

# Your NFC

MAY 30, 2014

A WEEKLY  
NEWSLETTER FOR  
THE PEOPLE OF THE  
NEWBERG  
FRIENDS CHURCH  
COMMUNITY



Steve



Gregg



Michelle



Elizabeth

## PASTOR QUARTERLY REPORTS

*For this round, four of our pastors offer a general update on their area of ministry.*

— **Steve Fawver, spiritual health and care**

When I reflect on this past year, one of the highlights has been the chance to meet with other couples once a month for 3M. “Monthly Marriage Maintenance” is a Monday evening set aside for any married couple to stop and give intentional energy to nurture their relationship with one another. It has been a joy for Diane and me to have time together to be attentive to what Christ is doing in our marriage—and to do this alongside other couples who are being attentive to *their* marriages. Although my analogy may seem a bit mechanical, I have begun to view this as a time when we pull our car into the garage to have the brakes checked, the tire pressure leveled, and the battery connections tightened. Normal-life wear-and-tear often seems to challenge our relationship. We want to be healthy, communicate clearly, and support one another but sometimes find this difficult to do. Our brakes get squeaky, tires pick up nails from the road, and the wiper blades need to be replaced so that our vision can be clear. 3M has given us a place to intentionally seek God’s presence and power together with others. Thank you, Michelle Akins, for your gracious work in this area; Gary and Carol Hankins, for serving on the pit crew; and for the many other couples who take time to come alongside one another on the journey. Not everyone can make it on Mondays, but I hope you will find ways to pull off to the side of the road to nurture your relationship. Although we will not be meeting this summer, we hope to open the garage once again and invite you to stop by—it might be time to get that brake light checked!

— **Michelle Akins, children and family ministries**

### The Predictability of Change

It’s that time of year again—when everything that has structured my days and weeks for 8 or 9 months comes to an end. Depending on the moment, I swing from dread to delight. For example, I have volunteered at Busy Bees this year, and it’s been a highlight of my week. Interacting with preschoolers is a balm for my soul. The children amaze me with their sweetness, sensitivity, and silliness. So I’m bummed that this past Monday marked my last weekly block of time sharing the experience with “Mrs. Staples and Ms. Sandra.” And yet—that phrase, “block of time,” is exactly why I’m grateful that Busy Bees is over. As things move off the calendar a new season approaches, allowing for fresh blocks of time to work on projects and with people in ways that can’t be done during the fullness of the school year. I’m mourning one minute and doing a happy dance the next. Ready

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to release and embrace all at the same time. It can be a bit of an emotional roller coaster. Are you feeling it too? Regular, scheduled, connections with people are what I miss most and eagerly anticipate in this season of change. While I let go of WBF, WBFpm, and 3M for a season, I find joy in seeing how God will shape VBS, our trip to Rwanda with the NFC team, and summer Sunday school. Thank you, NFC, for being a place we can experience the full breadth of emotions and find love, support, and understanding.

— **Gregg Koskela, lead pastor**

I'm grateful to serve as pastor here at Newberg Friends. I took some vacation time to pick up our daughter and her stuff from college, then to travel with other pastors on a trip to Guatemala to see Compassion International's work there. Both of those experiences gave me time to reflect on things I am grateful for at NFC.

I'm grateful for Mauri Macy's good ministry. I'm grateful for our entire staff and the ways they go the extra mile (even though many will never see what they do). I'm grateful for newer people to our church who say they love the openness and vulnerability and shared responsibility they see at NFC. I'm grateful for decades of faithful financial giving.

In between those times of vacation, there has been plenty to do: finalizing our budget for the new fiscal year, which begins July 1; working with the search committee and the elders on the plan for Nolan Staples as our interim pastor of worship ministries; wrapping up 5 o'clock gathering until fall; and walking with some people through difficult life circumstances. One beautiful thing is the way God is moving in my own mind and heart to solidify some important things. I'm learning to trust God more—which leads me to be more honest. I'm learning to let go of fear—which helps me listen more than speak and fix.

As we look ahead, I think we will find a pivotal year in the life of our church. We can look at it anxiously: "How will things be different with Mauri's transition? Do we have the resources to do the ministry God is calling us to do? What will happen if these difficult Yearly Meeting conversations about human sexuality don't go the way I think they should?" Or we can look ahead with eyes of trust: "God has been faithful to lead this church for almost 136 years of change—what does God have next?"

I'm asking God for the strength to choose the latter!

