

# North Hill Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)



## Narrative Budget 2020



**Devoted to Generosity**

## Introduction

*Mission Statement: We at North Hill Christian Church are a people responding to God's call, building whole community, reflecting Christ through our actions, and living into the reign of God.*

As we look forward to a new year, we asked some members of the congregation to give us their perspective on the work that we have accomplished together during this current year. Each voice is different, yet each person sheds new light and celebrates our work together!

We hope that these new perspectives on the work here at North Hill will inspire all of us for the new year!

This narrative is broken down into our ministry areas:

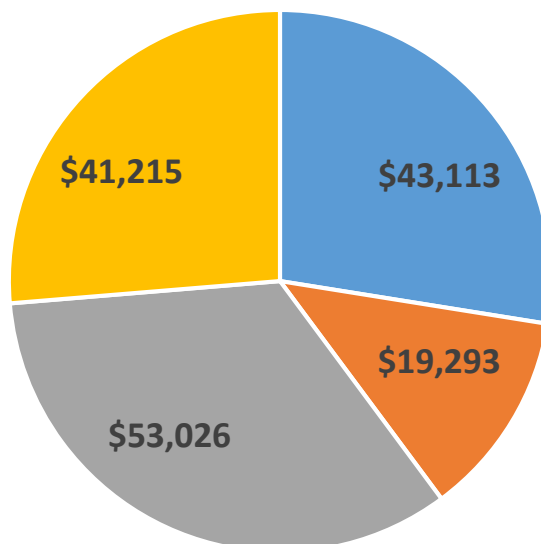
Open and Welcoming Community

Spiritual Growth

Worship

Witness and Service

### NHCC Ministry Budget - 2020



■ Open/Welcoming   ■ Spiritual Growth   ■ Worship   ■ Witness & Service

# Open and Welcoming Community - \$43,113

*Romans 15:7*

*Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.*

**“Joyfully accept others into our community. Eliminate physical, cultural and spiritual barriers to participation. Support and care for each other physically and spiritually.”**

Christians believe in God and Christ. Most churches welcome visitors into their service and invite them to join in a coffee hour. However, a living church, a church that is devoted to generosity in the spirit of Christ, is one that reaches out to serve God in the community. That is what I was looking for when I joined North Hill Christian Church.



North Hill church welcomes visitors and strives to make them feel comfortable. Beyond that, we live our faith through generous service to the community. North Hill shares space with the Ukrainian Baptist Church. We provide space for Citizenship classes, as well as meetings for the Attitude Adjustment group. We participate in delivering Meals on Wheels. North Hill also hosts XPLOR teams of young adults who work as interns in local non-profits. We welcome community members through activities such as the annual spring Carnival and the fall Trunk or Treat. We provide needed school supplies to

the Salish School. North Hill also participates in the broader church through our generous support to the Northwest Regional Christian Church. We have several members serving on regional and national boards. We take time to learn about the needs of others and strive towards being welcoming and supportive of each other.

I became a member of the congregation because it is a vital, living church; one that goes about God’s business every day and not just on Sunday.



*Staff included in this area:*

*Pastor Chris Snow - 24%*

*Nursery Attendant – 100%*

*Susan Baker – 57%*

*Building Usage 48%*

# Spiritual Growth - \$19,293

*John 14:26*

*“But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you.”*

**“Foster an environment where all can grow closer to God. Provide guidance and assistance to help people form closer relationships with God.”**

As a congregation that is devoted to generosity in many forms, it is sometimes hard for us to realize that through our generosity we are also growing spiritually. We come together to share in Tuesday morning Bible Study and Sunday morning Adult Sunday School. These are times of not only learning, but also sharing of ourselves with those who are there. As we worship together on Sunday mornings and at special worship services, we are given the opportunity to grow spiritually.



We are continually asking the questions...Where is God leading us? What are God’s plans for North Hill and our ministry both locally and abroad? It is not always easy to discern the answer to that question. By asking questions and opening ourselves to hear God’s word, we are finding new ways to learn that God speak to us in new and wonderful ways.

