

Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church of Newberry

Shut In of the Month

Mrs. Edna Ringer
NHC Room 307
2993 Sunset Blvd.
W. Columbia, SC
29169

1701 Main Street, Newberry, SC 29108

April 2018

Update from the Session

1. The February financial report was reviewed and received as information.
2. The February 21, 2018 stated Session minutes were approved.
3. The shepherding concerns of the congregation were discussed.
4. Sessional Committees:
Christian Ed.: the youth cleaned the History Room and catalogued books in the Library.
5. An updated CWP policy is being formulated.
6. Doug Wicker gave a report of the Second Presbytery meeting that he attended as a delegate.
7. Andre Jennings was appointed as the church delegate for the annual Synod Meeting, June 5-7.



PRAYER CHAIN

If you have an urgent prayer request, please email or call **Marc Faulkenberry**, and he will distribute it via email. If you would like to be **added** to the distribution list, please email Marc. It is a privilege to lift up others in prayer to our great God.

prayers4newberry@gmail.com
351-0800 (cell)

Prayer List

David Bunn - military;
Betty Bland, Nelle Cromer,
Pat Harmon, Mark
McGuffee, Edna Ringer.

Ministry Schedule

Sunday
9:45 am
Sunday School
10:55 am
Worship

Wednesday
6:30 pm
Bible Study/Prayer
6:15 pm
Youth Group

FINANCIAL DATA - 2018

Budget Receipts	\$ 46,254.40
Budget Needs	\$ 39,839.88



FIFTH SUNDAY FELOWSHIP MEAL

On Sunday, April 29, following the worship service, we will share a covered-dish meal in the Fellowship Hall. Take advantage of this opportunity to deepen your relationships with your church family.

If you have any questions, please speak with an elder.



Our theme Scripture for 2018 is Genesis 17:7: "I will establish my covenant as an everlasting covenant between me and you and your descendants after you for the generations to come, to be your God and the God of your descendants after you." (NIV)

ARP Women's Ministries is an organization which encourages and equips the community of ARP women to minister together for God's glory and purpose.

Our desire is that all women in the ARP Church will: Know Jesus Intimately, Love Jesus Faithfully, and Serve Jesus Fruitfully.

*The Morning Circle will meet on **Tuesday, April 3** at **10 am** in the Carson Room for Bible study, prayer, and fellowship. Marcie Cole will be leading the study on the life of Abraham. Lite refreshments will be served by Lillian Price and Beverly Ringer. The Circle is always open for new members, contact Carolyn Fulmer for further information.*



Fellowship, Study, and Prayer

Tuesday 7-9 pm

Home of Catherine Faulkenberry/Marci Cole

Currently studying the book ***Knowing God*** by J. I. Packer.

If you are interested in attending the study, please contact either

Shannon Winter at 19golfaly@gmail.com, **803-940-1596** OR

Kristy Jennings and renkristy@hotmail.com, **803-271-5298**

ALL LADIES ARE WELCOME!!!!

Manna House Food Pantry

Peanut Butter and Jealy



The Manna House box is in the Main Street vestibule.

Our Souper Bowl of Caring received \$245 and 104 pounds of food.

If you are interested in volunteering at Manna House, please see Julia Rickard for information.

We will be serving Manna House the week of April 16-20. We are in need of two additional volunteers. This requires only 1 hour of time from 1:00 pm-2:00 pm.

“...the Lord Jesus Himself said, ‘there is more happiness in giving than in receiving.’” Acts 20:35

BACKPACK PROGRAM



Any donations (food or monetary) can be made to help fund the program at any time. You may put your check or money into your church envelope and mark it “Backpack Ministry” and place it in the offering plate. All money goes through our church

treasury.

Please continue to pray for the children in our community who are in need.

