### First Presbyterian Church

VOLUME 18 ISSUE 4

APRIL 2018



Newberg, Or



## Jesus Christ Is Risen!

Happy Easter First Presbyterian Church Family! This is the season of the church year where we especially remember the gift of the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We have been on the journey of Lent, an intentional season of self-reflection and prayer. Now, we are called to embrace the hope and power of the resurrection, which compels us to share God's love to the world.

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#### FROM THE REV. CHRIS MURPHY

I am happy to see that we are experiencing new life and energy in our congregation. What a joy to meet so many new friends on Easter Sunday and during this past month. During my prayer times lately, God is reminding me that the purpose of our church is to share the good news of the love of Jesus in our words and actions. We are part of a Jesus movement, a call to love not hate, a movement of sacrificial love to those who are marginalized and in need of community.

I love this church and I am excited for what God has planned for us together. I am having many good conversations with members of this congregation who sense that God is doing something special at First Presbyterian. We desire to be a church family where everyone feels welcomed as sisters and brothers in Christ. We are called to be a non-judgmental community that integrates God's heart for justice for the oppressed with a Christ centered warmth that unites us in community and mission. How can we be a safe community for everyone who enters our doors? How do we grow in love? These are important questions that will help us deepen our dependence on the wisdom of the Holy Spirit as we move forward in mission together.

In the Season of Easter, we are also remembering our loved ones who are ill as well as loved ones who have gone to be with our Lord. Since my first day as your pastor two months ago, we have entrusted to God three key members of our church family: Wayne Stater, Carol Fisher, and Sarge Riha. We celebrate the lives of these wonderful saints and we mourn with the families and friends of those closest to them. Easter offers us the hope of eternal life and gives us courage in seasons of grief.

How nice that we could also celebrate the baptism of three year old Raymond Anthony Hawley on Easter morning, the son of Tylor and Bethany Hawley, the grandson of Tim and Pam Weaver, the great grandson of Roberta Simonsen, and the great nephew of Sharon Riha. This baptism on April 1st, the birthday of Great Grandpa Ray Simonsen, who passed away last year, was a beautiful sign of resurrection life in our church.

In the month of April, we will continue to remember the resurrection stories of Jesus. May they encourage us to encounter the love and power of Jesus in a fresh way. May we find hope as we embrace the Spring season.

As always, I am available to chat about your own spiritual journey in this season of your life. Let's connect soon for a lunch or coffee on me.

Grace and Peace,

**Pastor Chris** 

### **NEWS FROM THOSE WE SUPPORT**

**Telile (Light of Hope)** - Telile reports: "Urgessa and I flying to Ethiopia. We will participate at the dedication of Arsi Oromo NT audio Bible this Sunday. We will be there for the whole month of March. We appreciate your prayers for travel mercies and effective ministry time in Ethiopia. There is no good internet service in Ethiopia, but I will try to send a ministry update. Thank you for your friendship and partnership in His kingdom!"

**Brian and Julie O'Herin (SIL - Wycliffe)** -Brian reports: Translation is moving along. Currently we're working through Esther, though we plan to do consultant checking on Ruth, Jonah and Esther in early May. Additionally, I am supposed to prepare materials for the translator about Matthew to give to him then. I'll be sharing more details – and prayer requests – about that trip later, but please be in prayer now for all the preparatory work that needs to happen.

**Dennis Smith (South America)** -Dennis gives background on PC(USA) history: For more than 170 years, the PC(USA) has participated in God's mission in South America. The first Presbyterian mission worker in the region was Rev. Dr. David Trumbull who began his ministry in Valparaiso, Chile in 1845 and went on to establish a Presbyterian denomination there. Ranging from Colombia and Venezuela to the north to Argentina and Chile in the south, from Brazil in the east to Perú in the west, the PC(USA) now has partnerships with 16 denominations, theological seminaries, and faith-based organizations in nine South American countries. Their priorities include evangelism, promoting social and environmental justice, and contextualized theological education.

The Yorks (Cru - Athletes in Action ) Maureen writes: The cadre I am coaching in our missions class has a wonderful diversity of experience— new single staff guy, a young married woman serving internationally, a nearly empty nester mom team leader, a couple with four kids. They are already enriching each other as we learn, share and pray for one another. Thank God for Jenni, Isaac, Suzy, Reulonda & Maurice.

