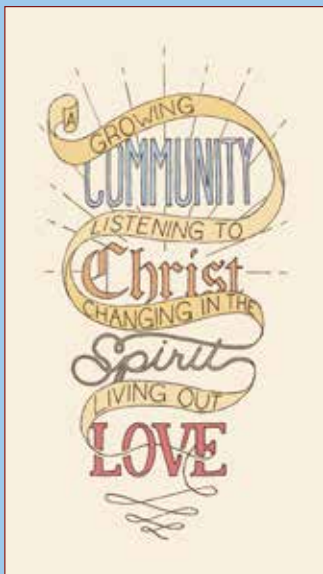


Your NFC

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

October 7, 2016



From Me to You

by Gregg Koskela
lead pastor



I want to take this opportunity to celebrate the pastors I work with, my friends who serve NFC so faithfully.

When Lecia Retter resigned as children's pastor in 2008, she told me it wasn't really her place to choose her successor but that I would be crazy to not seriously consider Michelle Akins. Michelle was already volunteering in so many ways in our children's ministry, and her passion for children was obvious. The search committee so easily came to clarity to ask Michelle to join our team, and I laugh when I think of all the things Michelle said to me then: "I'll do this, but only children, just cause I love kids, I'm not really a pastor." "I'm never going to speak in front of adults." I've watched God transform her dramatically, taking her love for people and her willingness to serve, having it lead to where we are now. She offers pastoral care to so many; speaks God's truth with conviction; oversees family ministry and women's ministry; volunteers for and encourages others to serve with Compassion International, and helps lead our church's ministry to care for marriages. She has offered her many gifts to God, even the vulnerable parts of her life, and we have all benefitted from what God has done with her offering.

Steve Fawver has faithfully served the people of this church since 1991! For many years, he led our youth ministry, and there are many from his youth groups who still are part of our community (many now with children of their own). His calling has always been to listen to Christ and to help others do the same. I am truly amazed at his integrity, the way he practices what he preaches. He takes time to listen, time to read scripture, time to journal, time for sabbath. His job description has changed several times, and that reflects his willingness to serve and to offer himself for the good of the community of Newberg Friends. Students in George Fox's Psy. D. program have benefitted from his teaching and spiritual leadership for years, and spiritual formation "gurus" from around the country know and respect Steve. I'm so grateful we have him serving here with us all the time.

When we needed to find a new pastor to seniors, I had one of those God nudges that led me to call Cindy Johnson and ask if she would be interested. I didn't know her work situation at the time, but I knew she had the skill set we needed. It turns out the timing was perfect, and she had already been thinking about it. If ever there was a person born for pastoral visitation, it is Cindy. I cannot tell you how many times people have spoken of her presence, her smile, her care...and the many times she has gone so far above and beyond by organizing

people to help “her people” move or help them work out legal and health care issues. Her servant’s heart is a true gift to our community.

I’ve said several times that Eric Muhr delivered on his interview promises better than anyone I have ever known. I vividly remember him holding his hands up, like he was carrying two big bags. “I can’t promise you I won’t make any mistakes. But I can say after years of ministry, I’ve made a whole bunch of mistakes already that I’ve learned from and will never make again.” When our committee asked him about his philosophy of youth ministry, he said he would work to see that every youth was noticed by an adult. Not necessarily by him, but that it was his responsibility to create an environment where students did not go unnoticed. I have watched him implement exactly that kind of ministry. Students trust him, and he empowers them. The relationships he builds last long after they graduate, and he remains a connecting point to church for so many young adults. Very few of you would believe how many people he is able to stay connected to in a meaningful way, and our youth ministries have grown numerically and in their depth of relationship every year for several years now. We celebrate what God does through Eric.

In 2006, I walked out to our church parking lot and asked Elizabeth Sherwood to consider applying for the brand new interim administrative pastor position. She wasn’t sure she had the right gift mix, but she was committed to serving our church, so after thinking and praying she applied. After a year in the interim role, she told me she loved it but that she wasn’t going to apply for the permanent position because she didn’t trust her ability to be a good administrator...and then changed her mind because she so wanted to be part of serving this community she had grown to love. It is not an understatement for me to say that she has faithfully taken on so many difficult things that could have sunk our budget and the church. She invested countless hours in making our cemetery financially viable. When we lost C.S. Lewis Academy as a renter, she worked diligently to find ways to have that space used and rented (and it is full of use now, even when I told her it was impossible!) She’s done thankless work

with tax codes and insurance, sidewalks and elevator permits, supervised our office staff and buildings managers and has saved huge amounts of money in our office budget while improving facilities. She has had to walk through difficult things I can’t share, brought Christ’s love to horrible situations. And then sort of “on the side,” she passionately shares Christ’s love with individuals and is one of the best preachers I know!



