

# COMMUNITY CALL

Office Manager: Kaylynn Young; Ministers: The People of God  
702 Sheyenne St., West Fargo, ND 58078; 701-282-4135; E-mail: [office@cpwcf.org](mailto:office@cpwcf.org); Web: [www.cpcwf.org](http://www.cpcwf.org)



## RALLY SUNDAY, GOSPEL MUSIC, AND A POTLUCK

You won't want to miss this! A day of fun, music, and fellowship. Beginning on Sunday, September 7, Sunday School **for those aged 3 years and older** will recommence at 9:00 a.m., followed by worship at 10:00 a.m.

Sunday, September 7th, is also Grandparents Day! Why not make a morning of it? Grandkids, come for a fun group activity while your grandparents participate or attend adult Sunday School. Continue the day by attending a Gospel Music worship service at 10:00 a.m. with a potluck to follow.

It is always wonderful to learn more about God's word, tap your toes, sing God's praises, and eat good food while visiting with one another. Make sure to mark your calendars for this day's events.



## WEST FEST IS SEPTEMBER 20

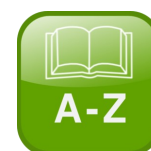
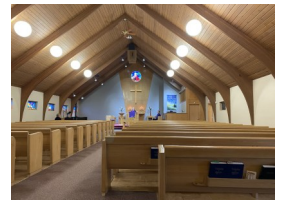
West Fest is just around the corner. And once again, CPC will be hosting a food stand in the parking lot in support of a Missions project. We'll need brats, beef wieners, buns, soda, water, bars, condiments and, of course, that loving CPC care.

Will you help us? Sign up to donate or volunteer on the West Fest sheet in the narthex. Contact Andrew Thostenson with questions.

## 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:

Sept 7 Rev. Donna Monteith  
with Communion  
Sept 14 Rev. Jim Wilson  
Sept 21 Andrew Thostenson  
Sept 28 Kevin Galt



## CPC DIRECTORIES ARE COMING SOON

Revisions are being made and printed directories of CPC Members and Friends will be available soon. Please let the church office know if you've any recent changes in your contact information.

Need a digital directory? Ask Gayle Thostenson, and she will deliver one to your email address.

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## JULY CLERK'S CORNER

The regular meeting of Session was held on Wednesday, July 16, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. in the Conference Room. Elders present were Melissa Engebretson, Amy Grossman-Tomsich, Carolyn Meester, Dave Ruhnke, Bonnie Thompson, and Andrew Thostenson. Temporary Moderator and Clerk of Session, Becky DeJong was present. Carrie Lauber was present via Zoom. Bob Kozojed and Terry Meester were present.

The meeting was opened with devotions and prayer by Becky DeJong.

### Consent Agenda:

- approval of the Session minutes of June 18, 2025
- approval of the emergency meeting minutes of April 30, 2025
- next Session meeting – Wednesday, August 20, 2025

Elders to serve communion on Sunday, August 3, 2025 will be Dave Ruhnke, Bonnie Thompson and one elder to be determined.

The financial report was read, discussed, and received.

A bathroom sign will be posted to inform all that there is a unisex bathroom downstairs.

A Pastor Nominating Committee will be formed. The congregational meeting to install the new committee will be immediately following worship on Sunday, July 27, 2025. Please plan to attend.

### Committee Reports:

**Building & Ground Trustees:** The trees have been trimmed. The toilet that went out of control has been fixed.

- Andrew Thostenson

**Christian Education:** VBS was a success on July 13. There will be a church picnic at Terry and Carolyn Meester's house on July 23 – arrive any time after 5:00 pm. There will be no family fun night in August. Rally Sunday is September 7.

- Amy Grossman-Tomsich



**Stewardship/Personnel:** Kaylynn Young, our new office administrator, is doing a great job. There has been an interest shown in a daycare renting the basement space.

- Carolyn Meester

**Worship:** Pulpit supply is filled through August 24, 2025.

- Dave Ruhnke

**No committee reports:** Deacons, Mission, Nominating

Meeting closed with unison prayer at 8:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Becky DeJong

## MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH WEST FARGO, NORTH DAKOTA



A special congregational meeting of Community Presbyterian Church was held on July 27, 2025 at 11:07 a.m. The meeting was opened in prayer by Moderator Gayle Thostenson. The clerk verified there was a quorum present with 40 people present and 4 members online.

