



The Communicator

United Presbyterian Church of Jamestown, ND

Volume 52 No. 8 August 2025

Sharing Christ's Love Through Service

From the Pastor



On the clear and peaceful morning of August 6, 1945, an atomic bomb was dropped from the U.S. military plane *Enola Gay* onto the city of Hiroshima, Japan. The bomb exploded at an altitude of 600 meters, unleashing catastrophic radiation, intense heat, and an overwhelming force that created a blazing fireball.

This tragic moment marked the first use of a nuclear weapon for immediate and indiscriminate mass destruction. According to the Radiation Effects Research Foundation (RERF), estimates suggest that between 90,000 and 166,000 lives were lost in Hiroshima alone—a staggering toll from a total population of about 340,000 to 350,000.

Each year, when I glance at my birthday on the calendar—August 6—I am reminded that it is also Hiroshima Day. The atomic bombings of Hiroshima and, three days later, Nagasaki brought a devastating close to World War II. Though they ended the war, they also left deep scars, while initiating efforts to rebuild lives and nations devastated by conflict and poverty.

Sadly, war has not ceased. Countless lives continue to be lost, and hunger and poverty persist around the world. As a follow-up to the Interfaith Dialogue on Freedom held at United Presbyterian Church—which I facilitated and previously discussed in this column—I would like to initiate a similar dialogue on the topic of “Poverty.” This may begin as an adult class in September.

Stacy Singh once noted that “the Christian response to poverty must begin with the whole person, rooted in a biblical understanding of creation.” Dr. Art Lindsley, vice president of theological initiatives at the Institute of Faith, Work, and Economics, echoed this in an interview with the American Family Association Journal, where he explained how a Christian worldview shapes our understanding of poverty.

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UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

302 2nd Avenue SE
Jamestown, ND 58401
Phone (701) 252-1748

website: www.upcjamestown.org
e-mail: presbyterianchurch@daktel.com

SUMMER WORSHIP HOURS

Worship Service 9:30 AM

PASTOR HOURS
10:00 AM-2:00 PM
Monday-Thursday

You may also join us for Sunday
worship on YouTube
at 9:30 AM

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

AUGUST WORKMONTH FAMILIES

Chairperson:
Mark & Dixie Lee
269-0160 (Mark)/269-1397 (Dixie)

Cloyd, Aaron & Lisa	952-4461
Cloyd, Nathaniel	208-771-6552
Farley, Margie	619-507-8784
Mayer, Gary & Lou	252-0031
Smith, Florence	609-424-9253
Szarkowski, Tyler & Marcy	763-6526
Thoele, Kim	952-2844/269-1229
Wright, Wanda	952-6665

From the Pastor (continued from front page)

“People are made in God’s image to use their creativity to develop the potential of creation,” he said. “Only God created something out of nothing, but we are called to create something out of something—to take the stuff of creation and use our creativity concerning it.”

Work, then, is not simply about earning a living—it reflects one’s God-given purpose. It allows individuals to make meaningful contributions to society and to flourish personally.

Lindsley further observed, “Poverty is not just a lack of money or a lack of food. Poverty is often associated with a lack of hope.” In the book For the Least of These, Peter Greer of Hope International recounts asking individuals in Rwanda how they experience poverty. Their responses included: “Poverty is an empty heart. Not knowing your abilities and strengths. Not being able to make progress. Isolation. No hope or belief in yourself. Broken relationships. Not knowing God.” Only one response dealt with a lack of money or food.

I extend my gratitude to our Deacons for organizing local poverty relief efforts and to the Mission Committee for taking those efforts beyond Stutsman County. I encourage everyone to read the Deacon and Mission Committee sections in the Communicator and to stay tuned to our weekly announcements for opportunities to get involved. Let us also remember to pray for wisdom and guidance as we seek meaningful ways to understand and respond to poverty.

May we be people who do not turn away from suffering, but who, through grace and action, bring hope where it is needed most.

God bless,
Pastor Bob Boyar



THANK YOU to all who worked on and/or contributed to the Deacon’s fundraiser on June 29th that benefited the Jamestown Cancer Support Group.

THANK YOU to those who helped with the presentation of the church history at the Stutsman County Museum on July 20th.

August 2025						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 Worship 9:30 AM Communion	4 Christian Nuture 6:15 pm	5 Deacons 6:15 pm	6 Youth Bible Study Boys 3-4 pm Girls 3:45-5pm Zoom Bible Study 6:00 PM	7 AA 7:00 PM	8	9
10 Worship 9:30 AM	11 Property & Finance 5:00 pm	12	13 Youth Bible Study Boys 3-4 pm Girls 3:45-5pm Zoom Bible Study 6:00 PM	14 Session 5:30 pm AA 7:00 PM	15	16
17 Worship 9:30 AM	18	19	20 Youth Bible Study Boys 3-4 pm Girls 3:45-5pm Zoom Bible Study 6:00 PM	21 AA 7:00 PM	22	23
24 Worship 9:30 AM	25	26	27 Youth Bible Study Time TBD with start of school Zoom Bible Study 6:00 PM	28 AA 7:00 PM	29	30
31 Worship 9:30 AM	*More Dates to Remember... AUGUST 27 - 5-8 pm 17th Annual Community Block Party - downtown Jamestown REMINDER - Sunday School and Fall/winter hours return Sept 7th!					

