

COMMUNITY CALL

Pastor: Rev. Catherine B. Bishop; **Office Administrator:** Mary Jean Gross; **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



FALL BACK

On Sunday, November 1st, at 2:00 a.m., Daylight Saving Time Ends. Please remember to turn your clocks back one hour.

ANNOUNCEMENT TO THE CONGREGATION OF COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Last summer when we re-opened our sanctuary, your Session agreed to follow the COVID-19 protocol of the ND Smart Restart Risk Levels. We agreed that should the COVID-19 numbers move us into the Orange/High Risk level, our church would move from both online and sanctuary worship services to online worship services only. We have been monitoring the situation closely.

The time has come. On Wednesday, October 14, 2020, because of the increasing numbers throughout North Dakota, Governor Doug Burgum announced that there were 16 counties being moved to the Orange/High Risk Level. Cass County is one of the 16 counties with an Orange/High Risk Level.

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PONDERINGS FROM PASTOR CATHIE

To the people of Community Presbyterian Church, who belong to God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: May grace and peace be yours. (Good News Translation 1:1b)

Here I am writing for our November newsletter! The first day of November is when Daylight Savings Time ends. And the last day of November is the 1st Sunday of Advent. Time moves on.

We do not need to anticipate our first snow; we are already experiencing snow enough to shovel! The pumpkins on our steps are covered with snow! We live in a state with four noticeable seasons. Sometimes we love it, and at other times we are just not ready to let go, preferring to hold on to the season rather than moving on. Our tendency to "hold on" to what we are

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comfortable with applies to more than just seasons. As humans, we get in a place where we feel secure and want to stay. It is hard sometimes for us to let go of our sense of security and venture out into the unknown.

Whether we are resisting the change in the patterns of our life, many of us are struggling with the impact of Covid-19. Some are going through the actual experience of being quarantined. Sometimes we end up there because we had been close to someone who had been diagnosed with Covid-19 and we are patiently (or not so patiently) awaiting results ourselves. Even within our own church family, the reality of Covid-19 has hit closer to home than we wanted. It is hard to ignore Covid-19 when we experience it within our own family and friends.

I have been praying and hoping this would all be over, so it did not interfere with our upcoming Thanksgiving, Advent, and Christmas plans. You may have been experiencing that desire to do what we have always done and not have to change. It reminds me of how many of us felt when we realized that we would be having Palm Sunday and Easter via online worship. It was not the same as we were used to. We learned to have Virtual Communion. We learned to praise God online. We learned that the sky did not fall if we did not sing, but spoke our hymn text.

All had been going along as we began worship in the sanctuary again. Then the numbers started rising. Cass County is now High Risk. It is scary. Some would prefer we just keep doing what we had been doing because we really do not want to change again. Others understand that it is more complicated than we like to admit. We moved back to online worship only again beginning with our October 18 worship. How long will it



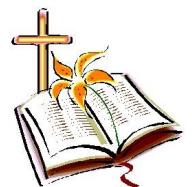
be before we can worship together in our sanctuary? I do not know. No one knows, which makes this so difficult. It is about change, about the unknown and we are simply not so good at dealing with leaving our comfort zone.

What we do know is Jesus loves us whether we are worshiping online or in the sanctuary. God hears our laments. Our monthly women's Bible study has been focused on laments. I wrote this lament the day before we learned Cass County was in the High-Risk category. I encourage you to write your own lament.

Gracious and loving God, creator of all. Life is more difficult than we want; we are experiencing great times of grief and fear and anger. Dear Lord give us the tools to work through this chaos, we know you hear our pleas. We trust you are with us, giving us strength and courage while you guide us through these times. In the name of your Son Jesus, we pray for your mercy and grace. Amen.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Cathie

NOVEMBER SCRIPTURES FOR WORSHIP



- Nov 1: 22nd Sunday after Pentecost
Matthew 23:1-12
Blessed Are You
- Nov 8: 23rd Sunday after Pentecost
Matthew 25:1-13
Keep Awake, the Lord is Coming
- Nov 15: 24th Sunday after Pentecost
Matthew 25:14-30
What Is a Good Steward?
- Nov 22: Christ the King Sunday
Matthew 25:31-46
Loving & Serving
- Nov 29: 1st Sunday of Advent
Mark 13:24-37
Welcome to Advent

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE SESSION



The special meeting of Session was held on Wednesday, October 7, 2020, at 7:00 p.m. in the narthex. Elders present were Lee Dobrinz, Laurie Elhard, Melissa Engebretson, Melanie Hansen, Bob Kozojed, Mike Misheski, and Adam Montgomery. Moderator - Cathie Bishop and Clerk of Session - Becky DeJong were present. Carrie Leopold was absent.

