



# North Garland CHURCH OF CHRIST

**We Strive to Be: A church devoted to making disciples of Jesus Christ, growing together in knowledge and relationship with God and each other.**

### Today's Events:

Elders/Deacons/Minister  
Meeting with Randy after worship

2024 Women's Ministries  
Brainstorming Meeting: 2-3 p.m.

Area Wide in Blackwell

### Upcoming Events:

**Dec 9** – Host Area Wide Men's  
Breakfast: 8:30 a.m.

**Dec 10** – H.O.P.E. Group at the Mills

**Dec 24** – Christmas Eve Candlelight  
Service 6-7 p.m.

**Dec 25** – Christmas (Office Closed)

**Dec 26** – Office Closed

**Dec 29** – Office Closed

**Jan 1** – Office Closed

**Jan 12-14** – Winterfest (Please let  
Cole know by Dec. 31<sup>st</sup> if you are  
going)

\*\*\* There will be no Wednesday  
night meals in the month of  
December. \*\*\*

\*\*\* 312 people were served at  
pantry in November! \*\*\*

### Order of Worship

<b>Pilgrim's Praise</b> .....	<b>Chris Taylor</b>
<b>Song Leader/Welcome</b> .....	<b>Robb Mills</b>
.....	<i>Come, Now is the Time</i>
.....	<i>Come Let Us Worship</i>
<b>Prayer</b> .....	<b>TBD</b>
.....	<i>We Shall Assemble</i>
.....	<i>Above All</i>
.....	<i>Love Ran Red</i>
<b>Communion Talk</b> .....	<b>Danny Powers</b>
.....	<i>Had it Not Been the Lord</i>
.....	<i>Hosanna</i>
<b>Sermon: Free Will...A Complicated Gift</b> .....	<b>Erik Granberg</b>
.....	<i>Hide Me Away O Lord</i>
<b>Shepherd's Prayer</b> .....	<b>Dan Kent</b>
<b>Nursery</b> .....	<b>Geneva Osburn</b>
<b>Sound Booth/Slides</b> .....	<b>Dudley Darrow</b>

**Sermon Scripture:** Joshua 24:15

### Sermon Thought:

The number of choices we make in a single day is huge. Over a lifetime, uncountable. Many are just simple choices with little to no long-term repercussions. Some have lasting if not eternal impact. The choice to follow God and his ways is one with eternal implications. That choice involves way more than a simple yes or no.

### Sermon Questions:

1. If you were to take a guess, how many decisions do you make in a day that are moral or ethical?
2. What gets us distracted from our choice to follow God?
3. What misconceptions can you think of in the choice to follow God?

### Kleenex Drive

Our Kleenex drive is in full swing for Glenwood Elementary! Please consider picking up a box or two when doing your monthly shopping. They can be placed on the east wall where the Glenwood table is located. All Kleenex will be delivered to Glenwood in January for the second semester of school. Thank you for your continued support of this program.

### Prayer Requests:

**Carol Jantz** – having shoulder replacement surgery December 15.

**John Wright** – recovering from surgery on his broken ankle from a fall.

**Narda** – Cheryl Siders' sister-in-law; possibly has cancer and she is her husband's caregiver and possibly unable to do chemo.

**Cheryl Siders** – having heart valve repair or replacement surgery on December 6th.

### Birthdays:

6<sup>th</sup> ..... Brett Thornton  
8<sup>th</sup> ..... Jerod Burford  
9<sup>th</sup> ..... Curtis Diel

### Next Week's (12/10/23) Servants:

#### Song Leader

**/Welcome:** Robb Mills

**Pilgrim's Praise:** Erik Granberg

#### Communion

**Talk:** Jacob Bowman

#### Shepherd's

**Prayer:** Pat Meek

#### Sound Booth/

**Slides:** Dee Plummer

**Nursery:** Kassidy Roberts

#### Greeters For

**December:** Faye Garrison

Monte & Diane Snider

## A Spiritual Journey

### Full of the Spirit

Being full is a very important part of our lives. It makes us feel complete and able to move forward. Having a full stomach nourishes our physical bodies and gives us the strength and energy to complete the tasks set before us. When our car tank is full, we can travel for long distances and arrive at our destinations. Being full is essential for us to enjoy life and accomplish the desires of our hearts and make a difference in the world.

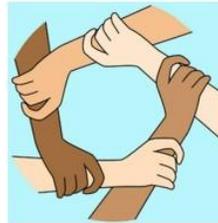
This same element of being full is also a key aspect of our spiritual journey. In this context, we seek to be **full of the Spirit**. The spiritual strength and energy we need to move us forward to our eternal destination is the dwelling of God's Spirit. This is what Jesus received as he began his earthly ministry. *"Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heavens opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form, as a dove, and a voice came from heaven, 'Thou art my beloved Son; with thee I am well pleased'"* (Lk. 3:21-22). He was **full of the Spirit** as he proclaimed the coming of the Kingdom of Heaven, performed miracles, and trained his disciples to carry on his work. When the apostles needed to appoint men to care for the Lord's church, they picked out men *"full of the Spirit and wisdom, whom we may appoint to this duty"* (Acts 6:3). Being **full of the Spirit** is essential for us to be able to proclaim the good news of the gospel of Christ and save lost souls. The stoning of Stephen testifies to this spiritual power. *"But he [Stephen], full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God"* (Acts 7:55-56). When we are **full of the Spirit**, we too will be able to do amazing things for our Lord. Just like Stephen, we will behold the glory of God and Jesus in everything we do.

*Gordon Jantz*

### Women's Involvement Ministry

**Please join us today** (Sunday, December 3) from 2-3 p.m. in the old children's church room for a brainstorming session about our Women's Involvement Ministry for this coming year. We hope to identify which activities our women take care of (separate from the many congregation-wide activities) and how best to involve as many of the women in our congregation as possible in those activities.

A big thanks to so many of you who stepped up the past 1 ½ years to coordinate the different women's activities. **A new involvement sheet** will be available soon after this brainstorming session for our women to fill out letting us know how and where you would like to help with the women's activities for the coming year.



*When we all work together, great things happen.*

### NOC Women's Basketball Schedule

If you would like to encourage and support the young women from NOC who have been attending worship with us, here is their basketball schedule. These home games are played at the NOC Maybee Center Fieldhouse on Main St.

Friday, Dec. 8 @ 5:30 pm  
Monday, Jan. 8 @ 5:30 pm  
Monday, Jan. 15 @ 5:30 pm  
Thursday, Jan. 18 @ 5:30 pm  
Thursday, Jan. 25 @ 5:30 pm  
Monday, Jan. 29 @ 5:30 pm  
Monday, Feb. 5 @ 5:30 pm  
Monday, Feb. 12 @ 5:30 pm  
Thursday, Feb. 22 @ 5:30 pm  
Thursday, Feb. 29 @ 5:30 pm