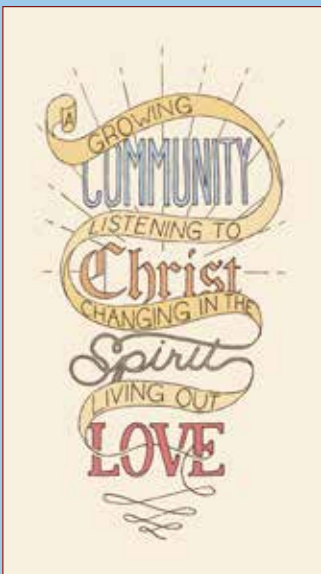


Your NFC

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

January 27, 2017



Ministry Happens

by Rich Brown
clerk of the stewards



I am serving my fifth year as a steward at NFC, but I only recently learned that a “bad steward” is not an oxymoron. A steward is simply a manager of property of another. A steward can steward well or badly. At least that is what my dictionary suggests. Perhaps the reason I usually assume “steward” means “good steward” is because in Christian circles, stewarding implies using resources for God’s purposes. Our intention as Christian stewards is always good: to promote the glory and kingdom of God.

My role on the stewards committee at NFC has caused me to think harder, though, about how I, and we, can be the best kind of good steward. It means managing our resources especially well, assessing and even challenging the status quo—rigorously, if needed. Each of us, personally and organizationally, is capable of applying this type of exacting form of stewardship. But applying a high standard is hard work and I am not always successful.

That broad definition of stewarding is a global responsibility of our church and pastoral staff at NFC. If you are not familiar with the more limited work of the stewards committee at NFC, let me summarize our service. Our primary functions are to monitor whether our church income and expenses are in line with NFC’s budget, to promote giving, and to project future general fund contributions (our undesignated tithes and offerings). At times we have done better at some of those functions than others. Eight or nine of us, along with a few pastors, review monthly financial reports and give feedback as needed. The reports contain an asset statement, a summary of financial giving, and expense details. The stewards get an opportunity to ask questions of pastors and staff. We offer input when we are presented with an unbalanced budget. And we find ways to publicly rejoice in the results of your giving, some of which recently have been:

- *Compassionate Care* – (without getting specific) helping folks in financially tight places; providing help in times of tragedy.
- *Youth Ministry* – continuing growth in our youth ministry due in part to the strong financial support for youth at NFC, with multiple camps throughout the year attended by many kids and many staff/volunteers from our church.
- *Refugee Response Committee* – We outfitted a home for a Syrian family of seven.

While awesome things like these keep happening at NFC, our work as stewards is usually without fanfare. Unlike elders and pastors, we rarely are asked to make difficult decisions. NFC’s polity gives elders, rather than stewards, responsibility over recommendations on the

expense budget. The rationale is that the expense budget directly affects ministry, and elders are those who supervise ministry and call ministers to serve. Our church body also adopts a proposed budget in the manner of Friends at a church business meeting each year. Therefore, the expense budget—the foundation for the stewards' work—is given to our committee. We don't create it.

You may be aware that NFC is exploring options to reduce our expenses for the 2017-18 fiscal year. Elders, stewards, and pastors have worked together this year to review the expense budget through a small joint task force. This has been a healthy approach to our budgeting process this year, reminding stewards that within our polity we may approach elders with concerns about an area of the expense budget. Budgets go up and down in every church. But in our church, even in a season of reducing expenses, we can state confidently that we are fiscally sound. Our general fund contributions have been very stable near \$675,000 for the past five years, with only a slight decrease this year. We have adequate reserves. We are prepared to preserve our fiscal strength.

I am optimistic about the path God has in store for us, which has a still-to-be-determined mix of adventure and continuity. Please pray for everyone

who may participate in ongoing budget discussions, including pastors, elders, and stewards; and specifically for alertness to God's vision for how NFC can best serve our congregation, our local community, the NWYM community, and our world through its resources. Those currently serving as stewards include Chuck Scott, Shanna Andres, Erik Linvog, Lisa Nauman, Mark Ankeny, Nancy Fawver, Janelle Nordyke, Aaron Dunlop, and me.

In the midst of this work, I received the unanticipated blessing of enjoying quality time with our pastors, hearing their reports of our church joys and struggles. Despite the changes ahead, we have a team of pastors deeply committed to the people in our congregation and community, who support the many functions of our yearly meeting and sweat many details of our church operations. Because of the work accomplished by all our pastors and staff, each has more liberty to offer Christ's hope and encouragement to our world through our church and beyond.