The meeting was opened with prayer by Pastor Cathie.

A Special Congregational meeting will be held on Sunday, October 18, 2020, immediately following the worship service, at which time the Nominating Committee will call for nominations for the vacant spot on Session. This Session term will last through February 2022. The committee will nominate Gayle Thosten-son as their candidate for the vacant spot.

Meeting closed with prayer by Pastor Cathie at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Becky DeJong

OCTOBER CLERK'S CORNER



The regular meeting of Session was held on Wednesday, October 21, 2020, at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. Elders present were Lee Dobrinz, Melissa Engebretson, Melanie Hansen, Carrie Leopold, Bob Kozojed, Mike Misheski, and Adam Montgomery. Moderator - Cathie Bishop, Clerk of Session - Becky DeJong, and Treasurer - Carolyn Meester were present. Laurie Elhard was absent.

The meeting was opened with devotions by Becky DeJong.

Consent Agenda:

- a. approval of the minutes of September 16, 2020 and special Session meeting on October 7, 2020
- b. next Session meeting - Wednesday,

November 18, 2020

Moderator's report -

- Newsletter articles for October were submitted by September 23, 2020.
- Tuesday, September 22, 2020, met with Bells about starting to play in worship services monthly again.
- Wednesday, September 23, 2020, met with Deacons.
- Thursday, September 24, 2020, met with Presbyterian Pastors at First Presbyterian Church-Fargo.
- Monday, September 28, 2020, participated in Blood Drive.
- Tuesday, September 29, 2020, led worship service at 4:00 p.m. for Touchmark at Harwood Grove.
- Tuesday, September 29, 2020, attended Bells practice at 6:30 p.m. at CPC.
- Wednesday, September 30, 2020, listened to "Mental and Spiritual Health in the time of Covid-19" presented by Presbyterian Mental Health Network.
- Wednesday, September 30, 2020, met with Stewardship Committee at 5:30 p.m.
- Saturday, October 3, 2020, attended baby shower for Maverick.
- Monday, October 5, 2020, moderated Session for Mendenhall via Zoom.
- Tuesday, October 6, 2020, attended Bells practice at 6:30 p.m. at CPC.
- Wednesday, October 7, 2020 - moderated Special Session Meeting at 7:00 p.m.
- Thursday, October 8, 2020, led worship at Park View Terrace in Moorhead at 9:00 a.m.
- Tuesday, October 13, 2020, attended Ladies Circle Bible study on Lament.
- Tuesday, October 13, 2020, attended Zoom Chogoria Partnership Ministry Team meeting regarding mission in Chogoria.
- Tuesday, October 13, 2020, attended Bells practice at 6:30 p.m. at CPC.
- Wednesday, October 14, 2020, attended Zoom Clergy discussion at 11:30 a.m.

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- Wednesday, October 14, 2020, attended Worship Committee 6:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, October 14, 2020, listened to Governor Doug Burgum give update on Covid-19, followed by sharing information of 16 counties in North Dakota, including Cass County, that were moved to ORANGE/High Risk level. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday communicated with Session, including decision to return to ONLINE ONLY. Canceled Special Congregational Meeting. Made phone calls to those without email.
- Will be writing articles for November newsletter this week, attending Bells practice on October 20, and moderating CPC Session meeting on Wednesday, October 21.
- Prepared worship for September 20 & 27, October 4 with communion, October 11 & 18.

Clerk's report –

- i. 38 served communion on Sunday, October 4, 2020.
- ii. Reviewed membership list – it will be discussed in November.

Elder to serve communion on Sunday, November 1, 2020, will be Mike Misheski.

The financial report was read, discussed, and received.

