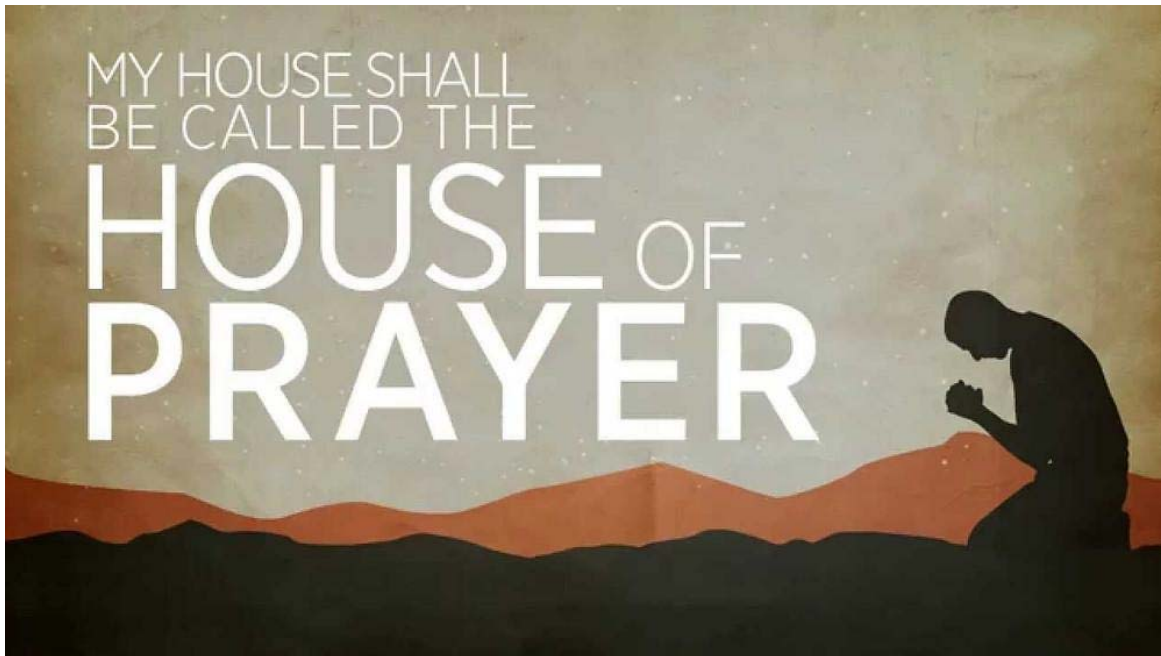


VOLUME 22
ISSUE 5
MAY 2022

Newberg First Presbyterian Church



PEW NEWS



“House of Prayer”



House of Prayer

How wonderful to celebrate Easter last month! We decorated our cross and placed it on College St. for our community to be reminded of the beauty of the resurrection of Jesus. I feel this Easter Season is special for our church because we are experiencing new life. If we include livestream viewing, we had over 100 people join us on Easter Sunday.

I shared during the Easter service, that God is encouraging many of us in the congregation these days to devote ourselves to prayer. Just as the disciples were told by Jesus to dedicate themselves to prayer in preparation for the coming of the Holy Spirit, so our church community is being called to prayer.

What would it mean for Newberg First Presbyterian Church to be a House of Prayer for our Newberg community? One expression of this calling we wish to explore is for us to use our church campus for monthly prayer retreats.

On Friday, May 6th we will begin our first monthly prayer retreat. We will meet the first Friday of each month from 9 AM to 12 noon at our church's campus, followed by a light lunch. We will provide prayer retreat materials that will be available at the retreat and will also be sent by email for those who wish to participate from home or work.

In the book of Isaiah 56: 7, we read, "These I will bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer; their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all nations." Quoting Isaiah, Jesus says in Mark 11: 17, "Is it not written, 'My house shall be called a house of prayer for all the nations'? Friends, I sense Jesus is leading us to be a house of prayer in Newberg. Please pray for God to lead us in this area of mission.

Easter Season in our church calendar lasts from Easter day to Pentecost Sunday on June 5th. May the month of May be a time for us to devote ourselves to prayer as we seek to experience a greater anointing of the Holy Spirit on our lives and on the mission of our church here in Newberg and throughout our world. God has great plans for us!



