

First Presbyterian Church

VOLUME 18  
ISSUE 12

DECEMBER 2018



# PEW NEWS

Newberg, OR



*"And the Word became flesh and lived among us,  
and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's  
only son, full of grace and truth. (John 1: 14)"*

Advent is here! This is the season in the church calendar when we remember the gift of Emmanuel, God with us (Matthew 1:23). We remember that God chose to take on human flesh and become one of us (John 1:14). The image on the front cover of this edition of Pew News reminds me of the power of the Christmas story.

The story of the birth of Jesus is easily domesticated in this season when we view images of Mary, Joseph, and Jesus in nice beautiful garments resting in a well-lit stable. The contrasting image of a Latin American family seeking refuge is more accurate to the real experience of Mary, Joseph, and Jesus.

Many of you know that I spent five months living in Central America during college. I met people very much like those who are currently taking part in the caravan of migrants seeking asylum at the border of Tijuana, Mexico and the United States. I hope this image reminds us to have compassion on these migrants and all refugees around the world. I know immigration reform is an important topic in our country, but any solutions must begin with compassion not unhealthy rhetoric or messages meant to provoke fear instead of wisdom.

The current rhetoric coming from some political leaders in this country suggest that we should view people within the caravan as criminals. We are told that these folks will come and take our jobs and hurt our friends and family. The people in this caravan are seeking asylum, which is not a criminal offense. I understand there a lot of people seeking asylum. It feels like an overwhelming problem to many, but we need to use our creativity as a country to respond to this need with ideas that support these people rather than judge them. Maybe Christians and other people of faith could lead the effort to provide shelter for those who seek asylum when they lawfully cross the border to seek refuge.

In this Advent season, we need to ask a very important question in the Church. How would Jesus want us to respond to the caravan of primarily Central American asylum seekers? Most of these people are sisters and brothers in Christ. The story of the birth of Jesus is a story of an oppressed Jewish family that is turned away from the Inn when Mary is ready to give birth and then warned by God in a dream to flee as refugees to Egypt when Jesus is an infant.

Honestly, most of us- myself included, have a hard time relating to the challenges that Mary, Joseph, and Jesus faced. The story of Christmas is quite different from my story of being born to two educated middle-class parents in a small college town in Iowa. When I was a toddler, I did not have to flee with my family for safety. My biggest worry was how to navigate preschool or maybe going to bed in the dark. I did not have to fear for my life.

In this season of Advent may we remember that when God chose to become one of us, God came in poverty and joined an oppressed minority group. He was not born a Roman, but a Jew. He came not to the wealthy, but to the poor. He invites us to also show love to the vulnerable and the oppressed through our compassion and generosity this Advent Season. May God bless us all with the gift of compassion as we celebrate the birth of Jesus!

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Chris

bank + family)  
ting  
ndigenous peoples

ed you, this day and every day. We give  
ou alone are worthy!

God's Gifts

I am a nature poet  
gazing up at <sup>autumn</sup> dancing leaves  
wind dancers twirling  
to the earth.  
Rainbows of the woods  
remind me to always look up.

Chestnuts gathered with pokey  
coats, beloved husband  
boils instead of roasts  
Mouth watering delicacy from  
the forest.

Pastor Chris Murphy

Glow worms brighten the  
night's path, owls hooting  
from ancient branches above.  
I am a nature poet

h"  
s flow:

w;

;

<sup>Doxology</sup> soaking up these <sup>God's</sup> gifts ~~from~~  
of LOVE. ~~above~~  
by Lory Albright

**Light of Hope** - Taliilee and Urgessa returned from Ethiopia where they checked up on progress of the new college building. They also began arrangements to build seven more schools in 2019. Urgessa will be returning to Ethiopia in December to continue oversight of the college construction set up plans for two of the new schools for which funding has been obtained.

**Wycliffe SIL** - Brian has been working on the translation of the Book of Esther in his new role in translation. Much of the work is done over the internet relieving him of the need to travel as much as was the case in his old position.

