



The North Hill Christian

Spokane, WA

April 2024 Vol 71 #4

Flurries from Chris

This past Easter Sunday, I had a wonderful conversation with one of our visitors that highlighted to me the difference between welcoming and affirming. Our visitor was very pleasantly surprised by our attitude in worship. An attitude that did not require strict behavior expectations but rather one that recognized that we, and especially kids cannot always be expected to sit still in worship.

When I think about being a welcoming church to any demographic, we welcome their attendance in our worship and support of our ministries. However we also expect them to conform to our standards. Sometimes that looks like conforming to what we deem appropriate attire in worship. And other times there is an expectation of behavior.

I know growing up in a church that had two different worship styles I felt more comfortable in the one that made me comfortable as I was rather than requiring strict adherence to the expectations.

Many of us who have grown up in the church likely remember being told how to behave in worship. Usually sitting still at all times. Not speaking up unless asked. And always wearing our best clothes, and doing all that we could to keep them clean. Those are some of the requirements that I think of when I hear the words welcoming. We welcome you to join us but you also have to live into our expectations.

On the other hand there is the term affirming. Currently this is a term used regarding Open and Affirming churches, specifically around LGBTQIA+ demographics, but it can be used much broader than that. This term at its root is an affirmation of who each individual is at their core and does not require that they change to fit expectations.

This past Easter Sunday, this was expressed as the children may not have been sitting still or quiet, but their was not fuss raised. Instead our visitor recognized that another worshiper sought to help with the kids instead of expecting the kids act like adults who may be more suited to sitting still for long periods of time. In affirming an individual we recognize that it is an undue burden to expect them to live into unrealistic expectations that we may have grown up with.

I was happy to hear a visitor highlight our acts of affirmation in how we worship and I wanted to thank you all for making our sanctuary a place where everyone can be themselves, as they are.

Peace in Christ,

Chris Snow

Weekly Events

Attitude Adjustment

Every day at noon and 5:30 p.m.

Citizenship Preparation

Thursdays 6-7 PM.

1st Ukrainian Baptist Church

Worship: Sun. 2-6 p.m.

Study & Choir: Tues. 6-9 p.m.



Meals on Wheels

Meals on Wheels delivers hot meals to clients every weekday. North Hill Christian is responsible for delivering one week a month. Please call or email Michele Fleck, (509) 327-3451, michele_fleck@comcast.net





Spring Cleaning

As spring is quickly approaching, this means it is time to do some cleaning up around the grounds of the church, and we could use your help. On April 6th at 10 am we will begin an all church clean up. If weather is bad it will be moved to April 20th. Once again, we have a whole list of projects to complete that span the range of physical abilities. The property team invites you to come as you are to help us spruce up the grounds of our church.

THANK YOU!!!

A big “Thank You” goes to Bob Hooker and the crew of guys who hosted the loaded baked potato luncheon on March 17th. Our gratitude goes to the ladies who shared desserts to top off this delicious meal. “Yea” to Bob Burkhead and Sheila McCrea for sharing their talents at calling bingo. Those who added to the white elephant donations were much appreciated. A great time was had by all who shared the fun, food, fellowship and the “treasures”.

Burst Pipe

Due to an unforeseen burst pipe in January (which was fixed as soon as it was discovered), we are looking at a water bill that is about \$600 above what we normally pay. Any extra donations to help cover this unexpected cost will be appreciated.



Nominating Committee Work Underway

The nominating committee is beginning their work on identifying, contacting, and confirming the slate of officers, and servants of the congregation beginning their terms this summer. While we prayerfully consider this important role in our congregation we could use your help.

Please keep us in your prayers, but also consider how you might be called to serve our congregation in the coming years. Are you called to be an officer of the board (vice moderator). Are you called to represent our congregation at the board meetings as a member at large? Are you called to lead one of

Prayer Concerns

- The people of Gaza, Israel, and Ukraine
- Kathy Riley continuing cancer treatments.
- Bobbie Belton is asking prayers for Lil Hairston. She has stopped eating.
- Prayers for Elizabeth Mitchell who is in a new chapter in her life.
- Continued prayers for Lil Hairston.
- Bobbie said the eye surgery for her friend, Margaret was successful and thanks for the prayers.
- Continued prayers for Dave Medina for issues with left foot and left eye. Also problems with right knee.

Joys

- Pastors sister, Melissa, is doing very well with her cancer treatments.
- Also Pastor Chris has been honored to be invited to lead training for NBA. More info to follow.

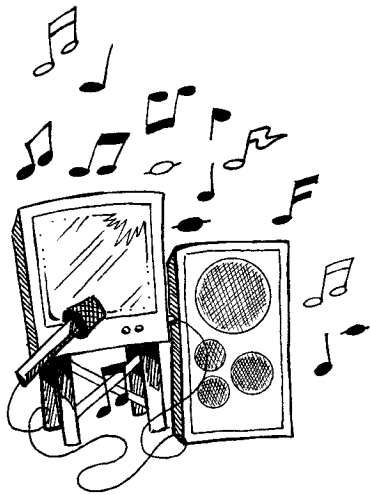
Birthdays

- 4/11 Virginia Burkhead
- 4/12 Madaline Luher
- 4/24 Shirley Tucker
- 4/25 Ruth Snow
- 4/26 Peyton Greene

Anniversaries

- 4/9 Bill & Alvina Cockburn

our standing committees (property, personnel, or nominating)? Are you called to serve our congregation as a Deacon or Elder? If the answer is yes to any of these questions please contact the nominating committee members, Jerry Klein, Michele Fleck, or Pastor Chris.



