

Community
Presbyterian
Church

THE CHIMES

Volume 30, Number 11

November, 2004

Community calendar

November

- 07 All Saints Day
- 21 9:45 Congregational Meeting
Bell Choir Bake Sale
- 3:00 St. Olaf Bell Concert
- 24 7:00 Thanksgiving Service at
St. Joe's
- 28 First Sunday of Advent

Dear Friends

This, I believe, is the fourth "Elder of the Month" message I have written. As I remember my past writing, the constant theme in each was the changes our church was undergoing at that particular time. Changes in music staff, changes in associate leadership, changes in visions, changes in leadership, new interim leadership, new associations (Lutheran, Episcopal, and United Methodist).

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New Member Classes

There will be a two session class for those who would like to consider membership at CPC. We will meet at 9:45 am (between services) on Nov 28th and Dec 5th in the Parlor. Please contact Patty in the office to sign up for this class.

From the pastor

Two beautiful banners in our sanctuary proclaim CPC- "100 Years and Still Growing". As I am getting to know more and more people, I sense excitement about our ministry and new momentum. It is a pleasure for me to hear stories about the history of Community Presbyterian and what this community of faith has meant in so many lives.

"Come and visit our church" is an important invitation we can share with friends and neighbors. The Vision statement of CPC speaks to our Joy through service and worship and how we are delighted to share that Joy with others. I would encourage each one of us to think of someone who might be interested in visiting worship one Sunday and invite that person to come with us. Perhaps you know a friend or neighbor who might enjoy coming to an adult education class or a special worship service like Christmas eve.

A personal invitation is a wonderful way to introduce someone new to our family of faith. Please do consider who might say yes to an invitation to taste a little of CPC's ministry and ask them to come. Presbyterians are usually very shy about inviting others. If CPC means something to you, don't be shy about sharing it with others who may be looking for a church home.

Thanksgiving and Advent are just around the corner. There is much to be thankful for, there is much to be hoped for.

Grace and Peace, Dan

News of the Family

This past month Bill Powell, Ellen Daufney and Charlotte Babcock passed away. Let us keep their memories and their families in our thoughts and prayers.

Sunday, October 3 was a special afternoon at CPC. The Presbytery of Northern Waters installed Dan Yeazel as Pastor. It is wonderful to have him here!

Four young people were presented Bibles from their Church Family during Worship on October 10. Congratulations to Jonathon Shields, Becky Meyer, Sarah Yeazel, and Brittany Smith.

October 24 was yet another beautiful *Hymn Fest* during both Worship Services. Let us truly thank God for the precious gift of outstanding music we have at CPC.

On October 31 during the 11AM Worship Service, ten young people will affirm their Christian faith and were

confirmed as adult members of CPC. Congratulations to Matt Alstad, Ryan Graupmann, Grant Grell, Anna Johnson, David Johnson, Natalie Newton, Laura Schnell, Will Stark, Justin Warren, and Ray Webb.

Congratulations to Susie Hickman. She received the "Faith Award" at the YMCA. Way to go Susie!!

At the annual Harvest Dinner we announced the CPC Citizen of the Year Award. This year Norane Stejskal and Marilyn Hrouda shared the honor. We congratulate them both and thank them for all the love and dedication they have given to us at CPC.

Table of Contents

Church School News	3
New Youth Rooms	3
Fun for those in 3 rd , 4 th , and 5 th Grade	3
Adult Education	3
Christmas Pageant	3
Can you help fill our boxes?	3
Worship and Music	4
Musical Notes From Roy	4
Two New Ringers	4
More Ringers Needed	4
Worship This Month	4
All-saints' Sunday Banners	4
Community Thanksgiving Eve Service	4
Congregational Care	5
Congregational Meeting	5
CPC Deacons	5
Gingerbread Tree	5
Any Crafters Out There?	5
Attention all Snowbirds!	5
Bell Choir Bake Sale	5
Fall Rummage Sale Successful	5
St. Olaf Handbell Choir Concert	5
CPC Web Page	5
Nominating and Endowment	6
We're looking for you!!!	6
Endowment Fundraiser	6
CPC (one to one) Inreach Task Force	6
Mission	7
Action Through Churches Together	7
Peacemaking	7
The Open Door Coat Rack	7
Thanksgiving Food Bags	7
Stewardship and Trustees	8
Pay CPC via an Automatic Debit	8
Stewardship Update	8
Ministry and Facility Task Force	8
An Appeal from Trustees	8
From the Treasurer	9
Inserts:	Youth Page, Calendar

Church School News

New Youth Rooms

Two Youth Rooms are currently in the remodeling stage. The High School Youth room is located across from the Choir room on the lower floor. The Middle School Youth room is located in classroom number 104. Feel free to "take a look."

