

COMMUNITY CALL

Pastor: Rev. Catherine Bishop; **Ministers:** The People of God
702 Sheyenne St., West Fargo, ND 58078; 701-282-4135; Pastor cell: 712-490-8333; E-mail: office@cpcwf.org; Web: www.cpcwf.org



WANT TO BUILD A SNOWMAN?

As the cold weather continues, we know the snow will be here for awhile. The Service and Fellowship Committee is hosting the second annual Snowman building contest. You can build it individually or as a group. Once your snowman is complete, take a picture of it and send it to melissa-v32@mnjd.org. Be creative, it does not have to be your standard snowman. It could be a snow dog or cat or maybe a whole snow family. Let your imagination run wild. We are asking for all pictures to be submitted before March 15th. Each photo received will be posted on our CPC Facebook page for people to vote on their favorite.

WHO DOESN'T LIKE COCOA BOMBS!

The Craft n' Creation group will be meeting again to try our hand at something new on Wednesday, February 23rd, at 7:00 p.m. at CPC. Zoe Elhard will be leading us on the creation process of making Coco Bombs. All supplies to complete the project will be provided for anyone who signs up at no cost. A goodwill donation will be accepted, but is not required.



Spread the word and invite your friends to join for a few hours of creativity, laughs and friendship. To sign up, please contact Melissa Engebretson, 701-866-8767, or sign up on the bulletin board.



PONDERINGS FROM PASTOR CATHIE

To God's church in West Fargo: "Those who have been made holy to God in Christ Jesus, who are called to be God's people, together with all those who call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ in every place—he's their Lord and ours! Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ." 1 Corinthians 1:2-3 (CEB)

It seems like a long time since I have written a 'Ponderings.' This happens after we have a two-month newsletter. It was still Advent in the beginning of December; then it was Christmas. Paul and I were able to spend delightful time with our children, grandchildren, and our great-grandchild after Christmas. We are grateful that both Community Presbyterian Church and Westminster Presbyterian Church provided us time off

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together.

January began the month with the 2nd Sunday of Christmas, then the Baptism of the Lord, and the remainder of January was Epiphany. Do you ever wonder how we ever remember all these liturgical colors and seasons? It can feel overwhelming. Each month brings with it a little more information for us. January includes both White and Green liturgical colors. I encourage you to get to know each of the months and how it fits into our lives as Christians.

This is the February newsletter, so here are some things to know about February. First, there are four Sundays in February. The first three Sundays are part of Epiphany and use Green. The last Sunday of February is called the "Transfiguration of the Lord" with the color White. Hmmm...what is Transfiguration?

Three of the Gospels tell us the story of the transfiguration: Mathew 17:1-8, Mark 9:2-8, and Luke 9:28-36. Each of the gospels are slightly different. I encourage you to read each of the gospel stories. Here are a few hints: it is in a mountain setting; when something is "transfigured" the person is dazzling white, and it is part of the disciples' visionary experience. Jesus went up the mountain with Peter, James, and John. Peter was terrified and confused. Now, you can finish the story.

There is something else that happens in March yet is part of the preparation in February. March 2nd is "Ash Wednesday." Sometimes Ash Wednesday is in February, so we connect Ash Wednesday with both February and March. What is Ash Wednesday anyway?

Ash Wednesday falls on the first day of Lent. It is a time of prayer and time to

reflect on Jesus' sacrifice. Christians have either Ash on their foreheads or on their hands. The ash comes from Palm leaves that were burned after the last Easter. There are many Christians who celebrate Ash Wednesday: Lutherans, Catholics, Methodists, Presbyterians, and others with the Reformed faith. In addition to worship on Ash Wednesday, many Christians provide essential things like clothes and food to those who are in need.

There are two passages you can read about the dust: Genesis 2:7, "the Lord God formed man from the dust of the ground." And Ecclesiastes 3:20, "All go to one place: all are from the

dust and all turn to the dust again." When you worship on Ash Wednesday, remember those passages, especially your path: we are dust and to dust we shall go at the end of our lives.