**CRU** - We join Maureen in remembering her father, Hawkin Au who passed away in early November. His memorial service was held on December

**IMCK** - Next year we will be replacing IMCK with a new partner, Tierra Nueva, a ministry out of Bellingham Washington. Bob and Grace Ekblad are the principals and their story can be found by way of link on the church website.

**Smiths** - Dennis says: "I traveled with Valdir França to all three presbyteries of the Presbyterian Church of Colombia (IPC). We worked with our Colombian colleagues to envision the future and celebrate all we have been able to do together over the last 160+ years. We're especially excited that February 1-2, 2019 the IPC will host representatives of the churches and presbyteries that have active mission partnerships in Colombia, the Presbyterian Peace Fellowship (PPF) and World Mission.

### **Love Inc, Bike Ministry**

As many of you know, FPC' conducts a Bicycle GAP Ministry for Love INC. On November 21, we distributed our 100th bicycle for this year! That's 100 folks who can now look for a job, or get to one more easily - and allows them to simply be more mobile.

There are a few children as well – from 2 years and older – who've been made happier by their selection of a bike!!

We are 'open' the first and third Wednesdays of every month – and are available for special appointments for folks who cannot make it on those days.

The recipients are all cleared by Love INC, and appear on a Google list for us to pick up on those Wednesdays. Tho not all come to pick up a bike of their choice, we always have 3 to 6 who arrive. One week we hit an all-time high of 16! The Good Lord must have known they were all coming, because we had a plethora of bicycles that day!

We are supported on our ministry by another: The Retired Recyclers! They rehabilitate donated and abandoned bicycles. They are a group of 5 men who love to see grateful folks's lives made easier, as do we!

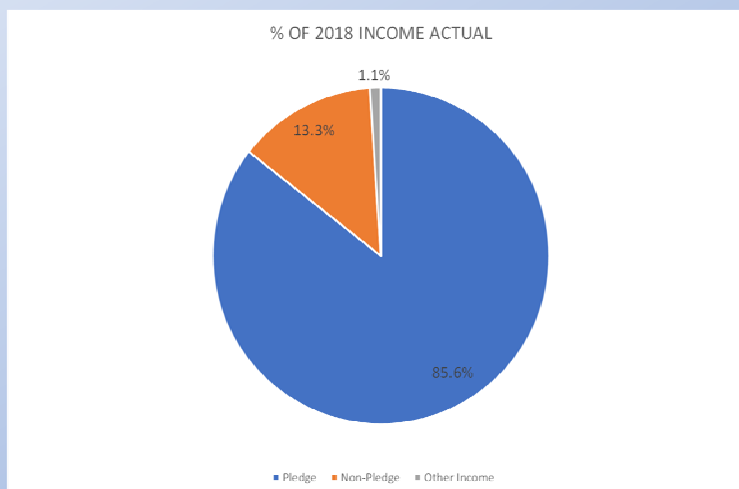
## NEWBERG FPC 2018 FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

Nov. 2018

INCOME CATEGORY	YTD ACTUAL	2018 BUDGET
Pledge	\$107,995	\$115,000
Non-Pledge	\$16,774	\$19,000
Other Income	\$1,336	\$1,660
Total Actual Income = \$126,105		
Total Planned Income = \$135,660		

\* Designated and Special Offering Income for 2018 YTD is approximately \$25,000.

