



# The North Hill Christian

Spokane, WA

May 2024 Vol 71 #4

## Flurries from Chris

Of the main Christian Holidays, Pentecost has and continues to be my favorite. Don't get me wrong I greatly enjoy Christmas Eve and Easter services, but there is something about Pentecost that tips the scales. Perhaps it is the ways in which we celebrate the Holy Spirit descending upon the disciples, as we pay close attention to how the Spirit has taken root within each one of us. Or perhaps it is as we begin recognizing those gifts of God that reside within us come from the Holy Spirit actively moving in and around us. Or even more so, because the movement of the Spirit is evidence of life all around us, from the most powerful gusts of winds to a quiet breath of a little child.

Throughout our scriptures we have come to recognize that the Holy Spirit is used interchangeably with words of "Breath of God" or wind. Those movements of the air that if they ceased would lead to death and decay. If there was no breath in the world the animals of the earth would cease to move. If the wind were to cease, severe drought would arise as the air currents would not bring the rains to the land. Countless plants would cease to reproduce and spread across the land, as seeds that normally are carried on the wind simply drop.

But the thing about the movement of air is that it causes life to be in a constant state of change. Constantly making room for life to flourish. This is highlighted in many of our Pentecost hymns. Hymns that highlight that wherever the Spirit moves there is life but also change. That the spirit calls us out of our comfortable places to continue to make way for the movement of life in the world.

More often than not when the Spirit moves us into moments of change it is not simply for the sake of creating disruptions, but rather to make space for growth. As the Spirit moved through our congregation years ago to recognize the gifts that all members, men and women, had to be elders, it was a change that caused us to get out of our own way to recognize what the spirit was doing in our midst. Or as we find ourselves having discussions about what it may look like to be an Open and Affirming Congregation, it is more about doing the work for us to recognize the systemic barriers we have held up intentionally or not that has caused harm to others.

Whenever we find ourselves moved into seasons of change by the Spirit let us consider for a moment what the purpose of that change may be. Is it change to make us uncomfortable, or is the Spirit causing us to confront systems or traditions that if left in place hold us back from what God would have us be and do here in Spokane.

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, [michele\\_fleck@comcast.net](mailto:michele_fleck@comcast.net)



## **Pentecost Offering**

Collected May 12 & 19, 2024

### ***RESTORE AND REWIND***

New Church Ministry is a ministry of the [Christian Church \(Disciples of Christ\) in the United States and Canada](#) that trains, equips, assists, and multiplies emerging and affiliating congregations and leaders from the [DisciplesNEXT](#) methodology, which focuses on contemplative action, prophetic advocacy, and faith-rooted organizing.

This ministry helps many congregations by....

Training – Leadership Academy

Equipping – New Church Hacks

Impact – Webinar Series

Assisting – Prayer – Water the Plants and Coaching

**God is singing a new song:**

**not a song of judgment, but of welcome and forgiveness;**

**not a song of superiority, but of humility and grace;**

**not a song of hoarding, but of sharing everything we have!**

God's movement for wholeness is already happening. As DOC, our part is to listen, and learn, and follow – supporting leaders and communities as the Spirit calls them into being, laying down a new song for a new generation. Seeing Church as a place of generosity and justice and **as a movement for wholeness in a fragmented world.**

Your gifts to the 2024 Pentecost Offering, received on Sunday, May 12, and Sunday, May 19, are divided equally between your regional ministry, which supports local new churches, and **New Church**

**Ministry**, which trains, equips, and assists emerging leaders to be “movement initiators.” **Please give generously to the Pentecost Offering.**



## **Prayer Concerns**

- The people of Gaza, Israel, and Ukraine
- Prayers for Christine Baker, she starts her radiation treatments this week. She had cancer surgery on 3/15.
- Sarita is asking for prayers for her brother, Scott, for health issues. Continued prayers for her cousin, Randy, who is still in the hospital due to complications from cancer treatments.

## **Joys**

- The furnace in the older part of the building has been replaced!
- Pastor Chris has been honored to be invited to lead training for NBA.

