

# COMMUNITY CALL

Ministers: The People of God

702 Sheyenne St., West Fargo, ND 58078; 701-282-4135; E-mail: [office@cpcwf.org](mailto:office@cpcwf.org); Web: [www.cpcwf.org](http://www.cpcwf.org)

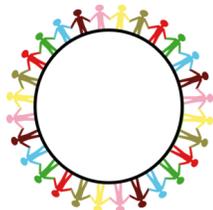
## GIVING HEARTS DAY TO BE HELD THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8



Giving Hearts Day is a 24-hour event for charities in North Dakota and northwest Minnesota. Since the first event in 2008, generous donors have given more than \$138 million, 100% of which goes directly to participating charities. Why not join them in the many opportunities to volunteer or give to a good cause?

Giving Hearts Day charities include CPC past mission projects such as Churches United, Feed My Starving Children - FargoPack, New Life Center, Nexus-PATH Family Healing, Salvation Army Fargo-Moorhead, YWCA Cass Clay and often include matching funds for donations.

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



## PRAYER CHAIN

Sharing our needs and concerns in prayer with our church family brings us closer to one another and lightens our load. If you have a prayer concern, please contact Gayle Thostenson (492-0630, [atgtet@far.midco.net](mailto:atgtet@far.midco.net)). To have your name added to the prayer request e-list, just let Gayle know.

## PULPIT SUPPLY

CPC has been blessed by an active and devoted group of preachers. Worship and Pulpit Supply committees have been working to provide messages for Sunday worship. The following are scheduled to preach in the upcoming weeks:



Feb 4	Rev. Donna Monteith with Communion
Feb 11	Kevin Galt
Feb 18	TBD
Feb 25	Andrew Thostenson



## PRAYER TIME

*Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise.*

James 5:13

Come for a half hour of prayer in the CPC sanctuary at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, February 14, as we worship, praise, and lay our petitions before our Lord and God.

## In this issue

	<u>Page</u>
Calendar	7
Clerks Corner	2
Dates to Remember	4
Mission of the Month	5
Pre-authorized Debit Form	6
Presbyterian Squares	5
Who to Call	4
Year-to-date Giving	5

## DECEMBER CLERK'S CORNER



The regular meeting of the Session was held on Monday, December 11, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. in the narthex. Elders present were Melissa Engebretson, Kevin Galt, Yvonne Hummel, Dave Ruhnke, and Gayle Thostenson. Acting Moderator – Rev. Sarah Bigwood, and Clerk of Session - Becky DeJong were present. Bob Kozojed and Carrie Leopold were absent.

The meeting was opened with devotions and prayer by Gayle Thostenson.

### Consent Agenda:

- a. approval of the minutes of November 13, 2023
- b. next Session meeting – Monday, January 8, 2024
- 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. The TOPs group who ordinarily meet Monday nights would like permission to meet at the church on the evenings of Wednesdays, December 27 and January 3. They usually arrive at 5:30 p.m. and meet no more than an hour and a half.
- e. Gayle Thostenson requests use of the large newer classroom downstairs along with the portable large screen monitor on January 25 and 26, 2024 from 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., with setup occurring on January 24 for a Westat work training of 11 people. A \$100 donation from Westat is available for this purpose.
- f. Clerk's report -
  - ◇ 51 served communion on December 3, 2023.
  - ◇ Committee summaries are due in December.
  - ◇ Duane and Emma Broe and Chris and Becky Mace will become members of Community Presbyterian Church on

December 31 through affirmation of faith. Andrew Thostenson will officiate.

The elders to help serve communion on December 24, 2023 will be Dave Ruhnke, Gayle Thostenson with one more to be determined. Elders to help serve communion on January 7, 2024 will be Yvonne Hummel, Dave Ruhnke and Gayle Thostenson.

The financial report was read, discussed and received.

### Committee reports:

**Christian Education:** The committee is preparing for the Christmas program in conjunction with the choir cantata.

**Deacons:** The Care Cabinet has been stocked and is ready to support our community!

- Gayle Thostenson

**Nominating:** The slates for Session, B&G Trustees and Deacons have been filled. There are two slots left on the Nominating Committee.

- Melissa Engebretson

**Stewardship:** The 2024 budget was presented. The Stewardship Committee made a motion to approve the 2024 budget. Motion was carried.

-Yvonne Hummel

**Worship/S&F:** The pulpit supply list is posted in the narthex. Most slots are filled through the end of March.

- Dave Ruhnke

**No reports:** Building & Grounds Trustees, Christian Education, Mission, Personnel

Meeting closed with unison prayer at 7:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Becky DeJong

## JANUARY CLERK'S CORNER



The regular meeting of the Session was held on Monday, January 8, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. in the conference room. Elders present were Melissa Engebretson, Kevin Galt, Yvonne

**(Continued on page 3)**

**(Continued from page 3)**

Hummel, Bob Kozojed, Dave Ruhnke and Gayle Thostenson. Acting Moderator – Rev. Sarah Bigwood, and Clerk of Session - Becky DeJong were present. Carrie Leopold was present via Zoom.

