

Newberg First Presbyterian Church

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# PEW NEWS



**“Welcome  
to  
Advent”**

Welcome to Advent



Advent is a special season in the church liturgical calendar practiced by many Christian denominations. Advent comes from the Latin word *Adventus*, which means coming. It is a season where we wait for the coming of the Christ child, the promised Messiah Jesus. It is a time to remember the gift of God becoming one of us, the great mystery of the incarnation. It is also a season for us to remember all the blessings from the previous year and to show love to one another through gifts and celebrations. It is an opportunity to especially remember the most vulnerable in our world.

Probably like many of you as we come to the Season of Advent, I have mixed feelings. On the one hand I am excited to prepare for the birth of Jesus and the celebration of Christmas. I look forward to seeing my daughters open their stockings and joining with family and friends for times of worship and tasty meals with joyful conversation. I enjoy reflecting on the beauty of Christ's birth.

I also feel a little sad and nervous as we enter Advent. I feel sad for members of our church family who are grieving the passing of loved ones. Holidays can be lonely times for many. I worry too that the season of Advent and Christmas could get overtaken by consumerism and a need to stay busy making sure we get the most out of this holiday by consuming lots of food and gifts.

The intent of Advent is to give us time to prepare for the birth of Christ and to inspire us to slow down enough to gaze into the face of the baby Jesus and remember God's abundant love poured out on us. I wish to encourage us to embrace this season and to resist the pressure to perform. I suggest we enjoy family and friends, be generous in showing love to others, but also take time to rest and breathe. No need to rush through this season or to get caught up in the expectations of others. Simply celebrate the gift of the incarnation, the birth of the Son of God. May this be a prayerful and restful time for us as we enjoy God and one another and demonstrate love to the world. Welcome to Advent!



## Our Advent Season



### The Wonders of Christmas

11/28/20	<i>Mary's Great Gift</i>	Advent Candlelighters: Alan & Shirley Kolb
12/5/20	<i>Joseph's Dream</i>	Advent Candlelighters: Tom Greenbaum & Angela Spohn
12/12/20	<i>The Shepherds' Joy</i>	Advent Candlelighters: Gene & Rosemary Dykema
12/19/20	<i>The Wisdom of the Magi</i>	Advent Candlelighters: Jen & Megan Henry

### Special Events

11/28/20	Hanging of the Greens—please join us as we decorate the Sanctuary for the holiday season.
12/24/20	Christmas Eve Service at 7:00 pm. Please join us for this special service celebrating Christ's birth.

### Session Meeting

11-9-21  
6:30 pm



After devotions led by Lynne Patrick, Pastor Chris commented on this Season of Gratitude at our church. So many good things are happening - growth, children's Worship and Adult Ed in session, and the faithfulness of our congregation. He also reported that his personal retreat was a wonderful time of reflection.

The Deacons report that they are looking forward to beginning Fellowship time following the Sunday service once the Fellowship Hall has heat - which should be soon. As part of the Deacons ministry, welcome bags are being given to all who are new each week. Each bag contains a jar of jam from Nottinghamshire Farms, owned by the Stevens family of our church!  
Deacons also announced that the new church directory will be ready for distribution soon.

Missions take center stage during the Season of Thanksgiving!  
Margie LeMaster will do a special moment for missions highlighting Equal Exchange which sells coffee and chocolate. You may purchase Christmas coffee packages from Margie. As we look ahead to December, we are reminded that we will have opportunity to take part in the Christmas Joy offering.

On November 28th - the first Sunday of Advent - First Pres. will enjoy the music of David and Esther Chris. That Sunday is also the day the congregation decorates the sanctuary for the Christmas Season. We hope you will plan to stay and help!

More good news!! New Member candidates have been meeting with Pastor Chris and some will be ready to meet with the Session in December.

It is a month full of good news and many reasons to give thanks!

Joyfully submitted,  
Mary Kalesse for Lory Albright (Clerk of Session)



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.



November 10, 2021

Dick Sahagian



Please pray for Carol Swehla, the Albright, Black and Sahagian families as they mourn the death of Dick Sahagian. Let us ask for grace, peace, and comfort as they celebrate Dick's life at his memorial on December 18th.



Please offer prayers of comfort and peace for Sara Hailemeskel as she mourns the death of her mother.



