

Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church of Newberry

1701 Main Street, Newberry, SC 29108

July 2020

Shut In of the Month

Betty Bland



Prayer List

David Bunn (milt.); Betty Bland, Mark McGuffee, Pat Harmon, Tony Fulmer, Lee Ringer, Vernetha Renwick, Eliza Parr, Glenda & Richard Lominick, Jean Williamson.

Ministry Schedule

Sunday

9:45 am

Sunday School

10:55 am

Worship

Wednesday

6:15 pm

Youth

6:30 pm

Bible Study/
Prayer

Update from the Session

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

1. The May Financial Report was received as information.
2. The May Session minutes were approved.
3. Ben, Heather, Amber, and Mason White were received as communicant members via reaffirmation of faith. Chip and Janet Porth were received as communicant members via transfer of letter.
4. The shepherding concerns of the congregation were discussed.
5. The plans for the re-opening of the Music Ministry was finalized (see notice in newsletter). Expenses for items to refurbish the handbells were approved.
6. A fellowship meal (using safety procedures) to honor the graduates will be held on July 5 following the service.
7. Two elders will assist with the offering counting process.
8. Aaron Eising will pulpit supply on July 19.
9. The July stated meeting is scheduled for the 22nd.

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

We appreciate everyone mailing their tithes and offerings to the church. We give thanks to the Lord for His faithfulness expressed through your continual giving and support!!!



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)

SERVICE LIVESTREAM

The Sunday morning worship service is being livestreamed, 10:50 AM, on the church's Facebook page, www.facebook.com/newberryarp. There a document, **Worship Guide**, that includes all the material needed to participate at home on our webpage, www.newberryarp.org.

Sunday School Has Resumed

The following SS Classes are meeting at 9:45 AM:

- **Youth:** Youth Room
- **Friendship:** Sanctuary
- **Berean:** Fellowship Hall

FINANCIAL DATA as of June 21, 2020

Budget Receipts \$ 79,229.46

Budget Needs \$ 82,724.25

Casting a Vision for Our Community

As you have all witnessed through the media, our nation has been in a state of social unrest and upheaval. The criminal act of a ruthless police officer has unleashed a storm of racial tension unlike anything we've witnessed in the last 40 years or more. These demonstrations, both peaceful and violent, have released a torrent of emotions that have exposed just how divided our nation still is over racial issues. As a Christian and a pastor, it has driven home to me that the only hope for racial reconciliation is the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. Regardless of the social, legal, political, and institutional reforms that may be enacted in the coming days, only the power of the Gospel can produce lasting and genuine reconciliation between sinners, regardless of their ethnicity or race. The changes that need to happen in our society is not primarily racial but spiritual. Unless the heart is change, "social justice" will only mask a deeper issue.

Over the past two weeks, I have listened to (and talked with two personally) three black Americans share their personal experience of growing up in South Carolina. Two of these individuals are from Newberry and the third is our own U. S. Senator, Tim Scott (remarks following the JUSTICE Act). The two Newberrians are a male sheriff's officer (who has served our community for over 20 years) and a grandmother who lives in the Helena Community. Having these two Newberrians in our home and allowing them both to speak freely and candidly about how life was for them growing up in Newberry and what they continue to face was truly humbling to our family. Both of them are believers who also affirm the necessity of the Gospel to effect lasting racial changes in every community, not just Newberry.

On the one hand, I was thankful for the recent unrest that served as a catalyst in prompting Allison and me to meet with these two neighbors, but on the other hand, I was regretful that it took something of that magnitude for us to pursue having such conversations. Many of my preconceived notions were confirmed about what life was and is like for them as black Americans but my eyes were also opened in many respects to new vistas of reality that were completely foreign to me. For most of the majority population in our nation, the daily challenges that both of these individuals face are completely a non-issue. In some real ways, we live in different worlds.

