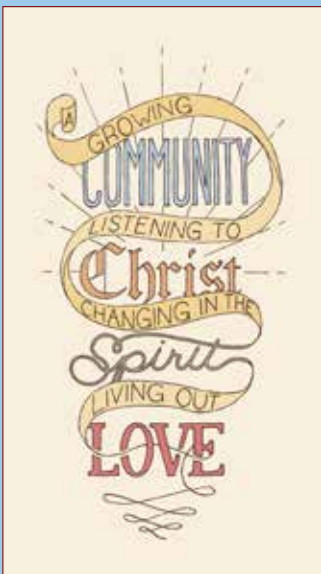


Your NFC

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

December 2, 2016



☉ All in a Day's Life

by Michelle Akins
children and family ministries



Hope, love, joy, peace – these are the themes of Advent. Those four words hold so much meaning and depth. Beautiful, powerful words that in many ways have seemed scarce in our culture lately. Yet I choose to believe hope, love, joy, and peace are not idealistic beliefs that no longer apply. They are truth. We live in a world where God's hope, love, joy, and peace sustain us today and will ultimately prevail.

It's been hard to express or share hope in such a divisive and volatile political climate. To be honest, it's been hard to find hope in our own yearly meeting, where it seems unity is short of impossible. And yet, hope does exist. I think too often my idea of hope is tied up closely with my "wishes." If I can see a clear path to getting what I want, there is hope. However, I am reminded by history, circumstance, and scripture, that hope exists even in the darkest of nights where there is no way I can envision the future.

Although these days seem to hold so much disagreement, anger, frustration, and hurt – love is still here. Love is as close as a tender one-on-one conversation, where fear is kicked to the curb and we listen with humility to the heart of another. Love lives in the sharing of a new life. Ahhh, that sweet baby smell! Love is alive as we cling to one another in grief. Love renews us through the glimpses of blue sky in a seemingly endless gray Oregon fall/winter/spring. Love is active in prayer, in spending time with God's word, in sharing how God is at work within and through us. Love is always present. Immanuel.

Joy – this one is always tricky for me, but even more so these days. How to express and live out joy when our news programs, Facebook feeds, and personal interactions these days feel overrun by tragedy and despair? If I share joy, will I be viewed as ignorant or uncaring? If I choose joy, am I running the risk of hurting others for whom joy does not seem to be a current option? In times like these I need to remember how I define joy: deep peace not dependent on circumstance. Sharing joy doesn't mean glossing over the hard stuff and railroading those in grief with platitudes. Joy comes from believing God. God loves us. God is good all the time.

I've been saying for more than a year now that I find peace at my home/property on Tangen. But during our Bible study this fall I was challenged to reconsider. Maybe what I've been seeking (and finding) out here is tranquility. Although peace and tranquility are often associated with one another, they are not the same. Peace is not an escape from reality. I love being home, but when I leave it, I want peace to come with me. Respite and tranquility are helpful and necessary, but peace goes deeper. Peace in God is not dependent on me being able to

be in the barn brushing Sequoia, curled up on the couch with my family, or standing in the pasture at sunset. What I truly desire is freedom in Christ. This season I seek peace that goes beyond the “safe” places and encourages me to trust in God’s most precious Gift wherever I am.

Since December of 1999, NFC has been my church home. You are my family. I desire for each one of you the fullness of God’s hope, love, joy, and peace. May we continue together to seek God’s heart.



ECLECTIC CHRISTMAS

West Hills Friends, Dec 16
Cherry Grove Friends, Dec 17
Chehalem Cultural Center, Dec 19
7 pm, \$10 suggested donation

Oh, Baby!



Theodore (Teddy) Edward Dillow was born on November 23, 2016, to **Jesse** and **Liz Dillow**. Teddy joins sisters **Janie** and **Elsie**. Happy grandparents are **Mark** and **Becky Ankeny**, and great-grandma **Betty Ankeny**. Congratulations!



Join us this Sunday at 7:05 pm in the social hall for a time of exploring how we can serve our local and global communities through peace and justice efforts.



Remember and honor your loved ones. Order a Christmas plant today!

Yes, I would like to help decorate our sanctuary for the Christmas season by providing _____ plant(s) (\$7.50/ea) in honor or memory of a loved one. I give it...

...in honor of _____

...in memory of _____

Given by _____

Signed _____

Please clearly mark your check “Christmas plant.” Put this slip and your payment in an offering envelope and place it in the offering plate or take it to the church office by Monday, December 5.
PLEASE NOTE: You may pick up your plant(s) following the Christmas morning worship service.



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

Isaiah 11:1-10

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

10-10:45am | Newcomer Gathering | Room 236

10am | 2017 directory photo op | Room 234

10:15-10:45am | library staffed

10:30am | Agape Sunday school class

10:45am | worship gathering

11:45am | 2017 directory photo op | Room 234

6pm | Taizé gathering | NFC sanctuary

7:05pm | Peace and Justice meeting | Room 232

Monday, December 5

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, December 7

Strong For Life | 10:30am | Barclay B

Julia Pearson WMF | 1:30pm | Friendsview Hess Creek Classroom | featuring Linda Byrd

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, December 8

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

Friday, December 9

Strong For Life | 10:30am | Barclay B

Saturday, December 10

Men's prayer meeting | 8:15am | 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, December 11

Reading assignment: Matthew 1:18-25

2017 directory photo op | 10am and 11:45am | Room 234

Plan Ahead

December 12 | Call to Prayer | 6:30pm | Room 236

December 14 | Julia Pearson WMF | 1:30pm | Friendsview Hess Creek Classroom | featuring Monika Kadarmanto, GFU China Student trip

December 16 | Letters of Hope | 6pm | social hall | Intergenerational potluck followed by a time to write to the sponsored child and or missionary you support

December 19 | Eclectic Christmas | 7pm | Chehalem Cultural Center

NFC's Calendar on the Web!

