



Images of May

The Communicator

United Presbyterian Church of Jamestown, ND

Volume 53 No. 5 May 2026

Sharing Christ's Love Through Service

From the Pastor

As I write, it is a beautiful spring day—a season that gently invites us into renewal and fresh beginnings. As we tend to our homes, yards, offices, and garages, it may also be a meaningful time to refresh our spiritual lives—thoughtfully weaving our Christian beliefs into our daily actions, decisions, and relationships.

One area I continue to reflect on is how to approach difficult conversations with grace, especially when around topics that feel sensitive or complex. There are many meaningful subjects worth exploring among both Christians and those still seeking. One discussion I often encourage centers on the reasons people believe in God. I especially look forward to Thursday mornings at Babb's Coffee House, where I meet with college students. Together, we choose a topic and engage in open, respectful dialogue. I always carry a Bible with me, and I am grateful as well for those who stop by my office to continue conversations sparked by a recent sermon.

Engaging in meaningful conversations can be both energizing and, at times, challenging. These moments invite us to think deeply, discover new perspectives, and grow in our communication. At the same time, they require sensitivity and care. Some topics may feel too intense for the moment, and in those situations, a gentle shift in tone—perhaps through lightness or a simple question—can help create space for understanding and connection.

(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

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

SECRETARIAL HOURS
 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM
 Wednesday & Thursday

You may also join us for Sunday
 worship on YouTube
 at 10:30 AM

MAY WORK MONTH FAMILIES

Chairpersons:

Gengler, Penny 269-2155

- | | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Buchholtz, Barry | 252-4988 |
| Enger, Jeff & Vicki | 701-669-2580
320-1764 - Vicki |
| Fletcher, Nancy | 952-7570 / 659-0017 |
| Miller, Janet | 269-0224 |
| Morris, Jim & Rita | 320-8342 - Jim
269-8342 - Rita |
| Parries, Bill & Sue | 320-2199 - Sue
269-0355 - Bill |
| Sherfy, Mark & Elizabeth | 320-2473 - Mark
320-7296 - Elizabeth |

From the Pastor (continued from front page)

I have found that when we engage thoughtfully, we grow in humility because we:

- Encourage critical thinking and thoughtfully examine assumptions;
- Grow in empathy by listening with care to differing perspectives;
- Strengthen communication skills for meaningful, real-life conversations.

Here are a few simple ways to foster respectful and life-giving dialogue:

- Focus on ideas rather than individuals;
- Listen attentively with the desire to understand;
- Share using ‘I’ statements that reflect personal conviction without pressure;
- Stay grounded in truth, supported by reliable and credible sources.

May we continue to grow—not only in knowledge, but in grace, humility, and love—as we journey together in conversation and faith. Let us carry these conversations with kindness, trusting that every exchange can be an opportunity to reflect Christ’s love.

**Blessings,
Pastor Bob**

TO ALL WOMEN OF THE CHURCH:

The United Presbyterian Women’s purpose statement is:

Forgiven and freed by God in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves to nurture our faith through prayer and Bible study, to support the mission of the church worldwide, to work for justice and peace, and to build an inclusive, caring community of women that strengthens the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and witnesses to the promise of God’s kingdom.

All women of the church are invited to a UPW Brunch on May 7th at 11:00 am in the Fellowship hall for the annual Birthday Offering, followed by the last Bible lesson until September in the parlor led by Jackie Tarpinian. Please RSVP if you plan to attend.

We now have an account at BUFF TOWN BARGAINS - in order for them to get give credit to the correct church - **PLEASE label your items with UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH** - not just Presbyterian Church as there is another account by that name!! Please read more information in the Deacons Dialog. THANKS!

 MAY 2026 						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 Sunday School-9AM Worship 10:30 AM	4	5 Deacons 6:15 PM	6 Youth Bible Study 3:00 PM Zoom Bible Study 6:00 PM	7 UPW Brunch - 11:00 AM AA 7:00 PM	8	9
10 Sunday School-9AM Worship 10:30 AM Happy Mother’s Day	11 Property & Finance - 5:00 PM	12	13 Youth Bible Study 3:00 PM (last youth group for the summer) Zoom Bible Study 6:00 PM	14 Session-5:30 PM AA 7:00 PM	15	16
17 Sunday School-9AM (last Sunday School for the summer) Worship 10:30 AM	18	19	20 Zoom Bible Study 6:00 PM	21 AA 7:00 PM	22	23
24 ★ Worship 9:30 AM	25	26	27 Zoom Bible Study 6:00 PM	28 AA 7:00 PM	29	30
31 ★ Worship 9:30 AM						

**More Dates to Remember...*

MAY 13 - last youth Bible Study for the summer!!