So beyond gaining some new insights into the unique challenges that black Americans face even in our community, what did I walk away with as your pastor? As a congregation of the Church of Jesus Christ in Newberry, I sensed a great opportunity for us to be an agent of Gospel reconciliation. As followers of the Lord Jesus Christ, we not only have a calling but an opportunity to establish and build loving relationships with our black neighbors that exalt His grace. What we can accomplish through personal relationships are far greater than any piece of legislation or social reform. But it will take initiative, courage, dedication, humility, and ultimately the power of the Holy Spirit to foster such relationships.

When the apostle Paul sent Onesimus back home to Philemon, after Onesimus had been converted, Paul encouraged Philemon to receive Onesimus as a beloved brother and as he might receive him (*Phm 16,17*). Philemon's and Onesimus' fundamental relationship was no longer one of master and slave but one of brotherhood and mutuality in the Lord. That's the reality and power of the Gospel. In much the same way, you are more closely linked to a black Christian brother than you are to a non-Christian family member. Do you believe that? (See *Matt 12:46-50*)

My vision for us and other Christians is to serve the Helena community by developing Gospel-centered relationships that transcend racial, class, and social boundaries. The grandmother has started an outreach to the young ladies in her community in the Helena Community Center, but my prayer is that many more of us can venture into that community to serve and develop genuine friendships that only Christ can develop and sustain. I realize for some (maybe most), what I am casting seems like an impossibility, but our prayers are offered up to God whose powers are limitless. Will you at least start praying for a willingness to be used by the Lord?

Pastor Seth



Come and join us as we honor our 2020 High School Graduates on Sunday, July 5.

Immediately following the worship service, we will gather in the Fellowship Hall. A **prepared box-lunch** of chicken fingers, macaroni and cheese, green beans, and dessert will be served. If you prefer ham, please let us know, newberryarp@gamil.com, along with the number of individuals who will be present by **Wednesday, July 1.**

MUSIC MINISTRY RESTART



After much prayer, study, and consolation with Hannah Collins (Choir Director) and Alice Ramirez (Organist), the Session has developed a plan by which to restart the music ministry for the coming months (if necessary, changes may be made). For the month of July, anthems will continue to be solos or small ensembles. The **choir** (see plan below) will resume in August with choir rehearsal beginning on Wednesday, 5th, 7:30 PM.

Proposed plan for choral size, rehearsal, and worship:

- Begin with a **small ensemble** (2 voices per vocal part SATB)
- **Rehearse** in the sanctuary **every other week** with 6 feet per household (music recording to be sent home for personal practice)
- One choral anthem per month. On those Sundays, the choir members will occupy the choir loft with spacing. The accompanist will play the piano for the whole service and the organ will be covered.
- The **handbells** will be used on some Sundays for the anthem.
- A **Music Ministry Google Calendar** has been created so members who are interested in singing either a solo or in a small ensemble may express their desires for the coming months in consultation with Hannah and the Pastor. To access the Music Ministry calendar, go to our church's website's **Members Page**, under **Resources** (password XXXXXXXXXX), and click the **Music Ministry Calendar box**. When the calendar opens, click the **TASKS** button (**blue circle** with a white pen on the right upper-hand corner). In that box, you can **Add** a task (Choose a **date**, **Title** of selection, and any **details** in the appropriate space). A **Red Title** on the Calendar indicates a scheduled anthem.
- The players for the handbells will be a limited group of **8** initially. Those who are interested may use the same Music Ministry Calendar and indicate their interest using the **KEEP NOTES** button (**yellow square** above the **TASKS** button).



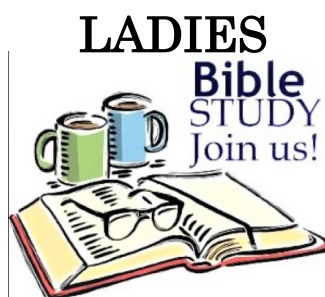
Our theme Scripture for 2020: "And those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky above, and those who turn many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever." Daniel 12:3 (ESV)

ARP Women's Ministries is an organization which encourages, equips and connects 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 7** at **10 AM** in the Carson Room for Bible study, prayer, and fellowship. Marcia Cole will be leading the 2020 Bible study on Daniel. In preparation for the study please read Daniel 5, The Writing on the Wall. There will be **no refreshments** served at the meeting.*

Are you free on the first Tuesday of the month? The Morning Circle is always open for new members or visitors, contact Julia Rikard for further information.



