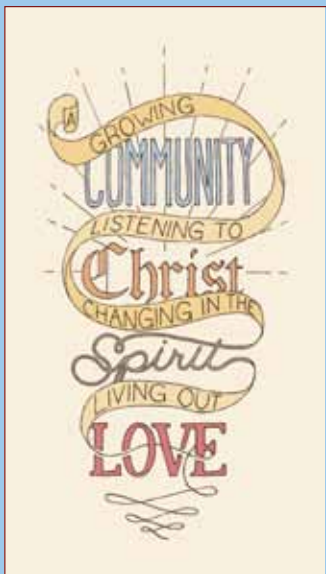


# Your NFC

a weekly newsletter for the  
people of the  
Newberg Friends Church  
community

December 19, 2014



## All in a Day's Life

by Luke Neff

I grew up in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, which makes being Quaker quite difficult.

Have you heard about the study where researchers found that if you're holding a warm mug, you have more positive feelings about the people you meet? And if you're holding a cold cup, then

you have more negative feelings? My childhood was like that. But instead of a cold cup, there was a smell, a vile, invasive smell, a stench even.

Where I grew up, the east side of Cedar Rapids, not infrequently—not frequently either, but much more frequently than we would like—the wind would blow in from the west. And it brought with it a stench that was awful, absolutely awful. And I blamed the Quakers.

Here's why: Cedar Rapids was the home of the Quaker Oats Factory, the largest cereal factory in the world. At least that's what the postcards said. (And Wikipedia confirms this, as much as Wikipedia can confirm anything.)

While some—a rare few who likely took up this position in an attempt to put a positive spin on the gritty facts of life—would claim that the factory smelled of delicious Crunch Berries, I was not and

could not be one of those people. For me, it was burnt, rotten corn, and it was nauseating. And the factory said QUAKER, right there on top, in big red letters.

The most basic, simple fact of my childhood: Quaker = bad smells.

The Quaker Oats

Factory was the total opposite of the Wonka Chocolate Factory. I didn't imagine Oompa Loompas and chocolate rivers inside this factory. Instead, the smells made me imagine bubbling vats of blotchy, partially-congealed, liquid corn ooze that would sporadically fizzle and burst into hazy, malodorous cloudlets that would then slowly waft over the interstate, over neighborhoods, and into my backyard, forcing me indoors.

Now that I think about it, this probably has something to do with why I grew up to love reading and playing on the computer. I didn't want to be outside inhaling that Quaker smell.



I do love reading and computers. And these loves have served me well. My former job, English teacher, involved reading great books with students and encouraging their reading, and my current job—"instructional technology coordinator"—blends technology and education. So in both work and play, I find myself at the intersection of books and computers.

The bad smells of my childhood have somehow led to the highlights of my adulthood.

This all reminds me of a favorite line in a favorite book. A character describes his own mental condition—and it really does seem to be something of a mental condition; the other characters think he's crazy because he's so happy: "...if I'm anything by a clinical name, I'm a kind of paranoiac in reverse. I suspect people of plotting to make me happy."

He's a "paranoiac in reverse," so he's someone who is paranoid, obsessed, looking over his shoulder constantly. But it's *in reverse*, so instead of being worried that someone or something is out to get him, he's paranoid that someone is sneakily plotting to make him delightfully happy.

Perhaps, now, more than twenty years later, it is time for me to rethink my entire stance toward my childhood associations with the word *Quaker*. Maybe things happen that stink, but twenty years later, it's possible to feel deeply grateful for them. If only I was more of a paranoiac in reverse, I might have figured out sooner that a smelly factory was a key part of the plot that has landed me here in Newberg, happy amongst the Quakers.

And, for the record, you all smell very nice.



## NFC Candlelight Christmas Eve Services

**5 pm • 6:30 pm • 8 pm**



### Help us fill these food bags!

On Monday, December 29, we will be serving lunch and distributing food bags and books to students and families of Edwards Elementary

School. We are collecting the following items. If you would like to donate, please drop off food and books at the church office (look for signs) by noon on December 28. Thank you!

**cans of vegetables**  
**cans of pears**  
**cans of black beans**  
**cans of soup**  
**boxed mac and cheese**  
**homemade cookies and brownies**  
**gently used children's books**

# READ AHEAD FOR SUNDAY

Isaiah 61:1-11



## Pastoral Team

Michelle Akins

children and family ministries

Steve Fawver

spiritual health and care

Cindy Johnson

seniors ministries

Gregg Koskela

lead pastor

Eric Muhr

youth ministries

Elizabeth Sherwood

administration

Nolan Staples

worship ministries

## Support Staff

Denise Lyman

bookkeeper/receptionist

Sherry Macy

admin assist / communications

Arnie Mitchell

buildings manager

Dan Ritter

buildings manager

Mark Thompson

cemetery sexton



Newberg Friends Church  
307 S College Street  
P.O. Box 487 (mailing)  
Newberg, Oregon 97132  
503-538-8381

[www.newbergfriends.org](http://www.newbergfriends.org)

Please direct  
all publications items  
to Sherry Macy.

