

United Presbyterian Church
 302 2nd Ave. SE
 Jamestown, ND 58401
 CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

The Communicator

United Presbyterian Church of Jamestown, ND

Volume 44 No. 12, December 2017

Sharing Christ's Love Through Service

Relay for Life

We would like to Thank everybody that donated and took part in our Annual Potato Bar/Silent Auction on November 5. It was another success for our teams work with all of the proceeds going toward Cancer Research in HOPE of finding a cure for this deadly disease. Luminary can be purchased at anytime from our team members in honor of someone effected with Cancer. REMEMBER – FIGHT BACK – CELEBRATE

Poinsettias

Honor your loved ones with a poinsettia. If you would like to donate a poinsettia in memory/honor of a loved one please put your check in the offering plate with poinsettia and person being honored in your check memo or drop it by the church office.

PEO Silent Auction

The Annual PEO Silent Auction is being held at United Presbyterian Church on Monday, December 4 from 1:15-4:00 PM. Come and bid on some wonderful items and support PEO's endeavor to provide educational opportunities for women.

Christmas Service

Our annual Christmas Service will be held on Sunday, December 17 during worship. All are welcome!

Red and Green Potluck

Following the Christmas Service on Sunday, December 17 we will be having a "Red and Green Potluck" in the fellowship hall sponsored by the Deacons. Please bring a red or green dish to share and join us for some fun and fellowship!

Christmas Eve Service

Please join us for a Christmas Eve Candlelight Service on Sunday, December 24 at 5:00 PM.

DECEMBER WORKMONTH FAMILIES

Chairpersons:

Lindbo, *Jonelle	952-8306
Lindbo, *Pat	952-7863

Austin, *Flory	252-4821
Bossingham, Kevin	320-0458
Chisholm, *Della	320-5539
Dunn, *Duane & *Kathie	952-4778
Koehn, *Steve	252-7374
Matzke, Kevin & Melissa	269-1233
	or 269-4712
McIntyre, Mike & Cheryl	252-4260
McIntyre, *Tony	368-9784
Nelson, *Dick & *Colleen	252-5936
Parries, *Bill & *Sue	252-5219
	or 320-2199
Pringle, *Roger & *Sylvia	252-6617
Reimers, *Dale & *Mary Ellen	252-5332
Schoeler, *John & *Maurine	952-1051

*Member
 **High School Student

UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

302 2nd Avenue SE
 Jamestown, ND 58401
 Phone (701) 252-1748
 website: www.upcjamestown.org
 e-mail: presbyterianchurch@daktel.com

FALL-SPRING
 WORSHIP HOURS
 Enrichment Hour 9:00 AM
 Worship Service 10:30 AM

SECRETARIAL HOURS
 10:00 AM-2:00 PM
 Monday-Thursday

For corrections or additions to the newsletter
 please call the church office—252-1748

From the Pastor

Hope. Peace. Joy. Love.

This is the time of the year when there is a childlike eagerness in each one of us to embrace another season of Advent where the world is held captive with the smell, the thrill and the shrill of Christmas. Amid the din and the roar, among us the faithful, there is a silent shout from the depths of our hearts—a prayer for hope, peace, joy and love. These are the prayers for our world we pray together in this holy season of Advent. From the Presbyterian Handbook *Advent is a season of longing and anticipation, during which we prepare for the coming of Jesus. The church year begins with Advent, as life begins with birth, starting four Sundays before Christmas.*

Each Sunday, we come together to worship. To praise God. To remember God's promises. To look forward in faith. And to pray.

Yes, to pray, but what actually is prayer? Tim Keller defines prayer in his book that I am in the process of reading: as *a personal, communicative response to the knowledge of God. All human beings have some knowledge of God available to them. At some level, they have an indelible sense that they need something or someone who is on a higher plane and infinitely greater than they are. Prayer is seeking to respond and connect to that being and reality, even if it is no more than calling out into the air for help.*

I think it takes a lot of courage and a lot of faith to come together week after week and say YES! To hope, peace, joy, and love. We look around at this broken world; at the violence, the poverty, the suffering, yet again and again we gather as a community of faith and say YES! to God.