We are looking for donations of a large area rug, one couch, two floor lamps, Christian CD's or cassette tapes, and shredded foam to make large pillows. If you can help with any of these items, please call the Church Office.

Calling all CPC High School Youth!

You have a day off from school on Thursday, November 18. So, let's get together to get our Youth Room painted, remodeled, and organized! We will meet at 10:30AM and work until we are done. Come for an hour or the whole time, but let's all work together and get it done.

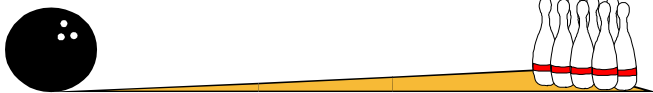
Pizza will be ordered for lunch at noon.

Fun for those in 3rd, 4th, and 5th Grade!

On Sunday November 14, 1:30 to 3:30, the 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders will go to Midway Bowl for some bowling, chips, pop and fun!

Bring a friend. Sign up on the bulletin board outside the church office.

Questions, call Cathy Shields (327-0282) or Julie Fedje-Johnston (326-0387).



Adult Education

Sundays, October 24 through November 28, Art Merrill will be teaching a six week adult education class titled "Jeremiah, a Prophet for the Nations." All are welcome to attend. We will be meeting in the Church Library at 10AM. Come and discover how important these ancient words of Jeremiah are today!

Christmas Pageant

The Christmas Pageant will be at 3:00 pm on Sunday Dec. 19. The children will start practicing the songs on November 7 during Sunday School. Other rehearsals will be on Saturday Dec. 18 and during Sunday School on Dec. 5 and 19. There will be an all-congregation potluck, cocoa, candy canes and caroling after the pageant. Please join in!

Can you help fill our boxes?

Wanted: Shoe boxes in nice condition and small goodies to pack into them. What for? you ask. The Senior High Sunday School class will create holiday season care packages for members of our congregation away at college or in the military. The packages will be assembled in class on Sunday, December 5th, to reach college freshmen and sophomores before and during fall exams. Discussion during the "boxing" will center on what it feels like to be separated from family and friends and how important it is to stay connected to our church family in thought and prayer. Small items like chap stick, holiday cards, candy, gum, hot drink mixes. etc. would be appreciated. Drop donations off in the CPC Youth Room before December 3rd. Thanks much for helping us extend greetings to our young friends away from home! Bonnie

Worship and Music

Musical Notes From Roy

Time again to ‘check in’ with everyone. We are in the process of final preparation for the “Hymnfest”. This is always a wonderful service to present. I don’t think that one could ever *overdose* on Hymns. Darcy does such a wonderful job planning this event. Be sure to thank her!

Make sure that you mark your calendars for the Christmas Cantata. On December 19th we will be singing “Glad Tidings of Great Joy”, written by Robert Hebble, at both services. I find this piece very attractive because it incorporates a number of familiar carols in very beautiful and exciting arrangements. I won’t give it all away at this time to save some additional information for the December Chimes. I am sure that you will be readied for Christmas after attending services and hearing this composition.

Are you still sitting “on the fence” about joining choir? Well, there is still time to join us and learn the Christmas music or if that passes you by, how about a ‘joyful’ New Year’s resolution. We have had four new singers this year already so you will have company. Are there male singers hiding somewhere? I hear good voices in the congregation when I sit out there on Sundays. **GOOD SEATING IS STILL AVAILABLE!** Give us a try on some Wednesday evening. Thanks for listening.....Roy

Two New Ringers

Welcome to **Nathan Craven**, the latest ringer in the Junior Jingers, and to **Judy Brown**, who is ringing with the Jubilee Ringers. They are both wonderful additions to their choirs.