As clerk of stewards, I encourage you to let your priorities be reflected in your everyday habits. Be faithful to Christ in giving your time, finances, and prayers. If you feel called to increase your giving in one or more of those areas, start with something small and manageable. Do it regularly. And be ready for God to stretch you one step further.



Please come to a reception to honor and appreciate the ministry **Cindy Johnson** had with our Just Older Youth (seniors).

Friendsview Auditorium
Sunday, January 29
1-2:30 p.m.

☛ **Heaven's Gain**



Art Pruitt died on Sunday, January 22, 2017, at age 93. He had been a member since 1977. A service to celebrate his life will be held at NFC on Saturday, February 18, at 11 a.m.

Twin Rocks Friends Camp Now Hiring Summer Staff

Twin Rocks is now recruiting committed Christian youth and young adults for its college-age Summer Staff program and high school Servant Leadership Program (SLP). Please [visit their website](#) for more information. Or contact program directors Megan and [Matt Dayton](#) at 503-355-2284.

Summer Staff applications due:

February 28, 2017

Servant Leadership due:

April 1, 2017



Pastoral Team

Michelle Akins
children and family ministries

Steve Fawver
spiritual health and care

Gregg Koskela
lead pastor

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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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 1:18-2:10](#)

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

10:15-10:45am | library staffed

10:30am | Agape Sunday school class

10:45am | worship gathering

1pm | Bible Quiz practice | Friends Center

1-2:30pm | thank-you reception for Cindy Johnson | Friendsview Auditorium

6pm | congregational business meeting | NFC sanctuary

Monday, January 30

Intercessory prayer | 9am | Barclay C

Strong For Life | 10:30am | Barclay B

Letters of Hope | 6:30pm | an intergenerational potluck dinner and the opportunity to write a letter of hope and/or draw a picture to the sponsored child(ren) or missionary partner(s) you support

Wednesday, February 1

Strong For Life | 10:30am | Barclay B

WBFpm | 7pm | Barclay C

Thursday, February 2

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

Friday, February 3

Strong For Life | 10:30am | Barclay B

Saturday, February 4

Men's prayer meeting | 8:15am | Friendsview Creekside, 2nd floor, TV room

Sunday, February 5

Reading assignment: Galatians 2

Equipo meeting | 3pm | North Valley Friends

Taizé gathering | 6pm | NFC sanctuary

Plan Ahead

February 6 | JOY breakfast | 8am | Friendsview Hess Creek dining room | \$4 | for seniors 55 and older

February 6 | Children's Ministry Cultivation | 7pm | parents, volunteers, NFC community members enjoy a simple dessert along with conversation and prayer focusing on growing and improving children's ministry at NFC | contact Michelle Akins at 503-539-5041

February 9 | K-2 Fun Night | 6-7:30pm | FC gym | dinner, games, and stories for children K through 2nd grade

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

February 13 | Call to Prayer | 6:30pm | Room 236

February 15 | Julia Pearson WMF | 1:30 | Friendsview Hess Creek Classroom | featuring Shawn McConaughy, NWYM Global Outreach

February 16 | Pre-K Fun Night | 6-7pm | FC gym | ages 3-5 yrs

NFC's Calendar on the Web!

Happy February Birthday

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| 1 Jan McLeland
LeRoy Powell
Delaney Sump | 8 Stephanie Fisher
Marge Rekow | 21 Janice Trollinger |
| 3 Lucille Brown
Brynn Macy
Gray Ragsdale
Carolyn Stansell
Killian Sump
Riley Sump | 10 Rebekah Skaggs
Ernest Yoder | 22 Nathan Briedwell
Tyler Gerdin
Tabitha Greller |
| 4 Kyle Kern
Iva Rickey | 11 Madison Sturdevant
Benjamin Wynsma | 23 Karla Holveck
Quentin Nordyke |
| 5 Janie Dillow | 13 Laura Goodfellow
Elaine Koskela | 24 Wayne Adams
Corwynn Beals |
| 6 Kathy Watson | 14 Ralph Beebe
Micah Stoltzfus | 25 Irene Dunlop
Don Swan |
| 7 Jerry Carr
Jenny Huwe
Brian Lanier
Spencer Lanier | 15 Sharon Holdahl
Janet Wheeler | 26 Ben Mock |
| | 17 Elli Nauman | 28 June Brown
Jerald Magee
Kara Maurer
Chuck Scott |
| | 18 Brynn Akins
Ginger Mackey | |
| | 19 Jack Copeland | |

Rain or shine let's find
REFRESHMENT
together at the
beach!