It is with great sadness that both the Remnant Initiatives Conference scheduled for May 14th and the Tuesday night Community Dinners have been cancelled. Unfortunately, Remnant Initiatives is closing their doors permanently because they couldn't get consistent funding. The board of directors for RI sent out the following information:

On April 19, 2022, the board of directors of Remnant Initiatives made the very difficult decision to dissolve the nonprofit. Since our inception we knew that sustainability of the organizational mission was dependent on a varied donor base (including consistent government support), and a robust group of volunteers who would walk alongside our returning neighbors over time.

Like so many other organizations, the COVID-19 pandemic greatly disrupted government funding and volunteer engagement for us. After two years of intense commitment to keeping the organization afloat, the leadership team has come to realize that this is no longer possible. Thus, we find ourselves in the very tough reality of accepting our status as another COVID casualty.

I know we're all sorry about losing this opportunity to care for all of God's children. I hope you'll keep this community in your prayers.



Session Meeting
5-10-22
6:30 pm

Greetings by the Grace of God,

This month's Session Meeting was full of God's blessings through the marvelous Lenten study we have shared in Chris' sermons, Adult Spiritual Formation classes Sunday mornings before church, and our CAYAC and Children's Ministry. This summer our sermon series will focus on favorite stories from the Bible.

Summer Church Camp scholarships are also available for our children and youth. Speak to an elder if your child is interested in attending Camp Tilikum or a Twin Rocks camp.

Our seniors graduating this spring will be celebrated on April 24th during the church service. Please contact the church office if someone in your family is graduating from high school, college, or graduate school as we don't want to miss out on praising God and praying for their next steps in life.

We are so grateful to God for the work of our Deacons preparing donations to Henderson House and delivering them, and arranging for Easter breakfast. Thanks to Elise and Lois, the Afghan Family Bikes were prepared and joyfully received. One Great Hour of Sharing Offering continues to grow, and we are grateful.

Next month Laura Fuller, from Portland Seminary, will begin an Internship through August. Her stipend will come from our Thriving Congregations Grant. Our cup overflows. Praise God for the gift of Jesus as HE is the reason for this season.

Love in Christ,

Lory Albright, Clerk of Session

WITH APPRECIATION

To ALL who placed an order for Equal Exchange products in the month of April I give a BIG THANK YOU. The thanks are not only from me but also, the farmers who labor to produce the coffee cherries and cacao pods and their cooperatives with which EE partners. Two orders were placed, one for \$511.20 and the other for \$474.00, totaling \$984.20. This is remarkable since over the years average annual sales have been in the range of \$2,500 to \$3,000!! And remember, during the month of April EE gifted 10% of the payments to the Peace and Justice Ministry of PCUSA for the Hunger Program. That totals \$98.42. (Too bad \$1.58 can't be added.)

While orders are made by the case, the Coffee Cart remains open on Sundays during Fellowship for individual sales of packaged coffees, and I shall continue to place case orders monthly if totals reach \$136 (free shipping). Chocolate tasting and ordering will be postponed until fall. I plan over the summer to introduce EE TEA. There are Black Teas, Green Teas, and Herbal Teas, all in tea bag form. During Fellowship a basket with a variety of bags will be on the condiment table by the coffee and hot water pots. I encourage all tea drinkers to look and select a bag to steep and taste.

Margie





Mission Partner News

Bob and Gracie Ekblad
Tierra Nueva



On Tuesday nights from 10:00-11:00pm I've been leading a Bible study to a group of Russian men in a recovery house near Krasnodar in Southwest Russia near the Black Sea—a four-hour drive from the Ukrainian border. It's 8:00am Wednesday morning there.

The men gather around a big screen TV in their living room. I can't see all of them as their camera isn't wide angle enough to take them all in. This particular evening I made an effort to include a good friend named Larry, a Native American man in his early 50s who lives up-river from us in a remote town.

Larry has spent many years in prison and is currently out of jail on bail. I had told the Russian recovery guys about him, and they wanted to meet him. He too was excited to meet them. He's never used Zoom, so I had to help him download it and get connected an hour or so before.

All of these men, including Larry, had been drug addicts. Most had also spent time in prison. The men immediately responded, and Ilya interpreted back to us.

"So, let's see what Jesus tells us in John 10:1 about someone entering the sheep pen in a way other than the door," I say, inviting someone to re-read this verse. Ilya spoke out what I'd said in Russian, and one of the Russians read.

