

VOLUME 22
ISSUE 12
DECEMBER 2022



Newberg First Presbyterian Church

PEW NEWS



The Joy of Advent



From the Reverend Chris Murphy—
The Joy of Advent

Advent is a Latin word that means coming. In this season we wait expectantly for the coming of the baby Jesus on Christmas morning. We also remember that Jesus will come again one day to restore all of creation.

Advent is a season of waiting, but this type of waiting can be joyful. As children it feels hard to wait for Christmas morning with all the presents. But as we get older, we can appreciate the joy of waiting. The Season of Advent slows us down to wait for the coming of our Lord. It can be a contemplative season of joy, hope, rest, and the savoring of life.

As we wait, what shall we do? For the Murphy family, at the beginning of Advent, we put up a Christmas tree and stockings. We begin to watch Christmas movies, including ones that reflect on the birth of Jesus. We try to savor the beauty of the lights in our neighborhood, tasty food, and the reminders we hear each week during the Christmas Season to celebrate Jesus' birth, enjoy family and friends and to remember the most vulnerable in our town and in the broader world.

For our church this Advent Season, we will celebrate a special Christmas Bazaar on Saturday, Dec. 3rd, where we can purchase gift items, support the Deacons ministry, and celebrate the development of our Newberg Peace Garden. In Advent, we will remember the stories surrounding the birth of Jesus as we worship weekly and light our Advent candles.

We will enjoy a special Christmas Eve worship service at 7 PM and then wake up and enjoy Christmas morning worship with our church family at 10:30 AM. May this Advent Season awaken us to the joy we find in the birth of Jesus and the joy we find in waiting as we slow down and take in all of God's love and goodness.

"For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given, and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace." (Isaiah 9:6)



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.

In Loving Memory of



Glenn Sorum

February 27, 1935 - November 23, 2022



Please keep Darolen Sorum and family in your prayers as they mourn the passing of Darolen's husband, Glenn Sorum.



This prayer request comes from mission partners Maureen (Au) and Eric York: *Advent season is one of hope as we celebrate that Jesus has come, but it has also been heavy with heartache for many of our staff. Please pray with us for God's mercy and evidence of his grace for our staff in heartbreaking circumstances. We long for God's goodness and peace to break through in tangible and sweet ways that give them hope:*

****Jonathan (our LDHR team) and Lina's daughter, Sara (2) who are home for the first time in 6 months seeking treatment for rare brain and spinal tumors. Healing can come only through God's hands. Prayers for their exhaustion, for home care, for the stress on their marriage.**

****Chris and Amy (International Sending), who have been mourning the loss of her father to Covid and are struggling with deep exhaustion and depression.**

****Taylor (campus, baseball) and Katie and family, out of their home for 7 months for mold remediation only partially covered by insurance, which has also affected Katie's health.**

****DJ and Brooke's (campus) infant son, Daniel, who contracted spinal meningitis at birth and is struggling for life.**



Session Meeting
November 15, 2022
6:30 pm

Session is happy to highlight this month that Newberg First Presbyterian Church has received another \$15,000 grant from Portland Seminary's Thriving Congregations program. A portion of this grant will continue to help us build the Newberg Peace Garden.

Session also wishes to share that from now until the end of December we will be inviting the congregation to provide final gifts for our 3 year Investing in the Future Church Capital Campaign. The Mission and Global Witness committee will be raising money through the Presbyterian Mission Agency's Christmas Joy Offering during Advent.

Clerk of Session, Lory Albright shared the good news that we now have 72 members in our church. This is an increase of six new members from this fall.

Session voted to provide a 5% COLA (Cost of Living Allowance) salary increase for 2023 for Pastor Chris Murphy, Music Director Pat Goodman, Office Manager Katherine Millage, and Facilities Manager, Meg Huwe.

We look forward to celebrating the gifts of Christ's birth this Advent Season.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Chris Murphy (Moderator of Session)




Newberg First Presbyterian Church

3 year
Capital Campaign
Closing Strong



We are so thankful and appreciative of the amazing support and participation so far in our "seeds to branches" capital campaign. Thanks to generous gifting, we have raised over \$160,000.

