

COMMUNITY CALL

Pastor: Rev. Catherine Bishop; **Office Manager:** Connie Holmen; **Ministers:** The People of God
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FALL BACK

On Sunday, November 5th, at 2:00 a.m., Daylight Saving Time Ends. Please remember to turn your clocks back one hour.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

The Christian Education Committee is beginning to collect items for Operation Christmas Child for the 2017 Christmas season. Items collected will be placed into shoeboxes as a Christmas present for children, 2-14 years old, and shipped around the world. Gift suggestions include: toys, school supplies, non-liquid hygiene items, and accessories. The list of items can be found on the "Youth Corner" bulletin board outside the church office and are made into lists that you can take with you.



All donated items can be placed in the designated box on the pew under the "Youth Corner" bulletin board. Items will be collected from now until **Wednesday, November 15th**. Donations of shoeboxes or wrapping paper for this project will be gladly accepted as well.

Shoeboxes cost \$9 per box to ship. Like to make a donation? Write a check to CPC with Operation Christmas Child on the memo line. Donations will then be combined and a check made out to Samaritan's Purse and dropped off with the shoeboxes.



PONDERINGS FROM PASTOR CATHIE

To the Christians of Community Presbyterian Church of West Fargo: Grace to you and peace.

It is Fall, the autumn of our year. Today it is sunny, breezy, and warm. By the time you are reading this, the weather will have changed. Weather is predictable, to a point. We get used to the changing weather pattern, we can even find ways to enjoy the unpredictability of the weather!

We have choices each day. We can choose to be crabby and growly, or we can choose a positive appreciation for life itself. Each time I meet with families who have lost a loved one and officiate at a funeral, I am reminded of how grateful I am for each day I wake up in the morning. When I listen to the stories of life and then death, I realize how fragile our lives are. No one,

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not even Jesus, knows the timing of the end of God's creation or our own life.

This week I learned that a friend from Sioux City died as she was walking along the road near her home. A pick-up truck hit her, and she died instantly. When she left her house, all was well. Now she is with God and all is well, for Sue. No warning. It just happened. All is not well with her family.

The weather shifted dramatically for her family and friends at the unexpectedness of her death. When the weather changes, we change. When we lose a loved one, we change.

Whatever the change might be, from the weather to losing a loved one, or a different job, retirement, or a move to a different home, we humans experience changes in different ways. Adjusting to the weather can be as simple as adding a coat, or deciding not to wear a coat. Very different responses are called for when we experience more traumatic situations such as experiencing hurricanes, tornadoes, fires, earthquakes, or losing a loved one.

Weather changes, life changes, our situations change. Do you ever wonder just how we are to handle this change, as Christians?

We will be reading the Book of Jonah in November. Jonah is an example of one of God's children going off on their own. God calls Jonah to go to Nineveh, and he goes a different direction. It took a while for Jonah to hear and accept the change God had called him to go. Of the Minor Prophets we have been reading, I think Jonah is most like us! When God calls us, it usually is to do something different, to do something that requires change. As humans, we often fight the change, doing everything we can think

of to not have to change.

God does call us to follow and to make changes. The Psalms are a great example of the people of God lamenting the changes in their lives, and then they quit fighting the change, and praise God! One third of the psalms are considered "laments." There are individual laments and communal laments. Examples of the laments in Psalms are in chapters 3, 5, 6, 7, 38, 39, 40-44 and more. You will find the lament psalms include both complaints and praise to God.

The Psalms provide us examples of how we can deal with change. It is ok to be angry at God, then we remember how much God loves us...so much that God gave us his Son to die for us, to forgive us, and give us grace. When you are struggling with change, remember that we are to forgive others and to give them the same grace that God gives us.

Grace and peace,
Pastor Cathie

SNOWBIRD REMINDER



Are you ready to fly off to warmer climates? If so, don't forget to take CPC with you.

