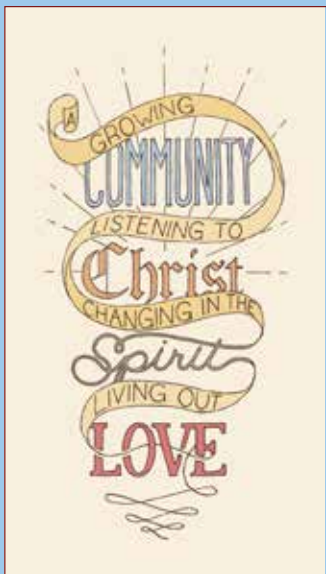


# Your NFC

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

March 4, 2016



## From Me to You

by Gregg Koskela  
lead pastor



This week I showed our staff meeting a video from 2009. We had made this video for Easter that year, asking several people from Friendsview to tell us how they had seen new life at Easter. In the seven short years since, three of those friends have gone to be with Jesus. Seeing the twinkle in Marjorie Crisman's eye, hearing Wayne Roberts' steady voice, listening to Roscoe Knight share about his time as a caretaker at the garden tomb in Jerusalem...it was a wonderful reminder of these faithful lives, ones we don't have with us here any longer, but who still shape our church. They have shaped my life, and I'm grateful for the reminder that who I am today has been influenced in part by them.

Roscoe served for years as a missionary and was well respected for his experience and wisdom. I didn't know that as a 25-year-old recent seminary grad, sitting with him on the yearly meeting's mission board. I mean, I knew he had been a missionary but didn't understand how much wisdom he carried. As I grew to learn all that he had done, I came to greatly appreciate when he would still sometimes set aside what he thought was best, trusting the young missionaries we had in place in the Bolivia he knew and loved.

So many of us knew Marjorie's amazing smile and positive, caring outlook on life. One of the last times I saw her was downstairs in the health center at Friendsview, and I remember I came right from that year's pastors conference to visit. She wouldn't let me ask her anything until I had told her about my time, until she had asked me about some of the pastors and how God had been present. And then I remembered. At my very first pastors conference in 1994, she and Marilyn Antrim had pulled Elaine and me over to their table in the dining center at Twin Rocks, just because they wanted to get to know us "newbies." They asked questions and showed their love, something she never stopped doing.

I have so many poignant memories with Wayne, but the one I'll share is when I sat with him in a tender, holy moment as he shared some of his deepest regrets. His sorrow over his choices sat hand in hand with his trust and faith in our Lord Jesus, who had forgiven him, and he taught me that honesty and vulnerability were signs of godliness.

A couple of Saturdays ago, I went to the memorial service honoring Bill Cathers' life. He lived 90 good years, teaching me a lot by his example. We sometimes had great conversations over coffee, especially in my first years of being the lead pastor at Newberg Friends. He was such a patient listener, often slowly saying "Yes...yes..." as I would speak.

cont'd

I remember him once chuckling quietly after listening to me for a while. I remember exactly what he said, although I honestly can't remember the exact context for why he said it. He chuckled, took a deep breath, looked *through* my eyes into my soul and said: "Why on earth would God ever do that?" He had seen my need for control, my expectation that God should do what I asked, my need to dictate how and when God's goodness and justice would be evident in my life. And then he went on to tell me stories from his own life of how he learned to release (or was forced to release) control to God, how he

slowly kept learning more and more ways his need to control and define were keeping God from doing the beautiful work God wanted to do.

I am grateful that we are part of a church community that spans the generations. I am grateful for what I have learned and for what I will continue to learn from those of you who are further along the journey of life than I am. May we all find ways to listen and learn, and may we also be willing to take our place in sharing from our experience what God has done in us.

## **NFC elders to host educational gatherings about homosexuality.**



Every Sunday in April, the NFC elders will host educational gatherings about homosexuality. What will happen and why should you attend? Here are some details that might help you decide.

