Gransee
Jan. 20	Kelly Hrtanek
	Felix Pedersen
Jan. 23	Tyler Wanous
Jan. 26	Elaine Gransee
Jan. 26	Jett Mittelstadt
Jan. 28	Connie Blinsky

happy
ANNIVERSARY

Jan. 11	Larry & Ruth Pedersen
	Robert & Judy Gransee
Jan. 16	Folmer & Jane Carlsen
	Marv & Rose Horsman
Jan. 17	Jason & Joanne Pedersen

Pray for those who are
serving our Nation's defense:

Todd Livingston with the U.S.
Air Force at Hickam A.F.B,
HI. Todd has been deployed since Nov3 to South
Korea



Peyton Wilke graduated from Marine Basic Training
at Marine Corp Recruit Depot (MCRD) in San Die-
go on November 20, 2020 with a meritorious pro-
motion to Private First Class (PFC). From there
Peyton went to Camp Pendleton in southern Califor-
nia for Marine Combat Training and graduated from
that school on December 9, 2020. He arrived at
Camp Lejeune in North Carolina on December 9,
2020 and will begin his Military Occupation Spe-
cialty (MOS) training on January 5, 2021 which is
expected to take 12 weeks. To our surprise he was
granted leave over Christmas and was in Kasson
from about December 19-26.

Please keep Bev Livingston in our prayers.

January Session Meeting will be held on
Monday, January 11, 2021 at 5:30 pm.

**Church
SESSION**

**Worship
Committee**

The Worship Committee will meet on Wednes-
day, January 13 at 6:30 pm using Zoom. Mem-
bers will receive an invitation to the meeting in
their email.

Church Information

Website:	www.presbykasson.org
Pastor email:	presbypastor@kmtel.com
Church email:	presbykasson@kmtel.com
Church Phone:	634-7481
Pastor Phone -	651-214-4174
Pastor Office Hours M	10am—2pm,
	W 9am—noon, and by appointment.
Secretary office hours	
	Wednesday & Friday 8am—noon
Worship	10:00 am

PW CORNER



Greetings PW,

As we write this newsletter today the calendar says it is the first of winter, but I have a feeling we will have a brown Christmas, at least no more than a dusting of snow on the ground if that, but as you read this, that wonderful holiday will be behind us. Hopefully everyone had as good a Christmas as possible although it may not have been the same as in the past, but we can all now look ahead to a better, brighter holiday in 2021. Best of luck to everyone in receiving a vaccination for COVID 19; since there are now two different vaccines available there is at last a light at the end of the tunnel and perhaps we will not have to be wearing masks next year at this time!

PW does not meet for the months of January, February or March, so there is nothing that needs to be dealt with until April. Please pray for our church to be fully opened up again by that time so we can get back into a more normal schedule of events. Of course, this will all depend on what progress has been made with distributing the COVID vaccine. The PW officers have talked and agreed on a decision on how to best distribute the money in our treasury, and this is the result: \$400.00 to SEMCAC; \$300.00 to Komet Pantry; \$300.00 to Salvation Army, Dodge County.

Hopefully this meets with everyone's approval. The total amount of money available for these donations was sadly much less than previous years, since we were not able to have our normal fund raisers. You might question why the donation to the Komet Pantry, but hopefully the high school students will be back in person in the spring. Also, for the money for SEMCAC we will not disburse that until March since the money we give will be matched.

Our church will once again be delivering Meals-on-Wheels February 1 – 5, so contact Sharon Law or Carol Prenzlou if you would like to volunteer for that.

As always, please continue to pray for everyone in our church that is dealing with health issues or those who are dealing with the loss of a loved one. Prayers are also needed for all the health care workers, those in the military service, law enforcement, education, religious leaders and our government leaders. Let's all pray for a better, healthier, happier 2021.



Since this is the beginning of a new year, here are some Christian quotes for the new year that will help you live the year God planned for you.

“Fix Your Eyes on the Lord: New Year’s Day is a good time to fix one’s eyes on the only One who knows what the year is to hold.”

“Get to Know God Better: Faith never knows where it is being led, but it loves and knows The One who is leading.”

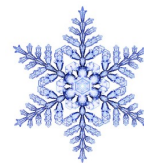
“Start Each Day With God’s Word: This one simple act of beginning each day with God sets each day on the path of wisdom.”

