

Newberg First Presbyterian Church

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MAY 2021



PEW NEWS



"Summer In-Person Worship"





Summer Return to In-Person Worship

Wow! We are getting closer to meeting in person. At our April Session meeting, our elders determined we are ready to begin in-person worship at a limited capacity on Sunday, June 13th. Our church has purposefully taken a cautious approach during this pandemic. Now that all adults are eligible to receive vaccines and with the support of the Cascades Presbytery, we are ready to re-open.

I know we are all excited to see each other and experience community in a more holistic way as we return to in-person worship. As your pastor, I have missed you and I have missed seeing everyone each Sunday. Thanks to the wonders of technology and the gifts of Gary and Paul Buck, Noah Katterman, and other volunteers we have learned to worship together with the help of live-stream. We have also found community with the help of Zoom gatherings. Until last year neither the words Zoom nor live-stream worship felt like every-day vocabulary. In-person worship was what we called normal worship. The world has certainly changed but we are ready to return to some normalcy. I am relieved and thrilled at the same time.

So, what can we expect this summer? Although we are ready for in-person worship on June 13th, we will be taking appropriate precautions that fit with CDC guidelines. We think it is best to begin with limited capacity. We will have survey results that help us know who is ready to return. What we will plan to do is sit in family groups for those of us who normally come to church with a friend or family member. Also, we plan to space the rows to better create 6 feet of distance from each other. We are asking you to wear masks throughout the service, but we will allow worship leaders and preachers to take off masks when speaking. Although singing will be allowed, the choir will be postponed until at least the Fall season to avoid singing as a group in the front choir pews. As an extra precaution we will have everyone who enters the sanctuary for worship sign in and we will do extra cleaning between worship services. The Worship, Music, Media, and Technology committee will create a document with protocols before June. Remember, even when in person worship occurs, Live-stream will continue as well for those who wish to watch online.

The sanctuary and office will be open beginning June 13th, but we are choosing not to meet in the fellowship hall after worship. After worship services, people will be encouraged to gather and visit outside with proper social distancing and the use of masks. The hope is that we can enjoy some summer picnics on the lawn, but normally we will not offer refreshments after worship.

Thanks for going on this journey with us through the pandemic and as we re-open to in-person worship June 13th. May God give us grace as we come together once again to worship Jesus as one community. Thank God that we are ready for a new beginning and that God has held us through this challenging season.





Greetings in Christ from your Clerk of Session, April, 2021

This month we began with devotions by Bob Andrews and then listened to the LLC interested in working with us to move a duplex from Friendsview Manor on to our back lot. After the meeting with this local LLC and months of careful considerations we decided it was not the right time to enter into a business in which we had limited voting power and which would require our church to legally join an LLC. We learned a lot in this process and know God has plans for the back lot which we are still working to discern. We approved the Treasurer's report for March.

A second focus of our meeting was discussing when and how to begin meeting in person at church again. All of us want to be safe and worship together so it was decided that worship in a limited capacity will begin again Sunday, June 13. To insure we keep to our limited capacity we will work on a sign up procedure and online church will run at the same time so that our whole church body can be worshipping together safely.

Celebrations we praised God for were our three baptisms this month, \$935 donated for Lentin food boxes, and our church beginning an Intentional Visioning process, "Living in the present and planning for the future as we celebrate the past."

We approved Pastor Chris' vacation leave and discussed ways to prune the arborvitae next to the parking lot lawn so that the neighbor's yard can receive more sunlight. Finance and Facilities is working to find a way to tackle those along with taking down any unsafe ornamental plum trees along Mission Street.

Pledge giving has decreased \$46,820 from 2019, but our church bank account balance is in a better place than three years ago due to our capital campaign, endowment funds for salaries, and grants. Our amazing Treasurer, Doug King, has specifics on areas we need to financially sheer up as the loss in pledges makes a big difference once we move back into full staff and full operations of buildings after covid restrictions are lifted. We have invited Doug to meet with Session to help us all become more enlightened on our current financials.

In May, Session will be meeting to discuss installing Pastor Chris as our permanent pastor versus our stated supply pastor.

Our next Session meeting is May 4th at 6:30 pm due to Pastor Chris and family going on vacation the next week.

Blessings, safety, and peace in Christ,
Lory Albright (Clerk of Session)



One Great Hour of Sharing

We once again thank our generous congregation for your offerings to the OGHs at Eastertime. We were able to send \$372.00 to our Presbyterian Church (USA) "headquarters" for the work of the church, serving people in need at home and abroad.

