



from Marilyn Harmon . . .

Thank you, women of Newberg Friends, for the fun luncheon. All this week I've thought about Elizabeth Todd's question—What can we learn from the Chinese church?

One personal lesson I learned in China: God doesn't *need* us, but if we're blessed and lucky, he *uses* us. God works out his plan of loving and calling his own. His Holy Spirit can call the seeking without any human interference, but sometimes we're lucky enough to be used. Many Chinese Christians told stories of hearing the Holy Spirit when they were not in contact with a church. I think that is true in America too. God calls people to himself.

God loves our child-like dependence on him. In our weakness, he can show himself strong. Most of my Chinese friends have not had a lifetime of learning from the Word. Sunday school was forbidden, so children of church members sat with their parents through the long adult services. But, today these grown children love scripture and read it daily. In email to me they share newly learned scripture passages. They love reading the Bible and know the power of scripture in their daily life. New Christians devour the Word; Bible study groups encourage each other through daily sharing.

The Chinese church shows great love and passion in their worship and seeking to know God better. The Holy Spirit drives them to share the good news with joy and enthusiasm to the unsaved. I wonder why we sometimes hesitate – perhaps because of cultural conditioning or more likely the lies of Satan. But the Chinese enthusiastically share their faith, though it often means

they will be persecuted, rejected by family and friends, or lose out on a job promotion. They fervently pray for their loved ones who do not know Jesus. When students head home for the holidays, they ask us to pray for chances to share with their loved ones. They share the good news with strangers in McDonalds or on the bus. The college campuses have groups that go to other campuses or public parks and share what God has done for them.

So, the Holy Spirit of God is at work. Our cultures are different, but God is the same. If we could all see the Christian army being raised around the world we would all be encouraged. It doesn't make the American news, but God is calling his own and we are part of it.

Pray for Tiffany and Daisy as they prepare to go to China in the next month. Shang Di Zhu Fu Ni (God bless you)



These new office hours will be in effect next week. Please note!
9 a.m. to 1 p.m. — Monday through Friday
2 to 5 p.m. by appointment



Happening at NFC...

THIS WEEKEND

Saturday, August 26

Read ahead for tomorrow: Ephesians 2:10; 4:11-16

Sunday, August 27

Gathered Prayer • 8-8:50am • Room 236

Christian Education • 9am • classroom locations, click [HERE](#)

Community Time / Library Open • 10am

Gathered Worship • 10:45am

NEXT WEEK

Monday, August 28

Intercessory prayer • 9am • Barclay C

Strong For Life • 10:30am • Barclay B

Wednesday, August 30

Strong For Life • 10:30am • Barclay B

Friday, September 1

Strong For Life • 10:30am • Barclay B

AFTER THAT

Sunday, September 3

College age young adults are invited to gather at 10am Sunday, September 3, in the social hall for doughnuts, coffee, and conversation. This will be a time of meeting one another and beginning to envision an ongoing young adult class during the Sunday Christian education hour this fall. Please contact [Joe Thouvenel](#) with questions about this opportunity.

Monday, September 4

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

NFC office closed for Labor Day holiday

Thursday, September 7

Introducing REAL: a place for women to study God's word • 8:45am • NFC social hall (Please scroll down to find full information and a link to register.)

Saturday, September 9

Wood ministry work session | 9-11:30am | Friends Cemetery on Everest Rd |

contact Larry Hampton, 503-538-6508

AND AROUND THE TOWN

September 29–October 1

NWYM Friends Women Retreat • guest speaker, Retha McCutchen • click [HERE](#) for info and registration

[Click HERE to see the calendar online.](#)

Upcoming Worship Gatherings

August 27 — David Thomas and YCEW

September 3 and 10 — Mark Kelley



Committee Clerk Updates

**elders • presiding • stewards • trustees • YM reps • treasurer
Christian education • recording • cemetery • nominating**

from Carl Anderson, presiding clerk

Newberg Friends Church has not had an administrative committee in quite a while, so you may be wondering how this will work out. While, by Faith and Practice, the AC can make decisions like a congregational business meeting, these are typically reserved for time sensitive or routine matters. Any major changes will still be brought before the congregation for approval. The AC also gives a space where the clerks of the various committees can keep each other informed so we know how to support one another in our work.

