

COMMUNITY CALL

Pastor: Rev. Catherine Bishop; **Ministers:** The People of God
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SOUPER BOWL COMPETITION: CHARITY, POTLUCK, AND MORE

Who are you cheering for? On Sunday, February 4, your team support will be put to the test as CPC North and CPC South compete for the Souper Bowl.

Join your team by helping your pew side of the sanctuary bring in the most non-perishable foods by Sunday, February 4. On that day, each team's donations will be weighed. The team with the most pounds donated wins. The losing team will serve the winners at a Souper Bowl Potluck (serving soup or items to accompany it, get it?).



Everybody wins! We'll all celebrate because we'll have met a huge need in our community, providing non-perishables to the area's Emergency Food Pantry at a time when needs are the highest. Plus, we'll be enjoying one another's company at a potluck. Helping our community, fellowship, good food, and fun--what's not to cheer for?



For more information on the Emergency Food Pantry, you can go to:

<http://www.emergencyfoodpantry.com/>

PONDERINGS FROM PASTOR CATHIE



Grace to you, and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

For our last Ponderings, we were anticipating Advent and Christmas. Now that time has come and gone. Jesus was born. The angels, shepherds, and wise-men have come and gone. Between Christmas and Easter, we follow Jesus as he is baptized by John the Baptist, calls disciples, and begins his ministry.

This is Year B of the three-year cycle of the Revised Common Lectionary. The Gospel of Mark is a primary text during Year B, used as the Gospel lesson, 46% of the time. Did you know that while we often think of the Gospels as being written first since they are placed at the front of the New Testament, it is generally accepted that Galatians, 1 Thessalonians, and 2 Thessalonians were written before the Gospel of Mark with Matthew, Luke, (Continued on page 2)

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and John written after Mark's gospel?

You may be wondering where my pondering mind is going with all this about Mark. Since we have been, and will be, hearing a lot from the Gospel of Mark during Year B, it seemed like a good time to review the Gospel of Mark. Mark is the shortest of the four gospels and believed to be used in the writing of both Matthew and Luke. Mark contains a story about Christian discipleship and more! In Mark's gospel, we understand that Jesus' teaching is presented as a new development, but is not presented as a whole new religion. Mark presents Jesus in terms of the Israelite prophets, particularly Moses, Elijah, and Jeremiah. Even as Jesus taught and preached about the kingdom of God and its mystery, even the disciples lacked understanding of Jesus' message. Take some time to look at the Gospel of Mark. Make some time to begin reading Mark.

Lent begins early this year, with Ash Wednesday on February 14. We will have worship with imposition of ashes at 7:00 p.m. on this day. During Lent, we will use the Lenten Candles as our Call to Worship, as we did last year. We will be looking for people to read, so be ready to say "YES" when asked, or even better, volunteer by letting me know you would like to be part of the Lenten Call to Worship!

In Holy Week, we begin with Palm Sunday on March 25, then a worship service with communion and hand washing for Maundy Thursday on March 29, and a Good Friday service on March 30. Easter Sunday is the first Sunday of the month, so we will serve communion along with Celebrating Jesus' resurrection and Praising God! Mark your calendars, and participate in the Lenten season and Easter.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Cathie

ANOTHER WAY TO SERVE

We at CPC are in dire need of Pre-K, 1st-5th grade, and middle school Sunday School teachers. Delightful children from these classes are ready to learn from God's word, but they need someone to share it with them.

We have great curriculum and resources for each group which allow you to study God's word with a fun lesson plan. The connections you make with these young

persons will be ones you'll always cherish. Besides that, you'll be keeping the promise you've made over and over again at each child's baptism.

Sign up sheet is on the bulletin board in the old narthex. Why not sign up to teach with a friend for a week or two?