I encourage you to PONDER the items you read and find time in your daily life to remember Jesus and all he sacrificed for us. Let February be your opportunity to prepare for Lent.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Cathie

**FEBRUARY
IS
A GOOD TIME
TO PREPARE
FOR LENT!**

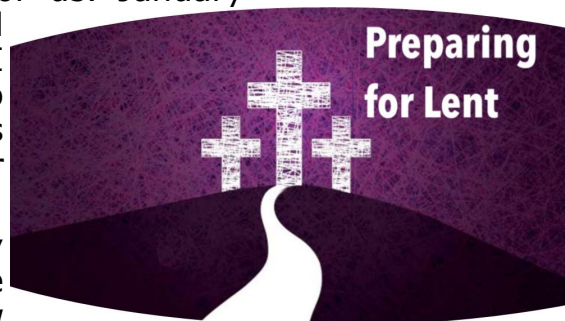


First day of Lent –
March 2: Ash
Wednesday Service

at 7:00 p.m.

Holy Week Begins –
Palm Sunday worship at 10:00 a.m.
Maundy Thursday at 7:00 p.m.
Good Friday at 7:00 p.m.

Resurrection of the Lord –
Easter Sunday at 10:00 a.m.



JANUARY CLERK'S CORNER



The regular meeting of Session was held on Wednesday, January 19, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. in the narthex. Elders present were Melissa Engebretson, Kevin Galt, Bob Kozojed, Adam Montgomery, and Gayle Thostenson. Moderator - Cathie Bishop, Clerk of Session - Becky DeJong and Treasurer - Carolyn Meester were present. Yvonne Hummel was present via Zoom. Lee Dobrinz, Carrie Leopold, and Mary Jo Moorhead were absent. Elders-elect, Cheryl Montgomery and Laurie Elhard were present.

The meeting was opened with devotions and prayer by Becky DeJong.

Consent Agenda:

- a. approval of the minutes of December 15, 2021
- b. next Session meeting - Wednesday, February 16, 2022
- c. Bingo on January 23 after worship. Lee Dobrinz made a motion to approve. It was seconded and carried via e-mail.
- d. remove Lia Dobrinz from the active rolls
- e. elect treasurer, Carolyn Meester and Clerk of Session, Becky DeJong, for a one-year term
- f. thank you to the clerk, moderator and treasurer for conducting the annual meeting
- g. Moderator's report -
 - December 18 - Cantata Practice at 10 a.m.
 - December 19 - Prepared/provided worship service & cantata.
 - December 21 - Met with Dixon regarding pulpit supply.
 - December 24 - Served lunch at Salvation Army.
 - December 24 - Prepared/provided Christmas Eve worship service.
 - December 25 - Prepared/provided Christmas Day worship service.
 - Vacation from December 26, 2021

- through January 5, 2022.
- January 6 - Put away Christmas decorations with Kevin Galt, Dawn Larson, and Mary Jo Moorhead and met with Worship Committee afterwards.
- January 9, 2022 - Prepared/provided worship service with communion.
- January 10 - finally turned in my Pastor's Report to Becky.
- January 11 - Bells Practice.
- January 12 - met with Confirmation class/mentors/parents.
- January 13 - Moderated Grandin Session.
- January 16 - Prepared/provided worship and moderated Annual Meeting.
- January 18 - Bells Practice scheduled (Editor's note: cancelled due to weather)
- January 19 - Moderator for CPC Session.
- h. Clerk's report - 21 served communion on December 25, 2021 and 22 served communion January 9, 2022.

Thank you to Lee Dobrinz and Mary Jo Moorhead for your service, insights, and expertise while serving on Session. You are appreciated.

Laurie Elhard and Cheryl Montgomery will be joining Session and will be ordained/installed on January 30, 2022. Committee liaison positions were discussed:

Christian Ed.	Kevin Galt
Deacons	Gayle Thostenson
Mission	Carrie Leopold
Nominating	Cheryl Montgomery
Personnel	Adam Montgomery
Serv. & Fellow.	Melissa Engebretson
Stewardship	Yvonne Hummel
Trustees	Bob Kozojed
Worship	Laurie Elhard

The elders to help serve communion on February 6, 2022 will be Yvonne Hummel, Bob Kozojed, and Adam Montgomery.

