**Newberg First Presbyterian Church** 

VOLUME 22 ISSUE I I NOVEMBER 2022





# Grace, Gratitude, and Generosity



# From the Reverend Chris Murphy—Grace, Gratitude, and Generosity

As we enter the month of November, we welcome the season of thanksgiving. What are you thankful for in this season of your life? Among many things, I am thankful for the gift of our church family. We describe our mission as a call to be a Christ-centered community of grace, hope, and love committed to mission in Newberg and throughout the world.

There is a reason our mission begins with Christ-centered and grace. All that we seek to be and do as a community begins with the grace offered to us in Christ. Christ loves us unconditionally and accepts us in our imperfection. We do not earn our salvation or our worthiness by our actions. We are worthy and we are loved because Christ Jesus is gracious, and we are God's beloved children.

As we receive God's grace, hope, and love we are filled with gratitude. We can truly be thankful for all the good gifts of life. It is tempting and natural to live with an attitude of worry, fear, or doubt as we go through the ups and down of life, but God invites us to instead live with a spirit of gratitude born from a larger perspective that Jesus Christ is Lord over all of creation. In November, I encourage you to end each day in prayer giving thanks for the gifts God has given you for that day. Then on Thanksgiving Day share what you are thankful for from the previous year.

When we put Christ at the center of our lives and receive his grace, then we can also walk in gratitude. Finally, out a heart of gratitude, God invites us to be generous with our time, talent, and treasures. The season of thanksgiving prepares us to be generous to others. This is where our mission to Newberg and the world comes into clarity. Grace leads to gratitude and then to a generous mission of sharing Christ with a world in need.

Thank you for being a church with a heart for God, community, and mission! We are a generous missional people. We are a church family. Let us take time this season to give thanks to God and to remember the gift of one another and the gift of serving together, especially to those who are most vulnerable.



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 pray for Barbara, the mother of Marc Mannetter. She has recently suffered a stroke. May God send her grace, strength and healing on her way to recovery.

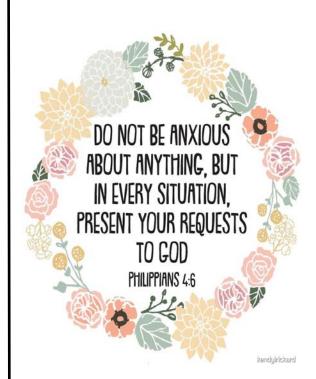


We ask for continued prayers of healing, comfort and strength for Carol Swehla as she faces treatment for breast cancer.



Please continue to pray for Mary Harwood's mother as she continues to deal with the return of her tumor and the increase of symptom related to it. May God comfort her pain, calm her fears, and surround her and the family with peace.







Greetings in Christ,

Session met on October 11th. Pastor Chris led in prayer and shared a favorite verse - John 14:27 - which highlights our focus on peace at FPC.

Anne Poe who has applied for membership met with Session to share her desire to join us and some of her passion for justice. Along with Anne, Ciarán and Mindy Hynes, David and Elizabeth Chris and Cate Murphy were welcomed into the fellowship of FPC this past month.

Through committee reports we learned of a variety of events that will be coming this fall for our congregation:

November 27th - Advent begins and with it the lighting of the Advent Wreath candles and decorating of the sanctuary. This is a "family" project in which we hope many will take part.

December 3rd - A Bazaar will be held at which FPC will host a booth. Please contact Paula Buck and Susan King with your questions and to offer help for the event or donate items to be sold.

November 6th - Generosity and Cinnamon Roll Sunday will be celebrated! Bring your pledge cards to worship and a sweet tooth to fellowship!

The three-year Capital Campaign will be ending in December - but new opportunities to support the care of our buildings and ministries will be advertised in coming weeks.

Ciarán Hynes gave an update on the progress of the Peace Garden and presented a letter that will be shared with community groups who may wish to help support its development.

A discussion of the finance report included great appreciation for Doug and Susan King's continued service to the church in the area of fiscal management.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Kalesse



Sunday October 9th was Pastor Appreciation Sunday and the month of October was actually Pastor Appreciation month! Gary Buck showed a video of appreciation and the Deacons provided a cake to celebrate Pastor Chris for Fellowship.

Thanks Pastor Chris—we really do appreciate you!

#### Cinnamon Roll Sunday!

Just a heads up that Sunday November 6th will be Cinnamon Roll Sunday. Mary Kalesse has ordered cinnamon rolls to be baked from Friendsview and will bring them this morning for Fellowship. Be sure to join us in celebrating All Saints Sunday and Generosity Sunday, with some wonderful treats!





Friendsview is revitalizing its Garage Sale!!