FEBRUARY SCRIPTURES FOR WORSHIP

- Feb 4 - 5th Sunday after Epiphany:
Mark 1:29-39 (sermon text)
Isaiah 40:21-31; Psalm 147:1-11
1 Corinthians 9:16-23
- Feb 11 - Transfiguration of the Lord:
Mark 9:2-9 (sermon text)
2 Kings 2:1-12; Psalm 50:1-6
2 Corinthians 4:3-6
- Feb 14 - Ash Wednesday:
Matt. 6:1-6, 16-21 (sermon text)
Isaiah 58:1-12; Psalm 51:1-17
2 Corinthians 5:20-6:10
- Feb 18 - 1st Sunday in Lent:
Psalm 25:1-10 (sermon text)
Genesis 9:8-17; Psalm 25:1-10
1 Peter 3:18-22; Mark 1:9-15
- Feb 24 - 2nd Sunday in Lent:
Mark 8:31-38 (sermon text)
Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16
Psalm 22:23-31; Romans 4:13-25



DECEMBER CLERK'S CORNER



The regular meeting of Session was held on Wednesday, December 20, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. in the conference room. Elders present were Lise Alves, Cathy Birrenkott, Lee Dobrinz, Dawn Larson, Terry Meester, Adam Montgomery, Mary Jo Moorhead, and Andrew Thostenson. Moderator Cathie Bishop, Clerk Becky DeJong and Treasurer Carolyn Meester were present. Sue Hanna was absent.

The meeting was opened with prayer and devotions by Pastor Cathie.

Consent Agenda:

- a. approval of the minutes of November 15, 2017
- b. next Session meeting – Wednesday, January 17, 2018
- 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.

Moderator's report

- Submitted newsletter articles for December/January edition.
- Worked with Gloria Ruhnke on New Life Center Auxiliary luncheon/meeting, including preparing and presenting Pastoral Devotion on Friday, November 17, 2017.
- Visited Irene Martin at Eventide Fargo on Sunday, November 19, 2017.
- Attended Bells practice Tuesdays November 21 & 28; played at Faith Lutheran and CPC on Sunday, December 3, 2017.
- Rang bells for Salvation Army on Saturday, December 2, 2017.
- Lise Alves and I brought communion to Irene Martin on Tuesday, November 21, 2017.
- Cantata practice November 16, 22, and 30. Attended rehearsal on December 7 and 9th, was not able to sing in the Cantata because of laryngitis.

- Attended family funeral in Luverne, MN on Monday, December 4, 2017.
- Met with CPC member regarding family issues on Friday, December 8.
- Went with family (Loveline and Denis Ndofo) to meeting with social services on Wednesday, December 13, 2017.
- Blue Christmas Service on Thursday, December 14, 2017.
- Participated in the CPC Holiday "Night Out" on Friday, December 15, 2017.
- Paul Campbell and I delivered Angel Tree gifts to three families on Saturday, December 16, 2017.
- Prepared five worship services for November 19 and 26, and December 3, 10, and 17; sermons prepared for three services, November 19, 26, and December 3 (with communion).

Clerk's report:

- i. 109 served communion on Sunday, December 7, 2017.
- ii. Committee summaries are due in December.

Elders to serve communion by intinction on December 25, 2017 will be Carolyn Meester and Andrew Thostenson. Elders to serve communion on January 7, 2018 will be Cathie Birrenkott, Dawn Larson, Adam Montgomery, and Mary Jo Moorhead.

The financial report was discussed. The Gideons International will be sharing their mission with our church sometime in the new year.

Christian Education Committee: The bake sale was a success and the Children's Christmas program was a delight. Thanks to everyone who helped.

Deacons: Goodie baskets were delivered in November. Home and hospital visits are being made and home communion is being served.

Mission Committee: The mission for January and February will be the Food Pantry. There will be a competition between the north side and the south side of the sanctuary – go south!!!!!!!

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There will be a "Soup"er Bowl potluck on Super Bowl Sunday. In February, we will be helping pack backpacks.

Nominating Committee: There is one position available on Session. Please listen for God's call.

Trustees: Snow removal is still being discussed. The toilet was fixed downstairs. CPC passed the fire inspection!

