

Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church of Newberry

Shut In of the Month

Pat Harmon
2316 Brookside Dr.
Newberry, SC
29108

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

6:30 pm

Bible Study/
Prayer

1701 Main Street, Newberry, SC 29108

July 2019

Update from the Session

Below is a summary of the actions taken by the elders at the June 19 stated meeting:

1. The Diaconate minutes of 6/6/19 were received as information.
2. The May Financial Statement and Session minutes were received as information.
3. Shepherding concerns of the congregation and visitors were discussed.
4. Marc F. gave a brief report of the General Synod meeting.
5. Aaron Eising was approved as the pulpit supply for 7/7/19 and the Lord's Supper moved to 6/30/19.
6. The next stated Session meeting will be held on July 24.

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



PRAYER CHAIN

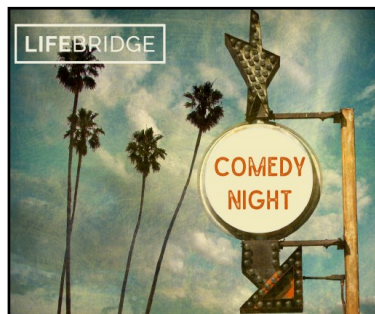
If you have an urgent prayer request, please email or call **Marc Faulkenberry**, and he will distribute it via email. If you would like to be **added** to the distribution list, please email Marc. It is a privilege to lift up others in prayer to our great God.

prayers4newberry@gmail.com
351-0800 (cell)

Facility Updates

Roof: The smaller tower of the sanctuary required repairs due to a leak in the roof. The water damage still needs to be painted. All the flat roofs are being evaluated and bids collected to address any further issues.

Organ: The organ closet, adjacent to the anteroom, was found to be growing mold. Countermeasures have been implemented to limit the level of humidity in the organ closet and the anteroom to prevent further mold growth and costly repairs to the organ.



JULY 25, 7 PM

The RITZ Theatre

**\$20 GENERAL, \$10 YOUTH
SPECIAL: BUY 3 GET 1 FREE**
Pay for TICKETS: At the Door,
Online, or Phone/Mail

FINANCIAL DATA as of

June 23, 2019

Budget Receipts \$ 75,409.76

Budget Needs \$ 86,017.75

Beaver Falls Synod 2019

Dear Church Family,

Seth and I made the nearly 600-mile trip up to Beaver Falls, PA to join with our brothers in both the ARP and RPCNA (Reformed Presbyterian Church of North America; historically the Reformed branch of the Associate “Reformed” Presbyterian, the Covenanters) for a joint Synod meeting. For those of you who may not be familiar with Beaver Falls, it is about 30 miles northwest of Pittsburgh and is the hometown of “Broadway Joe” Namath. There are various industries surrounding the town but in the very center of Beaver Falls sits Geneva College -- the Erskine of the RPCNA.

Geneva is a beautiful campus with lots of rolling hills – very steep rolling hills. We easily worked off our lunches strolling around the terrain. Geneva was founded in 1848 in Ohio, then moved east to its current 55-acre site in 1880. There are approximately 1200 students on campus, making it about twice the size of Erskine’s Due West student body.

We opened our times each day with worship and there wasn’t a piano in sight. The RPCNA worships without instrumentation and sings exclusive Psalmody. Acapella music does have a lovely sound during worship and our brothers from the RPCNA can really sing! These times together were a great blessing and encouragement. The people in our sister denomination were also very hospitable. We even had sweet tea at lunch one day!

Our Moderator, Dr. Leslie Holmes, challenged our denominational leadership to “Build Healthy Churches and Birth Healthy Christians.” This is what our world needs more than anything.

Our Vice-Moderator, Rev. Kyle Sims, challenged us to look back at the model for the church given to us in **Acts 2** encouraging us: *Day by day continuing with one mind in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they were taking their meals together with gladness and sincerity of heart, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord was adding to their number day by day those who were being saved.* – **Acts 2:46-47**

These words energized us to focus on Christ and His Church. May Newberry ARP be a place with healthy Christians who praise God and find favor with both God and man!