Specifically, 36% is received by Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, while Self-Development of People and the Presbyterian Hunger Program each receive 32%!

Even during this difficult pandemic time, you remembered those who need assistance! Thank you all so much!!

The Mission & Global Witness Committee

Go forth into the world in peace;
Blessing from the Book of Common Worship, 1902



Taliilee and Urgessa



Taliilee and Urgessa are Mission Partners that facilitate Light of Hope Ministry in both Ethiopia and the US.

Light of Hope Ministry Ethiopia (LOHME), is reaching out to over 10 million Arsi Oromo people. The ministry approach is holistic, focusing on literacy, health, church planting, Bible translation and evangelism among this Muslim people group. Teams of teacher-evangelists are trained and sent to villages that want a school in their community. Teachers build peaceful relationships between Muslims and emerging followers of Jesus and seek to plant churches that reflect the forms and traditions of the local culture.

An important feature is that the schools refrain from teaching religion, thus making education available to all students. Muslim parents don't hesitate to send their children for a much-desired education because they will not be dissuaded from their own religion.

Taliilee has an active church ministry visiting Oromo congregations in several large US metropolitan cities in addition to making periodic visits to Ethiopia. Urgessa has significant administrative duties in Ethiopia with oversight of construction of the academy and school construction which takes him out of the country more frequently.

LOHME also trains nurses and other health professionals to work in village health stations while sharing the Gospel with the communities they serve. Funds help build and furnish village schools and Light of Hope Academy, a Christian training college for nurses and teacher-evangelists, while also providing scholarships for college students and support for Bible translation work in the Arsi Oromo language. The list below shows the many facets of their ministry and opportunities to contribute to their support. Our church contributes \$125 each month to the total ministry.

- **Arsi Bible Translation:** Funds for this project subsidize the salaries of the translation team and provide for the publication, purchase and distribution of print and digital audio Bibles.
- **ESL Training:** Funds for this project cover the course curriculum materials to teach English to LOHME teachers, evangelists and high school students.
- **Ethno Music:** Funds for this project support recording, duplication and distribution expenses for contextualized Gospel music in the Arsi Oromo language.
- **Light of Hope Academy:** Funds support the construction of this training school, which will equip teachers and nurses to reach the Arsi Oromo people with a holistic Gospel.
- **Primary School Building Fund:** Many Arsi Oromo children lack education because there are no schools within walking distance of their villages. This project constructs schools requested by communities, creating educational opportunities as well as open doors for LOHME teacher-evangelists to share the Good News of Jesus in the villages where they are placed.
- **School Desks:** Funds for this project furnish 200 desks for every four-classroom LOHME school.
- **Teacher Salary:** Funds for this project subsidize the salary for LOHME-trained teachers to staff new





Thanks are pouring in!

I'm hearing from government officials, my solar partner, hospital staff and residents of the area.

You change lives!

When people say thank you, I automatically hear "you" as "y'all". I may be the face they know, but I couldn't do anything without the support, enthusiasm, prayers and gifts you send to MDC. Here's some of the thanks:

Thank you for brightening my Home town. Rakeb Tewodros

We have a great thanks to you. Addismiraf Alemu (former district administrator who helped negotiate cost sharing)

You are for Maji community as light, water, medicine and etc. We hope God gives longest time and keeps you forever. Jorina Mari

Dear Carline, you are everything for Maji people. I miss words to reflect your devotion to my mom land. For everything thanks to God. Addisu Komtu

Wow...you are a spice of life and ambassador for Maji. Chuchu Demelashe (financial officer for the district, a also instrumental in negotiating the cost-share)

I don't have words for how Maji Hospital staff were happy on this project and you. It is true. This is not a surprise for only Maji people. It is for the country too. This project is an icon for the country. Thank you so much for giving this great opportunity to us in the solar sector. (Samson Tsegaye, solar partner)

You Give Light--Give Hope--Give Love



Anthony and Amanda Stevens, church members, are offering their produce boxes, honey, and strawberry jam for sale now. And as an extra special treat for moms everywhere, they now have Mother's Day Pies and Flowers available to order for that special day! Just go to their website [here](#) and order online. Make a date to pick up your order, drive out to the farm, and you're good to go!

Happy Shopping!



www.lifebutahyme.com



If you are in need of prayer or know someone who is, please contact Katherine in the front office so that you can be added to our prayer list and thus served by our congregation.



Please keep Sharon Riha in your prayers. Pray for healing, strength and comfort as she remains in the hospital.



