

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

February 2019

Update from the Session

Below is a summary of the actions taken by the elders at the January stated meeting:

1. Andre Jennings was elected Vice-Moderator. Doug Wicker was elected Clerk of Session.
2. The 12/18/18 and 1/10/19 diacanal minutes were reviewed.
3. The December 2018 financial statement was reviewed and received as information.
4. The December 2018 Session minutes were approved.
5. The shepherding concerns of the church were discussed and prayers offered for the various needs.
6. Missions Committee:
 - 1) The LIFEBRIDGE Baby Bottle Fundraiser was approved for February.
 - 2) The Monthly support of LIFEBRIDGE (\$150) and The Free Medical Clinic (\$50) were approved.
7. Marc Faulkenberry's request to use the sanctuary on 8/3/19 for his daughter's wedding was approved.
8. The next session meeting was scheduled for 2/20/19.

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

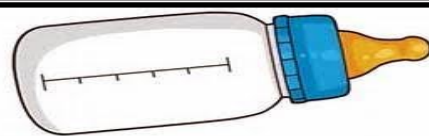


PRAYER CHAIN

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)

LIFEBRIDGE



Baby, Bottles, and Beyond
During February, we will have the opportunity to support LIFEBRIDGE personally.

1. Take a bottle home.
2. Fill your bottle with cash or check.
3. Return your bottle on collection day, **Feb. 24**.

Thank you for sharing in this local, Christ-centered ministry.

Prayer List

David Bunn - military;
Betty Bland, Pat
Harmon, Richard &
Glenda Lominick, Eliza
Parr, Mark McGuffee.

Ministry Schedule

Sunday

9:45 am

Sunday School

10:55 am

Worship

Wednesday

6:15 pm

Youth

6:30 pm

Bible Study/
Prayer

FINANCIAL DATA as of January 20, 2019

Budget Receipts \$ 6,974.00

Budget Needs \$ 10,322.13

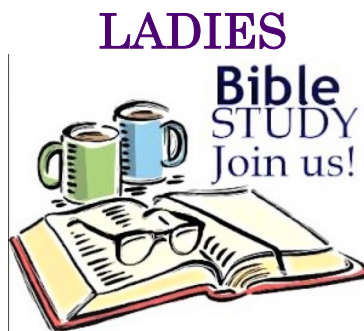


Our theme Scripture for 2019 is Roman 8:1-2 "There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death."

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 5** at 10 am in the Carson Room for Bible study, prayer, and fellowship. Marci Cole will be leading the Bible study on Romans. Please read chapter 1 of Romans in preparation for the study. After the meeting the members will clean the kitchen and order lunch from the Zesto. The Circle is always open for new members; contact Carolyn Fulmer for further information.*



Fellowship, Study, and Prayer

Tuesdays from 7 - 9 pm

Home of Catherine Faulkenberry/Marci Cole

Currently studying the book of Romans

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

Marci Cole, tybeemarci@yahoo.com, **603-781-0460** OR

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

ALL LADIES ARE WELCOME!!!!

Household Codes

The renown German Reformer, Martin Luther, is thought to have coined the phrase “household codes” (*Haustafeln*) regarding the instructions given in *Ephesians* 5:22-6:9. In this passage, the apostle Paul gives attention to the common relationships within a first-century household: husband and wife, parent and child, and master and slave. These relationships were not unique to Christian households, but the way in which the gospel transformed a believer’s life was to have a direct impact on how he conducted himself in every day life and every day relationships, especially those relationships that were closest to home.

In *Ephesians*, Paul makes a clear turn in chapter four expounding on the practical implications of the believer’s new identity in Christ. As a result of the radical change that has been created by God in the heart via the New Covenant, believers super-naturally think and live differently from their former way of life. As new creatures in Christ, their will and desire conform to God’s purposes. It is nothing short of a miracle, the new-birth!

An arena in which this transformation is necessarily evident is in our domestic and vocational relationships. The time we spend at home and at work comprises more than 80 percent of our life. It is undoubtedly the case that the people we *live* with and *work* with know us the “best.” The familiarity, intimacy, and interaction that we share with our family members and co-workers make us more likely to put our guards down and be more real with them. We are less likely to put up a front or a good face with these people. For better or for worse, these people know us at our best and our worst, who we are!

