

VOLUME 23  
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Newberg First Presbyterian Church

# PEW NEWS



**Enjoying Summer,  
Preparing for the Fall**



*From the Reverend Chris Murphy*

*Enjoying Summer. Preparing for the Fall*

In August, we remember to continue our celebration of summer, while also preparing our hearts for the fall. My family will be taking a three-day vacation at Cannon Beach this month. I always enjoy an opportunity to visit the coast. Something about being by the ocean reminds me of how big God is and how small I am. Cannon Beach is also a special place for my family because Karen and I had our honeymoon there almost 22 years ago. Going to the beach puts life in perspective for me and gives me the opportunity to express gratitude to God for my wife, kids, and for each one of you.

I am especially grateful for the blessing of being your pastor. At the end of 2023, I will have been with our church for nearly six years. I want to share that on Sunday, September 10th, we will have a special installation service to make me your fully installed permanent pastor. The installation will take place during our normal morning worship service, but we will welcome the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery, Reverend Paul Belz Templeman to preach on that Sunday. Paul is a good friend and is a strong supporter of our congregation. This service is in response to our congregation's vote in May to install me. Please plan to be here on September 10th and to join us for a special fellowship time following worship.

It is a blessing to be installed as your pastor, but what makes me most happy is that my installation is a sign that our church continues to grow in stability and health. This will be an important year to continue our growth as a church. We will prioritize our children and youth ministries, while continuing our value of intergenerational ministry.

Friends, I encourage you to take some time in August to have a few more intentional vacation days. Remember rest and relaxation are part of a spirit filled life. Also, take some time to give thanks for God's work in your life and in our church. If you have ideas for how God might be leading us as we enter a new school year, let me know. May we find comfort knowing that we serve a big, sovereign God who will faithfully lead us as a congregation of grace, hope, and love.

***O Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever. (Psalm 107)***

From our

## Care Team Ministry

Know anyone who would like to be on our Care Team list? People are called or emailed every so often to check up on their needs. Contact Corinne at [cawater@msn.com](mailto:cawater@msn.com) or 503-997-2048. Thanks!



*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 prayers of praise as we celebrate the wedding of members Angela Spohn and Tom Greenbaum. May God fill their lives together with joy, grace and wisdom. Congratulations Tom and Angela!



Please keep praying for Bobby Stiehler, as he continues to recover at home from his recent surgery.



We ask for continued prayers for people in distress all over the world. As the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance says, "Our best response is prayer. Seek God's presence on behalf of disaster survivors." For those who would like to express their support in other ways, please consider contributing to the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (<https://pda.pcusa.org/>) or the World Central Kitchen (<https://wck.org/>)



### Session Meeting

There was no meeting in July. Session will meet again on August 15, 2023



*"Lord, here I am, send me..."*

The members of First Presbyterian Church of Newberg proudly invite all to join us as we celebrate the Installation the Reverend

Dr. Chris Murphy. We will celebrate this blessed occasion through worship and with God's Word, on Sunday, September 10, 2023, at 10:30 am. Your presence will make this event a memorable experience for Pastor Chris, his family, and our church!

*As fall approaches, schools will be back in session, including GFU. And that means CAYAC will be starting up again. Elise Prayzich volunteers for CAYAC and now needs some support. She writes:*

I know we have lots of good cooks in our congregation ... and I am not one of them!

After several years of supplying meals for the CAYAC gatherings once a month, it's time to treat the students to some new and creative recipes! I will continue to cook for them, but your meals will definitely be a help to them – and me!!

In the past others have helped with tasty dishes and now we need to revive that "tradition" with a few who are willing to supply something new for maybe ten students at CAYAC gatherings.

They meet generally – lately at the Murphy's home - on the first Monday of the month, and meals probably should arrive by 5:30 to be there before the students arrive. Just a salad, main dish, dessert and drinks for about 10 are all that is needed. No need to worry about expenses, they are refunded to you from a special Youth Account. Just be sure to save your receipts!

So ... please see me in church, or drop a line – [eplayzich@aol.com](mailto:eplayzich@aol.com) – or phone 503 487 6099 (cell 397 690 3762) and we can talk!

