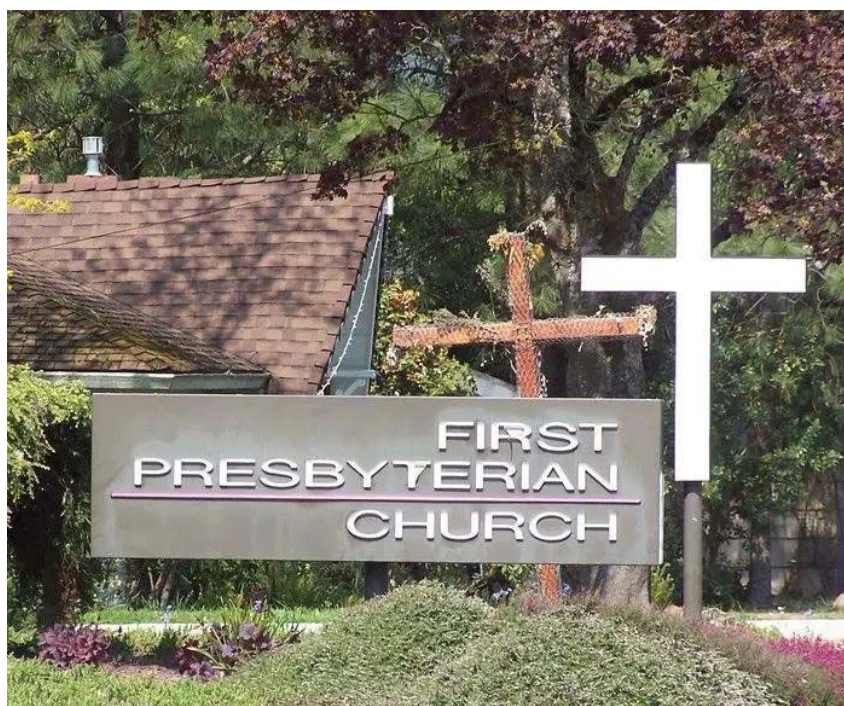


VOLUME 23
ISSUE 10
OCTOBER 2023



Newberg First Presbyterian Church

PEW NEWS



**Christ Centered Church of
Grace Hope and Love**



From the Reverend Chris Murphy—
Christ Centered Church of Grace, Hope and Love

This fall we are remembering our church's identity as a Christ centered church of grace, hope, and love. In addition, we are reflecting on our Presbyterian identity as we embody a church that cares about compassion towards all people and all of creation. Our church benefits from having people from many different denominational backgrounds. The Presbyterian Church (USA) embraces cultural, ecumenical, and gender diversity.

We also value intergenerational community, which is why we are especially grateful that this fall we have started a new youth program led by new members Joe and Emily Summers. One sign our church community is thriving is that we are emphasizing our commitment to children and youth even as we provide opportunities for all ages to feel connected to one another. In this Pew News, we will introduce you to our new youth program.

If you are looking for ways to contribute to our church community, consider participating in Adult Spiritual Formation classes at 9 AM on Sunday morning or volunteering with our Children or Youth Ministry. You may also enjoy Space for Grace Women's ministry, Men's Fellowship, Church Choir, Chair Yoga, First Friday Prayer retreats, CAYAC college group, Love Inc Bike Ministry, media support, or worship leadership. You may also be interested in helping with our Newberg Peace Garden, Mission and Global Witness team, Finance and Facilities team, Personnel team, Deacons, or Session leadership. We welcome you to bring your gifts and experience to support the mission of our church.

Our goal is that everyone finds a place for community and mission. If you have other creative ideas on how to build community or engage in service, please let us know. This Fall season we especially welcome all who are new to our church community. We are so glad you are here! We commit ourselves to being a community that fosters peace and unity in our town as we seek to shine the light of Christ.

For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. We all have a job, a purpose, a place of belonging.

ROMANS 12: 4-5



Stewardship Season Is Here

October is Stewardship season! Letters will be sent out during this month, including pledge cards. Generosity Sunday is November 5th, when we will receive our pledge cards. Please be in thoughtful prayer as you consider the giving of your time, talent, and treasure. We are grateful, and give God thanks, for our generous congregation!