The financial report was read, discussed, and received.

The Statistical Report for 2021 was reviewed.

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(Continued from page 3)Committee reports:

Deacons: Over the last month, Deacons shared care packages and visits with many CPC members and friends. What a joy it is to encourage and be encouraged by these dear ones! One communion visit was made this month. Rides to church continue to be shared. – Gayle Thostenson

Personnel: The search for an Office Assistant continues.

Service and Fellowship: Our service groups are up and running. We are excited to have 2 service group leader spots filled and looking for 3 more leaders/co-leaders. Our Craft N' Creations group is hosting a Coco Bomb class hosted by Zoe Elhard on February 23 at 7:00 p.m. at the church. The committee has put some focus on our vendor show and are feeling we might not get the turnout since a good number of members are gone until later spring. We are wanting to push back the date again and try to involve some of the ladies who have previously hosted the fall bazaar by having a kick off meeting in April. We are on the search for a few more head usher spots, so if you have any ideas or are willing to fill in as a backup let the committee know. – Melissa Engebretson

Trustees: The Fire Marshall Inspection indicated that three emergency exit lights needed the batteries replaced. Those batteries have been replaced. After looking at our parking lot snow pile situation, we feel the pile does not need to be moved off the parking lot and onto the grass south of the narthex. The snow level on top of our flat roof is good and is currently no danger to our structure. Our AED battery was checked, and it was good. We received a recall letter from NDSC (North Dakota Safety Council) on the Infant/Child Pads. We removed the recalled pads and replaced them with the new ones sent to us.- Bob Kozojed

No reports: Christian Ed., Mission, Nominating, Stewardship, Worship commit-

tees.

Meeting closed with prayer by Moderator Cathie Bishop at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Becky DeJong

**MINUTES
OF THE
ANNUAL
MEETING
OF THE**



**CONGREGATION & CORPORATION
OF COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH OF WEST FARGO**

January 16, 2022

The annual meeting of Community Presbyterian Church was held on January 16, 2022 at 11:15 a.m. in the church sanctuary. The meeting was opened with prayer by Moderator Rev. Cathie Bishop. The clerk verified there was a quorum present with 39 (33 in the sanctuary and 6 online) people in attendance.

The minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Congregation and Corporation of Community Presbyterian Church from January 17, 2021 were presented.

Committee reports from 2021 were presented to the congregation. All reports were received.

Carolyn Meester reviewed the financial reports. The reports were received.

Adam Montgomery, Personnel Liaison, in conjunction with the Stewardship Committee presented the Terms of Call for Rev. Cathie Bishop. The pastor was dismissed from the sanctuary during the salary discussion. It was proposed that Rev. Bishop be given no raise but be given an additional week of vacation for 2022.

Yvonne Hummel presented the budget. Thanks was given to all who gave of their time and talents. A special thank you was given to Carolyn Meester for her help with all financial issues.

Lee Dobrinz presented a full slate of candidates for all open committee posi-

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tions. Nominations were ceased and a unanimous ballot was cast.

Lee Dobrinz presented:

- * Laurie Elhard, to finish a two-year term for Mary Jo Moorhead, to be elected as an Elder for the class of 2024 and Bob Kozojed, Cheryl Montgomery, and Gayle Thostenson to be elected as Elders for the Class of 2025 for a three-year term.
- * Jenni Hummel and Dixon Moorhead to be elected as Deacons for the Class of 2025 for a three-year term.
- * Lee Dobrinz and Brent Montgomery to be elected as Buildings and Grounds Trustees for the Class of 2025 for a three-year term.
- * Lise Alves and Andrew Thostenson to be delegates to the Presbytery meetings for 2022 and Lee Dobrinz to be the alternate delegate to the Presbytery meetings for 2022. Dixon Moorhead is a Standing Delegate as a former Presbytery moderator and he does not require approval to serve.
- * Laurie Elhard, Terry Meester, Dave Ruhnke, and Jack Smith to be elected to the Nominating Committee for the Class of 2023 for a one-year term.