A Blue Christmas worship service is scheduled for December 9. Watch for further details.

The bylaws of the church will be reviewed, updated and brought back to Session for approval. Pastor Cathie Bishop, Lee Dobrinz, Adam Montgomery, Carrie Leopold, and several congregational members will work on this project.

The Session discussed the ND Smart Restart and how this affects our church and worship.

November 8, 2020 will be a special congregational meeting for the sole purpose of filling the vacant spot on Session. Gayle Thostenson is the candidate that will be nominated from the nominating

committee. Nominations from the floor will be entertained. The meeting will be held immediately following the worship service either via Zoom or in person based on the restart plan.

We will be ringing bells for the Salvation Army at the West Fargo Hornbachers on December 5 from 12:30-7:00 p.m. We will have only one location this year. Precautionary measures have been put into place. Please contact Carolyn Meester to volunteer.

Christian Education Committee: Sunday school options are being discussed. Parents will be informed as decisions are made. A socially distanced Sunday School Christmas program is being planned.

Mission Committee: The New Life Center is the mission for November and December. Men's gloves, hats, and coats are needed.

Stewardship Committee: Pledge forms were sent out and received. Members who have not pledged will be contacted by members of the Stewardship Committee.

Trustees: The boiler is not working but is being fixed. Two disinfecting machines are available. They take one minute to disinfect and dry in a room.

Worship Committee: An advent devotional is being planned and work will begin on it in October.

Upcoming dates:

- Nov 22 Hanging of the Greens
- Dec 9 Blue Christmas service at 7:00 p.m.
- Dec 13 Cantata during worship
- Dec 20 Sunday School program during worship
- Dec 24 Christmas Eve service at 4:00 p.m.
- Dec 25 Christmas Day worship at 10:00 a.m.

Song suggestions for Advent are being requested from the congregation. Suggestions are due by November 8.

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No reports: Deacons, Nominating Committee, or Stewardship Committee.

Meeting closed with prayer by Pastor Cathie at 9:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Becky DeJong

MISSION FOCUS



The mission focus for Community Presbyterian Church in November and December is The New Life Center (NLC). The New Life Center has been meeting needs and transforming lives through the love of Christ since 1907. It helps people who are homeless and hurting go from merely surviving to truly thriving. NLC's aim is to help them discover value and find hope. Founded as the Glad Tidings Mission, the New Life Center has evolved from an organization that primarily conducted religious services and neighborhood outreach work to a Christian multi-faceted emergency and crisis service center.

This December, the Mission Committee is asking our congregation to donate Christmas gifts for the men at the New Life Center. Suggested gifts are: MAT bus passes, winter coats, white t-shirts, gloves, socks, and underwear.

For more information about the New Life Center or how you can help, go to their website at: <http://www.fargonlc.org/>



PRODUCING OUR THANKS

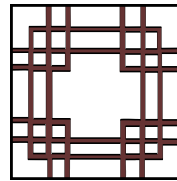
Here is a big THANK YOU for letting us use your location to collect veggies. We collected a total of 13,937 lbs. of produce to donate to organizations for distribution. We collected 1,276 lbs. at the church. Last year we collected 7,087 lbs. which we thought was awesome, but this year blew that out of the water!!

Maybe we can do a patio lunch next summer!! Stay safe.

NOVEMBER DATES TO REMEMBER BIRTHDAYS



- 11-3 Dave Ruhnke
Mary Bastle
- 11-5 Jarrett Meester
- 11-6 Amy Grossman-Tomsich
- 11-8 Adam Montgomery
Joy Taffe
- 11-9 Charlie Elhard
Adynn Tomsich
- 11-10 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
- 11-27 Jacob Witt



BAD GIRLS IN THE BIBLE- AN EMAIL BIBLE STUDY

Life is busy. This Bible study can be read in your free time. It's a short read on some of the women in the Bible that were good or bad depending on how God used them. It will be sent out twice a month. In October, we read about Tamar and about Potiphar's wife.

If you would like to be added to the Bible study email list, let Gayle or myself know. My email is vrpeihl@gmail.com.

Keep on wearing your masks!

CALLING ALL LITURGISTS



Having another voice read the liturgy enhances everyone's worship experience. Please prayerfully consider assisting in worship as liturgist.