MAY 17 - last Sunday School service for the summer!!

MAY 24 - Worship time changes to 9:30 am for the summer and NO SUNDAY SCHOOL!!

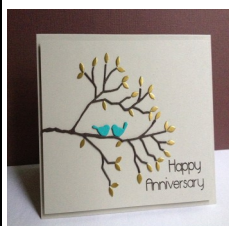
MAY BIRTHDAYS 2026



Nikki Reimers	2
Ryan Korynta	6
Tiffany Dauer	12
Mary Reed	12
Charlotte Enger	13
Jacob Sherfy	16
Bob Martin	20
Henry Cadwell	24
Kathy Buchholtz	27
Tyler Szarkowski	29
Freja Rose Reimers	31



May Anniversary



Delbert & Ruth Bossingham	11
Steve & Mary Reed	22
Terry & Deb Johnson	28



Pastor Bob would like to thank all who helped with the meal at Harry Johnson's funeral.
THANK YOU.

The Deacons received thank you's from the Jamestown Safe Shelter for the \$336.00 donation from the Soup & Bread meal, and from the Corrections and Rehabilitation Department of the Jamestown Regional Correction Center for your support.

REMINDER - SUMMER SCHEDULE!!!

MAY 13 - LAST YOUTH BIBLE STUDY FOR THE SUMMER
MAY 17 - LAST SUNDAY SCHOOL SERVICE FOR THE SUMMER
TIME CHANGE - MAY 24 - WORSHIP AT 9:30 FOR THE SUMMER

MAY 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				



DEACON DIALOGUE . . .

Per Vicki Enger

Thank you to all who contributed to our Busy Jar with donations for the Dakota Children's Advocacy Center. We do appreciate very much the support given to us by the congregation as we "share Christ's love through service".

Remember as you are doing your spring cleaning, that UPC has an account at Buff Town Bargains. So, if you donate items and tell them you are from UPC, they will tag and record that item. Once our donations have reached \$500 we will receive 25% of that for our church. They accept these donations on Mondays and Tuesdays. Donations must be dropped off at the back door, make sure that someone meets you there and tags your donations. Clothing must be in bags and household goods in boxes. Items they CANNOT accept are: mattress/cribs/car seats, tube tv's, large home improvement items, furniture, paint, hazardous materials, exercise equipment, medicine, large appliances, partially used or open personal care items, food, fuel powered tools, guns and ammunition, building materials, and nonseasonal items. Also please do not bring items that are dirty, stained, ripped, broken or in unsellable condition.

May baskets were delivered to our shut ins on April 26.

Financial Update

YTD Income thru April 28, 2026	\$ 96,293.94
YTD Expenses thru April 28, 2026	\$ <u>75,854.39</u>
YTD Income/Loss thru April 28, 2026	\$ 20,439.55

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. Thank you!

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL AGENDA - through May 17th

Have you ever felt there's a gap between the life promised in the Bible and the one you're living?

For many followers of Jesus, the Holy Spirit is a familiar stranger—a rumored figure we know *of*, but don't truly know. We hear stories of God's power but struggle to see it in our own lives. This study guide is an invitation to close that gap.

Join pastor and author Tyler Staton on Right Now Media with the lesson titled "The Familiar Stranger". This is a six-session journey to rediscover the most misunderstood person of the Trinity. Moving from rich theology to practical application, this study provides a framework to experience the Holy Spirit in profound, new ways.

You will learn to:

- **Hear God's Voice:** Develop the practice of discernment to recognize God's whisper amidst the noise.
- **Move in God's Power:** Explore the spiritual gifts of prophecy, healing, and more, not as ancient history, but as a present reality.
- **Redeem Your Pain:** Understand how God meets us and works through our suffering.

A vibrant relationship with the Holy Spirit starts now!

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS FROM APRIL 9, 2026

Danielle Giesler moved/2nd, “to approve the Buffalo City Group Alcoholics Anonymous request to hold a potluck in the Fellowship Hall the evening of Saturday, November 14th, 2026.”
MOTION CARRIED

Tiffany Dauer moved/2nd, “to approve up to two chess gatherings at UPC per month. Dates to be determined.”
MOTION CARRIED

Christian Nurture Committee:

Easter Egg Hunt on Sunday, April 5th had 18 children participate.

