The staff of the United Presbyterian Church wishes you a very blessed Christmas and a Happy New year!



UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

302 2nd Avenue SE Jamestown, ND 58401 Phone (701) 252-1748 website: www.upcjamestown.org e-mail: presbyterianchurch@daktel.com

FALL-SPRING WORSHIP HOURS

Sunday School 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:30 AM Facebook 10:30 AM Youtube 10:30 AM

SECRETARIAL HOURS 10:00 AM-2:00 PM Monday-Thursday

For corrections or additions to the newsletter please call the church office—252-1748

DECEMBER WORKMONTH FAMILIES

Chairpersons:	
Wegner, Yvonne	952-2399
Wegner, Doreen	952-1789
Burgard, Joe & Nancy	952-005
Haag, Theresa	320-3599
Hoffman, Larry & Bev	252-2668
Johnson, Terry & Deb	763-6245
McIntyre, Tony & Reina	368-9784
Reimers, Doug and Mary Claire	320-7680
Schmitz, Chuck & Bonnie	252-0191
Schmuhl, Carroll & Opal	269-6032
Tarpinian, Jackie`	269-1515
Wegner, Dean & Kathy	252-3980
Weispfenning, Bill & Diane	320-5610

The Communicator

United Presbyterian Church of Jamestown, ND

Volume 48, December 2021

Sharing Christ's Love Through Service

State Hospital Client Gifts

Please remember to bring your gift items to the church by December 1 for State Hospital Clients. They have to be turned in to the hospital by the first week of December. Thank you!

Toys for Tots

Zimmerman's Furniture is the drop site for your gift items.

Christian Nurture

Please see page three for details about the annual Christmas Program and Sunday School Christmas party.

Mission Update

The Kramlich family, former missionaries to Africa, have sent the church an update with pictures. Turn to page 6 to catch up with what is happening in their lives now.

Bell Ringing

If you would like to ring the bells for the Salvation Army see page for more details on how you can participate in this worthy endeavor.

Advent Bible Study

See page 5 for the Advent Bible Study schedule. This Bible study will take place each Wednesday at 6:00 PM by Zoom.



Blessings to All! Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

The wisdom of Christ's hand in our lives oftentimes is seen in retrospect. But with a new perspective knowing that God faithfully journeyed with us through these times, we enter another season with so much to thank God for. This congregation has continually served and persevered with God's ministry during the 6 years I have been working alongside with you in ministry. It was with great joy and gratitude for this past Pastor Appreciation Month with the outpouring of this congregation's generosity to me and my wife Ellen. Filled with hope, we say goodbye to 2021 and welcome in 2022, and we all look forward to another wonderful year of worship, fellowship, mission, and ministry with you all in this congregation.

The gift without the giver is bare, and so is Christmas without Jesus. Christmas is the coming of light in a world of darkness and light subdues darkness. It is God breaking through all the barriers. It is strength, power and might redefined in the form of a newborn baby. Christmas is peace, love, joy, and hope. Just as the light spreads from the advent wreath in the sanctuary to those that are singing in the pews; Christmas is the light of Christ spreading into the hearts of the faithful and being carried out into the world. It is not about "happily ever after." It is about the presence of God in the midst of real life. Our God Immanuel!

It is a reminder that right here in the world there is a promise that God is with us. That in this very time with many difficulties, diseases, and death there is hope. That even with the struggle and upheaval there is peace.

In his book, *Rediscover Jesus*, by Matthew Kelly there is a story about someone who was rushing around trying to make a flight at the airport with his friends. So, they ran out of the building to get a taxi and ran right into a woman selling food from a produce cart. All of the fruits and vegetables were strewn all over the sidewalk. As the friends encouraged him to keep going, he looked back and noticed that the woman was blind and just stood there with tears streaming down her face. Despite the friends screaming to him to get in the taxi, he told them to go on without him. He returned to the woman and started picking up the food and neatly organizing it on the cart. The woman turned to him and said, "Are you Jesus?" He was startled and said, "No, of course not!" The woman said, "Oh, because I just prayed for Jesus to help me, and you showed up." May we be Jesus' hands and feet for someone in our lives. Another classic example that for some people we are the only Bible they can read! This cold Advent, let us warm the hearts of people and continue to show God's love through our heartfelt service. Blessed Christmas for you all!