We wrap up our time together speaking out to Jesus how we are drawn to him as our shepherd. There's a tenderness and delight, and Ilya is visibly moved.

I am amazed at how our very experience on Zoom that night illustrated Jesus' parable. The Russian recovery guys receive me, since they already know me. They also received Larry, since he's my friend.

There to the South of a violent, forceful invasion in neighboring Ukraine, the kingdom of God was being respectfully presented and welcomed, and we were all feeling invited to follow Jesus into freedom.

Mission Partners Brian and Julie had this note regarding their work in the region:

Our Group Director gave the following statement: *"Thank you for remembering our work and the people of Ukraine and Russia in prayer. Our international staff have left the region, and none of our colleagues are in danger. But our colleagues and partners in Russia have projects or friends and family in Ukraine, and they are grieved by current events. Please pray for peace. Pray for the health and safety of Ukraine." He also asks prayer for local colleagues within Russia who "are also beginning to experience the serious repercussions of international sanctions. Pray that God will provide for their livelihoods and ministries. Pray that we will find creative and effective solutions to support them and their ongoing work."*

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 \$894.00 to our Presbyterian Church (USA) - "headquarters" - for the work of the church, serving people in need at home and abroad – this year, most specifically, Ukraine!

The offerings are divided as: 36% is received by Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, while Self-Development of People and the Presbyterian Hunger Program each receive 32%!

THANK YOU ALL SO MUCH !!

The Mission and Global Witness Committee





Introducing Laura Fuller, FPC's New Intern!

Greetings! My name is Laura Fuller and I have the pleasure of worshipping with you and serving this summer as an intern from Portland Seminary. I am so excited to be with you all for the summer and look forward to spending time in community with you!

To get started, it might be helpful for you to know a bit about me. My immediate family consists of me, my daughter Annali, and our cat Pierre; we have quite a bit of extended family in the area as well. Annali is finishing up her junior year at Gonzaga University in Spokane, Washington where she is double majoring in Biology and Music with an emphasis in vocal performance. I have just finished my third year at Portland Seminary and will complete my Masters of Divinity in December.

Seminary was a new adventure God invited me to begin after serving 17 years as a middle school Social Studies teacher. I always viewed my teaching as a form of ministry, seeking to love students and offer them God's grace within the context of our classroom. Seminary has been a joyful and challenging time of learning, expanding both my head and heart knowledge, and learning to trust God's plans in new ways. This summer you all are providing me with the opportunity to learn about pastoral ministry, something I have been discerning as part of the next part of my adventuring with the Lord. Thank you in advance for partnering with me on my journey.

In the spirit of letting you know a bit more about me, these are a few of my favorite things!

Art - viewing and making

Rivers and lakes

Cello music

Sabbath rest

Iced coffee

Sunshine

Plants & flowers

Sweet silence & solitude with the Lord

Reading

The color green

It is with great joy that I anticipate our time together! I will be able to join you in worship on May 15 - soon! Please know that as a congregation you are already in my prayers. Until we meet in person!

Joyfully,
Laura Fuller

"Hasten unto him who calls you in the silence of your heart." - Thomas Kelly

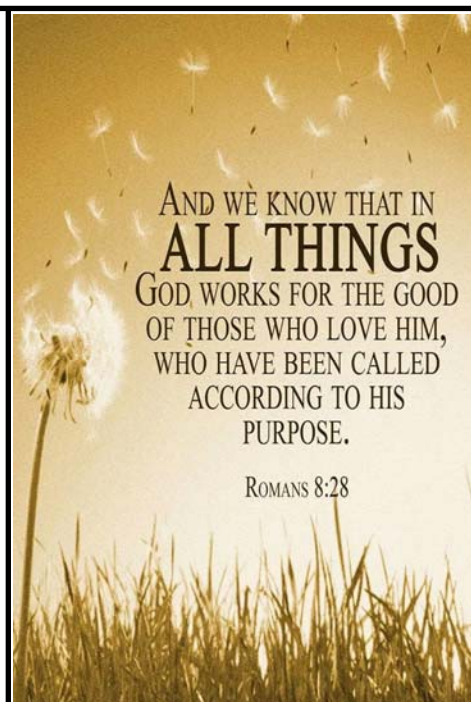
Keep on Learning!



