May, 2022

A PUBLICATION OF COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF WEST FARGO, NORTH DAKOTA. ORGANIZED APRIL 1, 1928

COMMUNITY UNITY OFFICE Administrator: Cheryl Montgomery; **Ministers:** The People of God

Pastor: Rev. Catherine Bishop; Office Administrator: Cheryl Montgomery; 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

SUNDAY SCHOOL CALENDAR

May 1 Confirmation Sunday

May 22 Senior Recognition & Last Day of Sunday School

THE RACE IS ON



The Fargo Marathon is set to take place on Saturday, May 21st, and CPC is gearing up

to help. Our location is the same as last fall. Of course, we'll still need volunteers to provide our traditional CPC hospitality.

Here are the details:

Location—Homestead Park by Toll Bridge Moorhead

Venue—Beginning of Half Marathon Set-up—Show up at 6:30 a.m.

We'll fill cups to hand out.

Runners will arrive by 7:30 a.m. Finish Line—Our work should be done by 10:00 a.m.

Sign up in the church narthex.

For more information, see Bob Kozo-jed.



NEW TIMES

With the ending of Sunday School and arrival of Summer comes a change

of timing for Community Presbyterian Church. Beginning on <u>May 29th</u>, worship services will be held on Sundays at 9:30 a.m.



PONDERINGS FROM PASTOR CATHIE

"Grace and peace to you from the one who is, who always was, and who is still to come; from the sevenfold Spirit before his

throne; and from Jesus Christ. He is the faithful witness to these things, the first to rise from the dead, and the ruler of all the kings of the world." Revelation 1:4b-5, New Living Translation.

During the last week of April and the month of May, we will turn to the Book of Revelation. Together, we will begin with Revelation 1:4-8 on April 24. There we will introduce the vision and the sense of beginning. Then we will work our way through Revelation from May 1 through May 29th. I encourage you to get your Bible and take some time to read through Revelation. On the next page, you will find the specif-(Continued on page 2)

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ic scripture passages we will be using in May.

We are still in the season of Easter through June 12, except for the Day of Pentecost on June 5. What does that mean? The liturgical color for this season is white, except for June 5 where we all wear RED for Pentecost. The pattern of the Christian year is about centering us on Jesus, reminding us of the story of our faith, and the resurrection of Jesus Christ. As Christians, it is also important for us to pray daily and often.

Our Session met on April 20 and approved our confirmands to be confirmed on Sunday, May 1. Being confirmed is a special time for Charlie Elhard and Erika Matzke. Please join us as both are confirmed. Preparing our children to become members is one of our most important responsibilities as Christians.

We have other exciting things going on in May. In addition to confirmation, we will be celebrating communion on May 1. May 8 is Mother's Day for people who birthed children, adopted children, or who have served as mothers throughout the lives around them. On the 15th we will baptize Asher Montgomery. We will also celebrate and recognize our graduates in May.

What else? We are excited that Church's United is now ready to have volunteers serve dinner again. CPC will be serving food on the 2nd Wednesday every other month. Our first 'new' time is Wednesday, May 11th. Would you like to be one of the helpers, too? Please contact either Dixon Moorhead or Pastor Cathie. After a couple years where we were not able to give to those who need it, it is delightful to volunteer and be part of making a difference in the lives of others.

Really, it will be warm again. 😁 God has

given us a rich variety of weather here in North Dakota. You know that, right?! We have the gifts of snow and rain, heat and more heat along with cold and colder. And yes, we have a lot of wind. Yet, there are days without wind. While most of us are ready to move to the next gift of weather, we know weather changes often. As I was thinking about our weather, I realized that we seem to complain more than we stop to pray and thank our Lord and Savior. Think about how you can help yourself and others to be more grateful for the gifts we have, the food, the coats when it is cold and raincoats when it is wet. We also have a roof over our heads and we live without fear unlike places

like Ukraine.

Grace and Peace, Pastor Cathie

SENIOR SUNDAY

On May 22, we will recognize graduating high school seniors: Zoe Elhard, Stacy Leo-

pold, Alex Misheski, and Parker Nelson. If you know of other graduating seniors affiliated with Community Presbyterian Church, please contact Kevin Galt as soon as possible.



