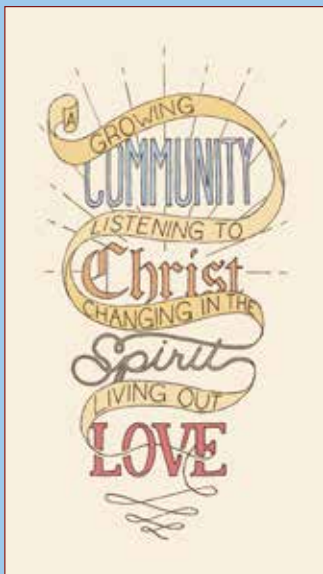


Your NFC

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

March 31, 2017



Living Out Love Locally ▶ Globally

by Elizabeth Todd (center)

Recently I talked to several Friends who wondered about making a 2-year + commitment in the Middle East. I want for them what I have had: a home church that loves them and stands ready to discern, prepare, pray, give, teach, encourage, and listen. Friends in a gathered community who say “yes” to extending local ministry on the other side of the sea – not as something exotic but as something genuinely personal, sustained over time.



The love and efforts of Friends in a gathered community make ministry possible – there and here. God gives us this love for the “world” and asks us to embody it in particular places, to particular people.

For three years I’ve been in Ramallah. And as I learn, love, live, and serve, I see my communities coming closer together. Perhaps reading this will help, but probably the best I can do is to share pictures of some of the Middle Eastern Muslims and Christians I love. They help tell about being a Friend of Jesus there and, I hope, invite us to be steadfast in the face of distraction, struggle, and disappointment.

Since October, visa requirements meant I needed to return to Oregon for six months.

Among other things, I learned to knit. As I think about people I know and love in Ramallah, I knit and pray—18 “shoulder cozies” (something between a scarf and a cowl) to give on my return. Isn’t it amazing that two knitting needles, yarn, steady effort, and knitting mentors can bring something new into being? [Nate Macy wrote a prayer song](#) about God’s work in knitting. It speaks to my condition, asking God for tender-hearted resilience.



Knitting is quiet, and I thought a lot about how we “landed” in Ramallah four years ago to explore, discern, and seek the road to long-



term ministry and the blessings that have already come: laughter, learning, community building, faith, hope, and love. Along with the practical parts of my job, I've been learning what it means to be a Friend of Jesus in the Middle East, in a context of distress, trauma, grief, hopelessness, bitterness, rage, and anger.

I don't want to minimize the challenge of what we have done and are attempting. And it is clear we need God's help and the beloved community to find our way forward.

This work requires divine intervention to open doors and the muster of people who want to see God's kingdom come on earth as it is in heaven. Here are some things I pray.

1. When I return April 11, I will face into a transition to long-term presence with decisions about visa, assignment, and team to emerge over time. I believe God calls us to the place where the world's need and our deep gladness meet. I need to find that in a context that also allows me legal residence.
2. The change in the U.S. envoy to Israel may change the access we have and the level of violence in the area. I pray for our leaders to have wisdom and act with justice, mercy, and humility.
3. While there, I usually feel safe and welcomed as a guest. Yet I also drive through flashpoints of contention that are sometimes violent and/or roads close, so I'm not able to get where I want to be. It isn't safety and security alone I need, but God's help with peace, courage, and wisdom.
4. With the challenges of Northwest Friends these days and ones in my own church, it is easy to feel disoriented and wonder what will come. I need to release this to Friends at home and trust my community to find their way forward.

Overall, despite the trouble in the world, I want to keep my balance or at least, like a weeble-wobble, return upright with some buoyancy. And it encourages me to have Friends who, in a world of uncertainties, join me in setting a rock of Ebenezer: thus far has the Lord helped us. Then we go forward with all the gumption and grit God gives us.





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 6

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

2pm | memorial service for Wanda Beebe | NFC sanctuary

6pm | Taizé gathering | NFC sanctuary

Monday, April 3

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

Call to Prayer | 6:30pm | Room 236

Wednesday, April 5

Strong For Life | 10:30am | Barclay B

Middle school youth group | 6:00pm | Friends Center

WBFpm | 7pm | Barclay C

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

Thursday, April 6

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

Friday, April 7

Strong For Life | 10:30am | Barclay B

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.

