

Leaders Academy

Jerome and I, and everyone at LA would like to thank United Presbyterian Church for your very generous donation of \$2500.00 in 2024.

When we came and spoke to you last, we shared with you how it is our goal to make LA in Liberia independent of our financial support. The school charges a small registration fee, and this money goes towards running the school and paying the staff. There are many students who cannot even afford to pay this fee, but they come to school anyway, we do not turn anyone away. Therefore, for this school year, those of us here in the US have agreed to pay what we are calling a “Good Will Fund” and this money is to make up for the cost of allowing these children to come to school without paying the registration fee. Our commitment to the school this year is \$5000.00 The donation you gave us has been used to help us meet this goal Next, we have used a portion of your donation to get a new well dug and install a hand pump. I am happy to report that this is all done and the school, our students and their families, and the community, now has a source of clean drinking water!! We have also been able to purchase some instructional materials for our teachers, buy some kitchen supplies, make some upgrades to our bathrooms, and repair some computers. This has all been accomplished this year due to your donation and others. We thank you for your kind and generous spirits!!

Sincerely,
 Deb Reimers, Financial Secretary for Leaders Academy International

The Communicator

United Presbyterian Church of Jamestown, ND

Volume 52 No. 2, February 2025

Sharing Christ's Love Through Service



From the Pastor

*He has told you, O mortal, what is good;
 and what does the LORD require of you
 but to do justice, and to love kindness,
 and to walk humbly with your God?*

Micah 6:8

This verse is so powerful. It lays out what God asks of us in clear, simple terms. The prophet Micah, speaking in a time of dishonesty, corruption, and injustice, asks, “*What does God require of us?*” It was a time when the leaders and the people had strayed far from God’s will, lost in their own ways.

If Micah were to ask this question to people today, the answer might often focus on sacrifice, attending worship services, giving offerings, or performing other religious duties. But Micah doesn’t simply ask the question—he answers it from God’s perspective. And God’s answer should never fail to surprise and challenge us, prompting us to reflect: *Am I truly living this out?*

God requires that we do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with Him. These are not optional aspects of the Christian life—they are foundational. Too often, we think of faith in terms of our beliefs and how sure we are about them. But Micah calls us to think about faith in terms of what we do. How does our belief in God transform the way we live?

Micah’s message echoes throughout Scripture. In the New Testament James writes, *So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.* And Jesus summarizes the life of faith by telling us to love God with all our heart, soul, and mind, and to love our neighbors as ourselves. Faith is not just a feeling—it is a verb, something we live out through love that seeks justice, extends kindness, and humbly walks with God.

This is what God asks of us. Micah’s words aren’t meant to shame us, but to remind us of the standard God calls us to. The truth is, we all fall short. None of us are perfect, and we all struggle. But though we may not be perfect, we can still strive to do our best. And by God’s grace, we can grow in love so that justice, kindness, and humility become more and more the way.

(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*

FEBRUARY WORKMONTH FAMILIES	
Chairperson: Deb Hornung	320-4089
Bossingham, Delbert & Ruth (Delbert)/320-8663 (Ruth)	320-9024
Endo, Christian	659-0595
Johnson, Harry & Dianna Martin, Bob & Gail (Gail)/320-7485 (Bob)	252-0554 320-5760
Reimers, Dale & Mary Ellen (Dale)/320-3332 (Mary Ellen)	320-4332
Szarkowski, Tyler & Marcy Wermager, Cindy	763-6526 252-7506
Worm, Paul & Sandy (Paul)/320-5368 (Sandy)	320-1034
Worm, Troy	368-1597

From the Pastor (continued from front page)

So, how will you live your faith today, this week, or this month? How will you seek justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God? Faith is not only what we believe, but also what we do with those beliefs, as we humbly walk the talk we profess.

Our mission is to Share Christ's Love through Service.

Why do Christians walk through life with a humble sense that we owe service to others, rather than them owing us? The answer lies in Christ's example. He loved us, died for us, forgave us, accepted us, justified us, and gave us eternal life—all when He owed us nothing. He treated us with grace when we were undeserving, considering our needs above His own.

As Jesus said in Luke: *"Who is the greater, one who reclines at the table or one who serves? Is it not the one who reclines at the table? But I am among you as the one who serves."*

Let us be magnanimous enough to serve others, ever thankful for Christ's service to us, and humble in our own actions.

Let the love of Christ compel us to walk with humility, seek justice, and extend kindness. In doing so, we reflect the very heart of God's calling on our lives. May this truth guide us as we strive to serve others with the same grace and humility that Jesus showed us.

Blessings, Pastor Bob



The Souper Bowl of Caring started in 1990 when a South Carolina Sunday school teacher used Super Bowl parties as a modern-day example of plenty when fans eat wings, pizza, chips, and enjoy a bountiful supply of other foods while at the same time someone in the same town goes hungry. The class asked everyone leaving church on Super Bowl Sunday to donate \$1 from their Super Bowl party budget to fight hunger.

What started as a small movement has grown to a national effort to give back on a day of plenty. Be sure to set aside a bit of your "plenty" to help us continue fighting hunger in our community!

United Presbyterian Church will be celebrating Souper Bowl of Caring on Sunday, February 9. Please bring a non-perishable food item and/or monetary donation. Kettles will be placed in the back of the church to receive your donations. Proceeds will benefit Community Action Food Pantry.

Thank you for caring!!



Bev Schaack thanks you for the prayers, cards, visits and concerns while she recuperated from her fall and broken bones. The left foot will still take some time to get back to normal.

