

Christmas Joy Offering

The Christmas Joy Offering is one of four annual special offerings. The church-wide Special Offerings of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) play an important role in defining what it means to be a connectional church in the 21st century.

When we give to the Christmas Joy Offering, we prepare the way for the leaders of our Church—past, present, and future. 50% of our gifts smooth the path for current and retired church workers and their families in their time of need. 50% of your gifts prepare students to learn and grow in faith at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color.

The Christmas Joy Offering will be received on Sunday, December 22 during worship.

The Communicator

United Presbyterian Church of Jamestown, ND

Volume 51 No. 12, December 2024

Sharing Christ's Love Through Service

From the Pastor



Blessings to All! Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

In his book, *Rediscover Jesus*, Matthew Kelly shares a story about a man rushing to the airport with his friends, trying to catch a flight. As they hurried out of the building to grab a taxi, they ran right into a woman selling food from a produce cart. In the chaos, all the fruits and vegetables were scattered across the sidewalk. While his friends urged him to keep moving, the man glanced back and saw that the woman was blind, standing there with tears streaming down her face. Despite the friends shouting at him to hurry, he told them to go ahead without him. He returned to the woman and began picking up the food and carefully arranging it back on the cart. The woman turned to him and said, “Are you Jesus?” Startled he replied, “No, of course not!” But she said, “Oh, because I just prayed for Jesus to help me, and you showed up.”

This Christmas, may we be the hands and feet of Jesus to someone in need.

Let us be witnesses of God's love to the lost, lonely, and hungry. If you are shopping for a loved one who has everything, consider donating in their honor to a worthy charity that helps the poor such as Presbyterian Disaster Assistance and the Presbyterian Hunger program. Another way to give back is by joining us to ring the Salvation Army bell at Cash Wise. We will be ringing on December 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th, and there are sign-up sheets available in the Sanctuary. If you need assistance signing up, feel free to call the church office or reach out to a deacon.

As we welcome the Advent and Christmas season, we have much to be thankful for. This congregation has faithfully served and persevered in God's ministry over the nine years I have had the privilege of working alongside you. I am deeply grateful for the outpouring of love and generosity shown to me and my wife, Ellen, during Pastor Appreciation month.

(continued on page 2)

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 YouTube
at 10:30 AM

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

DECEMBER WORKMONTH FAMILIES

Chairperson:
Witzig, Diane 320-4915

Burgard, Joe & Nancy	952-0051
Haag, Theresa	320-3599
Reimers, Doug and Mary Claire	701-200-9347
Wegner, Doreen	303-241-1744
Wegner, Yvonne	952-2399
Weispenning, Bill	320-5610

From the Pastor (continued from front page)

At this time of the year, let us rejoice at the blessings of life, love and faith.

Take time to rest, think, meditate on the mystery of Christmas. Turn off your phone, and immerse yourself in the gracious, saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. In joyful anticipation of His coming, may you experience His love, treasure His redemption, and share it with others.

Blessings,
Pastor Bob



Dear Deacons, On behalf of the Jamestown Patriotic Council, I want to thank you for your generous contribution. It will be used to continue civic engagement to foster a sense of pride, unity, and a commitment to upholding the value and principles of our nation.

—George Barnes

United Presbyterian church, Thank you for your support of students in need at Gussner

Elementary. Your gift will truly make an impact.

Thank you to all of you at United Presbyterian Church for the donation to Jamestown Cancer Support Group. We appreciate your support and will continue to work to provide gas cards for those who travel for treatment.

Dear Deacons and Pastor Bob Boyar, Thank you so much for your love and commitment to our kiddos at Louis L'Amour Elementary! Yes! These funds will certainly aid us in keeping our little ones clothed, clean, and fed when these unforeseen incidents happen. And boy do they! We really appreciate the funds as outdoor clothing and school supplies are sent frequently, but those "other" items are a high need as well. We thank you and appreciate the gift so very much! Blessings to you.

Dear Mission Committee, Thank you so much for taking the time to meet with Jerome Zamgba and myself and to hear about Leaders Academy in Liberia. Thank you for your very generous gift. We will put it to good use in running the school and making a difference in the lives of children in Liberia. —Deb Reimers



December 2024



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
1 Sunday School 9:00 AM Worship 10:30 AM	2 Christian Nurture 6:15 PM	3 Deacons 6:15 PM	4 Choir Practice 7:00	5 The Circle 1:00 PM AA 7:00 PM	6	7
8 Sunday School 9:00 AM Worship 10:30 AM	9 Property & Finance Committee 6:00 PM	10	11 Zoom Bible Study 6:00 PM Choir Practice 7:00	12 Session 5:30 PM AA 7:00 PM	13	14
15 Sunday School 9:00 AM Worship 10:30 AM	16	17	18 Zoom Bible Study 6:00 PM Choir Practice 7:00	19 AA 7:00 PM	20	21
22 SS 9:00 AM Worship 10:30 AM	23	24 Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 5:00 PM	25 Merry Christmas Office Closed	26 AA 7:00 PM	27	28
29 Sunday School 9:00 AM Worship 10:30 AM	30	31				

More Dates to Remember...

