

Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church of Newberry

1701 Main Street, Newberry, SC 29108

December 2022

Shut-In of the Month

James & Faye Hill

Newberry, SC 29108

Prayer List

James Hill, Dottie Price, Richard Lominick, Lillian Price, Jean Williamson, Vernetha Renwick

Ministry Schedule

Sunday

9:45 am

Sunday School

10:30 am

Cong. Assembly

10:55 am

Worship

Wednesday

6:10 pm

Family Feast

Thursday

Noon

Community Bible Study

Update from the Session

Below is a summary of the actions taken by the Session in November:

1. The October Financial Report and the November Diaconate minutes were received as information. The October Session minutes were approved.
2. The shepherding concerns of the congregation were shared, discussed, and prayed for.
3. The Christmas Eve Candlelight Service of Lessons and Carols will be held at 5:00 pm. Sunday School on Christmas Day was cancelled.
4. The December 21 Family Feast will include caroling to local shut-ins.
5. The 2023 Proposed Budget from the Diaconate was approved.
6. The following gifts were approved from receipts that exceed the budget: \$4,000 to the Alexanders (WW missionary candidates), \$2,500 to the ARP Good Samaritan Fund for Hurricane Ian Disaster Relief.
7. The first phase of the Fellowship Hall renovation will be scheduled in December.
8. The following men were approved as deacon nominees: Keith Avery, Marc Faulkenberry.
9. The December stated Session meeting is scheduled for 6:00 PM on the 20th.

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



PRAYER CHAIN

If you have a prayer request, please email, text, or call **Marc Faulkenberry** or **Pastor Seth**, and it will be distributed via email.

prayers4newberry@gmail.com

[Redacted] //

sethyi1969@gmail.com

[Redacted] //

congregational meeting



Annual Congregational Business Meeting

The Session has called a congregational meeting on **December 4** immediately following the worship service to: adopt the 2023 Budget, elect church officers, and conduct any other business.

FINANCIAL DATA as of Nov. 27, 2022

Receipts	\$183,530.35
Budget Needs	\$162,865.92

CHRISTMAS EVE
CANDLELIGHT SERVICE
OF LESSONS AND CAROLS
DECEMBER 24, 5:00 PM

Church Extension in Second Presbytery

Rev. Stacey Cox was approved by Second Presbytery to begin (effective December 1) his exploratory year in Gainesville, GA with the goal of planting Hope Fellowship Presbyterian (ARP). Please pray for Stacey and Allison, his wife, as they get settled in Gainesville and begin to build new relationships that will lead to forming a core group for this mission church.

Stacey has been working in ordained ministry since 2001. In an earlier life, he spent a season in trucking and logistics management before finally surrendering to God's call to the full-time ministry. He and Allison have previously been involved in planting two churches: one Southern Baptist (Camden, SC) and an ARP Church (Hillsborough, NC). Stacey is an affable, no-nonsense pastor with strong evangelistic skills who has a proven track record in mission and leadership development with a passion to see Jesus build out of nothing a new body of believers. They have three children: Anna Cox Ezelle (24), Seth (20), and Jessi (18).

Why Gainesville?

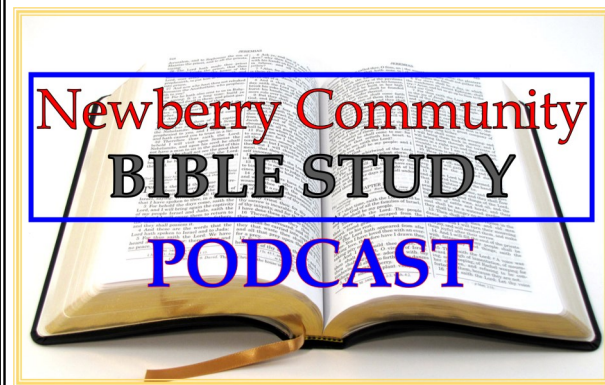
During the first year of the pandemic in 2020, about 27 million Americans moved to a new home. That figure represents a 9% decline from the previous year and is the continuation of a multi-year trend in decreasing mobility rates. However, many major metropolitan areas reported substantial population growth during 2020 and 2021. Gainesville, GA is one of those locations. Located in northeast GA, the population climbed from 203,589 in July 2020 to 207,369 in July 2021. The 1.9% increase ranks as the 37th highest among all U.S. metro areas.

Today, the Gainesville-Hall County Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) is among the top 50 fastest growing metros in the U.S. Total population is over 205,000 with a daytime population in Gainesville, the county seat, exceeding 150,000 people.

Currently, there are only three distinctly Reformed and Presbyterian congregations in the area: one in the city of Gainesville (PCA), one south in Chestnut Mountain (PCA), and a third (PCA) further south which straddles Gwinnett and Hall counties.

Hope Fellowship Presbyterian (HFP) will be targeting the city of Gainesville generally, and I-985/east Gainesville specially.

HFP will seeking to reach persons in the growing medical, educational, and teaching communities in the area, as well as recent newcomers to the community.