Stewardship Committee: The budget was discussed.

Worship Committee: Thank you Kevin Galt and the choir for the inspirational cantata! All advent and Christmas Eve readers have been arranged. The piano rotation is working very well.

No Reports: Personnel, Service and Fellowship committees.

Meeting closed with prayer by Pastor Cathie at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Becky DeJong

JANUARY CLERK'S CORNER



The regular meeting of Session was held on Wednesday, January 17, 2018, at 7:00 p.m. in the conference room. Elders present were Lise Alves, Cathy Birrenkott, Sue Hanna, Dawn Larson, Terry Meester, Adam Montgomery, Mary Jo Moorhead, and Andrew Thostenson. Moderator Cathie Bishop, Clerk Becky DeJong, and Treasurer Carolyn Meester were present. Lee Dobrinz was absent.

The meeting was opened with prayer and devotions by Cathy Birrenkott.

Consent Agenda:

- approval of the minutes of December 20, 2017
- next Session meeting – Wednesday, February 21, 2018
- family baby shower for Amy Bucholz Saturday, February 17, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
- church baby shower for Amy Bucholz Sunday, February 25, 2:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Moderator's report –

- Helped prepare Salvation Army Christmas Lunch, December 22.
- December 24 – 4th Sunday of Advent morning worship service with sermon and Christmas Eve Service; December 25 – Christmas Morning Worship with Communion.
- Vacation December 26, 2017 through January 3, 2018. Dixon Moorhead filled the pulpit on December 31.
- Received notice that I have been accepted into the Doctor of Ministry (DMin) at the University of Dubuque Theological Seminary. My first face-to-face class will be May 23-30.
- January worship, prepared worship and sermons for January 7 (with communion) and 14.
- January 9. Met with member, and met with family of Hazel Yokum regarding service which will be Saturday, January 20 at 3:00 p.m. at West Funeral Home.
- January 10. Prepared and led Wednesday morning Bible study; prepared and served supper at Churches United.
- January 11. Provided worship for residents of Park View, in Moorhead.
- January 17. Will meet with the Worship Committee, and moderate session.

Clerk's report:

- 25 served communion on December 25, 2017, and 75 served communion January 7, 2018.
- Hazel Yokum died on January 8, 2018. Her memorial service will be on January 20, 2018 at West Funeral Home.

The financial report was discussed. An audit of the books will be performed by Yvonne Hummel on January 20, 2018.

The spring Presbytery meeting will be held on April 13 in Casselton. Boots Misheski will be one of our delegates at the meeting.

The 2017 statistical report was presented.

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Adam Montgomery and Courtney Roberts have requested to have their son baptized on Sunday, January 28, 2018.

Christian Education Committee: A multi-age Sunday School curriculum is being considered. The search for a youth director will begin next fall. 3rd grade Bibles will be presented this spring. Sunday school teachers are needed.

Deacons: Valentine cards will be sent out and May Day baskets delivered.

Mission and Outreach Committee: The mission for January and February will be the Food Pantry. There will be a competition between the north side and the south side of the sanctuary – go south!!!!!! There will be a “Soup”er Bowl Potluck on Super Bowl Sunday. The losers will serve soup to the winners.

Nominating Committee: All positions for 2018 have been filled.

Personnel Committee: The committee will be evaluating personnel needs for the upcoming year. Congratulations to Pastor Cathie on being accepted into the Doctor of Ministry (DMin) program at the University of Dubuque Theological Seminary.

Service and Fellowship: The committee would like to start a CPC Facebook page and is looking for someone who would like to act as the administrator for the account. A committee will be formed that will connect with visitors and members who have stopped attending.

Stewardship Committee: The Building Fund Challenge was successful. A PowerPoint presentation will be prepared for the annual meeting.

Trustees: CPC has entered into a three-year commitment with System Technology. They will help monitor the church's electronics. A meeting is being scheduled with Moore Engineering with regards to the intersection in front of the church. Our insurance policy is current and up-to-date.