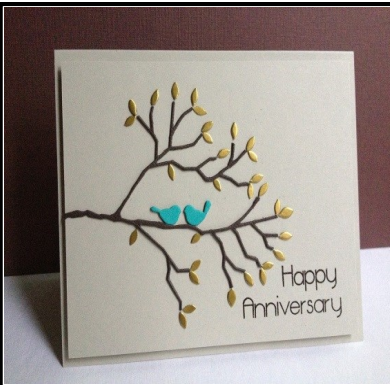
December 15 Christmas Program
Red and Green Potluck after program



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS 2024



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



December Anniversaries

Church established 1879	5
Bruce & Roni Berg	18



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.

Remember the Noisy Jar offering benefiting the Salvation Army, continues to be received until Christmas. Bring your “noisy money” donations to be taken during worship service.

CALLING ALL SALVATION ARMY BELL RINGERS! Salvation Army Bell Ringing is scheduled for December 3, 4, 5, 6 at Cash Wise grocery. Sign-up sheets are on the table in the narthex. Please consider donating your time to this worthy cause.

The annual Red and Green Potluck will follow the Christmas Program on Sunday, December 15. More details to follow in the Sunday bulletin.

Don't forget there is a shopping cart in the narthex for Community Action Food Pantry. Please consider a donation of non-perishable items for Community Action.

Calling all Women of the Church!



The Presbyterian Women of Jamestown will meet Thursday, December 5 in the Fellowship Hall. Lesson 4 is on “Water Justice.” Scripture and contemporary events reflect water’s multidimensional effects on human life.

Anyone wanting to donate pennies or nickels for the Least Coin Offering or money for our Hunger Offering, please give to Yvonne Wegner.

We will meet Thursday, January 23 for the lesson “Air Quality” in our study called “Let Justice Roll Down.” Bible study booklets are available in the church office.

Session Highlights for November 2024

- **Christian Nurture – Danielle Giesler**

A weekly meeting on Wednesday afternoons has started. Jerome would like to take youth off site so will come up with a schedule to be approved by Session each month

Another Sunday School Teacher is needed so the 1st through 5th graders can be split into two classes.

A meeting was held with parents on Sunday, November 10th to update them about the youth program.

Sunday School attendance is good.

Tiffany Dauer is helping with music and the youth seem to enjoy this.

- **Deacons – Jan Miller.**

Toys for Tots drop off@ Zimmerman's Store. Dixie made a motion that the deacons donate \$200 Sandy second the motion.

Salvation Army bell ringing: Dixie will get times and sign- up sheet organized. Delbert will make some calls to members as well.

Pot luck will be held after Christmas program red and green theme. Date to be determined.

Pastor Bob gave the moderators report and updates on the shut-ins. Also updated us on Jerome taking over the Youth program.

- **Mission** – The Mission Committee met to approve donations for Dorcas Society \$500, Leader's Academy \$2500, Presbyterian Disaster Relief, \$1000.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Reed, Clerk Pro-tem

Christian Education Coordinator

Dear Church Family,

I am pleased to report that our Sunday School program is thriving and moving in the right direction. Currently, we have 7 students in the preschool class, 7 students in the Elementary class, and 5 in the Youth class. Additionally, we are seeing about a dozen young members participating in the children's message during the worship service.

Upcoming Events to Note:

1. Christmas Play:

Practices will commence on December 1 during Sunday hours.

The Christmas play is scheduled for December 15 during the Sunday Worship Service.

2. Bible Study:

I will be hosting a weekly Bible study for youth and children on Wednesdays at 4:30 pm. The goal is to provide an engaging environment through various activities.

An adult volunteer is needed. Please contact me if interested.

Furthermore, there is a need for an additional Sunday School teacher as the Grade 3-5 children are significantly advanced compared to the Grade 1-2 students. Splitting the class into two groups will allow us to cater to their different learning levels effectively.

The parent meeting held on November 10 was attended by 7 parents and even more children. Sunday School teachers were also present. Tacos and pasta was served. The meeting provided an opportunity for parents to meet me and learn about my family.

Thank you for your continued support and participation in our Sunday School program. If you have any questions or would like to get involved, please feel free to reach out to me.

Blessings,

Jerome Zamgba (267-481-2669)

Christian Education Coordinator