That is what the Christian faith is about. Christians have a faith in the God who comes to us as a tiny vulnerable human baby and brings with him hope, peace, joy, and love. Christians have faith in the God who plants seeds of hope, peace, joy, and love into each and every situation; each and every life. Christians have faith in the God who says that WE, as the body of Christ, can BE hope, peace, joy, and love for each other and all the world. In this season of Advent, as we move toward the miracle of Christmas, let's proclaim our faith in the God, whose hope springs eternal, whose peace is beyond this world's comprehension, and whose joy and love transcends this world's imperfections. In eagerness therefore, we the faithful, despite everything, shout in utmost gratitude and joy "singing hallelujah and YES! to God."

Blessings,
Pastor Bob Boyar



December 2017



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
3 Enrich. Hour 9 Advent Education Christmas Program Practice Worship 10:30 AM Communion	4 PEO Auction 1:15-4:00 PM	5 Reading Group 2:30 PM HERRB Tutoring 4:00 PM Bell Ringing at Cashwise	6 Wednesday Evening Service 6:00 PM Choir 7:00 PM Confirmation 7:15 PM	7 PW Advent Potluck Luncheon 11:30 AM PW Circles after Luncheon AA 7:00 PM	1 8	2 9
10 Enrich. Hour 9:00 Advent Education Christmas Program Practice Worship 10:30 AM	11	12 Reading Group 2:30 PM HERRB Tutoring 4:00 PM Deacons 6:00 PM	13 Wednesday Evening Service 6:00 PM Choir 7:00 PM Confirmation 7:15 PM	14 Kitchen Committee 9:00 PM Session 5:15 PM AA 7:00 PM	15	16 MIP Class 8-3 Boardroom
17 Enrichment Hour 9:00 AM Practice 9:15 AM Christmas Service 10:30 AM Potluck	18	19 Reading Group 2:30 PM HERRB Tutoring 4:00 PM	20 Wednesday Evening Service 6:00 PM Choir 7:00 PM Confirmation 7:15 PM	21 AA 7:00 PM	22	23
24 NO Enrichment Hour Worship 10:30 AM Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 5:00 PM	25 Christmas Day Office closed	26 Reading Group 2:30 PM HERRB Tutoring 4:00 PM	27 Wednesday Evening Service 6:00 PM Choir 7:00 PM Confirmation 7:15 PM	28 AA 7:00 PM	29	30
31 NO Enrichment Hour Worship 10:30 AM						



*The staff of United Presbyterian Church
wishes you a very blessed Christmas!*





DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Theresa McMillan	1
Dixie Lee	12
Erna Schwind	18
Elizabeth Sherfy	18
Mark Sherfy	18
Marge Nething	22
David Muhs	24
Nancy Fletcher	27
Linde Serba	28
Arlene Johnson	30



Anniversaries in December

<i>Church established 1879</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>Bruce & Roni Berg</i>	<i>18</i>

Piano

The church is disposing of the piano in the parlor. If anyone would like to have it please contact the church office or talk to Pastor Bob.



DEACON DIALOGUE . . .

The Deacons are a group of men and women from our congregation that have a heart to serve those in our church and community. The Deacons organize a variety of activities by which they share the love and joy of Jesus Christ. The service of deacons in the Presbyterian Church (USA) is to lead the church in its ministries of compassion (distributing aid, caring directly for the poor, the sick, refugees, and prisoners), and justice (working for equity) in society.

The Deacons will be sponsoring the “Red and Green Potluck” after worship on Sunday, December 17 following our Christmas service. Please bring a red or green dish to pass and join in the fun! All are welcome!

We will be ringing the bells for the Salvation Army on December 5. Please sign up in the narthex to help with this worthy cause that benefits so many in our community.

Just a reminder of the ongoing projects the Deacons have. We collect bars of soap, toothpaste, and toothbrushes for the Salvation Army and we have the grocery cart in the Reading Room for Community Action non-perishable food donations.

Those currently serving as Deacons include:

Tiffany Dauer	Bill Hines	Dixie Lee
Tony McIntyre	Janet Miller	Colleen Nelson
Pam Van Dyke	Kim Thoele	Maris Thompson
Cindy Wermager		



The Deacons would like to wish you a very blessed Christmas!

Home Communion for Shut-Ins

Communion is brought to those unable to attend church. If you would like to receive Communion, please call the church office at 252-1748. Next Communion will be served Sunday, December 3.

