

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

The Communicator

United Presbyterian Church of Jamestown, ND

Volume 47 No. 1, January 2020

Sharing Christ's Love Through Service

Epiphany Sunday, January 5

Epiphany is the celebration of God's manifestation or self-revelation to the world in Jesus Christ. In particular, we celebrate the revelation of God's promise and purpose to the nations of the world, as the magi came from the East to worship to the Christ child, and God's covenant of grace is extended to all who believe the good news of Christ Jesus. The symbolism of light is important: not only because of the star that guided the magi, but as it relates to the bright dawning of God's self-revelation in Christ.

Baptism of the Lord, Sunday, January 12

At the beginning of his public ministry, Jesus presents himself to John to be baptized in the Jordan. The heavens open, the Holy Spirit descends as a dove and we hear the voice of God: "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased" (see Psalm 2:7). At this festival of the Christian year, we not only remember Jesus' baptism, but we celebrate our own: the baptism we share with Christ. Accordingly, this Sunday is an appropriate time to celebrate the sacrament of baptism or the reaffirmation of the baptismal covenant. It also foreshadows the season of Lent, as Jesus was immediately driven into the wilderness for 40 days after his own Baptism.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, January 18-25

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity was started by the World Council of Churches in order to fulfill Christ's desire "that [his followers] all may be one" (John 17:21).

Adult Study Opportunity

"Dialogues On: Race" offers a range of perspectives coming from Christian leaders at the front lines of conversation and action in the United States. The study will be held at Trinity Lutheran church beginning January 8 from 7:15-8:15 PM. A suggested donation of \$10 will offset the cost of the participant book.

Annual Congregational Meeting

The congregation will meet after worship on Sunday, January 26 for the annual business meeting. Please submit all committee/department reports by Monday, January 13.

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
 Sunday School 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

JANUARY WORKMONTH FAMILIES

Chairpersons:

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

Austin, Flory	(cell) 701-779-4564
Chisholm, Della	320-5539
Dunn, Duane & Kathie	952-4778 or 269-0982
Koehn, Steve	252-7374
McIntyre, Mike & Cheryl	252-4260
McIntyre, Tony & Reina	368-9784
Muhs, Dave Stacey	(Stacey) 320-3048
Nelson, Dick & Colleen	252-5936
Pringle, Roger & Sylvia	252-6617
Schoeler, Maurine	952-1051
Witzig, Diane	320-4915

From the Pastor



A Grateful Church for a Year of Harvest

Really, how time flies, as I write this letter Ellen and I are lifting our wings towards our fifth year in Jamestown and with you at United Presbyterian Church. Five years of feeling appreciated, five years of feeling loved and cared for by United Presbyterian Church. How can we thank you enough?

A new year has begun! Do you have 2020 vision? And with the beginning of any new year, there is always a sense of hope—“This year will be better than the last” or “Time for a fresh start!” Hopefully 2019 has brought you something to celebrate and something to look forward to in the coming months in 2020.

Graciously looking back, Rachel Holsten began her ministry with us the first week of January. Let me attempt to count the ways she adds life to our ministry. In close coordination with the Christian Nurture Committee, she has arranged for children and youth to go to camp, retreats, and lock-ins, organizes the Sunday School for children and teaches the 3-5th grade class, organized the Vacation Bible School, leads the youth group that meets on Wednesday mornings at Babb’s coffee house, co-leads the Confirmation class with me on Wednesday afternoons, coordinates the Tuesday tutoring and delivers the children’s message in Worship on Sundays.

2019 was truly a year of blessings for the United Presbyterian Church, as it saw the baptism of 4 children and gained 5 new members. We were able to send 6 children and youth to summer camp at Clearwater Forest. The Tuesday Tutoring program proved its empowering outcome. We are truly blessed to have 8-10 volunteer tutors and 12 children being tutored. Our Sunday School beams with an attendance between 45 and 50 children and adults every Sunday. Our Vacation Bible School was well organized and had an attendance of about 25 children. We also have a youth group, thank you for the dedication of our Sunday school teachers and the Christian Nurture committee. Equally important, our gratitude also goes to our transportation group that sees to it that people are able to attend our church activities. Thank you to Carrie Diede, our child care provider, for the nurturing ministry she wholeheartedly gives.

