

Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church of Newberry

Shut In of the Month

Betty Bland
1114 Glenn Street
Newberry, SC 29108

1701 Main Street, Newberry, SC 29108

Update from the Session

Below is a summary of the actions taken by the Session at its January 13, 2016 stated meeting:

The quorum was established as 3 ruling elders.

Reports and prayers were shared for the shepherding needs of the church.

Marc Faulkenberry was elected as vice-moderator and Doug Wicker was elected as clerk.

Elder Faulkenberry updated the session on the issue of church safety and future plans were discussed.

A request to use the Fellowship Hall on 2/2/16 was approved.

The collection of a love offering for the Erskine Choraleers' concert on 3/20/16 was approved.

The session agreed to hold its monthly stated meeting on the second Wednesday of the month barring a scheduling conflict.

The next session meeting will be February 10 at 8:00 pm.

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

Doug Wicker, Clerk of the Session

February 2016

Issue 2
Volume LI



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.



Flower Calendar

A copy of the flower calendar is enclosed. We still have several vacancies and if you would be willing to provide flowers please contact Shirley Mohler.

Prayer Request

David Bunn & Gabe Dix serving in the military, Betty Bland, 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	\$ 12,254.86
Budget Needs	\$ 12,255.04

Flowers for February

7 - Communion Flowers

14 - Shirley Mohler

21 - Frances Brown

28 - Morning Circle

Nursery for February

7 - Allison & Elizabeth Yi

14 - Caleb Yi & Wrenn Winters

21 - Frances Brown & Joseph Yi

28 - Joanna Bedenbaugh & Abigail Yi

Ushers for February

7 - Keith Avery, Marc Faulkenberry, Caleb Yi, David Jennings

14 - Lee Winters, George Farris, Caleb Yi, David Jennings

21 - Cecil McCracken, Doug Wicker, Caleb Yi, David Jennings

28 - Don Ringer, Gene Wicker, Caleb Yi, David Jennings



**Food Pantry
Donations Needed**

Manna House — Canned Meats, Fruit, Soup, Macaroni and Cheese, Small bags of grits, cornmeal, flour and sugar.

The Manna House box is in the Main Street vestibule.

Our church provides volunteers three times a year and as always more volunteers are needed. We will be serving March 14-18 and if you have an hour (1-2 pm) that you would like to use in service to others please contact Julia..

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



On February 7 our church will once again be participating in the Souper Bowl of Caring. A soup and sandwich luncheon will follow the morning worship. Any food items and monetary donations will be given to our local Food Pantry, Manna House.

March is Birthday time for us at our local nursing facilities, JF Hawkins and White Oak. Each year the women provide birthday cake, drinks and gifts for the residents who are celebrating March as their birthday month. JF Hawkins will be on Tuesday, March 1 at 2:30 and White Oak will be on Monday, March 7 at 3:00. We have 16 residents who have a birthday during March.

We need your help! Would you consider donating any of the items below?

Birthday Cake (we need three pound cakes)
Drinks (6 Diet Cokes)
Ice Cream (small individual cups)
Hand Lotion or Body Lotion
Body Wash
Box of Tissue



A basket will be placed in the breezeway outside the office for the lotion, wash or tissue. For other items please see Julia.

Are you free on March 1 or March 7? Volunteer to help with the party. It takes about an hour and you will truly receive a blessing when you see the delight on the faces of the residents.

Shepherding the Flock of God

The metaphor of the shepherd is one of the most beloved in all of Scripture. From *Psalms* 23 to *John* 10, the Bible reveals the Lord Jesus as a caring provider and a nurturing protector. He lavishes His flock with abundant supply and guards His own with sacrificial protection. How often have we been comforted by the Lord through His shepherding care! He is indeed the Great Shepherd (*Heb* 13:20) who tends to all our needs!

However, Jesus' shepherding ministry to His flock is not limited to Himself or even the Holy Spirit. The Lord intended the servant-leaders of His Church to carry on this ministry as His representatives by the grace of the Holy Spirit. In fact, when Jesus restored Peter to his apostolic calling, He specifically charged him to **shepherd** His sheep (*John* 20:16). By God's grace, Peter fulfilled this ministry. As the Lord enlarged His flock, the need to expand this ministry was distributed amongst elders, Christ's under-shepherds. Therefore, Peter could exhort his fellow elders to **shepherd the flock of God that is among you, exercising oversight, not under compulsion, but willingly, as God would have you** (*1 Pet* 5:2). Similarly, the apostle Paul exhorted the Ephesian elders to pay careful attention to themselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit had made them overseers, to care for the church of God, which He obtained with His own blood (*Acts* 20:28). As an expression of Christ's benevolence, He gave the **pastors-shepherds** and teachers to build up His Church (*Eph* 4:11). In His goodness, the Lord uses His under-shepherds to care for His flock.

Within the local church, the elders, both individually and jointly as the session, serve as shepherds by guarding and promoting the spiritual welfare of the congregation (*Form of Government* 6.4). Of all the responsibilities charged to the session, its primary responsibility is the spiritual oversight of the congregation (*FoG* 6.6). In order to fulfill this service, as the metaphor of the Good Shepherd suggests, elders must know their sheep and the sheep know them (*John* 10:15). It is through personal and caring relationships that such trust and confidence can be nurtured between elders and members. The depth of knowledge and affection that is required to nurture spiritual health requires intentional and deliberate relationships. Our *FoG* (6.8) details some specific ways in which elders are to accomplish this calling: *A. To shepherd the members by visiting with them, especially the sick; praying with them; comforting the sorrowing, encouraging the weak, guiding the wayward and the careless, and, in general, discharging all other duties in Christian love. B. To counsel with the members of the congregation and to inquire into their Christian knowledge and conduct.*

The Lord has blessed our congregation in this coming year with five caring and faithful elders. The Holy Spirit has equipped them for this calling and the congregation has confirmed them for this service. They are all humbled by this honor and eager to serve you as shepherds alongside me. As a session, we agreed that this responsibility would be most effective if each elder (along with a deacon) was assigned to a specific group of household. This way, each elder can focus his attention on developing and knowing a group of families intimately. They will assist me in fulfilling our responsibility as elder-shepherds of this flock.

You will be introduced to your shepherding elder in the near future (if not already). Please take advantage of this relationship to communicate your thoughts and concerns to the session. Moreover, be receptive to the efforts that each of them makes to strengthen their relationship with you. The session recognizes that no plan is fool-proof or guarantees success and that most of all time is essential for any relationship to develop and flourish. So please, open wide your hearts to your elder-shepherd so that we as a session might care for your souls and foster your growth in the grace and knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ!

By His grace,
Pastor Seth



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, February 1** at 10am in the Carson Room for Bible study, prayer, and fellowship. The study of Joshua will be continued and all ladies are asked to read chapter 2 in preparation for the study. After the meeting the group will have Kitchen Clean and lunch. 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

Ladies are currently finishing a study of 1 Corinthians.

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

Church attendance is as vital to a disciple as a transfusion of rich healthy blood to a sick man.

Dwight L. Moody