— **Elizabeth Sherwood, administrative pastor**

### **A Busy Season ...**

There are many good things happening around NFC these days — and some are very obvious:

- The progress on the lift is coming along beautifully, and we look forward to the day we can begin using it. We deeply appreciate Arnie Mitchell, Dan Ritter, Brent Montgomery, and Rick Acevedo for moving this project along. The goal was to raise \$40,000, and to date we have received \$26,000 in gifts. Thank you to the many folks who have generously given.
- Sidewalks are being repaired or replaced. The north walk outside of Friends Center is almost complete, thanks to VOW (Volunteers on Wheels) and our building management team. This summer the youth house and office sidewalks will be redone.
- The cemetery looks great! Sexton Mark Thompson and the cemetery volunteers have done a remarkable job of caring for the grounds and ministering to the many folks who are connected to the cemetery.
- The church flowerbeds are thriving. Carol Sherwood has pulled together a team of folks to weed, mulch, and landscape. Each bed has been "claimed" by an individual who will maintain it throughout the summer.

Other good things in our community that are not so obvious:

- Teams of folks give their evenings to meet with the committees on which they agreed to serve. In the last several weeks the elders, stewards, trustees, cemetery, and nominating committees met to lean into the work before them.
- Our Yearly Meeting Representatives and our presiding clerk, Phil Smith, met to prayerfully lead eight small discussion groups on the topic of human sexuality.
- The search committee for the worship pastor position gave numerous hours to the discernment process as they listened to God's leading for NFC during this time of transition.

With gratefulness I celebrate the many ways people minister in our community.



## YOU ARE INVITED

to a wedding reception  
to celebrate the marriage of  
Frank and Janelle Engle  
June 14, 2014, from 1 to 3 p.m.  
Friendsview Retirement Community  
1301 Fulton Street, Newberg

Frank Engle and Janelle Thayer will be married  
tomorrow, May 31, 2014, in Spokane, Washington.

## HEAVEN'S GAIN

**John Coleman** died on May 25, 2014, at age 70. He had been a member of NFC since 1980. Family members at NFC include his wife, **Donna**, and **Marvin and Linda Walker**, Donna's sister. A memorial service for John will be held on Monday, June 16, at 2 p.m.



**College Scholarships** for undergraduates will be available for those who consider NFC their church home and who attend Friends colleges or universities such as George Fox. Find an application at the welcome center, pick one up from the church office during the week, or download it from **this link**. Return your completed application by June 15. We ask that students reapply each year for this scholarship.

## Look who's celebrating a birthday in — June!

# 2014

- |                       |                     |                    |
|-----------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| 1 Maisee Kulpa        | Candy Johnson       | Pete Macy          |
| 2 Dorothy Farmer      | Auden Neff          | Dan Wilson         |
| 3 Caleb Graham        | 11 Roy Staples      | 22 Titus Foster    |
| Paula Hampton         | Eilene Williams     | Barbara Morse      |
| Anna Virginia Millage | 12 Chris Breithaupt | 23 Greta Brand     |
| Reid Thurston         | Haley Henry         | 24 Amy Jackson     |
| 4 Damon Sump          | Henry Shaw          | 25 Kevin Brooks    |
| 5 Roy Hiebert         | 13 Tami Ankeny      | Aaron Morland      |
| Hiller Sturdevant     | Clynton Crisman     | 26 Taylor Barr     |
| 6 Mary Barnett        | Susan Hockett       | Lisa McMinn        |
| Lia Reid              | Anna Rose Rekow     | 27 Elsie Dillow    |
| Steve Watson          | 14 Kati Voth        | Yulia Graham       |
| Kelly Zatterberg      | 15 Gelene Hutchens  | Josh Reid          |
| 7 Ellouise Chandler   | 16 Ronda Arbogast   | Ellen Warner       |
| Liz Wood              | 17 Brad Christensen | 28 Michael Fawver  |
| 8 Diana Gulley        | Hans Stoltzfus      | Colleen Holdahl    |
| 9 Olivia Budd         | 19 John Kreutz      | Leif Linvog        |
| Emily Christensen     | Mark McMinn         | Sally Woodyard     |
| Tom Payton            | Roy Staples         | 29 Aaron Engle     |
| Oliver Ragsdale       | Gary Townsend       | Paul Frankenburger |
| Vivian Thornburg      | 21 Denise Brooks    | 30 Leo Crisman     |
| 10 Tim Goodfellow     | Isaac Hampton       | Edwin España       |
| Brenda Headrick       | Jamie Johnson       | Derrol Hockett     |
|                       |                     | Adelaide Shaw      |



# Your **NFC** THIS WEEK

## SUNDAY

Sunday school for children and adults — for times and classroom information, find “Educational Opportunities” at each entrance, each “Info Center,” at the welcome center, or ask a greeter to help you.

