

Newberg First Presbyterian Church

VOLUME 23
ISSUE 3

MARCH/APRIL 2023



PEW NEWS



Enjoying Lent and the Easter Season



From the Reverend Chris Murphy—
Enjoying Lent and Easter

When I was a kid growing up in Presbyterian churches, I found myself participating in the major seasons of the church calendar. I have some memories of Lent and Advent, but I mostly remember enjoying Christmas day and Easter Sunday. Now that I am older and serving as a pastor, I realize that the church calendar sees Holy Week and Easter as the most significant season for Christians. Put another way, Easter is the Super Bowl for Christians. It is the major holiday because the cross and resurrection represent the climax of Jesus' life and ministry.

Our hope in the season of Lent is to increase our enjoyment of our relationship with Jesus and that Holy Week and Easter may be the culmination of our spiritual growth as we joyfully celebrate the reason for our faith, which is Jesus' triumph over death and the promise of resurrection and eternal life.

I hope you are enjoying our focus on Celtic Spirituality during this Lenten Season. My hope is that your faith is being renewed as we enjoy Celtic Christianity's emphasis on the goodness of humanity and creation. As Christians, we take seriously the problem of sin and evil, but we are invited to emphasize even more the beauty of love and God's creation. Love is more powerful than evil and gives us reason to be joyful even in troubling times.

As we prepare our hearts for Holy Week and Easter, may we be encouraged to rejoice in the gift of love shown in the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross and in the powerful resurrection of Jesus. May we remember that Love always wins no matter what trials we face!

This Holy Week you are invited to join us on Palm Sunday as we reflect on Jesus' Prayer in Gethsemane and remember Jesus' triumphant entry in Jerusalem with palm branches. On Maundy Thursday at 6 PM, we will experience a drama presentation and dinner as we remember the Lord's Supper. On Good Friday, you are welcome to join us for our annual prayer retreat at 9 AM to prepare our hearts for Easter Weekend. Easter Sunday we will meet in our Fellowship Hall at 9 AM to enjoy breakfast together before decorating our cross as part of our joyful Easter service.

May God bless you through the remainder of the Lenten Season and as we enter Holy Week and Easter. Our Savior Jesus is Lord of All. My prayer is that the joy of Easter will bring you great comfort and hope!



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 keep Dick Patten and the Patten family in your prayers as they mourn the loss of Vera Patten. Dick asked us to pass on that Vera wanted to say "thank you" to our church congregation for all the support and love they showed to her and her family. As we mourn her passing, let us also give thanks for Vera and rejoice that she is with our heavenly Father now.



Rosemary Dykema will be having brain surgery in the near future due to a brain tumor. Please pray for her complete recovery.



Bobby Stiehler is having surgery and would like prayers for comfort and complete healing.



Daylight Saving Time
SPRING FORWARD

On Sunday, March 12th, Daylight Savings Time takes effect. Be sure to set your clocks ahead one hour on Saturday night before you go to bed. That way, you'll be on time for worship on Sunday morning!



Session Meeting

February 21, 2023

6:30 pm

Greetings in Christ,

Our February Session meeting began with Pastor Chris sharing some of his hopes for our church over the next five years. He highlighted a desire to see our church grow younger while staying very intergenerational. He mentioned our congregation serving as a Center for Christian Spirituality for our community through our First Friday Prayer Retreats and our Newberg Peace Garden. Pastor Chris also hopes to see greater community engagement, especially to those living in poverty and anyone who is economically and spiritually vulnerable.

We are enjoying our Lenten Season with its focus on Celtic Christianity and Spirituality.

The Deacons ministry is doing a Food Drive for Fish and is collecting items for Henderson House this month. The Deacons will help us take sign ups for food for Maundy Thursday dinner and Easter Sunday breakfast.

Space for Grace is starting a new book – The Questions God Asks Us by Trevor Hudson. Men's Fellowship enjoys meeting the first and third Thursdays for conversation and doughnuts.

Adult Spiritual Formation is going strong with an upcoming teaching on Lent practices this month by Mindi Hynes, and other upcoming teachings by Melanie Springer Mock and Greg Koskela, both whom have recently published books on spiritual formation and community relationship. In addition, Karen Murphy is teaching on Revival, Gene Dykema on the Trinity and Relationship and Bruce Murphy on early church challenges stemming from relational dysfunction.

Children's worship continues to need additional leadership and our CAYAC ministry and Youth and Family ministry are having wonderful regular gatherings.

Finance and Facilities reports we received \$29,510 in January and the first part of February combined.