MAY SCRIPTURES FOR WORSHIP

A Guide to Embodying our Faith as a Resurrection People

- A Vision of Worship May 1 Revelation 5:11-14 A Vision of the Church May 8 Revelation 7:9-17 May 15 A God of New Beginnings Revelation 21:1-6 May 22 Heaven Here and Now Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5 Come, Lord Jesus! May 29 Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17 June 5
 - ne 5 Pentecost: Now Is the Time Acts 2:1-21

APRIL CLERK'S CORNER



The regular meeting of the Session was held on Wednes-

day, April 20, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. in the narthex. Elders present were Kevin Galt, Cheryl Montgomery, Laurie Elhard, and Gayle Thostenson. Moderator -Cathie Bishop and Treasurer - Carolyn Meester were present. Melissa Engebretson was present via Zoom. Elders not present: Yvonne Hummel, Carrie Leopold, Bob Kozojed, and Adam Montgomery along with Clerk of Session -Becky DeJong.

The meeting was opened with devotions and prayer by Carolyn Meester.

Consent Agenda:

- a. Approval of the minutes of March 16, 2022
- b. Next Session meeting Wednesday, May 18, 2022
- c. Pay half of the church softball league dues \$300.00.
- d. Summer worship will begin at 9:30 starting Memorial Day weekend (Sunday, May 29) through Labor Day weekend (Sunday, Sept. 4) with Rally Sunday to be September 11, 2022.
- e. Maria Peralta requested to use our back parking lot for overflow parking on Sunday 29th for a graduation celebration from 4:00-8:00 p.m. The family lives at 508 7th Ave. W. Adam Montgomery made a motion to approve the request. Motion was seconded and carried via email.
- f. Brian and Laurie Elhard would like to use some tables and chairs on Saturday, May 28, for Zoe's graduation.
- g. Moderator's report –
- March 24: Attended online program about "Moral Injury and Healing; also attended Deacon's meeting.
- March 28: Participated in Blood Drive.
- Attended Hand Bell rehearsal: March 29, April 5, 12, and 19th.
- March 31: Met with Joann, sister of Cassandra Goolsby, regarding service for Cassandra.

- March 31: Participated in a Zoom meeting for GA Commissioner Orientation.
- April 2: Attended Presbytery Meeting in Gilby, ND.
- April 5: Provided worship for Touchmark at 4:00.
- April 7: Participated in Worship Committee meeting.
- April 13: Participated in meeting for Chogoria Partnership Ministry Team; met with Confirmation students and mentors and slipped in a little of the choir rehearsal for Sunday.
- April 14: Practiced for Sunday choir, Maundy Thursday worship service.
- April 15: Good Friday worship service at 7:00 p.m.
- April 16: Lead funeral for Cassandra Goolsby.
- April 18: Zoom meeting regarding ideas for diversity/inclusion committee.
- April 20: Confirmation class met with Session; moderated Session Meeting.
- Worship preparation and service: 7 services: March 20 including Bells; March 27; April 3 with communion; Palm Sunday; Maundy Thursday; Good Friday; and Easter Sunday.
- h. Clerk's report -
- i. 45 served communion on Sunday April 3, 37 served communion on Maundy-Thursday, and 105 served communion on Easter Sunday, April 17, 2022.
- ii. Saturday, April 2, 2022, was the Presbytery meeting held via Hybrid-Zoom in Gilby ND.

Met with the confirmation class. Erika Matzke and Charlie Elhard presented their statements of faith.

Kevin Galt reported that the phone voicemail has been updated.

The elders to help serve communion on May 1, 2022 will be Laurie Elhard, Adam Montgomery, Cheryl Montgomery, and Gayle Thostenson (if needed since it is Confirmation Sunday).

The financial report was read, discussed, (Continued on page 4)

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and received.

Discussion was held on doing a study for an outside electronic sign. Cheryl Montgomery volunteered to get a few people together to do some research on options.

Outreach options were discussed. There is a website: outreach.com that has a lot of information. They can do mailings, banners, text messaging, etc.

