

COMMUNITY CALL

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SPECIAL CPC ANNOUNCEMENT

UPDATE: Per Session, our Sunday worship service will continue as an online worship service and groups of 10 or more people will not be allowed to use the church. This will remain in effect through Wednesday, June 17, 2020. Session will continue to monitor the Covid-19 situation and re-evaluate as necessary.

EDITOR'S NOTE:

This newsletter was printed on Wednesday, May 27, 2020.

Watch for updates regarding CPC's meeting policy, additional online activities and calendar items in your personal email, on the Community Presbyterian Church of West Fargo Facebook page, and on the CPC website at www.cpcwf.org.

NEW TIMES

The arrival of Summer brings a change of timing for Community Presbyterian Church. Beginning on May 24th, worship services will be held on Sundays at 9:30 a.m.



PONDERINGS FROM PASTOR CATHIE



Greetings! You are all loved by God and are called to be his own. May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ give you grace and peace. (New Living Translation/NLT)

Every time I sit down to write to you, I am amazed that another month has passed. The last few months have been chaotic at best. It is impossible to talk about our experiences without bringing up the name Covid-19. It has become a mantra, a symbol of illness, fear, and death.

Most people have accepted the fact that they need to be vigilant in what they do, where they go, and who they spend time with. It is hard for grandmas and grandpas to stay away from their children and grandchildren. Family members miss being with one another. Yet, we are learning about

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Zoom calls and being in contact with one another via iPads and Facebook. We are all getting better at using technology we had not used before!

People are amazingly adaptable, but that doesn't keep us from wishing we could see our friends and family more often. We try to keep positive, but sometimes, we just need a good cry or to talk with someone about how lonely we are. As children of God, we can count on God being with us, even in times



of trial. God gave us tears. In Romans 8:26-27 we read, "The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God."

Have you heard the word, "lament?" The two places in the Bible that we hear about lament are The Book of Psalms and The Book of Lamentations. As humans, we often prefer to read the psalms of praise, and we ignore the psalms of lament. Even in the lectionary, the focus is mostly on the praise psalms.

We miss something if we ignore the psalms of lament. Why? Because it is like ignoring an important part of our lives. There are times that we are not happy; we are sad. We struggle with what is happening in our lives so we need to cry out to God. Letting ourselves lament is a powerful way to work through the tough times.

One of the books I am reading for my class is *Prophetic Lament: A Call for Justice in Troubled Times* by Soong-Chan Rah. He reminds us that as Christians we need more than a theology of celebration. We also need to acknowledge the theology of suffering or we miss the important part of being children of God.

In real life, lament and praise intersect. When we make room for both in our lives, we are better able to take part in the fullness of the gospel message.

Most of us do not spend much time in the Book of Lamentations, we think it is too dark to read when we are sad. My guess is that we all have had times where we struggled with life. Sometimes we are too embarrassed to ask for help or even tell our friends how we are feeling because we think we should always be cheerful and positive. Tak-

ing time to read the psalms of lament and the message of Lamentations gives us an awareness that we are not the only people who struggle and don't know what to do.

Try it. Find the psalms that are considered psalms of lament. Some are laments of individuals and others are laments of a community. Find Lamentations and read it. Listen for God's word and know that, whether you are filled with joy or sadness, God always walks with you.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Cathie

CPC SWAG FOR SALE

Shirts (for babies, children, and adults), coffee mugs, key chains, decals, coasters, buttons, water bottles, and more are being sold so that you can get your share of CPC swag.

Whenever we wear/use these items, wherever we are through our mission and outreach projects, we will be identified by a quotation of Micah 6:8 and the Community Presbyterian Church name.

To get your own CPC swag, go to <https://churchfundraiser.itemorder.com/sale>
Proceeds from the sales go directly to the Mission Fund of West Fargo's Community Presbyterian Church.