Lish Mannerter will be filling in for Katherine Millage from March 21st to April 21st.

Mission and Global witness reports a great first meeting with its new team.

Peace Garden has a beautiful new sign and Ciaran Hynes is adding piping for water needs.

We are grateful for God's grace on our congregation in this Season of Lent and as we prepare for the joyful celebration of Easter.

Peace of Christ,

Lish Mannerter and Pastor Chris Murphy

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

is one of four Special Offerings of the Presbyterian Church (USA), and is focused around Easter Sunday - which occurs on April 9th this year.

Traditionally we receive this offering on Palm Sunday, but your participation at any time surrounding Easter this year will be gratefully received.

This offering supports The Presbyterian Hunger Program (36%), Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (32%) and Self-Development of People (32%) enabling all of us to bring hope and the love of Christ to some of the most vulnerable and desperate people at home and in places around the globe. The human-caused disasters we've seen this year, especially in Ukraine – and now the terrible earthquakes in Turkey and Syria - are leaving millions of displaced families in dire need. Our Disaster Assistance is helping to ease the pain of millions of displaced people, refugees, and those who are caring for them.

The ONE GREAT HOUR of SHARING special envelopes will be in the pews as Easter approaches. If you are watching the services on our Live Stream, you do not need a special offering envelope, simply designate your gift as "One Great Hour."

Blessings for your generosity!

"Give As DEVOTION" Give as THANKS" "Give as ONE"

Thank you so much, The Mission and Global Witness Committee





From Our Mission and Global Witness Committee

The Mission and Global Witness Committee supports mission efforts of Newberg First Presbyterian Church. In the last meeting, the committee formulated a plan for the year 2023. The plan includes:

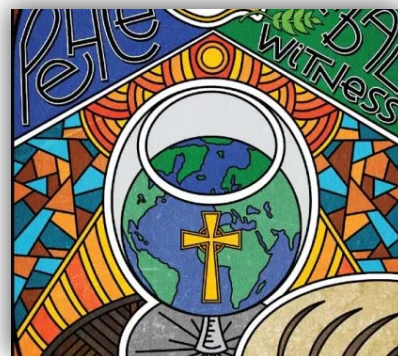
Initiatives for the year 2023

Continue contact with our five mission partners

- Caroline Kurtz – Maji, Ethiopia
- Urgessa and Taliilee – USA and Ethiopia
- Brian and Julie – SIL (Wycliffe Translators)
- Bob and Gracie Ekblad - Tierra Nueva
- Erik & Maureen York - Executive Director, Athletes in Action

Publicize our three Presbyterian Mission offerings:

- One Great Hour of Sharing (March & April)
- Peace and Global Witness (September & October)
- Christmas Joy (December)



Develop a plan for our portion of the Capital Campaign funds: \$10,490.10

Discuss some special emphasis for a Congregational Mission project

Possibly assign a team member to maintain contact with an individual Mission Partner

Increase our visibility within the congregation

As always we will continue to provide mission news to the Pew News, so that our congregation can see the progress our missions facilitate. If anyone is interested in joining the Mission and Global Witness committee, you can contact Chair Chuck Zickefoose, Associate Chair Elise Prayzich, or any member of the committee: Chris Murphy, Lory Albright, Mindi Hynes, and Cindy McCracken,

From Mission Partner Caroline Kurtz



I set out to start a non-profit organization to better lives in the subsistence farming community of Maji. I soon learned that everything I do for the community impacts women disproportionately.

This is partly because women touch every part of the life of a farming family. The men in Maji plow, plant and harvest. Their wives grow vegetables, herbs and fruit in the homestead garden; bear and raise children; care for aging members of the family; carry water and wood; provide food; take produce to local markets on foot; and help their husbands in the fields. It's not hard to find ways to address women's issues.

MDC began with a request from the Maji clinic for a solar light to illuminate night births. I knew that the lack of electricity was a hardship; I hadn't thought what it meant for mothers giving birth—one of the most vulnerable moments in a woman's life.

What else does the lack of electricity mean for a woman?

I began to understand more and more. It means carrying extra wood to light the house at night, as well as to cook. It means carrying water further because they have to walk to where water is available in nature. It means sexual violence in the dark of night. It means caring for cattle in the dark. It means caring for babies and sick family members without light. And so Maji Development Coalition began working with Ethiopian solar businesses and foundations to bring solar light to Maji family homes.



To bring power to the only hospital in over 100 miles, and to power the pump in the town well, producing clean water for 800 families.