## **Birthdays**

- 5/9 Kaitlyn Kohler
- 5/11 Janie Selley
- 5/15 Alvina Cockburn
- 5/16 Vivian Knapp
- 5/24 Sonny Smith
- 5/25 Patt Hooker
- 5/28 Sam Selley

## **Anniversaries**

- None

## **Being Good Stewards of Our Natural Resources**

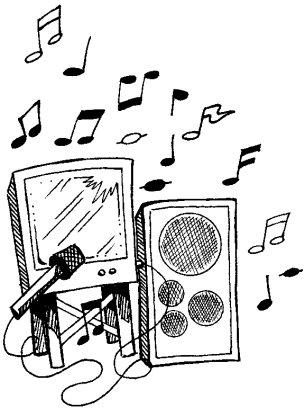
If you have been keeping track of the snow pack from this last winter, you may know that we are in for another summer of drought conditions. In an effort to be good stewards of the natural resources around us we are looking at cutting back on watering some sections of the church lawn. As we move into exploring this direction we welcome help from those who are knowledgeable of drought tolerant ground cover that would be suitable for our use.

## **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 serve our congregation as a Deacon? If the answer is yes to any of these questions please contact the nominating committee members, Jerry Klein, Michele Fleck, Nathan Burford or Pastor Chris.

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## **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.

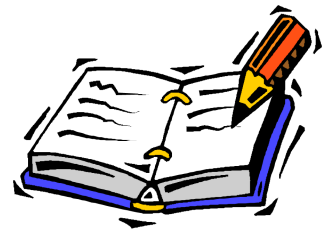
This is one of those projects that has been on our wish list for some time now and fulfills the requirements for an Eagle Scout project. These requirements include, cannot be a project considered regular maintenance, has to involve leadership and planning, and provides a benefit for the organization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

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## **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.

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## 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.

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## 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.

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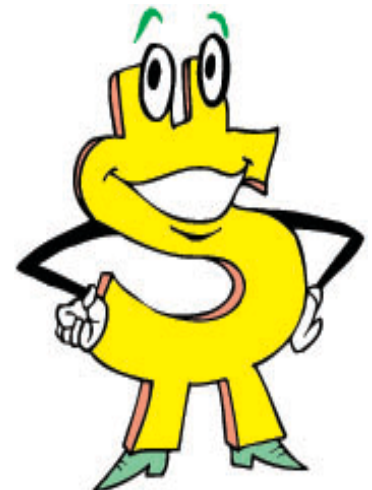
## Financial report for March

	April	YTD	YTD Budget
Income	\$11,351	\$49,281	\$49,032
Expense	\$12,340	\$54,775	\$54,608

April Income includes \$1741 estate income from CCF and \$2634 from our qtrly investment from the sale of the house

**General Offering income was below budget by \$2258**

Easter offering was \$100 bringing the total to \$598





## North Hill Christian Church

4620 N. Post

Spokane, WA 99205

### May, 2024 --- Serving Schedule

	5	12	19	26
Count	Linda Alexander Arlene Pandelis	Michele Fleck Patty Morris	Sheila McCrea Sally Deranleau	Linda Alexander Arlene Pandelis
Diaconate	Nathan Burford	Sally Deranleau	Ben Greene	Michele Fleck
Elder	Assembly	Jerry Klein	Janie Selley	Sheila McCrea
Lay Leader	Nathan Burford	Bill Jennison	Sheila McCrea	Jenn Snow
Power Point	Natasha Carter	Debbie Jennison	Jenn Snow	Natasha Carter
Sound	Ben Greene	Jenn Snow	Michele Fleck	Nathan Burford
Pick Up	Michele Fleck	Arlene Pandelis	Janie Selley	Sally Deranleau
Greeter	Sam Selley	Sarita McReynolds	Bill Phipps	Arlene Pandelis
Song Leader	Riley Gray	Bill Jennison	Riley Gray	Jenn Snow
Coffee Hour				
	Regional Assembly Bloomsday	Mother's Day		Memorial Day Weekend