Preschool closing was discussed – the second phone line is used for the fire alarm monitoring. Cheryl will check with the phone company to see what it takes for a second limited use line.

Discussed the Presbyterian grants that are available. A couple look like they might be worth looking into. Kevin will talk to Carrie Leopold about assisting with the paperwork.

Our diversity group also met; we are still looking for members. We are thinking an educational event quarterly and possibly focusing on autism, homelessness, mental health and felons (because of Angel Tree) first but we are still working that out. We are also looking at a couple of grants. We hope to give a formal proposal at the May meeting.

I & E Cleaning has closed their business. Bob Kozojed will clean for April and May. Trustees are asking for volunteers for June, July & August. There will be a sign -up sheet. Plans are to have someone hired to start in September.

Committee reports:

Christian Education: Discussion was held on arrangements for Senior recognition Sunday and Confirmation Sunday. Plans were discussed on dates for Summer Vacation Bible school and Rally Sunday. - Kevin Galt

Deacons: Deacons met specifically to plan special visits to CPC friends. We look forward to seeing them all in May. Communion visits continue to be made. If you know someone who would like to have communion brought to them, please contact Pastor Cathie or myself. - Gayle Thostenson

Mission and Outreach: Worship committee is finishing up OGHS and next month will focus on Clearwater Forest.

- Carrie Leopold

Service and Fellowship: Letters to all the service groups have been sent out, and we have group leaders for all of these groups! We are working to set a date to get a meeting together to start really planning for the vendor show for the fall. Craft N' Creations are excited to have an Art Barn event May 16th at 6:30 p,m.

- Melissa Engebretson

Vitality Meeting: There were a lot of good conversations about the vitality of the church. We were looking and reflecting on the question "What does our church have to offer?" We want to make sure people feel welcome in our church but don't want to be overwhelming to start with. There was conversation about bringing back the greeting portion of the service. We were hoping that could be discussed at the worship committee meeting as a potential to make visitors feel welcome. We also talked about our presence on social media as that is being used by so many people. We did have some volunteers to look into some other churches in the area to see what they are doing. We are hoping to see some ideas that we could use for our church. We also feel some more personal messages in the church could also get some others back to church. We look forward to sending out invitations to outdoor services, rally Sunday, etc. We want to reach out to the community around us as well. Some thoughts on this include having a block party or bringing back doing something for West Fest. Kevin did say he would head the West Fest event as long as he would get some assistance with prep, setup, and teardown. We talked about the potential for getting a digital sign for the church. When we get back together, we want to keep the thoughts and actions (Continued on page 5)

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rolling.

- Melissa Engebretson

Trustees: The burnt-out light in the sanctuary was replaced. The existing Spiral CFL 150W lights are no longer available. As they burn out, they will be replaced with LED lights. There has been a request to replace the faucet in the narthex. It has not been conducive for events in the narthex as it always turns off. I & E cleaning has closed their business. We are in the process of searching for a new custodial service.

Bob Kozojed

Worship: In an effort to create a backup plan if a pianist cannot play at the last minute, the committee will be working on pre-recording hymns that would easily be integrated into a worship service. Kevin Galt and Dawn Larson will be working on this over the next couple of months. The committee discussed whether or not the collection plate should pass during the following special services that don't fall on Sundays: Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Blue Christmas, Christmas Eve, and Christmas Day. The committee agreed that the plate should be passed on Christmas Eve and Christmas day, and for the other services a basket will placed by the doors for individuals to place donations after the service.

The committee is looking for more volunteers to help with running the sound/ video board. Let us know if you would be interested. Also, the committee is working on finding additional ways to show appreciation for all the volunteers who help make the worship service successful.