The meeting was called for the sole purpose of electing a Pastor Nominating Committee to conduct a search for pastoral leadership for CPC.

A motion was made to authorize Session to approve the minutes of today's special congregational meeting after being attested to by the Moderator and Clerk. Carrie Lauber made a motion to authorize Session to approve the minutes of today's special congregational meeting and Terry Meester seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

A motion was made by session to nominate the following people to serve on the Pastor Nominating Committee: Linda

**(Continued on page 3)**

**(Continued from page 2)**

Bishop, Kevin Galt, Ray Kercher, Becky Mace, Terry Meester and Cary Talley. Session made the motion and it was unanimously approved.

The moderator thanked all who have agreed to serve and then closed the meeting with prayer at 11:10 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Becky DeJong  
Clerk of Session

### **AUGUST CLERK'S CORNER**



The regular meeting of Session was held on Wednesday, August 20, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. in the Conference Room. Elders present were Amy Grossman-Tomsich, Carrie Lauber, Dave Ruhnke, and Andrew Thostenson. Temporary Moderator and Clerk of Session, Becky DeJong was present. Melissa Engebretson, Bonnie Thompson, and Carolyn Meester were absent.

The meeting was opened with devotions and prayer provided by Melissa Engebretson and read by Becky DeJong.

#### **Consent Agenda:**

- a. approval of the minutes of July 16, 2025 and special congregational meeting of July 27, 2025
- b. next Session meeting – September 17, 2025

#### **Clerk's report –**

Kay Munsch died on June 15, 2025. Her memorial service was held at Riverview Place Chapel on June 19, 2025 and she was buried at Oakes View Cemetery in the Veteran's section.

Elders to serve communion on Sunday, September 7, 2025, will be Amy Grossman-Tomsich, Dave Ruhnke, Andrew Thostenson and one elder to be determined.

The financial report was read, discussed and received.

We will be running the brat/hotdog stand during the parade at West Fest on Saturday, September 20. Be watching

for ways that you can help!!

Discussion was held regarding the use of the parking lot by nearby neighbors.

#### **Committee reports:**

**Building & Grounds Trustees:** Trustees have been working on a chronic freeze-up situation with our air conditioning system for the sanctuary. This occurred in late June, mid-July, and as recently as August 17. We are able to maintain cooling if the condensation line is checked and cleaned weekly. (Bacterial sludge has been plugging the line and precipitating the AC freeze-up.) We are going to try some bactericide tablets in the condensate pan this week to see if we can eliminate the line plugging problem. The old surplus vacuum was sold in early July. We continue to advertise the availability of a surplus floor cleaning machine. We plan to put up for sale the old "Welcome Center" desk in September. Tree limb pruning is also planned for September.

- Andrew Thostenson

**Christian Education:** Rally Sunday will be on September 7 with a potluck following the worship service.

Family Fun night will be on September 24 from 5:00-7:00. There will be hotdogs, brats and hamburgers and Kuub and Cornhole.

- Amy Grossman-Tomsich

**Mission and Outreach:** Discussion was held regarding helping a family in need. The mission focus for August is Bdecean and for September is PATH.

- Carrie Lauber

**Personnel:** The committee will conduct a review with Kaylynn Young. She is doing great and very appreciated!

- Carolyn Meester

**Stewardship:** Stewardship Sunday will be September 28th. Mid-year contribution reports, stewardship letter, and pledge reports will be mailed early September.

- Carolyn Meester

**(Continued on page 4)**

**(Continued from page 3)**

Worship: Pulpit supply is filled through September.

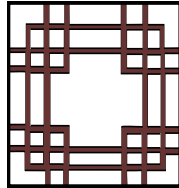
- Dave Ruhnke

No committee reports: Deacons, Nominating.

Meeting closed with unison prayer at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Becky DeJong

**CHOCOLATE!**  
**WOMEN'S**  
**BIBLE STUDY**  
**BEGINNING**  
**IN OCTOBER**



Did I catch your attention? This year our Bible study is called Chocolate for Your Soul. Many of us crave chocolate yet it never really satisfies – we want more and more chocolate. In our study we will find ways to deter that craving with other alternatives. We will learn to let go of guilt, find grace, and recapture the life God craves for us to live. And yes, there will be a few chocolate recipes along with the study!

