

COMMUNITY CALL

Office Manager: Kaylynn Young; **Ministers:** The People of God
702 Sheyenne St., West Fargo, ND 58078; 701-282-4135; E-mail: office@cpcwf.org; Web: www.cpcwf.org



WELCOME!

Community Presbyterian Church extends a special invitation for you to attend worship services this Lenten Season. You may do this in person or online at cpcwf.org.

April 2 -- Maundy Thursday with
Communion at 6:00 p.m.

Apr 5 -- Easter Sunday service with
Communion at 10:00 a.m.

No matter where you are, let us all join in celebrating with joy God's amazing grace and triumph over sin.

LET'S PUZZLE!

Join your CPC family for a fun-filled evening on Wednesday, April 29.



Dinner begins at 5:00 p.m. with a baked potato bar (with all the fixings), followed by a puzzle competition at 5:30 p.m. Teams will work together to complete the same puzzle—come show off your skills or cheer others on!

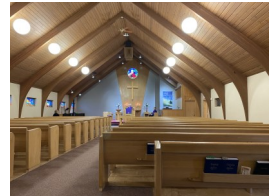
Enjoy food, fun, and fellowship—you're an important piece of the puzzle!

Please sign up on the bulletin board in the church narthex, and watch for updates.

PULPIT SUPPLY

Many thanks go out to the devoted team of CPC preachers who lead worship and keep our congregation spiritually nourished. The following are scheduled for the upcoming weeks:

- Apr 2 Maundy Thursday
Carrie Lauber
With Communion
- Apr 5 Easter Sunday
Rev. Donna Monteith
with Communion
- Apr 12 Kevin Galt
- Apr 19 Andrew Thostenson
- Apr 26 Grant Patterson
- May 3 Rev. Donna Monteith
with Communion
- May 10 Kevin Galt
- May 17 Andrew Thostenson
- May 24 TBD
- May 31 Rev. Jim Wilson



S. SCHOOL CALENDAR



There will be no Sunday School classes on Easter, April 5.

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MARCH CLERK'S CORNER



The regular meeting of the Session was held on Wednesday, March 18, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. in the Conference Room. Elders present were Amy Grossman-Tomsich, Melanie Hansen, Chris Mace, Carolyn Meester, Dave Ruhnke, and Andrew Thostenson. Temporary Moderator and Clerk of Session, Becky DeJong, was present via Zoom. Bonnie Thompson was absent.

The meeting was opened with prayer provided by Carolyn Meester.

Consent Agenda:

- a. approval of the minutes of February 18, 2026.
- b. next Session meeting – Wednesday, April 15, 2026.

Elders to serve communion on Maundy Thursday, April 2, 2026, will be Dave Ruhnke and Andrew Thostenson and on Easter Sunday, April 5, 2026, will be Chris Mace, Carolyn Meester, Dave Ruhnke, and Becky DeJong.

The financial report was read, discussed, and received.

The church rummage sale will be held on Saturday, May 9, 2026, at CPC. Start collecting your rummage!

Discussion was held regarding our church's relationship with the Presbytery. Andrew Thostenson will attend the Presbytery meeting on Saturday, March 21, 2026, and report back about the meeting.

Our church will be celebrating its centennial in 2028. Happy Birthday, CPC!!!! We are looking for volunteers to start gathering memories and planning the festivities.

Discussion was held regarding the return of visitor pads, in some form, and following up with visitors when they attend.

Linda Bishop will hold a CPR class this spring. The date will soon be an-

nounced. The cost is \$65.00 per person and there needs to be a minimum of ten participants. The church will cover \$40.00 of the registration fee which means it will only cost \$25.00 per person. Let's save lives!!

Committee reports:

Building & Grounds Trustees: The insurance policy is up-to-date.

Snow was removed from the entryway walks three times since January/February.

Trustees continue to monitor the elevator. We have had zero problems since the first week of February.

Trustees are monitoring the sanctuary furnace. The furnace continues to function without High Demand Burn. The furnace is able to warm the sanctuary without supplement when temperatures outside are above 30°F. If the temperature outside falls below 32°F, supplemental heating by the gas boiler is able to maintain 70°F in the sanctuary.

The gas boiler circulating pumps are being oiled. They are also being rotated in and out of service approximately every 30 days.

Trustees met on 3/18 (prior to Session). They are identifying and prioritizing building and grounds needs for the spring and summer. Repair/replacement bids for the sanctuary furnace will be solicited in April and presented to Session in May.