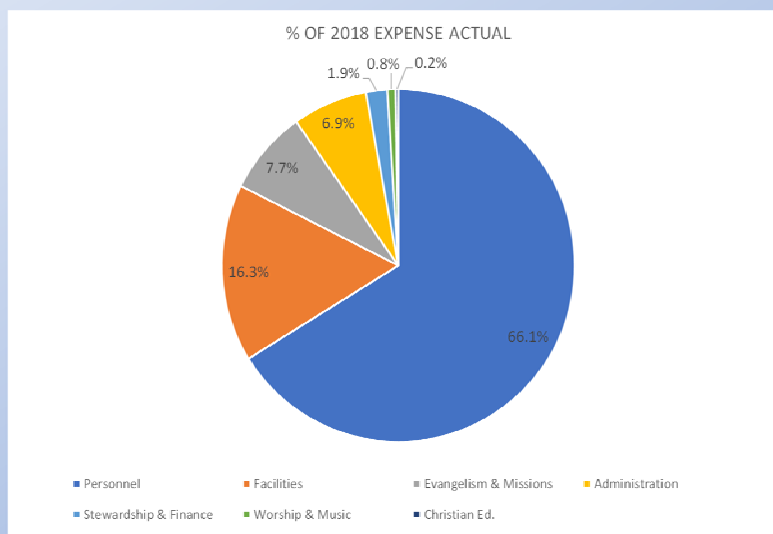
We did not include this in budget planning for 2018.



## NEWBERG FPC 2018 FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

Nov. 2018

EXPENSE CATEGORY	YTD ACTUAL	2018 BUDGET
Personnel	\$133,109	\$142,614
Facilities	\$32,824	\$24,397
Evangelism & Mission	\$15,537	\$17,628
Admin.	\$13,857	\$13,216
Stewardship & Finance	\$3,898	\$3,502
Worship & Music	\$1,525	\$2,275
Christian Ed.	\$500	\$700
Total Actual Exp. = \$201,250		
Total Planned Exp. = \$204,332		

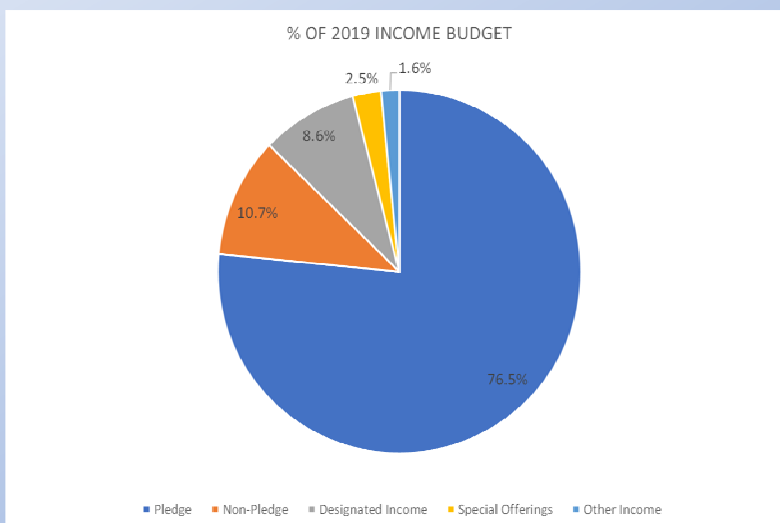


## NEWBERG FPC 2019 FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

Nov. 2018

INCOME CATEGORY	YTD ACTUAL	2019 BUDGET
Pledge	\$0	\$128,130
Non-Pledge	\$0	\$17,000
Designated*	\$0	\$13,598
Special Offering*	\$0	\$4,000
Other Inc.	\$0	\$2,570
<b>Total Actual Income = \$0</b>		
<b>Total Planned Income = \$165,298</b> (increase from 2018 of \$29,638)		

