

VOLUME 22  
ISSUE 7  
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Newberg First Presbyterian Church

# PEW NEWS



**“Summer Fun and Relaxation”**

From the Reverend Chris Murphy—



## Summer Fun and Relaxation!

I love the month of July in Oregon. The strawberries are fully out and hopefully so is the sunshine. Many of us spend some of this month enjoying trips to the coast, fun outside, and leisurely days of rest and relaxation with friends and family. July has the potential to be a month that can restore some hope in our nation and world as we renew our trust in God even as the news reminds us that inflation, violence, and other forms of unrest threaten to weaken our faith.

I am personally entering this month with a deep sense of gratefulness. I am grateful for this congregation that continues to grow and welcome new people with open arms. I am grateful for Laura Fuller, our new pastoral intern, who is sharing her warmth, wisdom, and talents with our congregation. I am grateful for new and seasoned attenders and members of our congregation who are using their gifts to support the ministry of this church. I am happy to have our choir back and that we are including some younger folks.

I am excited that our church is trying some new things, like our Friday Prayer Retreats and that we are exploring ways to use our church campus to foster peace and unity in the city of Newberg. When many topics try to weaken our resolve or create division, we as a church are uniting through the power of Christ. I am thrilled that more children and youth are coming to church with their families.

Thank you for opening your hearts to creative ways of exploring God as Mother and Father and the Holy Trinity as Creator, Savior, and Spirit. Thank you for choosing to reach across generations to show love to one another.

While we continue to remember to pray for all the needs in our personal lives and the broader world, please take time this summer to restore your soul and body and to breathe in the goodness of God's love for you. Enjoy July and let us find time to have some fun in the sun!



## Strawberries in June

~ by Tim Olmstead

As a kid, June meant strawberries —  
not the succulent, sweet ones you  
mound up on a piece of rich shortcake,  
but the ones that got you up  
before the sun showed itself  
and took you out to rows upon rows  
of dew-soddened bushes to soak your  
long sleeves while you searched  
earnestly for the juicy prizes that stained  
everything red and seemed  
to refuse to fill hallocks in the  
wooden carriers that would first be  
lifted along ....  
then as the day unfolded would be  
pushed or drug along from  
your knees and as the blazing sun  
reached its zenith and beyond,  
it penetrated your sweaty straw hat  
and would draw you,  
with the growing gravity of exhaustion,  
down...down...down  
until you became one with the  
brown earth below—  
those are the strawberries I think of  
sometimes in June.



SPACE FOR GRACE

July Space for Grace get-together will be held on July 12th at 11:30 at the home of Corinne Waterbury. Corinne lives at 32695 NE Old Parrett Mtn. Road. Corinne is planning to provide our lunch that noon!! Thank you Corinne! So please let her know by email ([cawaterbury@msn.com](mailto:cawaterbury@msn.com)) or by signing up with the church office. Our Space for Grace summer gatherings are open to all women of all ages and stages!! We do hope you will join us!! Save the date and time - Tuesday, July 12th at 11:30.



## Session Meeting Held 6-14-22

This month we had guests at our Session meeting, Sylvia Burns and Ciarán Hynes, share with us ideas for the Newberg Peace Garden Project on the church's back property. The Spirit is leading with exciting possibilities for restorative healing through prayer, meditation, and God's Gifts through nature. Ciarán Hynes writes of it being "[a] place of healing, a place of prayer, a place to gather, a place to share, a place to laugh, a place to cry, a place to lay and watch the sky..." : Confirmed use of Thriving Congregations Grant to complete the first steps of restoring the back field and cutting in gravel labyrinth using up to \$5,000.00 as approved by the Thriving Congregations Grant rules. MSA: Request for approval of vacation leave for Chris from June 21-28 and August 2-4 (9 days of vacation). Affirmed Laura Fuller has been a marvelous addition to our church leadership. Another devoted member of our church leadership, Lynne Patrick, is asking for prayer and a leave of absence from Session during this difficult time for her family. Attendance on Sundays ranged between 65-79 with both in person and livestream online attendees.

Respectfully submitted,

*Lory Albright*, Clerk of Session



### EQUAL EXCHANGE TEA NEWS FROM MARGIE

A third product sold by Equal Exchange is tea, sold as 20 tea bags/box, 6 boxes. When EE began marketing tea there were few choices. Now there are many: seven black teas, two green teas and six herbals, all organic.

EE is always looking out for the SMALL FARMER. In post-colonial times, even if government rules have changed, it has been difficult to change the business model for tea. Today most tea still comes from large plantations where workers have little say. EE is working to build an alternative tea model, one that challenges the conventional industry and supports small-scale tea communities. It is a model that is a more equitable system built on farmer empowerment, ownership, and control. EE partners with tea producing communities in India, South Africa, and Sri Lanka.

