

First Presbyterian Church

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PEW NEWS

Newberg, OR



GRACE. HOPE. LOVE

PAGE I

FROM THE REV. CHRIS MURPHY

Thank you for a wonderful first summer with this congregation! During the summer we explored the Healing Miracles of Jesus and we were blessed to have some wonderful guest preachers. I hope exploring the miracles of Jesus has encouraged you to desire for our church to be a home for miracles and a house of prayer. We have also spoken about our desire to grow young as a church by empowering young people.

As we enter the fall school season, we are ready to highlight our new direction as a church. Our church session has approved the use of three words to describe the purpose and mission of our church. These three words are: GRACE, HOPE, and LOVE. We are choosing these three words because they speak of God's heart for our church and how we are called to reach out to Newberg and the broader world.

A church of GRACE, HOPE, and LOVE will draw people of all ages to experience God's goodness. **GRACE** signifies that we are a safe church where wounded people can feel supported and where God's forgiveness can refresh everyone's lives. Grace is personified in the person of Jesus. Grace catches us when we fall and lifts us up to greater heights in God's power. Grace to me also speaks of being inclusive of all people.

HOPE is a word that conveys that our future is bright. We will hope for the healing of people who need healing. We will hope for lives to be transformed through the power of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We will hope for our church to grow as we are led by the Holy Spirit.

LOVE conveys what we all desire most in life. Love is the purpose of life. We are called to grow in love. Love also speaks to our mission in Newberg and the world, in that our church is called to care for vulnerable people and to share the love of Jesus with those who feel lost and afraid. Love is what I hope people will feel most deeply when they enter our doors.

Beginning on Sept. 9th, I will begin a three-part sermon series on our new vision as a church. I will preach on Grace on Sept. 9th, Hope on Sept. 16th, and Love on Sept. 23rd. At the end of September and continuing into October we will begin to explore more deeply the mission of the Church, while we prepare to enter our annual stewardship season. This is a season of gratitude and generosity as we live into the future.

Special thank you to Andrew Davis for being a wonderful college student intern for us this summer. Andrew has a huge heart for ministry and blessed us through his preaching, visitation, and special work on our new website. Get ready for our new website to be revealed in the middle of September. Special welcome to Nissi Undurthi, who is our new college student intern for this fall. Nissi will join Andrew Davis, Ilsa Teppo, Jack Reamy, Karen Murphy, and myself in starting our new young adult ministry, which will begin on Monday, Sept. 17th, at 5 PM at our church. Nissi will also help us build relationship with the International Student community and will bring her musical and speaking gifts to our community.

My prayer is that this Fall season will be filled with the grace, hope, and love of God and we will be able to welcome many new young people and folks of all ages to our community. Get ready for a fun start to the school year!

Featured Partners

IMCK

We have news from the John and Gwenda Fletcher, mission representatives to the Democratic Republic of the Congo, that they are retiring from the field due to Gwenda's health. Their ministry has been instrumental in developing and maintaining both health and educational duties at IMCK (Christian Medical Institute of the Kasai). We have supported their work over the years in equipment for the hospital, repair parts for their on-site electrical generation system and education of girls to gain secretarial skills.

Tierra Nueva

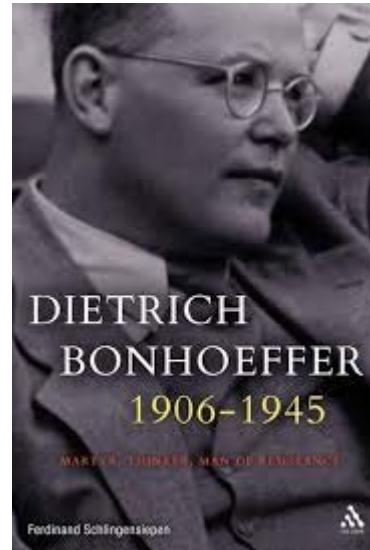
Beginning in 2019 we will be partnering with Tierra Nueva. This ministry began in 1982 as God brought Bob and Gracie Ekblad to work and learn alongside impoverished farmers in Minas de Oro, Honduras. They felt called to directly address the poverty and class divisions underlying the regional wars in Central America. Bob and Gracie learned and taught sustainable farming, nutrition, and preventative health. As they read the Scriptures alongside their Honduran neighbors—many of whom were excluded from the local churches—they began to discover Good News for themselves.

After pursuing graduate studies in theology in Montpellier, France, Bob and Gracie served a bilingual Presbyterian Church in the Mission District of San Francisco. There they became aware of the migrant farm worker population living in the Skagit Valley in Washington State. In 1994 the Ekblads moved to Burlington to start what they then called Tierra Nueva del Norte. They began visiting immigrant workers in the migrant labor camps and fields and Bob became chaplain of Skagit County Jail Ministry. Migrant and jail chaplaincy continue to be the cornerstones of Tierra Nueva. The People's Seminary was established to train ministry workers to serve people on the margins of society locally, nationally and around the world.