MAY CLERK'S CORNER



The regular meeting of Session was held on Wednesday, May 20, 2020, at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. Elders present were Lee Dobrinz, Laurie Elhard, Melissa Engebretson, Melanie Hansen, Bob Kozojed, Carrie Leopold, Mike Misheski, Adam Montgomery, and Chad Nelson. Moderator - Cathie Bishop, Clerk of Session - Becky DeJong, and Treasurer - Carolyn Meester were present.

The meeting was opened with devotions by Carrie Leopold.

Consent Agenda:

- a. approval of the minutes of April 15, 2020
- b. next Session meeting - Wednesday, June 17, 2020

Moderator's report -

- Monday, April 20 - Care for Congregations POD Zoom meeting at 8:00 a.m.
- Articles for newsletter submitted by April 22, 2020.
- Monday, April 27, at 10:15 a.m. - Conversation with Rick Raum regarding Presbytery related topics.
- Tuesday, April 28, at 9:00 a.m. - Phone conversation regarding moderator for Mendenhall PC, EGF.
- Wednesday, April 29, 2020 - Provided Training with Mary Holtey to train ruling elders to administer the Lord's Supper in the event of the absence of pastors for Grandin and Hunter.
- Wednesday, April 29 - Phone visits with members of Mendenhall Session.
- Wednesday, May 6 - Attended Christian Education Committee meeting at CPC in narthex (4 people).
- Called by West Funeral Home to meet with a family on Sunday, May 3, and officiate at funeral for Sharon Coit on Friday, May 8, 2020, at 2:00 p.m.
- Monday, May 11, at 2:00 p.m. - Met with Care for Congregations Pod Zoom Meeting.
- Tuesday, May 12 - Met with Mission

- Committee via Zoom at 7:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, May 13 - Met with Worship Committee at 6:00 p.m. via Zoom.
- Thursday, May 14 - Met with Stewardship Committee at 6:00 p.m. in narthex (4 people).
- Sunday, May 17 - Moderated Session for Grandin and Hunter regarding re-opening decisions. In person meeting at Hunter church at 5:00 p.m.
- Monday, May 18, at 7:00 p.m. - Moderated Session at Mendenhall via Zoom.
- Tuesday, May 19 - Submitted Ponderings article for the newsletter.
- Doctor of Ministry May class via Zoom, during the day, Wednesday, May 20 through May 27. Bob Kozojed will provide the pulpit supply for Sunday, May 24. Other than the Session Meeting, I will be working from home/Zoom.
- Prep for and Online services April 19, 26, May 3 (Communion), 10, and 17.

Clerk's report -

7 served communion on Maundy Thursday, 7 served communion on Easter, and 8 served communion on Sunday, May 3, 2020.

The financial report was read, discussed, and received.

Our internet/phone service with Consolidated Communications has been upgraded. Our church needed better streaming capabilities.

Per Session, our Sunday worship service will continue as an online worship service and groups of 10 or more people will not be allowed to use the church. This will remain in effect through Wednesday, June 17, 2020. Session will continue to monitor the Covid-19 situation and re-evaluate as necessary.

Parking Lot Service!! CPC will have a drive-in worship service on Sunday, June 14. The video service will air at 9:30, and the parking lot service will
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start at 10:30! A rain date is scheduled for Sunday, June 21. No hugging but lots of honking!!

Christian Education Committee met Monday, May 6th. We would like to have senior recognition on June 21st. We sent thank you cards and bookmarks to those who taught Sunday School this year. Different options are being considered for Vacation Bible School. – Melanie Hansen

Deacons are communicating with members through cards. Addresses are being updated. Let the deacons know of anyone needing communication from them.

Mission Committee: The current mission project is the Bdecan Church in Tokio, ND. One Great Hour of Sharing raised \$925.00. Church t-shirts are available for purchase. Check out the newsletter for information.

Personnel Committee: Pastor Cathie will be out of the office working on her doctorate. Call the office or Adam Montgomery with any pastoral needs. Bob Kozojed will fill the pulpit on May 24th.