DECEMBER IS COMING SOON!

Mark your calendar early and don't miss out on all the activities in December! Watch for details and more activities in upcoming church announcements.

Saturday, December 5

Salvation Army Bell Ringing

Sunday, December 6, 5:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Fa-La-La Festivities

Wednesday, December 9, at 7:00 p.m.

Blue Christmas Service

Saturday, December 12, afternoon

Angel Tree Deliveries

Sunday, December 13, 10:00 a.m.

Choir Cantata during worship

Sunday, December 20, 10:00 a.m.

Sunday School Christmas Program

Tuesday, December 24, at 4:00 p.m.

Christmas Eve Candlelight service

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

Christmas Day worship service

BELL RINGING FOR SALVATION ARMY

Bell ringing for the Salvation Army will be Saturday, December 5th, in the entry of Hornbachers in West Fargo (2050 Sheyenne St.) from 12:30 p.m. to 7:30 pm.

Grab a friend to help ring bells. Sign up by contacting Carolyn Meester at 793-3245 or cjmeester@msn.com.



SNOWBIRD REMINDER

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

First, inform our church office administrator, Mary Gross (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. Then, don't forget to catch the sermons you'll miss on site by visiting the web at cpcwf.org



ADVENT DEVOTIONAL

Once again, CPC is putting together an advent devotional booklet. We are looking for volunteers who are willing to share reflections/meditations regarding the applicable Bible verse for dates between November 29 and December 25.

To sign up and receive your predetermined Bible verse for the day(s), you may contact Mitzi Hager, Dawn Larson, Marj Meester, or Boots Misheski. Please reach out as soon as possible since your assignment will be due back by November 6 to ensure timely distribution to the congregation.

Pray for God's enabling, that you be open to God's word for you today and always.

HANGING OF THE GREENS



Mark your calendar! You, a member of our church family, are invited to help prepare CPC for the Advent Season on Sunday, November 22th, after worship for the Hanging of the Greens. Please plan to join us.



ADVENT SONG FAVORITES!

Do you have a favorite song you like to hear during Advent? Let us know what it is, and you may hear it during church.

November 1st through 8th, you can submit your favorite carols by e-mail (office@cpcwf.org), phone (701-282-4135), or in person at the church. We will add some of these to our worship service.

CPC DIRECTORIES

Get your newly printed directory of CPC Members and Friends in the church narthex. Or if you need a digital directory, contact Gayle Thostenson, and she will deliver one to your email address.





CPC BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS

Community Presbyterian Church has had quite a year, along with our community. Since March we have experienced the new world with coronavirus. It impacted our church community as well as others. The road back has been hindered with living in a county with continued positive cases, children on different schedules, people being cautious, as they should be, when the potential hazards are formidable. CPC was back to holding worship services in the sanctuary and providing Sunday School for adults and children. Now we are worshiping online again. Even though some things are staying open, we know that we will not have everything back exactly the way it was. Yet, even though things may be different, we trust our Lord and Savior to guide us as we go forward.

We are excited to tell you that we have good news!! Community Presbyterian Church is in the middle of major upgrades as part of the response to the global pandemic. How? You may be asking! Let's take a look at how the process has unfolded. Back in August, North Dakota announced that money from the Cares Act was to be distributed through the state in the form of grants known as Economic Resiliency Grants (ERGs). Stewardship Committee identified this as an exciting opportunity to enhance the safety of the church facilities as it relates to the Covid-19 coronavirus and other viruses such as seasonal flu. With the integral help of the Trustees, Community Presbyterian Church was well-positioned in our grant submission.

The grant submission covered three major upgrades 1) HVAC upgrade to install I Wave Commercial bi-polar ionization air cleaners 2) Electrostatic Foggers (equivalent to the technology used in the schools and colleges), and 3) replacement of water facilities to include touchless faucets and touchless bathroom fixture upgrades. The current status of the upgrades is: HVAC project is complete; the Electrostatic Foggers have been ordered, and a bid

from a plumber has been received on the water fixture replacement.

