

VOLUME 18, ISSUE 1

JANUARY 2018



Newberg First Presbyterian Church

PEW NEWS



FROM THE REV. DUANE BRUDEVOLD

Greetings, friends!

“I did not see a temple in the city, because the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. The city does not need the sun or the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and the Lamb is its lamp.”

Revelation 21:22-23

For the sake of the nation’s retailers, I am pleased that they did so well during the past holiday season. Their security provides some assurance that there will be hopefulness in the economy as we begin the new year.

But my holiday season revolves around the advent of the Christ Child, not around Santa Claus and his sleigh of goodies, so this passage from Revelation assures me of what is important in that place where there is no rust or decay. Imagine not having to worry about whether the interest on your mortgage will be fully deductible! Since God's kingdom is not about buildings, we have one less thing to stress out about. It also is a strong hint about what my priorities should be while still living in this very tangible world. Who I am as a person is far more important than all the physical comforts I surround myself with.

As this congregation moves forward to all the promise this next year holds for you, I trust that you will continue to grow in spiritual strength so that the message you convey to the community will help you to grow in numbers as well. Strength begins internally and shows itself externally in the beauty and faithfulness of your lives. The temple you are building will not depend on the walls, but on the light of God which radiates through all of you. Grace and peace to you as you continue to build the kingdom of mercy through the light of God as witnessed in the life of Jesus.

Pastor Duane



NEWS FROM THOSE WE SUPPORT

Telile (Light of Hope) - Beginning in January, we will be have an emphasis to raise \$2520 for desks for Telile's schools in Ethiopia. There are 5 schools that are in use, but have no desks, children sit on the floor or bring rocks or pieces of wood to sit on. Each desk seats 3 children and costs \$80. The emphasis will run until the total is raised.

Brian and Julie O'Herin (SLI - Wycliffe) - Brian will be travelling to Russia in April or May to meet with translators and do a consultant check on three Old Testament books being translated. These are Esther, Ruth and Jonah. If all is well they will be ready for publication.

Dennis Smith (South America) - Dennis and Maribel presented news of their work in South America where Dennis has responsibility for facilitating mission work for the entire continent. He has contact with and assistance from several denominations for his work. He emphasized ministries in Colombia, Venezuela and Argentina during their visit Dec. 17.

The Yorks (Cru - Athletes in Action) - Erik spent his first week on site in Ohio, he says:" (I'll be traveling to AIA headquarters one week a month until we move there next summer) and I had the opportunity of meeting with some of our staff at Ohio State University."

John & Gwenda (IMCK - Congo) - The Fletchers noted thanks in their latest newsletter for donations for:

- Indigent patients
- Special scholarships to medical and education personnel
- Maintenance of the power plant
- Retirement benefits for personnel
- Funds for the Endowment Fund, to date \$462,607 has been raised toward the goal of \$2 million.

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

To date we have received \$99,480 in pledges from 25 people. We are very grateful for their generosity. Last year by the end of January there were 31 pledges for a total of \$125,242. We have lost a few members and friends but have gained some as well.

We will have a new pastor early in 2018 and there will be increased personnel costs. Even after reworking the budget several times there is still a gap of about \$40,000 between the expected income and expected expenses. While there are some reserve funds available they will last for only a limited time and some of the accumulated endowment earnings are already in the budget.

We hope additional pledges will come in to support the new pastor and the activities of the church. If you have been waiting to decide about pledging, please consider it again. If you need a pledge card or an envelope, they are in the narthex or in the office.

Stewardship & Budget Committee

BICYCLE GAP MINISTRY

As you know, FPC had joined almost 20 other churches in Newberg in supporting Love INC with their Mission of helping people help themselves.

Our part of that Mission is the *Bicycle GAP Ministry*.

You will be pleased to know that since our first Wednesday "Open for Business" on March 8, 2017, we have distributed **90** bicycles!

It has been a pleasure serving Love INC's clients, and we look forward to continuing in 2018!

Our thanks to the men at *Retired Recyclers* for their faithful repair of so many bicycles, and their delivering them to us as needed!

The Mission and Evangelism Committee

CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING

A GENEROUS CONGREGATION!

As you know, the CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING is one of four special offerings of the Presbyterian Church (USA). Our gift this year to the Christmas Joy Offering is a wonderful \$1,755! We'll update that figure in the future as we have another Sunday to receive this offering. We just wanted to let you know in the January Pew News!

As you are aware, your generous offerings will be divided equally to support pastors and their widows with special needs, and the five Racial and Ethnic Schools and Colleges sponsored by the Presbyterian Church (USA).

We thank our always open-hearted congregation once again for your fine response!

You see a need, and you step-up to help!

Thank You

The Mission and Evangelism Committee

CHURCH GARAGE SALE

The Church will be holding a garage sale in the spring to help raise money to replace floors in the Fellowship Hall. We are taking slightly used items for resale. You can bring by the church office anytime. We will also be looking for bags to (plastic and paper) to put items in at the garage sale.

Any questions call or talk to Sharon Riha or Susan King



Adult Education

Jan– Chuck Discusses Ancient Saints

Feb– TBD



Nominating Committee

Nominating committee is looking for Elders, Deacon and Worship committee members starting in 2018. If interested please talk to the following persons.