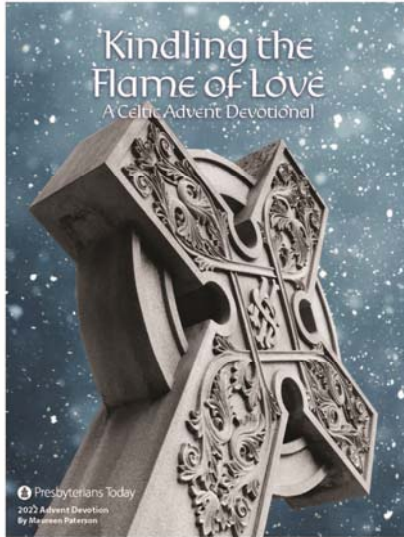
If you haven't yet contributed but would like to do so, please consider donating to: Newberg First Presbyterian Church, Memo: Capital Campaign.

Funds will be added to our general campaign fund unless otherwise noted.

Thank You!

Advent Devotional Available!

The Advent Season is all about reflecting on how we can prepare our hearts and homes for Christ's birth in the world as it is today. Advent is also a time of waiting, a time of anticipation, and of reflecting and strengthening of our faith. To help during this journey, Pastor Chris found a great devotional. This devotional actually started in the middle of November (and the explanation for this is fascinating) but you will be able to catch up easily. To access the devotional, click [here](#). May you have a blessed advent journey!



CARE TEAM UPDATE

The Care Team has decided to focus on congregants who are elderly, frail, ill or in need of special attention. Therefore, some people are not on the list anymore. If you are not on the list and would like to be, please contact Corinne Waterbury at 503-997-2048 or cawater@msn.com



MAKE A GIFT OF EE PRODUCTS

It's gift giving season and EE products-coffee, chocolate and tea make nice hostess or family gifts. Last Christmas season I had great success with the Equal Exchange special gift boxes. This year is going to be different. I'm offering you the chance to choose your own products. With the insurance of my loyal church supporters, I have "stuck my financial neck out" and made a large order of popular products anticipating eager gift buyers during December. Here's my sales pitch!

Build your own gifts: When: Sundays - December 4, 11 & 18
Where: Fellowship Hall after church
How: Choose your EE products from popular Coffees, Teas, and Chocolates

There is a display of products and their prices in the narthex. I invite you to Stop to LOOK then Come to BUY.

Margie

PS: I have a small supply of Christmas gift bags for purchase too. One stop shopping!



Christmas Joy Offering

This offering will be gratefully received again this year on the Sundays surrounding Christmas. One of the four Special Offerings of Presbyterian Church USA, it has been a part of the Christmas tradition since 1933. Half of this offering is distributed through the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions, recognizing the faithfulness of current and retired church workers by providing funds to help them through especially difficult times.

The other half supports Presbyterian racial-ethnic Schools & Colleges:

**Menaul School, NM; *Stillman College, AL;*

**Presbyterian Pan American School, TX*

You will find information in your bulletins as Christmas approaches, and special offering envelopes are available in the Pews during that time.

We are so grateful for our always generous congregation! Thank you!

The Mission and Global Witness Committee



Stay in the holiday spirit by enjoying a performance of the traditional Christmas play "The Nutcracker." The Nutcracker, presented by CVDA, features local dancers, and volunteers, and is a fundraiser for local charities. In addition, our own Chiara Murphy will be in The Nutcracker on December 10th and 11th. We encourage you to attend! Tickets may be found at newbergnutcracker.com.



Mission partners
Erik and Maureen York

God Is Multiplying Leaders

This week our 6th Team Leader Training cohort launches! I am thankful to be working with Luke, Marianne and Claire on the design team and for seasoned group coaches: Jeff, Joni, Lynn, Sean, Ethan and April. We have worked diligently to plan curriculum and speakers to equip our team leaders, but our coaches are the ones that help them grow deeply and take steps in multiplying their lives. Pray this cohort will both grow in character as they go deeper with the Lord and take strides in strategic mission as they lead their teams.