More Ringers Needed

The Jubilee Ringers currently has 12 ringers. However, a few extra hands are always welcome. If this is something you've always wanted to try, now would be a great time to give us a call. Musical experience is helpful, but not at all necessary in order to participate in the bell choirs. And remember, bell choirs are not just for women. Just check out all of the young men in our youth bell choirs! Please give this some consideration and contact Darcy or any of the adult ringers if you're interested in ringing bells.

Worship This Month

Lectionary Readings

- | | |
|----|---|
| 07 | All Saints Sunday
Communion
<i>Hag. 1:15b; PS. 145:1-5, 17-21; Ps. 98 ;
2 Thess 2:1-5, 13-17; Luke 20:27-38</i> |
| 14 | <i>Isa. 65:17-25; Isa. 12; 2 Thess. 3:6-13;
Luke 21:3-19</i> |
| 21 | Christ the King
<i>Jer. 23:1-6; Luke 1:68-79; Col. 1:11-20;
Luke 23:33-43</i> |
| 24 | Thanksgiving Eve Service at St. Joe’s |
| 28 | Advent I
<i>Isa. 2:1-5; Ps. 122; Rom.13:11-14;
Matt. 24:36-44</i> |

All-saints’ Sunday Banners On November 7

One of our special worship traditions over the years has been the procession of the All-Saints’ banners, commemorating the lives of members of our church who

Congregational Care

Congregational Meeting
November 21 at 9:45 AM

There will be a meeting of the Congregation called for November 21 at 9:45 AM. At this meeting we will elect officers, affirm the ministers term of call and review and accept the budget for 2005.

Gingerbread Tree

Deacons will again be decorating trees at the east and west Sanctuary entrances with gingerbread figures as part of the Second Harvest Food Bank efforts to provide Christmas gifts for area children they serve.

The gingerbread tags will be marked with a child's age and sex. After you take a tag and purchase a nonviolent toy you can bring it back to the tree, unwrapped, with the gingerbread tag attached to the gift. Watch for more information on Holiday projects in the December Chimes.

Any Crafters Out There?

A group of women will be meeting at the church in Fellowship Hall on Friday, November 5 at 6:00 p.m. to work on their crafts and enjoy fellowship time.

If you would like to bring your craft and join us for an evening of fellowship, scrapbooking, quilting, stamping or whatever your craft maybe - Please come!

Any questions, give Cathy Shields a call at 327-0282.

CPC Web Page

Haven't been to the page yet? Well just go to www.communitypresbyterianchurch.com and there you will be.

We hope to use this sight for announcements of church events and things such as church event cancellations etc.

Please bookmark our page and let us know what you think. We are always open to new ideas...not always able to do them, but are sure willing to try!

CPC Deacons will meet on Tuesday, Nov. 16 at 630 p.m. This will be an important meeting as we plan for the holidays, elect officers for 2005 and complete the duty roster for January. Please call Andrea at 326-4096 if you will not be present.

Attention all Snowbirds!

If you have given us your winter address in the past and it is still correct, we will automatically have your church mail sent to you according to your "usual" dates of departure and return. **IF YOUR WINTER ADDRESS HAS CHANGED, IF YOU WILL BE LEAVING/RETURNING ON DATES OTHER THAN IN THE PAST, OR IF YOU ARE A NEW SNOWBIRD**, please contact the church office (326-8515) with this information so that we can continue to keep you informed of your church's activities.

Bell Choir Bake Sale

Do you need some baked goods or other treats for Thanksgiving weekend? Let the CPC bell choirs come to your rescue! We will be having a bake sale on **Sunday, Nov. 21, after both worship services in the Fellowship Hall**. We will have a variety of pies, cookies, bars, candy, jams and jellies and other items for sale. Proceeds will go toward funding handbell festivals taking place next spring and summer. Be sure to stop by and check out the goodies!

Fall Rummage Sale Successful

The Presbyterian Women raised more than \$900 through their fall rummage sale. This was even with the power being out for two hours during the sale! These monies are used to pay for mission projects funded by the Presbyterian Women. Thanks to those who contributed goods, who bought things, and those who helped clean up afterwards.