- Pam Weaver – Deacons
- Lynne Patrick—Worship
- Sharon Riha—Session

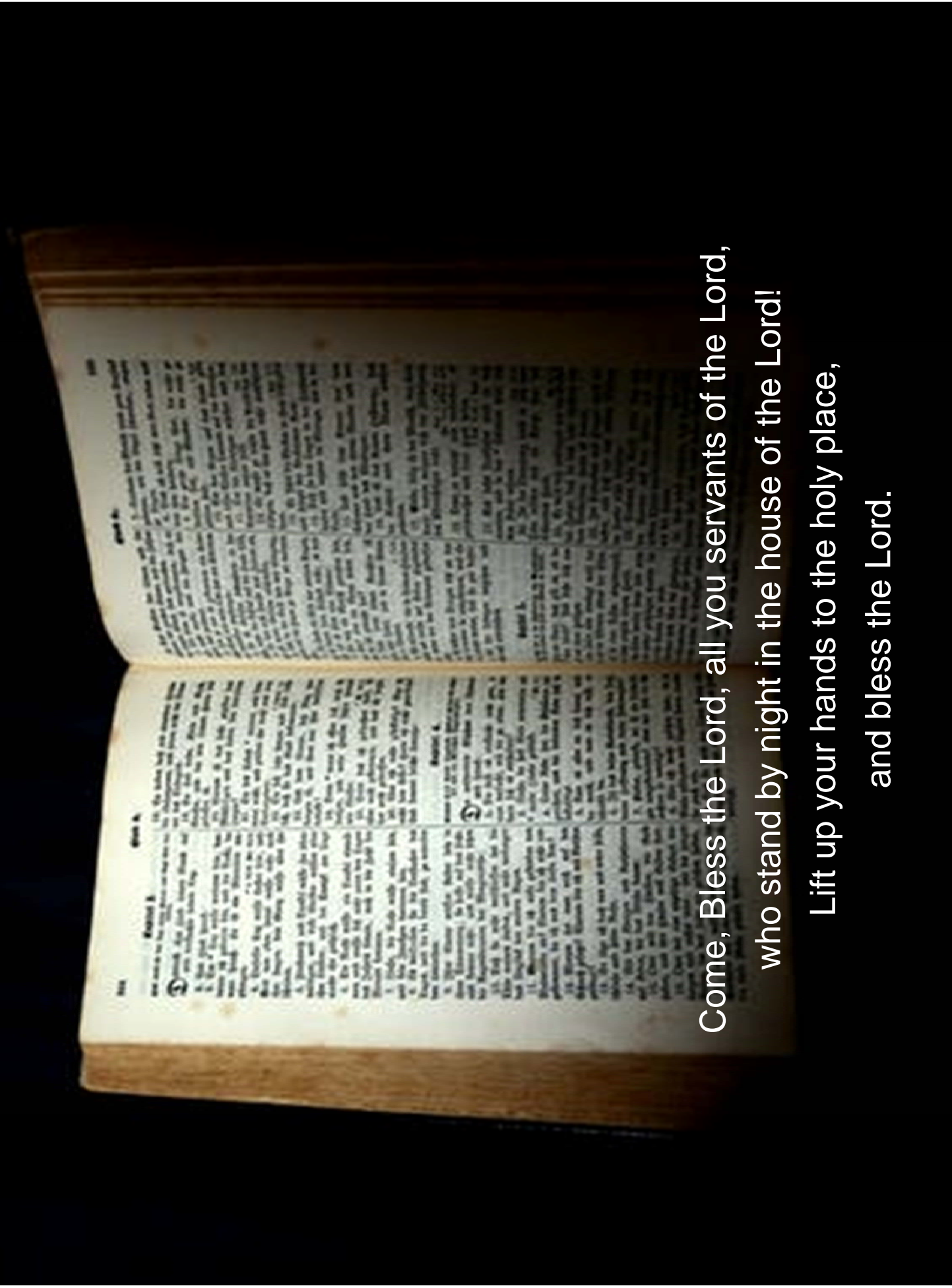
January

Birthdays

- 4- Chuck Zickefoose
- 5- Lou Gimbel
- 6- Joe Sarnacki
- 8– Janet Andrew
- 16– Hawkin Au
- 26– Eric Swehla
- 31– Bob Andrews

Anniversary

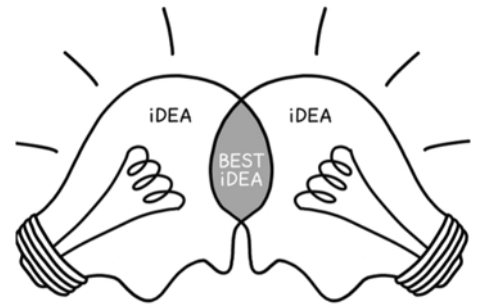
- 15- Pam & Tim Weaver
- 25– Pat & Keith Harcourt



Come, Bless the Lord, all you servants of the Lord,
who stand by night in the house of the Lord!
Lift up your hands to the holy place,
and bless the Lord.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

1/2– Personnel Meeting at 4:30
1/9– Session Meeting at 7:00
1/11– Deacons Meeting at 7:00
1/23– Finance & Facilities Meeting at 5:30
1/25– Evangelism & Mission at 1:00



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

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



WORSHIP. FOLLOW. INSPIRE.