

CHILDREN & FAMILIES

See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God. 1 John 3:1

For Your Calendar

Apr. 2	Maundy Thursday service, 7pm, NFC
Apr. 5	Easter
Apr. 20	3M, NFC Social Hall, 6:30pm
May 7	Pre-K Fun Night, Friends Center Gym, 6-7pm
May 14	K-2 Fun Night, Friends Center Gym, 6-7:30pm
May 18	3M, NFC Social Hall, 6:30pm
May 21	3:4-5 Fun Night, F Friends Center Gym, 6-8pm
June 29	VBS Begins!

Contact

Michelle Akins

Pastor, Children & Family Ministries

Work phone: 503-538-8381

Cell phone: 503-539-5041

michelle@newbergfriends.org

Newberg Friends Church

307 S College St.

Newberg, OR 97132

Mailing Address:

PO Box 487

Newberg, OR 97132

Holy Week and Busy Bees

by Michelle Akins



How will your family celebrate the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus this year? Maybe a stop in room 124 is just the right place to celebrate new life in Christ.

The Christmas season can be exhausting. Perhaps it's why Easter, just a few months later, seems to not garner so much of our attention. It's not that we love Jesus any less in March or April, but we might not outwardly celebrate Christ with the gifts, lights, decorations, and parties, we do in December. Maybe that's a good thing! However let's continue to be intentional about seeking and celebrating the miracles of our Messiah. As we remember Jesus' teachings, sacrifice, and love, we can choose to know God as our constant redeemer and friend. Let's encourage each other during holy week to find time to reflect on scripture, attend the Maundy Thursday service, bring a neighbor to church on Easter, or peek into a room for preschoolers. For Miriam Staples, building Busy Bees Playroom, a free preschool experience for families who qualify, has been a labor love and listening to Christ. It's also been a picture of heartbreak and resurrection to me during this Lenten season. Busy Bees began last year in Friends Center and was thriving there again this year until a visit from the fire marshall found it not up to current codes. Busy Bees was told to vacate immediately. A move to NFC was in the works, but foiled again by an inspection. God provided Busy Bees a temporary home at Zion Lutheran Preschool for a few weeks. With the diligent work of Elizabeth Sherwood, city building inspectors and the fire marshall deemed room 124 at NFC preschooler ready in less than a week. With a green light, Miriam went full throttle into action to create the new permanent home for Busy Bees in her current Sunday school room for 3-year-olds. The transformation is remarkable! The space is brimming with new life and God's love overflows....kinda like Easter.



Women's Bible Fellowship is beginning a new study called "Claim Your Inheritance" this month. We'll study and discuss scripture from Ephesians, Colossians, and Philippians. Study guides are only \$5. Come join us Wednesday evenings at 7pm in Barclay C or Thursday mornings at 8:45am in the Social Hall April through May.



Sunday Mornings at NFC

Sunday school for children age 2 through 5th grade provided during 1st service at 9am.

Nursery care for children up to age 2 during 1st service 9-10:15am. Nursery care for infants and children through 2 years is available during the 2nd service from 10:30 to noon in Room 243.

Godly Play is for children in kindergarten through 5th grade during the 10:45am worship service. Children are invited to attend during the service to Room 134.

Children's Care is for children ages 3 through 5 during the 10:45am service. Children are invited to attend during the service to Room 133.

Community Time is open for you to gather with your church family from 10 to 10:45am in the Social Hall or on the lawn, weather permitting.

3M: A Place to Flourish

3M is a place to intentionally nurture your marriage and help it flourish. We believe marriage is a complex relationship that grows and deepens and is most fulfilling when God is at the center. At 3M we seek to know and follow God through all we study, discuss, and strive to live out.



Each month, we offer a full family meal for a suggested donation of \$5. Gluten-free, dairy-free, or vegetarian options are prepared upon request. No prep, no clean-up...just relax and spend time in fellowship. Free childcare for infants through grade schoolers is provided after the meal. Dessert, laughter, large-group teaching, and lively discussions are frequent parts of the evening. 3M also values creating space for you and your spouse to communicate and pray one-on-one. Contact Michelle Akins or Steve Fawver to RSVP.

This year we will use Listening Life's L.I.S.T.E.N descriptions of spiritual formation as a guide to our focus on marriage and spirituality. Join us April 20 when our theme will be "Neighborly Love - Living out love in relationship with others."

Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible school is ministry done in partnership with Newberg Foursquare Church. This year's program will be Monday, June 29, though Thursday, July 2 - 9 to 11:30am. This year we're recycling, reformatting, and reenergizing a VBS program based on the Lord's Prayer we did at NFC in 2009. We'll need everything from snack helpers and recreation leaders to a registration team - and of course a whole herd of adult and youth "safari guides" to take our 4-year-olds through 5th graders around to the different stations of VBS. How will your passions and talents combine with a VBS program for 200+ kids? Contact Michelle Akins to volunteer.