Feel welcome to come to the church at 4:00 p.m. starting Wednesday, October 1, for our first study. We are a relaxed, laid-back group who support one another and enjoy studying the Word of God.



**THERE IS ROOM**  
**FOR YOU**

There is room at the table to join the folks making cards! Our Card Group gathers on Thursdays from 1 to 4 p.m. for fellowship and an opportunity to recycle and create cards for sale at Community Presbyterian Church. 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!

**MISSION &**  
**OUTREACH**  
**COMMITTEE UPDATE**



A huge thank you to everyone who brought diapers and wipes for our June and July collection for Churches United. They were VERY excited when they saw the full vehicle. Totals have been announced, but are worth repeating. We collected 1,663 diapers; 6,376 wipes; and 90 adult products. We were a bit short of our goal in diapers, but blew the rest away, so... GOOD JOB! There are a lot of relieved parents and happy babies at the shelter thanks to you!



Our August collection is money and items for the Winter Wear Giveaway at Bdecan. Many of the students are on the bus for long periods each day, and need the warm clothes in case of a breakdown on the less-than-perfect roads around their homes, as well as for going out at recess. We set a goal of collecting \$1,000 to assist in clothing some of the about 160 students they outfit each year. If you haven't already, please give generously, either in the offering plate or online. Thank you for your support.



In September, we will be collecting new household items for students served by Nexus-PATH who are aging out of the foster system, and could use some support in setting up their first apartments. Items they especially need this year include silverware, shower curtains, cleaning supplies (both bathroom and kitchen,) paper products, and full-size sheets. Boots has prepared a new list of needed items that is available at the church. If you are unable to shop yourself, Boots and Donna will be happy to be your personal shoppers. Thank you for all you do to get these young people set up for success in their futures following a shaky start for many.



## WEDNESDAY 10:00 A.M. BIBLE STUDY RECOMMENCES



Every Wednesday, beginning September 10th and through October, all are welcome to join us as Bonnie Thompson leads a study of the Lord's Prayer.

Should this prayer really be called the Disciples' Prayer since Jesus shared it with His friends to teach them about prayer? In this study, we hope to begin to pray as Jesus instructed us and develop a passion for prayer along the way.



## JOIN US FOR ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL!

We meet in the upstairs conference room at 9:00 a.m. We are continuing our study of Acts which should take us to the year's end when we'll begin a new study--subject yet to be determined. Don't hesitate to join us. There is always coffee, comradery, and God's gift of the Bible.

## MEN'S BIBLE STUDY



Attention all men! You are invited to join a Men's Bible Study. We meet every other Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. in the church narthex.

Our current study focuses on Acts. We cover a chapter each meeting with much discussion. Bring your Bible and a concordance, if you have one.

Please contact Dave Ruhnke for further information.



## PRAYER TIME

*Let my prayer be counted as incense before you, and the lifting up of my hands as an evening sacrifice.*  
Psalm 141:2

Join us for a half hour of prayer at 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, September 3, as we worship, praise, and lay our petitions before our Lord and God.

## LADIES CIRCLE



Ladies, beginning September 9th, 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. Rhashell D. Hunter and Rev. MacKichen Walker.

In this Bible study, we will explore resilience. This is modeled for us by several biblical characters, gospel and epistle writers, as well as Jesus. So, what exactly is resilience?

Resilience is the ability to spring back into shape and to adapt well in the face of adversity, trauma, tragedy, threats, or stress—such as from family, relationships, health, workplace, and financial stressors. People who survive and thrive well in change are resilient.

The Bible study is also about joy. How do we find joy in a chaotic world? Christian joy may be different from how a lot of people define joy.

Joy is sometimes confused with happiness. For Christians, joy can occur while we are in the midst of difficult circumstances. Joy is the second fruit of the spirit, preceded by love and followed by peace. [Gal. 5:22-23] Trusting in God when we are in trying times can fill us with glorious joy and peace. We have joy in our suffering, because ultimately our joy is found in Jesus Christ.

We will also seek to rediscover our identity.

Identity is more than who we are or who we show ourselves to be. At its core, it points to our humanity. Our core identity is not found in our titles, our positions, our spouses, our partners, or our possessions. For Christians, our identity is found in Jesus Christ.