Last day of Sunday school is May 17th.

Christian Nurture recommends, “hosting the Fall Presbytery Youth Retreat.” Dates to be determined.
RECOMMENDATION APPROVED

Christian Nurture recommends, “holding a Back-to-School afternoon August 23.” A meal will be served after worship, parents’ sign-up children for youth group and Sunday school, there will be games and backpack blessings. Open to the public.

RECOMMENDATION APPROVED

Mark Sherfy moved/2nd, “to approve UPC having a booth at the Community Block Party on Wednesday, August 26th, 2026.”
MOTION CARRIED

Property and Finance:

A tempered glass panel in the balcony has been ordered from Stutsman County Glass, to replace a broken panel. Another company will install it. Estimated cost of panel and installation, \$1200.

Renewed the 3 certificates of deposit at Bank Forward for another 7 months (due now in October 2026) at 3.5% interest. The interest earned was deposited into the General Fund.

Deacons:

“Blessing Bags” are in the works for members in need of cheer.

May 10th - Mother’s Day carnations will be given to Mom’s.

May 10th - Special Deacon offering taken.

May 10th - Reception in Fellowship Hall after worship for UPC high school and college graduates.

May 17th – Choir will be recognized and thanked.

An account for UPC has been opened at Buff Town Bargains. Details in bulletin.

Mission:

Leader’s Academy will receive \$1000 for roof repairs on the addition to school.

The Dorcas Society hospital on the Congo border will receive \$1000 for prescription medications.

The Deacons “recommend the United Presbyterian Church monthly work families return to providing dessert items after a funeral service, if a family wishes.”

RECOMMENDATION APPROVED

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Burgard, Clerk of Session

Christian Education Program Coordinator Report

Greetings United Presbyterian Church!

April has been a busy and exciting month for our children and youth programs!

Sunday School continues to go well. We average 7 kids per Sunday. This includes all kids Preschool through 5th grade. We have some older youth that attend Sunday School also.

Sunday School begins each week at 9:00 a.m. with an opening time. Since Easter the children have been working on memorizing the Lord’s Prayer. After the opening, the children stay in the Sanctuary for music time and then move to their individual classrooms for Bible lessons and snacks. Our Sunday School teachers are Danielle Geiszler, Tammie Keese, Jerome Zagmba, and Tiffany Dauer. Kim Thoele also serves as a substitute Sunday School teacher. **Our last day of Sunday School for this school year will be May 17th. Please have your children come that day as we will be handing out incentive prizes!**

We had 18 children participate in the Easter Egg Hunt on Easter Sunday between church services. The children seemed to enjoy participating in this Easter Tradition!

The Sunday School kids sang with the Adult Choir on April 12th. They sang He Lives! The congregation enjoyed seeing the children and adults come together to worship our Lord. Great job everyone!

We offer a variety of sensory supports that may be used throughout Sunday School, including weighted lap animals, worry stones, pop-its, and visual schedules. A quiet room is also available for children who may feel overwhelmed. This space includes a bubble column and pillows for seating.

There are worship bags available for any children that sit in the sanctuary during the worship service. There are fidgets and coloring supplies in these bags.

If you are interested in volunteering during Sunday School—either in the quiet room or as a substitute teacher—please contact **Pastor Bob** or **Tiffany Dauer**.

The children and youth will be decorating vases for the homebound members on April 23rd. These will be delivered with flowers during homebound communion on May 3rd.

Youth Group continues to meet every Wednesday after school, averaging 8 students in attendance, ranging from 5th through 9th grade. Seven Youth are planning on attending the Spring Youth Retreat in Moorhead MN the first weekend in May. **Our last day of Youth Group for this school year will be May 13th. Please have your youth come that day as we will be handing out incentive prizes!**

VBS will be on July 31st and August 1st. We are going to try a **Friday/Saturday VBS schedule**. Friday we will have VBS 6p – 8p and Saturday 9a – 3p. We will have a family celebration after VBS starting at 3pm and celebrate with cake and ice cream. If you would like to volunteer or serve supper Friday or breakfast and or lunch on Saturday please contact **Tiffany Dauer**. **Earlybird registration will be open now through July 1st. You can register using a paper form or register on our VBS website. Please contact Tiffany with more information on how to register your child for VBS.**

God Bless you all!

Tiffany Dauer, Christian Education Program Coordinator