Gratitude is also in order for all the members of the Session that led us through an exciting and fruitful year. All of the members serve on one or more committees of the session. The committees are Christian Nurture, Property and Finance, Stewardship, Membership, Church Growth and Outreach, Personnel, Kitchen, Worship, Mission, Social Media/ Website, Nominating and Sanctuary Circle. Thank you all for heeding God’s call. All interested people from the congregation may serve on these committees. Members of the session also represent us as commissioners to the Presbytery meetings that take place twice a year. (continued on page 4)



January 2020



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
			1 Office Closed for New Year's Day	2 Christian Nurture 5:15 PM AA 7:00 PM	3	4
5 SS 9:00 AM Worship 10:30 Communion Take Down Tree Epiphany	6 Handbells 4:15 Property & Finance Committee 5:00 PM Worship Committee 6:15 PM	7 Tuesday Tutoring 4:00	8 Youth 8:30 AM At Babb's Wednesday Evening Service 6:00 PM Choir 7:00 PM	9 Session 5:15 PM AA 7:00 PM	10	11
12 SS 9:00 AM Worship 10:30 AM Baptism of the Lord	13 Handbell Choir 4:15 PM	14 Tuesday Tutoring 4:00 6:00 PM Deacons 6:00	15 Youth 8:30 AM At Babb's Wednesday Evening Service 6:00 PM Choir 7:00 PM	16 AA 7:00 PM	17	18 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Begins
19 SS 9:00 AM Worship 10:30 AM Race Relations Sunday	20 Handbell Choir 4:15 PM	21 Tuesday Tutoring 4:00	22 Youth 8:30 AM At Babb's Wednesday Evening Service 6:00 PM Choir 7:00 PM	23 AA 7:00 PM	24	25
26 SS 9:00 AM Worship 10:30 AM Congregational Meeting	27 Handbell Choir 4:15 PM	28 Tuesday Tutoring 4:00	29 Youth 8:30 AM At Babb's Wednesday Evening Service 6:00 PM Choir 7:00 PM	30 AA 7:00 PM	31	

More Dates to Remember . . .

January 5 Epiphany of the Lord
 January 12 Baptism of the Lord
 January 20 Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday observed



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Douglas Chimanga	1
Bill Hines	2
Zachary Bossingham	4
Cindy Wermager	6
Helen Burleson	9
Jim Bond	10
Delbert Bossingham	10
Carol Danuser	12
Roy Brown	15
Bill Parries	17
Lois Hopwood	18
Bev Hoffman	20
Kevin Thoele	25
Jennifer Allmer	27
Zoe Bennett	28
Opal Schmuhl	29
Ruth Barkus	30
Braden Sherfy	30



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 are looking for unused greeting cards for all occasions. If you are willing to donate please bring your cards to the church office.

Don't forget there is a shopping cart in the Reading Room for Community Action. Please consider a donation of non perishable items for Community Action.

We also are looking for personal hygiene items for Salvation Army (toothbrush, tooth paste, bar soap, shampoo, conditioner, and etc.) There is a box in the Reading Room for those donations also.

Look for more information about future Deacon projects in the Sunday bulletin.

Those currently serving as Deacons include:

Delbert Bossingham	Tiffany Dauer	Bill Hines
Colleen Nelson	Pam Van Dyke	Cindy Wermager
Diane Witzig	Sandy Worm	Clyde Young

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, January 5.

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!

January Anniversaries

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From the Pastor (continued from page 2)

Praise God for gifts and talents, the worship services on Wednesday evening and Sunday morning are possible because many volunteers share their time, talents and resources. Thank you to David Morlock and the members of the choir as they beautifully set the mood for worship and lead us in praise to God. Thank you too to the greeters and servers, liturgists and ushers, sound/visual people and acolytes, Handbell choir for adults and children, homebound communion servers and communion servers in the Sunday service every first Sunday of the month, offering counters, Financial Secretary Tammie Skari and our financial team, each of you are part of an enormous team of God's workers. We also have the bulletins and newsletters produced by our Administrative Assistant Sharon Watson, faithfully providing the information link between the congregation and the church. Thank you too to Commissioned Lay Pastor Bill Weispfenning and Steve Reed, for leading worship while I was on vacation. Sylvia Pringle, Bill Weispfenning, and Steve Reed preach in other pulpits when needed and for Tiffany Dauer who leads our music at our Wednesday Evening Service.