Laurie Elhard

No reports: Personnel, Stewardship, Nominating committees

Meeting closed with prayer by Moderator Cathie Bishop at 8:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Carolyn Meester

MAY DATES TO REMEMBER

- BIRTHDAYS Tom Kassman
- 5-2 Tom Kassman 5-3 Gloria Ruhnke
- 5-6 Dwight Steffen 5-6 Marty Matzke
- 5-8 Jane Leben
- 5-9 Carolyn Meester
- Cheryl Montgomery
- 5-10 Scott Hansen Zachary Hansen
- 5-13 Larry Dobrinz
- 5-17 Edsel Kercher
- 5-20 Greg Sterup
- 5-22 Olivia Dobrinz Amy Leopold
- 5-23 Melissa Eiter
- 5-25 Barb Grossman Mary Jo Moorhead Mia Strand
 - Terrance Strand
- 5-26 Reed Montgomery
- 5-27 Vickie Meyer
- 5-29 Zarissa Hansen
- 5-30 Thomas Meyer

ANNIVERSARIES

5-3-14 – Dustin and Stephani Krueger 5-20-17 – Tim and Grace Chandler 5-24-03 - Tim and Carly Hager



CLEANING CHANGE AND REQUEST

CPC is between custodial services. Our current custodian, I & E Clean-

ing is closing their business.

Until another contracted service begins, we could use your help to keep the church building clean and in good shape. Starting in June, there will be a sign-up sheet for vacuuming, dusting, garbage, sweeping, and mopping, etc. (Trustee Liaison, Bob Kozojed has volunteered to clean the bathrooms--unless you'd like to.)

Many hands make light work. Watch for your chance and sign up to help just a little, so the larger job gets done.

Thank you!

MAY MISSION FOCUS

Our mission focus for May is Clearwater Forest. Clearwater Forest is the shared



camp and retreat ministry of the Presbyteries of the Twin Cities Area, Minnesota Valleys, Northern Waters, <u>Northern Plains</u>, and the <u>Synod of</u> <u>Lakes and Prairies</u>. A ministry of Christ, Clearwater Forest is called to provide faith-building Christian programming, nurture an active Christian community, and be a faithful steward of God's creation. Their aim is to change lives in God's woods & waters.

For more about Clearwater Forest, go to <u>www.clearwaterforest.org</u>



CRAFT N' CREATION EVENT

Unleash your creativity (even if you don't think you're artistic!) on Monday, May 16th, at 6:30 p.m. The Craft N' Creation

Group has another event planned. This time it will be outside the church walls at the Art Barn (18 1st St, West Fargo, ND 58078). The Art Barn is a small, independently owned, social painting venue in West Fargo. It was founded on the belief that everyone has a creative side and that everyone deserves a little fun!

At this event, the staff will lead us through creating a painting of a hairy cow, that's right, a COW. Spread the word and invite your friends to join in for a few hours of creativity, laughs, and friendship. Currently the class will cost \$30 per person, however, the Craft N' Creation Group is working on ways to reduce the cost for everyone.

To sign up, please contact Laurie Elhard, 701-388-9090, or Melissa Engebretson, 701-866-8767, or sign up on the bulletin board. Space is limited, so make sure to sign up early.

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER THURSDAY, MAY 5



The National Day of Prayer is Thursday, May 5, 2022, and will be observed from 6:30-7:30 p.m. at the Holiday Inn at 3803 13th Avenue South in Fargo. All are welcome to attend.

The National Day of Prayer was signed by President Harry Truman on April 17, 1952. President Ronald Reagan amended it in 1988, designating the first Thursday of May as the National Day of Prayer. Its purpose: to call together all people of different faiths in the United States to pray for our nation and its leaders.



LET'S PLAY BALL!

Fargo-Moorhead Church Softball League will be starting again soon. Want to play on the CPC team? Contact Reed

Montgomery at 701-367-8039 or Brian Elhard at 701-388-9091.

Beginning May 4, all games will be Wednesdays with the first game at 6:30 p.m. and the second to follow. Games are at the North Softball Complex.

Spectators are always welcome.

WE BRING OUT OUR THANKS!



Presbyterian Men's Annual Rummage Sale held on

Saturday, April 23rd, was a success! We netted \$1,228.70! All funds will be used toward church projects. THANK YOU for all your help, donations, and shopping.



PRAYER CHAIN

Sharing our needs and concerns in prayer with our church family brings us clos-

er to one another and lightens our load. If you have a prayer joy or concern, please contact Gayle Thostenson (cpcnews@midco.net, atgtet@far.midco.net, or 492-0630). To have your name added to the prayer request e-list, just let Gayle know.