“Right” the Story of Your Life: It’s time to begin “righting” the story of your life. How will you be remembered?”

AND NOW, for the yummy part - the recipes. These are two soups found in the “Cooking With Friends, Volume Two” cookbook from Dodge County employees dated 1996. **ENJOY!!!**

CHEESEBURGER SOUP

½ lb ground beef	4 c. diced, peeled potatoes
¾ c. chopped onion	¼ c. flour
¾ c. diced celery	8 oz. American cheese (2 c.)
¾ c. shredded carrots	1 ½ c. milk
1 tsp. dried basil	¾ tsp. salt
1 tsp. dried parsley flakes	¼- ½ tsp. pepper ¼ c. sour cream
4 Tbsp. butter	3 c. chicken broth



Brown ground beef in 3 quart sauce pan, drain and remove from pan. Saute onion, celery, carrots, basil and parsley in 1 tbsp. butter until tender. Add broth, potatoes and beef. Bring to a boil, reduce heat, cover and simmer for 10 – 12 minutes or until potatoes are tender. In small skillet melt butter, add flour, cook and stir 3 – 5 minutes or until bubbly, add this to the soup and bring to a boil. Cook and stir 2 minutes. Reduce heat, add cheese, milk, salt and pepper. Cook till cheese melts, remove from heat, add sour cream and serve.

CREAM OF CARROT SOUP

2 c. potatoes, grated	½ c. onions, chopped
1 c. carrots, grated	2 c. milk
½ c. green peppers, chopped	¼ c. flour
2 c. water	¼ c. butter
2 Tbsp. chicken bouillon	½ lb. Velveeta cheese



Boil together potatoes, carrots, green peppers, water, bouillon and onion until veggies are cooked. Make white sauce with milk, flour and butter, add to veggie mixture over low heat. Add ½ lb. Velveeta cheese and cook on low heat until melted.

BEAR HUGS

There's a comforting thought at the close of the day, When I'm weary and lonely and sad,

That sort of grips hold of my crusty old heart, And bids it be merry and glad.

It gets in my soul and drives out the blues, and finally thrills through and through.

It is just a sweet memory that chants the refrain: "I'm glad for good friends just like you!"

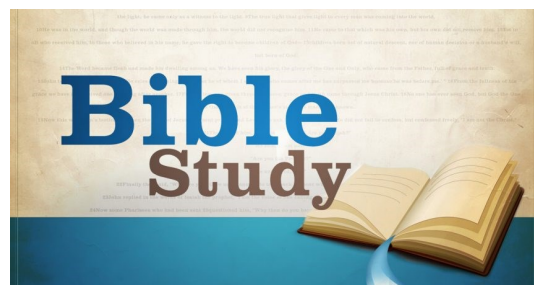
As we start a new year, may each and every one of you look forward to a better, kinder, happier year and may God grant that we will once again be able to be together in Christian fellowship all together in our church.

Our Blessings to all,

Carol and Sue, PW co-chairs

Zoom Bible Study is Happening!

The Zoom link will be sent out via email. We are offering two different times each week; the same Bible study will be offered at both sessions.



Animate: Practices is an introduction to the central practices of the Christian faith, why they are important, and how we can take part in them today. Sessions feature perspectives from Christian thought leaders on topics such as prayer, worship, money, and service.

Tuesday January 5 at 10am and **Wednesday January 6** at 7pm - Prayer

For this week's Animate: Practices Bible study we will explore the Christian practice of prayer and what it means to be oriented towards God.

Tuesday January 12 at 10am and **Wednesday January 13** at 7pm - Food

For this week's Animate: Practices Bible study we will explore the Christian practice of food and what it means to share a meal with Jesus.

Tuesday January 19 at 10am and **Wednesday January 20** at 7pm - Worship

For this week's Animate: Practices Bible study we will explore the Christian practice of worship and what it means to seek God's presence.

Tuesday January 26 at 10am and **Wednesday January 27** at 7pm – Sacraments

For this week's Animate: Practices Bible study we will explore the Christian practice of sacraments and look deeper at this tapestry of traditions.



Children's Sunday School Plan for In-Person Worship

Children's Sunday School will tentatively resume if the church holds in-person worship on Sunday January 17, 2021 at 10am.

