

Reminder!

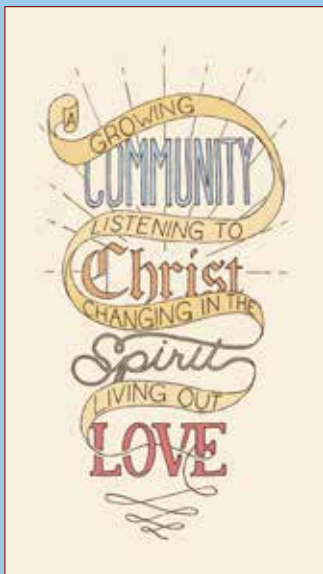
Take the Discernment Survey by Sunday, MARCH 19

Click [HERE](#) for online survey.
Find print copies at the welcome
center and in the office.

Your NFC

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

March 17, 2017



All in a Day's Life

by Heidi Tschan

Initially, being asked to write for *Your NFC* was surprising and a little weird. Those around the church who know me, whether through children's ministries or NFC Bells, have probably noticed a distinct lack of my presence around the building since the fall. I've been going through some big life changes that have taken me farther from Newberg, and I



think maybe that's actually why this is good timing. I hope that as our church moves forward through the discernment process, maybe I can offer some encouragement to those who find themselves struggling.

Life changes are *hard!* It doesn't matter whether they're for better or worse, they can be stressful. I would say my life changes have been mostly for the good. But...that doesn't mean it hasn't been a challenge. As I've shared at times during devotionals with the handbell choir, I've struggled with mental health since high school. Usually it just drains my energy, but sometimes it can feel like I'm constantly arguing with myself. I found it wonderfully appropriate that I was asked to write this while I was reading through the book of Job, where I recognized some of my own internal struggle in his back-and-forth with his friends. Some of you may recognize that inner struggle, whether personally or in the community. For when times get dark, I want to share my thoughts on Christ as Light that I've been holding onto since our family lit the Christ candle several Christmases ago.

One of the principles that stuck with me from way back as a high school freshman in biology is this: there is no true cold, only an absence of heat; there is no true dark, only an absence of light. Now, growing up a voracious reader, I would often find myself up in the living room well after the rest of the family had gone to bed. On some of my better nights, I would remember to leave my bedroom light on so I could easily find my way once I turned off the living room lights. Some nights were more challenging though. Maybe my door was only cracked and not wide open, so there was less light. Maybe there were more obstacles on the floor. Maybe I misjudged where the coffee table corner was. Worst of all, maybe I hadn't left my light on at all! At those times though, all was not lost. There was no true darkness. (There *is* no true darkness). From the hallway, around a corner, there came the faint glow of the thermostat. That would be my lifeline. The journey might take longer as I second-guessed my path, but as long as I could focus on that small glow, I knew I would get around the corner and find my bedroom (with all the warmth and comfort that implies).

This is the image I keep with me when I'm going through hard patches. Jesus is my thermostat. If I have him, I can find my way eventually. No matter how hard it might seem while the journey is in progress. If we know where to adjust our eyes and hearts, we can find that path to (Jesus, God, wholeness, Shalom, _____).

So, my hope for myself and our congregation is that this little imagery might be comforting. Life is a big mix of good and bad, easy and tough, dark and light. But we're not alone in the darkness as long as we have each other and Jesus. Darkness is temporary and incomplete. The light of love of God is forever and unconquerable.

Heidi Tschan is a Newberg native, George Fox graduate, and recent transplant to Salem. She has grown up as a regular NFC attender, TRFC camper and volunteer, and 3rd/4th grade Sunday school teacher. Heidi recently bought her first house in Salem while still working in Newberg. Outside of work and church, she has been involved with theaters in Salem and McMinnville, singing, sewing, and being a nerd.

NFC Discernment Process regarding NWYM Restructure

***Gatherings and survey are intended for
regular attenders and members only.***

Childcare and Friendsview transportation
provided for all gatherings

**Be sure to take the
discernment survey by March 19!**

April 9

6:30 p.m. — *Survey Report*

April 23

Listening Forums:

2 p.m.—*Sharing reasons for
staying in NWYM*

6:30 p.m.—*Sharing reasons for
leaving NWYM*

April 24 – May 5

*Leadership Discernment Meetings
(clerks of the meeting, elders, pastors)*

May 7

6:30 p.m.

