

The staff of the United Presbyterian Church
wishes you a very blessed Christmas and a
Happy New year!



The Communicator

United Presbyterian Church of Jamestown, ND

Volume 48, December 2022

Sharing Christ's Love Through Service

State Hospital Client Gifts

Please remember to bring your gift items to the church by December 1 for State Hospital clients. They have to be turned in to the hospital by the first week of December. Thank you!

Toys for Tots

Zimmerman's Furniture is the drop site for your gift items.

Christian Nurture

Please see page three for youth and children activities for December.

Bell Ringing

See page 5 for more information on how you can help the community by ringing bells for the Salvation Army.

Christmas in Norway

Steve Reed shares his holiday experiences in Norway on page 7.

Christmas Joy Offering

Christmas Joy Offering will be received during the worship service on Sunday, December 18.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

We will have a Christmas Eve Candlelight Service on Saturday, December 24 at 5:00 PM.

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
Facebook 10:30 AM
Youtube 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

DECEMBER WORKMONTH FAMILIES

Chairpersons:

Wegner, Yvonne	952-2399
Wegner, Doreen	952-1789

Burgard, Joe & Nancy	952-0051
Haag, Theresa	320-3599
Johnson, Terry & Deb	763-6245
McIntyre, Tony & Reina	368-9784
Reimers, Doug and Mary Claire	701-200-9347
Tarpinian, Jackie	269-1515
Wegner, Dean & Kathy	252-3980
Weispenning, Bill	320-5610

The best part of this season is that it calls us to think about what we are thankful for, how we are blessed, and how might we offer love to others around us. We all have reason to be thankful and rejoice. The God we worship has blessed us with creation and his son Jesus Christ. In the world we find the opportunity to grow our faith, witness God's love, and cultivate the presence of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

A circular wreath made of green leaves and red berries. The wreath is composed of many small, dark green leaves and clusters of small, bright red berries. It is arranged in a circular shape with a white background in the center. The entire wreath is set against a white background with a black border.

A circular wreath made of green leaves and red berries.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
				1 PW Women 1:00 PM AA 7:00 PM	2	3 MIP Class 8:00-3:30 PM
4 SS 9:00 AM Worship 10:30 AM 2nd Sunday of Advent	5 Christian Nurture 6:00 PM Property & Finance Com. 5:30	6 Deacons 6:15 PM	7 Wednesday Bible Study Zoom 6:00 PM Confirmation 7:00 Choir Practice 7:00	8 Session 5:30 PM AA 7:00 PM	9	10
11 SS 9:00 AM Worship 10:30 AM Third Sunday of Advent	12	13	14 Wednesday Bible Study on Zoom 6:00 PM Confirmation 7:00 Choir Practice 7:00	15 AA 7:00 PM	16	17
18 SS 9:00 AM Worship 10:30 Christmas Joy Offering Christmas Program	19	20	21 Wednesday Bible Study on Zoom 6:00 PM Confirmation 7:00 Choir Practice 7:00	22 AA 7:00 PM	23	24 Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 5:00
25 Sunday School 9:00 AM Worship 10:30 AM Christmas	26 Office Closed for Christmas Holiday	27	28 Choir Practice 7:00	29 AA 7:00 PM	30	31 New Years Eve
December 18 Christmas Program December 24 Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 5:00 PM						



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Dixie Lee	12
Gabby Tarr	15
Erna Schwind	18
Elizabeth Sherfy	18
Mark Sherfy	18
Marge Nething	22
David Muhs	24
Nancy Fletcher	27
Roni Berg	30
Arlene Johnson	30



Anniversaries in December

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



women's ministries

The circles will meet together on December 1 for lesson 4, *Sabbath and Surrender* led by Jackie. Please read Exodus 16 in preparation. All Presbyterian Women are invited to share in the Bible study. We are privileged to be part of our Thank Offering which will be collected during the meeting. If any other women want to participate in this offering see Yvonne.

Desserts will be provided and served by the Faith Circle.

The PW will meet again on January 26, 2023. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Charlotte Enger, Moderator

Christian Nurture

Christmas plans include:

December 4	4:00-6:00 PM	Pre-K-5th grade watching <i>The Star</i> .
December 4	6:00-8:00 PM	6-12th grade watching Elf and eating pancakes.
December 17	5:00-7:00 PM	K-5th grade Jesus's Birthday Party at Party Crashers.
December 18	10:30 AM	Pre-K-12th grades Christmas Program During worship service. Rehearsals during Sunday School on December 4-18.