YEAR-TO-DATE GIVING UPDATE 03/31/2022

General Operating budget 2022: \$144,805.00 Monthly needed to meet budget: \$ 12,067.00



Total Giving March Total Expenses March \$ 10,468.05 \$ 10,919.81

Per Capita amount for 2022 is \$48.00 for each confirmed member. Please mark on your check or envelope you are contributing to Per Capita. Total assessment for 2022 is \$6,912.00.

"You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God."

2 Corinthians 9:11



SAYING GOODBYE

It is with sadness that we say goodbye to

Mandi Radcliffe owner of Creative Learning Preschool.

Mandi has decided to close the preschool at the end of this school year, after over 15 years of operation from our fellowship hall. The sound of children laughing and shouting will be missed by those who worked in the church during Mandi's years of teaching. Some of our congregation may even have had their children attend Creative Learning.

Although we will miss Mandi, we must also, as a congregation, confront the reality that the church itself will miss the income generated by Mandi's business. This income was part of the budget for 2022, so we will have to somehow make up that amount. This amount is \$750 per month for 9 months out of the year.

Please keep Mandi in your thoughts and prayers and also keep in mind "Creative" ways to make up the income we lose when Mandi leaves.

SWOM IS BACK!

Churches United for the Homeless is once again open for volunteers to serve meals,



and starting <u>May 11</u> they need CPC back to help them get on track. That's right, **SWOM**ies, the CPC volunteers who served meals at Churches United for the Homeless every <u>Second Wednesday</u> <u>O</u>dd <u>Months</u>, you are needed as much as ever!

If you served before, welcome back; we're happy to work by your side once more. If you haven't had the pleasure of volunteering for this venue, we would be delighted to have you join us.

Address questions to Dixon Moorhead or Pastor Cathie

CPC ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please have items submitted to the CPC office by Wednesday for display in Sunday's bulletin or

slide announcements. You can reach the church office by calling 701-282-4135, by emailing <u>office@cpcwf.org</u>, or by stopping in at the church with a personal greeting. Thank you!

DEACONS

ANNOUNCEMENT

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



would like home communion, please contact Gayle Thostenson.

[C] 701-412-8689
[H] 701-282-8515
[C] 701-200-1818
[C] 701-371-7640
[C] 701-261-9609
[C] 701-388-7160
[H] 701-277-1414
[C] 701-200-9709
ession Liaison
[H] 701-492-0630
[C] 701-412-6387







Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
1 <i>Confirmation</i> <i>Sunday</i>	2	3	4	5 <i>National</i> <i>Day of Prayer</i> PW Card	6	7	
Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:00 a.m.		Bell Choir practice at CPC 6:30 p.m	•	Group 1:00 p.m.			
8 <i>Happy</i> <i>Mothers Day!</i> Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:00 a.m.	9 S & Fellowship Committee 6:30 p.m.	10 Ladies Circl 12:30 p.m. Lui 1 p.m. B. Study Mission & Outreach 6 p	nch Churches United Service 4 p.m. Softball 6:30 p.m.	12 Stewardship 7:00 p.m. PW Card Group 1:00 p.m.	13	14	
15 Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:00 a.m.	16 Craft N' Creations at the Art Barn 6:30 p.m.	17	18 Softball 6:30 p.m. Session 7:00 p.m.	19 Newsletter deadline PW Card Group 1:00 p.m.	20	21 Fargo - J	
22 Sunday School 9 a.m. <i>Last Day</i> <i>of Sunday School</i> Worship 10:00 a.m. Senior Recognition Following worship	23	24	25 Softball 6:30 p.m.	26 PW Card Group 1:00 p.m. Deacons 6:30 p.m.	27	28	
29 Worship 9:30 a.m. Salvation Army Service 4:00 p.m.	30 <i>Memorial</i> <i>Day</i>	Satur	*****June newsletter deadline: May 19***** Non-church scheduled events: Saturday p.m.— HOREMOW; Monday evenings—TOPS Daily Monday through Friday- Preschool in the fellowship hall			<u>Head Usher</u> s: May: Adam Montgomery June: Jack Smith	