

Northwood Presbyterian Church
6721 N Monroe St
Spokane, WA 99208
509-328-2012 office@northwoodpres.org

May 2025
Northwood News

Note from the Pastor

This month of May in the Spokane area always brings us a chance to finally welcome the arrival of spring, especially the new, resurrection-like life in our yards at home and preparation of our church community garden. Please see this newsletter for upcoming May events so far! We also will celebrate the following at our Sunday worship services: Communion and Luke 24's Road to Emmaus the first Sunday, and then from Luke, too, "the women who followed Jesus" for Mother's Day. On May 11, we also moved up the Congregational Meeting to nominate new church officers and approve the final dissolution of my pastor's terms of call due to retirement (as of August 14, 2025 (see below).



As I mentioned in my retirement letter, I also want to thank our elders/Session for giving me a 12-day medical leave for spinal surgery; a bigger one this time, so I will have to take off May 15-June 1. Please welcome Dr. Ken Cathcart back to the pulpit for the first two Sundays, and then Rev. Katie Haney who will preach and present communion on Sunday, June 1.

During worship, at the end of last month, I shared my favorite quote from Pope Francis, may he rest in peace! I shared this last year, during our lectionary year, in the Gospel of Mark: "The MARK of a church is not just how many people come, but how many are changed because of being there." I also wanted to remind us of this one, too, that we can be challenged by: "I prefer a church which is

bruised, hurting and dirty, because it has been out there on the streets, rather than a church which is unhealthy from being confined and from clinging to its own security."

I also want to thank the Worship & Music Committee's hard work with the annual Easter flowers and then putting up the white post-Easter banner until Pentecost, which is not until June 8 (when we put up the tongues of fire banner!) -In Christ's "Shalom"/peace, Pastor Sue Keim

NOMINATING CONGREGATIONAL MEETING:

This year on Sunday, May 11/Mother's Day

After Worship Service - Members, please plan to stay for the following business:

To vote on new/continuing Church Officers: Deacons

Moderator Joe Simpson, Carol Christenson, Elder,

Worship & Music; Rod Christenson, Elder, Christian Ed. (one-year terms)

& Dissolution of the Pastor's Call on Aug. 14, 2025 (Due to Retirement)

Congregational Meeting



Session Highlights

Session Report – April 2025

At their April 15, 2025, meeting, Northwood Session Elders:

1. Prayed together for the needs of our congregation;
2. Heard from the Presbytery's Missional Expeditors Katie Stark and Executive Sheryl Kinder-Pyle about the Lily Grant's program next year for the Ezra 3 project's focus on churches 50-plus members – but delayed/tabled a final decision;
3. With Rev. Katie Stark as temporary moderator, approved that the Transition Team will be the entire Session elders, set up interviews for the Interim Pastor candidates and approved the dissolution of terms of call, due to retirement, for Rev. Susan (Sue) Keim to be effective August 14, 2025;
4. Approved 12 days, instead of 10, of medical leave for spinal surgery May 15-June 1, with substitute preachers Dr. Ken Cathcart for May 18 and 25 and Rev. Katie Haney for June 1/with communion;
5. Approved waiving one month of rent for April 15, 2025, payment for the Northside Learning Center due to acute financial problems;
6. Approved the nominating Congregational Meeting for Sunday, May 11, after worship (before Rev. Sue Keim's medical leave) and 3 church officer candidates, all one-year terms: Deacon Moderator Joe Simpson, Carol Christenson, Elder on Worship & Music and Rod Christenson, Elder for Christian Education, and approved the March 31, 2025 financial report.

-Rev. Sue Keim, Moderator

Northwood Presbyterian Church

Financial Update:

March 31, 2025



Total Income:	\$49,511.71
Total Expenses:	\$50,793.33
Gain/<u>Loss</u>:	-\$ 1,281.62

Per Capita for 2025: \$39.00

Per Capita Income for 2025 so far: \$1,027.00 – thank you!

Thanks for giving faithfully to the ministry and mission of Northwood!

Thank You from Robin Johnson

Thank you all for your prayers for my Niece's pre-mature son, Atticus. He is now 1 year old and a miracle from God plus medical science. He has made so many strides. Although months behind in some development, his mother and grandmother can now enjoy a happy baby participating in life.

Worship & Music



May Worship Assistants

May 4 Ken Cathcart
May 11 John Stramiello
May 18 Sharon Cathcart
May 25 Taffy Potter

Greeters for May – Thank You!

Week 1: Carol Christenson
Week 2: Susan and Gerry Riddle
Week 3: Jane and Terry Nielsen
Week 4: Gayle and Mike Fetcho

Christian Education

Adult Small Group Bible Study

The adult small group Bible Study meets on Mondays, at 1:00 p.m., in the Fellowship Hall. They are working on a study on the Church Lectionary. Both men and women are welcome! Please contact Christian Ed. Elder Rod Christenson for more information.

