

Newberg First Presbyterian Church

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# PEW NEWS



**Peace, Unity, and Love in Newberg**



*From the Reverend Chris Murphy*  
*Peace, Unity, and Love in Newberg*

Last month I preached a sermon about the Holy Trinity's heart of love. At the end of my sermon, I shared an image that came to me in prayer. I described how people often identify either on the left or the right, but that we are invited to put our left and right hands together and curve them in to form a heart of love.

To me this is a picture for our church's mission in Newberg and the way of Jesus in the world. We can hold our different perspectives theologically, spiritually, socially, and politically, but what makes us a people of grace, hope, and love, is our willingness to come to the center in relationship with a heart of love. Maybe our church can model this call to bring peace, unity, and love to Newberg.

This will feel countercultural and initially hard, but in my experience most of us are looking for examples of people who come together with a desire to listen and learn from one another, even as we maintain our different perspectives.

One of the gifts of the Presbyterian Church (USA) is that we are a big tent. Our denomination models a heart for social justice and inclusion, but also a willingness to share the message of Jesus to those who do not know him. We love Jesus and justice. We care about spiritual formation and social concern. We are non-partisan in our mission, while supporting those who are oppressed.

One way God calls us to come together in unity, is to begin with a heart of humility. It is so easy to get passionate about one's conviction on any topic and to then begin to get angry at someone else's position or perspective. When we realize that every human being is sacred, we can take a posture of humility and choose to love our neighbor as ourselves and open ourselves to relationship with anyone and everyone.

Who is God calling you to love? How might we come to the center with a heart of humility as we seek to model a church that brings peace to Newberg. On our Peace Pole in our Newberg Peace Garden, we read the words of Mother Teresa, "Peace begins with a smile." May God show us how to be kind, gracious, and hopeful as we foster peace in our town, nation, and world. As we continue our pilgrimage with Jesus this summer may we come together in love and model this love to others.



How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!

(Psalms 133:1 NIV)



*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 ask for continued prayers for Bobby Stiehler, the brother of Nancy Thurston and the uncle of Tom Greenbaum, as he recovers from a serious surgery. Please pray fervently for Bobby's body to respond well to surgery and that God will bring him full healing.



Please pray for the family of Katherine Millage, back in her home state. Several members are facing health challenges and other stressors in their lives. They ask for God to send healing, peace and comfort their way.



Please keep the family of Harriet Fowler in your thoughts and prayers following the passing of Harriet. May God send them peace and comfort during this sad time.





## Session Meeting

June 6, 2023

6:30 pm

Call to Order

Roll Call, quorum, with Pastor Chris, Bob, Kim, Tom, Gary, Lish, Ciaran, and Mary present

Devotion and Prayer: Bob Andrews

Agenda accepted.

**MSC** to accept the minutes for the Stated Session meeting on May 9th, 2023

**MSC** to accept the minutes for the Congregational meeting on May 7th, 2023

Pastor's Report, highlights: hosted youth and family BBQ, all-church picnic after Sunday service

Clerk's Report

Committee Reports

From Christian Ed., we will have a scholarship application, need to advertise in Pew News and Friday email.

Action Item for Clerk: ask for input from committee chairs and write up a description of each committees responsibilities. This will help new people.

**MSC** to accept the treasurer's report.

Discussed letter from church member about priority of new flooring vs air conditioning for fellowship hall.

Delegate to Facilities.

**MSC** to get "direct box" equipment to allow playing keyboard and guitar at same time. \$350, pay for from Wells endowment fund for worship (3800-123).

Session will provide Communion prep and servers for the next 6 months, assignments for first 2 months:

July 2: Mary and Gary prepare; Tom, Ciaran, Kim, Mary as servers

August 6: Gary and Bob prepare. Ciaran, Lish (maybe), Mary, as servers, plus ask Corinne if she can serve.

The service to install Pastor Chris will be Sept 10, with a guest speaker from Presbytery.

Old Business: For the sub-team to guide the next steps from Session and Deacon's Retreat, Chris will reach out to potential members in July.

New Business: Need to streamline approval of rental/use of church property.

**MSC** to delegate to staff the approval of rental and other use of church property.

**MSC** to allow a prayer group (around 10 attendees) to meet on the church property, probably on Thursdays.

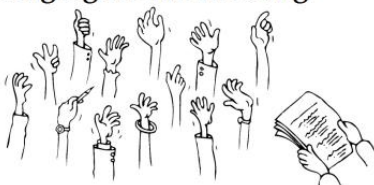
Adjournment and closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

*Kim Godshalk, Clerk of Session*

*\*MSC=motion, second, carried*

## Special Congregational Meeting



On May 7th, our church held a special congregational meeting.

At that time a vote approved to install Kim Godshalk as Elder for Session for a 3 year term.

Also by vote, it was approved to accept Pastor Chris Murphy as our fully installed pastor.

Pastor Chris will be formally installed on Sunday, September 10, 2023. Be sure to join us for this celebration!

Congratulations Kim and Pastor Chris. Your service to our congregation is much appreciated!



Do you have a child who wants to go to summer camp? Do you or your child(ren) want to pursue further education? Well, FPC has scholarships that you can apply for! Ask Katherine in the front office for an application form, or talk to Mary Kalesse (503-709-3292) if you have any questions. Our church can help you achieve your goals!



## Divakar Undurthi and the Grace Children Home Orphanage

MLK had a dream and his speech is well known.

Our church had a dream for a Peace Garden and it is coming true.