Session Highlights for November

Christian Education Coordinator: Tammie Keesee

Our Christmas plans include:

December 4th, 4:00-6:00 PM – PreK-5th watching ‘The Star’

December 4th, 6:00-8:00PM – 6th -12th watching Elf and eating pancakes

December 17th, 5:00-7:00PM – K-5th Jesus’s Birthday party at Party Crashers

December 18th, 10:30AM – PreK-12th Christmas Program during worship service (rehearsals during Sunday School on Dec. 4th - 18th)

Property and Finance – Mark Lee

UPC’s proposed budget will be presented at the December 8, 2022 session meeting.

Congregational informational meeting on budget will be held Sunday, November 13, 2022.

An upgrade to parlor suggested. New furniture and carpet.

A request to move Sanctuary Circle decorations to the banner storage area.

Deacons – Jan Miller

Tim Burchill was given \$50 for his Long-Term Care presentation on October 24th.

Pastor Bob and Delbert Bossingham reported on home visits performed.

Treats for shut-ins will be delivered on November 20th after church Christmas decorating completed.

Vickie Enger will bake and package the treats.

Gifts to State Hospital patients will be collected again. List of gift ideas will be listed in bulletin and Communicator.

- Sylvia Pringle moved/2nd, “to approve UPC ringing the Salvation Army ‘Red Kettle’ bell from 10:00am to 8:00pm on December 12th – 17th at Cash Wise in the lobby.” MOTION CARRIED Sign-up sheets will be in the sanctuary on November 13th. Letters to other churches to participate in Salvation Army bell ringing will be sent.

- Mark Lee moved/2nd, “to approve a chili and soup lunch open to the public after worship on December 4th with free will donations going to Safe Shelter.” MOTION CARRIED Sign-up sheets for crackers, sour cream, shredded cheese and bars will be in the narthex.

- Mary Reed moved/2nd, “to add Danielle Giesler to the Personnel Committee.” MOTION CARRIED

Worship Committee – Duane Dunn

Sylvia Pringle moved/2nd, “to approve the December 24th Christmas Eve worship service at 5pm.” MOTION CARRIED

- The Membership Committee recommends, “to move William McMillan (#1758), per his request, to Inactive Roll.” MOTION CARRIED

- Mark Lee moved/2nd, “to increase Church Growth and Outreach’s 2022 budget by \$400.” MOTION CARRIED

- Tammie Keesee and Pastor Bob are working on a UPC flyer for the Jamestown Chamber of Commerce newsletter.

Mission – Sylvia Pringle

Mission committee gave \$500 to UJ nursing students going to Kenya, Africa.

The funds will not be used for students’ expenses, but donations given to different agencies in Kenya during their trip.

- Nominating Committee – Mary Reed: Jeff Enger and Gail Martin will take another term as Elders. Dixie Lee will take a 2nd term with Deacons. Sylvia Pringle and James Bond will come off Session and Deacons, respectively. Committee is working on replacements.

Nancy Burgard, Clerk

Our Church Leadership

Elders

Nancy Burgard, Clerk of Session

Class of 2022

Gail Martin
Sylvia Pringle
Jeff Enger

Class of 2023

Duane Dunn
Mark Lee
Mark Sherfy

Class of 2024

Danielle Giesler
Charley Keesee
Mary Reed

Deacons

Class of 2022

Jim Bond
Dixie Lee
Doreen Wegner

Class of 2023

Susan Bond
Vicki Enger
Jackie Tarpinian

Class of 2024

Delbert Bossingham
Janet Miller
Jerome Zamgba

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: Tammie Keesee (903-399-5690) email: tdsprott@gmail.com

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 October 31, 2022)

General Fund Revenue for October	\$17,519.35
General Fund Expenses for October	<u>\$17,003.01</u>
Excess Income/Loss for October	\$ 516.34

Year to Date Revenue	\$167,394.22
Year to Date Expenses	<u>\$184,537.58</u>
Year to Date Excess Income/Loss	\$ (17,143.36)

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 \$50.00 for each active member of our church as of January 1, 2023.** To submit a check for per-capita, simply write “Per-capita” on the memo line of your check.

Holiday Dazzle Parade



Deb Hornung and Danielle Giesler

Thank you to all who represented United Presbyterian Church at the Holiday Dazzle Parade.

Church cards were passed out to the crowd along with cocoa mix.

Jeff Enger's truck held our nativity scene while volunteers walked alongside handing out the goodies.

A great time was had by all!



Vicki Enger, Dixie Lee, Jeff Enger, Danielle Giesler, Jerome, Agnes, & Jerusha Zamgba and Deb Hornung



On Sunday, December 4 the Deacons will be having a chili and soup fundraiser for Safe Shelter after church. Sign up sheet in Narthex for shredded cheese, saltines, sour cream, tortilla chips, bars and help with clean up.

For December 12-17, The Salvation Army Bell Ringing sheets are on the table under the East window. Instrumental and/or vocal music welcome. Call, email or message Jackie Tarpinian (269-1515 or manoog@csicable.net) for available times if you are unable to attend church to sign up. We have 60 hours to fill at Cash Wise for that week.