Our Synod docket was not a large one this year but there was plenty of business to consider. Here are some of the highlights:

COMMITTEE ON WORSHIP

The **Committee on Worship** studied the music approved for worship in the ARP Church. Of note, of the churches within the ARP, 31% use the *Bible Songs*, 31% use the new *ARP Psalter*, 3% use an older ARP Psalter, and 43% do not use a Psalter at all. A recommendation came from the floor to encourage the 43% who do not sing the Psalms regularly to purchase one of the approved Psalters for worship. *The Book of Psalms for Worship* and the *Trinity Psalter Hymnal* were also approved as recommended Psalters within the ARP Church.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO STUDY HOMOSEXUAL ORIENTATION

The Synod was tasked last year to study the **ARP position statement** (last updated in 1977) on homosexuality and to study “whether or not homosexual orientation is morally neutral.” This has been one of the topics at the forefront of the culture war in our world for the past few decades. The committee studied and answered the question: “No. Homosexual orientation is not morally neutral and is sin.” The committee also recommended that the Synod adopt the new position statement as the official Position Statement of the Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church on Human Sexuality to replace the 1977 Synod Position Statement on Homosexuality.

ERSKINE COLLEGE AND THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

There were 563 students enrolled in Erskine College in the fall of 2018, including 202 new students. Erskine expects its largest freshman class ever in 2019. Both Erskine College and the Seminary are working together creating a College/Seminary 5-year B.A. to M.Div. degree program which fast-tracks those “select students” desiring both undergraduate and graduate degrees in five years instead of seven. The Alumni President has been added as an advisory, non-voting member of the Board of Trustees. The Moderator of Synod will also be an advisory, non-voting member of the Board of Trustees.

BOARD OF BENEFITS

The Board of Benefits **Retirement Committee** has been looking at both the structure and funding of the current retirement program. With interest rates much lower than in years past and with ministers living longer, it has placed a stress on the pension system which will require additional funding from member churches if not addressed. It was proposed to increase the funding from 12% to 16.5% and reduce the income multiplier for retired ministers. This motion was put on hold and instead a “blue ribbon” committee will be established to study this in conjunction with the Denominational Ministries Fund and report back next year.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MINISTRIES

Camp Joy is celebrating 40 years of ministries to those with special needs. This ministry has grown and expanded to Virginia and Tennessee and there are discussions of additional camp locations in the near future. In other news, CEM has retained Ian Duguid to write the *ARP Quarterly*.

THEOLOGICAL AND SOCIAL CONCERNS

This committee was given another year to study the **Book of Discipline Draft** and bring a finished draft to next years Synod. They were also charged with changing the **vows** for installing deacons to reflect the nature of the office in Scripture and in our Standards as one of service and recommending to the 2020 Synod such revisions.

MEMORIALS

Four memorials passed: **1)** the Theological and Social Concerns Committee study and compile the scriptural teaching on “secret societies” so that the ARP Church can create a policy and draft a public statement regarding membership in such societies. **2)** a Special Committee to give study and to make recommendations for revisions to Ch. 9 (The Minister) of the FOG regarding personal accountability and responsibility of all ministers to their presbytery and clarify the responsibilities and authorities of ministers serving as missionaries. **3)** establish a Special Committee to give study and to make recommendations for revisions to Ch. 11 (Organization of a Mission into a Church), paragraphs 23 and 24, of the FOG. **4)** to write a letter to the members of Congress and to the United States Supreme Court, and to the President of the United States reminding them of the sacredness of life; calling to their remembrance that God establishes all who rule, and that all men, including Civil Servants, will one day give an account to the Lord Jesus Christ of their deeds done on this earth.

Rob Roy McGregor, III and Rev. Rob Patrick were nominated and elected as Moderator and Vice-Moderator respectively for 2019-20 Synod.

Seth Yi will serve on the Board of Outreach North America (while he serves as the chairman of Second Presbytery’s Church Extension Committee) and the Committee on Inter-Church Relations, and Marc Faulkenberry will serve on the Committee for Campus Oversight for 2019-20.

It is a joy to serve the Newberry ARP Church as an elder. I thank you for your trust in the Session and we each covet your prayers.

May we grow closer and dearer to one another as we grow closer to our Savior!

