### 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

You may also join us for Sunday worship on Facebook and Youtube at 10:30 AM

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

#### FEBRUARY WORKMONTH FAMILIES

Chairperson:

Deb Hornung

320-4089

Bossingham, Delbert & Ruth 320-9024 (Delbert) 320-8663 (Ruth) Johnson, Harry & Dianna 252-0554 Martin, Bob & Gail 320-5760 (Gail) 320-7485 (Bob) 320-4332 (Dale) Reimers, Dale & Mary Ellen 320-3332 (Mary Ellen) Szarkowski, Tyler & Marcy 763-6526 252-7506 Cindy Wermager Worm, Paul & Sandy 320-1034 (Paul) 320-5368 (Sandy) Worm, Troy 368-1597

# The Communicator

United Presbyterian Church of Jamestown, ND

Volume 51 No. 2, February 2024

# Sharing Christ's Love Through Service



Ellen and I had a good trip to the Philippines to visit Ellen's family. The most asked question that I receive is how long is the flight. The answer is about 17 hours sitting in a plane 30,000 feet above the earth. Getting to the airport, we flew from Fargo, checking in, waiting to board, and waiting to get in the air, you can imagine the amount of time involved. Fortunately, everything was on time, with no delays.

We departed on Christmas morning right before an ice storm hit Fargo. We missed two ice storms, but we came back to frigid North Dakota temperatures. Thank God the car we left in long-term parking for 16 days in Fargo started right up. A week later, the same car did not start twice, and we needed to replace the battery. All in all, it was a journey to remember and we praise God for His mercies.

The season of Lent is approaching. Ash Wednesday begins Lent this year on Valentine's Day, February 14<sup>th</sup>, a journey Christians choose to take as a preparation for celebrating the resurrection of our Lord on Easter Sunday, March 31<sup>st</sup>.

Our Lenten journey directs our attention toward a God who created us in love, redeemed us by the blood of Jesus, and sustains us by the power of the Holy Spirit. Our lives are complex, and there are so many things competing for our attention. And yet, Lent invites us to place God at the center, so that we might once again discover who we are, and to whom we belong

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 14<sup>th</sup>. We will have an Ash Wednesday service beginning at 7:00 p.m. During that service I will dispense the ashes with the help of those in the congregation. Indeed, it is always an exciting and uplifting time as those in attendance come forward to have the cross placed on their foreheads.

Lent is a season of forty days leading up to Easter. The forty days does not include the Sundays during this time. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Holy Saturday. The origin of the word Lent is an Anglo-Saxon word, lencten, which means "spring". Lent is the season in which we prepare ourselves for Easter. In the early days, Lent was a time of fasting and preparation for baptism of converts. Eventually, it became a time of penance. Each year we remind ourselves of our need for repentance and therefore our need to remove ourselves from the temptations of life which separate us from the Will of God. (continued on page 2)

# From the Pastor (continued from front page)

Because each Sunday during Lent is a little Easter, we also celebrate the resurrection of the Lord and our own expectation of resurrection. Many Christians fail to recognize that when they symbolically sacrifice for the Lord by "giving up something for Lent", they are allowed to relax their fasting on Sundays. I would hope, however, that if one is involved in giving up a behavior or activity that is detrimental to body and/or soul, that no backsliding would occur on those Sundays.

For children, we often provide ways for them to give extra amounts of money for those in need through the One Great Hour of Sharing offering. We do this for adults also. Sometimes, Lent becomes a fund-raising opportunity, and the main purpose becomes lost in the details. We even joke about what we are giving up for Lent, similar to the way we joke about New Year's resolutions, especially when we don't follow through with our commitment. It is always good, therefore, to stop and reflect on the meaning of this season.

When we receive the ashes on Ash Wednesday, we are being marked outwardly as a Christian, as a follower of the Way. Some will wipe the ashes away when they leave so that others in the community will not see them, so that they will not be embarrassed. This happens each Sunday throughout the year for many as they try to hide or at least subdue their Christian nature for fear of not fitting into the everyday secular world of their friends. I am always reminded of a child at one Ash Wednesday service who proudly proclaimed "I'm going to keep this on forever!" I maintain that we have all been marked forever by the Lord. Although the mark may have dissipated, it is still there.

That is what Lent is all about. It is a reminder of whose we are. We have been marked by the Lord for a life of surrender to the will of God. We have been marked by the Lord for a life of giving ourselves away, not only to God, but to others. We remind ourselves during Lent that we have been set free from the bondage of the material world so that we can live a life of servitude in the presence of the Lord. I pray that each of you will be looking with anticipation to the season of Lent and the opportunities it gives us to prepare ourselves anew or to repair our hearts for the journey of faith that is the Way of the Lord. In our daily lives, we experience a lot of celebrations and victories, but we also experience defeats, but through these all we can always look forward to Easters in our lives, because we have a God who will not let us fail. God enabled us to repent and draw us back to himself! Let Easter come and let it be most welcome.

Blessings, Pastor Bob Boyar



Thank you for your generous gift of \$3000.00 to the University of Jamestown designated for Annual Progress Fund. Your gift has an impact on our students and our entire campus community. Sincerely, Brett Moser, VP of Development and Alumni Relations

Della Chisholm would like to thank the Deacons and congregation for all the cards, calls, and prayers.