Eagle Scout Project Underway!!!

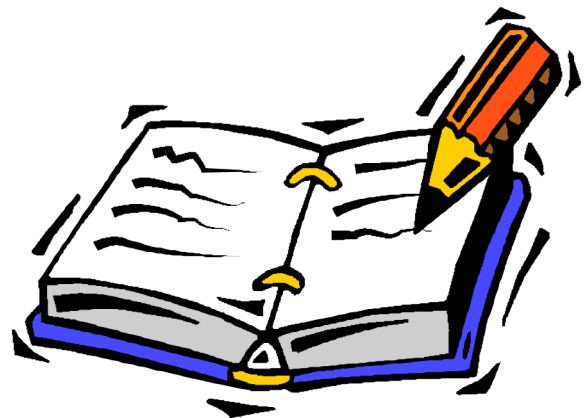
Some of you may have noticed we had a Boy Scout (Lucas) come and join us in worship a few weeks back. He is a member of troop 130. This is the troop that uses our parking lot the Saturday of Bloomsday weekend for their annual yard sale. As one way of building connections between troop 130 and ourselves he approached Pastor Chris about completing his Eagle Scout project for us. We are in the initial planning stages but at the moment the project will be moving our sound board and visual tech set up from the balcony to the back of the sanctuary, with the goal of being completed by mid-September.

This is one of those projects that has been on our wish list for some time now and fulfills the requirements for an Eagle Scout project. These requirements include, cannot be a project considered regular maintenance, has to involve leadership and planning, and provides a benefit for the organization receiving the project.

Our hope is that as this project is completed we will not have to have a team of people in the balcony each Sunday, and that those overseeing our sound and visual tech devices can more easily participate in the worship service, especially if they are also in the choir.

Sabbatical Planning Underway!

According to Pastor Chris' letter of call when he accepted the calling to be our pastor, he is able to take a 3-month sabbatical every 5 years. As you are likely aware, last summer we celebrated along with Pastor Chris his 10 years of ministry with us. So, it is not surprising that the PRC and Pastor Chris have been actively planning for him to take his sabbatical this summer from June 10th-September 2nd.



A large portion of the sabbatical time will be spent on Pastor Chris writing a book, focusing on individuals with disabilities as it pertains to Church Life and the interpretation of Scripture. This is a book that Pastor Chris has been wanting to write from his time in seminary and now feels that he has the time and experience to put his thoughts down onto the printed page.

Pastor Chris to co-lead a training for the NBA!



During Holy Week, Pastor Chris was approached by the Vice Presidents of the National Benevolent Association (NBA) to be a facilitator of a training for the NBA staff in early May (7-9th). The NBA is the health and social service arm of our denomination, with which we have had a long partnership with going back before we hosted the XPLOR program here in Spokane.

Pastor Chris, has been asked to help lead the staff training where the focus will be on Accessibility and Disability as it pertains to the NBA and its ministries. This is a wonderful opportunity for Pastor Chris as he is able to offer his insights that may prove helpful to our wider church, and as he partners with the other facilitators giving him further insights and knowledge as he prepares to write his book during his sabbatical.

Regional Assembly Registration

Registration for the Regional Assembly, set for May 3-5th in Wenatchee, WA, is now live. You can find all sorts of information about the assembly [here](#). There is a block of hotel room set aside for the assembly attendees, but if you would prefer to take a camper please note RV sites in the area are filling up fast.

Collection list for the Salish School Needs Pantry

Household Items: laundry detergent, fabric softener, dryer sheets, liquid hand soap, PineSol, disinfectant, dish soap

Personal Hygiene Items:

shampoo, conditioner, toilet paper, feminine hygiene products, body wash, lotion, deodorant, razors, hair ties, combs, hair brushes.

Financial report for March

	March	YTD	YTD Budget
Income	\$ 12,096	\$ 38,157	\$ 35,749
Expense	\$ 14,774	\$ 42,435	\$ 40,956

General Offering income was above budget by \$2163

This includes \$725 given over & above to help cover water bill and other unbudgeted expenses like having the tamarack tree removed and paying Senske for some lawn care

Easter offering total for year \$498

Thank you for your generosity!





North Hill Christian Church

4620 N. Post

Spokane, WA 99205

April, 2024 --- Serving Schedules

	April 7	April 14	April 21	April 28
Count	Sheila McCrea Arlene Pandelis	Linda Alexander Patty Morris	Michele Fleck Sally Deranleau	Sheila McCrea Patty Morris
Diaconate	Ben Greene	Sally Deranleau	Linda Alexander	Michele Fleck
Elder	Bill Jennison	Janie Selley	Sheila McCrea	Jerry Klein
Lay Leader	Bill Jennison	Jenn Snow	Sheila McCrea	Nathan Burford
Power Point	Debbie Jennison	Natasha Carter	Jenn Snow	Natasha Carter
Sound	Nathan Burford	Michele Fleck	Ben Greene	Jenn Snow
Pick Up	Arlene Pandelis	Janie Selley	Bobbie Belton	Sally Deranleau
Greeter	Bill Phipps	Sarita McReynolds	Arlene Pandelis	Bill Phipps
Song Leader	Bill Jennison	Jenn Snow	Bobbie Belton	Bobbie Belton
Coffee Hour				