



Enjoying, Sharing, Speaking  
**Life with Christ**  
Washtucna Community Church

Summer 2025

**Summer Worship Service is at 10:00 am**

## **LOSS, REBUILDING, KEEPING**

Donna Stoess, Church Treasurer

I am particularly thankful for life in a small town following a successful July 4th celebration in Washtucna. Our annual celebration disappeared during COVID. It's taken dedication, organization, and hard work from city workers and volunteers to raise the event from the ashes. The sounds coming from the horseshoe tournament, people visiting, and children playing in the park was music to my ears.

Like other small rural towns, we've lost a lot over the years including our post office, bank, insurance shop, hardware store, grocery store, barbershop, drugstore, drive-in, and restaurants. I find myself rejoicing over the resurrected July 4th event but also over the handful of businesses thriving in the community such as Java Bloom and Sonny's Tavern.

Which brings me to the reason for this newsletter: to alert everyone to *very real possibility* that we could lose yet one more asset in our community, our Pastor Kriss Bottino. We realized a couple months ago that donations were not keeping up with expenses. Having been treasurer for a long time, I know that giving fluctuates during the year, especially taking a dive in the summer. I read recently on the fund-raising app "Tithe.ly" that summer giving drops an average of 14% across all churches and they don't recover until November.

However a drop in donations over the summer combined with decreased giving January-June raises concern that this fall, we may not be able to offer Pastor Kriss a contract for 2026.

Please prayerfully consider what you can do to help keep our much needed and much loved Pastor Kriss in our community. Thank you.



Please keep Pastor Kriss in your prayers as she is scheduled for back surgery this summer. Pray that God guides the surgeon's hands in a successful surgery leading to pain relief. The pulpit is filled during her recovery by volunteer church members including David Bauman July 27, Karen Bauman Aug 3 and Donna Stoess Aug 10.

### **Three Ways to Support Our Ministry**

- 1) Place offering in the collection plate on Sunday
- 2) Send a check by mail to 125 S Church St, Washtucna WA 99371
- 3) Download the Tithe.ly app to give to Washtucna Community Church



## **DID YOU KNOW**

**That our church finances  
are covered**

**100%  
by donations  
from people like you?**

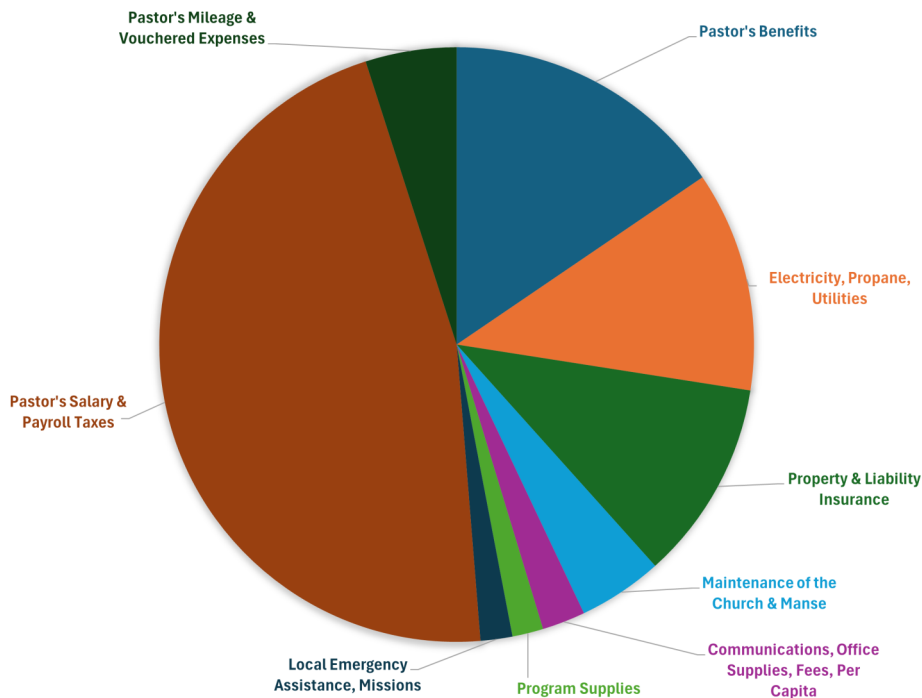


Washtucna Community Church  
125 S Church Street  
Washtucna, WA 99371

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Washtucna WA 99371

2025 BUDGET



- Our budget for 2025 is \$101,000.
- Expenses per month average \$8,500.
- We pay Pastor Kriss the minimum required by Presbytery.
- The Pastor's Benefits are mandated by Presbytery.
- We ended 2024 with \$45,000 in the bank.
- June 1, we had \$30,000 in the bank, a drop of \$15,000 over 5 months.
- If the decline in giving continues along with the anticipated decline in summer donations, we could end the year with less than one month's expenses.
- In this scenario, we could not offer Pastor Kriss a contract in 2026.

The faithful love of the LORD never ends! His mercies never cease.  
Great is his faithfulness; his mercies begin afresh each morning. Lam 3:22-23

Pastor Kriss is the director of the food bank which is housed at the local museum. Last month, 157 area individuals were served (58 households.) Kriss organizes food transportation from Second Harvest in Connell and Food Distribution Center in Moses Lake. She also organizes volunteers to sort, store, and distribute food and then she plows through the required paperwork, a massive task in itself.



Join us for fellowship and refreshments each Sunday following worship throughout the summer.

#### WHY A FULL-TIME PASTOR IN WASHTUCNA

- Kriss is the only Pastor in a wide rural area.
- Supports all, regardless of church affiliation.
- Provides spiritual leadership for Sunday Worship and daily personal growth.
- Provides interventions and counseling to individuals and families during sickness, dying, and death of a loved one, or other crisis.
- Helps connect people to resources.
- Provides emergency transportation and child-care, and assists with aid to travelers.

Pastor Kriss Bottino Call or Text (509) 308-5698

Website: [washtucnachurch.org](http://washtucnachurch.org)