# **February**



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
				1 ал 7:00 рм	2	3
4 SS 9:00 AM Worship 10:30 AM Communion James River Sr. Center Fundraiser	5 Property & Finance Comm. 6:00 PM Christian Nurture 6:00 PM	6	Zoom Bible Study 6:00 PM Choir Practice 7:00	Joint Session- Deacon Meeting 5:30 PM AA 7:00 PM	9	10
11 SS 9:00 AM Worship 10:30 AM Souper Bowl of Caring Offering	12	13	Zoom Bible Study 6:00 PM Ash Wednesday Service 7:00 PM	15 ал 7:00 рм	16	17
Sunday School 9:00 AM Worship 10:30 AM	19	20	Zoom Bible Study 6:00 PM Choir Practice 7:00	The Circle 1:00 PM AA 7:00 PM	23	24
25 Sunday School 9:00 AM Worship 10:30 PM Baptism	26	27	Zoom Bible Study 6:00 PM Choir Practice 7:00	29 aa 7:00 pm		

**Ash Wednesday Service** 

February 14th at 7:00 PM



# **FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS**

Marcy Szarkowski	2
Vicki Enger	2
Carrie Orn	6
<b>Doreen Wegner</b>	12
<b>Brent Giesler</b>	18
<b>Ruth Bossingham</b>	22
Porter Orn	24
Paul Worm	24
Janet Miller	28

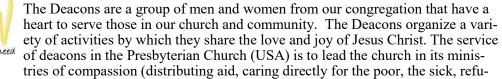




## February Anniversaries

Steve & Terry Koehn	14
Pastor Bob and Ellen Boyar	14

# DEACON DIALOGUE...



gees, and prisoners), and justice (working for equity) in society.

Deacons will sponsor a "Souper Bowl of Caring" fundraiser luncheon for James River Senior Center on Sunday, February 4 after worship service. Sign-up sheet in narthex for soups and chili.

Don't forget there is a shopping cart in the narthex for Community Action. Please consider a donation of non perishable items for those in need in the community.



Deacons

Women of the Church are invited to *The Circle* which will meet at the church on February 22<sup>nd</sup> at 1:00 PM.

Judy Lonnberg will lead Lesson 6, A Person with a Physical Disability Encounters Jesus based on Acts 3:1-10. The main idea for this lesson is to know God calls us to affirm that each person is a child of God who should be treated with dignity and equity.

Mary Muhs will provide a treat with coffee, a time for fellowship, and announcements.

## Financial Update

Year to Date Revenue	\$8,525.00
Year to Date Expenses	\$6,916.10
Year to Date Excess Income/Loss	\$1,608.90

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**. To submit a check for per-capita, simply write "Per-capita" on the memo line of your check.

## Session Highlights for January

### Christian Education Coordinator—Tammie Keesee

The job description for a full-time Christian Education and Family Ministry Outreach Coordinator is currently being advertised. If a replacement has not been found before then, my last day will be Easter Sunday 2024.

I will be out of town on February 4<sup>th</sup>. Danielle Giesler will teach the 1<sup>st</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Sunday school class that Sunday.

Wednesday evening services at FUMC will begin again on January 31st. We usually have 1-2 students join in.

We had 5 students from 3 families attend Jesus's Birthday Celebration for 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade at the Buffalo City Escape room on December 28<sup>th</sup> where they completed the mission of finding Granny's lost belongings with 5 minutes to spare and only used 3 hints.

We had 15 kids and youth participate in the Christmas program on December 17<sup>th</sup>.

First Presbyterian Church of Bismarck is sending us their extra youth curriculum.

### • Christian Nurture - Danielle Giesler

Danielle still has contact with an individual that may be interested in the Christian Education Coordinator position.

### Property and Finance – Mark Lee

Elevator: Supply issue with elevator parts. Maintenance contract with Otis Elevator was cancelled when the elevator stopped working.

Kitchen hallway water issue: Spring project.

Heartland Heating and Cooling replaced heat pump on 2<sup>nd</sup> floor and fixed motor for heater above the organ pipes (NE entrance).

Christian Endo is handling the sound system.

Mary Reed reviewed the additional insurance cost to cover the electronic sign.

Worship Committee – Duane Dunn

The Worship Committee recommends, "to approve the baptism of Jerome Janjay G. Zamgba, Jr., son of Jerome Zamgba, Sr. and Laura Nyepen, on February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at the 10:30am worship service by Reverend Robert Boyar with Jerome Sr providing a meal after worship. Jerome Jr. was born November 23, 2023 in Jamestown, ND."

### Baptism of Jerome Janjay G. Zamgba Jr.



Laura and Jerome invite the congregation to the baptism service of their baby, Jerome Janjay G. Zamgba. The service will take place on February 25, 2024, during the 10:30 AM Sunday Worship Service.

A meal will be served right after worship. Please come and try out some traditional Liberian food.



The Souper Bowl of Caring is a national movement across the nation working together to fight hunger and poverty in their communities around the time of the Super Bowl football game.

On Sunday, February 11 we will take an offering for this cause during worship. Kettles will be set out for cash donations and we welcome canned and/or non perishable donations of your choice.

Proceeds will benefit the Community Action Food Pantry.

### The Ordination and Installation of Tiffany Dauer and Steve Koehn Duane Dunn and Mark Lee served 6 years on session

Tiffany Dauer and Steve Koehn will be on the session for the first time as ruling elders. Thank you to Duane Dunn and Mark Lee who served a maximum of 6 years (two three-year terms). Tiffany and Steve went through formal training and will be ordained and installed with the class of 2026 on Sunday, January 28, 2024. Their official first meeting will be the joint Session/ Deacon meeting on Thursday, February, 8, 2024 at 5:30 PM in the parlor. Sandy Worm will join the Deacons and be installed at the same time. Thank you to Susan Bond who is going off the Deacon Board. Thanks to Elder Mark Sherfy who agreed to serve a second term as well as Deacons Vicki Enger and Jackie Tarpinian. Please pray for all of our officers.