

# Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church of Newberry

## Shut In of the Month

Eliza Parr  
2000 Springfield  
Circle  
Newberry, SC 29108

## 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

## FINANCIAL DATA as of May 24, 2020

Budget Receipts \$ 68,071.21  
Budget Needs \$ 69,488.37

1701 Main Street, Newberry, SC 29108

June 2020

## Update from the Session

Below is a summary of the actions taken by the Session in April and May:

1. The March and April Financial Reports were received as information.
2. The March and April Session minutes were approved.
3. Herb Seigler was appointed the church's delegate for the meeting of Presbytery and Synod on Aug. 17-20.
4. A document written by Pastor Seth, "Pastoral Letter to Sessions Concerning Public Corporate Worship During Periods of Social Distancing," was submitted to the Presbytery for study.
5. The following on and off campus ministries were approved to resume: home Bible Studies 5/15/20; Wednesday Evening Bible Study and Prayer, Youth, Choir Practice 5/20/20; Sunday School 5/31/20.
6. The June stated meeting is scheduled for the 17<sup>th</sup>.

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

We **appreciate** everyone mailing **their tithe 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](http://www.facebook.com/newberryarp). There is a link and a document, **Worship Guide**, that includes all the material needed to participate at home on the church's home webpage, [www.newberryarp.org](http://www.newberryarp.org).

## *How Should We Then Worship?*

(The following is the opening section of the "Pastoral Letter to Sessions Concerning Public Corporate Worship During Periods of Social Distancing" that the Session submitted to our presbytery for study. If you would like a copy of the complete document, let Pastor Seth know.)

### **Essential Nature of Public Corporate Worship**

By its very nature the visible church is an assembly or congregation of God's people (based on the Greek word *ekklesia* which is a compound from the preposition *ek*, meaning out of, and the verb *kaleo*, meaning to call; thus *ekklesia* literally means called out ones.). The Church as the body of Christ on earth and in history exists to magnify the truth and grace of Christ as a gathered worshipping assembly.

We find in the Holy Scriptures and the Standards of the ARP Church unequivocal teaching regarding the church's witness and purpose. As far back as the exodus, the prototypical act of salvation, God declared to Moses that Israel's redemption was so that they may "serve" Him (Ex. 3:12; 4:23). The Hebrew word for serve, *abad*, when God is the object can be translated "worship." Thus it is used to describe the ministry related to tabernacle worship that God called the Levites and priests to perform (Num. 3:7-8). Through the redeeming work of Christ and the fulfillment of the New Covenant, God's people, the New Israel, are now a royal priesthood that they may offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ and proclaim the excellencies of him who called them out of darkness into his marvelous light (1 Pet. 2:5, 9). This glorious service is being accomplished by God through sending "His Church into the world to present Jesus Christ through preaching, witnessing, teaching, sacrament, worship, and corporate living." (*Form of Government (FOG)* 1.7) According to our *FOG* 3.1, 2, a "congregation is a company of Christians, with their children, associated together according to the Scriptures for worship" whose purpose is "to glorify God by conducting public corporate worship." Corporate worship is so essential to the purpose of a congregation that the Presbytery has the authority to dissolve a congregation when one "becomes so reduced in its membership and strength as to be unable to maintain the ordinances of regular public worship." (*FOG* 3.21)

Our Standards clearly declare the utmost importance and necessity of corporate worship. God, and God alone, in his revealed will has instituted the acceptable way of worshipping him. (*Westminster Confession of Faith (WCF)* XXI.1) While under the gospel, religious worship is not limited to a certain location (*cf. Directory of Public Worship (DPW)* 3.6), nevertheless, public assemblies (i.e., corporate worship) are not to be carelessly or willfully neglected or forsaken, when God, by his word and providence calleth thereunto. (*WCF* XXI.6; Isa. 56:6-7; Heb. 10:25; Prov. 1:20-21, 24; Prov. 8:34; Acts 13:42; Luke 4:16; Acts 2:42) Hebrews 10:25 specifically warns Christians not to neglect the assembling together of the saints, even when under the pressure of persecution or difficult circumstances. Therefore, Christians have a God-given obligation to gather on the Lord's Day for corporate worship. It is our spiritual duty to

be present every single week in corporate worship unless we are providentially hindered. The Lord's Day has been set apart for the worship of God. "It is therefore imperative for all people, especially the people of God redeemed in Christ, to gather together in public assemblies for offering to God the worship He is pleased to receive and has revealed to us in His Holy Word" for it is "both the happy privilege and the solemn duty of all God's people to assemble for worship on the Lord's Day as they are able." (*DPW* 1.3, 4.4)