Pastor Bob Boyar

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December 2021



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
			Wednesday Bible Study on Zoom 6:00 PM Confirmation 7:00 Choir Practice 7:00	2 да 7:00 рм	3	4 MIP Class 8:00-3:30 P
S SS 9:00 AM Worship 10:30 AM 2nd Sunday of Advent	6 Property & Finance Com. 5:00	Christian Nurture 5:30 PM Deacons 6:15 PM	Wednesday Bible Study Zoom 6:00 PM Confirmation 7:00 Choir Practice 7:00	9 Session 5:15 PM AA 7:00 PM	10	11
12 SS 9:00 AM Worship 10:30 AM Third Sunday of Advent	13	14	Wednesday Bible Study on Zoom 6:00 PM Confirmation 7:00 Choir Practice 7:00	16 aa 7:00 pm	17	18
19 SS 9:00 AM Worship 10:30 Christmas Joy Offering Christmas Program	20	21	Wednesday Bible Study on Zoom 6:00 PM Confirmation 7:00 Choir Practice 7:00	23 ал 7:00 рм	24 Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 5:00	25 Christmas
26 Sunday School 9:00 AM Worship 10:30 AM	27 Office Closed for Christmas Holiday	28	29 Choir Practice 7:00	30 aa 7:00 pm	31 New Years Eve	

December 19

Christmas Program and congregational meal after worship

December 24

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

5:00 PM



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Theresa McMillan	1
Dixie Lee	12
Gabby Tarr	15
Erna Schwind	18
Elizabeth Sherfy	18
Mark Sherfy	18
Marge Nething	22
David Muhs	24
Nancy Fletcher	27
Arlene Johnson	30



Happy Anniversary

Anniversaries in December

Church established 1879 5
Bruce & Roni Berg 18

Christmas Nurture

Christmas Program

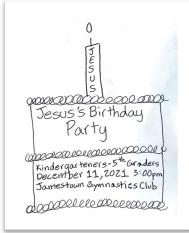
Please join us on Sunday, December 19 for the annual Christmas Program held during worship. The Youth and children will be presenting *The Birth of Jesus*. This pageant is written directly from the Bible. A catered meal will be served after worship in the fellowship hall.

Practices will be held December 5, 12 and 19 during the Sunday School hour.

There will be no Sunday School on Sunday, December 26.

Christmas Party

Kids K-5th grade will be having a party to celebrate Jesus' birth on December 11 at 3:00 PM at Jamestown Gymnastics Club. You won't want to miss this!



Food Pantry/Personal Item Donations

There is a shopping cart in the narthex where donations for the Food Pantry are accepted. Your contributions are very much appreciated. Due to such a high demand this season the Salvation Army and Community Action are stretched to their limits. Anything you can do to help would be greatly appreciated!

Deacon's Continuous Mission Project: What a great opportunity for us to continue our community outreach. We will be partnering with several churches to collect personal hygiene items for the Salvation Army (throughout the entire year). Our items of choice are **bar soap, tooth brushes and tooth paste**. A collection box will be located by our food pantry cart for your convenience. We sincerely appreciate your support with this project. Please help us help those less fortunate than us. On behalf of the Deacons thank you for all your generosity!!

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Session Highlights for November

- December 2021 Elder of the Month: N/A
- December 2021 Elder/Deacon Home Communion: N/A
- Marjory Ackerman, former Presbytery Leader, was terminated at the Presbytery meeting in Bismarck on Saturday, November 6, 2021.
- The youth plan to help with ringing the bell for the Salvation Army in December (date TBD).

We are planning to host a "Birthday Party for Jesus" at the Jamestown Gymnastics Club on Saturday, December 11th for our Kindergarten thru 5th graders.

We brought back Worship bags for students at the beginning of November. The first week out they were well received.

The children's nativity service will be held on December 19th at 10:30am. Children and youth will be practicing each Sunday in December during the Sunday School hour.