Your Brother in Christ,
Marc Faulkenberry



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, July 9** at 10 AM in the Carson Room for Bible study, prayer, and fellowship. Marcia Cole will be leading the Bible study on Romans. In preparation for the study please read Romans 8: 1-39, Life in the Spirit. Refreshments will be served by Harriet Boazman and Edith Bedenbaugh. The Circle is always open to new members; contact Carolyn Fulmer for further information.*



WILL RESUME IN SEPTEMBER

Fellowship, Study, and Prayer

Tuesdays from 7 - 9 pm

Home of Catherine Faulkenberry/Marci Cole

If you are interested in 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!!!!



Salkehatchie Summer Service is a servant ministry in South Carolina involving high school and college age youth, adult community leaders, and persons of different cultures in upgrading housing, motivating community cooperative efforts by helping persons to help themselves, and providing all participants with opportunities for personal growth and service. This year, in our project known as a **"Journey of a Thousand Bottles,"** we will assist this mission by collecting 1000 bottles of water for more than 100 volunteers. Until **July 10**, interested participants are welcome to drop off bottle water in the Grier Building or contribute a monetary gift. Please write "water" and the amount on your offering envelope.



SUNDAY, JULY 14

All singles and widows are invited to share in this monthly gathering of delightful fellowship and delicious food following the worship service at the Pastor's home.

SAVE THE DATE

Jubilee Birthday Annual Ice Cream Social will be held on Sunday, **August 25**. More information to come in the August newsletter. Mark your calendar for a great event!!!





MISSIONS FOCUS

Featured Field – France



Islam is now the second religion of France. Growth is largely through immigration and a higher birth rate, but there are an estimated 150,000 French converts to Islam, mostly via marriage. Pray for the following issues:

a) *There are deep divisions within French Islam,* primarily between fundamentalists and secularists. Over 70% of Muslims in France are of Maghrebian origin, but many mosques are financed by hard-line groups from other countries.

b) *Assimilation of Muslims into French society* is a huge concern for a republic founded on secularism and integration. A large percentage of Muslims live in poor urban contexts, forming an increasingly dissatisfied underclass that is conflicted about its own identity. Rates of crime, unemployment and under-education are all higher in French Muslim communities.

c) *Christian ministry to Muslims.* Fear and ignorance prevent Christians from reaching out; there are only around 100 full-time Christian workers doing so. Despite this, reports suggest that up to 15,000 Muslims are converts to Christianity, one-third of those becoming Protestant.

Sebastien and Patti Benicourt



Sebastien and Patti Benicourt began service with World Witness in 2008, ministering in Turkey, until 2016. In Spring 2017, the World Witness Board approved their field assignment to France, where they are partnering with Operation Mobilization in bringing the Gospel to the Turkish Diaspora in France, in discipling a growing number of Turkish believers, and in assisting the national Church in gaining a wider vision for Muslim ministry. The Benicourts completed undergraduate theological studies at Columbia International University, Columbia, SC. This summer

they are moving to Strasbourg to join the Mebergs (WW missionaries). They have 5 children. You can donate to their ministry at www.worldwitness.org/give/missionary-support/.



On July 18, 11:30 AM, the Lunch Bunch will eat at A Taste of Home in Laurens. Everyone is invited to come!!!



Manna House Food Pantry

Dried Beans & Evaporated Milk

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 will be **volunteering** the week of July 22-26. If you would like to volunteer please contact Julia.

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 (the Gospel of John). You'll be blessed. Please join us!

**MEN'S
BIBLE
STUDY**
FRIDAY MORNINGS

ARP Church of Newberry

1701 Main Street
Newberry, SC 29108

We're on the web
NewberryARP.org

Flowers for July

7 - Communion
14 - Kathy Seigler
21 - Mary Baker
28 - Kristy Jennings

Nursery for July

7 - Merri Avery & Abigail Yi
14 - Rachel Faulkenberry & David Jennings
21 - Kelci Avery & Benjamin Jennings
28 - Noah Yi & Elizabeth Yi

Ushers for July

7 - George Farris, Jean Williamson, Gene Wicker, Michael Jennings
14 - Cecil McRacken, Andre Jennings, Aaron Eising, Noah Yi
21 - George Farris, Jean Williamson, Doug Wicker, Caleb Jennings
28 - Marc Faulkenberry, Doug Wicker, Herb Seigler, David Jennings

