

# Community Presbyterian Church

1100 College Avenue

## April 2022



### Pastor's Corner

Thanks to the generosity and hospitality of Clark and Penny Carpenter, and Mick and Linda

Weinmann, I've been able to periodically spend the night in St Maries when the need arises. What a joy and a blessing those opportunities have been to me!

The Weinmann's home, as I imagine most of you know, is literally on the banks of the St Joe. And being on the St Joe makes me think about fishing.

Okay, I'll admit it. I've done more than think about it. In fact, just about every night I've spent at the Weinmann's, I've dropped a line in from their dock, from late October through now. Several of you have offered me tips about fishing that part of the river at this time of year, most of them along the lines of, "Don't waste your time." I haven't listened very well.

Consequently, I have spent literally hours, most of it in the dark, much of it in the snow, trying every conceivable combination of lure, bait, color, scent, weight, depth, motion and casting technique, waiting for that unique thrill of feeling a tug on my line. I'm still waiting.

I've often imagined the folks who live in the other houses along the river looking out their windows at the fool on the Weinmann's dock chopping a hole in the ice, or casting directly into the bushes on the bank, shaking their heads, and wondering if they should call the police.

There is, of course, a difference between fishing, and catching fish. The latter usually comes as a surprise to me, and a gift.

Something about being on the river, however, has compelled me to keep fishing. It is good for me.

I wonder if this is similar to what it means to be a "fool for Christ," in Paul's words to the Corinthians. To find myself, at times, called to be at a particular place at a particular time, for no discernable reason other than it feels right to be there. It is good for me to be there. And while something unexpected may happen, I can't make anything happen. So I stand on the St Joe, knowing there are fish in the river and they have to eat sometime. So I also believe that Jesus has called me, and is at work through me somehow.

In the meantime, I stand like a fool on the dock, fishing pole in my hands, watching the seasons change on the Joe...seeing it drop, and freeze over, thaw and freeze, melt and rise and run. Seeing dotted lines of animal tracks criss-cross the ice between the banks, and formations of urgently honking geese criss-cross overhead. Straining to peer through the darkness as a pair of racoons makes its way back and forth to the river bank for some task at the water's edge, and smiling at the sound of owls—a sound I have loved since my grandmother taught me to hear them as a child, and one that I don't often hear in Spokane.

I've stood out there shivering on moonless cloudless nights looking at a sky thick with stars, and on nights when I could clearly see my bobber in the light of the full moon. I've watched storms roll in low and dark, and felt my spirits lift when the mid-winter clouds break to reveal brilliant piercing blue sky. I've marveled at spectacular sunsets, and even managed to (almost) see a beautiful sunrise or two.

I haven't caught any fish, but sooner or later I will. Maybe. Regardless, I've had a front

row seat to what happens outside at a time of year I spend mostly inside. I've been a fool fishing on the dock through a winter on the Joe. And I am richer for it.

May I be the same kind of fool for Christ...may we all be, in our own ways, fools for Christ. And may we all be foolish enough to see and enjoy the wonders we encounter along the way.

Pastor John



Bonnie Arrhenius	4/01
Gary Foster	4/04
Kristin Burns	4/16
Evvie Pannell	4/24
Gwen Edwards	4/25
Lola Chamblee	4/26



Earth Day  
April 22



Stewardship Is...



Love in Action

### STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

For many of our members, the picture that they have of the Stewardship committee is when we're standing in front of the congregation talking about money (and generally how we need more), but there is a lot more that goes on behind the scenes. The Stewardship Committee is the Session committee that is tasked with preparing and recommending the balanced annual operating budget to the Session, which is no small task. This is done by reviewing previous years and getting input from all the Session committees, plus a big helping of prayer (and maybe a small amount of guessing). We are also responsible for reviewing and reporting to Session the monthly financial reports, and for recommending to Session the uses of undesignated gifts and ensuring that designated funds are being used for the purpose for which they were given. And

finally, communicating with the congregation about the financial status of CPC. This year the Stewardship committee consists of John Hughes, chairman, Penny Carpenter, Eric Besaw, congregational representative, Liz Hughes, Financial Secretary, Boni Schueller, Treasurer and, of course, Pastor John Owen. Any of these people will be happy to answer your questions so don't hesitate to ask.