- Andrew Thostenson

Christian Education: Palms will be available to children and adults during the Palm Sunday service. An Easter Eggstravaganza will be held after the church service. A book will be read to the children followed by an Easter Egg Hunt.

The last day of Sunday School will be May 17. This will also be Teacher Appreciation Day and Senior Sunday (tentatively).

(Continued on page 3)

(Continued from page 2)

An All-Church Vacation Bible School will be July 19 (tentatively).

April Family Fun Night will be held on April 29, 5:00–7:00 p.m. There will be a puzzle competition and a baked potato bar.

- Amy Grossman-Tomsich

Mission: Mission Committee will meet on the second Wednesday of each month. One Great Hour of Sharing campaign will end on May 5 and has raised \$425.00 of the \$2000.00 goal. The mission for May will be the YWCA. Watch for a posted list of most needed items.

- Melanie Hansen

Personnel: Kaylynn Young had her six-month review. She is doing a great job. Thank you!

- Carolyn Meester

Worship: Communion preparation, pulpit supply, and the church season calendar were reviewed. Pulpit supply is covered through July 19 except for May 24. Banners and decorations were planned through Lent and the season of Easter.

It was decided to include an invitation to communion in each bulletin when communion is offered. The invitation will help visitors understand CPC's policy of offering communion for all Christian believers in attendance. Drafts will be explored and decided upon in future meetings. If the drafts do not include the standard PCUSA Book of Order language, we will bring our vetted draft to Session.

The committee may be sharing more articles explaining the purposes of sections of worship and the meaning of special days of the church calendar. Watch for these in upcoming editions of CPC's Community Call.

- Dave Ruhnke

No reports: Deacons, Nominating, Stewardship committees.

Meeting closed with unison prayer at 7:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Becky DeJong

**WHAT IS MAUNDY THURSDAY?**

by Alex Crain
excerpts from Christianity.com

Maundy Thursday is the Thursday before Easter, believed to be the day when Jesus celebrated his final Passover with His disciples. Most notably, that Passover meal was when Jesus washed the feet of His disciples in an extraordinary display of humility. He then commanded them to do the same for each other.

Christ's "mandate" is commemorated on Maundy Thursday---"maundy" being a shortened form of mandatum (Latin), which means "command." It was on the Thursday of Christ's final week before being crucified and resurrected that He said this commandment to His disciples. Jesus and his disciples had just shared what was known as the Last Supper and he was washing their feet when he stated:

"A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another" (John 13:34).

This commandment raised the definition of love to a new and higher standard. Jesus sacrificially met His followers' deepest need---that of new spiritual life and the forgiveness of sins. He even loved His enemies, and He calls us to show love to those who don't appear to deserve it. Just as Jesus loved sinners "to the end" (or "to the max" John 13:1) when He had nothing to gain from them, so must we. The Bible says that there was nothing attractive about sinful mankind that drew Him to love us. God loved us while we were yet sinners (Romans 5:8). Salvation is not only a wonderful gift that protects us from the penalty that we deserve (Romans 6:23), the work of Christ also embues new life, grants spiritual strength, and motivates godly action in those who believe.

For more on Maundy Thursday, see: <https://www.christianity.com/wiki/holidays/what-is-maundy-thursday-11628350.html>



INCOME TAX AVOIDANCE OPTIONS FOR GIVING TO CPC

The April 15th Tax Filing Date is just a few days away. This means it is time to start planning for this next tax year. Charitable contributions to CPC are considered tax deductible, but with changes in tax laws, members are turning to other ways to reduce their taxes when giving to the church.

Two viable options are direct gifts from retirement accounts and gifting highly appreciated assets that are subject to significant capital gains taxation.

- Gifting Directly from Retirement Accounts**—this method allows you to send your annual Required Minimum Distribution (which is taxable) to a charity. CPC can accept Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCD). One can gift directly to CPC without having to pay taxes on a Required Minimum Distribution (RMD). This is an option when you get to be 70.5 years old for Traditional Individual Retirement Accounts (IRA). For example, if you would like to give \$10,000 to the church in a lump sum, you could gift directly to CPC. All or a portion of your RMD would not be subject to income tax on the gift amount. Other retirement accounts that were initiated through an employer, like a 401K, have different rules than a Traditional IRA with regard to QCD. You should seek professional advice on the details, but generally, redirecting a Required Minimum Distribution to a Qualified Charitable Distribution is a viable, legal, tax avoidance approach.
- Gifting Highly Appreciated Stocks**—this method allows you to directly give highly appreciated assets to CPC without having to pay Capital Gains Tax. For example, you own stocks in XYZ Corporation. You bought stocks in 1999 when it cost \$10 per share. Now they are worth

\$100 per share. That means you have to pay Capital Gains Tax on the gain if you sell them. However, if you donate them directly to CPC, you pay zero capital gains tax. You should seek professional advice on the details, but generally, gifting stocks to CPC directly is a viable, legal, capital gains tax avoidance option.