## SEPTEMBER DATES TO REMEMBER

### BIRTHDAYS

9-6 Bruce Steele  
9-13 Ann Chale  
9-16 Dale Matzke  
Vicky Whitcomb  
9-17 Lee Dobrinz  
9-19 Debbie Matzke  
9-25 Joan Hall

### ANNIVERSARIES

9-25-93 Brent and Carolyn Talley  
9-29-79 Veril and Dawn Larson



## GROWING OPPORTUNITIES RIGHT IN OUR BACKYARD



Have you noticed how wonderful the garden behind the church is looking lately? Alex Misheski started the garden at the church many years ago. NDSU master gardeners have been caretaking it ever since, yielding lovely flowers for the bees and butterflies and fresh food we

can share with others via the F-M Emergency Food Pantry's Veggies for the Pantry.

The news is that, due to health concerns, this is the NDSU master gardeners' last year of gardening at CPC. **BUT**, they are willing to mentor someone new to continue the project.



Is that someone you or someone you know? If you have questions, if God is nudging you, or if you know someone who would be great for this project, let Gayle Thostenson know, and she will connect you with the gardeners.

## MORE GROWING OPPORTUNITIES TO HELP YOUR COMMUNITY



If you have a garden at home, you may be able to help by sharing your vegetable harvest. Veggies for the Pantry parks in our east parking lot Mondays from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. until the first frost. They accept donations of surplus garden produce from you and others in the area for the F-M Emergency Food Pantry who will share with people who are in need and normally do not receive fresh produce. CPC itself contributes by watering its backyard garden and sharing its produce.

Thank you, in advance, for sharing your surplus garden produce with the hungry in our community.



## SAVE THE DATE NEW LIFE CENTER -THE UNTOLD STORY DESSERT & FUNDRAISER

6 PM | Social & Light Appetizers  
7 PM | Program

Discover what lies beyond the surface. Join us on October 7 for The Untold Story—an evening of desserts and testimonies that invites you to see the humanity in every life impacted by hunger, homelessness, and addiction. Come for dessert. Leave inspired.

For more information or tickets, go to <https://www.fargonlc.org/events>

## CHOCOLATE FOR CHANGE?

Mark your calendars for YWCA's annual Chocolate for Change event on Thursday, September 4, from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Delta by Marriott. Activities include Desserts & Chili, a Silent Auction, Games of Chance, and the sale of to-go desserts.



For more information and to buy tickets, go to <https://www.ywcacassclay.org/events/chocolate>

## YEAR-TO-DATE GIVING UPDATE

07/31/2025



General Operating budget  
2025: \$149,437.00  
Monthly funds needed to meet budget:  
\$12,453.00.

Total Giving July                   \$ 7,694.34  
Total Expenses July                 \$ 3,777.08

Per Capita amount for 2025 is \$50.00 for each confirmed member. Please mark on your check or envelope as contributing to Per Capita. Total assessment for 2025 is \$5,300. So far, \$2,045 has been paid toward per capita.

Let us "spur one another on toward love and good deeds." Let us continue to encourage each other, even if times are tough. We do not trust in one who is unreliable; we trust in the one who is faithful. Let us continue to be encouraged and to encourage one another in the Lord.



## THE DEACONS CAN HELP YOU

If you or someone you love needs 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
Patty Smith	[H]	701-540-6658
	[C]	970-209-3517
Cary Talley	[H]	701-282-3273
Bonnie Thompson, Session Liaison	[C]	701-799-8598

## PRAYER CHAIN

With the CPC prayer chain, we share the needs and concerns of our church family. If you have a prayer concern, please contact Gayle Thostenson (701-412-6387, [cpcnews@midco.net](mailto:cpcnews@midco.net)). To have your name added to the prayer request e-list, just let Gayle know.



## SERVICE & FELLOWSHIP AND OTHER WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES



Thanks to everyone who has signed up to help serve coffee and treats or to usher.

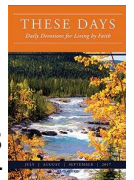
Sept 7 - Group 3  
Sept 14 - Group 4  
Sept 21 - Group 4  
Sept 28 - Group 1  
Oct 5 - Group 1  
Oct 12 - Group 2  
Oct 19 - Group 2  
Oct 26 - Group 3

We are looking for people to sign up for September and October. 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' for the fall. 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](mailto:office@cpcwf.org) by or on **the prior Sunday**, and we will add you to the list.