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 be in prayer for Dick Patten and family, as Dick's brother has passed away. We ask God to send his grace and comfort to the Patten family as they mourn.



As we consider the Peace and Global Witness Special Offering this month, please be in prayer for all of the areas of the world where there is no peace. May our offering of prayer and money further God's work in those areas and strengthen those who work faithfully to bring God's peace where it is so desperately needed.



Session Meeting September 12, 2023

*Summary respectfully submitted
by Kim Godshalk, Session Clerk
& Pastor Chris Murphy*

We welcomed as guests to our Session meeting Joe and Emily Summers, James Wen and Jen Henry. Joe, Emily, and James shared their faith journeys and were approved to become new members. They will be recognized as new members at our October 8th worship service.

Pastor Chris shared his appreciation for being installed as the permanent pastor of Newberg First Presbyterian Church on September 10th. Pastor Chris also was approved to participate in Shalom Collective, a spiritual formation group led by our mission partner Kelly Dickson. Clerk of Session Kim Godshalk highlighted her work on arranging new signers for our bank account at First Federal. She also mentioned that per capita is set at \$45.60 for 2024.

Deacons reported that Harriet Fowler's memorial service will be on Saturday, October 7th at 2 PM. Adult Spiritual Formation, Children's Ministry, and Youth group are off to a good start. Joe and Emily Summers are leading our youth ministry this year. We are thrilled for their partnership in ministry. Partnership with George Fox continues through the Sept. 13th Serve Day and through participation in the annual church fair. CAYAC, our college ministry outreach begins again on October 1st.

Finance and Facilities highlights that this year's stewardship letter will go out in October. New Covenant Church Fund paperwork was received to establish new church endowment fund. Repairs recently completed for fellowship hall bathrooms.

Session members arranged to prepare and serve communion for October World Communion Sunday.

With Gratitude,
Clerk of Session Kim Godshalk and Pastor Chris Murphy



Save the Date & Check your Space!

On December 2, Susan King will be coordinating another Vendor's Bazaar to raise funds for the Deacons' ministry. Unlike a rummage sale, vendors rent table space in the fellowship hall and sell items they have made.

Here are a few ways you can help: **1)** If you know of vendors who might be interested, you can let Susan know their contact information; **2)** You can plan to do some fun Christmas shopping on that day; and **3)** If you have items of value at home that you no longer use, you can price them and add them to the table hosted by the Deacons. Items not sold are returned to you the following Sunday.



First Responders Pie Social

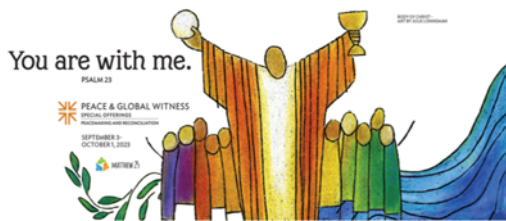


Ever since 9/11, beginning in 2002, the Deacons at Newberg First Presbyterian Church have organized a pie social for First Responders in Newberg and Dundee. The fire departments and police stations are invited. The Deacons have asked folks from our church to donate pies, either homemade or ones purchased from stores. Then the Deacons have set up the Fellowship Hall with beverages, etc. for the event. Folks from our church come too and join in and visit while we eat pie together. The event has been held on a Saturday evening closest to Sept. 11th.

The Pie Social wasn't held during Covid, but as soon as the Deacons felt comfortable delivering pies to the Fire and Police Departments, they took two pies to each location. Then last year, 2022, the Deacons held the First Responders Pie Social once again!

Unfortunately, this year 2023, somehow, they forgot to hold the annual pie social. They think it likely slipped their minds because of their focus on Sunday, September 10th when Pastor Chris Murphy was Installed as our church's permanent pastor. So, at the Deacon's meeting on Wednesday, September 13th, we discussed the fact that we'd overlooked the First Responder's Pie Social and decided to pick up and deliver pies the following Sunday, Sept. 17. So, one Deacon bought 8 pies then another Deacon met her, and they delivered two large pies to each location that Sunday afternoon. The first responders were surprised and pleased! The Deacons apologized for forgetting 9/11, explaining our pastor's installation and promised we'd hold the pie social next year.

