

# GREAT SPIRIT

[www.greatspiritpdx.com](http://www.greatspiritpdx.com)

Great Spirit Newsletter Feb-Mar 2025

Issue 35

## From the Single Board

By Helen Stewart

### A New Year 2025!

We have been very blessed with a mild 2025 so far! Days are beginning ever so slightly to get longer with more daylight! A little too early to think of Spring but.... a time to restart projects after the holidays with renewed energy! Time to clean up the church to be ready for events in 2025! The "new" Sunday School room is becoming a delightful space for the children with more to come. The room is also being used by adults for small meetings and Talking Circle gatherings.

The Single Board at the next meeting will schedule a congregational meeting on Safe Sanctuary, plan fund raising events, and add new members to the Board.

A time for sharing, the collection plate on December 23rd, Christmas Eve-Eve Candlelight Service,

was designated for Barbie's Village. \$61 was collected and sent off to Future Generations Collaborative. The evening was an inspiring beginning to Christmas with Christmas Carols, soloists, instrumentals, special guests and closing with Silent Night.

Great Spirit UMC continues to schedule multiple groups each month for meetings and events. Check out the calendar posted at the main entrance. Also, check out the Opportunities for Connection listed below. Visit the website

<http://www.greatspiritpdx.com> for Past Sunday Services, Calendar events and Resources.

### WORSHIP WITH US

Worship services are held each Sunday at 11:00 am at 3917 NE Shaver ST 97212. Masks are optional. Worship includes smudging, drumming, and Native American prayer.

Services can be viewed on Facebook or on our website

[www.greatspiritpdx.com](http://www.greatspiritpdx.com)

There is a prayer request form on the front page of the website.

### ALASKA NATIVE BROTHERHOOD AND SISTERHOOD

The Alaska Native Brotherhood and Sisterhood will be joining Great Spirit UMC on February 16th for worship and potluck. ANB-ANS will be giving a presentation in honor of Elizabeth Peratrovich, Alaska Tlingit and Grand President of the Alaska Native Sisterhood.

Elizabeth Peratrovich was an American civil rights activist credited for Alaska's Anti-

Discrimination Act of 1945. The law signed February 16, 1945, was the first state or territorial anti-discrimination law enacted in the United States.



## Opportunities for Connection

- Volunteers Needed for Sunday Potluck, Hospitality, Children and Youth Ministry
- Pi Nee Waus Elders meet Tuesday Nights, 5-7pm, 4610 SE Belmont St. Portland
- Talking Circle, Monday evenings with Quacinda (Jodyne). Time to be determined.
- Portland American Indian Elders meeting at NAYA Elder's Room, first Sunday of the month at 1pm.
- Wisdom of the Elders plant sale. Order online beginning March 2<sup>nd</sup> (see article)
- February 16 – Alaska Native Brotherhood and Sisterhood joining Great Spirit UMC on February 16th for presentation of Elizabeth Peratrovich.

## WISDOM OF THE ELDERS

Great Spirit UMC shares space with Wisdom of the Elders. WOTE has been maintaining the grounds around the church. They are sharing the following plant sale information:

Wisdom of the Elders is teaming up with Sparrowhawk Native Plants to bring a native plant sale to our communities! Together, we are offering 115+ species of habitat-friendly native plants while raising \$5,000 to support our work. Plant sales start March 2nd and end March 30th. These plants go quickly so don't delay your ordering. Order online at the site [www.sparrowhawknativeplants.com](http://www.sparrowhawknativeplants.com). Please keep in mind there is a \$30 minimum when ordering. Pick-up of the ordered plants will be at the Brentwood Community Center, on May 1st thru May 3rd, 7211 SE 62nd Ave. Portland, OR 97206.

If you would like to volunteer at this event, please call 503-775-4014 or 208-369-8202 or email Cynthia Edison at [cynthia@wisdomoftheelders.org](mailto:cynthia@wisdomoftheelders.org).

Remember all the proceeds go towards helping our communities and enhancing your gardens which ultimately enhances our planet.

