

Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church of Newberry

Shut In of the Month

Pat Harmon
2316 Brookside Drive
Newberry, SC 29108

1701 Main Street, Newberry, SC 29108

THANK YOU!

Dear Newberry ARP Church Family,

On behalf of my whole family, I want to express my gratitude for the generous Christmas gift that was presented to me at the Business Meeting! It has been my joy to serve you all the past seven months. You have warmly loved and welcomed our family with such open arms that Newberry already feels like "home." By God's grace, we look forward to many more years of service in this church and community.

In Christ's Service,

Pastor Seth

A special thank you to Mark and Lisa Senn for hosting the annual Women's Ministries Christmas Social.

Thank you to all who participated in the Angel Tree project this year. It was a great success. All of the Angel tags were filled and those who received them were very appreciative.

Dear Church Family,

Please accept my most sincere thank you for the gift presented to me this Christmas. It has been and continues to be a delight to serve such a loving and caring church family.

As we begin a new year, I pray the Lord's blessings upon each and everyone.

In His Name, Pete

January 2016

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Volume LI

Updated Church Webpage

The church's webpage (www.NewberryARP.org) has been recently updated with several new helpful features. There is even a Members Page with sensitive information which requires a password. Request the password from Pastor Seth. We hope you will take advantage of this service and direct others to it to learn more about our church.

Fifth Sunday Fellowship Meal

On January 31, 2016, following the worship service we will share a congregational Fellowship Meal! More details are forthcoming. A congregation that eats together, grows together!



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 - 2015

Budget Receipts	\$ 174,758.65
Budget Needs	\$ 149,283.63

Flowers for January

3 - Communion Flowers

10 - To Be Announced

17 - Sharon Ringer

24 - Julia Rikard

31 - To Be Announced

Nursery Workers for January

3 - Joanna Bedenbaugh & Caleb Yi



For those wishing to place flowers in the Sanctuary for 2016, the sign up sheet is in the Main Street vestibule.



Nursery Workers are needed on Sundays during the Worship Service, 10:45 am until 12:15 pm. In 2016 we will be staffing our nursery with volunteers only and more are needed. Would you be willing to be one of the volunteers?

If interested please contact Shannon Winters at 803-940-1596 or mtn.winters@yahoo.com.



Manna House—

Small 2 lb bags of Grits, Flour or Corn Meal

The Manna House box is in the Main Street vestibule.

As Manna House begins the 27th year of service to the Newberry Community a special thank you to all who have continued to support this ministry.

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 2016 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

Update from your Elders

During our last meetings, the Session took the following actions:

The Elders met on December 16th and met with Junah Winters. After hearing his testimony, the session voted to receive him as a communicant member.

The Elders discussed and prayed for the pastoral & shepherding needs of the church.

Elder Marc Faulkenberry updated the session on the issue of church safety.

The Elders discussed the details for the Wednesday night prayer meeting and Men's group for the month of December. It was decided that Wednesday Evening Prayer meeting would be canceled on the 23rd and Men's group will be cancelled on Dec. 25th and Jan. 1st.

The Elders voted and approved to have Dr. Bill Evans fill the pulpit on Sunday Dec. 27th.

The Elders approved to have the Installation and Ordination of new officers on Sunday, January 3rd.

The session approved to have the Grant's give a report about their mission work in Spain on January 20th. A fellowship meal will be served that evening.

The Elders approved ordering a few Table Talk devotionals along with the Upper Room devotionals to place in the vestibule for members.

The Elders discussed and approved making changes to the Nursery worker arrangements. The Women's Ministry will be in charge of scheduling volunteers.

The Elders discussed and approved making an invitation to the Erskine College Choraleers to sing in the church in the spring.

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

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

Andre Jennings, Clerk of the Session

State of the Church

As we launch into a new year and my second calendar year as your pastor, we can look back at 2015 and have much to be thankful to the Lord for what He has provided. As a congregation of Christ, it is fitting and beneficial for us to recount the goodness of the Lord (*Psa 9:1*) that we might not forget His grace and faithfulness towards us! By doing so, I trust we will stir up one another to love and good works (*Heb 10:24*) for the sake of Christ's Kingdom all the more.