**John & Gwenda (IMCK - Congo)** - An IMCK miracle: A young man, looking for a job and was stopped at roadblocks along the way near Tshikaji. The first was a government military post, where he was able to pay a bribe and move on. The second was a militant barricade which concluded he must be in league with the military, whom they hate, because he had just passed through their checkpoint. So they prepared to chop off his head. However, as they rifled through his suitcase on his motorcycle, they discovered a Bible and a T-shirt with a Christian inscription. Recognizing he was a Christian, they let him go.

**DESKS** for Ethiopian Students

We thank you for your generous donations of \$3,270 in our efforts to send \$3,200 to Light of Hope's ministry as they build schools and furnish them. Each desk accommodates three students!

We have reached our goal.

Wonderful!!

Thank you again!

The Mission Committee

## C.S. Lewis Academy

Every other year, we offer a theatre course that explores movement, voice, Shake-speare, and contemporary acting techniques. Along with the basic acting fundamentals we explore improvisation, devising, and theatre history. Sometimes, there are other opportunities provided by professionals that come in to instruct a workshop on skills such as Improv and Commedia D'ell Arte.

There are many opportunities to be involved behind the scenes as well including stage managing, hair and make-up, set construction, set design, publicity, sound, lighting, props, box office, and much more.

### A Midsummer Night's Dream

April 13,14 & 15th at 2PM

Stella Olsen Memorial Park Ampitheater 22256 SW Washington St Sherwood, Or

Bring Lawn Chair or Blanket Adult tickets are \$8.00

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### Rummage Sale

July 19,20,21 10 am to 6 pm

We are still collecting items in Church Office and we could also use bags and volunteers to work. Please call Susan or Sharon Riha and let us know what you are available to help with.

### **Church Directory**

LifeTouch will be onsite at FPC on May 11th and 12th to take family pictures for the directory. We will have a roster In Fellowship Hall for you to verify your information or you can email it to Susan King at firstpresnewberg@frontier.com

### **Birthdays**

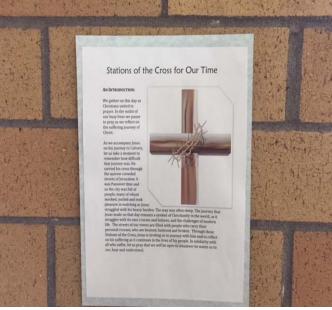
- 2- Susan King
- 14- Bill LeMaster
- 21- Cedar Albright
- 24- Julie O'Herin
- 29- Patti Jahnke
- 30- Ruth Miller

Anniversary PAGE 5

4- Bruce & Di Murphy (54)

# Good Friday Prayer Retreat







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# Easter Breakfast





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### Easter Service & Baptism







## Easter Fun



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## Learn the facts. Take action. Talk about it.

Together we can rise to the challenge of a Cascadia Earthquake.

The American Red Cross Prepare Out Loud presentation will empower you to be ready for disasters of all kinds – including the Cascadia earthquake – by taking practical steps to prepare, being vocal and visible with your preparedness and encouraging others to follow your example.

#### **Learn more about:**

- The science and history of the Cascadia Subduction Zone
- Human behavior during disasters
- What to expect during an earthquake and what to do immediately after
- Staying tsunami safe on the coast
- How to make your home safer in less than an hour
- How to prepare to quickly locate your loved ones
- How much food, water and supplies you will need to take care of your family
- The mechanics of culture change and how you can help

### Free to attend

Monday, April 9, 2018

5:00 — 8:00 PM

**Location: Newberg Christian Church** 

2315 Villa Road, Newberg, OR 97132

Preparedness Fair: 5:00-8:00 PM

Red Cross Presentation: 6:00-7:30 PM

Questions? Call Mark Botsford at 503-538-3104 or mark@newbergcc.org

Walk-ins welcome, sign-ups appreciated at www.redcross.org/prepareoutloudnewberg

Special thanks to our regional sponsors









## **COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

4/3 – Personnel Meeting at 3:00

4/10– Session Meeting at 7:00

4/12- Deacons Meeting at 1:00

4/26- Finance & Facilities Meeting at 5:30

4/26- Evangelism & Mission at 1:00

Christian Education meets on a different day at the home of Sylvia Stater.

Pastor Chris Murphy may be reached at his new email: <a href="murphycb@frontier.com">murphycb@frontier.com</a> or by calling the church office at 503-538-3313



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, NEWBERG NORTH COLLEGE STREET AT MISSION DRIVE (501 MISSION DRIVE) NEWBERG, OR 97132



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