Saturday, April 8

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

Syrian Supper | 5:30pm | NFC social hall | suggested donation \$20/adult; \$10/child | call 503-538-8381 to reserve

Sunday, April 9

YM restructuring info meeting - survey report | 6:30pm | NFC sanctuary

Plan Ahead

April 13 | Maundy Thursday Service | 7pm | NFC sanctuary

April 19 | Julia Pearson WMF | 1:30pm | Friendsview Hess Creek Classroom

April 23 | Listening Forum (stay w/NWYM) | 2pm | NFC sanctuary

April 23 | Listening Forum (leave NWYM) 6:30pm | NFC sanctuary

April 24 | Red Cross Blood Drive | 10am | NFC social hall | by appointment

April 24 | Margaret Fell WMF | 7pm | Spaulding Oaks Community Center | featuring Cindy Johnson

NFC's Calendar on the Web!



Celebrate Life!

I would like to buy ___ flowering spring plant(s) in honor/memory of my loved one(s) and help decorate our sanctuary on Easter Sunday.

In honor of _____

In memory of _____

Given by _____

Please clearly mark your check "Easter plant." Put this slip and your payment (\$7.50/plant) in an offering envelope and place it in the offering plate or take it to the church office by April 10. You may take your plant home following second service on Easter Sunday.



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.

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!

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



🎁 Happy April Birthday 🎁

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| 1 Joseph Hampton
Arnie Mitchell
Jan Semler | 12 Mark Goss
Charles Hanson
Lynn Robinson
Tyler Shelton
Rachel Sherwood | 21 Marilyn Winters |
| 2 Larry Hampton | 13 Keith Williams | 22 Margaret Winters |
| 3 Tom Greller
Shirley Mardock | 14 Susannah Anderson | 23 Cynthia España
Sara Grant |
| 4 Abigail Tussing | 15 Donna Coleman | 24 Janice Beals
Howard Harmon
Hudson Moore |
| 5 Gabe Fawver
Kathy Schlittenhart
Hope Thouvenel
Vicki Tschan | 16 Christopher Goss
Luke Neff
Bonnie Tussing | 25 Janna Fawver
Thomas Millage
Paul Stoltzfus |
| 6 Amanda Allen | 17 Eric Muhr
Darin Sturdevant | 27 Margene Haworth
Gabe Kulpa
Connor Looney |
| 7 Grace Anderson
Elizabeth Harwood | 18 Gregg Koskela | 28 Monte Romersa |
| 8 Joseph Brooks
Doug Cossel | 19 Susan Ankeny
Kindra Fish
Eileen Gerdin
Kohl Linvog | 29 Stefan Czarnecki |
| 9 Edith Campbell
Jack St. Cyr | 20 Meghan Czarnecki
Bailey Sherwood
Eric Whitmore | 30 Meika Dunlop
Joel Libby
Denise Lyman
Kim McDonough
Caleb Muthiah
Marvin Walker
Paul Worden |
| 10 Cheri Hampton
Mark McKee | | |
| 11 Julie Anderson
Jacob Brand
Nicole Hyatt | | |

Taizé Gathering
Sunday, April 2
6 p.m.

🎉 Oh, Baby!

Hannah Jane Briedwell was born on March 22, 2017 to **Katie** and **Micah Briedwell**. She joins brothers Nathan, Benjamin, and Levi!



NFC Discernment Process regarding NWYM Restructure

Gatherings are intended for regular attenders and members only.

Childcare and Friendsview transportation provided for all gatherings

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

2017 Easter Offering

a golden anniversary in
Mexico City



efm
EVANGELICAL FRIENDS MISSION
2017 EASTER OFFERING

In 1967, the Lord of the harvest used Roscoe and Tina Knight to plant a mustard seed in a section of Mexico City called Viveros del Valle. That seed produced a hardy plant called La Familia Unida en Cristo (The United Family in Christ) Friends Church.

During the last fifty years, that plant has continued to grow and pollinate, leading to more plants in other parts of Mexico City as well as other parts of Mexico.

When you give to the Easter Offering you are helping EFM keep planting mustard seeds in tough places. Will you be a part of it?

How can you participate in this year's Easter Offering? On Easter morning, NFC will receive your Easter Offering donations for that collection. We will then send those funds to EFM. Other ways to donate will be to send your check directly

to EFM's temporary address, PO Box 771139, Wichita, KS 67277 and note that it is for the 2017 Easter Offering.

You can also call 303-421-8100 to give by debit or credit card. Or you can click [HERE](#) to give online.

Thank you for prayerfully considering what your part in this offering will be.