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS 2025



Dianna Johnson	2
Nathaniel Cloyd	4
Olivia Orn	4
Pastor Bob Boyar	6
Paxton Keesee	6
Clyde Young	8
Bonnie Schmitz	10
Jeff Enger	13
Jackie Tarpinian	15
Roger Pringle	17
Linda Brown	18
Charley Keesee	29



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.

The ‘picnic’ benefit luncheon held June 29th collected \$780 for the Jamestown Cancer Support Group. Thank you everyone!

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



August Anniversaries

Jim & Susan Bond	2
Mark & Elizabeth Sherfy	3
Aaron & Lisa Cloyd	8
Dean & Kathy Wegner	11
Mark & Dixie Lee	11
Duane & Kathie Dunn	21

A prayer for the victims of all the disasters around the country

Good and Gracious God,
We come before you with humble hearts, overwhelmed by the catastrophic floods, hail, tornados or winds in parts of our Presbytery and beyond.
We thank you for the lives saved in the midst of this devastation.
We grieve with those who have lost their loved ones. Comfort and console them, O God!
We pray for those who have lost their crops, livestock, homes, businesses, and cherished belongings.
Hear our prayers, O Lord!
As the communities prepare to rebuild, we pray for strength and resilience.
Grant us all a generous heart, so that we may rally the resources needed to rebuild our flooded or damaged communities.
We trust in your faithfulness, dear God, even in the midst of devastation.
Bless all who work for relief and restoration. And may your peace, which passes understanding, guard the hearts and minds of those who suffer.
May our response reflect your love for all people and all creation, and thus bring honor and glory to your holy name.
We pray all these in the name of Jesus Christ, our Risen Lord! Amen!

Christian Education Coordinator Report

Youth Bible Study and Activity Resumes

As summer break counts down, we are excited to announce the restart of our Youth Bible Study sessions! This year, we are pleased to announce the launch of a separate Bible study group for boys in grades 5 through 12.

The boys meet on Wednesdays from 3:00 PM to 3:50 PM, followed by the girls' session from 4:00 PM to 5:00 PM. So far, the boys' group has met twice and currently has four participants. Our goal is to eventually combine these groups into one vibrant Bible study and activities group.

In these sessions, we are concentrating on biblical teachings alongside essential values such as personal space and boundaries. There is also an emphasis on awareness during physical play and the role of playful jokes, all contributing to a fun and respectful environment for everyone.

Recent Highlights

A special mention goes to our youth members Leemu, Gigi and Agnes, who recently joined Pastor Boyar for an inspiring evening of music and poetry by hip-hop artist Marcus Montana at Hansen Arts Park. It was a wonderful opportunity for fellowship and community engagement.

Vacation Bible School (VBS) is Just Around the Corner!

VBS will begin on Sunday, July 27 through July 30 at 5:45 pm. Preparations have been underway for some time, and we extend our heartfelt gratitude to everyone who has helped organize this important event. We also want to express our gratitude to all the volunteers who have signed up to give us their time and energy. The recent volunteers' meeting was well attended, and a special thanks to Christian Nurture for the successful early bird sign-up incentive—a \$5 Dairy Queen gift card—which brought in 35 early registrations!

Outreach Efforts

Over the past two weeks, outreach activities have been in full swing. We distributed 20 postcards featuring the church's information and a verbal message: "Jesus loves you, please join us for service." Additionally, 42 VBS flyers were handed out during outreach events, helping to spread the word and invite more families to participate.

Children's Message

Our children's message continues to be a meaningful part of our worship services. We are grateful to our young members for their enthusiastic participation and presence in church.

Looking Ahead

Looking Ahead: Upcoming Events and Activities

We are excited about the following upcoming events and encourage everyone to participate:

1. Vacation Bible School (VBS)
2. Youth Work Day: We invite youth to help clean and organize toys in the nursery classroom.
3. Party Crasher Outing: A fun outing planned especially for the children.
4. School Starts Soon Fun Evening: An evening of snacks, movies, sharing summer highlights, and preparing for the new school year.
5. Children's Activities Resumption: We plan to resume activities for children from preschool through grade 4, held at least twice a month on Wednesday evenings. These sessions will include snacks. We encourage everyone to get involved and join us as we continue to nurture faith, friendship, and fun in our church community.

Blessings,
Jerome Zamgba

Financial Update

YTD Income June 2025	\$ 118,502.54
YTD Expenses June 2025	<u>\$ 115,484.34</u>
YTD Income/Loss June 2025	\$ 3,018.20

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.