Please pray for the complete healing of Alan & Shirley Kolb's granddaughter as she recovers from a seizure. We also ask God to send strength and comfort to her family.



## Fellowship Returns!

The Deacons look forward to hosting in-person fellowship with light snacks after church throughout December. Our hope is that these gatherings will give us a chance to renew old friendships and form new ones while still providing as much safety as possible. Wearing masks and just removing them for a bite or sip is the plan. Please plan to stay for a short time after each service, if that feels like something you would enjoy.





**Introducing Jen Henry**

I lived with my sister Billie from 12 years old through my first two years of college in Roseburg. After college Oregon was short on education budget, so off we went to Nevada. Fast forward 25 years of teaching down there and I finally made it back to Oregon to live near my sister. This year both of my twins will be in college, so I took a job in the Alternative Ed department in Tigard at Fowler Middle School to get my foot in the door, so to speak. Eventually I'd love to teach closer to Newberg, but for this year I'm letting God lead and seeing how I do back in middle school (it's been a number of years since I taught that age).

Billie's house where I was staying had a fire last October and they've been rebuilding since they got the plans approved this spring. We are hopeful that we'll get to move back in by Christmas and I'll be fifteen minutes closer to church and my wonderful new family at First Presbyterian that has been so welcoming since I moved here! Life is sure full of twists and turns but I do believe God is watching over us and I look forward to seeing what is around the bend.



**Calling All Prayer Warriors!**

*Yvette Heryford of Love INC sent us this invitation:*

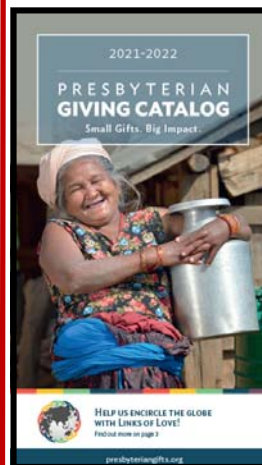
Since Love INC, by nature, is about bringing churches together, we felt led to provide an opportunity to Praise and Pray together in collaboration with our partner churches. **Please join us for our Prayer Walk, to be held on Saturday, December 4th, 2:00 pm, starting at Renne Park.**

At each of the five stops there will be a worship song and a prayer straight from scripture highlighting each area: Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving and Supplication. We will conclude at Love INC with another worship song and prayer with a short time of encouragement and remembering our heritage in Christ. There will be refreshments following. Our intention is to have a representation from different styles so that everyone will experience something familiar on the walk. Please join us!

To learn more about the Walk, please click [here](https://www.loveinc.org/), or visit Love INC's website at <https://www.loveinc.org/>.



and suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying *Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace, goodwill towards men*  
Luke 2 13-14



Announcing a different Kind of Christmas Gift to honor a friend or family member!

Take a look on the small table as you enter – or leave – the sanctuary. There are several catalogs from organizations who offer gifts that give twice!

Choose a bundle of saplings, a flock of chickens, a goat - or half or a cow! You give the acknowledgement of your gift to the friend you are honoring.

And a family somewhere in the world, needing your gift to help make a living – AND a Life! - for their families, benefits! You have given a gift that gives TWICE!!

Pick up a selection of catalogs – and make your selection!

Blessings,

*The Mission and Global Witness Committee*



### A Heartfelt Thanks for the Peace and Global Witness Offering!

The Mission & Global Witness Committee is pleased to let you know that the Special Offering received during World Communion Sunday on October 3 is a wonderful \$1,270!

Your dedication to the Peacemaking of the larger Presbyterian Church - especially in light of these Covid Times - will do a great deal to help calm the chaos we see in today's world.

We are invited to use 25% of our offering locally. Thus the Mission Committee has voted to once again donate our portion, \$317.50 to Henderson House, a safe house for women and their children. And, 75% will be sent forward to Presbytery and General Assembly for our work here in the US, and outward.

Thank you once again to our most generous congregation!

*~The Mission &*

### Christmas Joy Offering

Our Christmas Joy Offering is coming with the month of December – and has been part of the Presbyterian Church (USA)'s traditional Christmas celebration since 1933!

This Special Offering assists pastors and other church workers during difficult times, and helps to support the racial/ethnic schools and colleges of the Presbyterian Church (USA).