Consequently, if radical, Spirit-empowered transformation is taking place in our lives through the gospel, these fundamental relationships will bear witness to who we truly are. Paul believes this to be the case and sets forth a pattern by which all the members of the household can gauge their growth in grace. He speaks to each member of the household according to their established role and relationship.

What we need to keep in mind as we study the household codes is Paul’s understanding of the gospel in terms of its effect on society and culture. In particular, Paul viewed the grace of the gospel yielding a *reformation* not a *revolution*. In other words, as Paul preached the gospel and the power it had to redeem lives, his focus was not on starting a social revolution, tearing down the establishment all together but reforming the establishment from within. Paul’s conviction was that as the gospel took root in more and more converts’ lives, society would be renewed and reformed by the impact of believers. By preaching the gospel and its powerful effects on people’s hearts the world would gradually be restored from its fallen condition.

This is the context in which the household codes are to be understood. These relationships were staples in Paul’s world. He was not seeking to create a new social order (this especially helps us to understand why Paul appears to condone slavery in this passage even when he exhorts Philemon to receive Onesimus not as a bondservant but as a beloved brother, *Phm* 16). That being said, Paul does commend a way of relating in the household codes that is contrary to the norm of his world, and ours as well.

As believers whose identities are rooted in Christ, we must not look to our culture but to the Word of God for how our most fundamental relationships are to be ordered. There we will discover the Creator-God’s wisdom and the Redeemer-Lord’s grace in transforming and molding His people into families who reflect divine truth and glory. The manner in which a wife submits to her husband, a husband loves his wife, children honor their parents, parents nurture their children, bondservants obey their masters, and masters respect their bondservants, all testify to how the gospel changes believers’ lives. If the gospel does not alter who we are at this level, how we treat and relate to people in our most personal space, then the gospel has sadly not penetrated our hearts. So much of what we see in our society with the disintegration of the family amongst professing Christians is directly linked with the acceptance of a “false gospel.” Only by embracing the true gospel will we see our society restored and renewed by the grace of God.

Pastor Seth



MISSIONS FOCUS

Featured Field – Poland



According to the 7th Edition (2010) *Operation World*, Wales has a population of 38,038,094, overwhelmingly Polish in composition. Minority population size is uncertain due to a historic suppression of Ukrainian and Belarusian identity; also, in the latest census, twice as many declined to answer the ethnicity question.

Evangelical Christians have always been a very small minority, but some positive development is evident. Unfortunately, the growth immediately following Communism's fall was replaced by relative stagnation in the new millennium.

a) Evangelical unity is progressing well from the divisions of years past, but genuine cooperation is still new territory for most churches. The Polish Evangelical Alliance now represents over 90% of evangelicals. Pray for the ministry of the Polish

Ecumenical Council which brings together many Christian groups outside of the Roman Catholic Church. Pray that the Holy Spirit may bring reconciliation, fellowship and unity of vision in Jesus' name.

b) The multiplication of foreign sects and religions brings confusion. Jehovah's Witnesses outnumber evangelicals two to one. Pagan, Wicca and especially New Age groups steadily gain followers, with many practitioners comfortably combining these with Catholicism. Pray for the defeat of every ideological assault on biblical truth and a demonstration of the power and lordship of Jesus Christ.

c) The large Polish diaspora consists of millions who live and work elsewhere in Europe, particularly in the UK (peaking at up to one million). Of these, a large number are exposed to the gospel in a new way and in a more open environment. Pray for their responsiveness and for host cultures to take the opportunity to reach out to them.

Bible training for church leaders, a much-needed ministry, developed quickly but has recently fallen off the pace. There are about 25 Protestant institutions ranging from seminary level to part-time or correspondence Bible schools. The current shortfall in students could spell trouble for several of these schools as well as intensify the current lack of evangelical leadership. Well-trained, experienced pastors are in short supply, and many who complete their studies leave Poland for other lands. Pray for a new surge of students and for biblical faithfulness, spiritual power and missions vision to be hallmarks of graduates' ministry.