Let me start by expressing how grateful I am to be the pastor of this loving congregation. In such a short time, the Lord has worked mightily to knit my family's heart to yours as we have made Newberry our "home." So much of that is attributed to all your many expressions of kindness toward us. Furthermore it has been my pleasure to get to know you all and learn of the Lord's faithfulness in your lives. I look forward to deepening our fellowship and service in the Lord.

The Lord's goodness to us has also been multiplied in our ministries. Just last month seven new officers, three elders and four deacons, were elected and will soon be ordained and installed. I look forward to serving alongside these men who have responded to the Lord's call to serve Him and His church in this congregation, community, and beyond. We will need your prayers and support to fulfill God's will as your servant-leaders.

In God's timing and goodness, we will begin 2016 with two gifted individuals to lead our music ministry. For the past month, we have already benefited from Alice Ramirez's accompaniment on the organ, enhancing and supporting the congregational singing in worship. In January, Hannah Collins will begin to develop our music ministry as our new choir director. Both of these ladies are relatively new to Newberry but they have a sincere desire to use their musical gifts to serve our community for the glory of God! Please pray about your participation as we seek to grow this ministry.

God's bounty has been evident in the overflow of resources that has been given by the congregation. You unanimously adopted a 2016 budget totaling \$157,816. This reflects a 3.7% increase from the 2015 budget and most of that is allocated toward ministry and missions! Furthermore, we will end 2015 with a surplus of more than \$41,000 in income over expenses. The Lord has made it clear that for those who have been given much, much will be required of them (*Luke 12:48*). May we seek the Lord's wisdom and guidance in stewarding the resources He has entrusted to us for the advancement of His Kingdom.

Now as we look forward to 2016, how might we demonstrate our faithfulness to the Lord in accomplishing His purposes? Let me provide a few areas of ministry that I believe require greater participation and commitment. With the additional officers for 2016, we are better equipped to grow and support the ministries of the church. However, the session and diaconate need your participation to fulfill the work of ministry. The sessional committees are a means by which you can practically assist. We are seeking members who have a heart for service in the areas of missions, fellowship, or finance. Prayerfully consider how the Lord might use you, if not on a committee, then being available to assist when called upon.

As we have been blessed by the Lord in so many evident ways, it is only fitting for us to consider how we might share God's blessing with others, especially our community. As we consider our congregation's gifts and talents, let us prayerfully consider how the Lord might use us to minister to our community. As we seek the Lord for guidance, may we be attentive to His call in putting our hearts, hands, and resources to serve our community in a tangible way. Our impact for Christ on our community will start as we reach out to those who need to see and hear the riches of the Gospel!

Last but not least, the fuel for ministry is prayer. This is a truth that most Christians affirm, but inconsistently practice! One of the few congregational gatherings on the church calendar is our Wednesday Prayer Meeting. I realize that this gathering may not be feasible for everyone, but I'm confident that it is for more members than those who currently attend. As we gather each Wednesday night as the people of God, we enjoy fellowshiping with one another, singing the Lord's praises, studying God's Word, and seeking the Lord in prayer together. If we truly believe that "unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain" (*Psa 127:1*), then all that we seek to accomplish for His name sake must be undergirded with prayer! So I encourage all who are able to prioritize this gathering in your weekly schedule so that we might see God's blessings unleashed from heaven.

Please join me in giving thanks to our God for His past goodness, but not stopping at just that. Let us look to Him in faith for even greater blessings to be displayed through the ministries of Newberry ARP Church. I truly believe that what we have experienced in the past year is but a foretaste of greater things to come. If the Lord be for us, who can be against us? Indeed, as His people we are privileged in our service to glorify God and to enjoy Him forever!!!

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, January 5, 2016** at 10 am in the Carson Room for Bible study, prayer and fellowship. We will begin a study of Joshua. You are asked to read chapter 1 in preparation for the study. The study will be led by Julia Rikard. Light refreshments will be served. 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!!!!



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.

ARP Church of Newberry

1701 Main Street
Newberry, SC 29108

We're on the web
NewberryARP.org

Take time to live-it is the secret of success.

Take time to think-it is the source of power.

Take time to play-it is the secret of youth.

Take time to read-it is the foundation of knowledge.

Take time for friendship-it is the source of happiness.

Take time to laugh-it helps lift life's load.

Take time to dream-it hitches the soul to the stars.

Take time for God-it is life's only lasting investment.

-Rotary Rambler, Norton, Kansas