Thank you for your investment in the gospel,.



Praising God for new Regional Directors. Three have been in recent team leader training cohorts: Meredith, Joni, Steph and Sarah.

Leaders at Every Level

As we've recently hosted New Staff and Intern Conference and Team Leader Training Conference, we are thankful to be able to build in to our staff and get to know them at places where they're taking their leadership to the next level in trusting the Lord for the Great Commission.

Our new staff bonded over a week of win/build/send input and experiences including an outreach at Wright State and the learning experience at the Underground Railroad Museum. This was one of our interns' first experiences sharing her faith—her fear gave way to a heart that “sees people completely differently” and a desire to share the gospel with every woman on the [field hockey?] team to whom she ministers.

We designed the week with our new team leaders for interactive learning in heart and character through leadership interviews with a reflective feedback component and practical strategic planning. Even though it was the last day and people were tired from an intense stretch, some said it was the most fun they'd had doing strategic planning ever! That's not the topic we expected such a response, but we're delighted! The level of energy, collaboration and relational connection was encouraging - answers to prayer to see the AIA have a unified vision as we go after reaching every team, every sport, every nation together, but through different strategies.

Erik continues to refine the executive level leadership development with a team who will help him beta test as they shepherd multiplying leaders.



Our Church Community: Get Involved!

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 murphyxcb@frontier.com 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 each month, at 6:00 pm.

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 11:00 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

Classes are on hiatus until January!

Chair Yoga

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

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.



Sunday Morning
Adult Study

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 holding wonderful classes taught by a great group of regulars, including Chuck Zickefoose, Mary Kalesse, Di Murphy, Kristin Sandoz, and Gene and Rosemary Dykema. Come join us for these interesting and insightful classes!



Men's Fellowship 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, 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 (pat88g@frontier.com) for more information. All are welcome!

December 2022



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Adult Education class meets each Sunday at 9:00 in the Fellowship Hall. Class will not meet on 12/25/22 or 1/1/23 Children's Worship happens each Sunday. Children will leave Worship right before the sermon and join their teacher for fun and learning! There will be no childcare on 12/24/22 or 12/25/22				1 8:00 am- Men's Fellowship	2  First Friday Prayer Retreat	3 10:00 am–5:00 pm In Fellowship Hall 
4 10:30 am- In-Person and Livestream Worship Service 	5 6:00 pm- CAYAC meets at the Murphy's home	6	7 9:00-1:00- Bike Ministry 7:00 pm- Choir Practice	8	9 11:00 am- Space for Grace women's group	10
11 10:30 am- In-Person and Livestream Worship Service Choir sings 	12	13 6:30 pm- Session meeting	14 10:00- Deacons Meeting 7:00 pm- Choir Practice	15 8:00 am- Men's Fellowship	16 11:00 am - Space for Grace Women's group Pew News articles & schedules due today!	17 Anniversary of Tim & Sandi Olmstead
18 10:30 am- In-Person and Livestream Worship Service 	19	20	21 7:00 pm- Choir Practice	22	23	24  7:00 pm - Christmas Eve Service
25 10:30 am- In-Person and Livestream Worship Service Choir Sings 	26	27	28 7:00 pm- Choir Practice	29	30 Maxine Shuler's Birthday	31



Our Advent Season



11/27/22
12/4/22
12/11/22
12/18/22
12/24/22

12/25/22

The Candle of Hope
The Candle of Peace
The Candle of Joy
The Candle of Love
The Christ Candle

Christmas Day Worship Service

Advent Candlelighters: Tom Greenbaum & Angela Spohn
Advent Candlelighters: The Hynes Family
Advent Candlelighters: Jen Henry & James Wen
Advent Candlelighters: The Chris Family
Christmas Eve Service at 7:00 pm. Please join us for this special service celebrating Christ's birth.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

12-13-22 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
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NEWBERG, OR 97132



GRACE. HOPE. LOVE.