## What's Ahead

### 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

• small group to explore Nathan Foster's book | Barclay C

**10-10:45am** • Community Time | in the social hall and library

• 2015 directory photos | Room 234

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

**10:45am** | worship gathering

**11:45am** | 2015 directory photos | Room 234

**5pm** | Bible quiz practice | Youth House

**7pm** | high school volleyball open gym | Friends Center

### Monday, December 22

Intercessory prayer | 9am | Barclay C

Strong For Life | 10:30am | Barclay B

### Wednesday, December 24

Annual candlelight Christmas Eve services | 5pm/6:30pm/8pm

### Thursday, December 25

NFC office closed for Christmas holiday

### Friday, December 26

NFC office closed for Christmas holiday

### Saturday, December 27

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

### Plan Ahead

December 29 | Christmas Break Event | 2-4pm | FC gym | an afternoon of playtime, organized games, movie and popcorn for children age 3 through 5th grade

January 1 | office closed for New Year holiday

January 4 | Taize gathering | 7pm

January 5 | JOY breakfast | 8am | J's Restaurant | for seniors 55 and older

January 11 | congregational business meeting | 6pm

## Christmas Giving Tree

Remember to return your wrapped

Giving Tree gifts by

**Sunday, December 21.**

## NFC's Calendar on the Web!



## ☛ Heaven's Gain



**Aaron Engle** ended his life on December 12, 2014, at age 21, after dealing with bi-polar disorder and severe depression for a long time. He and his family have been part of our NFC community since 1997. Family members at NFC include dad and step-mom **Frank** and **Janelle Engle** and brother, **Tim Engle**. A service to celebrate Aaron's life will be held on Saturday, January 10, at 10 a.m., at Newberg Friends.



**Harold Ankeny** died on December 17, 2014, at age 89. He had been a member at NFC since 1968. Family members at NFC include his wife, **Betty**; son, **Mark (Becky) Ankeny**; grand-daughters, **Davida (Rich) Brown** and **Liz (Jesse) Dillow**; great-grandchildren **Abby** and **Bennet Brown**, **Janie** and **Elsie Dillow**; and sister-in-law **Gertrude Ankeny**. Plans for a memorial service are still being formed.

**Eclectic Christmas**  
*a Christmas concert*

Nathanael Ankeny    Nate Macy    Aaron Pruitt  
Nolan Staples ❄️    Melissa Thomas ❄️    Frank Verhoorn

**Saturday, December 20 • 7 p.m.**  
**Newberg Friends Church**

\$10 suggested donation



Copies of the January/February/ March 2015 issue of *Fruit of the Vine* are now available at the welcome center and church office. This issue features NFC writer Phil Smith.

**\$4.75**



## Final Photo Op for the 2015 Directory

**Sunday,  
December 21  
10 a.m. & 11:45 a.m.  
Room 234**

(and January 4 for  
Friendsview residents)

**Friends, not only do we need updated photos for our directory, we need your updated contact information.**

**Please take a minute  
(there's no time like the present)  
to**

**CLICK THIS LINK**

**and update your info for the 2015 directory. Even if you don't use the directory, others in your community like to know how to reach you.**

**NOTE: only one representative per household need to do this.**



Dear Parents, Godly Play Students, and Potential Volunteers,

**Beginning December 21 Godly Play is moving downstairs to Room 134.** This classroom provides a larger space for our growing class. It even has an adjoining door to the next classroom if we need to move into even more space! We consistently have around 20 children in the class. It's a lot of Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> graders to

put in our current location. The new classroom is located directly across the hall from our Children's Care program that also happens each week during 2<sup>nd</sup> service. This should centralize pick-up time for families.

Parents and/or potential volunteers, we invite you to come sit as a "fly on the wall" and observe Godly Play during any of the Sundays in January. We'd love for you to experience first-hand what happens in this unique style of worship. When we're trying to clean up and dismiss kids on Sunday mornings, it is difficult to take enough time to share with you what happens and why it happens the way it does in Godly Play. We also know that grade-schoolers aren't always the best at sharing what happened in class. So please consider worshipping with us for a week in January.

This transition time has provided an opportunity to also communicate with you about a few things we have noticed and need as a Godly Play team. We believe the children who attend Godly Play are incredibly wise, thoughtful, energetic, insightful, and funny! They have a wide variety of skills, needs, abilities, and emotions. Since such a broad age-range attends Godly Play, interacting with the "wondering questions", art response, and ability to focus on the story varies greatly within the group.

Parents, here's where we'd love your help:

- Please read the Godly Play philosophy so you can have a better understanding of what the program is all about.
- Ask the Godly Play team questions and come sit in on a class during January.
- Help to remind your children that when they leave the sanctuary and choose to go to Godly Play they are simply choosing to worship in another space.
- Art response time should be focused on the story they have just heard/observed. This is their time to listen to God and to discern with the help of the Holy Spirit how they want to respond/work using the various materials provided.
- Air-dry clay projects can be taken home after it has had a week to dry in the classroom. Modeling clay doesn't leave the class. Students are allowed to take home all other materials as they choose.
- Our hope is to dismiss children one-by-one intentionally and lovingly just as they are invited into the classroom. Please help to create a worshipful experience for the children by waiting outside the classroom at the end of service.
- Please pray for Storytellers and Doorkeepers to arise from the congregation. This is Margene Haworth's last year as a Storyteller - she is masterful at what she does and we will miss her greatly. We've also seen a need for high-school-aged or older folks to come into this ministry as extra Doorkeepers. This role would provide guidance and assistance to the students during the story and art response time.

Thank you,  
Michelle Akins and the Godly Play Team - Irene Dunlop, Margene Haworth, Michelle Satterlee, and Barb Mann