MDC also directly addresses women's disempowerment in the local economy by working with district leaders who help them form solidarity and savings groups. The first women's self-help group formed a co-op and fattened lambs for market. They have cleared land and are planting onions to sell. Now three other self-help groups are organizing themselves to follow that example.

To give them a moment of joy and bonding with their children, MDC also gave these women colorful story books produced by a sister nonprofit, Open Hearts Big Dreams Fund and the Read to Mom project.

Now we are embarked on a complicated project to build a reservoir and pipe water down to eight villages (about 400 families). This will save women the long, steep hike up to the contaminated spring for drinking, cooking and washing water.

The district, the local communities and MDC are collaborating on something that will impact the health and daily lives of women more than anything else we could do for them.



We celebrate the heroic work of women in Maji, and the love and generosity expressed by friends of Maji, who make interventions for these women possible. As our Ethiopian water engineer said of MDC, "You are the answer to many women's prayers!"



Nell Greybeck is turning 101 this year! Her birthday is March 28th but daughter Sylvia Burns will be bringing a special cake to fellowship on April 2nd. So, after our Palm Sunday service be sure to join us in the Fellowship Hall to celebrate a great lady's birthday!



Doris Feenstra will be celebrating her 100th birthday on March 18th! In honor of this event, there will be an open house party on Saturday, March 18th from 2:00-4:00 pm, in the clubhouse of the park where Doris lives (2901 E. 2nd St., Newberg.) All are welcome! Come help a special lady celebrate her special day. (But, Doris requests "No gifts!")



The Deacons are collecting NEW items for Henderson House in McMinnville, OR. during the month of March (Henderson House only accepts NEW items).

Henderson House advocates provide domestic violence, sexual assault, and human sex trafficking response and advocacy, crisis intervention, emergency 30-day shelter, a 24-hour crisis line, coordinated wrap around service referrals, support groups, bilingual Spanish services, and youth outreach.



You can go to their website to see the comprehensive list of specific items. Go to hendersonhouse.org. Then go to the very top right corner with a column of 3 lines. Click on that and choose "Give Support", then click on "In-Kind" Donation Needs. In the drop-down menu, you will see: Gift cards, Hygiene Items, Cleaning Products, Paper Goods, Children's Items, Bed and Bath, and Kitchen Items. There is also a link to click on to see a comprehensive list of needs.





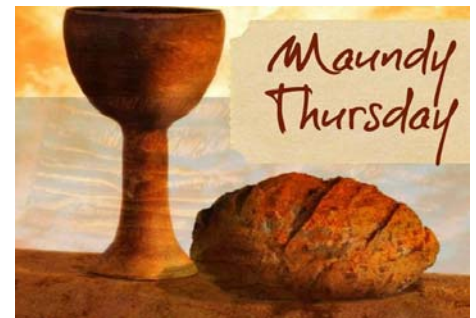
Holy Week Schedule



Passion / Palm Sunday begins Holy Week, a time in the church year when we remember how Christ gave his life in love for the world. As this service opens, the crowd waves palm branches, wanting to crown Jesus as king. But as the story of the passion unfolds, their shouts of praise turn to demands for his crucifixion.

This year Palm Sunday is Sunday, April 2nd. Please join us as we celebrate Jesus' joyous entry into Jerusalem, which begins Holy Week and leads into the great Easter celebration of Christ's resurrection!

Maundy Thursday begins the Three Days, remembering the new commandment that Christ gave us in word and deed as he taught us how to love one another, washing our feet as a servant. We also celebrate the Lord's Supper, remembering the meal Christ shared with his disciples before his death. This year FPC will be hosting a Maundy Thursday gathering on Thursday, April 6th at 6:00 pm. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall where there will be a drama/presentation based on John 13 (Jesus washes the disciples' feet.) There will also be a dinner (middle eastern style) and a reflection on the Lord's Supper.



Good Friday, the Friday before Easter, is the day on which Christians annually observe the commemoration of the Crucifixion of Jesus Christ. This year Good Friday, April 7th, coincides with FPC's regular First Friday Prayer Retreat. The Prayer Retreat will begin at 9:00 am and will finish at noon, followed by a light luncheon. During this time participants will walk the stations of the cross, prayerfully focusing on Christ's passion and following Him in His journey to the cross. Please join us for this special time.

On Easter Sunday, April 9th at 9:00 am, our church family will enjoy breakfast together in the Fellowship Hall. A sign-up sheet will be in the narthex of the sanctuary and also the Fellowship Hall so you can reserve your place and indicate the breakfast item you will provide (9x13 egg dish, Potlatch potatoes, pastries, and/or fruit). Please invite your extended family and guests in anticipation of this traditional event at Newberg First Presbyterian Church.