Paula Buck, Deacon Chair



PEACE &
GLOBAL WITNESS
"God Spreads a Table
of Peace Before Us"
October 1, 2023

On Sunday, October 1st, we will be Celebrating World Communion Sunday, and upon that occasion we will be receiving a Special Offering, designated by the Presbyterian Church (USA) as the Peace and Global Witness Offering. We are invited to retain 25% for Peacemaking close to home. Once again, we will use our offering locally – specifics to come later. The remainder of your gifts are sent on for Peace and Global Witness Programs of our Presbytery and General Assembly.

We, who enjoy so much peace in our lives compared with much of the rest of the world, have the opportunity, with this offering, to share some of our good fortune to help calm troubled peoples around the world. You may use the designated envelopes for this Offering in the pews as the first Sunday of October approaches – but, of course, any Sunday surrounding the first Sunday is just fine!

Thank You for your generosity!!

~The Mission and Global Witness Committee

May the Lord bless his people with peace! Psalm 29: 11



News from mission partner Caroline Kurtz!



Ato Markos reported from rural Maji District this week. At the end of May, work actually began, and this week the crew unspooled pipe and ran it down the hillside to waiting communities. Markos texted, “The people cheered with joy!”

I’m going to give you a photo-rich report of the wonderful and shocking progress that the construction crew, led by Ato Markos (MDC Program Manager) and Wzt Helen (District Water Engineer), accomplished in the last three months. But first, let me say that this only happened because Ato Markos pushed and pushed thanklessly behind the scenes for two years, without any real evidence of progress. Finally, in late May the blockages broke.

Let me also add that the last time I talked with Ato Markos he asked me to give his own special thanks to the individuals and churches that made this project possible. He is deeply grateful for the chance he has had, through your generosity and prayers, to change the lives of his people. They have been climbing the steep hillsides and carrying home water for generations. Now we have brought the water to them. Priceless!



Getting a washed-out bridge replaced in a poor, rural corner of Ethiopia took all of Ato Markos’s skill, credibility, and persistence. When it got done, finally, trucks could carry supplies to the construction site!



The Maji District officials arranged for other road repair as well, but heavy rains were sometimes too much on a road that was graded, but not graveled.



The spring was bubbling up at the base of this ancient tree. The tree, the soil and the water are all part of the hydraulic environment of this spring. Community members helped trim back one piece of root.



This is the spring! It hardly looks like a spring, but our Ethiopian water engineers, Ato Feteheign and Wzt Helen promised it could supply water for 2000 people!



A protected spring is like a sculpture! The “steps” direct the water, bubbling up in a wide area, to a center where it will spill out clean, through the pipes.

Our Church Life



The first night of Youth Group!



From our new Youth Group leaders:

Fall is here and with that, the beginning of a new school year. Over the course of the Summer, we've been on a journey with Jesus. Pilgrimages take us from place to place and they ask us to embrace new and unexpected opportunities. It is exciting to see what God does in our lives as we follow these paths faithfully. In the past, Emily and I had served in student ministry before moving to Newberg and finding our way to FPC.

We began attending FPC in February and fell in love with this community of God, filled with grace, hope, and love. Seeing this church embrace each other in unity with so many faith journeys represented by its members truly inspires us. After getting to know several of you, we decided to make FPC our church home.

Over the next few months, Pastor Chris had begun meeting with us and dreaming up what student ministry could look like at FPC. Being able to share some of the wins and challenges of our previous time in student ministry, we felt God nudging us towards working with students again. Prayerfully and with much encouragement, we held our first youth group gathering on September 17th.

For our first gathering, we enjoyed games, conversation, snacks and sharing our stories. It was great to get to know each other and start thinking about what God has in store for this year. Our hope is to provide a space for them to wonder, ask questions, and grow in their love for Jesus.

It is often said that youth are the future. However, I believe that we might be missing out on the reality that they are just as much the present. Students are a powerful group of individuals that have so much to offer us. Often, they just need trust, encouragement, and time to grow to reach their greatest potential.