**9am** | worship gathering

**10–10:45am** | Community Time | on the lawn or inside

**10:15–10:45am** | library staffed

**10:15–10:45am** | end-of-year children’s ministry meeting | Room 132 | connect with all children’s ministry volunteers

**10:45am** | worship gathering

**6pm** | congregational business meeting

## Monday, June 2

JOY breakfast | 8am | J’s Restaurant | for seniors 55 and older

Intercessory prayer | 9am | Barclay C

Strong For Life | 10:30am | Barclay B

VBS planning/prep Meeting 7:30pm | Barclay C | for all interested in volunteering for VBS

## Wednesday, June 4

Strong For Life | 10:30am | Barclay B

Middle school youth group | 6:30pm

## Friday, June 6

Strong For Life | 10:30am | Barclay B

## Saturday, June 7

Men’s prayer meeting | 8am | Friendsview Creekside, 2nd floor, TV room

## Plan Ahead

June 14 | wood ministry work session | 9-11:30am | Friends Cemetery on Everest Rd | contact Larry Hampton, 503-538-6508

June 16 & 18 | VBS orientation | 7pm | all volunteers must attend orientation one of these two dates

June 22 | ice cream social with Elizabeth Todd | 6pm | Hear an update on her time in the Middle East. Relax, eat some ice cream, enjoy community, and celebrate our friend.

June 23-27 | vacation Bible school

**Newberg Friends Church**  
a GROWING community  
LISTENING to Christ  
CHANGING in the Spirit  
LIVING OUT love

## PASTORAL TEAM

### Michelle Akins

pastor, children and family ministries  
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### Steve Fawver

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### Mauri Macy

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### Eric Muhr

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### Elizabeth Sherwood

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## SUPPORT STAFF

### Cindy Johnson

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### Denise Lyman

bookkeeper/receptionist  
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### Sherry Macy

admin assist / communications  
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### Arnie Mitchell

buildings manager  
arnie@newbergfriends.org

### Dan Ritter

buildings manager  
dan@newbergfriends.org

### Mark Thompson

cemetery sexton  
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## NFC’s Calendar on the Web!



The owner of the office building on the NE corner of 3rd and College has asked us to no longer park in his lot on Sunday mornings. Please help us to be neighborly by honoring his request.

Your NFC will take a brief vacation next Friday. Back again on June 13!



Sunday morning children's ministries really needs some help for June. We are short many of our regular volunteers. Now is a great time for new volunteers to begin. Help for summer ministries is also wide open as our regular teachers take a summer break. Please have potential volunteers contact Michelle. [michelle@newbergfriends.org](mailto:michelle@newbergfriends.org)



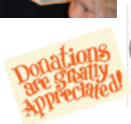
June 1

6 p.m.

Please mark your calendar and plan to attend!



**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**  
**June 23-27**  
**9-11:30 a.m.**



**Busy Bees Playroom**



## CELEBRATING GOD'S AMAZING GRACE TOGETHER

VBS at Newberg Friends is offered for children age 4 through 5th grade. We partner with Newberg Foursquare Church to create a worshipful, meaningful, and FUN program that is free to the whole community. Register your children online today. **Online registration closes June 16.** Each year VBS chooses a local and global mission to support. At Gangway to Galilee we'll be giving all donations to Busy Bees Playroom in Newberg and to the VBS program provided by the NFC Rwanda 2014 team this summer at Camp Kumbya on the shores of Lake Kivu. Busy Bees offers a free preschool experience led by Miriam Staples to children in Newberg whose families qualify. Kumbya provides refreshment and fellowship for missionary families from all over the world serving in Rwanda.

VBS also takes dozens of volunteers. To register your children and/or as a volunteer:

**[CLICK HERE](#)**

We're just about a month away from vacation Bible school at Newberg Friends Church. I'd appreciate your help as we transition from paper registration forms to online registration. **Please register your child(ren) today.** Online registration closes June 16.

**This is also the site** where you can register yourself as a volunteer. We need dozens of volunteers to make VBS a safe, fun, and loving place for our children and the expected 250 kids who will attend from all over the community. This is once again a fantastic opportunity for us to work in partnership with folks from Newberg Foursquare.

We are looking for recreation leaders, group leaders (adults and youth who accompany children from station to station), and a registration team. *We welcome all volunteers age 11 and older.* If you have questions or want details about any of the VBS volunteer positions, please attend the VBS informational meeting on **Monday, June 2, at 7:30 p.m. in Barclay C** (in the NFC office building) or contact me directly at any time. All VBS volunteers are required to come to one of the following orientation meetings: June 16 or June 18 from 7 to 8 p.m. in the Newberg Friends social hall.

Thank you,  
Michelle Akins • 503-539-5041 (cell)

**We especially need group leaders (youth age 11 and older and adults) to lead groups of children around to the different VBS stations.**