

Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church of Newberry

Shut In of the Month

Ruby Summer
2237 Harrington
Street
Newberry, SC 29108

1701 Main Street, Newberry, SC 29108

April 2016

Issue 4
Volume LI

Prayer Request

David Bunn & Gabe Dix serving in the military, Betty Bland, Nelle Cromer, Pat Harmon, Mark McGuffee, Edna Ringer, Ruby Summer.

Worship Schedule

Sunday's
9:45 am -
Sunday School
10:55 am -
Morning Worship

Wednesday's
6:30 pm -
Prayer meeting
6:30 pm -
Youth Group

FINANCIAL DATA - 2016

Budget Receipts	\$ 27,691.46
Budget Needs	\$ 24,510.08

Dear Rev. Yi and the Newberry ARP Church Family,

On behalf of the Erskine Choraleers, I wish to thank you for the gracious reception and outpouring of financial support that you issued to us on Sunday, March 20, 2016. It was indeed a pleasure for us to have the opportunity to share our music with you. Our goal was to communicate the Gospel message through music. I hope that we realized our goal, and that our performance was a positive contribution to your Palm Sunday Services.

Your contribution of financial support is most greatly appreciated. The offering that you made will be beneficial toward offsetting part of the cost of travel to your church. Through your support, we can more easily continue sharing our musical message with audiences and congregations throughout our region. May your church be richly and abundantly blessed for their demonstrations of benevolence and hospitality. Our students so greatly enjoyed the reception that you provided for them after the service.

Again, thank you so much for inviting us to sing for you. May you and your congregation have a joyous Easter.

With sincere thanks,

Keith D. Timms, DMA –Director of Choral Activities - Erskine College

Update from the Session

Below is a summary of the actions taken by the Session at its March 9, 2016 stated meeting:

Reports and prayers were offered for the shepherding needs of the congregation.

The February Deacon's minutes and financial report were reviewed and received as information.

The Church Safety Plan that was reviewed and commended by the Newberry Chief of Police was approved.

The Request to Carry a Concealed Weapon form was approved as an addendum to the Church Safety Plan.

A director for VBS is still needing to be secured.

Sessional committee reports were given. No actions taken.

Doug Wicker gave a report about the October Presbytery meeting as the church's delegate.

The elders discussed the possibility of replacing the current Trinity Hymnal with the Revised Trinity Hymnal (75 hymnals were recently gifted to the church).

A request from Julia Rikard to use the Grier Building on May 14 for a wedding shower for Maria Bedenbaugh was approved.

The next session meeting will be April 13th at 8:00 pm.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact an Elder.

Doug Wicker, Clerk of the Session

Flowers for April

3 - Communion Flowers

10 - Glenda Lominick

17 - Lisa Senn

24 - Julia Rikard

Nursery for April

3 - Kristy Jennings & Rachel Faulkenberry

10 - Allison & Caleb Yi

17 - Caleb Yi & Gracie Faulkenberry

24 - Joanna Bedenbaugh & Elizabeth Yi

Ushers for April

3— Don Ringer, Gene Wicker, Josh Fulmer, Noah Yi

10 - Mike Birochak, Andre Jennings, Josh Fulmer, Noah Yi

17 - Keith Avery, Marc Faulkenberry, Josh Fulmer, Noah Yi

24 - Lee Winters, George Farris, Josh Fulmer, Noah Yi



Prayer Chain

If you have a special prayer request please call or e-mail Lisa Senn and she will send it out via e-mail to all members. Lisa can be reached at 276-3253 or e-mail lisasenn@earthlink.net. It is indeed a privilege to lift up others in prayer to our great God.

Worship in Spirit and in Truth

For many Christians the weekly Lord's Day worship service has become such a routine (which should be the case for every Christian) that some of the elements have lost its significance or never been fully understood. We become so familiar with the order of service that we fall into the trap of just "going through the motions" without truly realizing the biblical meaning and significance of each element. As creatures of habit, we get accustomed to doing things a certain way, and we can easily engage in these activities without putting the proper thought and meaning into them. This error is unfortunately no less true with the worship of God almighty. However, the corporate worship of God is a privilege and responsibility that requires our utmost attention and sincerity.

Just what are the elements of a worship service? What are we doing and what is the significance of each part? Furthermore, how are they connected to Scripture? What difference would it really make if we removed some parts and added others? These are important questions we need to understand so that our corporate worship is not just personally satisfying but also biblically grounded. The worship of God is so central to the Church's identity and purpose that we should not just follow the subjective preferences of various individuals. Instead we must faithfully search the Scriptures to receive God's objective revelation as to how we are to worship Him.