St. Olaf Handbell Choir Concert

The St. Olaf Handbell Choir from St. Olaf College in Northfield, MN, will be performing in concert on **Sunday, Nov. 21, at 3 p.m.** in our church sanctuary. This concert is part of a weekend tour with the choir visiting the home churches of the senior members of the choir. Our very own Jonathan Henriksen has been a member of the choir since January of his freshman year. Other CPC alumni who are ringing with the choir are junior Graham Gerling and sophomore Heidi Henriksen. Please plan on attending this special concert featuring these outstanding young people.

Nominating and Endowment

We're Looking for you!!!

There are still spots open for Deacons and Elders.

Session:

The Session consists of Elders who are ordained and are responsible for the governance of the church. The Session meets on the third Thursday night of the month. Its members review the reports of the church committees and plan for the church's future. Elders also serve on a committee and serve communion.

Deacons:

The Deacons are also ordained and care for the spiritual and physical needs of our members. The Deacons meet on the third Tuesday of the month. Deacons also visit members in the hospital and nursing home and prepare the communion elements as well as the sanctuary for Sunday worship.

We are looking for people of all ages! Please give this some thought and if you have questions please call the church office and we will direct your questions.

Not only will you be serving your church, but you will be enjoying the company of other members who are already giving their time.

There are also openings for volunteers on the Christian Education and Worship committees. Maybe that is where your spot is!!!

Come on! Give it a try..we know you'll like it!

Endowment Fundraiser

Donated items for the CPC Endowment Fundraiser have been trickling in, and some really nifty items they are. How about you? Have you discovered a treasure to contribute? How about that old Goebel or Hummel gathering dust on the mantle? Or that Oak Rocking Chair you have been stubbing your toes on, or one of the extra pieces of art residing under your bed? Why not commit yourself to "authorized" fishing relaxation by giving a 1/2 day guided spring fishing trip. Think about it. Your contribution can be as unique as you.

For more information, or to offer a donation, contact the church office or Mark Johnson (327-0234 or mdibjohn@paulbunyan.net)

Update from CPC (one to one) Inreach Task Force

Celebrating the Community in Community Presbyterian

Recognizing that our congregation has undergone a lot of change in the last three years, the Session has appointed a task force to oversee an "inreach" at CPC this fall.

With the start of Dan's and Kim's ministries to CPC, the Session would like to take this opportunity to listen. This "inreach" is a tool we can use to find out what CPC'ers are thinking in regards to their own place in the congregation, what place the congregation has in their lives, and what place CPC has in the lives of the people in the Grand Rapids area.

Kathleen Blake of Action Through Churches Together (ACT) has trained ten members of CPC in one-to-one visitation. These 10 members will each contact 10 other members or friends of CPC for a 45 minute conversation. The goal of the conversations will be to discover what your interests are, what your concerns are, and what excites you about CPC and its role in the broader community. We will not be asking you for money or asking you to serve on any committee.

The task force has selected categories, such as age, gender, marital status, etc. to ensure that we have a cross section of individuals participating. However, we are eager to meet with all members who are interested. If you wish to be contacted, for a one-to-one conversation, please notify the church office. If you are contacted by one of the visitors, please do participate. We expect to have fun, discover new relationships, and report back to Session a summary of what CPCers consider vital to our lives and the life of our church in the larger community.

Other churches have reported great success with their inreach programs. We look forward to meeting with you and celebrating the "community" in Community Presbyterian Church.

Mission

Action Through Churches Together

ACT brings the voice of the faith community into the public arena to address economic and social injustices.

- ACT brings together churches, community organizations and individuals to address the root causes of economic and social injustice at local, regional and state levels. ACT focuses on economic and social issues pertaining to children, youth and families in Itasca County. ACT does not bring forth individual church agendas. Our goal is social justice, not religious evangelism.
- ACT consists of 14 member churches, representing approximately 10,000 people. Membership also includes “Friends of ACT” who are individuals with a passion for social justice but not affiliated with any particular congregation.

Recent Events –

1. Walk for Justice – ACT board members and friends participated in raising funds locally and to support the work of the Headwaters Foundation for Justice. The foundation is a catalyst for social change which supports grassroots communities working to create social, economic, environmental and racial justice. ACT was a recent recipient of a \$10,000 grant.

2. “Becoming Voices for Children” – co-sponsored by ChildrenFirst! – explored ways that we can effectively influence public policy that affects our children. Questions developed were brought to the “Early Childhood Legislative Caucus” meeting with Senators Saxhaug and Hottinger.