If you have questions on the mechanics of these approaches, you can contact Kevin Galt (kgalt10244@aol.com) or Andrew Thostenson (athostenlaptop@msn.com) to hear about their experiences. They are NOT going to give you financial advice, but they will tell you how they have used these options to minimize their own taxes and maximized resources for CPC.

APRIL DATES TO REMEMBER

BIRTHDAYS

4-1	Susan Gross
4-2	Becky DeJong
4-5	Veril Larson
4-5	Brent Talley
4-14	Cathy Birrenkott
4-20	Lynn Hummel
4-23	Zaryn Hansen
4-27	Tim Hager
4-27	Andrew Thostenson
4-30	Carolyn Talley

ANNIVERSARIES

4-2-77	Greg and Carol Sterup
4-9-88	Dwight and Lisa Steffen
4-13-68	Denny and Carol Braaten
4-21-79	Larry and Vicki Peihl

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 (412-6387, cpcnews@midco.net). To have your name added to the prayer request e-list, just let her know.



FOCUS ON MISSION



Thank you to all who have contributed to One Great Hour of Sharing during Lent. We are still short of our ambitious goal of \$2,000 this year, but the fish banks have yet to be collected. They are due back at the church on Palm Sunday, March 29th. Offerings will not be remitted to the Presbytery until after Easter, April 5th, so please give generously, as you are able. As Paul told the Galatians so many years ago, "Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ."

Our mission focus after Easter, and continuing into May will be the YWCA Shelter, which serves women and children escaping abuse and homelessness.

Their current urgent needs are for fully encased/zipper waterproof mattress protectors in full or twin size; coffee, cereal, and other nonperishable food items; and size 3X women's pajamas, T-shirts and sweatshirts. These can be taken directly to the shelter, or bring them to the church and let Pastor Donna know, and she will deliver them.

Collection items (needed, but not an emergency) include:

- Hygiene items - shampoo, conditioner, face wash, antiperspirant, alcohol-free mouthwash, Vaseline/Aquaphor, cocoa oil, hair products, razors and shaving cream, and diaper rash cream
- Cleaning and Household Supplies- disinfectant wipes, all-purpose cleaner, toilet bowl cleaner, plungers, glass cleaner, dish soap, laundry pods, garbage bags
- Clothing - women's underwear, bras and sports bras; kids' socks, shoes and underwear; diapers, pull-ups and wipes (size 4 and larger)
- Dishware - bottles and sippy cups; refillable water bottles

- Over-the-counter medications - ibuprofen, Tylenol, NyQuil, Dayquil, allergy medication, Imodium

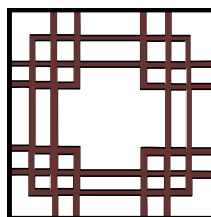
Thank you for all you do for those Christ calls his brothers and sisters.

LADIES CIRCLE

Join us every second Tuesday for Ladies Circle in the narthex. If you like, bring a sack lunch and have fellowship, coffee, and treats at 12:30 p.m. Otherwise, come ready to begin Bible study at 1:00 p.m.



Our study this year is Finding Resilience, Joy, and Our Identity in Jesus Christ by Rev. Dr. Rhshell D. Hunter and Rev. MacKichen Walker.



PRESBYTERIAN SQUARES CHOCOLATE FOR THE SOUL: WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Do you get disappointed by people – especially when they act or talk like they are so religious – and then lie or do other sinful acts in public? We have to remember we do live in a fallen world with imperfect people.

How do you find a real faith relationship with God? Not by looking to others but by seeking Him directly. Our lesson this month talks more about finding real faith in God. We will meet at 4 pm Wednesday, April 8, at the church. Have a blessed Easter!

JOIN US FOR ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL!

We meet in the upstairs conference room at 9:00 a.m. In March, we finished our study of Acts. In April we will begin studying the book of Isaiah.