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

**Consent Agenda:**

- a. approval of the minutes of December 11, 2023
- b. elect Clerk of Session, Becky DeJong, for a one-year term

Andrew Thostenson reviewed the current financial status of the church and presented ways that the Stewardship Committee plans to move forward.

The financial report was read, discussed and received.

Session will meet on the following dates at 7:00 p.m.:

Monday, February 12  
 Monday, March 25  
 Wednesday, April 17  
 Wednesday, May 15 –  
     with the confirmation class  
 Wednesday, June 19  
 Wednesday, July 17  
 Wednesday, August 21

The elders to help serve communion on February 4, 2024 will be Kevin Galt, Bob Kozojed and Dave Ruhnke.

Becky DeJong presented the 2023 Statistical Report.

A large print version of the devotional, *These Days*, will be available in the narthex.

Thank you to Kevin Galt and Yvonne Hummel for their service on Session!!! You will be missed!!

**Committee reports:**

**Building & Grounds Trustees:** In December we concentrated on taking down light fixtures and cleaning them before Christmas. There has been only a little light snow so far this year. We have had more ice with the warmer weather and

we are going through a lot of ice melt.  
 - Bob Kozojed

**Christian Education:** The Christian Education Committee met on January 3, 2024. In attendance were Emma Broe, Gayle Thostenson, Melanie Hanson and Session Liaison Kevin Galt. Discussion was held on January's All Church Family Night. The decision was made to hold the event on Wednesday, January 31 starting at 5:30 p.m. with a dinner of "taco in a bag" with a game of Trivial Pursuit to follow at 6:00 p.m. A signup sheet for food has been posted in narthex. Also discussed was the possibility of using social media and direct mail as a tool to reach out to new residents giving them the events and activities that are going on at CPC.

- Kevin Galt

**Nominating:** The slate is full and ready to be approved at the annual meeting.

**Stewardship:** Reviewed the monthly financials and the 2024 Budget numbers. Andrew will provide an in-depth discussion regarding the church's current financial position during the January Session meeting. He will also discuss our church's giving patterns and what we might expect to see going forward. Becky DeJong sent an email regarding the Statistical Report, asking us to complete the report before the Session meeting on Monday. Carolyn and Yvonne will work on this. Contribution reports will be mailed out within the next two weeks.

- Yvonne Hummel

**Worship/Service & Fellowship:** The pulpit supply list is posted in the narthex. Most slots are filled through the end of March.

- Dave Ruhnke

**No reports:** Mission, Personnel committees

Meeting closed with unison prayer at 7:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
 Becky DeJong





## LADIES CIRCLE

Ladies, join us for Tuesday Afternoon Ladies Circle in the narthex. If you like, bring a sack lunch and have fellowship at 12:30 p.m. Otherwise, come ready to begin Bible study at 1:00 p.m. Coffee and treats will be shared.

The study this year is *Sacred Encounters: The Power and Presence of Jesus Christ in Luke - Acts* by Olive Mahabir. It invites readers to consider Jesus, "the Good Shepherd" who shared the Good News through sacred encounters with everyday people. Exploring Luke's Gospel and the Acts of the Apostle will reveal the unfolding of God's redemptive purposes in human history and present a radical, inclusive and hope-filled message.

## THERE IS ROOM FOR YOU

There is room at the table to join the folks making greeting cards! Our Card Makers gather on Thursdays from 1 to 4 p.m. for fellowship and an opportunity to recycle and create cards for sale at Community Presbyterian Church. Proceeds from the cards are used for various church projects from supporting children who attend Summer Bible Camp to purchasing items for the kitchen. Plus, they always seem to have sweet treats for a mid-afternoon break.

Interested? Just show up on Thursdays at 1 p.m. The group will welcome you and show you how to make cards!



## MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Attention all men! You are invited to join a Men's Bible Study. They meet every other Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. in the church narthex.

The studies, led by Steve Hanna, focus on various books of the Bible. They cover a chapter each meeting with much discussion.

Questions? Please contact Dave Ruhnke.