In a biblical worship service there are basically two voices or parties involved. In other words, God receives our worship as we seek to bless Him and we are blessed by Him. This simple exchange of communication is the basic outline of our order of service. Throughout the service there is an exchange between God and us. There are times when we address one another as worshippers, but even then we are ultimately addressing God. Above all, the main principle that governs our worship is that it is God honoring and Christ centered.

Let me illustrate this outline by explaining some of the elements of our service. Biblically the service commences with the call to worship. As the Scripture is read in the call to worship, God invites and issues a summons to His people to come before Him for worship. The reason the service begins with this call is because it is God who initiates and draws us to Himself. His grace is expressed at the very beginning. There are two other elements of the service in which God "speak" to His people. The most obviously is the reading of Scripture and the sermon. Though God chooses to use frail and weak vessels to communicate His Word to His people; nonetheless, when the minister faithfully proclaims God's Word, we believe that God is communicating to His people. The sermon is not just the thoughts and opinions of the preacher, but God's ordinary means of dispensing His grace to His people. Finally, the benediction is the last "word" from God to His people in the service. It is not just a final prayer given by the minister, rather it is God's blessing to His people in response to having accepted the worship as an acceptable offering. Therefore, it is appropriate that the worshippers look up at the minister when the benediction is given and not close their eyes closed and bow their heads.

The other elements of the service involve the people's communication to God. A large portion of this is the singing. The hymns are sung primarily to attribute worth and honor to God. Consequently, when worshippers do not participate in the singing, they are in a sense withholding praise to God. Singing is much more about God and His pleasure than it is about our preferences or enjoyment. We sing not just because we like to but we must. Through the prayers offered by the minister, the worshippers are to join him not only in saying "amen" but also uniting in spirit with the prayers. In our service, there are at least five prayers offered. Each of them has a particular purpose in the various places in the service. Prayer is our access to the inner sanctuary, the holy of holies.

What is prominent in our service is its communicative nature. We are never mere spectators. There are times when we are quiet before the Lord, but that is to be attentive. Moreover, in order for the service to be meaningful to you and honoring to God, you must worship Him sincerely and intelligently. To learn more about our worship and the new order of service, I encourage you to visit our church's website, www.NewberryARP.org. On the Home page, under the "I'm New" banner, you'll find two new categories, "**Our Philosophy of Worship**" and "**Our Order of Service**." Both of these pages will give you greater insight into how our service is designed and what each element means. As we grow in our understanding and purpose in worship, we'll all be blessed for having come!

By His grace,

Pastor Seth



On March 1 and March 7 the women hosted the March Birthday parties at J F Hawkins Nursing Home and White Oak Manor. We had twenty-four residents that were celebrating their birthday in the month of March. Each birthday person was presented a gift bag with Lotion, Body Wash and Kleenex. We were pleased to be able to serve cake, ice cream and drinks to those in attendance. There were over 80 people in attendance at the two parties.

The volunteers came away with smiling faces and warmed hearts. If you want to do an outreach that touches a lot of lives then take the time to stop by and say hello to any of the residents at the nursing homes. You too will come away with a smiling face and a warm heart.



Thank you to all those who helped to make our Birthday Parties at the nursing facilities a success. To the volunteers who helped on the day of the parties, the ones who provided the cakes, the drinks, and the items for the birthday bags...THANK YOU!!!!

Manna House— Canned Fruits & Cereal (any type)

The Manna House box is in the Main Street vestibule.

A special thanks to the 8 volunteers from our church who served Manna House during the week of March 14-18. We were pleased to have two new volunteers but still have room for others. If you are interested in serving our next date will be August 15-19.

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



**Food Pantry
Donations Needed**



Our theme Scripture for 2015-2016 is Joshua 1:9 *"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go."*

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 5 at 10 am** in the Carson Room for Bible study, prayer, and fellowship. The study of Joshua will be continued and all ladies are asked to read chapters 5 and 6 in preparation for the study. Light refreshments will be served by Lillian Price and Beverly Ringer. The Circle is always open for new members; contact Dr. Mary Baker for further information.

LADIES BIBLE STUDY

Prayer and Fellowship Thursday evenings

7-9 pm

Home of Catherine Faulkenberry

The Ladies are currently studying the **Minor Prophets**.

Very informal study time using only the Bible and the inspiration of the Holy Spirit to delve deeper into our understanding of God's Word.

Do as little or as much reading or study of the passages as you feel led.

An e-mail will be sent out every Thursday morning to give you up to date details. If interested in receiving the e-mail please contact either

Shannon Winter at mtn.winters@yahoo.com 803-940-1596 OR

Kristy Jennings andrenkristy@hotmail.com 803-271-5298

ALL LADIES ARE WELCOME!!!

ARP Church of Newberry

1701 Main Street
Newberry, SC 29108

We're on the web
NewberryARP.org

Prayer is not conquering God's reluctance,
but taking hold of God's willingness.