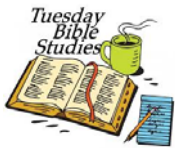
Please pray for the comfort and solace of the Schorzmann/Gimbel families as they grieve the death of Leonard Schorzmann.



Leonard Schorzmann



**Our Church
Community**



Pastor Chris hosts a ZOOM Bible Study class each Tuesday at 12:00 noon. This month there will be several guest teachers including Jodi Hansen of Remnants Initiative and Rob Hagan of the Presbyterian Foundation.

To join the Zoom Meeting please click <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81005083788> and use the Meeting ID 810 0508 3788 to join us for some socially distant learning, discussion and fellowship!



Men's Breakfast is happening via ZOOM! Meetings will be held every first and third Thursday of the month. To join, please contact Gary Buck through his email, gbuck41108@mindspring.com or give him a call at 503-250-1163. He'll send you a link and you will be all set. Just have your coffee and muffin ready on Thursdays at 8:00 am, and join in for



**Deacons
Called
To Serve**

While all Christians are called to care for persons in need, the ministry of deacons is the light that guides the way. Deacons are a reflection of the heart of Christianity. Deacons are called to model and extend the love of Jesus Christ. Here at Newberg FPC, our Deacons work to support our church and our community as a whole. They raise funds to support various charities, they work within the church to provide for memorial services by giving food and comfort to those in mourning. They work to improve our church from within and to reach out in thanks to those who work at serving our community. Now, however, they are working to find other members of our church who would like to join them in service. If you are a member of our church and wish to be a part of Deacon's, please contact Katherine in the front office (503-538-3313) or by emailing her at firstpresnewberg@frontier.com. Come join us as we become a community of hope, love and witness to the whole world!

CAYAC

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Join Now!

Newberg First Presbyterian Church started CAYAC, which stands for College and Young Adult Community, in the fall of 2018. Over the last couple of years, we have enjoyed ministering to students from George Fox and other young adults. We are grateful that many of you have partnered with the Murphy's, Elise Prayzich, and other leaders to support this ministry by providing food and other gifts.

With the pandemic, we are continuing CAYAC by providing weekly Zoom meetings and occasional socially distanced gatherings in the backyard of the Murphy home with masks.

Feel free to contact Pastor Chris at murphycb@frontier.com, if you know any college students or other young adults who would be interested in participating in CAYAC. We are also accepting donations to help buy food when we occasionally meet in person. Please also be in prayer for our young adults as they navigate the challenges of the pandemic and balance school, work, and other responsibilities.



Women's group **Space for Grace** meets on Zoom on the 2nd and 4th Fridays from 10 to 11 AM. All are invited to join us for a time of reconnecting, sharing our lives and faith, and prayer. To join simply call or email Paula Buck at pbuck41108@mindspring.com who will be hosting our time on Zoom. She will send out an email with the link to join our gathering. Although we are separated, we don't need to be alone. If you have questions, please call Mary Kalesse (503-644-5502) or

May 2021



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 10:30 am- Livestream Worship Service 	3 6:30 pm- CAYAC meets via ZOOM	4 12:00 pm- Bible Study Class via ZOOM 6:30 pm- Session Meeting	5 9:00-1:00- Bike Ministry	6 8:00 am- Men's Breakfast	7	8
9 10:30 am- Livestream Worship Service  	10 6:30 pm- CAYAC meets via ZOOM	11 12:00 pm- Bible Study Class via ZOOM	12	13	14 10:00 am- Space for Grace Pew News articles due	15
16 10:30 am- Livestream Worship Service 	17 CAYAC cancelled	18 12:00 pm- Bible Study Class via ZOOM	19 9:00-1:00- Bike Ministry	20 8:00 am- Men's Breakfast	21	22
23 10:30 am- Livestream Worship Service  	24 6:30 pm- CAYAC meets via ZOOM	25 12:00 pm- Bible Study Class via ZOOM	26	27	28 10:00 am- Space for Grace	29
30 10:30 am- Livestream Worship Service 	31  6:30 pm- CAYAC meets via ZOOM			6- Loraine Sarnacki 8- Katherine Millage 14- Liz Zion 19- Jennie Delano	21- Angela Spohn 22- William Goodman 22- Nigel Swehla 28- Diane Murphy	

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

5-4-21 6:30 pm Session Meeting via Zoom

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

Our website address is : newbergfpc.org



NEWBERG FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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GRACE. HOPE. LOVE.