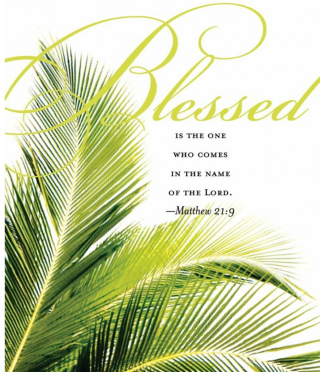
Here is a snapshot of our finances through the end of February. Look for these numbers each month in the newsletter.

### Finances at a Glance

	Feb. 22	Y-T-D
Operating income	\$ 8,416	\$16,055
Operating Expenses	<u>5,126</u>	<u>13,949</u>
Income (Loss)	\$ 3,290	\$ 2,106



Palm Sunday  
April 10



On Wednesday, March 23, the return of the "Team Up For God" after-school celebration was a big success. We are so pleased that even after all the time the after-school program was not held, **eleven** children attended the re-opening. We started with a children's message from Pastor John, then had yummy snacks and made bird feeders with Jane.

We ended with a closing message and prayer from Pastor John. The children left with pocket crosses as a reminder that God loves them. We are looking forward to the next after-school celebration on April 27. Thanks to all that helped and spread the word for next time.



## Chrismons

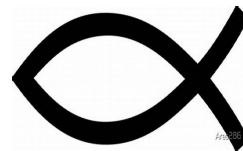
Yes, it's Easter. Christmas is a memory. A Christmas tree was put up in the entryway of the sanctuary with counted cross stitch ornaments. The ornaments had Christian symbols. They are called Chrismons.

Chrismons are Christmas decorations with Christian symbols on them. They help Christians to remember that Christmas is the celebration of Jesus's birthday. They are often used on Christmas Trees in churches and in Christian homes.

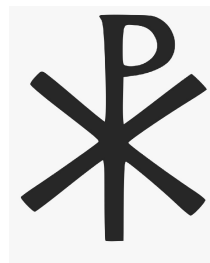
They were first made by Frances Kipps Spencer at the Ascension Lutheran Church in Danville, Virginia, USA. She also thought of the word, Chrismon, which is a combination of Christ and monogram (meaning symbol). The idea quickly spread to other churches. It is traditional that Christian groups can make their own Chrismons with their favorite symbols.

The purpose of the first Christian symbols expressed in art forms was identification or comfort. The early Christians found themselves increasingly persecuted, first by their fellow Jews and later by the Roman state. They needed a secret way of recognizing other Christians, of identifying the places where a hunted people could meet in comparative safety to find strength in fellowship with one another and with their Master. It was natural that such "marks" would be taken from the name of Jesus and from His words and deeds.

In the next months, we will be learning the Christian symbols and their meaning. Here are the first symbols:



The Fish is one of the oldest Christian symbols. The letters, from the Greek word for fish (ichthus), stand for Jesus (I), Christ (X), God (Q), Son (Y), Savior (S). Some of Jesus' disciples were fishermen.

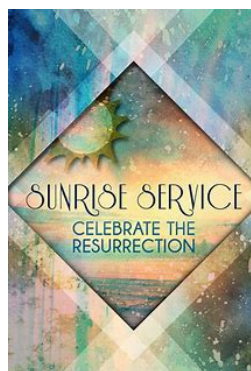


The Chi-Rho looks like a 'P' with an 'X' on top of it. These two letters are the first two letters of the Greek word 'Christos' which means Christ.



Alpha and Omega are the first and the last letters of the Greek alphabet. Used together, they symbolize that Christians believe Jesus is the beginning and end of all things.