Fellowship, Study, and Prayer

Mondays 7 - 9 pm

Fellowship Hall

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!!!!



Manna House Food Pantry

Canned Tomatoes and Canned Fruit

The Manna House box is in the Main Street vestibule to receive donations.

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

LIFEBRIDGE

LIFE CARE CENTER

RELATIONSHIPS ~ PREGNANCY ~ PARENTING



The coronavirus pandemic has forced Henry Cho to cancel all of his live shows. So the scheduled Comedy Night Fundraiser has been revamped in preparation for Henry’s return in 2021 (Lord willing). Please pray for and support this event.

2020 COMEDY NIGHT HOUSE PARTY EDITION

Remote Comedy Event with Henry Cho
 Hosted by: YOU
 Invite your friends and family to join you for an evening of fun and fellowship with the perk of raising money for an amazing ministry. Meet at your house, your house of worship or commandeer a friends house.

DETAILS TO COME!

On Friday mornings, 6:45 AM, a group of men gather at Doug Wicker’s home, 1414 Chapman Dr., for an encouraging time of food, fellowship, Bible Study, and prayer. Pastor Seth leads an interactive study of God’s Word (currently 1 Peter).

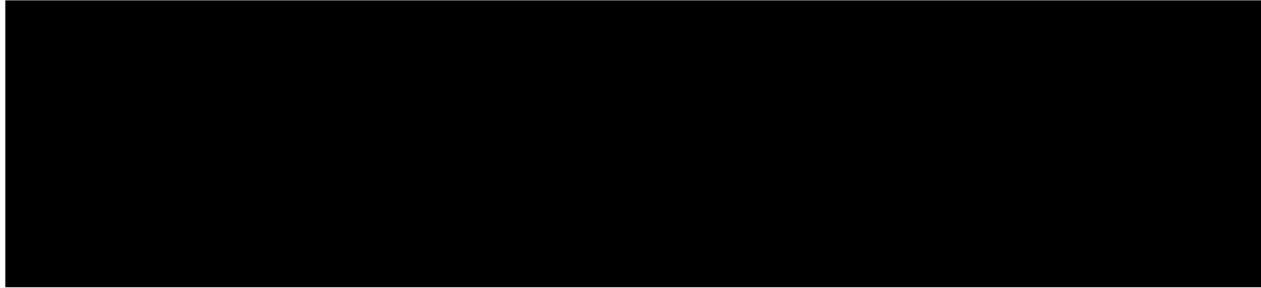
Email Doug to be added to the weekly reminder.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY
 FRIDAY MORNINGS



We give thanks to the Lord for drawing these new members into our fold! Please extend a personal welcome and the right hand of fellowship to these saints into our Church Family!

Ben, Heather, Amber, and Mason White



Chip and Janet Porth



LOVING ONE ANOTHER



During this coronavirus pandemic, many of our members due to health and medical condition have become drastically isolated from nearly all personal contact. Some have become “shut-ins” during this period of social distancing. As a practical expression of love and care, take a few minutes each week to reach out and let some one know that you are thinking of them. The wonderful thing about this ministry is that the phone works both ways! As the body of Christ, even if we can't see and be near one another as we would like, we can still express our love for one another. It's a ministry we can all perform and share!

ARP Church of Newberry

1701 Main Street
Newberry, SC 29108

We're on the web
NewberryARP.org

Flowers for July

5 - Communion

12 - TBA

19- Mary Baker

26 - Kristy Jennings

Ushers for July

5 - Jason McCoy, Caleb Jennings

12 - Noah Yi, Andre Jennings

19- Ben White, Herb Seigler

26 - Chip Porth, Michael Jennings