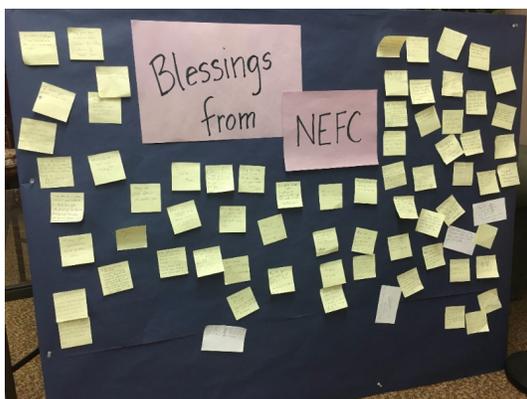
Update on the Covenant of Separation: After the emerging church laid down their involvement in the discernment process at the last COS meeting on July 22, your representatives—Dick Sartwell, Judy Woolsey, and I—were asked to continue to develop a final proposal. In order to get a wider range of people involved, the organically formed “Ad Hoc Committee” agreed that continuing

work should now be done by the officially formed NFC administrative committee. As presiding clerk, I met with the AC, stewards, and trustees to continue discerning our path forward. Last Monday, the AC approved a final draft that was similar to what our congregation had previously agreed upon. The next step is for Mark Ankeny, Ron Mock, and Phil Smith to put our proposal into the Covenant of Separation, which will be presented to both congregations in separate meetings.

Finally, I would like to express my appreciation for everyone who has given gifts of time, talent, finances, and prayer over the last two months. It has been encouraging to see so many people willing to step forward in faith.

Click [HERE](#) to access this week's **NEED SHEET**.

To place a one-time free ad, e-mail [Sherry](#).
published the second and fourth Fridays of every month
next deadline: **September 6** • no phone-in ads; please resubmit repeated ads



This "Blessings Board" from the Newberg Emerging Friends Church will be on display in the library on Sunday. Take a few minutes to read what was shared.



Winter is still a few months away, but it's time to think about Operation Christmas Child. To get started, we'll need at least two volunteers to oversee the project. Please contact [Sherry](#) if one of those volunteers is **you!**



Approximately 60 people enjoyed family fun, good food, and time together on the lawn after service last Sunday.



REAL: a place for women to study God's word is gearing up for its first season. We invite all women to consider joining us at NFC on Thursday, September 7, 8:45-11am, and the Thursdays after that (following the public school calendar). We'll be studying *Esther* by Beth Moore for the fall. Register [HERE!](#) Ask to join the new Facebook group [HERE](#). And if you still have questions, contact [Lisa Nauman](#) / 503-538-9362.

REAL is looking for childcare workers for Thursday mornings. We need workers for each week or subs to be called at the last minute. We are also looking for someone to help just for the month of September and fill in occasionally. Pay is \$20 per week. If you can help us, contact [Lisa Nauman](#) / 503-538-9362.

PRAYER AND FINANCIAL HELP NEEDED

Pastor Angel Diaz has shared a financial concern for his family in Venezuela. His son, Syllebram, has opened a GoFundMe page, where he explains the need and gives an opportunity to offer help. Follow [THIS LINK](#) for more information and to make a financial gift.

Severe flooding has covered parts of Bangladesh and Nepal, causing many deaths and the destruction of property in areas where EFM missionaries minister to their Hindu and Muslim neighbors and communities. **As the Lord leads you, we would appreciate any donations to EFM marked “flood relief.”**

- Donate online by clicking [HERE](#)
- Donations can be sent by ground mail to EFM, PO Box 771139, Wichita, KS 67277.
- Credit card gifts can be called in to EFM at 303-421-8100.

To watch a short video illustrating the current difficulties in this region, click [here](#).

Margaret Fell Friends Women will jump-start their meetings for the 2017-2018 calendar year with a potluck on Monday, August 28, from 6 to 8 pm, at Spaulding Oaks Community Center, 1100 N. Meridian St. Drinks and table service will be provided. Come refresh your memory or learn anew what Friends Women is all about. Men are also invited!

P.S.

>> September 1 is right around the corner! Choose your Bible translation, [print the reading schedule](#), and create a small block of time in your day for reading the New Testament with your NFC community.

>> In case you missed it in the calendar above: **College age young adults** are invited to gather at 10am Sunday, September 3, in the social hall for doughnuts, coffee, and conversation. This will be a time of meeting one another and beginning to envision an ongoing young adult class during the Sunday Christian education hour this fall. Please contact [Joe Thouvenel](#) with questions about this opportunity.



REFERENCE INFORMATION:

Newberg Friends Church

307 S College (mailing PO Box 487), Newberg, OR 97132

503-538-8381 (office) • 503-538-0637 (fax)

NEW office hours: 9a to 1p Monday-Friday • 2 to 5pm by appointment

website: <http://newbergfriends.org>

Sunday Schedule:

Gathered Prayer—8-8:50am

Christian Education—9am

Community Time / Library—10am

Gathered Worship 10:45am

Friday Focus editor: Sherry Macy • [Send submissions to her](#) by Wednesday for Friday publication.

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