Many thanks!!  
Elise Prayzich



### From our media team...

Did you know the church has a website? Did you know you can find or learn about any of the following on our web site? Check out the list below and you will find

1. Current and past weekly bulletins of the worship services
2. Live-stream for the church's worship service
3. Past video recordings of the sermons
4. Past audio recordings of the sermons
5. Past sermon notes (PDF)
6. Past recordings of worship services on the live-streaming page
7. Current and past church calendars
8. Current and past issues of the Pew News
9. Worship time and location
10. How to contact the church
11. The different ministries of the church
12. Who we are
13. What our core values are
14. What to expect on Sunday
15. Who our team is
16. a biography for Pastor Chris Murphy....

and the list goes on. So check out the church's web site at [www.newbergfpc.org](http://www.newbergfpc.org)



Lory Albright has let us know that chair yoga will start up again in September. Plan on meeting in the Fellowship Hall on Mondays and Wednesdays, from 3:15 pm to 4:00 pm.



*Future home of Divakar's orphanage*

### With Our Grateful Thanks...

YOU DID IT! You went beyond the goal for the Orphanage fund. The Mission Committee challenged the congregation to give \$1500 and the Committee would match that with \$1500 from our portion of the Capital Campaign funds. You all have given \$2070 as of last July 31! So we will send \$3570 to Reverend Divakar in India to put toward his goal of building an orphanage to house orphans already in his church's care.

*~The Mission and Global Witness Committee*



*The Mission and Global Witness committee of FPC was able to give mission partner Taliilee Fiqruu \$10,000 for use in Light of Hope Ministries in Ethiopia. In response, we received this letter of thanks:*



Dear Chuck and Mission Team,

On behalf of Light of Hope Ministry, please accept my heartfelt thank you to Newberg First Presbyterian Church for your recent large donation of \$10,000 to Light of Hope Ministry Ethiopia. Your generous gift left us speechless! We feel honored and encouraged that you would continue to bless us with your sacrificial financial support. Thanks again for entrusting us with your generous gifts.

Your gift arrived at such a great time. One of Light of Hope's primary needs for this year is printing more Arsi Oromo Bibles. The first five thousand copies that were printed at the end of last year in South Korea have been distributed since the three Bible dedications events hosted by Light of Hope Ministry to commemorate this new translation in Ethiopia's capital city and two regional cities. The demand is very high since this is the first time that the whole Bible became available in the Arsi Oromo dialect.

Thus, we decided to use your donation toward Arsi Oromo Bible printing that is going to be published in South Korea. We're planning to print 20,000 copies. The rough estimated cost of printing the whole Bible is \$15 which includes shipping, custom taxation fee, and ground shipping from the capital city (Addis Ababa) to our office in Shashamane, about 250km. Your generous gift will make the printing of sixty-seven hundred Bible possible! Thank you! It's our prayers that anyone who receives these Bibles would come to know Jesus.

We're prayerfully planning to host more events in other major cities in southeast Ethiopia this summer to promote this new Bible and encourage people to read. Our translation team continue to work hard distributing this new Bible and work on Bible engagement.

Thank you again for your friendship and partnership with us. We're grateful for your faithful prayers and support as we strive to make His name known among the Arsi Oromo people through our Bible projects, school building, and planting new churches.

Blessings,

*Taliilee Fiqruu*



*Mission partner Bob Ekblad of Tierra Nueva Ministries sent in these valuable insights into their work:*



Many of the people involved in Tierra Nueva's church and Bible studies are either still in active addiction or in some stage of their recovery process. In both cases people are accustomed to dealing with barriers to receiving benefits, keeping parental rights, employment or receiving or keeping their housing in a homeless shelter, subsidized housing or other services.

Regarding church, people also assume there are barriers keeping them out, and even separated from God. Barriers that block people's access to God and church must be deliberately identified and torn down!

Common barriers to social services include active addiction, criminal record, not having government-issue ID or legal immigration status, mental health issues, criminal history, active criminal warrants, and partners not in active recovery.

Many people who attend Tierra Nueva are all too familiar with high-barrier systems, such as in-patient residential and outpatient treatment programs, which some have been through numerous times. Some come who are enrolled in Skagit County's alternative sentencing program called "Drug Court."

Thankfully there are "low-barrier" shelters and other organizations that try to minimize requirements so more people can access services. "Detox" is technically "low-barrier," except that there are often no available beds!



Churches are often viewed as some of the highest-barrier places from which people assume they'd be excluded for a myriad of other reasons-- tragically reducing its reach. We at Tierra Nueva are seeing the urgency of deliberately presenting as a "no-barrier" church; we seek to welcome vulnerable people in our community, those marked by rejection.