Newberg Friends Church
**Women's
Retreat**
March 10-12, 2017
Twin Rocks Friends Camp
\$123
\$128 (with Friday dinner)

Registration and scholarship forms available in the NFC office or online: newbergfriends.org

Contact Michelle Akins for details: michelle@newbergfriends.org 503-539-5041

For all women, all ages!
Live loved - relax, play, laugh, unwind, breathe deeply, and savor a weekend made for you.



Northwest
Yearly Meeting
of Friends

**NWYM Midyear Boards
meet at
North Valley Friends
Friday, January 27 &
Saturday, January 28**

North Valley Friends will host an open prayer vigil this Friday night (tonight!), January 27, from 5:30 p.m. to 9 p.m., and Saturday, from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. The labyrinth will be set up in the gym and all are welcome to come for a time of prayer, reflection, and contemplation. We would love to know if you are coming, so please sign up [HERE](#). Of course, more than three people can come at a time!

If you would like to sign up to pray for the leadership and decisions being made in our yearly meeting this weekend but cannot attend a prayer vigil in person, you can [sign up here](#).

Also, volunteers to set up and tear down the indoor labyrinth would be greatly appreciated. If you can help with set up on Friday (tonight!) at 5:15 p.m. or tear down on Saturday at 5 p.m., please contact [Tricia Hornback](#).

Need Sheet

Available:

- I am part of the hispanic church of Newberg and looking for work cleaning houses. Please call Carmen Rivera at 503-576-1221.
- Friendsview Retirement Community, 1301 Fulton Street, announces their next "Garage" Sale: Friday February 3, and Saturday, February 4. Friday sale times are 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Many household items, furniture and clothing. Come and check it out!
- Several rooms for rent at Brandon St. home - three have in-room bathrooms, one has a sink; there are two shared bathrooms, shared living room, dining room, and kitchen. Washer / dryer in garage. Call Shirley at 503-901-3665 to arrange a viewing of the rooms.
- I have a room for rent for \$400/month in Newberg. It includes all utilities, laundry, kitchen usage, and internet access. Call 503-970-5939.
- Alaskan lodging available: Large private cabin available for rent on 5 acres 25 miles north of Homer on the Kenai Peninsula. Nightly, weekly, monthly. Sleeps 8, 1.5 bath, W/D, WiFi, satellite TV, fully furnished kitchen and all linens/towels. Plan a great vacation and make Happy Valley Haven your home away from home. Mention this ad for a 10% discount. Search *Ninilchik, AK - Happy Valley Haven* to see pictures. Contact meclock@gmail.com for details.

For Sale:

- Spring is coming: Raised garden boxes, various sizes, approximately 6-7 feet by 4-5 feet, 3 feet deep. Made of sealed plywood. You supply the dirt and seedlings and green thumb, \$35. Freezer: \$75. Two ice black rolling executive office chairs, 1 maroon office chair. Make any offer. Call Stephen Haney at 503-703-5252.

To place a one-time free ad— • e-mail: sherry@newbergfriends.org
deadline: February 8 • no phone-in ads; please resubmit repeated ads



Aren Thomas Shares His Heart and Hopes

I've dreamed of using my training as an engineer to share the hope of Jesus through the gospel while also designing innovations that would improve lives. I have

the opportunity of traveling this summer to the Amazon Rainforest in Peru with a small team of students and faculty from George Fox, partnering with JungleMaster Ministries.

Sickness from unclean water, annual flooding, and the lack of pastoral support are ongoing challenges for the Peruvian people and the local missionaries. We hope to build relationship in order to partner with them in creating innovative solutions, then re-

main a trusted source of encouragement and support for this community for many years to come.

We hope to design, build, and install a large solar power system at the missionary's house and add a state-of-the-art renewable energy data acquisition system to monitor it. We also hope to work on water purifying designs for the villages made of materials that are readily available.

I need to raise \$3,500 to cover the cost of my trip and engineering equipment. If you would like to make a tax-deductible donation, please [email me](#) for the giving options. Also, our team would appreciate your prayers for open doors for relationships with the Peruvian people, local pastoral care, engineering projects, health and safety during our travels, team unity, and openness to the leading of the Holy Spirit as we serve.