Fellowship

Fun Friday May 16

Fun Friday for May 16 is a slide show about Japan by Susie Stokes. Her husband is Japanese and they have traveled there together. It begins with a potluck at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship/Celtic Hall; sign-up is on the Fellowship bulletin board. We will resume Fun Fridays in September.
-Elder Sharon Cathcart, Fellowship Committee

Cribbage Group Restarted

We've resumed playing cribbage on Thursdays at 1:30 p.m. and continue *every other Thursday* here at Northwood in the social hall. If you have cards and/or a cribbage board, please bring them. If you want to learn the game or are a veteran who wants the challenge of beating others, you *are* welcome. So, mark your calendars for next on May 1 and so on until we decide to quit for the summer months.
-Cathy Bowers, Deacons Moderator

MAY BIRTHDAYS

3 Gretchen Cathcart
9 Marsie Nollette
12 Julie Fish
21 Jeanne Ross
26 Molly Rupp

This
Month's
Birthdays



Corona Virus Update

We still have an optional mask mandate inside the church building until further notice! Our Session elders decided in 2022 to continue with the state's latest guidelines. All of the continuing Covid protocols are posted on a bright yellow sheet in our building. We also continue self-serve offering plates and monthly Communion. We also continue weekly emails with worship/choir music videos from Facebook and the Sunday announcements and bulletins (at the Sanctuary entrances, too). If you'd like us to mail your paper copies of any of these items, an audio C.D. from Sundays or our May newsletter (always on the lobby table and Fellowship Hall bulletin board), please call the church office. Please continue to bring to worship, mail, or leave your tithe in the Office Administrator's box outside the church office (monthly giving envelopes are on the lobby table). Thank you for your faithfulness and patience during the long pandemic, Rev. Sue Keim

Mission and Outreach

Meals on Wheels Birthday Gifts – Thank You

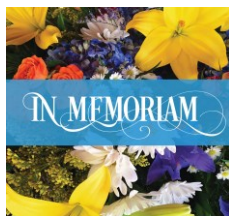
Meals on Wheels (MOW), who serves meals daily to seniors in need of a hot meal, would like to add a birthday gift on their special day. Many of the seniors do not have family members in the area or are not remembered. Meals on Wheels has provided a list of items that seniors would enjoy receiving. The staff at MOW will package the items and get the gifts ready for the seniors. The list is on the poster above the side table in Celtic/Fellowship Hall where you can also place your purchases. We collected items the full month of April.

-Thank you from Mission & Outreach Comm.

Food Bank Reminder

Mission and Outreach would like to encourage you to continue bringing food for the Mead Food Bank. The items they need are: canned fruit, canned vegetables, and other canned items such as chili, spaghetti, and soups. Please consider adding some of these items to your grocery list. Food can be placed in the cart near the kitchen door in Celtic/Fellowship Hall. The Mead Food Bank staff is always so grateful when we come with a car full of food!

-Jane Nielsen, Mission and Outreach Elder



In Memoriam:

Glenn Wimpy

April 12, 1930 - April 14, 2025

(No public Memorial)

Northwood Presbyterian Church Staff

Pastor: Rev. Susan L. (Sue) Keim

Office Administrator/Wedding Coord.: Holly Christoff

Treasurer: Donna Harvey

Sound Technician: Jo Detlaff

Choir Director: Bob Brown

Organist/Pianist: Cathy Brown

Custodian: Michael Stitt

Phone: 509-328-2012

E-Mail: office@northwoodpres.org Web Site: www.northwoodpres.org

Facebook: Northwood Presbyterian Church

Office Hours: Tuesday-Thursday, 9-2



Thursday – May 1

9-3 Presbytery of the Inland Northwest
Summit Meeting, Emmanuel Presbyterian Church

1:30 pm Cribbage Group

Sunday – May 4 Third Sunday of Easter

10:30 am Worship
Self-Serve Communion
Ken Cathcart, Worship Assistant
Coffee Time

Monday – May 5

1:00 pm Adult Small Group Bible Study

Wednesday – May 7

6:00 pm Bell Choir
7:00 pm Vocal Choir

Sunday – May 11 - Happy Mother's Day!

10:30 am Worship
John Stramiello, Worship Asst.
Taffy Potter, Children's Message

Congregational Meeting for Nominating Church Officers

Worship & Music Committee
Coffee Time

Monday – May 12

Meals on Wheels
1:00 pm Adult Small Group Bible Study

Tuesday – May 13

6/7 pm Committee Night

Wednesday – May 14

12:30 pm Administration Committee
Meals on Wheels
6:00 pm Bell Choir
7:00 pm Vocal Choir

Thursday – May 15

Meals on Wheels
1:30 pm Cribbage Group

Friday – May 16

Meals on Wheels
6:00 pm Fun Friday Potluck

Fifth Sunday of Easter – May 18

10:30 am Worship Service
Dr. Ken Cathcart preaching
Sharon Cathcart, Worship Asst., Children's Mess.

Monday – May 19

1:00 pm Adult Small Group Bible Study

Tuesday – May 20

7:00 pm Session Meeting

Wednesday – May 21

6:00 pm Bell Choir
7:00 pm Vocal Choir

Friday – May 23

10:00 am Newsletter Deadline

Sixth Sunday of Easter – May 25

10:30 am Worship Service
Dr. Ken Cathcart preaching
Sharon Cathcart, Children's Mess.
Taffy Potter, Worship Assistant
Coffee Time

Monday – May 26 Memorial Day Holiday

Wednesday – May 28

6:00 pm Bell Choir
7:00 pm Vocal Choir

Thursday – May 29

1:30 pm Cribbage Group