People usually assume they're going to be judged and outright rejected if they open-up and reveal their true lives. Their natural inclination is to avoid church altogether. Their default is to self-protect, hiding their true selves, past histories and current life situation.

People coming in off the streets need positive eye contact from people who express authentic, non-judgmental presence. Barriers that block people from access to the church must be deliberately confronted through establishing a culture of welcome to people just as they are. This means welcoming people at the door or even outside, speaking that welcome out from the front, and creating an environment of no judgement that is consistent from start to finish.

We carefully think about the language used in worship songs, teaching, prayers, and liturgy so that it can be understandable to people who may have little formal education. Often people unfamiliar with church culture will not understand Christian lingo, including talk of lions, lambs, blood, the cross. Assume that most everything needs to be explained, always without condescension, with examples that people from the streets can identify with.

Messaging about God must continually express God's unconditional, no-barrier love most visible in Jesus, which we must receive through the Holy Spirit over, and over again. And this same no-barrier love can then be embodied by the "body of Christ"—the church community itself.

This doesn't mean we promote a boundary-less, anything-goes, free-for-all space! A safe, nurturing environment must be cultivated and continually guarded, with attention given to protecting people from anything predatory.

We carefully address legalism when it arises, and work to reign in hyper-spiritual language or manifestations that can scare or alienate people as they arise. We must creatively and continually re-state the liberating message that God qualifies us and saves us by grace, even as we attempt to embody the Gospel through our practices.

No-barrier mission is easiest when we take the church to the streets, homes, fields, homeless encampments, jails, prisons, and workplaces of our communities. Jesus himself embodied God's movements towards people wherever they were: on the roads, beside the sea, in villages, homes, synagogues, public gathering places, in the company of the sinners of his time. Jesus compares himself to a shepherd who seeks after lost sheep until he finds them, placing them on his shoulders and celebrating their return with friends and neighbors.

As disciples of the Good Shepherd Jesus, we seek to do this through regular outreach on the streets, Bible studies in public parks, and visits to people in their homes. Being emissaries of a no-barrier God is a vocation that the Holy Spirit is continually renewing and inspiring, leading us outside across lines of difference, and welcoming people inside into communities of inclusion.

## Our Church Life



*Congratulations to Tom Greenbaum and Angela Spohn, who were united in marriage on July 29th, 2023. Best wishes for a loving and fun-filled future together!*

*"And now these three remain: faith, hope, and love. But the greatest of these is love."*

*1 Corinthians 13:13*



## Church Picnic

**When: Sunday, August 6th after worship!**

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!



## 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 Mannerter'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 [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

### 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 August 25th at 7:00 pm, in the Fellowship Hall for a dessert potluck. For questions, 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 will be restarting in September. Class will meet on Mondays and Wednesdays at 3:15-4:00 pm, beginning in September.

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 remaining 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.



# August 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	2 9:00 am- Bike Ministry	3 8:00 am- Men's Fellowship	4  9:00 am- First Friday Prayer Retreat 2:00 pm- Deacons meeting	5
6 10:30 am- In-Person and Livestream Worship Service  <i>Church Picnic</i>	7	8	9	10	11	12
13 10:30 am- In-Person and Livestream Worship Service  	14	15  6:30 pm- Session meeting	16 9:00 am- Bike Ministry  Taize Parking	17 8:00 am- Men's Fellowship  6:30 pm- Finance & Facilities meeting	18  3:30 pm- Mission committee	19
20 10:30 am- In-Person and Livestream Worship Service  	21	22	23	24	25  7:00 pm- Space for Grace Dessert Potluck in Fellowship Hall	26
27 10:30 am- In-Person and Livestream Worship Service  	28	29	30	31		

### Birthdays

- |                     |                    |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| 1- Gene Dykema      | 28- Kim Godshalk   |
| 2- Armond Kalesse   | 28- Maddy McCourt  |
| 3- Nancy Thurston   | 29- Libbi Hamilton |
| 4- Rod Carey        |                    |
| 8- Jennifer Lehman  |                    |
| 10- Chiara Murphy   |                    |
| 11- Maxine Carey    |                    |
| 24- Rosemary Dykema |                    |
| 26- Janet Range     |                    |

### Upcoming Events

**8-6-23** - 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

- 2- Paula & Gary Buck



COMMITTEE MEETINGS

8-15-23 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.