Audio recordings of each week's lesson from the Newberry Community Bible Study on the *Gospel of John* by Pastor Seth are available via the following formats:

1. newberrycommunitybiblestudy.substack.com
2. On **amazon music podcasts** search for "Newberry Community Bible Study"
3. Add the following **RSS feed** to your podcast App:
<https://api.substack.com/feed/podcast/1042002.rss>

On Friday mornings, 6:45 AM, several men gather at Doug Wicker's home for a time of food, fellowship, Bible Study, and prayer. Pastor Seth leads an interactive study (currently *Daniel*). Email Doug to be added to the weekly reminder.

**MEN'S
BIBLE
STUDY**
FRIDAY MORNINGS



All singles and widows are invited to share in this monthly fellowship following the worship service. We will next meet on December 11th.

SUNDAY MORNING CONGREGATIONAL ASSEMBLY

Everyone is invited to gather in the Fellowship Hall on **Sunday mornings from 10:30 AM to 10:50 AM** to nurture *koinonia* with one another. Drinks and refreshments are provided.

Wednesday Night Family Feast

Sharing a meal, nurturing intergenerational relationships, praising the Lord in song, studying the Larger Catechisms, and seeking the Lord in prayer. These are some of the blessings we enjoy on Wednesday nights (6:10 PM). Join your church family and grow in faith and love for one another! On December 21, after sharing a chili dinner, we will go caroling together to our local shut-ins.

Women's Ministry

Our theme Scripture for 2022: "And Elijah came near to all the people and said, how long will you go limping between two different opinions? If the LORD is God, follow him; but if Baal, then follow him." 1 Kings 18:21a (ESV)

ARP Women's Ministries is an organization which encourages, equips, and connects 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 next meet on Tuesday, January 3, 2023 at 10:00 AM in the Fellowship Hall for Bible study, prayer, and fellowship. A new study on Revelation will begin in January. This would be a great time to start attending!

Are you free on the first Tuesday of the month? If so, we would love to have you come and visit our Circle. We are always open for new members or visitors. Contact Julia Rikard for more information.



There is a **ministry** in our church that can easily be overlooked but is **critical** to our church's vitality. As the Lord graciously grows our church, the need for **nursery volunteers increases**. Currently, we have only **seven** workers who serve during the worship on a rotational schedule. Would you please **prayerfully consider** volunteering, if not on the regular rotation, possibly some other schedule? Anyway you can **serve** will lesson the load on the regular volunteers. **Many hands make light work!** Please communicate with **Katie Eising**, if you are willing to **serve in any capacity!**

Lee Shellnut - Barnabas Ministry



Lee Shelnut began service as a full-time missionary in June 2022 for a new field of service. As Discipleship Ministries team leader in Pakistan and Rwanda, he is leading the Barnabas Ministry's pastoral and leadership training programs. For more than 10 years, Lee served World Witness as a volunteer in missions where his work was primarily that of mentoring Pakistani ARP pastors.



Lee previously served as Senior Pastor at Huntersville ARP Church (NC). He is a graduate of Reformed Theological Seminary, Atlanta School of Biblical Studies, and Georgia Tech, and worked in the engineering field with Delta Air Lines. He and his wife, Joni, have a daughter.

Years ago, former WW Director, Rev. Dr. Frank van Dalen, asked Lee to consider mentoring a young Pakistani pastor, Zeeshan Sadiq. While this mentorship was limited in its scope, it was a unique type of "Barnabas Ministry" which sought to make a reproducible discipleship ministry for pastors in Pakistan. Lee served as a volunteer, while continuing his pastorate.

However, Lee's heart began to hear a new call, to consider taking this discipleship ministry into a broader, global arena. He sought the advice of several close friends outside his church and World Witness. On the ministry side, this call was divinely related to the massive opportunity the Lord brought WW in Rwanda to teach pastors in need of a certificate to meet government clergy requirements.

In addition to this exciting new role, Lee will be acting as an encourager to our European missionaries who are not part of the Bridge Europe Team. He will help in areas of ministry planning and goals.

MT3 and the Barnabas Ministry

What is different between MT3 and the Barnabas Ministry? While there is overlap in these ministries, they have significant differences as well. Dr. David Galletta, team leader of MT3, works in established seminaries abroad, teaching specified courses to pastors and seminarian students. As such, MT3 team members must have advanced degrees beyond a MDiv. They are meeting a crucial need by teaching courses in a host of countries for which there are no professors with adequate training.

In contrast, the Barnabas ministry will be training, discipling, and meeting the specific needs of pastors in Rwanda and Pakistan. These pastors may not attend seminary but nonetheless must be trained to lead the Church in teaching of the Word and sound ecclesiology. In addition, the Barnabas Ministry seeks to have ongoing, mentoring relationships with church leaders, to further discipleship opportunities.

Regarding overlap, MT3 will be an asset that the Barnabas Ministry will use to fill needs within the discipleship program. Also, academically qualified members of the Barnabas Ministry may be able to assist MT3 in its global course work as well.

ARP Church of Newberry

1701 Main Street
Newberry, SC 29108

We're on the web
NewberryARP.org

Flowers

4 - Shirley Mohler
11, 18, 25 - Poinsettias

Nursery

4 - Janet Porth (Elizabeth Yi)
11 - Merri Avery (Abigail Yi)
18 - Tracie McCoy (Katie Eising)
25 - Allison Yi (Janet Porth)

Ushers

4 - Cecil McRacken & Herb Seigler
11 - Chip Port & Keith Avery
18 - Adam Petty & Aaron Eising
25 - Keith Avery & Jason McCoy