The Trustees would like to thank Dale Matzke for taking care of the church lawn over the years. Lynn Hummel will be mowing this summer. There are two small leaks in the basement of the church. These will be repaired as time permits. – Bob Kozojed

The Stewardship Committee met May 14, 2020 to discuss the record keeping and documentation requirements regarding PPP (U.S. Paycheck Protection Program) funds. The Personnel committee was also present. Specific guidance has not been received from Alerus bank, and as a result it was decided to keep all documentation. – Mike Misheski

The Worship Committee met and went over multiple topics including the virtual worship services, hosting an outdoor service on September 13 which would also be Rally Sunday, and creating an advent devotional this year, etc. We

have also started some discussions on what it will look like when we are able to start meeting together again. More discussions will follow after Session meets. – Melissa Engebretson

No reports: Nominating, Service & Fellowship committees

Meeting closed with prayer by Pastor Cathie at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Becky DeJong

JUNE MISSION FOCUS

June's mission focus is the Bdecan Church. Usually CPC donates winter clothing for the children this time of year. Children without proper outerwear are not allowed on the school bus in the winter and are, thus, deprived of daily meals. This year, in lieu of donating clothing, CPC would like to supply this mission with monetary funds. If you'd like to support this worthwhile cause, please write your check to Community Presbyterian Church with "Bdecan" noted in the memo line.

For more information about the Bdecan church, you can go to its website at <https://www.bdecanpresbyterianchurch.org/>

**MORE MISSION NEWS**

During this time, like other volunteers, CPC is prohibited from serving at Churches United for the Homeless in Moorhead on our regularly scheduled second Wednesday of every odd month (SWOM). Churches United is asking that all churches, who regularly serve during this time, help with a monetary donation instead.

If you'd like to help Churches United in this way, please write your check to Community Presbyterian Church with "Churches United" noted in the memo line.

For more information about the Churches United for the Homeless, you can go to its website at <https://churches-united.org/>

JUNE DATES TO REMEMBER

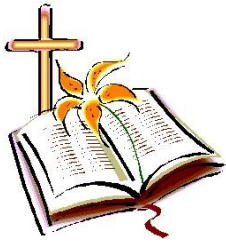
BIRTHDAYS

- 6-4 Mike Gross
- 6-6 Melanie Hansen
LeAnn Tenderholt
- 6-12 Vicki Riedinger
- 6-14 Rylee Montgomery
- 6-21 Patty Smith
- 6-26 Carol Duggan
- 6-30 Ezra Dobrinz
Dixon Moorhead



ANNIVERSARIES

- 6-4-88 – Tom and Cathy Birrenkott
- 6-7-97 – Scott and Melanie Hansen
- 6-8-96 – Terry and Carolyn Meester
- 6-11-83 – Marty and Debbie Matzke
- 6-11-94 – Lee and Lia Dobrinz
- 6-18-72 – Bruce and Karen Steele
- 6-19-93 – Chad and Tammy Nelson
- 6-27-81 – Thomas and Nancy Kassman



JUNE SUMMER SERIES: THE GREAT COMMISSION

Our summer sermons will focus on the Gospel of Matthew as we move into the Time after Pentecost, called "Ordinary Time." It may sound like it is boring or routine. Ordinary Time is NOT boring; it is simply a rhythm of the Sundays being "in order." Each Sunday is a celebration. In June, the time after Pentecost is about The Great Commission.

- June 7 Trinity Sunday
Jesus' Great Commission
Matthew 28:16-20
- June 14 2nd Sunday after Pentecost.
The Harvest Is Plentiful
Matthew 9:35-10:8
- June 21 3rd Sunday after Pentecost
Jesus Says: Do Not Fear
Matthew 10:24-39
- June 28 4th Sunday after Pentecost
Jesus Sends His Disciples
Matthew 10:40-42

SUMMER PEACH AND PECAN UPDATE FROM RED RIVER YOUTH FOR CHRIST



This year Red River Youth for Christ (RRYC) will have their fresh GEORGIA PEACHES and PECANS the weeks of June 23 and 30 as well as July 7 and 14.



They will also have PEARS and NECTARINES in the last week of August.

