

Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church of Newberry

Shut In of the Month

Nell Cromer
771 Windsong Trail
Little Mountain, SC
29075

1701 Main Street, Newberry, SC 29108

February 2017

Update from the Session

Below is a summary of the actions taken by the Session at the January 25 stated meeting:

- Marc Faulkenberry was elected as Vice-Moderator and Doug Wicker as Clerk.
- The December financial report was reviewed and received as information.
- The December 21 stated session minutes were approved.
- Reports and prayers were offered for the shepherding needs of the congregation.
- Jonathan and Kimberly Turnbough's memberships were transferred to Covenant Reformed Baptist Church in Easley, SC.
- Pastor Yi presented a lesson on the Lord's Supper based on the ARP Standards.
- Sessional Committees:
- **Missions:** The committee members for 2017 are Gene Wicker (chair), Jean Williamson, Julia Rikard, Shannon Winter, and Kristy Jennings.
- **Fellowship:** Lee Ringer was appointed as the chairman.
- **Christian Ed:** A bookstall will be placed in the Main St. vestibule with approved books for purchase at cost.
- 2016 Presbytery and Synod reports were approved.
- Elder Marc Faulkenberry was appointed as the representative for the 2017 General Synod meeting.
- The next stated session meeting will be February 15 at 8:00 pm.

Prayer Request

David Bunn - military; Betty Bland, Nelle Cromer, Pat Harmon, Mark McGuffee, Edna Ringer, Brady Ruff, Ruby Summer

Worship Schedule

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

Wednesday
6:30 pm -
Bible Study/Prayer
6:30 pm -

FINANCIAL DATA - 2016

| | |
|-----------------|---------------|
| Budget Receipts | \$ 176,083.01 |
| Budget Needs | \$ 156,251.76 |

Thank You

Tour of Homes

A note from Liz McDonald, Newberry County Chamber of Commerce:

Thank you for having your church on the Christmas Tour. It was beautiful and the wonderful treats were an added bonus.

The ARP Church Family:

Your kindness is greatly appreciated. Thank you so much for the Christmas bonus I received at the congregational meeting. I very much appreciate the special support through your kind and generous gift.

Alice

BACKPACK PROGRAM

Dear Newberry ARP Church,
Thank you for your kind generosity. You have helped our students and our families and we are forever grateful especially during the holiday season. Again, thank you all for partnering with us, and we especially thank you for being a blessing to us.

Sincerely,
Newberry Elementary
Faculty, Staff and Students

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

Doug Wicker, Clerk of the Session



On Sunday, February 5, 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 service in the Fellowship Hall a variety of soups and sandwiches will be served. You are welcome to bring a dessert, a side item (salad, chips, etc.), or a drink.



BackPack needs for February—Individual size cans of spaghetti, lasagna, or chicken/tuna kits

We have volunteers for February and March. Need someone for April and May. The backpacks are greatly appreciated by the children and the staff of Newberry Elementary School.

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 lisasenn1309@gmail.com. It is indeed a privilege to lift up others in prayer to our great God.





Manna House — Canned meats, fruit, soup, and macaroni and cheese. Small bags of grits, cornmeal, flour, and sugar. Peanut butter and jelly, mashed potatoes, cereal, oatmeal, evaporated milk, and spaghetti.

The Manna House box is in the Main Street vestibule.

As Manna House begins the 27th year of service to the Newberry Community, the goal is still the same, to exalt the Name and example of Jesus Christ by providing food and encouragement for families in need. A special thank you to all who continue to support the ministry and work of Man-

na House.

Our church provides volunteers three times a year and as always more volunteers are needed. Would you consider giving one hour of your time (1-2 pm) in 2017 to help service Manna House? If interested please contact Julia.

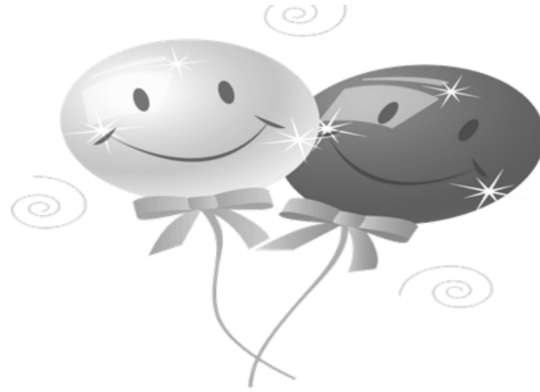
“...the Lord Jesus Himself said, ‘there is more happiness in giving than in receiving.’”
Acts 20:35



For those wishing to place flowers in the Sanctuary for 2017, please contact Shirley Mohler. We still have the dates of March 19, January 14 and 28 (2018) still open.

Items in Kitchen

There are several items in the kitchen that have been left during the holidays. One is a large covered cake/cookie container, small shoe box size containers, and a white with blue liner basket. Are you missing these items?

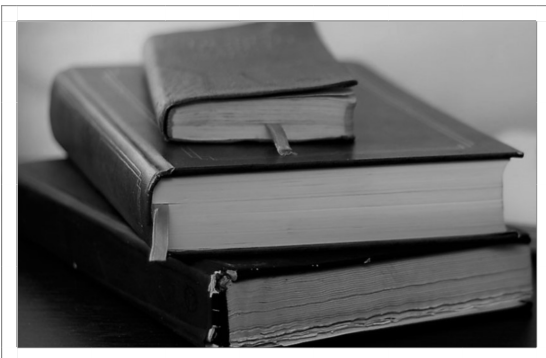


March is birthday time for us at our local nursing facilities, J.F. Hawkins/Springfield Place and White Oak. Each year the women provide birthday cake, drinks, and gifts for the residents who are celebrating March as their birthday month. Monday, March 6 will be at White Oak Manor and Tuesday, March 7 at J.F. Hawkins/Springfield Place. We will be preparing approximately 18 gift bags.