- Our purpose is to learn more about the perspectives of evangelical Christians on the topic of homosexuality and to listen compassionately to those who may have differing viewpoints from our own.
- Meetings will be from 3 to 5 p.m. each Sunday in April. The format will include video presentations by nationally recognized speakers followed by small-group discussion. Some speakers interpret the Bible to require celibacy for those who are attracted to the same gender. Some believe the Bible allows people of the same gender to marry.
- In the first session on April 3 we will go over guidelines, briefly summarize the traditional and progressive positions, share the curriculum, watch a 30-minute video from the traditional point of view, and meet in our small groups. For the remaining sessions, participants can opt to watch the assigned video at home during the week or at 3 p.m. at church. Small groups will meet from 4 to 5 p.m. on April 10, 17, and 24.
- Pre-registration is required and can occur online or via hard copy at the back of the church. Please sign up by March 27 if you are interested in this topic and feel you can attend at least 3 of the 4 Sundays. Childcare through 5th grade will be provided.

To pre-register online, [CLICK HERE](#).



**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**

Kara Estep  
youth ministries coordinator

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  
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Newberg, Oregon 97132  
503-538-8381

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

Please direct  
all publications items  
to Sherry Macy.

**READ AHEAD FOR SUNDAY**

**John 4:1-26, 39**

**What's Ahead**

**SUNDAY**

9am | 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 | in the social hall and library

10:15-10:45am | library staffed

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

10:45am | worship gathering

6pm | Taizé gathering | NFC sanctuary

**Monday, March 7**

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

Intercessory prayer | 9am | Barclay C

Strong For Life | 10:30am | Barclay B

**Wednesday, March 9**

Strong For Life | 10:30am | Barclay B

Middle school youth group | 6:00pm | Friends Center

WBFpm | 7pm | Barclay C

Choir rehearsal | 7pm | Room 246

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

**Thursday, March 10**

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

Local/Global prayer gathering | 11:15am | Barclay C

**Friday, March 11**

Strong For Life | 10:30am | Barclay B

**Saturday, March 12**

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, March 13**

Read ahead: Acts 8:9-24

Daylight Saving Time begins

Refugee Response Committee meeting | 6pm | Barclay A

**Plan Ahead**

March 14 | Call to Prayer | 6:30pm | Room 236

March 16 | Julia Pearson WMF | 1:30pm | Friendsview Hess Creek Classroom | featuring Linda Grimms, NWYM Board of Global Outreach, recently returned from Ramallah

March 17 | Children's Ministry Cultivation | 7:30pm | Akins home (contact Michelle for location) | time to discuss issues of importance and prayer for children's ministry

March 24 | Maundy Thursday service | 7pm | NFC sanctuary

March 25 | Community Good Friday Service | noon | NFC sanctuary | a simple service focusing on the crucifixion of Jesus. A combined worship gathering with other churches in our community.

**NFC's Calendar on the Web!**

# Sabbath<sup>by</sup>the Sea – March!

Please consider taking some time to come away and be with Christ in March. A half-week session will be offered from Thursday, March 17, through Sunday, March 20, and held on the main grounds of Twin Rocks Friends Camp in Pacific Woods Lodge.

Sabbath by the Sea is spacious, restful, and open for you to be with God. Bracketed by simple morning and evening prayers, the schedule leaves you free to explore, walk on the beach, nap by a fire, read, eat scrumptious food, and spend time with Jesus.

**Visit the website** or give us a call! We will send you a brochure. The table is always set and Christ invites us to come away to listen, rest, and abide with him.

—**Steve Fawver**, pastor of spiritual health and care  
503-538-8381



## Daily schedule:

- 7:45- Pre-breakfast scripture & prayer
- 8:30- Breakfast
- 9:30- Morning gathering
- 10:15- Personal time
- 12:30- Lunch
- 1:30- Personal time
- 4:00- Optional spiritual direction
- 5:30- Dinner
- 6:45- Worship, highlights, and prayer
- 8:00- Sleep, play, relax, read...

## Leaders:

Susan and Gary Fawver  
Worship singing: Mauri Macy



**Abuse Recovery  
Ministry & Services**

**Now available in our community:  
a faith-based support group  
for women who have  
or are experiencing  
domestic violence or abuse of any kind.  
Please call 503-846-9284.**



# Celebrate Life!

*I would like to buy \_\_\_ flowering spring plant(s) in honor/memory of my loved one(s) and help decorate our sanctuary on Easter Sunday.*

In honor of \_\_\_\_\_

In memory of \_\_\_\_\_

Given by \_\_\_\_\_

Please clearly mark your check "Easter plant." Put this slip and your payment (\$7.50/plant) in an offering envelope and place it in the offering plate or take it to the church office by March 21. You may take your plant home following second service on Easter Sunday.