Food Pantry Donations

There is a shopping cart in the reading room next to the nursery where donations for the Food Pantry are accepted. Your contributions are very much appreciated. Due to such a high demand this season the Salvation Army and Community Action are stretched to their limits. Anything you can do to help would be greatly appreciated!

Forward of Celebrate Recovery

You may think recovery is only for drug addicts and alcoholics- people whose lives seem out of control. But that's just not true. The Bible teaches that all of us have addictions in our lives. Sin is addicting, and the Bible says, "all have sinned." Not one of us is perfect. We've all blown it; we've all made mistakes. We've hurt ourselves, we've hurt other people, and others have hurts us.

Because of sin, each of us needs repentance and recovery in order to live the way God intended. That's why, years ago, we at Saddleback developed a Biblical recovery program based on the Beatitudes of Jesus. We named the program Celebrate Recovery.

The goal of the Celebrate Recovery program is not simply to recover from past sins and hurts. The goal is to become Christ-like in our character. To date, over 9,000 hurting people have participated in Celebrate Recovery at Saddleback Church, and have experienced a Biblically balanced approach to repentance and recovery.

So, no matter what situation you find yourself in, here's good news: regardless of whether your problem is emotional, financial, relational, spiritual, sexual or whatever, regardless of what you need help with, *God wants to help you.*

In Isaiah 57:18-19 God says of his people that he has seen how they acted but he will heal them, he will lead them and will comfort those who mourn. So, God know us. He knows where we came from, where we stand today, and where we are going to be tomorrow. And He says:

If you've been hurt, "I want to heal you."

If you're confused, "I want to lead you."

If you've ever felt you were helpless to change anything, "I want to help you."

If you've ever felt no one understands your problem, "I want to comfort you."

If you feel worried or afraid, "I want to offer peace to you."

The reality is that you're not going to get well on your own. Persistent temptations must be team-tackled through community. We need each other. Trying to fix your problems on your own only makes them worse than they were when you started. But there's hope. God is ready and waiting to help you if you let him.

I'm excited that you're beginning the journey to recovery. Your life will change. You'll experience freedom from your sinful hurts, hang-ups, and habits as you give up control and allow Jesus to be Lord in every area of your life.

Dr. Rick Warren
Senior Pastor

Our Church Leadership

Elders

Diane Weispfenning, Clerk of Session

Class of 2017

Delbert Bossingham
William Parries
Elizabeth Sherfy
Jackie Tarpinian

Class of 2018

Angie Allmer
Pat Lindbo
Lynn Van Dyke

Class of 2019

Bob Martin
Mary Reed
Diane Weispfenning

Deacons

Class of 2017

Janet Miller
Kim Thoele
Pam Van Dyke
Cindy Wermager

Class of 2018

Dixie Lee
Tony McIntyre
Maris Thompson

Class of 2019

Tiffany Dauer
Bill Hines
Colleen Nelson

Church Leadership Team

Pastor: Rev. Robert Boyar (814-937-9225) email: rab316.bb@gmail.com

Commissioned Ruling Elder: William Weispfenning (320-1739)

Christian Education Coordinator: Position Vacant

Administrative Assistant: Sharon Watson (252-1748) email: presbyterianchurch@daktel.com

Financial Secretary: Tammie Skari email: sfamily@daktel.com

Organist/Choir Director: David Morlock (252-4572)

Financial Update

(General fund activity as of October 31, 2017)

General Fund Revenue for October	\$16,792.41
General Fund Expenses for October	<u>\$18,877.31</u>
Excess Income/Loss for October	\$(2,084.90)

Year to Date Revenue	\$202,911.90
Year to Date Expenses	<u>\$161,205.57</u>
Year to Date Excess Income/Loss	\$ 41,706.33

We thank you for your continued support of United Presbyterian Church!

Per Capita Payments: We encourage all members to pay their per-capita as a gift above and beyond their annual pledge. **Our per-capita is based on \$44.00 for each active member of our church.** To submit a check for per-capita, simply write "Per-capita" on the memo line of your check.