Worship Committee: There is currently no pianist/organist available for worship on January 28. The choir is considering moving their practice to another evening. Pentecost is on May 20 and everyone is encouraged to wear red.

Lenten Services:

Ash Wednesday – Feb. 14 – 7 p.m.

Maundy Thursday – Mar. 29 – 7 p.m.
with intinction and a hand-washing ceremony

Good Friday – Mar. 30 – 7 p.m.

Easter Sunday – Apr. 1 – 10 a.m.
with communion

Meeting closed with prayer by Pastor Cathie at 7:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Becky DeJong

**GIVING
HEARTS
DAY**

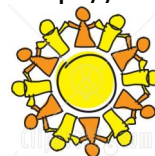


Giving Hearts Day

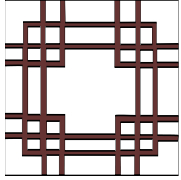
← FEBRUARY 8TH 2018 →

What is Giving Hearts Day? It's the most generous day of the year! It has become a gateway for people to connect to causes doing good work in areas they passionately care about. If your heart beats for at-risk and unreached teens in Fargo-Moorhead, please make a secure donation to Red River Youth for Christ on Thursday, February 8, 2018, by visiting givingheartsday.org. Checks dated and turned in by February 8th at noon will also be accepted. Donations of \$10 or more up to \$12,000 will be matched by friends of RRYFC.

For more information regarding Red River Youth for Christ ministries, go to <http://www.redriveryfc.com/ministries/>

**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 or atgtet@far.midco.net). To have your name added to the prayer request e-list, just let Gayle know.



PRESBYTERIAN SQUARES BIBLE STUDY

Judas. The disciple who turned in Jesus to the Pharisees. Why did he do what he did? Why did Jesus pick him to be one of the 12 originally? We will learn more about Judas at our February Bible study.

We will meet the first Wednesday in February (2/7) at 5:55 p.m. Bring a dish to share with others and your own water or pop.

Hope to see you there.

WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY



What do you know about heaven? Join us Wednesday mornings at 10:00 to study the Bible's interpretation of our awaited destination and our anticipated response.

All are welcome! Contact Pastor Cathie or Gayle Thostenson for more details.



JOIN US FOR ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL!

We meet in the upstairs conference room about 9:00 a.m. We are continuing our study of I Peter. Don't hesitate to join us. There is always coffee, comradery, and God's gift of the Bible.

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.

CPC children/youth Sunday School will NOT be meeting on February 18, March 11, April 1 and 22. The last day of Sunday School will be May 20.

FEBRUARY DATES TO REMEMBER

BIRTHDAYS

- 2-1 Cora Carlson
- 2-6 Carolyn Koerselman
- 2-7 Tom Birrenkott
- 2-8 Ann Corneliussen
Jack Smith
- 2-9 Blair Moorhead
- 2-10 Linda Bishop
- 2-11 Tammy Nelson
- 2-14 Randy Meyer
- 2-17 Kevin Galt
- 2-19 Esther Hemm
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



SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, May 19th, Fargo Marathon.

SNOWBIRD REMINDER

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



Please inform us (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>.



OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE

If you are looking for ways to get involved with our church, we can help! The Service & Fellowship Group is currently seeking volunteers to share their talent and time in the following areas:

- ⇒ Creating a Community Presbyterian Church Facebook page. With a Facebook page we could let our community know about our mission projects, our service activities, groups that meet in our church, and all the FUN that we have!
- ⇒ Forming a group to help stay connected with people. This would include following-up with members who we haven't seen in a while, as well as following-up with visitors to our church.
- ⇒ Coffee and fellowship. Sign-up sheets are currently in the narthex with available dates to help serve coffee/treats following the church service. The option of being reimbursed from the goodwill offering basket is available if you choose.
- ⇒ Ushering during the church service. Sign-up sheets are conveniently located on the same pages as coffee and fellowship.