And finally Nolan Staples. Being responsible for music at a church is sort of like asking to be a training partner at a boxing gym...you’re expected to take punches! Not only that, but he had to follow a gifted and faithful worship pastor who had served our church for 33 years. I remember telling our elders when Mauri retired, “We just are not going to be able to find someone who can arrange music for brass, we are not going to be able to have a bell choir.” Yet here we are with someone who grew up among us, who knows our heart and our style, and who has the musical ability to learn enough about bells to lead rehearsals and who not only can arrange music for brass, but can arrange for all kinds of instruments for people at all skill levels. Nolan has exceeded our expectations at the most important thing we’ve asked of him: he’s brought many new people, including youth, into music leadership. He’s uniquely qualified to serve us as worship pastor, and I’m grateful.

Sometimes it’s easy to take for granted the people who are around you week after week. I want to ask you to celebrate these amazing people we have as pastors. Take the time to tell them thank you, and to share with them what you notice about how God is at work through them!



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
P.O. Box 487 (mailing)
Newberg, Oregon 97132
503-538-8381

www.newbergfriends.org

Please direct
all publications items
to Sherry Macy.

READ AHEAD FOR SUNDAY

[Galatians 5:19-26](#)

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

10:45am | worship gathering

1pm | Bible Quiz Practice | FC Room 100

Monday, October 10

Intercessory prayer | 9am | Barclay C

Strong For Life | 10:30am | Barclay B

Call to Prayer | 6:30pm | Room 236

Tuesday, October 11

CMC (Children's Ministry Cultivation) | 7:30pm | 14035 NE Tangen Rd, Newberg | parents, volunteers, and NFC community invited to talk and pray focused on growing and improving children's ministry

Wednesday, October 12

Strong For Life | 10:30am | Barclay B

Middle School youth group | 6pm | Friends Center

Exploring the Fruit of the Spirit | 6:45-8:30pm | Barclay A/B

WBFpm | 7pm | Barclay C

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

Thursday, October 13

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

Pre-K Fun Night | 6-7pm | FC gym | ages 3-5 yrs

Friday, October 14

Strong For Life | 10:30am | Barclay B

Saturday, October 15

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

Sunday, October 16

Read ahead: 2 Corinthians 5:17

Equipo meeting | 3pm | North Valley Friends

Plan Ahead

October 20 | K-2 Fun Night | 6-7:30pm | FC gym | dinner, games, and stories for children K through 2nd grade

October 23 | Focus on Bangladesh | Dan Cammack, director of EFM, will speak in the Agape Sunday school class | 10:30am | Barclay B

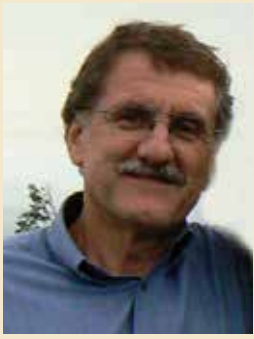
October 24 | Margaret Fell WMF | 7pm | Spaulding Oaks Community Center | featuring Karen Swenson, teacher in Budapest

October 27 | 3:4-5 Fun Night | 6-8pm | dinner, games, and a mission presentation for children in 3rd-5th grade

October 29 | all-church work morning and lunch | 8:30-11:30am

November 2 | Red Cross Blood Drive | 9am to 4pm | social hall

NFC's Calendar on the Web!



☉ Heaven's Gain

Floyd Schrock died on October 1, 2016, at age 69. He had been a member since 2011. Family members at NFC include Floyd's wife, **Mary**. A memorial service will be held *tomorrow*, October 8, at 2 p.m.



Focus on Bangladesh October 23

Dan Cammack, director of Evangelical Friends Mission, will share briefly at the beginning of each service and more thoroughly in the Agape Sunday school class at 10:30 in Barclay B. **All are welcome!**



PICKUP THE NEED Sunday, October 23

Foods FISH Needs Most

- canned foods • dry staples • chili beans
- pork & beans • oatmeal • corn • cereal
- green beans • flour • tuna
- soup • cooking oil • packaged food
- fruit • tomatoes
- macaroni & cheese • peanut butter • refried beans

Let's see how many pickups we can fill!



NFC ALL-CHURCH WORK MORNING

Saturday, October 29
8:30-11:30 a.m.
Stay for lunch!
ALL COMERS!



Some tasks to accomplish:

- **clean kitchen** • **weed flower beds**
- **grounds work at the cemetery**
- **rake leaves (bring a rake!)**
- **stack wood** • **clean classrooms**

*"God, as you fill me with your Spirit,
I invite you to grow
(joy, peace, patience...) in me."*

**Come explore the Fruit of the Spirit
with others!**

Wednesday nights
starting October 12 for 9 weeks
7:00-8:30
Barclay A (next to the NFC office)
Open to all.

Contact [Steve Fawver](#).

*"Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step
with the Spirit." (Galatians 5:25)*