We will be exploring how we might mutually benefit from this new partnership.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer: Heroic Christian Martyr, Fearless Patriot Spy...and everyday Christian like you and me

Sept. 16 What does it mean to be a Christian?
Sept. 23 What is the Church?
Sept. 30 "Worldly Christianity" Really?
Teacher: Bruce Murphy



Young Adult Ministry Kick Off! September 17th

Fall Season is coming! Autumn comes as a season of change where leaves turn to all shades of red, orange or yellow, sunsets fill the skies with matching colors and a brisk breeze comes through the trees. All these elements join in harmony to make a beautiful scene here in the Willamette Valley, and reminds us of the beauty brought with upcoming change.

Over the summer Pastor Chris has been highlighting the empowerment of the youth and the beauty of the churches heart of inclusion and community. As we enter this new season, our church has the opportunity of showing its heart by building its community through a young adults ministry. This new ministry will be lead by Pastor Chris and his wife Karen, along with myself (Andrew Davis), Jack Reamy, Nissi Undurthi and Ilsa Teppo as the young adult leaders.

Starting this Fall, our Young Adults group will gather for the chance to have food, worship, bible study and prayer. The goal of this gathering is to help connect young adults, particularly from 18-29, so that we may all grow together in our walks of faith. In worship, we grow as a community by singing to our Lord and worshipping him in spirit. Through bible study we hope to create a free space for discussion, one where we can present real questions we are all facing openly, so that we can worship him in truth.

All young adults are welcome to join us on September 17th at 5 PM for a kick off to start the Fall season. By coming to our very first meeting, you get to enjoy some food and fellowship while learning what we are all about. We can't wait to see you there!

Grace and Peace,

Andrew Davis

Pastor Chris participated in the clergy protests in front of the ICE building calling for the release of the detainees from the Sheridan Federal Correctional Institution. Please continue to pray for the release of the asylum seekers being held unjustly.



Choir News,

Our annual Potluck dinner for choir members, family and friends will be held on Wednesday, September 12th at 6 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. The main dish will be provided by the Worship Committee and choir members are invited to bring a side dish or dessert. Please mark your calendar now for this enjoyable evening of good food, great fellowship and singing. Our first rehearsal of the new choir year will begin at 7:30 p.m. after dinner.

If you enjoy singing, this is an open invitation to you to "try our" our choir. There are no auditions or music reading requirements to join the choir - just a willingness to praise God through music.

We look forward to new members helping us to continue our music ministry during the upcoming choir year.

Pat Goodman
Choir Director



Newberg Area

**Habitat
for Humanity®**

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.....because it takes more than a hammer and nail to build a home. As summer continues on with its relentless heat and we look to the Fall season of rain boots, comfy sweaters, and hot Pumpkin Spice Lattes, we wanted to take a moment to give a shout out to those who have been amazing supporters.

As you are aware, it takes more than a hammer and nail to build a home. It takes a community of likeminded people from various backgrounds to work together for the common good. Businesses like DeMoss & Gutterman (volunteer build group) and Aero Lock & Safe (lunch provider) come to mind. They recently gave of their time, talents, and treasures to help us get closer to completing our 28th Habitat home here in Newberg. Of course, it needs to be said that the businesses and community partners who take turns feeding our hungry volunteers every week are also some of our biggest blessings:

Lunch Providers
Dominos Pizza
Round Table Pizza
JEM 100
Burgerville
Dairy Queen
Chehalem Valley Presbyterian Church
Charlie Armfield
First Presbyterian Church
Leroy & Paula Benham
Chehalem Valley Baptist Church
Joyful Servant Church
Dana & Jim Chogyoji

It is impossible to pay all of these "angels in disguise" but we wholeheartedly recommend them! If a need ever arises and you need a building contractor, plumber, electrician, landscape architect, etc., please give us a call. We have many who we would be pleased to recommend; not only for their expertise, but especially for their overall goodness!

PLEASE SUPPORT THOSE WHO SUPPORT US...

"Welcome" Nissi Undurthi our Fall Intern

My name is Nissi Undurthi and I come from South Indian state called Andhra Pradesh. I am a student at George Fox University studying international relations. This school year, I am so blessed to join as a student intern with the First Presbyterian church. Previously, I have visited the church and really enjoyed my time there. The church's intentional and kind hospitality already made me feel welcomed and loved. So I am very grateful and excited to be part of this community and to learn more about the church and their vision. I am also looking forward to working alongside and learning from Pastor Chris and cannot wait to see what God has in store through this.



Birthdays

- 13- Chris Murphy
- 19- Jacob Godshalk
- 25- Harriet Fowler
- 25- Ed Godshalk

Anniversary

- 2- Susan & Doug King
- 8- Karen & Chris Murphy
- 9- Lory & Don Albright

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

9/10– Session Meeting at 7:00

9/13– Deacons Meeting at 2:00

9/27- Finance & Facilities Meeting at 5:30

9/27– Mission & Global Witness 1:00

Pastor Chris Murphy may be reached at his new email: murphycb@frontier.com or by calling the church office at 503-538-3313

One
& All

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



WORSHIP. FOLLOW. INSPIRE.