I am happy to report that the Deacons have ongoing projects that support Salvation Army and the Community Action Agency. In addition, the Deacons, with the help of Dixie Lee, the work month people and the Confirmation Class organized and worked a number of our meals in our Fellowship Hall. Further, the Deacons organized a way for our congregation to give Christmas gifts to the homebound, those at The State Hospital and support the U.S. Marines' Toys for Tots program and the Veterans Day meal sponsored by the Patriotic Council of Jamestown. Toys for Tots is a wonderful program in Jamestown lead by Sheila Ova that helps families give presents to their children at Christmas time. With the help of Maris Thompson, we participated in Operation Christmas Child. Indeed, this church puts premium in service and love and we also thank the Presbyterian Women's Group and my thanks for our participation in the Relay for Life Cure for Cancer Group. Indeed, thanks to the Deacons as they encouraged the congregation to Share Christ's love through service in these and many other ways. I may not be able to mention all, but there are those who want to remain in anonymity whose help and service to this church is equally essential, God smiles on your efforts. It is great to note that this church does not even need any formal affiliations when help is needed, members and people just come to help in their personal capacities truly a demonstration of Christ's love through service.

The New Year is the perfect time to reflect on our personal priorities; and on this topic, it is a good time to think in introspect and retrospect about what we value in ourselves and in others. With the word of God as our shield and with our faith in humanity, we continue to move on, marching forward doing God's works unwavering and strong.

Again, let us look forward full of hope and 2020 vision as we pray for God's leading. We offer everything to Jesus anticipating another year full of Him and full of gratitude.

Blessings, Pastor Bob Boyar

Our Church Leadership

Elders

Diane Weispfenning, Clerk of Session

<u>Class of 2019</u>	<u>Class of 2020</u>	<u>Class of 2021</u>
Douglas Chimanga	Duane Dunn	Angie Allmer
Bob Martin	Mark Lee	Charlotte Enger
Mary Reed	Elizabeth Sherfy	Lynn Van Dyke

Deacons

<u>Class of 2019</u>	<u>Class of 2020</u>	<u>Class of 2021</u>
Tiffany Dauer	Pam Van Dyke	Delbert Bossingham
Bill Hines	Cindy Wermager	Diane Witzig
Colleen Nelson	Clyde Young	Sandy Worm

Church Leadership Team

Pastor: Rev. Robert Boyar (814-937-9225) email: rab316.bb@gmail.com
Commissioned Ruling Elder: William Weispfenning (320-1739)
Christian Education and Family Ministry Coordinator: Rachel Holsten
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)
Treasurer: Mary Reed

Financial Update

(General fund activity as of November 30, 2018)

General Fund Revenue for November	\$21,275.09
General Fund Expenses for November	<u>\$15,566.92</u>
Excess Income/Loss for November	\$ 5,708.17
Year to Date Revenue	\$186,035.61
Year to Date Expenses	<u>\$182,479.99</u>
Year to Date Excess Income/Loss	\$ 3,552.62

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 \$47.00 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 for December 2019

- **The Property and Finance Committee recommends, “to approve sending the money collected for the “Relay for Life” be sent to the American Cancer Society as soon as possible.” MOTION CARRIED**
- **The Property and Finance Committee recommends, “to approve use of the church for minor in possession meetings on March 7, 2020; July 11, 2020; October 3, 2020; and December 5, 2020.” MOTION CARRIED**
- Kitchen Committee: Mark Lee reported a recommendation.
- **The Kitchen Committee recommends, “to purchase a household dishwasher to be installed in the opening between the commercial dishwasher and the stove with money taken from the Kitchen Fund.” MOTION CARRIED**
- Thank you card sent to the Deacons for their work on the Thankful Dinner.
- Thank you card sent to Sylvia Pringle for cleaning and refurbishing the children’s worship bags.
- **Elizabeth Sherfy moved/2nd, “to approve a \$50,000 Capital Campaign for the Sanctuary Restoration with the balance of funds to come from reserves.” MOTION CARRIED**
- **Christian Nurture committee recommends, “to approve providing scholarship funds of \$40 per youth to the first 5 who sign up for the Clearwater Forest Snow Camp scheduled for January 24-26, 2020. These funds would come from the Youth Fund. We also recommend there is a minimum of three youth signed up from our church in order for our group to travel to Snow Camp at Clearwater Forest.” MOTION CARRIED**
- **Bob Martin moved/2nd, “to approve Nancy Burgard as Clerk of Session and Mary Reed as Treasurer for 2020.” MOTION CARRIED**
- The annual Corporate and Congregational Meeting is scheduled for January 26, 2020. Reports are due to Sharon Watson by January 15, 2020. The next regular meeting will be January 9, 2019 at 5:15pm
- Thanks was expressed for Pastor Bob Boyar’s and Rachel Holsten’s leadership.