Dariusz and Brooke Bryćko

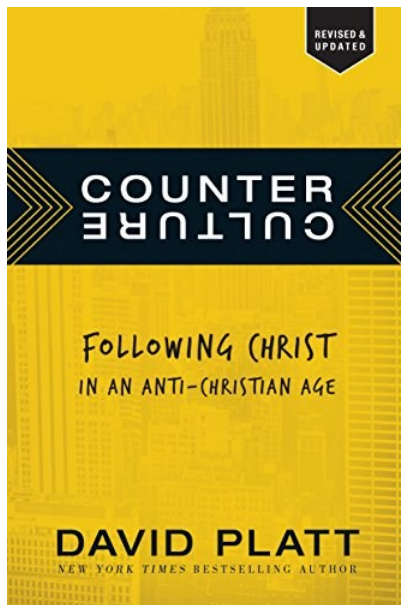


Dariusz and Brooke Bryćko, full-time missionaries, began service in Poland in 2015. A native of Poland, Dariusz holds a PhD in Historical Theology from Calvin Theological Seminary and was ordained as an ARP minister in 2015. The Bryćko's 2-fold mission is to plant a confessional Presbyterian church (worship services began Jan. 2017) and, in partnership with Tolle Lege Institute, establish a Reformation Study Center (opened in Oct. 2016) where academics, pastors, students, and laypeople can access theological/Biblical resources. Dariusz has been appointed R.W. Carson Chair of Christian Mis-

sions at Erskine Theological Seminary and will teach on foreign missions when in the U.S. Previously, Dr. Bryćko was a Research Fellow at Biola University and taught theology at a Christian university in Lithuania. Brooke holds a BA in Philosophy from Calvin College and certification in editing from the University of Chicago. The Bryćkos have three children: Levi, Eva, and Anselm.



This month on Feb. 21, the Lunch Bunch will dine at Taste of Home in Laurens. A group will depart from the church at 11 AM. Anyone is invited to come!!!



Wednesday Night Bible Study and Prayer

Pastor Seth has been teaching a study based on the book *Counter Culture* by David Platt. It deals with current issues confronting the Church and how we might respond to them in a gospel-centered way. If you are not able to attend on Wednesday night, you can listen to the lessons on your church website:

<http://www.newberryarp.org/wednesday-bible-study>

Every Friday morning, 6:45 AM, a group of men gather at Doug Wicker's home, 1414 Chapman Dr., for an encouraging time enjoying food, fellowship, Bible Study, and prayer. Pastor Seth leads an interactive study of God's Word (recently began the Gospel of John). You'll be blessed. Please join us!

**MEN'S
BIBLE
STUDY**
FRIDAY MORNINGS

Manna House Food Pantry



Canned Meats, fruit, soup, macaroni and cheese, small bags of grits, cornmeal, flour, sugar, rice, peanut butter, jelly, instant potatoes, cereal, evaporated milk, and spaghetti

The Manna House box is in the Main Street vestibule.
 “... the Lord Jesus Himself said, ‘there is more happiness in giving than in receiving.’” Acts 20:35

Our church provides volunteers three times a year and as always more volunteers are needed. Would you consider giving one hour of your time (1-2pm) in 2019 to help service Manna House? Our next time to serve is March 18-22. If interested,

On **Sunday, February 3**, we will once again participate in the Souper Bowl of Caring. Any food items (suggestions listed under Manna House section) and monetary gifts will be donated to our local food pantry, Manna House. Following the worship service, a variety of soups and sandwiches will be served in the Fellowship Hall. You are welcome to bring a dessert, a side item (salad, chips, etc.), or a drink.



For those wishing to place flowers in the Sanctuary for 2019, the signup sheet is in the Main Street vestibule.

ARP Church of Newberry

1701 Main Street
Newberry, SC 29108

We're on the web
NewberryARP.org

Ushers for February

3 - Marc Faulkenberry, Keith Avery, Lee Ringer, Caleb Jennings

10 - George Farris, Jean Williamson, Herb Seigler, David Jennings

17 - Doug Wicker, Cecil McRacken, Gene Wicker, Marc Faulkenberry

24 - Andre Jennings, Aaron Eising, George Farris, Noah Yi