To grow spiritually, we have to be open to God’s call for our ministry. This takes many forms...opening our building for others to use the facilities, collecting food for Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets, collecting school supplies for the Salish School, delivering meals to those who are in need through Meals on Wheels, offering citizenship classes, helping friends and families in need. The list is endless. When we give of ourselves, we open our hearts to growing in God’s spirit.

*Staff included in this area:  
Pastor Chris Snow - 19%*

*Building Usage 7%*

## **Worship - \$53,026**

*Luke 4:8*

*Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.’”*

**“Experience God in creative ways. Create a safe place where all people feel comfortable and supported as they explore their gifts. Encourage all to participate fully.”**

Sunday mornings are a time for us to gather together to worship God with the help of many people in the church. We can get together to let go of the trials of the last week and revitalize our souls in the presence of God and our North Hill family. Hearing the word and theme of the sermon, it puts us in a mindset of worshipping God. Bringing us to a place of sanctuary and peace, it is here that we try to find understanding of what God is asking us to do.



Pastor Chris spends his time preparing a message for us to hear each week. A message that is used to bring us into that worship mindset and something we can take with us as we leave each Sunday to contemplate. He, along with others at our church, have brought a new light to North Hill. Helping us realize that worship goes much farther than just Sunday mornings in the sanctuary. Over the last few years our building has been opened to other groups so that they have a safe haven and a place of worship. A place that others can call home just as we have.



But worship goes so much further than just Sunday morning. God asks us to be present, to use our living bodies to be spiritually present for worship. Many events we do, or plan, help get the community involved and show that our church family is welcoming. We share meals, gather food or supplies, have carnivals and parties, which are all ways that we use our living bodies to worship. Being devoted to generosity is how we can worship outside of Sunday morning and the walls of our building. Being generous lets us live in a mindful way that constantly worships God. Let us continue in this journey to worship God in the welcoming way to all people that we have been doing!

*Staff included in this area:*

*Pastor Chris Snow - 29%*

*Riley Gray, Music Director – 100%*

*Susan Baker – 43%*

*Building Usage 39%*

## **Witness and Service - \$41,215**

*John 1:7*

*He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him.*

**“Enable our community to be faithful, wise and responsible stewards of all God’s gifts. Follow God’s call to serve human needs within our community and the world. Build our community to be an example of how God calls us to live as Christians. Express God’s love by being visible and active in the greater community.”**



Throughout the year we strive to be witnesses to God’s love through service to others. We deliver Meals on Wheels, collect food for families in need at Thanksgiving and Christmas, collect school supplies for the Salish School and open our building to others to use as they need. We have fun as we decorate our cars and invite families to join us for Trunk or Treat each Halloween! We invite the neighborhood to a carnival and have fun. We open our doors to people taking citizenship classes. We are present in the community when Peace & Justice issues arise. A prime example is our

participation in the Martin Luther King Jr March each year.

Look around at your North Hill family...You can often see small acts of generosity that help keep all members of the congregation connected. We are willing to cover for each other when needs arise and jobs need to be done. A spirit of love and giving is found throughout...showing our commitment to being witnesses to God's love and serving others.



Through our support and sponsorship of the XPLOR residents, we are providing both a witness and a service to these young adults as they seek to find God's calling for their lives. We each serve as a witness to God's love as we help provide them with a place to live in community. It is our devotion to generosity that helps us give of ourselves to each of these young adults.

*Staff included in this area:  
Pastor Chris Snow - 28%*

*Building Usage 6%*

## **Conclusion**

Devoted to Generosity. How is God calling us to be generous with our time, talents and financial offerings? What do we want/need to do in order to be Open and Welcoming? A church that Worships together? That grows Spiritually? That is a Witness to God's love through our service in our community and beyond?

On November 3<sup>th</sup>, we will bring our pledge cards as an act of worship and celebration of our abundance.

*Please prayerfully consider how you want the gifts that God has given you to be used.*