Please inform our church secretary, Connie Holmen (office@cpcwf.org or 282-4135), regarding your temporary address(es) and the time you will be away from home so you won't miss any CPC mailings. Please note: the U.S. Postal Service does NOT forward CPC newsletters. They are returned to us when the address is vacant along with a charge for the service.

Notify Gayle Thostenson if you would like to be included on the prayer chain e-list. Finally, don't forget to catch the sermons you'll miss on site by visiting the web at <http://vimeo.com/cpcwf>.



OCTOBER CLERKS' CORNER



The regular meeting of Session was held on Wednesday, October 18, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. in the conference room. Elders present were Lise Alves, Cathy Birrenkott, Lee Dobrinz, Dawn Larson, Adam Montgomery, and Mary Jo Moorhead. Moderator Cathie Bishop, Clerk Becky DeJong, and Treasurer Carolyn Meester were present. Sue Hanna, Terry Meester, and Andrew Thostenson were absent.

The meeting was opened with prayer by Dawn Larson.

Session discussed the last unit in the Facing Racism study: Responding as a Community of Faith.

Consent Agenda:

- a. approval of the minutes of September 20, 2017
- b. next Session meeting – Wednesday, November 15, 2017
- c. Vicki Peihl requested permission to sell various items at the baked potato bar. Money will be donated to either the PW or the building fund. Approved via e-mail.

Moderator's report -

- Wrote and submitted articles for October Community Call.
- Attended last meeting of Presbytery of the Northern Plains Council.
- Participated in cantata practice on September 21, 28, and October 5.
- Officiated at funeral for Robert O'Keefe at West Funeral Home on Saturday, September 23, 2017.
- Participated in handbell practice at Faith Lutheran Church on Tuesday, September 26, and October 3, 10, and 17.
- Attended Pastor's Breakfast at Hjemkomst on Thursday, September 28.
- Three days of vacation, Friday, September 29 through Sunday, October 1, 2017.
- Met with Service and Fellowship, Wednesday, October 4.

- Melissa VanCleve and John Engebretson wedding rehearsal on Friday, October 6; wedding on Saturday, October 7, 2017.
- Communion to Sheyenne Crossing with Lise Alves and Boots Misheski. Visited and gave communion to Louise Johnson and Hazel Yokum on Sunday, October 8.
- Prepared and led New Member Orientation with Andrew Thostenson on Sunday, October 8, for Louise Gaye and Pat Smith.
- Visited Delores Horn at Sanford with Gayle Thostenson on Monday, October 9; and visited Delores again on Wednesday afternoon, October 11; and Sunday afternoon, October 15.
- Attended Ladies Bible Study on Tuesday, October 10.
- Home Communion with the Jenners on Tuesday, October 10, with Lise Alves (5 people).
- Met with Hailey Crosswhite of New Perspective Senior Living on Wednesday, October 11th. Agreed to provide worship for residents at 10:00 a.m. on October 25, November 29, and December 13.
- Met with Buildings/Grounds Trustees on Wednesday, October 11.
- Attended Continuing Education with Rev. Dr. Thomas Long on Friday, October 13.
- Attended fundraiser for Churches United, the Gourmet Soup Kitchen, on Monday, October 17.
- Planning meeting with Rebecca from West Funeral Home on Wednesday, October 18. She has asked me to participate in a remembrance service at West Funeral Home on Wednesday, November 15, at 4:30 p.m.
- Met with Deacons at 6:00 p.m. Wednesday, October 18.
- Prepared worship services for September 24, October 8 with communion, and October 15.

Clerk's report – 63 served communion on Sunday, October 8, 2017. Lakken

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Charlene Krueger was born on September 20, 2017. Her parents are Dustin and Stephani Krueger. Melissa VanCleve and John Engebretson were married on Saturday, October 7, 2017. Review membership list – it will be discussed at the November meeting.

The financial report was discussed.