 **Happy December Birthday** 

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 Avery Drew
Karlee Wilson | 15 Debbie Doolin
Rick Muthiah |
| 2 Denise Baird | 16 Bob Hanson |
| 3 Davida Brown
Sue Hutchinson
Alice Maurer | 17 Chris Angus
Becky Ankeny
Billie Conant
Joseph Thouvenel
Arabella Wheelock |
| 5 Karen Angus
Doreen Fertello | 19 Phil Smith
Noah Stone |
| 6 Ardys Alteneder
Kara Estep | 20 Howard Macy |
| 7 Beth Bagley
Karl Birky
Maribeth Hampton
Richard Meissner | 21 Colin Hyatt
23 Suzanne Kern
24 Kristen Russom
25 Russ Ragsdale
Matt Staples |
| 9 Andrew Boros
Carolyn Phipps | 26 Jill Beals
Aaron Hutchens |
| 10 Viola Artikova
Rich Hutchens
Nataly Passmore | 28 Anna Lee |
| 11 Tiffany Graham | 29 Cara Copeland
Steve Fawver |
| 12 Elijah Miele | 30 Gary Hankins
Cristie Ross |
| 13 Reta Stuart
Loren Van Tassel | 31 Dave Tussing |
| 14 Ben Hampton
Eva Headrick | |



**Upcoming 2017
Directory Photo Ops
December 4 / 11 / 18
10 a.m. & 11:45 a.m.
Room 234**

(and January 8 for Friendsview residents)

**Please take a minute
(there's no time like the present)
to update your contact
information for our
2017 directory.**

[CLICK HERE!](#)



Christmas Giving Tree!

Look for the Giving Tree in the sanctuary, by the Welcome Center. **CHOOSE** a tag from the tree, **PURCHASE** a gift, **WRAP** it, **TAPE** the tag on the back of the gift, and **PLACE** the gift under the tree by December 18. The gifts benefit children served by Freedom in the Son (a ministry for children who have a parent in prison) and Yamhill Community Action Partnership's shelter here in Newberg.

For more details, contact
Denise Brooks or Kay Passmore.

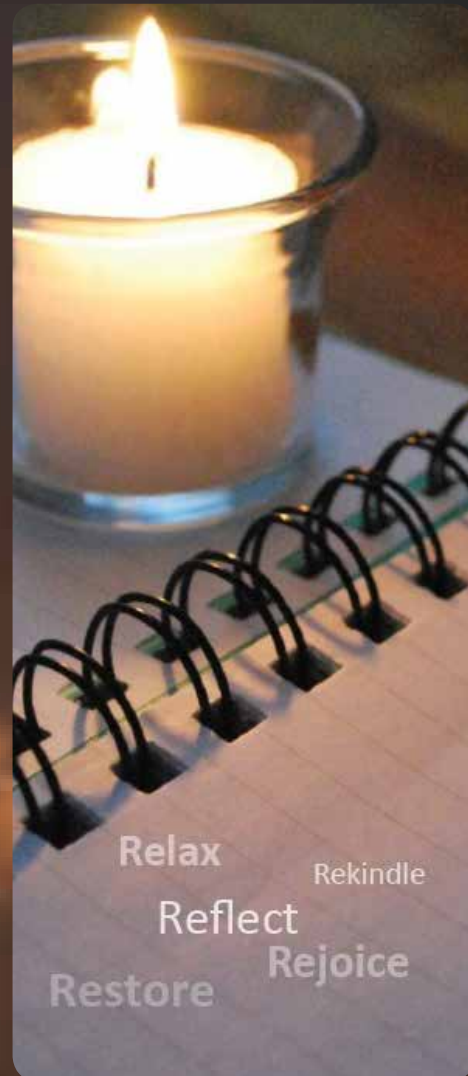
Sabbath ^{by} the Sea

I want to personally invite each of you to consider taking some time to come away and be with Christ this coming January. I have the opportunity to work with an exceptional group of people (including many NFCers) as we lead week-long and half-week retreats at Twin Rocks Harbor Villa on the beach in Rockaway, Oregon. 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. Groups are limited to 12 participants.

Not everyone can get away for a whole week, so we offer opportunities to come from Monday to Thursday or from Thursday to Sunday. Those who work during the week can take one day off on Friday and still have a good chunk of time to pray and listen to God. I invite those who have attended a January retreat in the past to consider going again and taking someone with you who might need time and space in life right now.

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:

- December 29–January 1 • Gary and Susan Fawver
 - January 2–8 • Steve Fawver and Martha Wood
 - January 9–15 • Jo and Hank Helsabeck
 - January 16–22 • Paul Bock and Bethany Lee
 - January 23–29 • Bruce and Di Murphy
 - March 23–26 • Gary and Susan Fawver
- Worship singing will be led each week by Mauri Macy or Nate Macy*