## DEVOTIONAL BOOKLETS AVAILABLE



Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man shall not

live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" Matthew 4:4

Searching for daily spiritual nourishment? Two types of daily devotionals are available on the small table outside the church sanctuary.

Our Daily Bread and These Days are available in differently-sized print. Both devotionals have specific-to-the-date scriptures accompanied with a related lesson and prayer. Feel free to take one home with you for daily use.

**October Community Call's data  
is due Thursday, September 18**



## 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 <sup>st</sup> ____ OR 16 <sup>th</sup> ____	<u>TWICE A MONTH</u> 1 <sup>st</sup> AND 16 <sup>th</sup> ____
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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)

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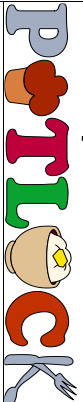





### **Forms accepted at any time**

	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	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





# SEPTEMBER 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><u>Head Ushers:</u>  Sept: Duane &amp; Emma Broe  Oct: Larry Peihl  Nov: Lee Dobrinz</p>	1 <i>Labor Day</i> Veggie Pantry 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. 	2	3 Prayer 9:30 a.m. Christian Ed. 6:00 p.m.	4 PW Card Makers 1:00 p.m. Worship Com. 7:00 p.m.	5	6
	8 Veggie Pantry Until 1st Frost 	9 Ladies Circle 12:30 p.m. Lunch 1 p.m. B. Study Mission & Outreach 6:00 p.m.	10 Trustees 7:00 p.m.	11 PW Card Makers 1:00 p.m.	12	13
7 <b>Sunday School</b> <b>Begins at 9:00 a.m.</b> Gospel Hymn Worship 10:00 a.m. 						
14 Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:00 a.m. Fellowship following	15 Veggie Pantry ?? 	16 Stewardship/ Personnel Com. 7:00 p.m.	17 Session 7:00 p.m.	18  Newsletter is due Today!!! PW Card Makers 1:00 p.m.	19	20  West Fest
21 Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:00 a.m. Fellowship following	22 Veggie Pantry ?? 	23	24 Family Fun Night 5-7 p.m.	25 PW Card Makers 1:00 p.m. Deacons 7:00 p.m.	26	27
28 Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Worship 10:00 a.m. Fellowship following	29 Veggies for the Pantry? 6:30-7:30 p.m. 	30	<p><u>October newsletter deadline: September 18</u>  Mon. evenings: TOPS; Sat. &amp; Sun. p.m.- HOREMOW  Sun. 12-3 p.m., 3rd Fri. 7-10 p.m.- GOSHEM-Fellowship Hall</p>			

Community Presbyterian Church  
702 Sheyenne St  
West Fargo, ND 58078

701.282.4135    [www.cpcwf.org](http://www.cpcwf.org)

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

## Community Presbyterian Church Committees

### Building & Grounds Trustees

Andrew Thostenson, Liaison  
Melanie Hansen    Larry Peihl  
Veril Larson        Brent Talley  
Terry Meester

### Christian Education

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

### Deacons

Bonnie Thompson, Liaison  
Jenni Hummel    Patricia Smith  
Dawn Larson    Cary Talley  
Boots Misheski

### Mission & Outreach

Carrie Lauber, Liaison  
Kevin Galt        Dave Ruhnke  
Boots Misheski    Bonnie Thompson  
Rev. Donna Monteith

### Nominating

Melissa Engebretson, Liaison  
Linda Bishop    Yvonne Hummel  
Mel Hansen    Dawn Larson

### Personnel

Carolyn Meester, Liaison  
Lia Dobrinz    A. Thostenson  
Kevin Galt

### Presbytery Delegates

Kevin Galt        Carrie Lauber  
Lee Dobrinz--Alternate

### Stewardship

Carolyn Meester, Liaison  
Kevin Galt        Carolyn Meester  
Yvonne Hummel    A. Thostenson

### Worship/Service & Fellowship

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



**Sunday  
Worship Hours**  
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

Melissa Engebretson  
Amy Grossman-Tomsich  
Carrie Lauber  
Carolyn Meester  
David Ruhnke  
Bonnie Thompson  
Andrew Thostenson

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