

Your NFC

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

October 2, 2015



From Me to You

by Michelle Akins
children and family ministries



Jolee and Phoenix

We bought a horse last weekend. I'm used to a five-pound dog. There is an 18-foot trailer and a 22-foot truck in my driveway. I normally drive a minivan. On September 23, Alan and I celebrated our 20th anniversary. There were days, now long ago, we wondered if we would stay married. We have two freshmen: one at Newberg High

and one at Messiah College in Pennsylvania. We need only three plates out for dinner these days. This summer we moved (after 16 years) from a corner lot in the Oak Knoll neighborhood to a nine-acre property just outside the city limits with a significantly smaller 1966 ranch home. There have been a few changes in the Akins family life these last four months. They are good. We've hit some milestones and are in the throes of a huge learning experience. While there are moments of stress, the predominate feeling I've had through it all is peace. God has been faithful, alive, and active in our girls, in our choices, and in some amazing outcomes. The ride is mysterious and incredibly fulfilling.

At age 43, I continue to learn more and more about grace, what it means to love people just as they are, to release judgment, and to value relationship. I am no longer a slave to fear. However, I would be lying to say I keep



celebrating 20 years with a trip to Seaside

it together in the moments where I disappoint others and/or myself. I'm grateful to be up to my eyeballs in a community where there are people I love who will explore with me what it means to follow Jesus, to invite transformation, and live it out.

continued



in Brynn's dorm at Messiah College

My 35 hours at NFC each week are full of varied types of interactions and responsibilities. They continue to challenge and inspire me. I consider it all worship—from teaching 1st/2nd Sunday school to sharing my heart and administrative skills at Women's Bible Fellowship (a.m.



birthday cheesecake in my cozy kitchen

and p.m.). The old perfectionist in me longs for the day I will know how to do it all "right." I realize just as quickly how silly it is to pine for an unrealistic expectation. Meanwhile, I press on with joy and gratitude, thanking God for each day, each personal connection, and each moment to serve and be served by you.



A Sandals Sunday Class Invitation

All are welcome to attend the Sandals Sunday school on Sunday, October 4, as Taylor Swan shares "A testimony of God's work in my life through surrender and sacrifice." The Sandals class is an intergenerational group that meets in the social hall at 9 a.m. on Sunday mornings.



Bible Foundation's Annual October Bible Drive

Bibles freely go to many places, including hospitals, nursing homes, rescue missions, homeless shelters, street ministries, remote villages around the world, and more. Gather up the Bibles you're no longer using and drop them in the basket marked "Bibles" in the ramp entrance by the library.

For details, visit the Bible Foundation's website.



THE PASTORAL TEAM will be away from the office Monday through Wednesday next week. Many thanks to **Brent and Polly Peterson** for sharing their beautiful beach home for the annual team retreat.

READ AHEAD FOR SUNDAY

James 2



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



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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

9am | unprogrammed worship | Barclay C

9am | college/young adult gathering | Room 232

10-10:45am | Community Time | on the lawn, weather permitting

10:15-10:45am | library staffed

10:30am | Agape Sunday school class | Barclay B

10:45am | worship gathering

1:30pm | Bible Quiz Practice | FC Room 100

6pm | Taize gathering | NFC sanctuary

Monday, October 5

JOY breakfast | 8am | Friendsview Hess Creek dining room | \$4
| for seniors 55 and older

Intercessory prayer | 9am | Barclay C

Pastoral team retreat | NFC office closed

Strong For Life | 10:30am | Barclay B

Tuesday, October 6

Pastoral team retreat | NFC office closed

Wednesday, October 7

Pastoral team retreat | NFC office closed

Strong For Life | 10:30am | Barclay B

Middle school youth group | 6pm | Friends Center

WBFpm | 7pm | Barclay C

High school youth group | 7:30pm | Friends Center

Thursday, October 8

Women's Bible Fellowship | 8:45am | social hall

Friday, October 9

Strong For Life | 10:30am | Barclay B

Saturday, October 10

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

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

Sunday, October 11

Read ahead: James 3

Plan Ahead

October 15 | K-2 Fun Night | 6-7:30pm | FC gym | dinner, games, and stories for children K through 2nd grade

October 22 | 3:4-5 Fun Night | 6-8pm | dinner, games, and a mission presentation for children in 3rd-5th grade.

NFC's Calendar on the Web!

Newberg Friends Taize Worship Service



On the first Sunday of each month we have a Taize service in our sanctuary. Taize services, or “Taize prayer” are worship gatherings that parallel the Taize services that occur around the world on the first Friday of the month. The simple order of worship allows one to focus on Christ and communing with the Holy Spirit. The time holds to a loose format including the following elements:

- Centering songs: Simple chant-like songs sung in English, Latin, or Spanish. The prayerful lyrics are repeated a number of times to allow each participant time to enter into prayer.
- Scripture reading: Psalm and New Testament passages are read to create a meditative frame for the congregants to consider together.
- Light of Christ song: In many Taize communities a candle or an oil lamp is lit during this song to remind that even when the night is very dark, whether in the life of the individual or the life of humanity, Christ’s

love is a fire that never goes out.

- Silence: Space is allowed to enjoy Christ’s presence in quiet.
- Intercessions: Short petitions are prayed with “Kyrie Eleison” (“Lord, have mercy”) sung in between.
- Prayers of the community: A time to pray for the global community. Given that Taize services occur around the globe on the first Friday evening of the month, this is a time to consider our small part in the very large family of God.
- Time at the cross: During a simple song individuals are invited to come to the cross at the front and spend time in quiet reflection and prayer if they would like. Chairs and cushions are present for sitting or one can kneel on the stairs.
- Songs of praise: Simple chants reflecting the joy of being part of a loved and accepted family whose head is God.

Please consider joining us this Sunday evening for Taize. If you have further questions, please contact [Gregg](#) or [Elizabeth](#).



Margaret Fell Friends Women
cordially invites you to an international dessert tea
featuring *Hayley Koskela*
October 26, 2015 • 7-9 p.m.
NFC social hall

RSVP by picking up a ticket in the library between services beginning October 4 or call Janelle Nordyke at 503-550-4114.