- UPC has signed up to ring the Salvation Army 'Red Kettle' bells December 13th 18th at Cash Wise in the entryway. Jackie Tarpinian is heading this project. Gifts for the State Hospital patients are being collected. A list of suggested items and a box for the items are available in narthex.
- Mark Lee moved/2nd, "to approve a dinner, by TJ's Catering, after the December 19th Christmas program. The Deacons will provide the desserts." **MOTION CARRIED**
- The Worship Committee recommends, "to approve a Christmas Eve service December 24th, 2021 at 5pm." MOTION CARRIED
- Class of 2024 Elders: Danielle Geisler, Charley Keesee and Mary Reed (all 1st Term).
 - Class of 2024 Deacons: Delbert Bossingham (2nd Term) and Janet Miller and Jerome Zamgba (1st Term).

 Mark Sherfy moved/2nd, "to approve Mary Reed as UPC Treasurer and
- Nancy Burgard as UPC Clerk of Session for 2022." Mary and Nancy agreed to positions. MOTION CARREID

Respectfully submitted, Nancy Burgard, Clerk

Our Church Leadership

Elders

Nancy Burgard, Clerk of Session

<u>Class of 2021</u>	<u>Class of 2022</u>	Class of 2023
Angie Allmer	Gail Martin	Duane Dunn
Charlotte Enger	Sylvia Pringle	Mark Lee
Danielle Geisler		Mark Sherfy

Deacons

<u>Class of 2021</u>	<u>Class of 2022</u>	<u>Class of 2023</u>
Delbert Bossingham	Jim Bond	Susan Bond
Diane Witzig	Dixie Lee	Vicki Enger
Sandy Worm	Doreen Wegner	Jackie Tarpinian

Church Leadership Team

Pastor: Rev. Robert Boyar (814-937-9225) email: rab316.bb@gmail.com

Commissioned Ruling Elder: William Weispfenning (320-1739)

Christian Education Coordinator: Tammie Keesee (903-399-5690) email: tdsprott@gmail.com Administrative Assistant: Sharon Watson (252-1748) email: presbyterianchurch@daktel.com

Financial Secretary: Tammie Skari email: sfamily@daktel.com

Organist/Choir Director: David Morlock (252-4572)

Treasurer: Mary Reed

Financial Update

(General fund activity as of October 31, 2021)

General Fund Revenue for October	\$16,213.81
General Fund Expenses for October	\$19,621.58
Excess Income/Loss for September	\$(3,407.77)
-	
Year to Date Revenue	\$205,184.93
Year to Date Expenses	\$160,738.13
Year to Date Excess Income/Loss	\$ 44,446.80

We thank you for your continued support of United Presbyterian Church!

Per Capita Payments: We encourage all members to pay their per-capita as a gift above and beyond their annual pledge. Our per-capita is based on \$48.00 for each active member of our church. To submit a check for percapita, simply write "Per-capita" on the memo line of your check.

Stewardship

Our world has many mission needs, and one of the greatest joys in Christian life is to participate in meeting these mission needs. Our generosity can profoundly affect the lives of others, while bringing us closer to God and connecting us with the world we live in. Being gracious and generous to others, as God has been gracious and generous to us, is an expression of love and selflessness.

The question of how and how much to give does not have an easy answer, but there is a simple first step in figuring it out. By opening our hearts and listening to how God speaks to us, we can faithfully discern our ability to return God's gifts to their owner. Our Session is currently following that same practice, prayerfully reflecting on the resources entrusted to us, and planning how we can do God's will in the coming year.

Each of you is an important part of this process, and we ask you to help us by planning your financial gifts for the coming year through the enclosed pledge card. Not only does this have great practical meaning to our financial planning team, it is also an important spiritual discipline that keeps us grounded in good stewardship practices and fosters faith and responsibility. One important consideration in your discernment is that our staff salary costs are budgeted for a 3% increase in the coming year. Please return your filled out pledge card to the church as soon as you are able. You can bring it to church and place it in the offering or mail it to the church.

For individuals who itemize, the CARES Act allows deductions for cash donations of up to 100% of your 2021 adjusted gross income. For those who take the standard deduction, the bill allows for as much as \$300 (\$600 for married couples filing joint returns) in annual charitable contributions (cash or cash equivalents) to be directly subtracted from your gross income.



Deacons, thank you very much for the breads & hot chocolate mix!! Mmm-good!! Wishing you all Happy Holidays!! Dick & Colleen Nelson

Friends in Jesus, Thank you for your generous donation to the Bdecan Ministry for our winter wear drive. We distributed the winter wear on November 10 which was timely for our first snow storm.