Diane Weispfenning, Clerk

Women’s Ministries

Connecting women to God and one another

The Bible study for Presbyterian Women is called “Love Carved in Stone—A Fresh Look at the Ten Commandments” by Eugenia Gamble. When the Faith and Hope Circles met together on September 26th, Pastor Bob helped us with the introduction and first lesson. Now we look forward to lesson two, “Words of Love – Don’t Trivialize my Name.” The study writer is not calling these commandments but rather “words”—loving words from a loving God. The guide book includes beautiful art work for every lesson. The artist’s interpretations help us to understand the “words”. It’s not too late to participate in this study. There are books available in the church office. The October meetings will be on Thursday, October 24.

The reading group that meets at the church every Tuesday afternoon at 3:00 has suspended until spring. If you are interested in hearing a book read and discussed, there is room for you in this group. It’s not just for those with limited vision, but for anyone. Check with Ruth Barkus or Yvonne Wegner if you have questions when they start up again. Yvonne is also the one to contact if you are interested in helping out with the Kitchen Committee.

Christmas Play/Caroling 2019

The youth/children did an amazing job of presenting “God’s Promise Came True” led by Rachel Holsten, at the 2019 Christmas Program. It was followed by the Red & Green Potluck. A great time was had by all!



Shown right: Rachel, members of the congregation and the chancel choir blessed those at Ave Maria with an evening of Christmas Carols.



Christian Nurture

January brings a lot of newness to our lives. Obviously there is New Year. We are no longer in 2019, but 2020! Can you believe it? Many decide on new health plans and goals they have for the upcoming year. Last year at this time I was hired by the church to begin my role as director of children, youth, and family ministry.

I can say that this past year has gone by fast and I am grateful for all the new connections I have made with the members of this church.

I feel truly grateful to worship alongside you, offer new perspective, and think of ways in which we can do ministry together.

One of my goals this year is to provide more ways where families can connect. This can be done by providing different opportunities such as: first communion class, board game night, and a family painting class.

Needless to say, I am beyond excited to have offered past events this past year that were welcome with opened arms. Such events included Christmas caroling at Ave Maria, service projects with the Confirmation youth, meeting at Babbs Coffee House with high school youth, and providing a chalice making class for children. Other highlights included going on the Triennium mission trip, Crystal Springs retreat, leading Vacation Bible School, and taking kids to Clearwater Forest Camp.

I am excited for the year ahead and what changes we can make together. The stewardship campaign slogan doesn't end with this past year. To "transform, engage, and serve" together is an ongoing call.

So, as you make goals for your year please think about ways you can contribute in ministry. Maybe it is volunteering at a family run event, or offering to be a driver for transportation on Sundays, or thinking outside the box of how you can see us doing ministry together differently. I ask that you keep God at the center of your lives amidst the changes of a new year. May you find peace in knowing that God continues to walk with you this year as we journey forward together.

Rachel Holsten
Christian Education Director

Per Capita

2020 Per Capita was approved at the October Presbytery meeting. The Per Capita apportionment is based on the funds necessary for the Presbytery/Synod/General Assembly to do their essential work.

The Presbytery office has a free brochure which will help individuals understand the fundamentals of Per Capita and Unified Mission.

2020 Per Capita Apportionment breakdown:

General Assembly (GA)	\$ 8.95
Synod of Lakes & Prairies	\$ 5.40
Northern Plains Presbytery	<u>\$ 32.65</u>
	\$ 47.00

The 2020 apportionment is based on a church's membership as of December 31, 2017, as reported in the 2017 General Assembly Minutes (Part II, Statistics).

For additional information about Per Capita, check out the Office of the GA Stated Clerk webpage.

Thank You!

Thank you Presbyterian Women for the thoughtful Christmas gift. It is my honor to serve you and the congregation in any way that I can. You are a blessing! —Sharon Watson

I want to thank you for all you did to make the memorial service for Dick Larson so very nice. The church looked beautiful and the bars/cookies were wonderfully delicious. We were so welcomed and well received. Thank you too for your thoughts and prayers for Dick, me and our family. I think Dick's favorite place was the coffee room on Sunday morning. Continue your work in the Lord's Kingdom! —Doreen Larson and family

Thank you so much for your donation to our ministry. It means so much to have the continued support of your congregation. Your donation helps us to sustain the ministry at Bdecan for years to come. Without you, we couldn't do the things we are doing. The great things happening here are in part because of your generosity. Thank you so much for your continued support. All of us at Bdecan want to wish you a very merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! —Joel Obermeyer, Youth & Outreach Coordinator Bdecan Presbyterian Church

Thank you to the congregation for the generous gift for Pastor Appreciation. —Pastor Bob and Ellen Boyar

Table centerpieces for Red and Green Potluck were provided by Lyn Koehn Boyd in memory of Marilyn Koehn.