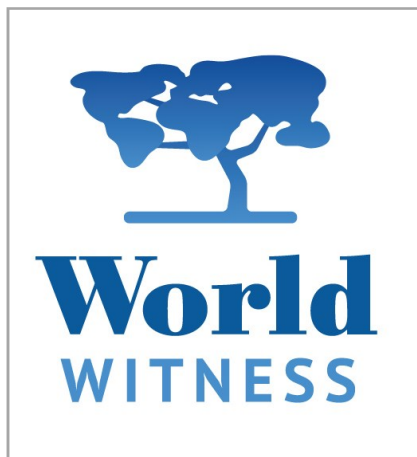
Call for a Day of Prayer & Fasting for Andrew Brunson

As we learned recently, Andrew Brunson, former ARP minister and missionary to Turkey (presently a member of the EPC) and son of Ron and Pam Brunson, who has been unjustly imprisoned, has been indicted. His court date is April 16 at 9 a.m. Turkish time and 2 a.m. EST. No evidence has been put forth to substantiate any of the accusations against Pastor Brunson.

Please consider taking a portion or the whole day (April 7) to fast and pray as able. Pray that Andrew's attorney will be allowed to access files that have been sealed to this point and review the evidence in order to prepare a proper and effective defense. Pray that our own national leaders including incoming Secretary of State, Mike Pompeo, and the President, will engage effectively with the Turkish government to secure Andrew's release and safe return home. Petition unto the Lord on behalf of Andrew that his faith would remain strong and that the comfort of the Scriptures and Holy Spirit would sustain him, on behalf of his family bidding their anxious fears be stilled, on behalf of Andrew's captors that their hearts be changed, and on behalf of his fellow prisoners and others that the light of the Gospel would penetrate their souls and that they be brought to a saving faith in Jesus Christ. As you make these petitions, remember all of our brothers and sisters throughout the world who suffer under the hand of oppressors and enemies of the Gospel and pray that the Lord would hear theirs and our cries that the schemes of the evil one will be thwarted and that the cross of Christ would be lifted high through faithful Christian witness. Pray that this persecution would give courage and boldness to other workers in the Muslim world. Pray to the end that one day it will be certain that, the kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he shall reign forever and ever.

MISSIONS FOCUS

Featured Field – Spain



Spain – The population of Spain is approximately 46 million people (Joshuaproject.net). Individuals living in Spain have a guaranteed right of the freedom of religion through the Spanish Constitution. Christianity is a **minority** religion in Spain with just **one percent** of the population being Evangelical Christians. Today, Islam is the fastest growing religion in the country with many immigrants bringing their religious beliefs with them when they migrate. Estimates by the Joshua Project indicate almost **1 million** people remain unreached with the Gospel Message.

Praises

- ♦ The Bible Club for girls in Spain continues to grow as the girls learn about God.
- ♦ For the spiritual hunger seen in the people of Spain.
- ♦ Ongoing Bible studies in Madrid.

Prayers

- ♦ For the Church plant in Madrid, a missional and multi-cultural congregation
- ♦ For the Bonilla Family as they minister to Spain
- ♦ For doors to open for conversations to lead to sharing about a relationship with Christ

3rd Annual World Witness Golf Tournament

A great opportunity to play golf, fellowship with World Witness board members, missionaries – and help raise **\$20,000** for missions.

Sponsorship Opportunities

\$250 – Tee Box Sign Sponsor

\$1,000 – Snack Cart Sponsor, Driving Range Sponsor

\$2,500 – Breakfast Sponsor, Lunch Sponsor

\$10,000 – Title Sponsor

When: Monday, June 4

Where: Etowah Valley Golf Club, Etowah NC (14 miles from Bonclarken)

Check In: 8:30 am

Shotgun: 9:30 am

Format: 4-person scramble – Bring a team, or we will team you up

Cost: \$75 per player (includes golf, lunch, prize drawing)

Prizes:

- Win a car with a hole in one
- inners in Championship, 1st, 2nd and 3rd flight
- Prize drawings after tournament

Registration deadline May 21 ([www.http://worldwitness.org/golf-registration/](http://worldwitness.org/golf-registration/))

Marks of Assurance

The Apostle John, the disciple whom Jesus loved, expresses his jealousy for the churches to whom he writes in *1 John*. As a result of the false teachers and their false teachings, John writes with passion and authority to shore up the faith of his flock. Even though they had been taught personally by him, some of them appeared to be susceptible of being led astray. Therefore, John reminds them of the fundamental truths that comprise the Gospel and the heart of the Christian faith.

For many of us who have either “grown up in the church” or have been a member of a church for a majority of our lives, it is easy to miss the urgency with which John addresses his audience. We find it hard to believe that after being pastored by one of Jesus’ twelve disciples that some of them abandoned the church. How could such a thing happen when the Apostle John was their former pastor?