Christian Education Committee: Sunday School continues. On Sunday, October 29: ALL people who have contact with the youth of our church should attend the Protecting Our Children meeting. The meeting will be immediately following worship and will last an hour. This is mandated by our insurance policy and PCUSA.

Deacons: Goodie baskets will be delivered in November. Home communion visits continue. Attendance sheets are being reviewed.

Mission Committee: 50 Presbyterian Disaster Relief kits were assembled and prepared for delivery. Thank you to all who helped. The raffle is on hold.

Service and Fellowship Committee: The location of the fellowship after church is still being discussed. All options are being considered. Various fellowship opportunities available include serving coffee/snacks, greeting at the front door, contacting new visitors, reaching out to those that have not been attending, working on social media... Please contact anyone on this committee if you interested in helping or have other suggestions.

Trustees: The church has been winterized. Discussions are being held with the snow removal company.

No Reports: Nominating, Personnel, Stewardship, and Worship committees.

Meeting closed with prayer by Pastor Cathie at 8:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Becky DeJong

NOVEMBER DATES TO REMEMBER

- 11-3 Mary Bastle
Dave Ruhnke
- 11-5 Jarrett Meester
- 11-6 Amy Grossman-Tomsich
- 11-8 Adam Montgomery
Joy Taffe
- 11-9 Charlie Elhard
Jackie Petik
Adynn Tomsich
- 11-10 Susan McIntyre
Jim Martin
Vicki Peihl
- 11-13 Sean Alves
Carrie Leopold
- 11-15 Heidi Babb
- 11-18 Brianne Hass
- 11-19 Kayla Hauge
- 11-21 Brent Montgomery
- 11-24 Bob Gross
- 11-25 Erika Matzke

THANK YOU!

Presbyterian Women would like to thank all who contributed to a very successful Fall Potato Bar. We served 65 meals and raised \$480 to be used for the church and its ministries. Thanks to everyone who donated goodies, produce, and supplies; to those who helped clean and prepare potatoes, carry heavy loads, and do all the dishes, and to those who took time to enjoy the meal. We couldn't have done it without you.

DEACONS

If anyone in the congregation is hospitalized or needs a visit, contact the Deacons.

If anyone in the congregation would like home communion service please contact Lise Alves.

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------|
| Sue Larson | 701-893-6484 |
| Deb Matzke | 701-282-9463 |
| Boots Misheski | 701-388-7160 |
| Lisa Steffen | 701-282-5308 |
| Caroline Talley | 701-282-3273 |
| Boots Montgomery | 701-281-0028 |
| Lise Alves, Session Liaison | 701-412-8689 |



NOVEMBER SCRIPTURES FOR WORSHIP

Nov 5 - 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time:

Book Series on Jonah

Chapters 1:1-16

Nov 12 - 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Book Series on Jonah

Chapters 1:17 through 2:10

Nov 5 - 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Book Series on Jonah

Chapter 3:1-10

Nov 5 - Christ the King Sunday

Book Series on Jonah

Chapter 4:1-11

DON'T FORGET TO SIGN UP TO TEACH

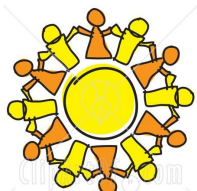
Teach a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it.



Proverbs 22:6

What better way to do this than to join our Sunday School team as a teacher? We have several openings for this coming year, and we need you! Share your love of Christ with CPC children or youth. No experience is necessary, curriculum is provided.

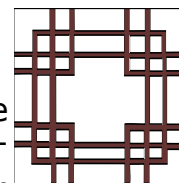
Sign up sheets are on the old narthex bulletin board. Teachers for the pre-school/kindergarten and elementary classes are especially needed, but substitutes are welcome at all levels. Address questions to Cathy Birrenkott at Cbirrenkott@west-fargo.K12.nd.us or 701-200-3726.



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 (atgtet@far.midco.net or 492-0630). Also, it's never too late to join the prayer chain. To be added to the prayer chain e-list, just let Gayle know.