Carol Sherwood let our church know that Friendsview will be holding another rummage sale at the manor. There will be lots of clothing, furniture, and assorted "things." Come and find some treasures!

Friday, November 11th: 8:00 am - 4:30 pm Saturday, November 12th: 8:00 am -2:30 pm Saturday will be \$3.00 a bag all day with the last hour free!

We at Bike Ministry would like to thank our present "Truck and Muscle" guy, Marc Mannetter, who picks up donations for us, as well as runs bikes to and from the Retired Recyclers shop. He is a link we could not do without! THANK YOU Marc!





Bob Ekblad one of our Mission Partners spent time recently in Jerusalem and shared his experiences. Here are excerpts from his report:



This past week I've been in Israel, traveling around with my son Isaac. On my first night just after flying in, I headed to David's Tomb, which is located just below the Upper Room where Jesus celebrated his last Passover on the eve of his arrest. When I arrived at the Upper Room.. (I found it locked)... there were many Orthodox Jews playing music and celebrating, gearing up for Rosh Hashanah, the beginning of the Jewish New Year and other feasts.

The next morning I returned to the Upper Room on a personal pilgrimage to retrace Jesus' steps from the site of his Last Supper to Gethsemane, the Mount of Olives and eventually to the Via Dolorosa—a pilgrimage walk consisting of 15 stages, including Jesus' crucifixion.

As I was ascending the Mount of Olives I was struck afresh by Jesus' outsider status. Jesus is described in numerous Gospel accounts as teaching in the Temple and then retreating with his disciples to the Mount of Olives outside the city. From the Garden of Gethsemane, Jerusalem's walls and the Temple Mount, the site of the original Jerusalem Temple, tower ominously above.

When Jesus is visiting Jerusalem from his base of operations in Galilee, he is often described as staying with his disciples on the Mount of Olives. From there he makes incursions into the Temple, where he teaches, often getting into confrontations with the religious authorities. From the Mount of Olives hillside looking across at Jerusalem, Jesus and his disciples appear as outliers.

I returned to my lodging inside the walls, remembering how Jesus came into Jerusalem and the Temple, but stayed outside the walls, together with his disciples. No wonder those on the margins felt so drawn to him!

May we, disciples of Jesus today, consider afresh the locatedness of Jesus-- outside the walls. In these times of political and religious division, may we remember to heed the call of the writer of Hebrews 13.

"Therefore Jesus also, that He might sanctify the people through his own blood, suffered outside the gate. So, let us go out to Him outside the camp, bearing his reproach. For here we do not have a lasting city, but we are seeking the city which is to come" (Hebrews 13:12-14).

### The Season of Giving is Upon Us

Give a gift to change a life! You can make more than one person happy with one gift! The Presbyterian Giving Catalog for 2022- 2023 is available in the Narthex (Lobby) of the church, or in the Church office, and there are all kinds of ways to remember your loved ones, AND help someone in need!

You can give tools and kits, water, livestock and agriculture. Give a fishing net for \$15, a Kitchen Kit for \$25, a Sewing Machine for \$50 or gift all the way up to a Garden Well for \$1,500 – OR a share for \$50. Any pocketbook can greatly help someone less fortunate than reflected in our abundance.

Pick up a Presbyterian Giving Catalog and see if one of those choices might be right for someone on your list – someone who perhaps would be more pleased knowing they've helped ease a life, than having another "thing" they maybe really don't need.



WE BELIEVE IN THE POWER OF GIVING

We dire a Girl.

Venu Girls a Girl.

Blessings from your Mission and Global Witness Committee



## Mission partners Erik and Maureen York





I (Erik) have great news post surgery—my PSA levels are negligible and I'm regaining strength and stamina. The initial recovery was a bit rough, and an infection at the end of August was a discouraging setback that prompted an early exit from our team retreat.

It's delightful getting to see our girls take on new challenges with courage! Kristianna is settling into campus life at University of Cincinnati and is growing friendships in bible study and club swim team. Natassia has a great group of friends in cross country and finishing her first season with strong runs! Junior High suits Katrielle with its greater responsibilities as well as aging up in her club swim group with some very kind and faithful friends.

We were depleted as a family and disappointed not to be able to go to our national staff conference. But God has given us "people." We praise God for our neighbor, KC, who gathered neighbors, swim team, church, school and ministry friends to care for us through meals, dog walks and visits. I (M) felt so low capacity and needed help, but even then it was hard to receive. But the Lord reminded us that receiving is a picture of the gospel—grace and help when we cannot do for ourselves. We are grateful for the goodness of God and the people through whom it comes.

This week 30 new staff and interns are in town for our annual conference, which we pray will encourage them in building a healthy culture, affirm and equip them in their calling, and let them experience care in the midst of community.