## FEBRUARY DATES TO REMEMBER

### BIRTHDAYS

2-1 Cora Carlson  
2-7 Tom Birrenkott  
2-8 Jack Smith  
2-9 Blair Moorhead  
2-10 Mike Arvidson  
2-10 Linda Bishop  
2-17 Kevin Galt  
2-19 Alex Talley  
2-20 Lise Alves  
2-21 Scott Meyer  
2-24 Lia Dobrinz

### ANNIVERSARIES

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

## THE DEACONS CAN HELP YOU

If you need immediate pastoral care, you can call 701-353-2020. A Deacon will be able to assist you.

If anyone in the congregation is hospitalized, needs a visit, or would like home communion, please contact the Deacons.

Lise Alves	[C] 701-412-8689
Jenni Hummel	[C] 701-371-7640
Dawn Larson	[C] 701-261-9609
Dixon Moorhead	[C] 701-200-9709
Patty Smith	[H] 701-540-6658
	[C] 970-209-3517
Cary Talley	[H] 701-282-3273
Gayle Thostenson, Session Liaison	[H] 701-492-0630
	[C] 701-412-6387



## JOIN US FOR ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL!

This group meets upstairs in the conference room at 9:00 a.m. They have just begun a study of the book of Ecclesiastes. Don't hesitate to join. There is always coffee, comradery, and God's gift of the Bible.



**YEAR-TO-DATE  
GIVING UPDATE**

12/31/2023

General Operating budget  
2023: \$138,671.00

Monthly needed to meet budg-  
et: \$11,556.00

Total Giving December \$ 12,520.64  
Total Expenses December \$ 4,098.08

Per Capita amount for 2024 is \$50.00  
for each confirmed member. Please  
mark on your check or envelope as con-  
tributing to Per Capita. Total assessment  
for 2024 is \$6,000. To date, \$700 has  
been paid towards 2024 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 members and the community.*

**SERVICE  
& FELLOWSHIP  
OPPORTUNITIES**



Service & Fellowship groups are  
providing scrumptious drinks and treats  
following each worship service. To help  
us remember, group assignments will  
now be posted in each newsletter. Here  
is the schedule for the next two months:

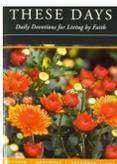
- Feb 4 Group 2
- Feb 11 Group 2
- Feb 18 Group 3
- Feb 25 Group 3
- Mar 3 Group 4
- Mar 10 Group 4
- Mar 17 Group 1
- Mar 24 Group 1
- Mar 31 Group 2

For more information see the narthex  
bulletin board. To be added to a group,  
see Linda Bishop or Carolyn Meester.



**DEVOTIONAL  
BOOKLETS  
AVAILABLE**

Our Daily Bread and  
These Days are available



in in differently-sized print. Feel free to  
take one home for daily use.

**FOCUS  
ON MISSION**



Our highlighted mission for  
February is the Emergency  
Food Pantry. We will be collecting gro-  
ceries and other items for them  
throughout the month of February. You  
are welcome to donate any of the high-  
lighted items at any time, or any other  
items that would be useable by the pa-  
trons of the Food Pantry.

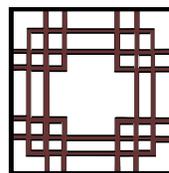
Acceptable items are canned and pack-  
aged foods in original, unopened pack-  
aging (preferably no glass) and hygiene  
items (unused, in original packaging),  
such as soap, toothpaste, and shampoo.

Our challenge items are:

- Feb 4 Rice, in 1 pound packages  
either brown or white
- Feb 11 Canned tuna, chicken, etc.
- Feb 18 Canned tomatoes and beans  
(pinto, black, navy, etc.)
- Feb 25 Soap of all kinds  
(bar, dish, laundry, sham-  
poo, body wash, etc.)

Let's see if we can get more than a vehi-  
cle load of food to help our neighbors!

Thank you for your support!



**PRESBYTERIAN SQUARES**

God chooses not the best or  
the smartest person to lead.  
Remember some of his choic-  
es in the Bible? Moses had a  
stutter and was not confident. Jeremiah  
was young and insecure, David was  
young and even as he got older he  
sinned by taking another person's wife.  
Are you prepared to answer God's  
call? Join us at 4:30 pm Wednesday,  
Feb. 7, at the church as we study the  
choices of God. Can't be there? Email  
me at [vrpeihl@gmail.com](mailto:vrpeihl@gmail.com) and I can  
send it out to you. May your month be  
filled with sweet love!