Children's Sunday School classes (the class for younger children and confirmation class) will take place during worship and will last approximately 30 minutes.

The children will be required to wear masks and go directly to their Sunday school classrooms.

Children of the same family will be seated together 6 feet apart from other children outside of their household.

The children will check in with their Sunday school teacher when they arrive. They are not included in the count of 40 people for worship since they will be in a separate location from the sanctuary.

If your child feels sick or has had a fever in the last 24 hours please do not send them to Sunday school.

COVID-19 Pandemic In-Person Worship Plan for First Presbyterian Church, Kasson, Minnesota



Recommended by the Coronavirus Subcommittee:
Rev. Amanda Boss, Amanda Frodermann (RN, Parish Nurse),
Sue Alberts, Jane Heser, Gayle Kaufeld

Approved by the Session on November 9, 2020

Rev. Amanda Boss (Moderator), Randy Carlsen (Clerk), Thelma Givan, Robert Gransee, Tami Hanson, Gayle Kaufeld, Jennifer Mittelstadt, Mike Prenzlów, Paulette Riedel, Sheryl Scholer

We will tentatively plan to begin in-person worship on January 17, 2021 at 10:00 am.

Due to the fluidity of COVID-19, cases in our area will be monitored by the Coronavirus Subcommittee and will adjust the start date accordingly.

Registration:

- We have the seating capacity for a total of 40 people in the fellowship hall and the sanctuary. Due to our limited number we will have a registration system in place.
- If you are interested in attending worship in-person, you can go to the church's Facebook page and click on the Sign-Up Form and register to attend. The Sign-Up Form link will also be emailed to you.
- If you do not have a computer or smart phone, please call 507-634-7481 and leave a message with your intention to attend worship by Thursday each week.
- Please indicate your willingness to be an usher as this is a vital role for our ability to be able to offer in-person worship.
- **For in-person worship to take place, we must have four volunteers available to help. These volunteers would assist with registration check-in and guide people to their seats. They would help dismiss people after the service as well.**
- **If we do not have four volunteers to assist with worship, we will not meet in person. The service will be pre-recorded and made available on our Facebook page on Sunday morning.**
- Communication about the status of volunteers will be communicated clearly to the congregation.
- In the event someone has not registered, if we have seats available, they are welcome to join us for worship. They will be asked to sign-in for contact tracing purposes and be guided by an usher to be seated.
- Everyone is strongly encouraged to register for worship because we only have 40 seats available in the space to meet the health department guidelines. We would hate to turn people away, but we will do so if we are at capacity.
- We will evaluate the need to register once we establish how many people will attend the indoor service.

Requirements for attending in-person worship:

- Wear a mask over your nose and mouth at all times.
- Maintain more than 6 feet from people not in your household at all times.
- Use hand sanitizer when you arrive and as needed.
- Affirm that you do not feel sick in any way.
- Affirm that you have not been asked to quarantine or have been exposed to COVID-19.

How worship will look different during this time:

- Offering plate will not be passed. The offering plate will be available at designated locations.
- 2 liturgical participants- pastor and musician.
- Service limited to 30 minutes to minimize time of exposure.
- (Short reflections instead of full-length sermons. No responsive worship elements.)
- No congregational singing. Music via organ/piano or another instrument.
- No hymnals or Bibles in pews.
- Children will not come forward for the children's time.
- Bulletins will be available so that you may follow along with the worship service.
- Restrooms will be open and available for use.

What to expect when arriving at church on Sunday morning:

- You will be greeted at the door (either front or back) of the church. If you do not have a reservation, you will be asked to sign in by an usher. Please do not congregate by the door while waiting your turn.
- The usher will help you find a seat that is safely distanced from others that are not in your household.
- At the end of the service, the usher will excuse each row to exit by the front and back doors.

Church Cancellation Notification Policy

Cancellations will be communicated the following ways:

- 1. The homepage of our website (www.presbykasson.org)**
- 2. The church Facebook page (www.facebook.com/) First Presbyterian Church-Kasson MN**
- 3. KTTC—Channel 10 (on TV and on <https://kttc.com/closings-and-delays/>)**
- 4. As a recorded message on the answering system at the church: [634-7481](tel:634-7481)**
- 5. In case of power outage, use common sense and stay safe.**

-Session/Worship Committee



The Kids' Bulletin

Epiphany
Sunday January 6th, 2019

Matthew 2:1-12

The Magi Visit the Messiah

1 After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem

2 and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him."