PRESBYTERIAN SQUARES BIBLE STUDY



Do you know who was the first disciple called by Jesus? It was a quiet, humble, behind the scenes person whose brother was very impulsive and had a tendency to say the wrong thing. We remember Peter and his brashness, but how many of you know anything about his brother Andrew?

Join us at our Bible study at 5:55 p.m. Wednesday, November 8, at the church to learn more about Andrew. Bring a dish to share and your own water or pop. Hope to see you there!



WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

Did you know that there are some things that won't be in heaven; that all roads don't lead there, and that we can put away treasures in heaven? Join us Wednesday mornings at 10:00 to learn answers to these questions and more as we dive into the Bible to learn about heaven using Randy Alcorn's Bible study guide. Most of the lessons on this subject are able to stand alone, so one need not attend every lesson to reap the benefits of the study.

All are welcome! Contact Bonnie Thompson for more details.

JOIN US FOR ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL!



We meet in the upstairs conference room about 9:00 a.m. and will continue our study of I and II Peter until after Thanksgiving when we will focus on Advent. Don't hesitate to join us. There is always coffee, comradery, and God's gift of the Bible.



CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

The pastor's office hours are:
Monday-Thursday
1 p.m. to 5 p.m.
Other times by appointment



DECEMBER OUTING

Join us for a night out on the town on Friday, December 15!

5:00 – 7:00 – appetizers at the Boiler Room (come when you are able – ½ price appetizers and drinks until 6:00)
7:30 – The 1940's Radio Show at FMCT

Take a sentimental journey back to bygone days when folks gathered around the radio seeking moments of song and story to raise one's spirits while seeking respite from troubles at home and abroad.

This holiday season, join the cast of The 1940's Radio Hour for a live Christmas special that will keep toes tapping and hearts singing throughout the behind-the-scenes antics that occur on and off the air.

****Group rate: \$15/ticket****

They would normally be \$21.00

9:30ish – dessert at a location TBD

We're reserving 20 seats. We can get more if necessary. Please ask anyone who would enjoy an evening out. Everyone is invited.

You can join us for one, two or all three parts of the evening. RSVP to Becky and Bob before November 20 (701-281-8122; Bfdejong64@gmail.com or talk to me at church).

BELL RINGING FOR SALVATION ARMY



Bell ringing for Salvation Army will be Saturday, December 2nd, at Cash Wise in West Fargo and West Acres Main Entrance. These are all inside locations.

Grab a friend and sign up to help ring bells. If you have any questions, contact Carolyn Meester at 793-3245 or cjmeester@msn.com

ADVENT EVENT SCHEDULE



December 3 First Sunday of Advent
Sunday, December 3, 5:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Fa-La-La

Sunday, December 10 at 10:00 a.m.

Choir Cantata during worship with potluck afterwards

Thursday, December 14 at 7:00 p.m.

Blue Christmas Service

Sunday, December 17, at 10:00 a.m.

Children's Program during worship

Sunday, December 24, at 10:00 a.m.

Regular worship service

Sunday, December 24, TBD

Salvation Army Service

Sunday, December 24, at 6:30 p.m.

Christmas Eve worship service

Monday, December 25, at 10:00 a.m.

Christmas Day worship service.



LADIES 8TH ANNUAL FA-LA-LA FESTIVITIES

When: December 3rd

Time: 5:30 to 8:00 p.m.

Hosts Becky DeJong and Carol Sterup invite you to share in an evening of Fellowship, Food and Fun. We request the presence of ALL the Ladies, age 14 and up. There will be a Christmas gift exchange with a \$5.00 limit. Feel free to wear your favorite holiday attire!!

FA LA LA WISHES

In preparation for the eighth annual Fa-La-La Festivities, Becky DeJong requests the donation of glass jars without lids. So check your cupboard and pantries and let Becky (701-281-8122 or bfdejong64@gmail.com) know if you've any extras.



Thank you in advance for your help!