**March's Community Call  
deadline will be  
Wednesday, February 21**

## Pre-authorized debits customer authorization form

I authorize Community Presbyterian Church and the financial institution listed below to initiate electronic debit entries, (and if necessary, credit entries and adjustments for any debit entries in error) to my:

checking account                       savings account                      for \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*(This authority will remain in effect until I have cancelled it in writing.)  
(Changes can be easily made)*

\*Please select from the following options to make contributions:

<u>MONTHLY</u> 1 <sup>st</sup> _____ OR 16 <sup>th</sup> _____	<u>TWICE A MONTH</u> 1 <sup>st</sup> AND 16 <sup>th</sup> _____
---	--

**Please print the following:**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Financial Institution: \_\_\_\_\_ Branch: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Bank Routing Number (9 digits):  
\_\_\_\_\_

Account Number:  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Please return to:**  
 Office  
 Community Presbyterian Church  
 702 Sheyenne St.  
 West Fargo, ND 58078  
 (A confirmation will be sent to you)

### **Forms accepted at any time**

Annual Income	Approximate Weekly Commitment Proportionate to Income						
	15%	10%	7%	6%	5%	4%	3%
100,000	288.00	192.00	135.00	115.00	96.00	77.00	58.00
75,000	216.00	144.00	100.00	87.00	72.00	58.00	43.00
60,000	173.00	153.00	80.00	69.00	58.00	46.00	35.00
50,000	144.00	96.00	67.00	58.00	48.00	38.00	29.00
45,000	130.00	87.00	61.00	52.00	43.00	35.00	26.00
40,000	115.00	77.00	54.00	46.00	38.00	31.00	23.00
35,000	101.00	67.00	47.00	40.00	34.00	27.00	20.00
30,000	87.00	58.00	40.00	35.00	29.00	23.00	17.00
25,000	72.00	48.00	34.00	29.00	24.00	19.00	14.00
20,000	58.00	38.00	27.00	23.00	19.00	15.00	12.00
15,000	43.00	29.00	20.00	17.00	14.00	12.00	9.00



# FEBRUARY 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
March newsletter deadline: Wednesday, February 21 Non-church scheduled events: Saturday & Sunday p.m. –HOREMOW; Monday evenings—TOPS						
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Sunday School 9 a.m. Worship 10:00 a.m. 		Bells at CPC 6:00 p.m. Stewardship 7:00 p.m.	Presbyterian Squares 4:30 p.m. Confirmation 5:30 p.m. Meal 6:00 p.m. Class	PW Card Makers 1:00 p.m. <i>Giving Hearts Day</i> PW Card Makers 1:00 p.m. Worship 6:00 p.m.		
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
		Ladies Circle 12:30 p.m. Lunch 1 p.m. B. Study Missions & Outreach Com. 6:00 p.m.	<i>Ash Wednesday</i> Prayer 9:00 a.m. Trustees 7:00 p.m.	PW Card Makers 1:00 p.m.		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Sunday School 9 a.m. Worship 10:00 a.m.	Session 7:00p.m.	Bells at CPC 6:00 p.m.	Newsletter is due Today!!!	PW Card Makers 1:00 p.m.	Head Ushers: February: Dwight & Lisa Steffen March: Lynn Hummel April: Brent & Cary Talley	
25	26	27	28	29		
Sunday School 9 a.m. Worship 10:00 a.m.		Bells at CPC 6:00 p.m.	Confirmation 5:30 p.m. Meal 6:00 p.m. Class	PW Card Makers 1:00 p.m. Deacons 6:00 p.m.		

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      Larry Peihl  
Melanie Hansen   Jack Smith  
Veril Larson      Brent Talley

### Christian Education

Liaison TBD  
Emma Broe      Gayle Thostenson  
Melanie Hansen

### Deacons

Gayle Thostenson, Liaison  
Lise Alves      Dixon Moorhead  
Jenni Hummel   Patricia Smith  
Dawn Larson      Cary Talley

### Mission & Outreach

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

### Nominating

Melissa Engebretson, Liaison  
Linda Bishop      Mel Hansen  
Joan Hall      Dawn Larson

### Personnel

Liaison TBD  
Lia Dobrinz      Carolyn Meester  
Kevin Galt      Andrew Thostenson

### Presbytery Delegates

Andrew Thostenson + TBD  
Dixon Moorhead  
Lee Dobrinz--Alternate

### Stewardship

Liaison TBD  
Kevin Galt      Carolyn Meester  
Yvonne Hummel   A. Thostenson

### Worship/Service & Fellowship

Dave Ruhnke, Liaison  
Linda Bishop      Mary Jo Moorhead  
Emma Broe      Patricia Smith  
Carolyn Meester



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

## The Session of Community Presbyterian Church of West Fargo

Clerk of Session: Becky DeJong  
Moderator: Rev. Sarah M. Bigwood  
Co-Treasurers: Yvonne Hummel  
Andrew Thostenson

Melissa Engebretson  
Bob Kozojed  
Carrie Leopold  
Carolyn Meester  
David Ruhnke  
Bonnie Thompson  
Gayle Thostenson

**Our mission is to know God;  
to be led by the Holy Spirit; to share Christ.**