3 When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him.

4 When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born.

5 "In Bethlehem in Judea," they replied, "for this is what the prophet has written:

6 " 'But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.' "

7 Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared.

8 He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him."

9 After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was.

10 When they saw the star, they were overjoyed.

11 On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

12 And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.



Today we are celebrating the Feast of the Epiphany.
The Epiphany is a special part of the
Christmas season.
What's it all about?
Connect the dots to find out!



Bible Pathway Adventures

WORD SEARCH

The Magi

X	T	T	S	Q	T	Q	M	R	Q	P	M	G	L	O	W	L	Q	B	W
Z	S	H	P	H	V	O	F	A	M	K	T	Y	J	V	E	W	M	E	I
T	A	O	L	L	J	U	D	E	A	I	O	N	R	G	Q	E	V	T	S
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C	N	S	R	J	E	R	U	S	A	L	E	M	K	N	M	N	F	P	L
H	G	Q	Y	B	V	S	J	G	I	Y	A	A	Z	C	F	H	R	R	W
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R	L	H	S	I	F	L	R	I	I	P	F	E	J	N	B	D	S	P	E
S	D	Y	H	M	Y	F	A	C	N	I	B	R	F	S	X	V	K	H	X
T	G	W	U	S	V	I	O	A	Y	M	V	O	S	E	S	S	R	E	M
Y	J	G	A	H	V	I	R	H	M	U	V	U	O	G	T	E	S	C	S
P	I	Q	B	T	G	E	D	K	U	M	L	H	Y	Q	A	Q	N	Y	S
P	A	R	T	H	I	A	D	I	R	A	U	V	W	H	R	R	P	N	X
Q	O	D	M	K	J	O	U	R	N	E	Y	U	H	U	O	N	X	G	W

KINGMAKER
MYRRH
TORAH TEACHERS
GOLD
BALAAM
JOURNEY

KING HEROD
FRANKINCENSE
BETHLEHEM
PARTHIA
PROPHECY
JERUSALEM

HORSES
JUDEA
WISE MEN
STAR
YESHUA
MICAH



JANUARY 2021 NEWSLETTER

First Presbyterian Church

101 6th Avenue NW

Kasson, MN 55944

Telephone: (507) 634-7481

Email: presbykasson@kmtel.com

Pastor-presbypastor@kmtel.com

Website: www.presbykasson.org

Rev. Amanda Boss -Pastor

Ann Driver, Church Secretary

Dan Kaufeld, Organist

Gayle Kaufeld, Choir Director

Quinita Kase, Organist

Don and Jane Heser, Custodians

Amanda Frodermann Parish Nurse

Jennifer Mittelstadt, Treasurer

Elders & Committees

Randy Carlsen-Clerk of Session

Thelma Givan– Membership, Mission, Personnel

Robert Gransee– Property

Tami Hanson-Christian Ed, Personnel, Worship

Gayle Kaufeld– Christian Ed, Nominating, Worship

Jennifer Mittelstadt– Christian Ed, Membership, Personnel, Stewardship

Mike Prenzlów-Property

Paulette Riedel-Nominating, Membership, Missions

Sheryl Scholer– Christian Ed, Worship

Deacons & Committees

Sue Alberts– Stewardship, Worship, Nominating

Steve Johnson-

Paul Riggs– Membership, Stewardship

Roma Stromme—

Wayne Trom– Property

Michelle Willert– Mission, Property

(The 2021 list will be updated for the February Newsletter.)

JANUARY 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 NEW YEAR'S DAY	2
3	4	5 Bible Study 10 am—Zoom	6 EPIPHANY Bible Study 7PM—Zoom	7	8	9
10	11 Session Meeting 5:30pm	12 Bible Study 10 am—Zoom	13 Worship Comm @ 6:00 PM by Zoom Bible Study 7PM—Zoom	14	15	16
17 Church 10AM in-person	18 Martin Luther King Day	19 Bible Study 10 am—Zoom	20 Deadline for Newsletter INAUGURATION DAY Bible Study 7pm—Zoom	21	22	23
24 Church 10AM in-person Annual Mtg After service	25	26 Bible Study 10 am—Zoom	27 Bible Study 7PM—Zoom	28	29	30
31						