What about Colorado peaches? Due to a late frost on April 13th, the coldest in 21 years, Colorado has lost up to 90% of its peach crop this season. What that means for RRYC is that they are not sure IF or WHEN they will receive any Colorado peaches this summer. IF they have Colorado peaches, the peaches will arrive in August, and RRYC will get the word out on our Facebook page, through email and the newspaper. They ARE NOT taking any preorders for Colorado peaches this year.

RRYC can't wait to see you at the peach stand this year, even if they have to do it from behind masks. Their peach sale is their largest fundraiser of the year and it allows them to work with so many kids in the FM area. Thanks in advance for your support this year.

To order online, go to
<https://redriveryfc.square.site/>

Peach flyers can be found on the small table in the church narthex or at http://redriver.yfc.net/uploads/default/Peaches-Pre-Order-Flier_2020_Final.pdf

CALLING ALL LITURGISTS

Having a second voice lead the liturgy enhances everyone's worship experience. We are particularly in need of liturgists for the month of June. Please prayerfully consider assisting in worship as a liturgist and sign up.





PARKING LOT WORSHIP SERVICE!!

Community Presbyterian Church will have a drive-in worship service on Sunday, June 14. The video service will air at 9:30, and the parking lot service will start at 10:30! A rain date is scheduled for the following Sunday, June 21. No hugging but lots of honking!

SYNOD SCHOOL 2020 IS CANCELED HOPES ARE TO MEET WITH MODIFIED PLAN WEEK OF JULY 27



Editors Note: Below are excerpts from a letter from the Synod of the Lake's and Prairies (<https://synod-of-lakes-and-prairies.events.idloom.com/synod-school-2020>)

Synod School Committee has made the difficult decision to cancel Synod School for 2020 as we know it due to the pandemic...[It is] our deep desire not to be a source of illness for anyone, and ... truly be together as we ordinarily are – singing heartily, laughing together, sharing meals in close proximity, and more –

... we are working to put together some special opportunities for a simpler Synod School online for the week of July 27... for worship, learning, fellowship and fun and will have a better sense of what this looks like by early June...

In the meantime, Deb DeMeester is working on refunding any fees you paid for Synod School. What we offer virtually will be at no cost to the participants. If you, however, are willing to donate a portion of your fees to the Synod School endowment, we would welcome any size of gift...

Thank you for understanding! Mark your calendars for July 25-30, 2021!

Sincerely, The Synod School Committee



YEAR-TO-DATE GIVING UPDATE

4-30-2020

General Operating budget 2020: \$153,000.00
Weekly funds needed to meet budget: \$2,943.45

Actual giving to date \$39,704.94

Actual expenses to date \$44,688.42

Net income to date **-\$ 4,983.48**

Per Capita amount for 2020 is \$47.00 for each confirmed member. We still owe \$5,209.00 toward our assessment for 2020. 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".

Since our sanctuary has been closed, we sincerely appreciate all who have been sending in contributions by mail, donating through our online giving option, and those who have signed up for Automated Clearing House automated money transfer giving (ACH). All your contributions help us to meet our financial obligations. We offer prayers for all the essential workers and for everyone who may be effected with the virus. Prayers are continued for everyone to stay safe and healthy.

DEACONS

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



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

[C] 701-809-2483

Chad Nelson, Session Liaison

[C] 701-541-0940

**July/August's Community Call
deadline will be
Thursday, June 18**

**SENIOR
SUNDAY**

On Sunday, June 21, we
will recognize graduating

high school senior Cami Birrenkott. If
you know of other graduating seniors
affiliated with Community Presbyterian
Church, please contact Melanie Hansen
immediately.

Congratulations Class of 2020!

*Cami
Birrenkott*



My future plans are to attend the University of Minnesota Twin Cities in the fall of 2020. I plan to major in Biology with a Pre-Med track. After leaving high school, I will of course miss my family, friends, and congregation. I plan to stay active in my faith by attending church when I come home and continuing to read my daily devotions. I would like to thank everyone in the church for helping me grow in my faith from baptism to confirmation and now in the newest chapter in my life.



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