I would encourage each of us to be thinking and praying about how we can find ways to incorporate students into our present just as much as preparing them for the future! That being said, there will be plenty of ways that we could use your help in serving our students. If you're interested in that, let's talk!

Joe and Emily Summers



Celebrating GFU Serve Day

**Thank you, George
Fox students!**

*So much work accomplished on
the Peace Garden! What a
great crew!*





Our Church Community: Get Involved!



Adult Spiritual Formation class is held every Sunday morning at 9:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. This year Adult Education is led by the dynamic team of Mary Kalesse and Mindi Hynes.

Come gather with us as we learn together, sharing life and building relationships, while we discuss life from a spiritual perspective. It's a great way to deepen your spiritual journey...and make some great friends!



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 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. Our choir sings two times a month but practices every Wednesday evening at 7:00 pm.

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!



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CAYAC
(College and Young Adult Community)

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 know any college students or other young adults who would be interested in participating in this amazing group. CAYAC meets on the first Sunday of each month from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm.



We are excited to begin our new youth ministry this fall! Led by our new youth ministers, Joe & Emily Summers, Youth Group meets every Sunday evening, from 6:00 to 8:00 pm, at the church. Our youth ministry is open to ages 11 to 18. Come join us!



Space 4 Grace

Space 4 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!



Chair Yoga

Chair Yoga

Chair Yoga class meets weekly on Mondays and Wednesdays from 3:30-4:15 pm.

If you are interested in joining this restorative class, you can contact Lory Albright at 971-226-8407, or email her at lorylyn808@gmail.com.

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.




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.

October 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1  10:30 am- In-Person and Livestream Worship Service 6:00 pm- Youth Group 6:00 pm- CAYAC	2 3:15 pm- Chair Yoga	3	4 9:00 am- Bike Ministry 7:00 pm- Choir Practice	5 8:00 am- Men's Fellowship	 6 9:00 am- First Friday Prayer Retreat	7 2:00 pm- Memorial for Harriet Fowler
8  10:30 am- In-Person and Livestream Worship Service 6:00 pm- Youth Group	9 3:15 pm- Chair Yoga	10 6:30 pm- Session meeting	11 10:00 am- Deacon's meeting 7:00 pm- Choir Practice	12	13 11:00 am- Space 4 Grace Women's Fellowship	14
15  10:30 am- In-Person and Livestream Worship Service 6:00 pm- Youth Group	16 3:15 pm- Chair Yoga	17	18 9:00 am- Bike Ministry 7:00 pm- Choir Practice	19 8:00 am- Men's Fellowship 6:30 pm- Finance & Facilities meeting	20 3:30 pm- Mission committee meets	21
22  10:30 am- In-Person and Livestream Worship Service 6:00 pm- Youth Group	23 3:15 pm- Chair Yoga	24	25 7:00 pm- Choir Practice	26	27 11:00 am- Space 4 Grace Women's Fellowship	28
29  10:30 am- In-Person and Livestream Worship Service 6:00 pm- Youth Group	30 3:15 pm- Chair Yoga	31 		Adult Education class meets each Sunday at 9:00 in the Fellowship Hall. Children's Worship happens each Sunday morning. Children will leave Worship right before the sermon and join their teacher for fun and learning!		

Birthdays

4- Corinne Waterbury
 6- Olivia Beresky
 7- Carol Swehla
 10- Shirley Kolb
 16- Margie LeMaster
 16- Anthony Stevens
 18- Roberta Simonsen
 20- Marc Mannerter
 22- Chris Sarnacki

Anniversaries

24- Joyce & Ron Meyersick
 29- Mary & Armond Kalesse



Upcoming Events

10-1-23 - Our Blessing of the Animals service will be held at 1:00 pm. Please gather on the side lawn with your pets, for a simple service complete with blessings.

10-8-23 - Recognition of new members. We will welcome our new members during worship. Please join us as we recognize, celebrate and pray for them at this special time.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

10-10-23 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



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GRACE. HOPE. LOVE.