## HISTORIAN NEWS

With the New Year beginning, Helen has completed the book for 2024 and is celebrating by displaying 2024 this month. Each month a new archive book is presented. You are invited to place your selection of a particular year in the voting box on the table. It may be chosen next!

## BOTTLES AND CANS LADY (Helen Iles)

2024 was not a record-setting year for the Bottle and Can collections but we did end the year with a total of \$3,750. Helen appreciates the help collecting and THANKS everyone that dropped off bags of bottles and cans at church.

Helen will gladly pick up bottles and cans at your home or business. Give her a call at 503-252-0026.

## TALKING CIRCLE

Quacinda (Jodyne) Kolln would like to facilitate a traditional style Talking Circle. If you are interested in participating in a small group at the church, please get in touch with Jodyne at qjt283@gmail.com or 707-815-6064.

## MISSION

Helen Iles is boxing up warm clothing to take to Mainspring. Place your gently used clothing and household donations in the bin at the entry to the Fellowship Hall. MainSpring also accepts personal care items and non-perishable in-date food.

## GRATEFUL FOR GRANT DOLLARS COMING OUR WAY

Great Spirit Church will be receiving funding for another year of food provision for community meals. We will be better able to provide healthy meals on Sundays as well as Thursdays for the Drum Bros. We are grateful for these dollars as well as all the volunteer effort needed to support this beneficial food program.

Through the Native American Ministries Sunday Offering, the Methodist Church provides grant funding for strengthening worship communities throughout the country. In this way we are connected to these worship communities in reciprocity. Thank You to the General Board of Global Ministries for their dedication and perseverance.

Submitted by Loretta Milton

## Happy Birthday!

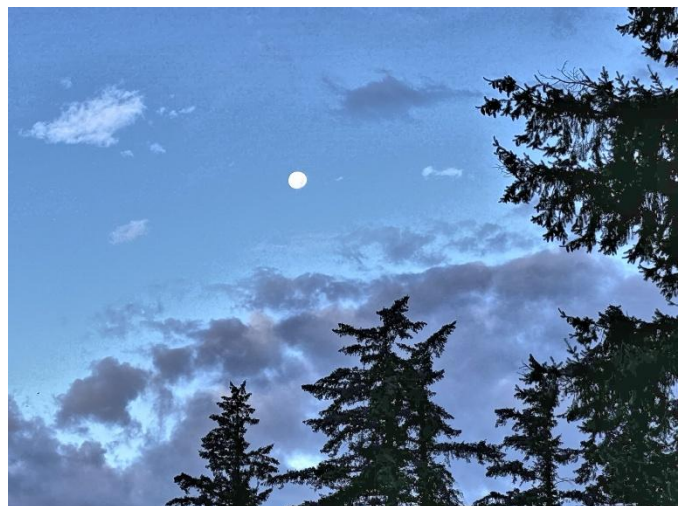
### FEBRUARY Birthdays

- February 6 Nancy Shaughnessy
- February 8 Beverly Towner
- February 14 Janell Collier
- February 16 Rosa Alby
- February 22 Bill Potts
- February 28 Mary Ann Wahwassuck

### MARCH Birthdays

- March 2 Margaret Alby
- March 3 Karrie Young
- March 5 Joaquin Tobar
- March 11 Susan Towner
- March 13 Robert Kolln
- March 16 Ed Edmo
- March 17 Linda Meanus
- March 22 Jay Cacka
- March 25 Marlow Little Boy
- March 27 Tim Bealer

To add your name to the Birthday list, please let Helen Stewart know the important date. Anniversaries are important too!



## OUR CORE VALUES

LOVE – Love is the way.

CONNECTION – All of creation is connected by Spirit. That spark of the Divine connects with all humanity and the rest of creation.

SPIRITUALITY – Without cultivation of the spiritual life, we become unbalanced. Active participation in the development of one's spirituality is critical for a whole life. We believe this happens best in community.

TRADITION – Those who have gone on before us leave legacies of the old ways and wisdom with those who become elders. We encourage, value, and listen to them, so our tradition(s) may continue to help shape and guide us, informing who we are and what we will become.

We seek to become and embody these values every single day.

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