# BOLIVIA YCEW 2016



MARANDA PAZ  
Meridian



TODD BRAND  
Newberg - Leader



TAYLOR DECKER  
Lynwood



ERIN WILSON  
Silverton



MORGAN EVANS  
Newberg



TIM BURDICK  
North Seattle



EMILY DANFORTH  
River of Life



MAGGEE HODGDON  
North Valley



GRETA BRAND  
Newberg



MICHAEL VANCE  
Metolius



AMANDA VANCE  
Metolius



## YCEW Global -

Youth (and Young-at-heart) Challenged to Expand their Worldview - is a short-term summer mission trip for youth and adults of all ages of the Northwest Yearly Meeting of Friends.

# 2016



This year will be the first inter-generational YCEW trip, having invited more adults of all ages to participate. This summer, the YCEW-Global team will be traveling to Bolivia. The team will get to experience the culture through sightseeing, home stays, and worshipping alongside those attending Iglesia Nacional Evangelica Los Amigos (INELA). Please join the team in praying that they will be used effectively in communicating the love of Christ, for their physical, mental, and spiritual well-being of everyone, trip logistics, and their travel.

Yes, I would like to support a YCEW-Global team member:

...In prayer and financial support in the amount of:

\$15     \$25     \$50     Other, \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(A tax-deductible receipt will be sent.)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Church: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_



Make checks payable to NWYM and send to:

Youth Challenge  
200 N. Meridian Street  
Newberg, OR 97132

to Ireland

with love



# 2016 Easter Offering

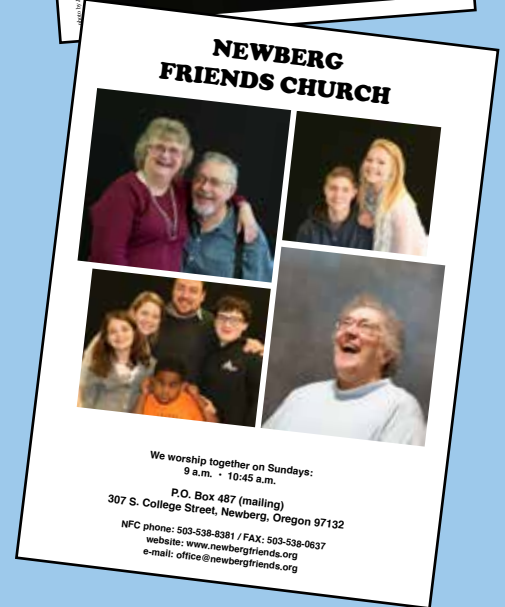
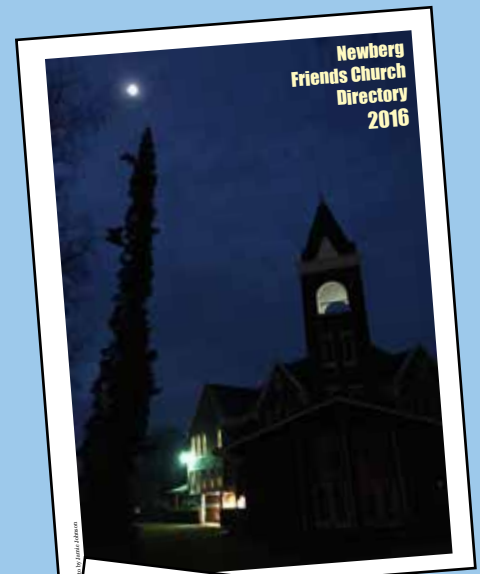
History shows that the seed of the gospel is planted deep in the soil of Ireland. Somehow that seed will begin to sprout (if it isn't doing so already).

When you give to the Easter Offering, you are spreading the love of God through EFM to Ireland. But it's not just Ireland. Rwanda, India, Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Philippines, Mexico, Ecuador, and

Muslims living in Europe and the Middle East will get in on it too! People in all these places hear the gospel, respond to it, and give their lives to follow Jesus. Their testimonies inspire and challenge us.

We eventually wind up receiving much more than we give because of their participation in the body of Christ. And it's all because God so loves the world!

**2016 directories are ready!  
One per household, please.**



## PRAYER

Seeking God with all your heart

A group will meet from 11:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. on Thursdays in Barclay C to pray for needs locally and globally? Kids are welcome at parents' discretion. Coloring supplies will be available.