**"Maybe Christmas (he thought) doesn't come from a store.
Maybe Christmas perhaps means a little bit more."
—The Grinch**



Thank you Sylvia Pringle and Deacons for stopping by to see me. The baked goodies and apple cider were good! —Arlene Johnson

Dear Friends, On behalf of the volunteers, staff, and friends of the American Cancer Society please accept our thanks for exceptional support and my sincerest wishes for a happy and healthy holiday season. —David Benson, Ex. VP

Church Family, Thank you for your kind words and the gift card. I appreciate your support and prayers throughout the years. —CW02 Jordan Gengler, USMC

From the Pastor...continued from page 2

The United Presbyterian Church continues to give to the church community and members a way to grow your faith. It is called Right Now Media. What is Right Now Media? *This Netflix style of streaming video Bible studies gives every student, family, and staff member INSTANT AND UNLIMITED access to over 20,000 video Bible studies and training videos, including content from over 400 Christian leaders like; Francis Chan, Louie Giglio, Andy Stanley, Matt Chandler, Dave Ramsey and some of the best kids' series like What's in the Bible, Boz and Theo. These are perfect for every family.*

We are now using Right Now Media in our Adult Sunday School class. Please join us at 9:00 AM on Sunday mornings in the Parlor. Members like Jackie Tarpinian and Jerome Zamgba use it at home. So can you, free of charge. Please let me know that you are interested in getting set up to use Right Now Media.

We enter the Advent and Christmas season with so much to thank God for. This congregation has continually served and persevered with God's ministry during the 7 years I have been working alongside with you in ministry. It was with great joy and gratitude for this past Pastor Appreciation Month with the outpouring of this congregation's generosity to me and my wife Ellen.

At this time, let us rejoice at the blessings of life, love and faith. May we witness God's love to the lost, lonely, and hungry. If you are buying for a loved one who has everything, consider instead giving a monetary donation in their honor to a worthy charity that helps the poor like Presbyterian Disaster Assistance and the Presbyterian Hunger program. You can also join us in ringing the Salvation Army bell at Cash Wise for an hour or two in honor of a loved one. As we did last year, we are set up to ring the whole week of December 12-17th. Sign up sheets are in the Sanctuary. You can call the church or Jackie Tarpinian with any questions or assistance in signing up.

Take time to rest, think, meditate on the mystery of Christmas, turn off your phone, and bask in the saving, gracious knowledge of Jesus Christ. Let the joy of salvation fill our hearts, and the peace in our being with the love that we feel everyday be the most important item in our thanksgiving and the hope that springs eternal be relived not only during advent but every day as we bask in the presence of Christ in our lives, truly God Immanuel!

Blessings,
Pastor Bob

Christmas in Norway

Christmas lights were up along the streets of Kristiansand, Norway soon after Halloween. A number of special items are produced for the Christmas season. There is Christmas beer (Julebrus), Christian soft drinks (Juleol) and Christmas cookies. I bought a box of cookies called Pepperkakehjerter. The name means "gingerbread hearts" since the cookies were in the shape of hearts. Mothers bake gingerbread, form the dough into various shapes (including gingerbread men) and their children decorate them with icing. They also make gingerbread houses and decorate them. I also saw a box labeled Juleromkuler with pictures of chocolate balls with chocolate sprinkles on them. The name means "Christmas baubles." These cookies did not taste like chocolate.

Recently I was wandering along a path close to where I live and stopped to look at some red berries on a small tree beside the path. While other plants had red berries, to my surprise the leaves were dark green with pointed edges. This was holly. I had only seen it before in Christmas decorations (Deck the halls with boughs of holly). Most likely this is European holly which grows in bushes and small trees throughout much of Europe and the southern border of Norway where I am living. I do not know if the tree had grown wild or was planted by someone. The tree is an evergreen and its "glossy green prickly leaves and bright red berries" continue through the Christmas season.

This plant had symbolic significance for Christians. The red berries could symbolize the blood of Jesus that was shed for us. The thorny leaves reminded one of the crown of thorns placed on the head of Jesus. The shape of a leaf was like a flame and could symbolize God's burning love for his people. The evergreen character of the leaves could show the continuation of life even during the cold winter months. The plant was even called Christ's thorn.

While I have not yet witnessed the celebration of Christmas here in Norway, it seems that people eat and drink with friends and family, have special meals with family and take time off from work. I was told that the University in Agder would be quiet between Christmas and New Year's. I intend to witness some of the celebration. Handel's Messiah will be presented in the DomKiren. It is snowing outside right now so there might be a white Christmas which is also welcomed here.

Have a merry Christmas in Jamestown with friends, family and loved ones.

Stephen Reed