

**First Presbyterian Church of
Abbotsford**

Pastor: Don Everhard

305 W Elm St. Abbotsford, WI 54405

Phone: 715-223-4001

Sunday Service @10:30am weekly

Email: abbypresbyterian@gmail.com

Online: www.abbypresbyterian.org

YouTube: <https://youtube.com/@firstpresbyterianchurchofabbotsford>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/firstpresbyterianchurchofabbotsford>



“Before Christmas Prayer”

As Christmas draws near, Father, we come to You with grateful hearts. Words can't express how thankful we are for this beautiful season—its joy, its memories, and the happiness it brings, especially to children, and to all of us who love this time of year.

You have guided us through the past, helping us shape traditions that grow richer and more meaningful every year—symbols of our love for one another and our devotion to Christ.

God, help us discover new ways to give these days even deeper meaning. Christmas stirs up so much love within us—more than we often know how to express. After we've done all the usual things, there still seems to be a great overflow of kindness waiting to be shared. Show us how to direct that love toward those who need it most—toward lives that feel empty or are longing for affection.

Let us not keep our joy only to ourselves. Help us notice those around us who are hungry for love, even as some are hungry for food. Yet also give us wisdom, that we do not place our burdens on others in a way that dims the joy of these days.

We ask, Father, for the peace and calm that come from Your Spirit living within us. Keep the busyness of preparations from disturbing our hearts. Don't let the details of cooking, hosting, or decorating distract us from the true meaning of this season. Protect us from the temptation to impress others or make everything extravagant. Keep our hearts rooted in the beauty of simplicity.

And, Lord, give us an endless supply of good humor, patience, and understanding—so that the warmth of our homes, the unity of our families, and the love in our hearts shine even brighter. May our joy inspire others—especially children—to share these blessings of home, love, and family with all people.

Amen.

Adapted from Prayer written by Lulu Snyder Hamilton (God Lives in Homes) / taken from “Enriching Worship” / A.J. William Meyers / copyright 1949

Submitted by: Gloria Everhard

And in that region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear. And the angel said to them, “Be not afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all the people; for to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a babe wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.” And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among men with whom he is pleased!”

~ Luke 2:8-14 (RSV)

🎂 **DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS:** **Happy Birthday Blessings!!!**

- ★ Tracy Sanders-2nd
- ★ Geraldine Loucks-5th
- ★ Jonah Boschma-8th
- ★ Mary Sanders-10th
- ★ Darlene Brown-13th
- ★ Eleanor (Elle) Koepp-21st
- ★ David Loucks-27th
- ★ Carina Haines-29th



📅 **Mark Your Calendars:**

First Presbyterian Church of Abbotsford offers a variety of classes for youth and adults. Here is a brief overview of the available classes: Weekly - Sunday School for youth in grades 4-8 is at **9:30am**, and for children in grades K-3 it's **10:30am**. There is also a nursery available for children under 4 and a comfy cry room for infants if needed. *(ALL classes are coordinated by Gloria, please contact her for additional information.)* Starting again in 2026, Adult, Women's and Jr/Sr High Youth Bible Study Classes will be offered. Watch your email for updates.

December 12th, 5-7pm, Child Evangelism Fellowship will be co-hosting a **Youth Christmas Party** at Abbotsford First Presbyterian Church, for youth ages 5-11, this is a free event! Check out the information on Facebook or on the Website. ["Backwards Birthday Bash" Christmas Party!](#) | [Children's Ministry](#) | [First Presbyterian of Abbotsford](#)

Christmas Eve Service at 4:00pm on Wednesday, December 24th. Plan to join the Church Family as we celebrate Jesus' birth. Updates will be in Friday email and Facebook page.

Membership drive - if you would be interested in proclaiming membership to First Presbyterian Church of Abbotsford, please reach out to Pastor Don. In January new members of the Church will be introduced, a couple weeks in advance Pastor Don would meet with you, review the beliefs of the Church and help answer any questions you may have.

Annual Meeting of the First Presbyterian Church of Abbotsford will be Sunday, February 8th, after regular Church service. Potluck meal to follow, hosted by the Presbyterian Women (PW). Details to follow.

💖 **December, a time of reflection and gratitude:**

As we wrap up the end of the year, I am amazed at the generosity of the Church Family...in just the past three months seeing the congregation come together to bless 60+ children with Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes, 15+ children with the Angel Tree, fill the boxes monthly with donations for the local food pantry and Ronald McDonald house donations, eggs fly off the table to support Heifer International, and now individuals volunteering their time to ring the Red Kettle Bell for Salvation Army...THANK YOU for blessing so many people both locally and around the World.

The end of the year always brings about plans to make new year resolutions. My challenge to you is this, for every "resolution" for 2026, write down a "blessing" from 2025 as well. With all the hustle to better ourselves, let us remember to be grateful for everything we already have or did accomplish this year. 💖