On September 30th, 2020, Community Presbyterian was informed that we would receive the ERG grant in full and that our upgrades would be of no cost except for the sales tax. ERG grants do not cover sales tax. The news that we qualified was greeted with great joy by Session. This is a significant step in providing a safer worship environment.

WE'D LOVE TO HEAR YOU



We are looking to add more music back into our worship service and we need your help. Even though we are not able to sing as a congregation, let's keep the music alive. Please sign up to perform some special music whether you sing or play an instrument. We would love to hear a special song or a favorite hymn.



FABRIC FACE MASKS NEEDED!

Once again, the Service and Fellowship Committee is putting out a call for all our talented sewers to make some two-ply fabric face masks that can be given away. You can make any type of mask you would like with either elastic or cloth ties. All shapes and sizes are needed.

If you have some you would like to donate, please drop them off at the church or contact Laurie Elhard at 701-388-9090.

TAKE A PUZZLE, LEAVE A PUZZLE



Leaves are falling outside our windows, which will soon change to snow. The Service and Fellowship Committee is launching a new program to help pass time this winter: Take a Puzzle, Leave a Puzzle.

This new program is just like it sounds, if you have an extra puzzle that you have already mastered, you can place it on the bookshelf in the narthex for someone else to take home to put together. It is that simple. We hope that puzzles will be coming and going all winter long.

(CPC ANNOUNCEMENT TO THE CONGREGATION Continued from page 1)

As are most situations with COVID-19, the timing is inconvenient. Beginning Sunday, October 18, we will be worshipping via ONLINE ONLY. There will also be no Sunday School on Sunday, October 18th. This also created an awkward situation as we were planning on having the Special Congregational Meeting to elect a replacement for the position vacated by Chad Nelson this summer. We must postpone the special meeting until a later time.

Your Session will continue monitoring the situation and we all pray that we can be back together for in-person worship soon. We can help the situation by wearing our masks, washing our hands, and maintaining safe distance throughout the Cass County area.

Thank you for your patience, and as we have more information, we will share it with you, the congregation.

Community Presbyterian Church Session, 10.16.2020

EMERGENCY INFORMATION	
CALL 911	
NAME:	
BIRTHDAY:	
ADDRESS:	
PHONE #:	
PREFERRED HOSPITAL:	
CURRENT MEDICATIONS	ALLERGIES
EMERGENCY CONTACTS	
NAME:	PHONE #:
NAME:	PHONE #:
NAME:	PHONE #:

A GIFT FOR YOU FROM THE WEST FARGO FIRE DEPARTMENT

Recently, CPC was visited by the West Fargo Fire Department. They are providing 8 1/2 X 5 1/2 - inch emergency information magnets for

your refrigerators. These magnets have a place for you to write down information needed in an emergency, a time when such data might be hard to remember or communicate.

If you would like an Emergency Information Magnet, contact the church office or Pastor Cathie. We have some here at CPC that we can distribute if you are interested. It is a great way to have information available when you need it the most!

YEAR-TO-DATE GIVING UPDATE

9-30-2020



General Operating budget

2020: \$153,000.00

Weekly funds needed to meet budget:
\$2,943.45

Actual giving to date \$ 85,642.39

Actual expenses to date \$ 98,818.43

Net income to date **\$-13,176.04**

This does not include the mortgage payment of \$3,146.54. There are funds in the building fund account to cover the mortgage payment through November.

Per Capita amount for 2020 is \$47.00 for each confirmed member. We still owe \$4,932.50 toward our assessment for 2020. The unpaid balance at the end of the year is paid from the church general fund. Please mark on your check or envelope "Per Capita."

...each of us grows in faith by assessing the many blessings of our lives and considering our need to give as an expression of our gratitude to God.

DEACONS



If you are aware of any of our members or friends who need extra care, please reach out to us. All requests are kept in confidence.

Lise Alves [C] 701-412-8689

Linda Bishop [H] 701-282-8515

[C] 701-200-1818

Terry Meester [C] 701-799-5102

Boots Misheski [C] 701-388-7160

Dixon Moorhead [H] 701-277-1414

[C] 701-200-9709

Vicky Whitcomb [H] 701-282-9292

**December/January's
Community Call
deadline will be
Thursday, November 19**

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

	Approximate Weekly Commitment Proportionate to Income						
Annual 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