



The Communicator

United Presbyterian Church of Jamestown, ND

Volume 52 No. 1, January 2025

Sharing Christ's Love Through Service

From the Pastor

Karen Pimpo shares a wonderful story: On New Year's Eve 2000, officials in Detroit carefully opened a hundred-year-old time capsule. Inside the copper box were predictions of hope and visions of prosperity from some city leaders. Yet, the mayor's message stood apart. He wrote, "May we be permitted to express one hope superior to all others . . . [that] you may realize as a nation, people, and city, you have grown in righteousness, for it is this that exalts a nation."

What a beautiful prayer! More than wishing for material success or happiness, the mayor's hope was for future generations to grow in justice and uprightness. Perhaps he was inspired by Jesus who said, "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled" (Matthew 5:6).

At times, reflecting on God's perfect standard might feel daunting, but here's the good news: we don't walk this journey alone. Hebrews reminds us: "May the God of peace... equip you with everything good for doing His will and may He work in us what is pleasing to Him, through Jesus Christ" (Hebrews 13:20-21). By Christ's sacrifice, we are made holy the moment we place our trust in Him, and He continues to grow the fruit of righteousness within us. Even when we stumble, we can rejoice, knowing that God is leading us toward His glorious kingdom where His righteousness will reign forever (v.14).

On January 20, 2025, our nation will celebrate the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. (born on January 15). His words, etched on the wall of the Contemplative Court at the National Museum of African American History and Culture, resonate deeply: "We are determined . . . to work and fight until justice rains down like water and righteousness like a mighty stream." These powerful words are drawn from the prophet Amos, who called on God's people to live lives of justice and compassion.

(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

JANUARY WORKMONTH FAMILIES

Chairperson:
 Angie Allmer 252-2464/269-3177

Cloyd, Aaron & Lisa	952-4661
Dunn, Duane & Kathie	Duane 269-0982 Kathie 269-2044
Keesee, Charley & Tammie	903-399-5690
Koehn, Steve	320-0241
Lindbo, Jonelle	269-4677
Lindbo, Pat	320-1792
McIntyre, Mike & Cheryl	Cheryl 368-9818
Nelson, Colleen	269-8960

From the Pastor (continued from front page)

Amos observed that while his people were engaged in religious ceremonies, their hearts were far from God (Amos 5:21-23). God rejected their empty rituals because they ignored His commands to care for the needy and oppressed. Instead, Amos reminded them that God longs for a genuine concern for others—a way of living that flows like a mighty river, bringing life and renewal wherever it goes.

Jesus echoed this teaching, reminding us that loving God and loving our neighbors are inseparably linked (Matthew 22:37-39). As we pursue a deeper relationship with God, may our hearts also overflow with a passion for justice, kindness, and love for those around us.

The New Year is in the air, and it is the perfect time to reflect on our priorities. Let us take a moment to consider what we value in ourselves and others. With eyes of faith, we can recognize the God-given worth in every person—even those the world may overlook. This is how we joyfully and faithfully share Christ’s love—through service, compassion, and hope. May this New Year bring fresh opportunities to grow in faith, love, and righteousness. Let’s move forward together, trusting in God’s grace and embracing the joy of His promises.

Blessings, pastor Bob



Dear Deacons, I want to thank you for the delicious plate of goodies you delivered to me at the Heritage Center. It was so good and I enjoyed every mouthful! Blessings to you all! —Mary Muhs

Thank you Presbyterian Women for the generous Christmas gift. God bless you!

—Sharon Watson

Deacons, It was such a thoughtful gesture to think of me at Thanksgiving. Thank you for the cookies.

—Arlene Johnson

United Presbyterian Church, Thank you very much for the donation to ND State Hospital for our Christmas gift program. The items you donated will help brighten the holidays for our clients. We truly appreciate your continued support and thoughtfulness in remembering the clients during this season.

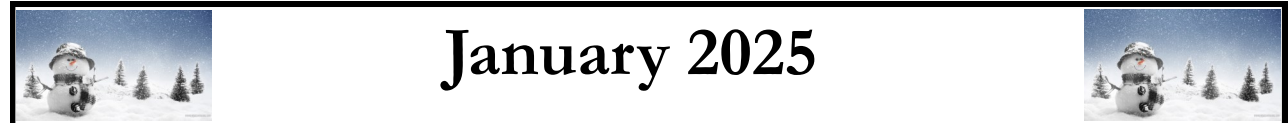
—ND State Hospital Volunteer Services

Thank you to the Session, Deacons, Sunday School teachers, and all the volunteers who have tirelessly kept this church running so smoothly this past year. You are a blessing!

—United Presbyterian Church

Thank you and blessings to you for all the prayers, cards, emails, phone calls, gifts, food, and flowers from so many members of this congregation and others while I was 5 weeks in the hospital and rehab at the Missouri Slope Care Center in North Bismarck from a fall, a broken hip and a replacement hip. I am home and thankful for a good recovery.