If you would like to get involved with any of the above activities, please sign-up in the narthex or contact Sue Hanna at 701-781-4325 for more information.

SINGING IN THE NEW YEAR

CPC Choir is changing it up. We're in need of new members, and we're looking at a new meeting schedule.

If you haven't been able to join us before, this is the time to do it! If you or someone you know has a love for music and singing, kindly direct them to Kevin Galt (kgalt10244@aol.com). Let him know what times you or your singing friend are available to meet for practices.



YOUTH RESTFEST RETREAT

Greater Grand Forks Area
February 17-18
(Presidents Day Weekend)



By: Kayla Bone,
Youth Connection Team Member

Calling all youth to join the Youth Connection Team in RESTing on February 17th and 18th in Grand Forks, ND. All people in 6th-12th grade are welcome to join us for this event; in fact, bring a friend or two to share in this relaxing weekend.

The weekend will provide options to take part in various activities outside in the snow (sledding, ice skating, building a snowman or snow shelter) and indoors as well (swimming, worship, board games and exploring a water park). Back by popular demand, we will get dressed up for a fancy dinner out on the town. The schedule for the weekend will be light and flexible to allow you to rest.

Our accommodations will be at a hotel in Grand Forks. The cost is \$95 which includes lodging, meals and activities. Registration materials have been emailed out to churches and are also available on the Presbytery website at www.northernplainspresbytery.com, or by contacting the Presbytery office.

Please contact Joe Obermeyer at bdecanpresbyterianchurch@yahoo.com or Gloria Bancroft (gloria.bancroft@hotmail.com) with any questions.

SERVANTS NEEDED



We need you to assist in the delivery and preparation of meals at Churches United for the homeless and Salvation Army. We help serve the meal at Churches United the second Wednesday of every odd month (January, March, May, July, September, November) at 4:00 p.m. and the Salvation Army every fifth Sunday. See Dixon Moorhead for details of how you can help.



YEAR-TO-DATE GIVING UPDATE

1-18-2018

2017 ended with operating income totaling \$116,300.11 and operating expenses totaling \$129,517.62 for a net loss of \$13,217.50. Thank you to all the members of the congregation who volunteer their talents to complete projects for the church. This helps reduce the overall expenses for the church.

Our monthly payment on the building is \$3,146.54. The money to make our building payment comes from funds that are strictly designated "building fund". To make a contribution to the building fund, write "building fund" on your check or use one of the pew envelopes and mark "building fund". Thank you for your continued contributions.

Currently the operating loan is at a zero balance.

Per Capita amount for 2018 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 funds you are contributing to Per Capita.

For if you give, you will get! Your gift will return to you in full and overflowing measure, pressed down, shaken together to make room for more, and running over. Whatever measure you use to give -large or small- will be used to measure what is given back to you.

Luke 6:38

PRESBYTERY NEWS

A copy of Presbytery of the Northern Plains' monthly newsletter is on the narthex bulletin board. You can access your own copy of *Lights of the Northern Plains* under Publications on its website:

<http://www.northernplainspresbytery.com/>



2018 PER CAPITA APPORTIONMENT



2018 Per Capita was approved at the October Presbytery Meeting. The per capita apportionment is based on the funds necessary for the Presbytery/ Synod/General Assembly to do their essential ecclesiastical work. 2018 Per Capita Apportionment breakdown is:

General Assembly (GA)	\$ 7.78
Synod of Lakes & Prairies	\$ 5.40
Northern Plains Presbytery	<u>\$30.82</u>
Total 2018 Per Capita	\$44.00

The Presbytery office has a free brochure which will help individuals understand the fundamentals of Per Capita and Unified mission. If you would like to receive a copy, please contact the office at pnpooffice@gmail.com or 701-772-0783.

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



CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

The pastor's office hours are:

Monday-Thursday
1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Other times by appointment

**March's Community Call
deadline will be
Thursday, February 15**