More next month.



**Easter Sunrise Service**  
**7:30 a.m.**  
**April 17**

Location will be announced.

Breakfast will be served following the Sunrise Service.



**Maundy Thursday**  
**service - to be decided.**  
**April 14**

Yes, this was in last year's newsletter. It bears repeating.

## Holy Week Timeline

Palm Sunday April 10	A. Jesus' triumphant entrance into Jerusalem B. Spends the night in Bethany <i>Matthew 21:1; Mark 11:1; Luke 19:29; John 12:12</i>
Monday April 11	A. Leaves Bethany B. Curses the fig tree on the way into the city C. Weeps over Jerusalem D. Cleanses the temple for the second time in His ministry E. Late in day, looks into the Temple, then leaves the city F. Spends the night in Bethany <i>Matthew 21:12; Mark 11:22; Luke 19:45</i>
Tuesday April 12	A. Leaves Bethany B. Finds the fig tree withered; teaches on faith C. Possesses the temple and its precincts; confounds and pronounces woes upon His enemies D. Leaves city; Olivet Discourse on way back to Bethany E. Judas bargains with Sanhedrin to betray Jesus F. Spends the night in Bethany <i>Matthew 21:20; Mark 11:20; Luke 20:36; John 12:20</i>
Wednesday Silent Day April 13	No record in the Gospels, but much activity as Jesus prepares for Last Supper and as Judas and Sanhedrin prepare for Jesus' arrest  Remains in Bethany throughout the day, stays night there
Maundy Thursday April 14	A. Peter and John sent to make preparation for Passover meal B. After sunset, eats meal with the twelve; washes disciples; Judas departs C. Lord's Supper instituted D. To Garden of Gethsemane; Jesus' agony E. Betrayal by Judas; arrest by Sanhedrin F. To house of High Priest as Sanhedrin is convened; Peter betrays Jesus <i>Matthew 26:1; Mark 14:1; Luke 22:1</i>
Good Friday April 15	<b>The Trials of Jesus Christ</b> A. <b>First trial</b> , before Annas [nighttime hours]; Annas is looking for an accusation, biding time till Sanhedrin is gathered at High Priestly villa B. <b>Second [and primary] trial</b> before Sanhedrin, Jesus is condemned, misused C. <b>Third trial</b> , immediately at dawn [meanwhile, Peter denies Jesus a third time; Jesus looks upon him]; the condemnation repeated, then Jesus taken to Romans D. <b>Fourth trial</b> before Pilate [till "beginning at Galilee"] E. <b>Fifth trial</b> before Herod [looks for miracle] F. <b>6th trial before Pilate</b> G. Jesus is scourged; the city cries, "Crucify Him or we will tell Rome!" H. Jesus is finally turned over to be crucified I. Jesus mocked (Roman soldiers); crown of thorns J. Judas hangs himself K. Jesus bears His cross to gate on north of city and is crucified around 9 am L. The Death of God-Man. About 3 pm; veil torn, rocks rent; some graves opened and people rise [to mortality] and go into the city M. Jesus' side pierced N. Passover lambs slain in temple O. Jesus buried by sundown <i>Matthew 26:1; Mark 14:53; Luke 22:54; John 18:13</i>
Saturday April 16	At the request of the Jewish leadership, Pilate grants a guard and sets a seal on the tomb of Jesus <i>Matthew 27:66</i>
Easter Sunday April 17	Jesus Christ rises from the dead(before dawn) and makes five appearances on the day of His rising: 1. To Mary Magdalene [given a message to the disciples] 2. To the other women who come to the tomb [intending to complete the burial preparation of His body] 3. To two disciples on the Road to Emmaus 4. To Simon Peter [nowhere recorded, but alluded to in Luke 24:33 and 1 Corinthians 1:5] 5. To the astonished disciples [Thomas is absent] <i>Matthew 28:1; Mark 16:1; Luke 24:1; John 20:1</i>