The Corporate Bylaws of Community Presbyterian Church were updated. The updates were presented to the congregation through e-mails, letters, and informational meetings. In order to update the bylaws a 2/3 aye vote of the active membership is required. With 135 active members, 90 aye votes were needed. 92 aye votes were received.

New business – Pat Smith was impressed with all of the activity in CPC and the amazing leadership. She was concerned about the lack of attendance and wants to spark interest in getting current members back in church and recruiting and inviting new members. A few brainstorming suggestions were human contact, voice phone calls, flyers, and inviting friends and strangers. Ser-

vice and Fellowship groups have been re-instated. Please check the bulletin board to see what group you are in. Pat will work with our Service and Fellowship Committee to encourage people to participate in all that CPC has to offer!

Thank you to the Clerk of Session, Becky DeJong, and the Treasurer, Carolyn Meester, for their service.

The meeting was closed in prayer by Moderator Bishop at 11:56 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Becky DeJong, Clerk of Session

DECEMBER CLERK'S CORNER



The regular meeting of the Session was held on Wednesday, December 17, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom due to bad weather. Elders present were Lee Dobrinz, Melissa Engebretson, Yvonne Hummel, Bob Kozojed, Carrie Leopold, Mary Jo Moorhead, Adam Montgomery, and Gayle Thostenson. Moderator - Cathie Bishop, Clerk of Session - Becky DeJong and Treasurer - Carolyn Meester were present. Kevin Galt was absent.

The meeting was opened with devotions and prayer by Bob Kozojed.

Consent Agenda:

- a. approval of the minutes of November 17, 2021
- b. next Session meeting – Wednesday, January 19, 2022
- c. Session will meet the third Wednesday of every month unless otherwise noted and communion will be served the first Sunday of every month, as well as, Easter, Christmas Day and Maundy Thursday unless otherwise noted.
- d. approval of Rhonney Greene's membership through a letter of transfer from Central Presbyterian Church in Austin, Texas.
- e. move communion from January 2, 2022 to January 9, 2022 because Pastor Cathie will be on vacation.

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f. Moderator's report:

- Provided items for the newsletter.
- Thursday, November 18 – Moderated Session at Grandin.
- Sunday, November 21 – helped with Hanging of the Greens.
- Tuesdays November 23, 30, and December 7th – Bells practice
- Sunday, December 5 – played bells at Faith Lutheran and CPC
- Tuesday, November 23 – visited Cassandra Goolsby at Sanford.
- Wednesday November 24 – attended Cantata practice.
- Wednesday, December 1 – Confirmation.
- Saturday, December 4 – rang bells at Hornbachers at Osgood.
- Wednesday, December 8 – Blue Christmas Service.
- Thursday, December 9 – attended Stewardship committee.
- Friday, December 10 – enjoyed CPC folks at dinner and Elf.
- Saturday, December 11 – officiated at wedding for Troy and Stacie at off-site venue.
- Tuesday, December 14 – provided Worship service at Touchmark, Fargo.
- November 18-December 15 – prepared and provided Sunday worship at CPC

g. Clerk's report -

- i. 49 served communion on December 5, 2021.
- ii. Committee summaries are due in December.

Discussion was held regarding communion preparation. The Worship Committee will provide support and aide to the current communion committee when needed.

The elder to help serve communion on December 25, 2021 will be Mary Jo Moorhead and the elders to serve communion on January 9, 2022 will be Yvonne Hummel, Bob Kozojed, and Gayle Thostenson.

The financial report was read, discussed, and received.

Our updated conference system has been received and will soon be installed.

Our active membership rolls were discussed.

There will be a potluck after worship on December 19. Supplies have been purchased and set-up and clean-up have been arranged. Come hungry!

Gayle Thostenson requested to use the large Sunday School classroom on January 18-19, 2022 with set-up on the 17th to conduct all-day meetings for the preparation of administering tests for the National Assessment of Educational Progress.