My plan to introduce Equal Exchange fair traded tea will begin this month as follows:

1. A collection of eight different tea bags will be available for after church, during Fellowship. Look for a tea box next to the hot water pot. TRY each variety over multiple Sundays.
2. A printed listing of all EE teas can be picked up at the Coffee Cart and case orders placed. (\$19.80/case)
3. And, available at the Coffee Cart are 15 sample packets containing six different teas: green, black, and herbal. These are free to any tea drinker who wishes to be a tea taster\*.

\*One who will try all varieties and tell me their favorites.

If I find there is enough desire for certain tea products, I shall consider stocking them for purchase by the box on the cart. (\$3.50/box)

Margie



## Church Picnic Sunday, July 10th

Come join us after worship on the church lawn for a relaxing picnic. Please bring your own lunch, drinks, chairs, and picnic blanket. Lunch can be stored in coolers or in our Fellowship Hall refrigerators prior to worship.

This will be a great time to connect with one another and enjoy the beauty of our church campus!

### Charity Event Coming Our Way!

Our church has rented out our facilities for a charity event for the American Cancer Society and Oregon Hospice and Palliative Care Association. The event will be held on July 9th, from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm. There will be a classic car show as well as Coney Island meals for purchase. All moneys raised will go to support the ACS and OHPCA, who will be there with information to raise awareness about the resources each organization provides.

**So come on out for a fun and informative day!**



*From Mission Partner  
Caroline Kurtz:*

### Good News!

MDC's staff and partners are always in action:

- Ato Yonas has delivered three more electronic water faucets for the growth-edges of Maji town plus a solar system for irrigating the highland apple orchard.
- Ato Markos and Ato Samson are finalizing the collaboration with district and county officials for a gravity-feed system to get clean water to 400 families on steep hillsides of rural Maji District.
- After a two year delay, supply chain issues have loosened up and an order of 200 solar home lighting kits is on its way (battery, three lights, cell phone charging). Our warehouse has been empty, and people were begging us for access to this life-changing resource for family life.
- And I took the opportunity to add 500 solar lanterns for distribution to students to our order. Yippee!

I'm putting \$2000 out there as a match, thinking some of you would like to help us cover that extra cost--\$35 per lantern. Yes? Let's make that our summer campaign--a Back to School Special.

### Better News!

Women's empowerment work is on the move! We've been told that helping women understand how transformative it is for them to develop solidarity is the hardest part of this work. MDC has been at that stage for about three years. It looked like four groups were starting . . . three of them didn't really get it and fizzled. But one group, who gave themselves the name, "Light," persisted in meeting and saving money. MDC gave them a start-up grant when they saved enough to register as an official co-op.

They bought a dozen lambs to fatten. At Easter (feasting time in Ethiopia) they sold the sheep and tripled their money. Now they have repaid the revolving-fund part of their grant, bought 18 more lambs and planted onions as another cash crop.



That's exciting enough, but even better, women in a nearby hamlet were watching. They started gathering and have now saved more than the original group did. I've just given the go-ahead for their start-up grant. Women's solidarity is taking root! It will spread! **Women with income of their own isn't a thing in local culture, so this is revolutionary.**

*Left: Meeting of "Berhan" (Light) women's group in rural Maji District. There are no community halls or big living rooms, so group meetings take place outside.*



## **Introducing Religion for Her**

Dr. Melissa Ramos, a member of our church community, has shared with us a new resource, the website [Religion For Her](#).

### **What is Religion for Her?**

*Religion for Her, LLC*, is an online community for women's interpretation of Scripture. The goal of our site and its activities is to empower women to explore the Bible afresh. Our site highlights the work of contemporary female theologians, thought leaders, and artists with an aim to connect this exciting work with the Church and congregations.

Religion for Her is a place of deep reflection and an inclusive environment where both men and women are invited to learn and listen together. We each come to conversations around religion and biblical interpretation with our unique background, personal stories, personalities and experiences – and each of us interprets Scripture from these unique places. We especially celebrate women interpreting Scripture from their own lived experience.

### **Who is Religion for Her?**

Melissa Ramos  
PhD, UCLA  
Assistant Professor of Biblical Studies,  
Portland Seminary of George Fox University