—Jackie Tarpinian



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

More Dates to Remember...

January 12 Deacon fundraiser meal after worship

January 19 Annual Congregational Meeting after worship



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS 2025



Willa Hines	2
Zachary Bossingham	4
Cindy Wermager	6
Jim Bond	10
Delbert Bossingham	10
Gunnar Reimers	10
Carol Danuser	12
Bill Parries	17
Bev Hoffman	20
Terry Koehn	22
Jennifer Allmer	27
Zoe Bennett	28
Opal Schmuhl	29
Ruth Barkus	30
Phillip Koehn	30
Braden Sherfy	30

Story of Hope

I hope you saw the two page article in the Fall 2024 Appleseed (JRMC's quarterly magazine) about member Bonnie Schmitz and her diagnosis of Cancer in 2010. She also had two other reoccurrences of Cancer in 2014 and 2019. Hers is a story of "hope and giving back." Bonnie credits her support system for maintaining her hope. "You can't do this without hope," says Bonnie. "My family, friends, neighbors, church, and community kept that hope alive." Bonnie is celebrating five years in remission.

When Bonnie accepted the position of Gift Shoppe Coordinator at JRMC she asked herself, "Where does God want me to go next?" She loves her position and continues to see it as an opportunity to pay it forward.

During this "Season of Hope" please remember that we are never walking our journey alone.



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 January 5 after worship, please plan to stay to take down Christmas decorations.

The Deacon's are having a fundraising meal to benefit the James River Senior Center on Sunday, January 12, after church. Please plan to stay.

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.

Have a blessed New Year!



The Presbyterian Women Circle will meet at 1:00 PM Thursday, January 23, 2025 in the parlor for Bible Study Lesson 5. The lesson will be facilitated by Mary Muhs with Margie Farley providing the treats.

Lesson 5 is about "Air Quality," with the main idea that wind itself often signals a holy moment, and is related to both our breath and God's, both our spirit and God's.

Next meeting date is February 27. Lesson will be on "Climate Change."

The photo pictured here is artist, Lorraine Roy's depiction of air quality. She calls it "Mother Tree."



Session Highlights for December 2024

Christian Education Coordinator: Jerome Zamgba

- Jerome reviewed his report. Also reviewed the parents meeting and what all was discussed. Jerome plans to get a small Christmas gift for each of the Sunday School students. We are still in need of an additional Sunday School teacher. The Christmas Program is happening during the church service on December 15th.

Property & Finance—Mary Reed

- Dishwasher needs to be replaced – it isn't under warranty. Should use it more.
- Hearing assist – need to do some research and find something that is more functional for the church.
 - Stewardship – No Report
 - Personnel – Meeting next week. Also need to meet with Jerome for an interview.
 - Worship – No Report
 - Church Growth and Outreach – No report

Deacons – Jan Miller

- Deacons Fund: \$1549.00
- Vickie made treats for shut-ins.
- Cindy took gifts to state hospital.
- Salvation Army bell ringing times are full.
- Red and Green Potluck on December 15, 2024.
- Noisy Jar offering will continue until after Christmas Eve Service.
- January Donation meal will be January 12, 2025 for the senior center. The meal was discussed. Congregation can sign up for desert.
- February Donation meal will be February 9th, 2025. Will discuss at January meeting.
- Jackie is sending cards out to congregation.
 - Kitchen – Need new dishwasher. No Report
 - Membership – No Report
 - Mission – No Report
 - Nominating Committee – all positions are filled.
 - Sanctuary Circle – No Report
 - Social Media/website – Continue to look into live streaming on Facebook. Need to post CCLI license so it can be seen online.

Tiffany Dauer, Clerk Pro-tem

Christian Education Coordinator

I am thrilled to share that our Christmas play took place on December 15, 2024, and it was a wonderful success! Approximately 20 youth and children participated, showcasing their talents and enthusiasm. The performance was beautifully enhanced by Christmas songs performed by Tiffany, which added to the festive atmosphere.

A heartfelt thank you goes out to the Sunday school children, youth, and their parents for their commitment and dedication over the past three months. Your hard work truly made this event special!

I would also like to extend my gratitude to the Sunday school teachers and the Christian Nurture team for their tireless efforts in keeping Sunday school thriving. It's wonderful to see our Sunday school continue to grow, and the children's messages during worship services are being well received.

I spent Wednesday, December 18th with the youth and children, enjoying a fun afternoon of watching TV and sharing pizza.

Thank you all for your support and collaboration. I look forward to seeing the continued growth and success of our programs!

Warm regards,

Jerome Zamgba
Christian Education Coordinator
UPC

Financial Update

Year to Date Revenue	\$178,488.56
Year to Date Expenses	<u>\$209,805.59</u>
Year to Date Excess Income/Loss	\$(31,317.03)

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.