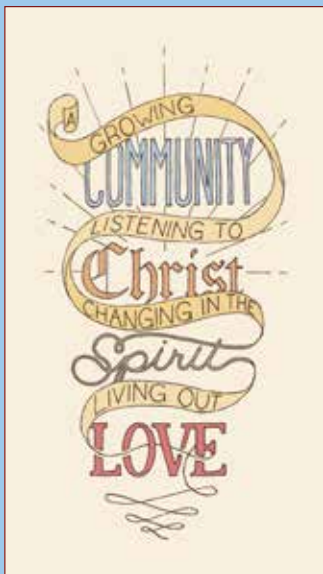


# Your NFC

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

January 6, 2017



## From Me to You

by Elizabeth Sherwood  
administrative pastor

*"The worst-case scenario in your life –  
that I (God) might stop loving you –  
is not even in the realm of possibility."*

Sarah Young, *Jesus Today*



I read these words this morning and found myself caught on the phrase "worst-case scenario." I would like to be someone who always looks at the "sunny side of life" with a hopeful optimism shaped by a positivity beyond compare. That is not me. I can imagine worst-case scenarios. Quite well, actually. At times this talent is helpful. Like when I need to ask for more building reserve funds (for the furnaces-blowing, trees-falling, pipes-breaking kind of scenarios). But at other times it is not "fun" to play out in my mind's eye the bleakest of all options. Planning for an emergency is downright daunting when the list of things that could go wrong increases at a steady pace.

Yet because my brain can clearly see the way so many things can go very wrong, my attention got caught up short by the author's "worst-case scenario" in a different way. Sarah Young's reminder of God's steady, unending love, highlighted the ways I often take God's devotion and commitment to me for granted. When I think of disasters, I think of natural or human made. When I look at the world around me, I can see multiple ways in which the fragile web that connects and sustains life is under constant threat. And yet, yet, God is not on the worst-case scenario dread list. Just the opposite. Life is assured with Christ, and God is the ultimate provider and protector of what matters most. Our life, hidden and secure in God's love.

The poetic imagery of Romans 8 causes us to look beyond the evidence of our precarious world to see the promises of the God who sees us and is for us. God has said in scripture that nothing, not a thing, can separate us from God's love. Preparation and perspective are put in the right place when we can be rooted in the reality that the worst-case scenario of losing God's love is not even a possibility; not even an option.

*"For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord."*

Romans 8:38-39

# READ AHEAD FOR SUNDAY

Galatians 1:1-5



## **Pastoral Team**

**Michelle Akins**  
*children and family ministries*

**Steve Fawver**  
*spiritual health and care*

**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.

## **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** | Equipo meeting | 3pm | North Valley Friends Church

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

**6pm** | Taizé gathering | NFC sanctuary

**7:05pm** | peace and justice committee meeting | Room 232

### **Monday, January 9**

Intercessory prayer | 9am | Barclay C

Strong For Life | 10:30am | Barclay B

Call to Prayer | 6:30pm | Room 236

### **Wednesday, January 11**

Strong For Life | 10:30am | Barclay B

WBFpm | 7pm | Barclay C

### **Thursday, January 12**

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

### **Friday, January 13**

Strong For Life | 10:30am | Barclay B

### **Saturday, January 14**

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

Sewing and Packing Party (relief kits) | 10:30am | social hall

### **Sunday, January 15**

Reading assignment: Galatians 1

Documentary: "Thirteenth" | 6:30pm | a gathering hosted by the peace and justice committee | social hall / sanctuary

### **Plan Ahead**

January 18 | Julia Pearson WMF | 1:30pm | Friendsview Hess Creek Classroom | featuring Lynn Holt, FTS to Ramallah

January 23 | Margaret Fell WMF | 7pm | Spaulding Oaks Community Center | featuring Kathy Watson, Faith in Action

January 29 | congregational business meeting | 6pm | NFC sanctuary

January 30 | 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

February 5 | Taizé gathering | 6pm | NFC sanctuary

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

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

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

**Friendsview Auditorium  
Sunday, January 8, 2016  
1-2:30 p.m.**



**Committee Meeting  
7:05pm • Room 232**



## Global Christmas Giving Tree Reminder

If you took an airplane or a red-ribboned ornament from the Giving Tree, be sure to return it by *Sunday, January 8.*

## Happy January Birthday

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <b>1</b> Harlan Wooldridge  | <b>12</b> Josh Bannister  | <b>21</b> Esther Johnson   |
| <b>2</b> Nicole Fawver<br>Norma Yoder                             | Desmond Flachsbart<br>Susan Hampton                                       | <b>23</b> Mike Foster<br>John Johnson  |
| <b>3</b> Aaron Dunlop<br>Jacob Graham<br>Bev Payton               | <b>14</b> Jake Hardy<br>Beth Nistler                                      | <b>24</b> Marcile Comfort<br>Elizabeth Sherwood                                      |
| <b>4</b> Hudson Hutchinson  | <b>15</b> Jolee Akins<br>Eliana Swan                                      | <b>26</b> Tim Engle<br>Celeste Flachsbart  |
| <b>6</b> Tim Hyatt<br>Merrill Johnson<br>Zach Maurer<br>Brad Wood | <b>16</b> Brandon Buerkle<br>Gary Fawver<br>Joshua Passmore<br>Gib Rickey | <b>27</b> Stephanie Thouvenel  |
| <b>7</b> Nancy Brown  | <b>17</b> Alda Clarkson<br>Susan Doak<br>Ron Stansell                     | <b>28</b> Gary Buckley<br>Alandra Thomas   |
| <b>8</b> Sandy Prewitt  | <b>18</b> Lenna Ragsdale<br>Lois Smith<br>Heidi Tschan                    | <b>30</b> Mark Anderson<br>Gary Brown<br>Blake Estep<br>Sam Farmer<br>Manfred Tschan |
| <b>9</b> Louisa Buerkle   | <b>20</b> Bethany Lee   | <b>31</b> Lesta Hockett<br>Jana Kaye<br>Paul Shelton                                 |
| <b>10</b> Twila Tschan<br>Caitlin Wall<br>Courtney Wall           |   |  |
| <b>11</b> Ginny Birky<br>Kyle Fish                                |   |  |



## Sandals Class Invitation

Contemplative prayer can be a place to experience peace within the chaos and complexity of our lives. It offers the possibility to quiet our rational minds to hear God.

Kathi Gatlin, who has a call to teaching and spiritual formation, will facilitate a three-week series during which we will experience Centering Prayer, The Examen, and Lectio Divina. All are welcome to join the Sandals Sunday school class in the social hall at 9 a.m. this Sunday morning as we begin this series by encountering Centering Prayer.

## DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. HOLIDAY EVENT

Newberg's annual event to commemorate the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., will be held on Monday, January 16, at the Chehalem Cultural Center. A reception will start at 5 p.m., followed by a program at 6 p.m.

This year's theme is "A Legacy of Love." Activities will include musical, vocal, and dance performances, as well as a talk by Tiona Cage, assistant director of International Student and Scholar Services at George Fox University.

For more information, call Suzanne Miller at 503-538-7947.

## TONIGHT!

North Valley Friends Church will host a time of open worship to share memories and stories about how **Arthur Roberts** contributed to your life.

**Friday, January 6 • 6 p.m.**  
**4020 N. College Street**  
**Newberg, OR**



**Saturday, January 14**  
**Sewing and Packing Party (relief kits)**  
**10:30 a.m. • social hall**