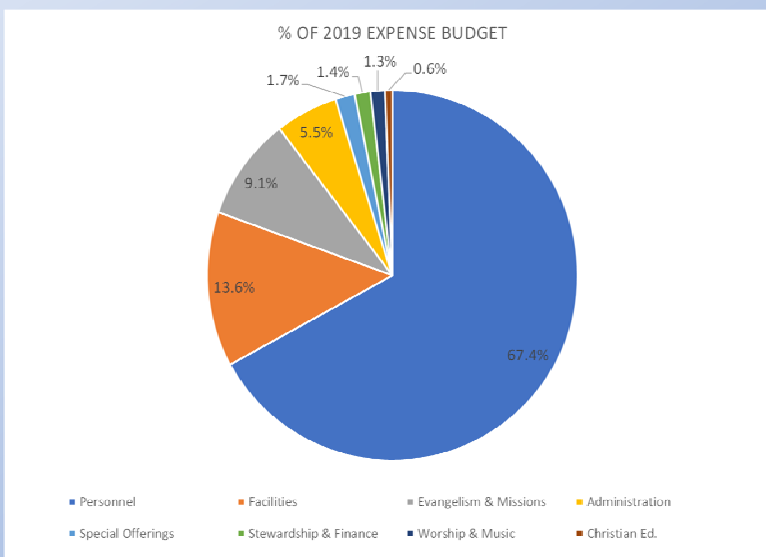
\* Designated and Special Offering that can be budgeted.



## NEWBERG FPC 2019 FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

Nov. 2018

EXPENSE CATEGORY	YTD ACTUAL	2019 BUDGET
Personnel	\$0	\$157,134
Facilities	\$0	\$31,779
Evangelism & Mission	\$0	\$21,133
Admin.	\$0	\$12,824
Special Offering	\$0	\$4,000
Stewardship & Finance	\$0	\$3,210
Worship & Music	\$0	\$2,975
Christian Ed.	\$0	\$1,500
<b>Total Actual Exp. = \$0</b>		
<b>Total Planned Exp. = \$234,555</b> (increase from 2018 of \$30,233)		





# Hanging of the Greens



## OUR CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING

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ISSUE 12

will be gratefully received again this year on Christmas Eve, and on the Sundays surrounding Christmas. One of the four Special Offerings of PC(USA), it has been a part of the Christmas tradition in the Presbyterian Church since 1933.

Half of this offering is distributed through the **Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions**, recognizing the faithfulness of current and retired church workers by providing funds to help them through difficult times. The other half supports **Presbyterian racial-ethnic schools and colleges**:

\*Johnson C. Smith University, NC

\*Knoxville College, TN

\*Menaul School, NM

\*Stillman College, AL

\*Presbyterian Pan American School, TX

You will find inserts in you December Sunday bulletins telling you more about the important Mission your Christmas Joy offering supports. Special envelopes will also be available for you in the pews in December.

**We are grateful for our always-generous congregation!**

**Thank you!**

*The Mission and Global Witness Committee*

### From the Deacons Corner

We welcome Paula Buck as a new member of Deacons.

A big thank you to Barbara Falbey; Roberta Simonsen and Pat Harcourt for getting 16 Christmas Stockings made for the Birth Center at Newberg Providence Hospital. Each child born in December goes home in a Christmas Stocking.

Thanks to everyone who has brought unwrapped toys for the Joy and Toy Drive. Dec. 2nd is the last Sunday that we will be collecting the Toys. They will be transported to the Fire Station after Dec. 2nd. If you desire you can take your toys to the 2nd Street Fire Department.

Money has been contributed to the Shop With A Cop Program which goes on the first part of December at Fred Meyer's.

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## COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CANTATA

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A BENEFIT for the YCAP Yamhill County Food Bank. Free-will offerings will be received.

The 2018 Community Christmas Cantata Choir is excited to announce our one hour presentation of "Born Is the King: It's Christmas". This choral cantata, presented in our 32nd season, was created by Luke Gambill and Susan C. Smith, and blends narration with a collection of Christmas music in contemporary and traditional styles. The upbeat and moving music should appeal to most tastes and ages.

ALL performances will be interpreted in American Sign Language (ASL) for the hard of hearing.

Several in the choir are extremely sensitive to fragrances, so audience & congregation members are encouraged to be as "fragrance-free" as possible.