Session Highlights November 2017

- **December Elder of the Month:** Lynn Van Dyke
- **December Home Communion:** Lynn Van Dyke
- Sylvia Pringle, Ellen and Rev. Boyar served homebound communion to 14 people on Sunday, November 5, 2017.
- Rev. Boyar is leading the Confirmation Class on Wednesdays at 7:15pm. The class consists of Gavin Gibson, Logan Gibson, Ben Matzke and Ariel Teboh.
- Rev. Boyar is developing relationships with the families involved with HERRB tutoring. The tutoring program is going well.
- The All Nations Prayer group meets at 4:00 pm on Sundays.
- **The Property and Finance Committee recommends, “to accept the proposal from Johnson Controls to fix the system for \$8,900.00 and to take the money from the General Reserve Fund.” MOTION CARRIED**
- Rev. Boyar reported that some people from the congregation have stepped up to be back-up teachers during the enrichment hour.
- Rev. Boyar has been in contact with Latisha Thomas about the Christian Education Coordinator position. She is a junior student at UJ, majoring in Education. Latisha will be helping with the enrichment hour on November 12, 2017.
- Elizabeth Sherfy has taken the lead for the UPC Christmas Program on December 17, 2017 due to the vacancy in the Christian Education Coordinator position. A holiday potluck will follow the program.
- Rev. Boyar reported that Bob Bates and Mark Lee put together the shelving on the third floor.
- **The Worship Committee recommends, “to approve the baptism on December 10, 2017 by Rev. Boyar of Isaac Glenn Bollingberg, born on September 4, 2017 in Jamestown, ND, to parents, Jennifer and Grant Bollingberg.” MOTION CARRIED**
- Jackie Tarpinian reported a committee meeting this month. The committee reviewed the “Celebrating Strengths: Individual Assets and Skills Inventory,” and recommended the following changes: adding a category “Church Building/Property,” changing leader to Assistant Teacher, remove “asking profession,” and “remove questions about involvement and commitment.” It was suggested by session to change the category “Administration (Spiritual)” to “Leadership.”
- **The Church Growth and Outreach Committee recommends, “to approve the above changes to the “Individual Assets and Skills Inventory.” MOTION CARRIED**
- Angie Allmer and Rev. Boyar reported that visiting is making a difference.
- Rev. Boyar reported that Sharon Watson and he were cleaning up the web-site this week, and they want to do more to improve the site.
- Angie Allmer reported that the committee has nominees for five of the six positions, and they are still looking for someone to fill the role of Elder.
- The next regular meeting is scheduled for December 14, 2017 at 5:15 PM.

Diane Weispfenning, Clerk

Women's Ministries

Connecting women to God and one another

Presbyterian Women look forward to the annual Advent potluck luncheon on December 7 at 11:30 AM. At that time we will receive the Thank Offering which has been a tradition for Presbyterian Women since 1888. Thousands of ministries world wide have been supported as millions of dollars have been raised for missions. This year projects in eight states and five international projects will be funded. The theme for the service is “For the Healing of the Nations.” What exciting opportunities for our local PW to be part of all this! All women of the church are invited to come to the luncheon or just participate with a gift to the Thank Offering, which may be placed in the church offering on a Sunday morning labeled Thank Offering. After the luncheon we will study the 4th lesson in our challenging series from Hebrews. This lesson is called “In Community with the Living Word.”

Reading Ministry with Ruth Barkus continues on Tuesday afternoons at 2:30 PM in the Board Room.

Thanks to Bev Schaack for sharing her Eagles quilt in the Fellowship Hall. The next quilt to be displayed is loaned by Elizabeth and Mark Sherfy. If you have a quilt you'd like to share, just call the church office. It's a good way to brighten that space.

UPW STUDY FOR DECEMBER Lesson Four — “In Community With God’s Messengers”

Question: when you are inspired or a solution comes to you about a worry or concern, do you ever give thought that you have had an encounter with an angel? It would be an unexpected encounter that resulted in your receiving a message, an answer, a letter, with information you needed at that time. Was it from a Divine Messenger or one in the flesh? What is your take on angels? Maybe science has permeated our lives to the point we believe everything is explainable. Intrusions into ones life actually could be angels arriving unannounced as discussed in the September-October HORIZON supplement to Lesson 4 on page 29 and 30. If you still have your July-August issue of HORIZONS’ read or re-read “Behold I Show You A Mystery” on pages 9-11. Can we, are we, able to look at everyone we encounter as a messenger from God unaware of what we might learn from or benefit from that encounter, rather than viewing it as an intrusion into our lives? Join us on December 7 to study this lesson together.