3. Conversation with Blandin Foundation leadership – Jim Hoolihan met with members and clergy to learn more about ACT’s role in serving the needs of the community.

4. ACT leaders are meeting with county leaders to explore opportunities for partnership on selected issues.

Planned Events –

1. Kathleen Blake, ACT director, and Sally Velzen, ACT board chairperson, will attend the “Undoing Racism” workshop in Duluth. The goal is to develop and pursue a plan to build an inclusive community.

2. St. Nicholas Dinner – brought back by popular demand. **Mark Your Calendars for December 4th.** This social event and fund raiser was an instant hit last year. Features include fine food, friendly frivolity, and your pastors as pranksters. Watch for details at your church in November.

3. Covenanting ceremony – ACT pastors have recommended January 16. This will complement the justice theme of Martin Luther King Day on Jan. 17, ACT’s focus on diversity training, and the “Week of Prayer for Christian Unity” (Jan. 18 – 25).

Peacemaking

The total contributed to Peacemaking is \$772.00. CPC keeps 25% for local missions and 75% goes through the National Church for outreach.

The Open Door Coat Rack

Please check your closets for a coat(s) you no longer need and bring them to church. A large box will be available for your coat donations. Clean, gently worn coats in good repair would be appreciated. All sizes from infant snow suits to adult jackets are needed. We will also be collecting boots, hats & mittens.

They will be distributed from the Grand Rapids United Methodist Church to families on November 16th, 17th & 18th. Bring anytime before November 15th.

Thanksgiving Food Bags



We continue our long tradition of remembering the hungry at Thanksgiving. On November 21, we will pass out grocery bags with a suggested shopping list and ask that you fill the bags and bring them either to the Thanksgiving Eve Service (7PM) at St. Joseph’s Catholic Church or to Community Presbyterian Church on November 28th or by noon on Monday the 1st. Gifts of food are given to the Grand Rapids Food Bank. Monetary gifts given at the Thanksgiving Eve Service are given to Second Harvest Food Bank to help in the Holiday basket program

Stewardship and Trustees

Pay CPC via an Automatic Debit

We are in the process of looking into the option of allowing you to pay your pledge or contribute through an automatic withdrawal from your checking account which would then be automatically deposited to the churches checking account. This would mean no checks to write for you and no postage for you to pay if you mail your check. This could be done on a monthly or quarterly basis. If this is something that interest you, please let Phyllis know. You can call her at the church or email her at phyllis@communitypresbyterianchurch.com

Stewardship Update

As of October 24, we have received 213 pledges for a total of \$269,105.12. Last year we had a total of 230 pledges for a total of \$274,704.14. We are \$12,000 short in meeting our proposed budget for 2005 and very much need your pledge so that we can have a balanced budget for 2005.

Ministry and Facility Task Force

This past Sunday, October 17, the Session held a called meeting where they met with members of the Board of Trustees. The meeting was called in response to comments shared with stewardship leaders during the parties which were a part of the stewardship campaign as well as in response to concerns about church building conditions brought to the Session's attention by the Board of Trustees. Discussion at this meeting centered around our vision for the church as we move into the future, the immediate structural needs of the buildings, and the possible courses of action which might be taken in response to that vision and to those building needs.

Understanding that any course of action that might be taken would involve a significant investment of capital, the Elders and Trustees decided that a prudent course of action would be to establish a task force that would undertake a planning process in which we would evaluate the viability of the current church structures, determine our direction and mission for the future, and identify any changes in church physical space that might be needed to accomplish that mission. Action was then taken to:

1. Direct the Board of Trustees to hire/retain a structural engineer qualified to determine the structural integrity of the existing church buildings.
2. Establish a task force which will study and recommend a course of action to address the long-range mission and associated facility needs of the church. This committee will be made up of two Elders, two Trustees and approximately six at-large members.

It was the desire of all those present to establish and maintain open communication with the congregation throughout this planning process and to encourage questions and participation from all members and friends of CPC.

If you have an interest in becoming a part of this task force, please call the church office and talk to Dan or Kim.