Unfortunately, this is not uncommon in our day as well. The departure may not appear to be as drastic as it does in *1 John*, but the “exodus” is just as common. Hundreds of church-goers are abandoning the church every week with no intentions of ever returning.

Could that happen to me? Should you even ponder such a question? What makes you so certain that your faith is the real deal? How can I be sure that I am not deceiving myself? These questions are not intended to make you doubt or question your faith, but they ought to make you seek biblical affirmations for the authenticity of your faith, regardless of how long you may have been “in the church.” John does exactly that for his audience, which serves us as well.

What are the marks of genuine faith? This question itself needs clarification if we are going to benefit from what John writes. Marks of genuine faith are the results not the basis of salvation. In other words, they are the consequences of a transformed, regenerate life, not the merits for earning eternal life. John addresses his audience as those who are already walking in the Light and know God. He is not presenting a set of actions needed in order to receive eternal life. This is a vital distinction that we must understand if we are going to benefit from John’s instructions. It is only for those who have come to faith in Christ and are walking in the power of the Holy Spirit that the marks that John provides will supply any assurance. For those who are still in darkness, any effort to convert a fruit into a work will only lead to further condemnation.

What are some of these marks? One is the admission that we are sinners in need of God’s forgiveness. This is not just a general recognition that we are imperfect, but confessing specific sins in our lives that do not conform to God’s law. Such a response to God’s holiness can only happen through the grace of repentance by the Holy Spirit who indwells us. Those who are walking in the light, see their sins for what they are, wicked and heinous in the sight of God. Thus they humbly embrace the glory of the Gospel seeking the Lord’s forgiveness time and time again.

Another clear sign of genuine faith is love and fellowship for our brothers and sister in the Lord. In other words, it is impossible to say that you love your brothers if you are not in fellowship with them. Because all genuine believers are indwelt by the same Holy Spirit, an unbreakable and undeniable bond exists between all believers. Therefore, it is incomprehensible that a professing believer not love other believers, by not sharing fellowship with them. In practical terms this mean regularly associating with other believers and being a member of a local church, as it was the case for the readers of John’s letters.

A third mark of genuine faith relates to what you believe about Jesus Christ. Now this may seem so obvious that it does not need to be mentioned, but the reality is that especially in our day, the person and work of Jesus Christ must be clearly defined. Just as the false teachers in John’s day denied certain aspects of Jesus’ identity, so too we are bombarded in our day to reconstruct and redefine who Jesus is. If the identity of Jesus Christ deviates at any point from who He personally claimed to be according to the Scriptures and what His mission was on the earth, then there is no basis of saving faith. “Believing in Jesus” is of no eternal value if the object of your faith is not the biblical Jesus. All throughout history, there have been many cults that have come and gone based on this fundamental issue. The devil, who disguises himself as an angel of light, would like nothing more than for hundreds of thousands of people to put their trust in a counterfeit Jesus. Know from Scripture the Jesus who alone is able to save.

Test yourself and your faith so that you may be assured of your salvation. God has provided all we need to stand firm on His Word. May we rejoice in the hope that is our in Christ Jesus.

By His grace,
Pastor Seth

ARP Church of Newberry

1701 Main Street
Newberry, SC 29108

We're on the web
NewberryARP.org

Flowers for April

1 - Morning Circle

8 - Vernetha Renwick

15 - Mary Baker

22 - Glenda Lominick 29 - Kathy Wicker

Nursery for April

1 - Allison Yi & Gracie Faulkenberry

8 - Joanna Bedenbaugh

15 - Rachel Faulkenberry & Caleb Jennings

22 - Merri Avery & Noah Yi 29 - Catherine Faulkenberry & Elizabeth Yi

Ushers for April

1 - Doug Wicker, Mike Birochak, Jean Williamson, David Jennings

8 - Marc Faulkenberry, Keith Avery, Lee Winters, Benjamin Jennings

15 - George Farris, Don Ringer, Aaron Eising, Joseph Yi

22 - Lee Ringer, Cecil McRacken, Andre Jennings, Noah Yi

29 - Doug Wicker, Lee Winters, Keith Avery, David Jennings