Committee reports

Christian Education: The Sunday school program was presented on December 12th with good participation from kids and congregation. A big Thank You to Gayle Thostenson and Melanie Hansen for all their work in bringing the program to a success. Discussion on Sunday School teachers was talked about and the need for other members of the congregation to help out was brought up. – Kevin Galt

Deacons: This month Deacons prepared and plan to share something special with some of their CPC members and friends. Photographs continue to be taken of our friends who would like to be included in the CPC pictorial directory. Now that the outside temperatures have decreased, more rides have been provided for local folks who would like to attend in-person worship service. Three total communion visits were made this month. If anyone in the congregation would like home communion, please contact Pastor Cathie or myself. -Gayle Thostenson

Mission: There will be a Mission of the Month in 2022. The Mission Committee will partner with the Worship Committee to bring the Heart and Soul Food truck

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to a church event and partner with the Deacons on Day of Giving to aid church members in need of services.

Nominating: The committee is searching for interested members to serve on all committees. Listen for your call and contact a Nominating Committee member.

Personnel: The committee is accepting applications for the open office administrator position. Please continue to forward any interested parties or leads to Adam Montgomery.

Service and Fellowship: Head ushers for 2022 are needed. Work continues on the photo directory. Service and Fellowship groups will start in January. The vendor show will be March 19, 2022.

Stewardship: The Stewardship Committee is looking for a newer version of QuickBooks software for the Church. The budget was discussed in detail and we will ask for Session approval of the 2022 Budget at the Session meeting on December 15, 2021. We received 25 Pledge Cards, totaling \$58,876 in pledges; this is more than in the past few years. – Yvonne Hummel

The 2022 Budget was presented to Session for approval.

No reports: Trustees, Worship

Meeting closed with prayer by Moderator Cathie Bishop at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Becky DeJong

RINGING RESULTS

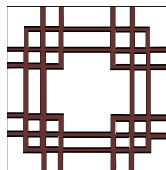
The Salvation Army reported to us that on December 4, 2021, for the entire day, the kettle locations where CPC rang raised \$1,077.29 for Salvation Army programs and services. Thanks again to all those who so graciously took the time to volunteer to ring bells for the Salvation Army.

**FEBRUARY DATES TO REMEMBER****BIRTHDAYS**

- 2-1 Cora Carlson
- 2-6 Carolyn Koerselman
- 2-7 Tom Birrenkott
- 2-8 Jack Smith
- 2-10 Mike Arvidson
Linda Bishop
- 2-11 Tammy Nelson
- 2-14 Brecken Montgomery
- 2-17 Kevin Galt
- 2-19 Alex Talley
- 2-20 Lise Alves
- 2-21 Scott Meyer
- 2-23 Paul Campbell
- 2-24 Lia Dobrinz

**ANNIVERSARIES**

- 2-19-81 – Dixon and Mary Jo Moorhead
- 2-24-79 – Scott and Vickie Meyer

**PRESBYTERIAN SQUARES WEIRD BIBLE STORIES WE NEVER HEARD IN SUNDAY SCHOOL**

A study just for you through your email!

Here it is - mid January and COVID is once again going hog-wild spreading among all of us. So we will continue to meet through email with our Weird Bible stories. I will send out 2 in February, 2 in March and wrap it up in April. I hope next fall we will be able to meet once again in person. It's not too late to sign up to "hear the rest of the story" - just email me at vrpeihl@gmail.com. In the meantime stay safe and warm and praying you are able to avoid COVID.

GIVING HEARTS DAY TO BE HELD FEBRUARY 10

Founded in 2008, Giving Hearts Day is a 24-hour event for charities in North Dakota and northwest Minnesota. With over 450 charities involved this year, there are plenty of opportunities to volunteer and give to a good cause.

For more information, go to <https://givingheartsday.org/>



YEAR-TO-DATE GIVING UPDATE

1-20-2022

2021 ended with operating income totaling \$131,532.54 and operating expenses totaling \$128,785.68 for a net income of \$2,746.86. \$19,600.00 that we received in PPP grant funds helped us to end the year in a positive position. Our continued appreciation goes out to all those who volunteer their time and talents to help our church. There are far too many names to mention so thank you everyone.

We continue to offer the online giving access from the church website. You can also use the QRC code found in the pews. This has been very successful. We also have a giving station in the narthex that you can make your donation using a debit or credit card.

In 2021 we successfully paid off the mortgage debt! We had a picnic in June to celebrate burning the mortgage.

