

JANUARY Birthdays

Jan. 1 Duane Eveland
 Jan. 6 Daniel Foster
 Jan. 11 Greg Gordy, Meghan Moorman
 Jan. 13 Shannon Van Rheenen
 Jan. 19 Ben Wilker
 Jan. 20 Steve Van Rheenen
 Jan. 26 Jill Dursky

CHIMES

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St Paul Congregational UCC & First Christian Church (DOC) presents...

FREE LAUNDRY NIGHT
JANUARY 15
 4-7 PM

Need a Ride?
 Call or Text
641-638-1203

SUDS OF LOVE
 OSKALOOSA
 No Strings Attached
 A partnership
 outreach of
 St. Paul Congregational UCC
 and
 First Christian Church
 (Disciples of Christ)

Do your laundry FOR FREE!!
 (no strings attached!)

Bring your laundry to
 Stop & GO Laundromat at
 1308 A Ave East
 in Oskaloosa.

Laundry soap
 provided

Attendance Records

12/7	71
12/14	69
12/21	98
12/24	123
12/29	54

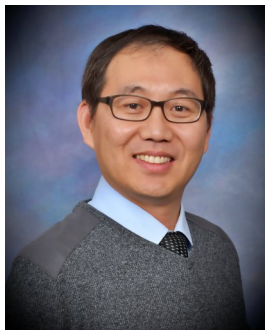
Financial Reports

November 2025 Income	\$18,402.81
November 2025 Expense	\$20,334.47
Difference	(\$1,931.66)
Total Yearly Income	\$234,127.25
Total Yearly Expense	\$215,309.58
Difference	\$18,817.67

*"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who
 has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual
 blessing in Christ." Ephesians 1:3 NIV*



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 Senior Pastor: Rev. Dr. Jihoon Lee



A Message From Pastor Jihoon Lee

Dear New Year Saints,

Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, saying, “Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.”- Matthew 2:1-2

When I was in seminary, one of my professors shared a small family tradition. Every year, he tried to sneak the wise men into their manger scene before Christmas Day. And every year, his wife quietly moved them away. Why? Because the Magi didn’t arrive on the night Jesus was born. In their home, the wise men were always placed somewhere else—on a shelf, a windowsill, another room—slowly making their way toward the manger. Only after Christmas was the scene finally complete. the story of Jesus does not end at the manger. In many ways, it begins on the road.

Matthew tells us the same thing. The wise men came after Jesus was born. They followed a star, not a schedule. They did not arrive with the shepherds, nor were they guided by familiarity or comfort. They were seekers—watching the skies, reading the signs, listening for whispers of truth. And when they sensed that a true King had been born, they set out. They left what they knew to find Someone they did not yet fully understand. They came to worship.

As we step into a new year, many of us find ourselves asking similar questions. What am I seeking? What am I hoping this year will bring? More stability? A fresh start? Healing? Direction? Maybe a new home, a new job, a new chapter—or simply a little peace.

The wise men offer us a quiet invitation at the start of this year: Seek Jesus. Not as a

side goal. Not as a backup plan. But as the first and central pursuit. They did not know exactly where the journey would lead. They did not have a map with every turn marked. They had a star—and the courage to follow it.

What if this year, instead of chasing certainty, we practiced faithfulness? What if, instead of demanding clear answers, we learned to take the next faithful step? Seeking Jesus does not mean all your plans will succeed or all your problems will disappear. Scripture never promises that. But it does promise this: when we seek Christ, we are not alone on the road. Following Jesus does not shield us from hardship, but it gives us perspective when hardship comes. It does not remove sorrow, but it anchors us in hope. It does not guarantee comfort, but it offers peace that holds steady even when life does not.

The Christ the wise men worshiped is the same Christ who walks with us today. He still meets seekers. He still welcomes worshipers. He still offers grace for the journey and joy for the soul. As children of God, we are given blessings that no calendar can measure and no circumstance can undo. So as this Epiphany season unfolds, may you remember: you are not behind. You are not lost. You are on the way. Keep seeking. Keep watching for the light. And trust that the One you seek is already drawing near.

Blessings in this new year,

Pastor Jihoon Lee

Upcoming Events/ Meetings:

January 1st—Church Offices Closed

January 14th—Finance Comm. 6:00pm and Trustees 6:30pm

January 21st—AD Council Meeting—6:30pm

January 28th—Worship Committee—6:00pm