Look for the Christmas Joy Offering envelopes in the pews during worship on Sundays surrounding Christmas, and, of course, on Christmas Eve.

Thank you!

*The Mission and Global Witness Committee*



CHRISTMAS JOY SPECIAL OFFERINGS  
LEADERSHIP, PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE

### ***And this, just in from Margie and the Coffee Project:***

**WOW!** An order was made to Equal Exchange Monday November 22 for 12 Solidarity Boxes and 13 Chocolate Boxes plus a few other EE items. I'm ecstatic and say **THANK YOU!** for small farmer cooperatives in Nicaragua, Peru, Egypt, Panama, India, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Your response is **TERRIFIC!** The order must come from Equal Exchange's headquarters in West Bridgeport, Massachusetts (near Boston) and will takes 10 days for delivery. You will be notified by e-mail when the order arrives, and it can be picked up either during office hours at the church, or Sunday after service. My hope is that it will be Sunday December 5th. Payment is due at time of pickup. Write checks to First Presbyterian Church. Why? I buy with the church credit card.



I must have hit the right button when attempting to both teach about the Presbyterian Coffee Project and introduce Equal Exchange products. My thought was, it's gift giving season and both the Solidary Box and Assorted Chocolate Bar Box make excellent gifts. And, by displaying their contents I would be able to show an array of EE merchandise. HOORAY! It worked. My goal in 2022 is to introduce EE's complete product line and the process for ordering, in addition to fleshing out more fully EE's alternative trade model.

When it is possible to return to the Fellowship Hall, as you enter the room, look to the right at the bulletin board on the wall. There hangs a Coffee Project display put up prior to Covid shut down. What it says is as true today as it was two years ago.

Happy Holidays,  
Margie

*There is no Peace without Justice  
There is no Justice without Economic Opportunity*



*2021 in Review from Caroline Kurtz, Maji Development Coalition*

The regional hospital, serving several districts and 60,000 people, got power. MDC's solar partner delivered and installed the panels and batteries as Covid restrictions on travel in Ethiopia were lifted. The hospital was dedicated in late August with fanfare, speeches, and a fundraiser. Local communities expressed their own commitment to the hospital by donating almost \$50,000 for further improvements.

As a thank you for my contributions to Maji's welfare, I hear I was granted a plot of land! Let me remind you-when they thank me, they are thanking you. I'm the face they've come to know only because I can't take you all to Maji with me and introduce you to the people you've loved so well.



The hospital and district administration planned a big event and invited leaders from districts around, plus officials from zone and state.



The Maji town water system's modern digital dispensers were installed in July. First ever in Ethiopia! Thank you to Yonas Workie of SunTransfer Tech.



(L) Ato Yonas is selling a subscription to a water customer, and she will prepay a few cents per liter of water. When she hold her phone up to the dispenser (R), it will deliver the number of liters she orders. *Photos by SunTransferTech*

*Maji continued~*

The WISHES program added a fourth pilot self-help group for women. All are saving money regularly, and a public health nurse is giving sanitation training at their meetings. Your gifts this summer will allow us to match their first \$250 and start a revolving fund to support them further



Women of all ages have joined WISHES (Women in Self-Help Empowerment Societies). They are hopeful that MDC will help them make lasting changes in their families' fortunes.

*Photos: (L) Laura Bond, (R) Noah Friedman-Rudovsky*

Videos of all three projects are available on the Maji Development Coalition YouTube channel. Here's a [link](#). I hope you'll visit and subscribe.

Thank you for helping families in Maji reach for better times!



Give Light--Give Hope--Give Love



## Our Church Community: Get Involved!

## CAYAC



Join Now!



Adult Education class is held at 9:00 am every Sunday. This year they will meet in the Fellowship Hall, which will allow for social distancing. Please wear masks to keep everyone safe and healthy. The first series of classes will be taught by Bruce Murphy and Mary Kalesse. If you are interested, you can contact Pastor Chris at 503-538-3313 for more details.

Newberg First Presbyterian Church started CAYAC, which stands for College and Young Adult Community, in the fall of 2018. This year CAYAC will meet the 1st and 2nd Mondays of each month in the church Fellowship Hall. The first Monday meeting will be an in-person one; the second meeting will happen via ZOOM.