Per Capita amount for 2022 is \$48.00 for each confirmed member. The unpaid balance at the end of the year is paid out of the church general fund. Please mark on your check or envelope you are contributing to Per Capita.

Please prayerfully consider the amount you are able to contribute to the church so we are able to continue our mission to serve the members and the community. God's blessings to all.

FEBRUARY SCRIPTURES FOR WORSHIP



Feb 6: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11
Feb 13: 1 Corinthians 15:12-20
Feb 20: 1 Corinthians 15:35-50
Feb 27: 2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2

**March's Community Call
deadline will be
Thursday, February 17**

URGENT NEED!! YWCA OF CASS CLAY WATERPROOF MITTENS AND GLOVES FOR CHILDREN AND ADULTS NEW OR GENTLY USED



The month of February, please bring new or gently used waterproof children and adult gloves or mittens to the church to be distributed directly to the women and children being helped by the YWCA of Cass Clay. This is one of the items on the YWCA's "Urgent Needs" list.

Thank you to the Mission Committee for allowing this year's confirmation class, Erika Matzke and Charlie Elhard, along with their mentors, Cheryl Montgomery and Lee Dobrinz, to spearhead this mission project for the month of February. Erika has previously volunteered at the YWCA through her Girl Scout troop helping with cleaning projects, sorting donations and making hygiene kits. As we were considering how we would like to help our community this confirmation year, ideas were talked about including the YWCA and Erika was all excited to continue volunteering there!

The YWCA thanks our church for helping women and children in crisis and wants us to know our donation drive is such a blessing right now with our cold winter. The donation drive will make a valuable difference to women changing the course of their lives. Things we may take for granted are vitally needed by women escaping domestic violence and poverty.

There are typically 65+ women and children at the emergency shelter, and another 75 in the YWCA's supportive housing and human trafficking units – and they need many practical items, the same things we need for our own health and hygiene, or to run our homes.

Community Presbyterian Church
702 Sheyenne St
West Fargo, ND 58078

701.282.4135 www.cpcwf.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Community Presbyterian Church Committees

Building & Grounds Trustees

Bob Kozojed, Liaison
Lee Dobrinz Brent Montgomery
Brian Elhard Larry Peihl
Lynn Hummel Dwight Steffen

Christian Education

Kevin Galt, Liaison
Melanie Hansen Gayle Thostenson

Deacons

Gayle Thostenson, Liaison
Lise Alves Dawn Larson
Linda Bishop Boots Misheski
Jenni Hummel Dixon Moorhead

Mission

Carrie Leopold, Liaison
Lee Dobrinz Mary Jo Moorhead
Kevin Galt Dave Ruhnke
Boots Misheski Bonnie Thompson
Rev. Donna Monteith

Nominating

Cheryl Montgomery, Liaison
Laurie Elhard Dave Ruhnke
Terry Meester Jack Smith

Personnel

Adam Montgomery, Liaison
C. Meester Brent Montgomery

Presbytery Delegates

Lise Alves Andrew Thostenson
Dixon Moorhead

Lee Dobrinz--Alternate

Service & Fellowship

Melissa Engebretson, Liaison
Linda Bishop Vicki Peihl
Carolyn Meester

Stewardship

Yvonne Hummel, Liaison
Kevin Galt Andrew Thostenson
Carolyn Meester

Worship

Laurie Elhard, Liaison
Dawn Larson Pat Smith
Mary Jo Moorhead

Communion Prep Team:

Mary Bastle Dixie Smith
Mitzi Hager V. Whitcomb
Nancy Kassman



**Sunday
Worship Hours**
9 a.m. Sunday School
10 a.m. Worship Service

The Session of Community Presbyterian Church of West Fargo

Clerk of Session: Becky DeJong
Moderator: Rev. Catherine B. Bishop
Treasurer: Carolyn Meester

Laurie Elhard
Melissa Engebretson
Kevin Galt
Yvonne Hummel
Bob Kozojed
Carrie Leopold
Adam Montgomery
Cheryl Montgomery
Gayle Thostenson

**OUR MISSION IS TO KNOW GOD;
TO BE LED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT; TO SHARE CHRIST.**