Don't hesitate to join us. There is always coffee, comradery, and the gift of God's Word.





BRING OUT YOUR RUMMAGE

All hands on deck!
Everyone is needed.

CPC's Annual Rummage Sale is set for
Saturday, May 9.

Last year's venture of holding the sale onsite worked so well, we're going to try it again! So, it will be held **AT THE CHURCH** from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

In the meanwhile, *Bring Out Your Rummage!* We will accumulate rummage in a spare classroom in the annex basement; a sign will be on the door.

Set up day will be Friday, May 8th, from 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Since we will be holding the sale at our church, we will not need to transport tables, but we will still need to sort and price the rummage for the Saturday sale.

All leftover rummage will be donated to Dakota Boys Ranch.

We need:

- ⇒ Rummage—bring to the church and store in the basement classroom
- ⇒ Help with setup from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Friday, 5/8
- ⇒ Rummage wranglers and helpers during the sale on Saturday from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, 5/9
- ⇒ People to help fold tables, box surplus rummage, and haul the surplus to the Boys Ranch from about 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Saturday, 5/9

Finally, all proceeds will support the general mission of the church. This past year, rummage sale funds helped purchase digital microphones for the sanctuary and a new computer for the office.

If you have rummage you need help moving or have additional questions, contact Andrew Thostenson (e-mail at athostenlaptop@msn.com or phone at 701-373-9388).

SERVICE & FELLOWSHIP AND WORSHIP SUPPORT

Thanks to all volunteers!

Apr 5 - Group 2
Apr 12 - Group 3
Apr 19 - Group 3
Apr 26 - Group 4
May 3 - Group 4
May 10 - Group 1
May 17 - Group 1
May 24 - Group 2
May 31 - Group 2

We are looking for signups for April & May. If it is your group and you are available to help, please sign up in the narthex. We are also in need of liturgists and slide 'flippers.' These are unique opportunities to participate in worship.

If you are able to help but forgot to sign up, please email the church office at office@cpcwf.org by or on **the prior Sunday**, and we will add you to the list.



PRAYER TIME

for I know that through your prayers and God's provision of the Spirit of Jesus Christ what has happened to me will turn out for my deliverance.

Philippians 4:19

Join us for a half hour of prayer at 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, April 1, as we worship, praise, and lay our petitions before our Lord and God.

THE DEACONS CAN HELP YOU

If you or someone you love need immediate pastoral care, you can call a Deacon for help.

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

Jenni Hummel	[C] 701-371-7640
Dawn Larson	[C] 701-261-9609
Boots Misheski	[C] 701-388-7160
Lisa Steffen	[C] 701-238-9355
Cary Talley	[H] 701-282-3273
Bonnie Thompson, Session Liaison	[C] 701-799-8598





YEAR-TO-DATE GIVING UPDATE

2/28/2026

General Operating budget 2026: \$155,554.00
 Monthly funds needed to meet budget: \$12,962.83.

Total Giving February \$ 6,933.75
 Total Expenses February \$ 8,410.24

Our profit and loss for February was noticeably in the negative primarily due to heating costs, but especially for repairs to the elevator (\$1,199.38) and our sanctuary furnace (\$150.00). At the time of this writing, our elevator is performing normally. Our sanctuary furnace will likely need significant repairs/replacement before the 2026-2027 heating season.

Per Capita amount for 2026 is \$50.00 for each confirmed member. Please mark on your check or envelope as contributing to Per Capita. Total assessment for 2026 is \$4,500. So far, \$520 has been paid toward per capita.

In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'

Acts 20:35

THERE IS ROOM FOR YOU



There is room at the table to join the folks making greeting cards! Our Card Makers gather on Thursdays from 1 to 4 p.m. for fellowship and an opportunity to recycle and create cards for sale at CPC. Proceeds from the cards are used for various church projects from supporting children who attend Summer Bible Camp to purchasing items for the kitchen. Plus, they always seem to have sweet treats for a mid-afternoon break.

Interested? Just show up on Thursdays at 1 p.m. The group will welcome you and show you how to make cards!

PRESBYTERY SPRING YOUTH RETREAT



MAY 1ST - 3RD

Join us for an unforgettable weekend as we gather for SPRING YOUTH RETREAT!