**Men's Breakfast** will be held on the first and third Thursdays of each month at 8:00 am. The meetings will be held via ZOOM. To join in, please contact Gary Buck through his email,

Feel free to contact Pastor Chris at [murphycb@frontier.com](mailto: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 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.

gbuck41108@mindspring.com or give him a call at 503-250-1163. He'll give you all the information you need to join up with new friends and old!



## Bike Ministry

*In partnership with Love INC*

First Presbyterian Church partners with Love INC in providing bikes to eligible clients. These clients are screened by Love INC to determine need and eligibility. Many times people who are getting back on their feet need to have more reliable transportation than their feet.

First Presbyterian's Bike Ministry takes in donated bikes, delivers them to the Retired Recyclers for repair and rehab, and, once the bikes are returned all fixed up, serves as a distribution point for Love INC clients to choose the bike best suited to them.

If you would like to help out with this ministry, please contact Elise Prayzich at 307-690-3762. Strong arms and trucks are greatly appreciated!



**Calling all who love to sing!** Our choir, led by Pat Goodman, is always looking for new voices to praise God. Consider this your invitation to join one of the liveliest, most fun-loving and

welcoming groups you'll ever run into. Contact Pat Goodman ([pat88g@frontier.com](mailto:pat88g@frontier.com)) for more information. All are welcome!

## Space for Grace Women's Fellowship



SPACE FOR GRACE

meets the 2nd and 4th Friday of every month. This year we will meet in the church Fellowship Hall where we can spread out for safe

distancing. Masks will also be part of our plan in order to keep everyone healthy. For more information, please call Mary Kalesse (503-644-5502) or Paula Buck (503-250-1164.) See you soon!



Chair Yoga








Chair Yoga is happening! This month, class will be held on Mondays and Wednesdays from 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. If you are interested in joining this restorative class, contact

Lory Albright at [lorylyn808@gmail.com](mailto:lorylyn808@gmail.com) or call her at 971-226-8407. Class is led by Lory, who has finished her training to be a licensed yoga instructor. She is looking forward to sharing her gifts of love and joy, as well as her training with her church family. See you there!



# December 2021



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>Adult Education happens each Sunday at 9:00 in the Fellowship Hall</p> <p>Children's Worship for children happens each Sunday. Children will leave Worship right before the sermon and join their teacher for fun and learning!</p>			<p>1 9:00-1:00- Bike Ministry 1:00- Deacon's Meeting 4:00 pm- Chair Yoga Class</p>	<p>2 8:00 am- Men's Breakfast via Zoom</p>	3	4
<p>5 10:30 am- In- Person and Livestream Worship Service <b>Fellowship Returns!</b> *after worship*</p> 	<p>6 4:00 pm- Chair Yoga Class 6:30-7:30 pm- CAYAC meets in- person</p>	7	<p>8 4:00 pm- Chair Yoga Class</p>	9	<p>10 10:00 am- Space for Grace</p>	11
<p>12 10:30 am- In- Person and Livestream Worship Service</p> 	<p>13 January Pew News articles due 4:00 pm- Chair Yoga Class 6:30-7:30 pm- CAYAC meets via Zoom</p>	<p>14 6:30 pm- Session Meeting</p>	<p>15 9:00-1:00- Bike Ministry 4:00 pm- Chair Yoga Class</p>	<p>16 8:00 am- Men's Breakfast via Zoom 6:30 pm- Finance and Facilities meeting</p>	17	<p>18 2:00 pm- Memorial for Dick Sahagian</p>
<p>19 10:30 am- In- Person and Livestream Worship Service 12:00-6:00 pm- Sorum Family Christmas in FH</p> 	<p>20 4:00 pm- Chair Yoga Class</p>	21	<p>22 4:00 pm- Chair Yoga Class</p>	23	<p>24  7:00 pm- Christmas Eve Service</p>	<p>25 </p>
<p>26 10:30 am- In- Person and Livestream Worship Service</p> 	27	28	29	30	<p>31 </p>	

## Birthdays

20- Brian O'Herin  
30- Maxine Shuler

## Anniversaries

17- Sandi & Tim Olmstead



COMMITTEE MEETINGS

12-14-21 6:30 pm Session Meeting  
Pastor Chris Murphy may be reached at his  
email: [murphycb@frontier.com](mailto:murphycb@frontier.com)  
or by calling the church office at 503-538-3313

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



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GRACE. HOPE. LOVE.