DECEMBER 2 SUNDAY  
4:00PM, CHRISTIAN CHURCH, 1305 GOUCHER ST, AMITY



DECEMBER 5, WEDNESDAY  
7:00PM, ST PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH,  
17500 SW CEDARVIEW WY,  
SHERWOOD

DECEMBER 7, FRIDAY  
7:00PM,  
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH,  
390 NE SECOND ST,  
MCMINNVILLE

DECEMBER 8, SATURDAY  
7:00PM,  
CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE,  
23177 OLD YAMHILL RD,  
NEWBERG

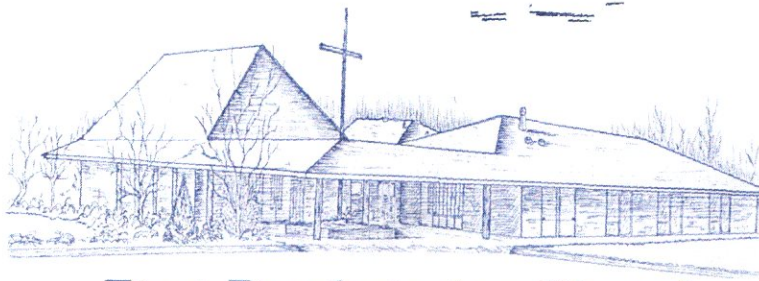
## December

### Birthdays

- 2– Pam Weaver
- 20– Brian O'Herin
- 30– Maxine Shuler
- 30– Annette Simonsen Watson

### Anniversary

- 3– Margie & Bill LeMaster
- 5– Chris & Craig McCourt



# First Presbyterian Church

501 Mission Drive · Newberg, OR 97132  
(503) 538-3313

# Thank You for providing CAYAC Dinners!

Susan King, Pat Harcourt, Elise Prayzich

Di Murphy, Pam Weaver, Mary Kalesse,

Sylvia Stater, Margie LeMaster, Reid Thurston,

And Lynne Patrick

*All the food  
has been  
amazing! Thank  
you for all  
your time  
and energy  
you've given!*  
-Alsa

*I appreciate you all  
volunteering to be part  
of this & feeding us!  
It was one of the  
highlights. Thank you  
♥NISSI*

*Thank You All  
for all the  
delicious Food!  
-Tom &*

*We love all  
the great  
food!  
Thanks so much!  
Chris + Karen*

*Thank you! ♥ Cate*

*Thanks  
so much!  
- Pietro*

*Thank you!  
Anna Virginia*

*Ghiara ♥*

*Thank you so  
very much!  
Muel*

*Thank you!  
~ Sara*

Thanks so much from all your parishioners  
for the food & kindness! David Delano

Thank you so  
much for all of your  
kindness and thought-  
fulness by all of your  
words of kindness and  
food made and supplied  
for us!  
Leonard Delano  
(Doug's brother)

Thank you so much for everything!  
Thank You!  
For all of your support and love  
Over the past couple weeks.  
- Andrew Delano

Dear Church Family,  
Thank you is not enough to  
say. I am so grateful for each of you.  
Love, Jennie

Thank you so much for your  
love & kindness. It has been  
so helpful & appreciated.  
Dance Laitountaine

Very impressed with the precision  
operation you all carried out to  
provide us with food & each day  
& love & support in many ways  
Thank you Agn. (WZ)

THANK YOU FOR  
EVERYTHING!  
Joshua Delano  
Thanks so very much  
for everything! Bob <sup>over</sup> →  
Delano

Thank You from Delano Family for Meals

## COMMITTEE MEETINGS

12/11– Session Meeting at 7:00 pm.  
12/13– Deacon Meeting at 2:00 pm.  
12/13- Finance & Facilities Meeting at 6:00 pm.

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

Our new website address is : [newbergfpc.org](http://newbergfpc.org)

One  
& All

NEWBERG FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
501 MISSION DRIVE  
NEWBERG, OR 97132



GRACE. HOPE. LOVE.