—Bob & Rosie

Dear UPC, Thank you for the gift card and continued thoughts and prayer over the years. I appreciated all your well wishes. —Warrant Officer Jordan Gengler



In continuing to live up to our mission statement "Sharing Christ's Love Through Service" the Deacons have signed up our church for a week of bell-ringing for the Salvation Army. The dates are December 13 through the 18th, inside CashWise grocery store. The times are 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Monday through Friday and 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on

Saturday the 18th.

We ask for only one hour but several have signed up for more.

There will be a chair and a stool for those where an hour of standing might be difficult. Families are welcome to get their children involved.

If you are unable to come to the church to sign up, call Jackie Tarpinian (269-1515) and she will have the available hours for you.



"Maybe Christmas (he thought) doesn't come from a store.

Maybe Christmas perhaps means a little bit more."

—The Grinch

Advent Bible Study

Wednesdays at 6:00 PM on Zoom

Contact Pastor Bob for Zoom link and discussion questions.

December 1 Zachariah's Prophesy Luke 1:68-79 John the Baptist Prepares the Way Luke 3:1-6

December 8 John the Baptist continued Luke 3:7-18

December 15 Mary visits Elizabeth Luke 1:39-45
The Magnificat Luke 1:47-55

December 22 The Birth of Jesus Christ Luke 2:1-20

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Mission Committee

The following is an update from Jackie (Watts) Kramlich. For those of you who do not know Jackie and her husband Chris, they grew up in Jamestown and served a mission in Africa. Our church financially helped them when they were in Africa. While there, they adopted four children who are growing up fast, as you will see by the pictures. Jackie is the daughter of Gary and Myra Watts. They all now live in Spokane, WA. It was suggested by a church member that we get an update from them since many of us know them and communicate with them. The mission committee was glad to follow up on the suggestion.

Kramlichs:

Everyone is doing well! Just like everyone else in the world, our lives were turned upside down with the pandemic, but we are incredibly fortunate to all be healthy. I will go through and give a short little blurb on everyone:)

Joanne (17yo): "JoJo" is bold, kind, and helpful. She is the quintessential oldest child. When she is not at school or doing her homework, she is hanging out with her many friends. She is quite the social butterfly! She started a lawn-mowing business which also keeps her busy on the weekends. She loves to draw and to cook. She is still deciding what to do after high school, but has shown some interest in the healthcare field.

Benitah (15yo): Benitah is clever, patient, and dedicated. She is the academic of the family! If she isn't doing homework, she can be found reading ahead for her classes or just reading her own books. She is a fantastic dancer and will also hopefully be starting dance classes again soon. She is determined to learn Spanish as quickly as possible this year, and also has been recruited by her sister to help with the lawn-mowing business. She is currently interested in becoming a financial planner.

Suubi (13yo): Suubi is energetic, artistic, and joyful. He doesn't walk places, he either runs or bounces! Definitely the "Tigger" of the family, he can be found out playing with the many neighbor kids, organizing a game of four-square, or heading out on biking adventures to the park. If you do happen to catch him sitting down, he is likely drawing. He hasn't given too much thought to his future yet, but we think that's okay. Living in the moment is one of his defining traits!

Joram (12yo): Joram is wise, caring, and hilarious. Oscillating between the family sage and family comedian, he definitely always has something to say! He just started middle school this year, which he has been enjoying immensely. He is also an excellent dancer and loves to put on a show. Thinking about his future may actually be one of his favorite pastimes. He spends hours building intricate creations out of legos, and he hopes to work in engineering someday.

Chris is still busy working in the sleep lab at a hospital in town. He just got into grad school to earn his Masters in Marriage and Family Therapy and will be starting classes in the next couple weeks. If he isn't fixing something around the house or working on a project, you can find him camping, riding his motorcycle, or rock climbing.

I am still in school full time, working on my Doctor of Nursing Practice degree, specializing in Psychiatric and Mental Health Nursing Practice. I am in my final year and can finally see the light at the end of the tunnel! My doctoral proposal was just recently approved and I hope to complete all of my clinical rotations by the end of next summer. If I am not trying to keep up with school, chasing kids around, or chatting with Chris, I am likely on a walk or hike with my mom and dad.

We miss all of you at UPC so much and hope you are all well!



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