



# The North Hill Christian

Spokane, WA

December 2023 Vol 70 #12

## Flurries from Chris

As we enter into the month of December, we also find ourselves beginning a new liturgical year with the season of Advent. The season that calls us to wait with expectation. Calling us back to the feelings of those who were awaiting the messiah...the chosen one. As we make our way through this season we lean heavily upon the Prophets like Isaiah and Jeremiah who spoke to the experience of the people as they felt the brokenness of the world was becoming overwhelming. Much like the darkness that continues to envelop our lives as the days become shorter. They were looking for something that could give them hope. A light in the darkness.

Recently I came across a video of another pastor using the imagery of Frodo, who has carried the one ring, (Lord of The Rings) all the way to Mount Doom but the weight has become too much, so the one source of hope is when Samwise picks him up and carries him. That is the sense of desperation that I find as we enter into the season of Advent. I can't help but be mindful of all the brokenness in the world that declares nothing can overcome. Yet, as we begin to light candles on the advent wreath we begin with the candle of hope. Providing, metaphorically, that initial flash of light into the world to remind us that the darkness can and continues to be overcome by the Christmas Story that marks the messiah's entrance into the world once more.

As we make the four week journey to the manger I invite you to consciously to be mindful of those places in which the light of Christ continues to break through the darkness of despair to guide us into movements of healing in our world. Looking for those moments where hope, love, joy, and peace continue to spring forth, even when there is brokenness in the world.

We will make our way through this season and celebrate the birth of the Christ child on Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup> at 6pm with our candlelight Christmas Eve Service. As we will be encouraged to embrace the light of Christ and proclaim the good news out in the world. If you would like to help with scripture readings or leading the service in other ways please let me know as soon as possible.

Peace in Christ,

Chris Snow

## Weekly Events

### **Attitude Adjustment**

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

### **Citizenship Preparation**

Thursdays 6-7 PM.

### **1<sup>st</sup> 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, [mfleck11@comcast.net](mailto:mfleck11@comcast.net)

### Advent/Christmas Party

We will be having a joint Christmas party with Country Homes on December 9th at 2PM! We will be having it at North Hill. There will be music and company to enjoy! Please bring a finger food/snack or favorite Christmas goodie to share and if there is a recipe to go with your snack, feel free to bring a copy! Drinks will be provided. We will also be having a Christmas ornament white elephant gift exchange! If you'd like, please bring an ornament already wrapped up without any labels. It's more fun to try and guess what it is! It will be a laid back party so we can relax before the holiday craziness sets in. If you have any questions, reach out to Natasha Carter. We hope to see you there!

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### Hanging of the Greens

Each year as we prepare our hearts and minds for the season of Advent, we take time to prepare our sanctuary and spaces throughout the church for the season as well. While this typically happens the Saturday before the first Sunday of Advent (December 3rd), this year we are going to try something different. We will encourage you as you are able to come in throughout the week of November 27th-



December 1st to help as you are able. There will be a list of what needs to be done available in the church office and materials will be arranged in appropriate staging locations to help you in preparing our spaces for Advent. Please consider helping out as you are able.

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### Christmas Baskets

We will be continuing our tradition of collecting food for the holiday baskets. This year we are collecting food for 5 families from CASA partners. For the Christmas baskets we will begin collecting food items on November 26th through December 10th so that the food may be distributed on the 17th.



Food needed for the baskets:

- Hams                      Rolls                      Milk
- Scalloped/Au Gratin Potatoes
- Canned Baked Beans    Canned Yams
- Canned Fruit (peaches, pears, fruit cocktail)
- Canned veggies (peas, corn, beans, olives)
- Brown sugar    Butter/Margarine
- Frozen Pies (apple, cherry, pumpkin)
- Jell-O                      Christmas Candy
- Hot Chocolate    Mini marshmallows    \$ for Extras

### Prayer Concerns

- Continued prayers for the following:
- Dave Hardie's family
- Dan Stewart's family
- Kathy Riley continuing cancer treatments.

### Joys

- Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

### Birthdays

- 12/4 Bill Cockburn
- 12/14 Sarita McReynolds
- 12/22 Randy McReynolds
- 12/27 Joan Williams
- 12/31 Natasha Carter

*Please note: When applicable, birthdays include the first week of the next month.*

### Anniversaries

- 12/29 Howard & Jane Burkett



## 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.

## Christmas Offering

The Christmas offering is a chance for each of us to give additional support to our region (Northern Lights). The Northern Lights region of the Christian Church (DOC) covers Alaska, Washington, Montana and Northern Idaho. We are in covenant with the region to help support the many ministries of the region...summer camps, Commission on the Ministry (they ensure that the Disciples pastors in this region are in good standing along with helping new pastors be ordained), search and call process when a congregation needs a new pastor, new church ministries, etc. As we move into the new year and look forward towards a new Regional Minister, let us join with other congregations in our region and add our financial support to the many ministries that are happening now in the Northern Lights Region! Our Christmas offering will be collected on December 10<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>.



## Giving Tree

For the past several years we have gathered items for Transitions Women’s Hearth. The Women’s Hearth is a drop-in day center in downtown Spokane. It is a safe place for women who have experienced poverty, trauma and/or homelessness to find a “hearth” of welcome, respect and community. They are currently in need of scarves, gloves, socks, underwear (sizes 5-8), hand warmers, rain ponchos and cough drops. There will be a special “tree” where you can leave your gifts for these women in need. It will be in Hazen Hall. If you have any questions, please see Debbie Jennison.



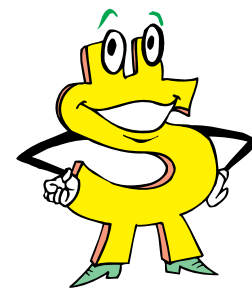
## Congregational Budget meeting – December 10<sup>th</sup>

The congregational meeting to approve the 2024 budget will be on Sunday, December 10, 2023 following worship. A copy of the budget can be found at the back of the sanctuary or you can request a copy by contacting Debbie Jennison (dejennison@gmail.com).

## Financial Roundup for November

	November	YTD	YTD Budget
Income	\$ 8,487	\$ 142,854	\$ 122,540
Expense	\$ 14,600	\$ 143,617	\$ 144,556

**General Offering income was below budget by \$1246**



Thanksgiving offering for November: \$425



**North Hill Christian Church**  
 4620 N. Post  
 Spokane, WA 99205

## December, 2023 – Serving Schedule

	December 3	December 10	December 17	December 24	December 31
Count	Linda and Patty	Linda and Arlene	Michele and Sally	Sheila and Patty	Bob & Arlene
Diaconate	Sally Deranleau	Ben Greene	Nathan Burford	Michele Fleck	Linda Alexander
Elder	Sheila McCrea	Janie Selley	Jerry Klein	Bill Jennison	Janie Selley
Lay Leader	Sheila McCrea	Nathan Burford	Debbie Jenison	Bill Jennison	Jenn Snow
Power Point	Debbie Jennison	Jenn Snow	Natasha Carter	Natasha Carter	Debbie Jennison
Sound	Bill Jennison	Michele Fleck	Ben Greene	Nathan Burford	Nathan Burford
Pick Up	Bobbie Belton	Janie Selley	Arlene Pandelis	Sally Deranleau	Janie Selley
Greeter	Arlene Pandelis	Bill Phipps	Sarita McReynolds	Arlene Pandelis	Bill Phipps
Song Leader	Jenn Snow	Bobbie Belton	Debbie Jennison	Bill Jennison	Jenn Snow
Coffee Hour					