Several weeks ago, from our pulpit, an Indian pastor, Divakar Undurthi told of his dream to have a permanent home for his orphanage. His dream is to turn a piece of ground beside his church into facilities to serve his community in several ways:

- The primary goal is a structure for an existing orphanage currently in a temporary shelter.
- It would provide space for small shops that would house merchants and provide rental funds for the church.
- Create a future medical clinic.

Our Mission and Global Witness committee as issued this challenge to our congregation:

**We want to raise \$3000 this summer to assist Divakar in his dream.**

The Mission Committee has committed up to \$1500 to match our congregation's contribution, dollar to dollar, to reach the goal of \$3000. So please take up this challenge and send in your gift to support Divakar. You may send checks to the office, or use the white envelopes located in the pews, and place them in the offering plate when you come to church. Please make the checks out to First Presbyterian Church but note on the check, and the white envelope, that the money is for Divakar's orphanage in India.

**Thank you for helping Divakar do God's work in the world!**



*This is a gathering of current and past orphans currently or previously served by Divakar's ministry.  
Below is the land where the orphanage will be built.*



Every gift makes a difference in the life of someone who deserves God's love and support.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING  
SPECIAL OFFERINGS  
HUNGER • DISASTER • DEVELOPMENT

03.02.22-04.17.22

### 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 \$1,905 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*

### News from mission partners Erik and Maureen York

Our biannual AIA Staff Conference gathered 350 staff at our headquarters in Xenia, Ohio. With Acts 17 as our central Scripture we were fed by daily worship, plenary sessions in the word, seminars led by our staff addressing the spectrum of personal and ministry needs, interactive vision, strategic planning and team building.

Linsey, our Staff Care Director played a significant role in the conference, coordinating all the seminars to address both the felt needs and the gospel foundations underlying each of them. Our team got to help lead many of these.





Erik and Lynn led a session on working together across five generations. Missionary cross cultural principles work here too—valuing people God made in his image, seeking to understand their defining stories, valuing their strengths, seeking to resolve or bridge the differences with grace and respect.

Both Erik and I spent meal times and afternoon breaks in individual appointments addressing encouragement, career planning, healing of hurting relationships, theological development, transfer planning.... Though the days were long and some of the meetings were weighty, Erik had a lot of energy and praised God for how he was able to speak life and truth. (I think it was fulfilling to do more of the personal side of ministry because he often has to work on the policy and problem side, which doesn't always have tangible or quick results.)

On a personal note: We're incredibly thankful that Erik's blood work is still clear after 3rd quarterly testing. Kristianna just finished her first year at University of Cincinnati. She also received the unexpected honor of an award for "an outstanding freshman chemistry major with great potential" which comes with a scholarship!

*Your prayers are powerful and effective, we are thankful for how God is working in places where human strength and influence fails but his does not,*

*Erik & Maureen*

## Our Church Life



*First Sunday Picnic  
What a great day to enjoy sun,  
food, and great company!*



*To see more  
great pictures,  
visit the  
Fellowship Hall  
after church!*

## Church Picnic



**When: Sunday, July 2nd  
after worship!**

This summer our church is holding an all church picnic on the first Sunday of June, July and August. 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!

FOR WHERE  
two or three  
GATHER  
IN MY NAME  
I am with them  
MATTHEW 18:20



## Our Church Community: Get Involved!



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 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](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 those 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.

We appreciate Marc Manner's participation in being our "truck and muscle guy"!

If you would like to help out with this ministry, you may contact Lois McLean or Elise Prayzich (307-690-3762.)



**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!

## 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 [murphycb@frontier.com](mailto:murphycb@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 is on summer break and will not meet regularly until the fall. However, there are some summer get-togethers planned. This month we will

meet on July 25th at 11:00 am, at Maxine Carey's house. For directions or other questions, you can contact Mary Kalesse at 503-709-3292. 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.



# July 2023



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>Adult Education and Children's Worship are both on summer break. See you in the fall!</p>						1
<p>2 10:30 am- In-Person and Livestream Worship Service</p>  <p><i>Church Picnic</i></p>	3	<p>4 HAPPY Independence DAY 3:00 pm- Worship Committee meeting</p> 	<p>5 9:00 am- Bike Ministry</p>	<p>6 8:00 am- Men's Fellowship</p>	<p>7 9:00 am- First Friday Prayer Retreat</p> 	8
<p>9 10:30 am- In-Person and Livestream Worship Service</p> 	10	<p>11 6:30 pm- Session meeting</p>	<p>12 10:00 am- Deacons meeting</p>	13	14	15
<p>16 10:30 am- In-Person and Livestream Worship Service</p> 	17	18	<p>19 9:00 am- Bike Ministry</p> <p>Taize Parking</p>	<p>20 8:00 am- Men's Fellowship</p> <p>6:30 pm- Finance &amp; Facilities meeting</p>	<p>21 3:30 pm- Mission committee meeting</p>	22
<p>23 10:30 am- In-Person and Livestream Worship Service</p> 	24	<p>25 11:00 am- Space for Grace get-together at Maxine Carey's home</p>	26	27	28	29

<p>30 10:30 am- In-Person and Livestream Worship Service</p> 	31
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**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	



**Upcoming Events**

**7-2-23 - First Sunday All-Church Picnic:**  
Come join us for fun and fellowship after church. Don't forget to bring lawn chairs or blankets and maybe some outdoor games along with your food, beverages and dishes. Let's have some fun!

**Anniversaries**



15- David & Esther Chris

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

7-11-23 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.