LAKE CHELAN COMMUNITY CENTER

NEWSLETTER

Winter 2026

WHAT YOU'LL FIND INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

🎅 **Santa's coming to the Community Center—and you're invited!** Join us December 5, 12, and 19, from 3–5 p.m., for photos, hot cocoa, crafts, and indoor playspace fun. Bring a non-perishable food donation to help spread the holiday cheer to our neighbors. *Page 2*

🔨 **More room to gather, play and celebrate is taking shape.** Get the latest on construction of our gymnasium and performing arts center, and see how our supporters' generosity is helping create new opportunities for our community to come together. *Page 3.*



🎁 **Participate. Celebrate. Donate. Help keep our community connected.** As the year comes to a close, discover how your generosity supports the activities, friendships and shared experiences that make Lake Chelan Community Center a place for everyone. *Page 4.*



Grateful for Our Foundation, Excited for What's Ahead

~ Kyla Allen
Executive Director

Since joining the Lake Chelan Community Center in September, I've been learning, listening, and getting to know the people and partnerships that make this place special. I've gained a deep appreciation for the heart, hard work, and generosity that have brought its vision to life.

I'm especially grateful to our Board of Directors, whose volunteer hours help guide our mission; our tenant organizations, who bring valuable services and energy into our building; and the local contractors, vendors, and community members who have shared their time, talents, and resources. I'm also thankful to Maribel Cruz, our former Executive Director, for the strong foundation she helped establish.

As I learn more about our operations, I'm exploring ways to make The Community Center even more welcoming, functional, and valuable—from improving room rental options and visitors' experiences to developing new partnerships.

One exciting milestone is near: our new gymnasium is on schedule to be completed by the end of December! This space will open new possibilities for gatherings, performances, recreation, and community events. *(See related story, page 3)*

As we build on this foundation, I invite you to join us. Your donations help care for this shared space, expand opportunities, and create a place where people of all ages can connect, belong, and thrive.

Thank you for believing in the Lake Chelan Community Center and helping make our shared vision a reality. I'm honored to be part of this community and excited for all we will accomplish together!

Santa Claus is coming to town!



LAKE CHELAN COMMUNITY CENTER

THREE SATURDAYS IN DECEMBER

DEC 5 | DEC 12 | DEC 19

3 PM - 5 PM

Take photos with Mr. & Mrs. Claus, sip hot cocoa, enjoy crafts, and play in our indoor playspace!

Suggested donation: Non-perishable items for our local food bank.

REMEMBER THE MAGIC?

Remember getting ready to visit Santa when you were a little boy or girl? Rehearsing your wish list, wondering whether he really knew if you'd been good, and then suddenly feeling a little shy when it was finally your turn?

That childhood magic is coming to Lake Chelan Community Center—and it's ready for another generation to enjoy.

Join Mr. and Mrs. Claus **December 5, 12 and 19, from 3–5 p.m.** for photos, hot cocoa, crafts and fun in our indoor playspace. Bring your children or grandchildren, share a favorite Christmas memory, and make a few new ones together.

The wish lists may change, but the magic of a visit with Santa never gets old.

Share the Joy Beyond Our Doors



Help share the joy beyond our doors with a suggested donation of **non-perishable food** for our local food bank.


Stage & Sound


Courts


Parking

More Room to Play, Perform, and Connect

An Exciting New Space for Our Community!

Construction Update: Exciting progress is being made at the Lake Chelan Community Center! Thanks to last year's generous funding, construction is nearing completion, bringing us closer to opening the doors to new opportunities for our community.

The centerpiece of this phase is our new 11,000-square-foot **Good Shepard Gymnasium and Performing Arts Center**, designed for flexibility and our community's needs. The gym will accommodate basketball with six hoops, volleyball, and up to four pickleball courts. A full wall of bleachers will provide comfortable seating for spectators, while a dedicated stage, with a modern sound and lighting system, will welcome performances, presentations, and community celebrations.

We've also completed paving our parking lot and installed overhead lighting to make visiting Lake Chelan Community Center more convenient and welcoming, day or night.

We are especially excited about what this new gymnasium will mean for our community. It will provide much-needed space for athletic games, practices, and recreational activities, supporting physical fitness and connection for all ages. Its flexible design will also accommodate large gatherings, celebrations, performances, and special events. The possibilities are endless!

This new space will be available for the entire community to enjoy! We are currently working through scheduling and rental details so we can make the gym accessible to a variety of groups and activities. We can't wait to open the doors and share these spaces with all of you! We are planning a casual grand opening in late January and look forward to welcoming the community to see what we've been working toward. Stay tuned for more details!

Thank you to everyone who has helped make this project possible. We are incredibly grateful for our community's support, generosity, and patience as we continue building a place for generations to gather, connect, and thrive.

~ Kyla Allen, Executive Director

Book your 2027 event now at www.chelancommunity.org/rentals



Your Generosity Can Go Further.

Revisiting a conversation about giving, and the community it helps make possible.

Last year, local financial advisor and Lake Chelan Community Center supporter Erik Nelson shared ways donors could make their generosity go further. As we approach another season of giving, his insights are worth a second look.

Erik watched the Lake Chelan Community Center take shape from his nearby home, then became involved as a donor and volunteer. He saw the value of a welcoming place where young people could feel safe and neighbors could connect.

That connection is at the heart of this year's **Participate. Celebrate. Donate.** campaign. Joining a program, sharing a celebration, and making a gift all help strengthen The Community Center and the community it serves.



Erik Nelson

"Every donor's situation is unique, but there are smart ways to give that increase impact," Erik said. "When people understand their options, their generosity can go even further."

Don't miss out on potential tax savings with year-end giving.

For those considering a year-end contribution, Erik's message offers a useful starting point: giving doesn't always mean writing a check. Gifts of appreciated stock, grants from donor-advised funds, and qualified charitable distributions are among the options to explore with your financial or tax advisor.

Thoughtful giving can make a meaningful difference, both for donors and for the future of The Community Center.

Visit our website and explore the giving options in our original conversation with Erik Nelson: "How to Make Your Year-End Gift Go Further."
www.chelancommunity.org/stories/nelson

GIVE TODAY