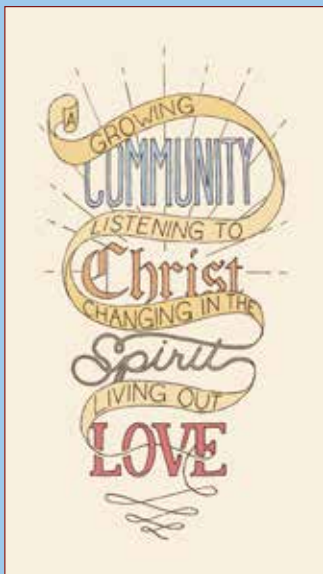


Your NFC

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

June 17, 2016



🍷 All in a Day's Life

by Holly Miele

Someone very wise once said the life with young kids meant that your days were long and the years were short. Very, very wise words indeed. For the past eight years, we have moved four times, completed three yard projects, and brought home three baby boys.



According to my calculations, that was 2,922 full days, and I remember only parts and pieces of any of them. The years have gone by so fast that when someone mentions that we have a seven-year-old, I want to correct them and instead have to remind myself it is completely true.

Two years ago (although it feels like only six months or so), we were living in Steilacoom, Washington. We had just built a home and could think through all the quirky details that make a place fantastic for us. So much time and energy went into the layout and functionality of that house, and then we launched outside into our third consecutive massive yard project. Ralph and I love these projects and took our time making everything just right so we could enjoy our time out there for years and years. I had just finished unpacking that last straggler box in the basement and we had just finished the last raised garden bed of our dreams—and just like that all those efforts and dreams were cut short when God applied the brakes hard when my husband's job moved to Hillsboro and we had to follow.

I fought this move a little bit. *Quite* a bit. I did not want to leave this place we had created from nothing and move away from the family and friends we envisioned our kids being with on a daily basis. We had plans—well-thought-out-and-prayed-about plans! Apparently God did too.

Ralph started working in Hillsboro, and we put our house on the market. The real estate in our area was just beginning to pick up so we knew it might mean waiting to sell, and it did. Looking in the Hillsboro area, both Ralph and I wanted our kids to be in Newberg schools and church community (we are both George Fox alumni). We randomly (God probably finds this word choice funny) found a house that was a decent commute to Hillsboro, but within the Newberg school district. It was magically in our budget because it was listed as a short sale. We knew it would be a heck of a project but that God was bringing us to this place. We laughed together knowing what was ahead—another yard project!

I fully confess my gardening preoccupation. Some would say *addiction*, but preoccupation seems less negative, so I will stick with that. There is something about the beauty of that natural world that makes me find true peace, even in the chaos of the boy world that crashes

around me at all times. I love seeing things grow and thrive and get so excited when we can eat food that is from our own yard. Starting something, putting roots down in a well-prepared spot, and careful tending can lead to a garden of abundance. After my small pity party of changed life plans in Washington, my eyes opened to the pure gift God gave us by moving us here.

I look back with broad brush strokes of fondness, but the day-to-day reality of all these things was hard. It was tough to tell my family we were moving away. It was tough to leave a pristinely clean, new house and begin life in a house that had been empty for two years, not winterized properly, and the winter palace for numerous vermin. We filled a construction container of trash the first week we were “moving in.” It was tough to drive through thick fog on Bald Peak Road and not feel like we were going to die coming back from the grocery store. It was tough to not miss friends and Ralph while he worked long hours at his new job. We left many pieces of our furniture up in our house to stage it and slept in sleeping bags, wondering when this new place would start feeling like home. This move was not easy, comfortable, and full of rainbows and sunshine. My kids kept asking when we were going back to the blue house, and I questioned God’s sense of humor and timeline.

The one massive, immediate improvement was finding a church we both loved, and you all received us with open arms. The first steps of getting settled

are never easy, but singing praise songs you love with a group of believers is a great way to begin the process. The message and fellowship every Sunday encouraged us to make it through the challenges and frustrations that life can bring. It also showed us we had found a place we could happily take our boys. We even felt this might have been the whole reason for the abrupt life change we had just experienced. Augie, Elijah, and Samson are three of the world’s most fantastic boys, in our unbiased opinion, and having a place where all generations show up to praise Jesus and actively live out God’s words is something we cherish. There is no perfect place, home, church, neighborhood, job, or yard on earth, but we are so grateful that God directed our paths to this community.

Being uprooted can send plants and people into shock. It can work out really well, or it can be the beginning of the end. Thankfully, we are seeing new life surging all around us. Our boys love their schools and run around our wild yard in pure freedom. We have added three cats and six hens to our family. We have friends who have needed our help. We have been helped by friends. We have relied on prayer more and more as we realize how quickly our little boys are growing up right before our eyes. With growth comes pruning, and more water and care, but the last two years have shown us that God is the most faithful provider of all our needs, especially ones we didn’t know we needed, and has replanted us in a wonderful spot.

Tilikum Trail Run • Monday, July 4

Family friendly 5K Trail Race, 5K Fun Run, One Mile Walk, and Kids Fun Run that will raise money for kids who need scholarships to attend Camp Tilikum.

Check-in at 9am; races begin at 10am

Starting at 10:30, there will be boating, swimming, and kids scavenger hunts. A BBQ lunch will be served from 11:30 until 1pm, all right on the grounds of Camp Tilikum. The path includes gravel, grass trails, and a pedestrian bridge. Jogging strollers are welcome (but pets are not).

More info and register [here](#) TODAY!





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



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Please direct
all publications items
to Sherry Macy.