<h1 style="margin: 0;">February 2025</h1>						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
						1
2 SS 9:00 AM Worship 10:30 AM Deacons Fundraiser Meal	3 Christian Nurture 6:15 PM	4	5 Zoom Bible Study 6:00 PM Choir Practice 7:00	6 AA 7:00 PM	7	8
9 SS 9:00 AM Worship 10:30 AM Souper Bowl of Caring	10 Property & Finance 6:00 PM	11	12 Zoom Bible Study 6:00 PM Choir Practice 7:00	13 Joint Session and Deacons Meeting 5:30 PM AA 7:00 PM	14	15
16 Sunday School 9:00 AM Worship 10:30 AM Choralaies	17	18	19 Zoom Bible Study 6:00 PM Choir Practice 7:00	20 AA 7:00 PM	21	22
23 Sunday School 9:00 AM Worship 10:30 AM	24	25	26 Zoom Bible Study 6:00 PM Choir Practice 7:00	27 PW Circle 1:00 PM AA 7:00 PM	28	

More Dates to Remember...



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS 2025



Marcy Szarkowski	2
Vicki Enger	2
William Laurence Reimers	3
Carrie Orn	6
Doreen Wegner	12
Brent Giesler	18
Ruth Bossingham	22
Porter Orn	24
Paul Worm	24
Janet Miller	28
Jerome Zamgba	28



February Anniversaries

Steve & Terry Koehn	14
Pastor Bob and Ellen Boyar	14



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.

On February 2, the Deacons will be sponsoring a donation meal on behalf of Guardian Angels. Guardian Angels is a nonprofit located in Jamestown (in fact, across the street from Mark and Dixie Lee's home). Staffed by licensed social workers they are qualified to assist in meeting the individual's financial needs, whether they receive Social Security, V.A. Benefits or simply need help in managing their personal moneys. They are also court appointed guardians for individuals who are unable to care for themselves, ensuring their needs are met and they receive appropriate services. You can learn more about them on their website GuardianAngelsND.com.

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.



PW Circle will meet at the church on Thursday, February 27 at 1:00 PM for Bible study and fellowship.

We will study Lesson 6—*Climate Change*, which will be led by Nancy Fletcher. Treats will be provided by Bev Schaack. All women of the church invited.

Justice and Peace Calendar for February

- Black History Month; blackhistorymonth.gov
- One Billion Rising for Justice, onebillionrising.org
- National Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month, teendvmonth.org
- 1—National Freedom Day, state.gov/national-freedom-day-deepening-our-resolve-to-fight-human-trafficking
- 1-7—World Interfaith Harmony Week, worldinterfaithharmonyweek.com
- 9—Souper Bowl of Caring, tacklehunger.org
- 12—International Day against the Use of Child Soldiers, redhandday.org

Session Highlights for January 2025

- Gail Martin moved/2nd, “to approve the part-time hiring of Jerome Zamgba as Christian Education Coordinator for UPC effective January 10th, 2025, for 20 hours a week at \$20 an hour, upon a clear background certificate provided.” **MOTION CARRIED**
- Gail Martin moved/2nd, “to approve the membership of Mary Cadwell and Mike Ostlie to the United Presbyterian Church of Jamestown, ND, by Mary’s profession of faith and Mike’s certificate of transfer from Trinity Lutheran Church, Carrington, ND.” **MOTION CARRIED**

Christian Education Coordinator—Jerome Zamgba

- Reported on the annual children’s Christmas program and practices. To enhance the experience and performance, an increase in practices is proposed for next year.
- Approximately 32 Christmas gifts were bought for the children.
- Donations to support the Christmas play were received. Superhero t-shirts were donated for the play.
- Jerome will be traveling to Liberia on Feb 4th for 3 weeks to engage in ministry work for school and the community.

Christian Nurture – Tiffany Dauer

- There is a dire need for Sunday school teachers.
- Jerome will be in Liberia in February 4, 2025 for 3 weeks. Need Sunday School teachers for February 2nd and 9th; Children’s Message on Sundays, February 9th & 23rd.
- Sunday school is now from 9am to 10am on Sunday mornings.

Deacons – Jan Miller

- Toys for Tots: 190 families served.
- Salvation Army bell ringing: will do again next year.
- Salvation Army Noisy Jar: \$464.00
- Donation meal January 12th for Senior Center.
- Donation meal February 2nd for Guardian Angels.
- Donation meal March 9th for Safe Shelter.
- Feb 13th will be joint meeting with the Elders. Deacons to arrive at 6pm.

Stewardship – Mark Sherfy

- Mark reviewed the pledge total for 2025 and the continued benefits of using the pledge cards.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Burgard, Clerk of Session

Christian Education Coordinator

Happy New Year, Church!

Our Sunday school classes began this year with the challenge of cold weather. As a result, the attendance of children started slowly. However, we are thrilled to report that the children and youth Bible study and activities have been successfully running for two weeks now. The children's message on Sundays is also ongoing, and we encourage parents to ensure their children attend.

We are still in need of a Sunday school teacher. If you feel called to serve, please reach out to the Christian Nurture Committee or myself, Jerome Zamgba.

We thank God for Madison Lyonhart who has graciously agreed to assist with the children's messages on Sundays and Mary Cadwell who has volunteered to lead the Bible study and activities on Wednesdays while I am in Liberia this February.

Thank you for your continued support and prayers.

Blessings,
Jerome Zamgba
Christian Education Coordinator

Financial Update

Year to Date Revenue through January 22, 2025	\$17,135.51
Year to Date Expenses through January 22, 2025	\$ 6,907.87
Year to Date Excess Income/Loss through January 22, 2025	\$10,227.64

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.