What to Expect:

- ✓ Bonding
- ✓ Food, Faith, and Fun
- ✓ Service Project
- ✓ Sleepover
- ✓ Games and Movie



\$ FREE Per Attendee

📍 2900 5th St. S.
Moorhead, MN

11+

I have

No Greater Joy
 than to hear that my children are walking in the truth. 3 John 1:4



Presbyterian Women in the Northern Plains Presbytery

2026 PW Spring Gathering
 Saturday, April 25, 2026

Mendenhall Presbyterian Church
 East Grand Forks, MN
 Registration Cost: \$15.00
 Time: 10:00 a.m.

Remember a Gift Basket for the Silent Auction. All proceeds to:
 2026 PWP Mission Partner – Chogoria Ministry Team
 Dr. Carrie Lauber, Co-Team Leader & Gathering Worship Leader

RSVP to Donna Preston at 701-238-7414 or at preston@gra.midco.net
 by April 20, 2026

May's Community Call data is due Wednesday, April 22

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

Annual Income	Approximate Weekly Commitment Proportionate to 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	113.00	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



APRIL 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>**May newsletter deadline: April 22**</p> <p>Non-church scheduled events:</p> <p>Monday evenings: TOPS in Fellowship Hall</p> <p>Saturday & Sunday p.m. –HOREMOW in Sanctuary</p> <p>Sunday 12–3 p.m., Friday 7–10 p.m.—GOSHEN in Fellowship Hall</p>						
5 <i>Easter Sunday</i> NO Sunday School Worship 10:00 a.m.	6 	7	8 Mission & Outreach Com. 6:00 p.m. Pres. Squares 4 p.m.	9 PW Card Makers 1 p.m. Worship Com. 7:00 p.m.	10 	11
12 Sunday School 9 a.m. Worship 10:00 a.m.	13 Stewardship/ Personnel 6:00 p.m.	14 Ladies Circle 12:30 p.m. Lunch 1 p.m. B. Study	15 Session 7:00 p.m.	16 PW Card Makers 1 p.m.	17	18
19 Sunday School 9 a.m. Worship 10:00 a.m.	20	21	22 	23 PW Card Makers 1 p.m.	24	25 PW Spring Gathering
26 Sunday School 9 a.m. Worship 10:00 a.m.	27	28	29 All Church Family Puzzle Night Meal 5:00 p.m. Games 5:30 p.m.	30 PW Card Makers 1 p.m. Deacons 7:00 p.m.	<p>Head Ushers:</p> <p>April: Brent & Cary Talley</p> <p>May: Mel Hansen</p> <p>Amy Grossman–Tomsich</p> <p>June: Jack Smith</p>	

Community Presbyterian Church
702 Sheyenne St
West Fargo, ND 58078

701.282.4135 www.cpcwf.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Community Presbyterian Church Committees

Building & Grounds Trustees

Andrew Thostenson, Liaison
Kevin Galt Larry Peihl
Lynn Hummel Terry Meester
Veril Larson

Christian Education

Amy Grossman-Tomsich, Liaison
Emma Broe Melanie Hansen
Kevin Galt Gayle Thostenson

Deacons

Bonnie Thompson, Liaison
Jenni Hummel Lisa Steffen
Dawn Larson Cary Talley
Boots Misheski

Mission & Outreach

Melanie Hansen, Liaison
Kevin Galt Rev. Donna Monteith
Boots Misheski Dave Ruhnke

Nominating

Chris Mace, Liaison
Linda Bishop Mel Hansen
M. Engebretson Yvonne Hummel

Personnel

Carolyn Meester, Liaison
Lia Dobrinz A. Thostenson
Kevin Galt

Presbytery Delegates

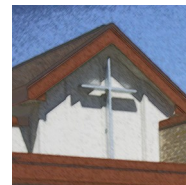
Carrie Lauber

Stewardship

Carolyn Meester, Liaison
Kevin Galt A. Thostenson
Yvonne Hummel

Worship/Service & Fellowship

Dave Ruhnke, Liaison
Linda Bishop G. Thostenson
Emma Broe Rev. Jim Wilson
Carolyn Meester



**Sunday
Worship Hours**
9 a.m. Sunday School
10 a.m. Worship Service
Fellowship following

The Session of Community Presbyterian Church of West Fargo

Temporary Moderator
& Clerk of Session: Becky DeJong
Co-Treasurers: Yvonne Hummel
Andrew Thostenson

Amy Grossman-Tomsich
Melanie Hansen
Chris Mace
Carolyn Meester
David Ruhnke
Bonnie Thompson
Andrew Thostenson

**Our mission is to know God;
to be led by the Holy Spirit; to share Christ.**