READ AHEAD FOR SUNDAY

1 Samuel 16:1-13

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 | on the lawn (weather permitting)

10:15-10:45am | library staffed

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

10:45am | worship gathering

Monday, June 20

Intercessory prayer | 9am | Barclay C

Strong For Life | 10:30am | Barclay B

VBS Orientation meeting | 7pm | social hall

Wednesday, June 22

Strong For Life | 10:30am | Barclay B

VBS Orientation meeting | 7pm | social hall

Thursday, June 23

VBS Registration Team meeting | 7pm | Barclay C

Friday, June 24

Strong For Life | 10:30am | Barclay B

Saturday, June 25

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

Sunday, June 26

Read ahead: Acts 10:1-23

Newcomers Gathering | 10:15am | Prayer Room

VBS set up | 2pm

Jesus & Religious Leaders class | 5pm | social hall | Laura Schmidt Roberts (professor of Biblical & Religious Studies at Fresno Pacific University) will lead this exploration of the way Jesus comes into conflict with the religious leaders in the book of Matthew.

Plan Ahead

June 27-30 | VBS | 9-11:30am | register your children [HERE](#).

June 28 | Rwanda Update with Brad Carpenter | 7pm | sanctuary | an update on the work of Discipling for Development in Rwanda

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

July 4 | NFC office closed for Fourth of July holiday

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

July 9 | memorial service for Winona Selby | 2pm | NFC sanctuary

July 10 | Leadership Principles | 6pm | social hall | Sarah Thomas Baldwin will present key leadership principles.

July 11 | Call to Prayer | 6:30pm | Room 236

July 24-28 | Northwest Yearly Meeting Annual Sessions

NFC's Calendar on the Web!

☉ Heaven's Gain



Winona Selby died on June 13, 2016, at age 95. Family members at NFC include her daughter, **Cindy (John) Johnson**, grandson **Jamie (Erin) Johnson**, and great-grandchildren **Caid, Ethan, and Esther Johnson**. A memorial service will be held at NFC on Saturday, July 9, at 2 p.m.



Cookie Bakers!

Are you willing to bake two or three dozen cookies for break time at NWYM Annual Sessions, July 24-28? Bake *now* and let us freeze them, or bake *then* and drop them off fresh. (Bake extras for yourself.)

Willing? Please contact Angela Kantz at the yearly meeting office 503-538-9419 or akantz@nwfriends.org.



If you are a relatively new attender here at Newberg Friends, we'd like to invite you to a casual get together in the Prayer Room on Sunday, June 26, at 10:15 a.m. between services. Meet a couple of our pastors and let us help you find the next step for involvement in the life of our church!

A Sabbatical for Karen Swenson



Karen Swenson comes to Newberg this summer for six months of sabbatical rest and renewal—her first in 13 years! Don't know Karen? Here is how her student Abbie describes her: "Miss Swenson is such an amazing teacher. She has been a great encouragement to me over the past school year, as I was her student in two AP classes. She was always on task, focused, and ready to teach."

Would you consider making a contribution to her living expenses? Use the offering envelope and be sure to write Karen Swenson on the memo line.



**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.**

Mark Your Calendars!

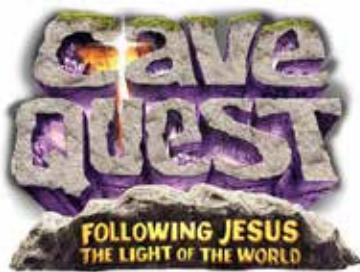
Coming up in June and July, we have the opportunity to worship with and learn from two exceptional people. With Steve Fawver on sabbatical, we originally wanted to bring in a consultant to help with long range planning. Instead, we asked in the grant proposal for funds to bring in some outstanding preachers and teachers, which then will allow Gregg Koskela to have some extra time to work on some long range planning. We are looking forward to having Laura Schmidt Roberts (faculty member at Fresno Pacific University) and Sarah Thomas Baldwin (former campus pastor at George Fox University and current Vice President for Student Development at Asbury University) preach on Sunday morning and lead a class on a Sunday evening. Plan to be there-this is an amazing opportunity!



Laura Schmidt Roberts lives in Fresno, California where she is professor of Biblical & Religious Studies at Fresno Pacific University and a member of College Community Church (Mennonite Brethren). Laura holds a PhD in Systematic Theology from the Graduate Theological Union (Berkeley, Calif.), and was blessed to be in the MDiv program at Fuller Theological Seminary (Pasadena, Calif.) with Gregg Koskela. She and her husband Mark enjoy bicycling, camping and skiing with their two daughters. She will preach in both services on June 19 and 26. On Sunday evening June 26 at 5 p.m. (previously scheduled for 6 p.m.), she will lead us through the book of Matthew, examining all of the conflicts Jesus has with the religious leaders—a discussion with implications and challenges for church leadership today.

Sarah Thomas Baldwin (with husband Clint, daughter Madi, and son Kai) were members of Newberg Friends during their years at George Fox. Sarah holds a D.Min. from George Fox University, and recently is working with both the Murdock Trust and George Fox University on leadership training. She will preach in both services on July 10, and will also lead a class on leadership principles that evening at 6 p.m.

Plan to join us for worship and also **mark your calendars for the evenings of June 26 and July 10.**



Volunteer [HERE](#).

Register your kids [HERE](#).

Preregistration deadline:
June 20

**Vacation Bible
School
Volunteer
Opportunities
and
Registration
Monday, June
27 - Thursday,
June 30, 2016 •
9-11:30am**



Duane Comfort provided a bit of silliness for the shoppers as he hosted Friendsview Retirement Community's recent "garage" sale.