

# Your NFC

AUGUST 1, 2014

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

## FROM ME TO YOU

by Michelle Akins  
*children and family ministries*

It's a tricky thing, trying to write about how I assume I'll feel a month from now—but I have a hint. You see, the deadline for this article happens to be the day we'll be meeting our Compassion-sponsored child Nshimiyimana Theogene in Rwanda. Having met our two other Compassion children in person, I know with certainty that we're in for a transforming, heart-opening, "does someone have a Kleenex?" experience. So I sit here at my desk and daydream about what it's going



to be like to see my 13-year-old daughter, Jolee, spend a day with the boy, who up until July 28, 2014, has been mostly known by a picture on the fridge. Of course she writes him letters, eagerly reads his replies, and includes him now and then in our bedtime prayers. But after July 28, all of those actions will change and have new meaning for Jolee and the rest of our family in significant ways. Right now we know Nshimiyimana Theogene is 14, loves his cow, and asks us to pray for his family. On the evening of July 28, as we take public transportation from Butare to Kigali, I imagine myself reflecting on how humbling and beautiful it was to pray with him in person. We will have made memories together.

I can't wait to hear his voice, see the cow he lovingly cares for, visit his church/Compassion program, and spend time in his home. Most important, I look forward to knowing how to pronounce his name! Even though our family has sponsored Nshimiyimana Theogene since 2011, we've never known what to call him. Some people wonder if a trip across continents and a very large ocean is worth it. With tears puddling up as I write, I can say with certainty—Yes! On July 28, I want to look this precious Rwandan boy in the eyes and, with the help of a translator, speak words of love, value, worth, and hope. This is not because I claim to have all the right words, the wisdom, and the most meaningful prayer. I'm not a rich white American who thinks I can "save" an African youth with a one-day visit and a duffle bag full of gifts. For me, it's a belief that God has created me to be loved and to share that love. And I want to say his name correctly.

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Your  
NFC

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I believe it's no different here. We want to be in relationship with people. We desire to know others and to be known. (Good job, George Fox, on nailing that slogan!) One of my favorite things about Newberg Friends Church is the opportunities this congregation creates to share our stories. These stories inspire us to try new things, cause us to reevaluate our beliefs, strengthen our faith, weep with those who weep, and deepen our joy. With intentionality and a little persistence we become more than names in the directory or a photo in *Your NFC* to one another. We become friends.



# BENEFIT CONCERT

to support the

# PEACE PROJECT

ON THE NORTH VALLEY FRIENDS TRAIL

Aug 3 @ 6:30 pm

1111 N. College Street

PARKING IN THE 1ST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH PARKING LOT NEXT DOOR



music by *Bill Jelliff*

**ADMISSION:** CASH DONATION TO THE PEACE PROJECT

refreshments available

More info on the Peace Project is available at [peaceproject.northvalleyfriends.org](http://peaceproject.northvalleyfriends.org)

## An Invitation

Grady and Holly Nace, new missionary pilots with Mission Aviation Fellowship, are headed to Mozambique in Southeastern Africa. They will be flying national pastors, missionaries, Bible translators, and doctors in order to further the Lord's work. Grady, who is the nephew of Dennis and Eva Headrick, will also be working as an aviation mechanic. Besides their roles in aviation and raising their son, Diego, they look forward to being involved in the local body of believers and active in the community. Come to the social hall this Sunday, August 3, at 9 a.m. to hear Grady and Holly share about their ministry.



# Your **NFC** THIS WEEK

## READ AHEAD FOR AUGUST 3

**Matthew 5:21-25**

linked to [biblestudytools.com](http://biblestudytools.com)

### SUNDAY

Summer Sunday school for children! Nursery care provided during 9am and 10:45am services. Pre-K (Rm 124) and K-5th grade (Rm 121) large-group Sunday school class provided at 9am only. Regular schedule for middle/high school and adult Sunday school. See an usher or greeter for specific class information.

**9am** | worship gathering

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

**10:15-10:45am** | library staffed

**10:45am** | worship gathering

### Monday, August 4

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

Intercessory prayer | 9am | Barclay C

Strong For Life | 10:30am | Barclay B

### Wednesday, August 6

Strong For Life | 10:30am | Barclay B

### Friday, August 8

Strong For Life | 10:30am | Barclay B

### Saturday, August 9

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

### Sunday, August 10

Read ahead: Matthew 5:27-32

### Plan Ahead

August 14 | WBF steering team meeting | 9am | Barclay C

August 25 | children's ministry orientation 7pm | Room 132 | for parents, grandparents, volunteers, all NFC attenders | review of procedures and policies in place for the safety of our children and volunteers; discuss the importance of children; celebrate the opportunity to serve and worship with children | alternate opportunity September 4 at 10am

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

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## NFC's Calendar on the Web!

NFC website = 24/7 availability to NFC-related information:  
newsletters, calendar, contact, blog, and more.  
Click the image for instant access!