First Presbyterian church values education and applauds those who believe in life-long learning! In an effort to partner with those who are seeking to continue their education through college courses, post graduate work, or career enhancement programs, First Presbyterian has a scholarship fund that church family may apply for.

If you are in need of extra funds to keep moving forward in your education, please request a scholarship application form from Katherine in the church office. We especially encourage application during the Spring months and early fall for programs beginning in September and January. Many career enhancement programs pop up during the year, however, and applications are received for them as well.

If you have questions, please refer them to Katherine Millage in the office or by calling Mary Kalesse (503-709-3292)





Our Church Community: Get Involved!



Adult Education class is held at 9:00 am every Sunday. Class is held in the Fellowship Hall, which allows for social distancing. Masks are optional. For the first two weeks of this month our studies will focus on Resurrection stories leading into a study of prayer.



Men's Breakfast is held on the first and third Thursdays of each month at 8:00 am. To learn more, please contact Gary Buck through his email, 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) for more information. All are welcome!

CAYAC

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ISSUE 5



See you in
the Fall!

Newberg First Presbyterian Church started CAYAC, which stands for College and Young Adult Community, in the fall of 2018, and it continues to be a positive space for support and good friendships. Feel free to contact Pastor Chris at murphyxcb@frontier.com if you know any college students or other young adults who would be interested in participating in CAYAC in the fall. Please be in prayer for our young adults as they navigate the challenges of balancing school, work, and other responsibilities. **Currently, CAYAC is off for summer break, but look for us again in the fall. Have a safe and fun summer, everyone!**



SPACE FOR GRACE

Space for Grace Women's Fellowship

Space for Grace meets the 2nd and 4th Friday of every month at 10:00 am. Our times together include practical reflections on scripture, sharing of life, and prayer. All women are invited to join this group to enjoy the fellowship and friendship of women in a safe and supportive place. Watch for news in June about our summer plans!



Chair Yoga

Chair Yoga

Chair Yoga class is 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 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 happy to share her gifts of love and joy, as well as her training, with her church family. See you there!





Friday Prayer Retreat

Join us on the first Friday of each month as we gather together in the Sanctuary from 9:00 am to 12:00 noon with a small luncheon after. Together we will make First Presbyterian a house of prayer for Newberg.

May 2022



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 	2 4:00-5:00 pm- Chair Yoga CAYAC is done for the year-have a great summer break!	3	4 9:00-1:00- Bike Ministry 4:00-5:00 pm- Chair Yoga 6:30 pm- Deacons Meeting	5 8:00 am- Men's Breakfast	6 9:00-12:30 pm- First Friday Prayer Retreat in Sanctuary 	7
8 10:30 am- In-Person and Livestream Worship Service <i>Mother's Day</i>	9 4:00-5:00 pm- Chair Yoga	10 6:30 pm- Session Meeting	11 4:00-5:00- Chair Yoga 6:30 pm- Deacons Meeting	12	13 10:00 am- Space for Grace Pew News articles & schedules due today!	14
15 10:30 am- In-Person and Livestream Worship Service	16 4:00-5:00 pm- Chair Yoga	17	18 9:00-1:00- Bike Ministry 4:00-5:00- Chair Yoga	19 8:00 am- Men's Breakfast	20	21
22 10:30 am- In-Person and Livestream Worship Service	23 4:00-5:00 pm- Chair Yoga	24	25 4:00-5:00 pm- Chair Yoga 7:00 pm- Choir Practice	26	27 10:00 am- Space for Grace	28
29 10:30 am- In-Person and Livestream Worship Service	30 <i>Memorial Day</i> 4:00-5:00 pm- Chair Yoga	31	June 1 7:00 pm- Choir Practice	Adult Education class meets each Sunday at 9:00 in the Fellowship Hall. Children's Worship happens each Sunday. Children will leave Worship right before the sermon and join their teacher for fun and learning!		

Birthdays

6- Loraine Sarnacki
8- Katherine Millage
14- Liz Zion
19- Jennie Delano
19- Joyce Meyersick
21- Angela Spohn
22- William Goodman
22- Nigel Swehla
23- Steve Seaquist
28- Diane Murphy



Anniversaries

27- Alan and Shirley Kolb

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

5-10-22 6:30 pm Session Meeting
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
501 MISSION DRIVE
NEWBERG, OR 97132



GRACE. HOPE. LOVE.