We need your help! Would you consider donating for our gift bags? Items needed are Hand or body lotion, body wash, and facial tissue.

A box will be placed in the breezeway outside the office for your donations.

CHURCH BOOKSTALL



Not sure what book to read or possibly buy? How can you be sure that the contents of a book is biblically sound or spiritually edifying? We will begin providing a service in the coming weeks to overcome these concerns! A bookstall will be placed in the Main St. vestibule. Each book will include an envelope where your payment can be placed and dropped off in the office or placed in the offering plate. All books will be offered at cost. Please take advantage of this service to build your own home library.

Affirming Our Faith

Another element or *part* of our corporate worship service that I would like to call to your attention is the *Affirmation of Faith*. Some of the questions I hope to answer are: Why is this part included in our service? What benefit does it have for us? Why have we stopped using the *Apostles' Creed*? I trust that with a better understanding of what the affirmation of faith is and why it is used, you will be more engaged and blessed in your worship of God.

To begin, what is the biblical basis for an affirmation of faith? Is it even proper to use such extra-biblical material in our worship? As Reformed Presbyterians, we hold to the principle that "the acceptable way of worshipping the true God is instituted by himself, and so limited by his own revealed will, that he may not be worshipped according to the imaginations and devices of men, . . . or any other way not prescribed in the Holy Scripture." (*Westminster Confession of Faith* XXI.5) In other words, all the *parts* of our worship need to be rooted in the Bible. We must find a biblical warrant for its inclusion in our service.

According to our *Directory of Public Worship*, "a confession of faith is an act of worship in which the people of God reaffirm their faith in the Lord as He has revealed Himself in the Scriptures." (DPW V.B.7.a) The affirmation of faith is a way of corporately confessing the truths of God in accordance with his deeds and words. In so doing, we are testifying to God and to one another the character and truth of God. Furthermore, we are agreeing with believers throughout history and the world of God's faithfulness and glory. So we see in the Old Testament, worshippers who presented their offering of firstfruits were to declare God's mighty deliverance in the Exodus (**Deut. 82:1ff**) as a perpetual memorial. The Israelites were to rehearse this event throughout their generations so that they would not forget or take for granted how God had mightily and graciously redeemed them from slavery.

In the New Testament, Paul makes mention of five "sayings" in his pastoral epistles, four of which are described as "faithful" (**1 Tim 1:15; 3:1; 4:7-9; 2 Tim 2:11-13; Tit 3:7-9**). These are not necessarily quotes of OT passages but truths that are derived from Scripture or summaries about Christ or his teachings. (By the way, this was before all four of the Gospels had been widely disseminated.) Paul used these sayings to affirm divine truths in a succinct way. Moreover, we also find in the NT portions of "hymns" that had developed in the early church affirming the doctrine of Christ (**1 Tim 3:16; Phil 2:6-11; Col 1:15-20; John 1:14-18; 1 Pet 1:18-21; 2:21-25; 3:18-21; Heb 1:3**). These appear to be non-Spirit-inspired writings that also gained acceptance by the church, so much that the apostles quoted them in their Spirit-inspired writings.

We could obviously use select portions of Scripture as our affirmation of faith, but based on the examples in both the Old and New Testaments, we have a warrant for affirming our faith using statements that faithfully express the teaching of the Scriptures. Historically, this has been the case with *The Apostles' Creed* that has been used in this church for many years. However, we are not limited to *The Apostles' Creed*. There are other ancient creeds (*The Nicene Creed*) that have been accepted by the church and are edifying in its content.

This brings us to our rationale for using the *Westminster Shorter Catechism* as our current affirmation. The particular benefit of the WSC is that it faithfully summarizes what Presbyterians have believed concerning the crucial doctrines of Scripture. Along with the other doctrinal standards of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church, the WSC express our unity with other Reformed believers throughout the world since the time of the Protestant Reformation. We are, by God's grace, the beneficiaries of a rich biblical and theological heritage. Therefore, it is to our spiritual upbuilding that we avail ourselves to the WSC. Above all, we long for God to be glorified by the truths that we affirm in our worship. Soli Deo Gloria!

By His grace
Pastor Seth



Our theme Scripture for 2017 is Galatians 5:22-23: "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law."

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 7** at 10 am in the Carson Room for Bible study, prayer and fellowship. Judy Bedenbaugh will be leading us in a study of Phoebe. Please read Romans 16:1-2. Light refreshments will be served by Vernetha Renwick and Julia Rikard. The Circle is always open for new members; contact Carolyn Fulmer for further information.

LADIES BIBLE STUDY

Prayer and Fellowship Thursday evenings

7-9 pm

Home of Catherine Faulkenberry

The group is currently studying the book *Knowing God* by J. I. Packer.

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 19golfaly@gmail.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

Flowers for February

5 - Communion
12 - Shirley Mohler
19 - Kathy Price
26 - Shannon Winters

Nursery for February

5-Merri Avery & Elizabeth Yi
12-Joanna Bedenbaugh
19-Allison Yi
26 - Shannon Winters & Gracie Faulkenberry