Please pray for our outreach Tuesday, and the time Erik and I are leading on Thursday, on Oneness in intercultural mission. Biblical principles from overseas cross cultural ministry readily apply across ethnic, generational and gender boundaries. Pray we will share God's heart and our stories well, and that the gospel principles will be deepened through learning on our trip to the Underground Railroad museum. Pray that experiencing someone else's perspective will overflow to compassion and reach out to the individuals or communities in our own lives and ministry context who are different than us.

Thank you for your investment in the gospel!

Newberg First Presbyterian Church is sponsoring a holiday bazaar where vendors will be selling a wide variety of gift items. The vendors will each be renting table space within our church facility with proceeds going to the Spruce It Up Committee and Deacons Fund. Snacks and lunch will be available for purchase throughout the day as well.

The Deacons will be hosting a table displaying donated items that are likely to bring a good price. Unlike the rummage sale, church members will be invited to bring their donations to the church the day of the sale (or the week before), price the items themselves, designating if the price is negotiable or not and then pick up the items, if they do not sell, on Sunday following the Bazaar. We hope you will save the date and consider bringing one or two items of value to the bazaar.





## Our Church Community: Get Involved!



Adult Spiritual Formation class is held at 9:00 am every Sunday. Class is held in the Fellowship Hall, which allows for social distancing. Masks are optional. This season we are exploring

the different Christian tradition streams drawing from the writing of Richard Foster. Teachers this fall will include Bruce and Di Murphy, Karen and Chris Murphy, Gene Dykema, and others.



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,

<u>gbuck41108@mindspring.com</u> 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, you may contact Lois McLean or Elise Prayzich (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 (<a href="mailto:pat88g@frontier.com">pat88g@frontier.com</a>) for more information. All are welcome!

## **CAYAC**

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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 <a href="murphycb@frontier.com">murphycb@frontier.com</a> if you would like to join up with this amazing group, or if you know of any college students or other young adults who would be interested in participating.

This year CAYAC will meet on the first Monday of October, at 5:30 pm. The regular meeting schedule will be established at that time.

Please be in prayer for our young adults as they navigate the challenges of balancing school, work, and other responsibilities.



#### 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. For more information call Mary Kalesse (503-644-5502) We're looking forward to meeting you!



Chair Yoga

### Chair Yoga

Chair Yoga class is held on Mondays and Wednesdays from 3:45 pm to 4:45 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

If you are interested in joining this restorative class, contact Lory Albright at <a href="mailto:lorylyn808@gmail.com">lorylyn808@gmail.com</a> 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.

# November 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Nov. 6, 2022 Daylight Savings Time Ends!		1	2 9:00-1:00-Bike Ministry 10:00 am-Deacon's Meeting 3:45-4:45 pm-Chair Yoga 7:00 pm-Choir Practice	3 8:00 am- Men's Breakfast	4	5
6 10:30 am- In-Person and Livestream Worship Service Cinnamon Roll Sunday	7 3:45-4:45 pm- Chair Yoga 6:00 pm- CAYAC meets at the Murphy's home	8	3:45-4:45 pm- Chair Yoga 7:00 pm- Choir Practice	10	11 10:00 am- Space for Grace women's group	12
13 10:30 am- In-Person and Livestream Worship Service Choir sings	<b>3:45-4:45 pm</b> -Chair Yoga	6:30 pm- Session meeting	9:00-1:00- Bike Ministry 3:45-4:45 pm- Chair Yoga 7:00 pm- Choir Practice	17 8:00 am- Men's Breakfast	18 10:00 am - Space for Grace Women's group Pew News articles & schedules due today!	19
20 10:30 am- In-Person and Livestream Worship Service	<b>3:45-4:45 pm</b> -Chair Yoga	22	3:45-4:45 pm- Chair Yoga 7:00 pm- Choir Practice	24 Happy Thanksgiving!	25	26
27 10:30 am- In-Person and Livestream Worship Service Choir Sings	28 3:45-4:45 pm- Chair Yoga	29	3:45-4:45 pm- Chair Yoga 7:00 pm- Choir Practice	will leave Worshi their teacher for	l class meets each Sui	rmon and join



#### **Birthdays**

10- Elijah Chris

17– Joe Steve

19-Bob Hamilton

22- Corban Harwood

30- Alan Johnsen

30- Martin Millage



#### **Anniversaries**

20– David & Corinne Waterbury 27– Julie & Brian O

#### **COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

15-15-22 6:30 pm Session Meeting Pastor Chris Murphy may be reached at his email: <a href="mailto:murphycb@frontier.com">murphycb@frontier.com</a> or by calling the church office at 503-538-3313

Our website address is : newbergfpc.org



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GRACE. HOPE. LOVE.