Edie and Jackie

Thank You

Thank you so much for your donations to the Bdecan ministry team. Your congregation has given so much support throughout the years. Your donation to the Youth and Outreach Coordinator salary will keep someone here at Bdecan for years to come. Know that your donations to Bdecan make a huge difference not just to the members of Bdecan, but also to those living on the Spirit Lake Reservation. Blessings, Joe Obermeyer, Youth and Outreach Coord., Bdecan Presbyterian Church.

Thank you for your donation. We appreciate your help in our efforts to help others. Thanks again for helping the people in our community. Major Nanta, Salvation Army

Introduction to New Member

Janice Raitt

Janice was born in Delhi, NY; she received her early education at Delaware Academy and Central School. She went to State University of New York (SUNY) at Alfred, NY and some at their branch in Delhi. She worked at Lounsbery Flowers, College Town, Ithaca, NY; then attended the Institute of Photography in New York City. While working at Bloomingdales Portrait Studio she met Claire from Montana. Claire's boyfriend was from Jamestown and Janice drove with them when the boyfriend bought the Photography Studio in Jamestown then owned by our own local Phyllis Ibes. She worked at that studio for a couple years in the late 1960's as well as at Don's House Of Flowers during holiday times.

She enrolled in DuPage Horticultural School in West Chicago, IL and worked at greenhouses and flower shops in the Chicago area. Janice became a florist and photographer. Her grandparents, John and Mary Winter had built Winter's Florist and Greenhouse in 1936. Her grandfather told her he needed her and he hired her in 1976. She bought it after her grandfather died in 1993 when he was nearing the age of 105.

In her spare time she reads and writes. She sang in choirs and was a bell ringer. Janice attended our church in 1969-70 when she lived here and met Mary Strandness and family. (Dr. Strandness taught religion at what was then Jamestown College) Janice tells of an interesting coincidence when the Strandnesses invited her, and others who did not have family in town, to Thanksgiving dinner. One was a retired school teacher, a Miss Peake. Miss Peake told Janice she had heard of Delhi but had never been there but had some ancestors who had a farm at the head of a valley and brook. Janice said to her "Peakes Brook and Peakes Brook Road." Janice said she was astounded to make that connection in North Dakota. She added that it is still being farmed and is beautiful.

Janice chose to retire in Jamestown and moved back here in 2016 leaving behind her sister Jeanne, Walworth, NY; sister Christine, Washington, PA and her brother Jack, Liverpool, NY. She then transferred her membership from the First Presbyterian Church in Delhi, NY to our church. Janice is assisting in the Enrichment Hour (Sunday School) and is a member of Hope Circle. She would be interested in being a Deacon.

***Correction on Novembers New Member Bio—Gene Cagle...**

- 1) While attending UND, Gene worked at the HUGO'S in East Grand Forks, MN, not West Fargo.
- 2) He has a daughter attending UND.

Christmas Joy Offering

The Christmas Joy Offering will be received during worship on Sunday, December 24. By giving to the Christmas Joy Offering, you help provide critical financial assistance for Presbyterian church workers in their time of need.

Nearly 291 households received income supplements, which help provide for retired church workers and surviving spouses in need.

Over 211 households received housing supplements, which help retired church workers maintain their current home or afford assisted living and long-term care.

More than 110 households received assistance through shared and emergency grants, which provide relief to church workers facing times of great financial need or uncertainty due to unforeseen circumstances.

Please prayerfully consider what you will give to show support and gratitude for those who faithfully serve.

Worship

- December 10 Baptism of Isaac Bollingberg
- December 24 Worship Service - 4th Sunday of Advent at 10:30 AM.
- December 24 Christmas Joy Offering received during worship
- December 24 Christmas Eve Candlelight Service at 5:00 PM

Families who will be lighting advent candles:

- December 3 Jenny Korynta
- December 10 Jennifer and Grant Bollingberg
- December 17 Marcy and Tyler Szarkowski
- December 24 Carrie Orn

Christian Nurture

Join us on Sunday December 17 during worship at 10:30 for an alphabetical account of the well-known Christmas story. The children and youth will proceed through the alphabet in actions, scripture and song. Emma Bennett, Zoe Bennett and Karla Sherfy will be directing this service—come hear the message.

Attention Parents:

Practice for the December 17 Christmas Service will be during Enrichment Hour 9:00am-10:15am on Sundays, December 3rd, 10th and 17th. Please have your children present during this time if they would like to participate. If you have any questions, call Elizabeth Sherfy 320-7296.