At 10:30 am, we will join together for our worship service, celebrating the resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ. At the beginning of the service, we will decorate our Easter cross. Please bring flowers and foliage so that together we can turn the old and barren wooden cross, (which signifies the death of Jesus) into a thing of color and beauty- a living symbol of resurrection.



Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die."

John 11: 25-26





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 murphycb@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.



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!



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 (503-709-3292.) We're looking forward to meeting you!



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!



Chair Yoga

Chair Yoga is

on hiatus

UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

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.

March 2023



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Adult Education class meets each Sunday at 9:00 in the Fellowship Hall.			1 9:00- Bike Ministry	2 8:00 am- Men's Fellowship	3  First Friday Prayer Retreat	4
Children's Worship happens each Sunday. Children will leave Worship right before the sermon and join their teacher for fun and learning!			7:00 pm- Choir Practice			
5 10:30 am- In-Person and Livestream Worship Service 	6 6:00 pm- CAYAC meets at the Murphy's home	7 3:00 pm- Worship Committee meeting 6:30 pm- Session meeting	8 10:00 am- Deacons Meeting 7:00 pm- Choir Practice	9	10 11:00 am- Space for Grace women's group	11
12 10:30 am- In-Person and Livestream Worship Service Choir sings Daylight Savings begins- set clocks forward one hour! 	13	14	15 9:00- Bike Ministry 7:00 pm- Choir Practice	16 8:00 am- Men's Fellowship	17 HAPPY St. Patrick's DAY  3:30 pm- Mission Committee meeting	18
19 10:30 am- In-Person and Livestream Worship Service 	20	21	22 7:00 pm- Choir Practice	23 6:30- Finance and Facilities meeting	24 11:00 am - Space for Grace Women's group	25
26 10:30 am- In-Person and Livestream Worship Service Choir sings 	27	28	29 7:00 pm- Choir Practice	30	31	

Birthdays

1- Craig McCourt	20- Johnny Beresky
2- Max McCourt	27- Karen Murphy
7- Paul Landis	27- Miriam Staples
9- Judy Landis	28- Nell Greybeck
13- Esther Chris	29- Alisha Mannerter
17- Joshua Weible	
18- Doris Feenstra	
19- David Waterbury	
19- Pat Goodman	

March CELEBRATIONS

Anniversaries

16- Rod and Maxine Carey
19- Pidge & Joe Steve
22- Mary & Bob Andrews

April 2023



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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2 10:30 am- In-Person and Livestream Worship Service Palm Sunday	3 6:00 pm- CAYAC meets at the Murphy's home	4 3:00 pm- Worship Committee meeting	5 9:00 am- Bike Ministry 7:00 pm- Choir Practice	6 8:00 am- Men's Fellowship 6:00 pm- Maundy Thursday dinner & presentation 	7 9:00 am- First Friday Prayer Retreat 	8
9 9:00 am- Easter Breakfast 10:30 am- Worship Service Choir sings Easter Sunday	10	11 6:30 pm- Session meeting	12 10:00 am- Deacons meeting 7:00 pm- Choir Practice	13 Pew News articles & schedules due today!	14 11:00 am - Space for Grace Women's group	15
16 10:30 am- In-Person and Livestream Worship Service 	17	18	19 9:00- Bike Ministry 7:00 pm- Choir Practice	20 8:00 am- Men's Fellowship 6:30 pm- Finance & Facilities meeting	21 3:30 pm- Mission Committee	22
23 10:30 am- In-Person and Livestream Worship Service Choir sings 	24	25	26 7:00 pm- Choir Practice	27	28 11:00 am - Space for Grace Women's group	29
30 10:30 am- In-Person and Livestream Worship Service 						

Anniversaries

4- Diane & Bruce Murphy
20- Lish and Marc Mannerter

Birthdays

2- Susan King
7- Elizabeth Harwood
21- Cedar Albright
24- Julie O'Herin
25- Thomas Millage

Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday- April 2, 10:30 am
Worship Service with palm fronds

Maundy Thursday- April 6, 6:00 pm in Fellowship Hall
Dinner with drama/presentation

Good Friday- April 7, 9:00 am
Prayer Retreat with focus on stations of the cross

Easter- April 9, 9:00 am
Church Family Breakfast in Fellowship Hall
10:30 Worship Service with decoration of the cross

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

3-7-23 6:30 pm Session Meeting

4-11-23 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

ONE
AND
ALL

NEWBERG FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
501 MISSION DRIVE
NEWBERG, OR 97132



GRACE. HOPE. LOVE.