CALLING ALL LITURGISTS AND MUSICIANS

Some Fall spots are empty. Please remember to sign up for special music or liturgist on the sheets on the old narthex bulletin board.



YEAR-TO-DATE GIVING UPDATE

For 10/18/2017

General Operating budget
2017: \$151,229.52 / 52
weeks = \$2,908.26 per week.

Budgeted Expenses to date: \$110,846.88

Actual Giving \$ 89,291.15

Actual Expenses \$ 99,137.04

Net income to date \$ 9,845.89-

This does not include the mortgage payment of \$3,146.54. The balance in the building fund account is \$3,987.76, these funds will cover the mortgage payment for November.

To date we have designated funds of \$3,247.50 to pay our assessed per capita for 2017. Total Per Capita amount for 2017 is \$8,228.00 meaning we still owe \$4,980.50 for our assessed portion.

Per Capita amount for 2017 is \$44.00 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 Per Capita.

If we give generously to others and for the building of God's kingdom, He will find ways to bless us. We can never out give God. Jesus tells us to "*give, and it will be given to you*" (Luke 6:38). Our giving will reap blessings.

2017-2018 SUNDAY SCHOOL CALENDAR



The Children and Youth Sunday School schedule will be coordinated, for the most part, with the West Fargo Public School schedule. So, if there is no school scheduled on a Friday or Monday, there may be no youth Sunday School scheduled for that week.

Dates CPC youth Sunday School will NOT be meeting are: November 12 and 26, December 24 and 31, January 14, February 18, March 11, April 1 and 22. The last day of Sunday School will be May 20.

TEAM IAN RUN



Team Ian, organized in memory of Ian Alves, is off and running again this Fall. On Saturday, November 4th, at the West Fargo High School (WFHS) Track Complex, the one mile walk/run will start at 9:15 a.m. with the 5K run/walk beginning at 9:30 a.m.

Come run/walk your way through a 5k or mile and support the fight against cancer. All proceeds will go towards the support of those continuing their fight with cancer. Bring your friends and family out for a fun filled morning!

Race day registration will be from 8:00 to 9:00 a.m. at the WFHS Track. Preregister in the WFHS main office.



HELP NEEDED: COOKING AND SERVING FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 18

The New Life Center has been meeting needs and transforming lives through the love of Christ since 1907. They help people who are homeless and hurting go from merely surviving to truly thriving. Their aim is to help them discover value and find hope.

Every couple years, our church takes its turn in hosting the monthly New Life Center Women's Auxiliary Luncheon. Comprised of representatives from 37 area churches, their goals are to acquaint women with the purpose and needs of the Center, and to sponsor projects to meet those needs.

Friday, November 18, is CPC's turn to serve again. Please contact Gloria Ruhnke (701-282-2636) for details on how you can help support the New Life Center and welcome the members of its advisory group.

**December/January
Community Call
deadline will be
Monday, November 20**

Financial Stewardship Commitment for 2018

Members and friends of Community Presbyterian Church of West Fargo

Many great things at CPC have been accomplished this year! Your continuing contributions and support are remarkable.

Please pray for and commit to CPC's sustainability through financial stewardship for 2018 by providing the following information. In addition to your pledge, you are asked to contribute a per capita amount of **\$44.00** for each confirmed member. Per capita supports the local, regional, and global work of the Presbytery, Synod, and PCUSA.

Prayerfully,

CPC Session

Grateful for God's love in Jesus Christ, I (we) make the following commitment to support the mission of the church.

Name(s) _____ Envelope No. _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

For **General Fund** and **Mission**:

\$ _____ per ☐ Week ☐ Month ☐ Year

For **Building Fund**:

\$ _____ per ☐ Week ☐ Month ☐ Year

For **Per Capita**:

\$ _____ per member \$44.00

Pledges can also be fulfilled by electronic payment when completing the authorization form on the reverse side.

Please mail or drop your completed pledge in the offering places by November 26, 2017.