An Appeal from Trustees

At this time of year, the Trustees along with the Session and other committees address several major subjects dealing with the financial status of Community Presbyterian Church. For instance, at our October meeting, lengthy discussions took place concerning our year-to-date position and the 2005 budget. As noted in the Treasurer's Report for September, 2004, our expenses exceed income by over \$15,000.00. According to budget projections, we were scheduled to be in a deficit position of slightly over \$6,000.00 at this point. We are about \$9,000.00 worse off than planned. The reality of the matter is that the problem is entirely due to our income flow being behind schedule. Our expenses for the year are below budget due to the watchful eyes of those responsible for their respective areas. We are just winding up our stewardship campaign for 2005. Thank you to everyone that participated in this effort, however, we must keep the ship afloat in 2004 as well. If you are behind in your contributions to the work of the church for this year and can come up to speed, please do so. If you can't, thank you for all you have done.

An area of concern is developing again as we attempt to put the 2005 budget together. It is becoming apparent that an increasing number of our members are choosing not to "pledge" their annual contributions. This puts us in a significant bind as we are forced to guess at a significant chunk of the income portion of the equation. It is the goal of the Trustees and everyone else involved in the budget process to construct a meaningful document. Having a better handle on our income would be extremely helpful. If you have not made a pledge for 2005, please reconsider. Your best estimate is all you can do; if you can make it fine, if not, you gave it your best shot and we must live with it. Please call our Treasurer, Phyllis Brown, if you would like to make a pledge. We definitely must live within our means. It would be really helpful if we better understood what our "means" are. Please remember that our many church programs do not begin and end each week of the year. Plans and programs often run for the year and they must be funded accordingly. **Thank you for your consideration and help!**

Dates to Remember

December, 2004

05
 12 Music Sunday
 7:00 Bell Concert
 19 Cantata
 No Sunday School
 3:00pm Christmas Pageant
 24 5:00/10 Christmas Eve Services
 26 No Sunday School

January, 2005

02 Heifer Project Kick-Off
 09
 16 Ordination/Installation of Officers
 23 Bell's Super Bowl Sub Sale
 Noon Annual Meeting

**Remember that every fourth Sunday is
 Food Shelf Sunday**

Medical Equipment Available

Folding walkers, wheel chairs, crutches and a n electric lift chair are available to members on a loan basis. Some of this equipment is new, donated by Globe Drug, and all of it is in good condition. Keep us in mind and call us - if you need help for a weekend or half a year.

Stock Gifts

Community Presbyterian Church has received an increasing number of stock gifts as a way for people to fulfill their annual pledge. This has great advantages for you and your taxes and we are pleased to assist you. You should call and ask for instructions from your broker AND tell us what stock you are transferring to our account. Normally, we will not know the source of stock gifts unless you tell us. We want to make sure we can credit your statements.

Community Presbyterian

Church Officers

Marilynn Hrouda Clerk of Session
 Dick Schneider Moderator of Trustees
 Andrea Tok Moderator of Deacons

Church Staff

Dan Yeazel Pastor
 Kim Johnson Associate Pastor
 Patty Murray Christensen Parish Assistant
 Darcy Reich Director of Music
 Roy Berg Director of Vocal Music
 Janice Burch Informal Worship Leader
 Niels Henriksen Sonshine Director
 Janice Burch Rainbow Choir Director
 Sue Pulkrabek Custodian
 Charlie Pulkrabek Custodian
 Phyllis Brown Treasurer

Mission Work We Support

Nancy Roth Director of Mentoring Ministry
 Kazadi Ntambue Presbyterian Church, Congo

Getting in Touch With Us

Of course, you can easily get in touch with your church by phone or by stopping by - the door is always open to you. But in our new age of communications other options are available:

Fax 326-2407

E-mail churchoffice@communitypresbyterianchurch.com

Toll Free 888-326-8515

Web Page www.communitypresbyterianchurch.com

**Articles for the December *Chimes*
 are due by the 16th of the Month**

From the Treasurer

Report as of September 30, 2004

	September Actual	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	YTD Last Year
Total Revenues	\$23,329.61	\$229,692.15	\$240,555.04	\$219,484.80
Total Expenses	<u>\$24,651.37</u>	<u>\$245,188.20</u>	<u>\$246,772.14</u>	<u>\$233,953.45</u>
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues over Expenses	<u>(\$1,321.76)</u>	<u>(\$15,496.05)</u>	<u>(\$6,217.10)</u>	<u>(\$14,468.65)</u>