Jennifer Pantoja  
PhD, UCLA  
Author and Biblical Scholar

Jody Washburn  
Associate Professor of Biblical Studies  
Walla Walla University

### **What Does Religion for Her Do?**

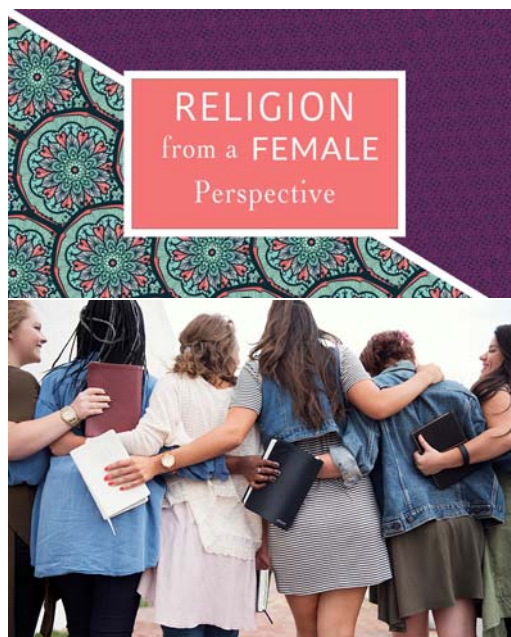
Weekly blogs  
Online courses for groups and individuals  
Social media (Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube)  
Live webinar events

### **Where to Find Religion for Her?**

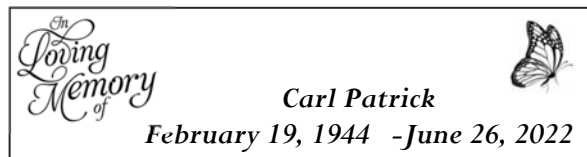
[www.religionforher.com](http://www.religionforher.com)

[www.facebook.com/religionforher](https://www.facebook.com/religionforher)

[Instagram @religionforher](https://www.instagram.com/religionforher)



*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.*



We are sorry to share that Lynne Patrick's husband Carl passed away on Tuesday morning. Carl and Lynne's family were by his side as he entered heaven. Please keep Lynne and her family in your prayers as they journey together.



We ask for prayers for Dick and Vera Patten as they travel this summer. And please remember their family as some are facing health challenges and others are dealing with life changes.



## Our Church Community: Get Involved!

VOLUME 22  
ISSUE 7

# CAYAC



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](mailto: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 Women's Fellowship



Space for Grace is on summer break and will not meet regularly until the fall.

However, there will be some summer get-togethers coming up. Please check the summer issues of the Pew News for more details. Enjoy the summer break, ladies; we'll see you in the fall!

### Chair Yoga



Chair Yoga

Chair Yoga class is on vacation! The class will not meet during the months of June, July and August.

In the fall, if you are interested in joining this restorative class, you can contact Lory Albright at [lorylyn808@gmail.com](mailto:lorylyn808@gmail.com) or call her at 971-226-8407. This class is led by Lory, who is a licensed yoga instructor. She is happy to share her gifts of love and joy, as well as her training, with her church family. Enjoy your summer break and we'll see you in the fall!



### 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.



Sunday Morning  
Adult Study

Adult Education class is on summer break. However, we want to take a minute here to thank our class leaders and visiting presenters and teachers.

You taught well and we credit you for opening our minds and hearts and giving wisdom. Thank you, thank you!

**And to our friends and fellow classmates: enjoy summer break and we'll see you in the fall!**



**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](mailto: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!

# July 2022



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Adult Education and Children's Worship are both on summer break. See you in the fall!					1 9:00-12:30 pm- First Friday Prayer Retreat in Sanctuary 	2
3 10:30 am- In-Person and Livestream Worship Service 	4 	5	6 9:00-1:00- Bike Ministry  7:00 pm- Choir Practice	7 8:00 am- Men's Breakfast	8	9 8:00 am-3:00 pm Charity Event and Classic Car Show for American Cancer Society and OHPCA 
10 10:30 am- In-Person and Livestream Worship Service Choir sings <i>Church picnic!</i> 	11	12 11:30 am- Space for Grace get-together	13  5:30-8:30 pm- Youth & Families Barbeque	14	15  Pew News articles & schedules due today!	16
17 10:30 am- In-Person and Livestream Worship Service 	18	19	20 9:00-1:00- Bike Ministry	21 8:00 am- Men's Breakfast	22	23
24 10:30 am- In-Person and Livestream Worship Service 	25	26	27	28	29	30

31  
10:30 am-  
In-Person  
and Livestream  
Worship Service 

## Birthdays

- |                       |                    |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| 2- Shirley Seaquist   | 19- Susanna Wall   |
| 5- Darlene Zickefoose | 24- Cate Murphy    |
| 9- Darolen Sorum      | 24- Amanda Stevens |
| 14- Sylvia Burns      | 25- Mary Andrews   |
| 14- Jenifer Henry     | 25- Bruce Murphy   |
| 15- Elizabeth Chris   | 28- Rose Moffitt   |
| 15- Mary Harwood      |                    |
| 19- Lynne Patrick     |                    |
| 19- Dick Patten       |                    |



## Anniversaries

- 2- Dwight Burton & Monik Kadarmento  
15- David & Esther Chris  
26- Vera & Dick Patten

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

7-14-22 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.