*Business Meeting with a minute of
recommendation from the
leadership team*



Attention, Young Friends Singers!

We are inviting children to lead us in worship through song on Sunday morning, April 23! We will meet to practice our singing together at 10 a.m. on the first four Saturdays in April. All children age 5 through 5th grade are welcome to join us.

Parents, please put this on your calendar and let me know if your child(ren) will be joining us!

**Contact Nolan Staples | 971-732-9479
nolan@newbergfriends.org**



Fruit of the Vine is now available at the welcome center. **\$5.25/ea.** NFC writers include Betty Hockett, Karen Swenson, and Dan Nolta.



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

Corbin Gronvold
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

Galatians 5

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

Monday, March 20

Intercessory prayer | 9am | Barclay C
Strong For Life | 10:30am | Barclay B
Call to Prayer | 6:30pm | Room 236

Wednesday, March 22

Strong For Life | 10:30am | Barclay B
WBFpm | 7pm | Barclay C

Thursday, March 23

Women's Bible Fellowship | 8:45am | social hall
Letters of Hope | 6pm | social hall | potluck supper and an opportunity to write a letter of hope to the child you sponsor, missionary you support, or anyone you believe could use a word of encouragement

Friday, March 24

Strong For Life | 10:30am | Barclay B

Saturday, March 25

Men's prayer meeting | 8:15am | Friendsview Creekside, 2nd floor, TV room
Memorial service for Margaret Morse | 1pm | NFC sanctuary

Sunday, March 26

Read ahead: Galatians 5

Plan Ahead

March 27 | Call to Prayer | 6:30pm | Room 236
March 27 | Margaret Fell WMF | 7pm | Spaulding Oaks Community Center | featuring Retha McCutchen
April 1 | memorial service for Reta Stuart | 2pm | NFC sanctuary
April 2 | Taizé gathering | 6pm | NFC sanctuary
April 3 | JOY breakfast | 8am | Friendsview Hess Creek dining room | \$4 | for seniors 55 and older
April 7 | Family Game Night | 7pm | Barclay A | an evening of intergenerational fun! Bring your favorite card or board game, a snack to share, and some friends.
April 8 | Wood ministry work session | 9-11:30am | Friends Cemetery on Everest Rd | contact Larry Hampton, 503-538-6508
April 9 | YM Restructuring Info Night | 6:30pm
April 10 | Call to Prayer | 6:30pm | Room 236
April 13 | Maundy Thursday Service 7pm

NFC's Calendar on the Web!



Syrian Supper | April 8 @ 5:30pm | NFC social hall

Are you interested in having an authentic Syrian meal and helping support a refugee family at the same time? Newberg Friends is hosting a fundraising dinner to support the Alodahs, the Syrian refugee family we helped relocate last summer. The support the family was receiving from Catholic Charities has come to an end, and this dinner will help Ibrahim and Hajar support their family.

Hajar will be cooking up a storm on April 8 (with the help of a few NFC folks) to provide a delicious meal. Space is limited, so plan to call the church office (503-538-8381) soon to reserve your spot! Suggested donation: \$20 per adult, \$10 per child. Pay at the door. Checks can be written to *Evergreen Presbyterian Church*.



Who:

Everyone is invited!

What:

Letters of Hope event

Where:

Newberg Friends social hall

When:

Thursday, March 23, 2017, 6-7:30 pm

Why:

A potluck to write letters to kids you sponsor or letters to encourage someone

Youth Pastor Search Has Begun!

Newberg Friends Church has begun a search for a full-time youth pastor who would begin July 1, 2017. The complete application can be found by clicking the link below. Hard copies of the application can also be found at the Welcome Center in the sanctuary and in the NFC office. We encourage you to share the link with others you sense might be interested in youth ministry. Direct questions to Steve Fawver or Michelle Akins. tinyurl.com/NFCYouthPastorApp

Pray for ...



NFCers on this trip:

Jacob Brand; Greta Brand; Shawn Durham; Michael Fawver; Elyse Fawver; Isaac Fawver; Ron, Erinn, Ben, Sicily, and Sadie Hampton; Bob Hampton; John Hampton; Gregg Koskela; Aubrey Koskela; Josh Nauman; Elli Nauman; Eliana Swan; Taylor Swan