Corporate worship on the Lord's Day as we understand it is a faithful application of the first commandment wherein we acknowledge God "to be the only true God, and our God, and to worship and glorify him accordingly,...calling upon him, giving all praise and thanks, and yielding all obedience and submission to him with the whole man." (*Westminster Larger Catechism (WLC)* 104) Moreover, we fulfill the duties of the second commandment through our corporate worship in "the receiving, observing, and keeping pure and entire, all such religious worship and ordinances as God hath instituted in his word; particularly prayer and thanksgiving in the name of Christ; the reading, preaching, and hearing of the word; the administration and receiving of the sacraments." (*WLC* 108) As we seek to be faithful in our worship of God, we must also avoid at all cost the sins forbidden in the second commandment that do not conform to his revealed will. In times of social distancing we must be careful to distinguish between corporate worship as God has prescribed and "using, and any wise approving, any religious worship not instituted by God himself." (*WLC* 109) This calls into question the notion of "virtual worship" where participants are not bodily present in a worship service but merely viewing it from a separate location via electronic media.

In summary, we can plainly draw from the Scriptures and our Standards that the Lord's Day public corporate worship for the ARP Church and its congregations is the most central expression and purpose of its being. In particular, a congregation's witness of Christ and his gospel in any community is inseparably linked to its public corporate worship. When this dimension and activity cease, its essential identity and function are jeopardized. Therefore, the session of a congregation should be humble, sober, deliberate, measured, non-reactionary, and prayerful before making any decisions that would lead to the suspension of its public corporate worship. It is a matter that requires biblical clarity and wisdom, one that is a course of last resort. When our Standards include qualification to corporate worship such as "providential hindrances" and "as they are able," they must be weighed carefully in light of what is reasonably certain and biblically warranted and not speculative and worldly. We must use the truth of Scripture in determining the application of these rare exceptions.



congratulations  
**graduates**  
 class of 2020

*We are thankful for the Lord's faithfulness and kindness in these covenant children's lives!*

**Gracie Faulkenberry** will be attending Midlands Technical College to study paralegal.

**Benjamin Jennings** will be attending Western Carolina University in Cullowhee, NC to study accounting.

**Noah Yi** will be attending the University of South Carolina in Columbia to study broadcast journalism.

*Lord willing, we will honor our graduates following a worship service at a Fellowship Meal in late June.*

*Thank You*

Mama asked me to be sure and thank our church family for all the calls, cards, and prayers. She also appreciated all the accommodations made to try and help her hear. She surely loved her church family and missed being able to attend on a regular basis. Joe and John and I are so thankful for all that was done for her. We look forward to the time when we can celebrate her life together.

Yours in Christ,  
 Edith



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, June 2 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 4, King Nebuchadnezzar's Pride takes a Fall. 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!!!!**

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## **Below are the local ministries that our church supports and a brief description of their services.**

### **LIFEBRIDGE**

LIFEBRIDGE is a LIFE Care Center specializing in the areas of Pregnancy, Parenting, Relationships for women and men. They offer compassionate help and hope through their advisory and educational services which include: free pregnancy testing and exploring options, STI/STD testing and ultrasound referrals, private and group pregnancy, and parenting classes, relationship and co-parenting classes, maternity and infant items, and healing after abortion or infant loss services.

All their services are free and confidential. They are a nonprofit nondenominational faith-based organization.

Our Church sponsors them with a monthly donation of \$100 per month.

### **GOOD NEWS CLUB**

*Good News Club*® is a ministry of *Child Evangelism Fellowship* in which trained teachers meet with groups of children in schools, homes, community centers, churches, apartment complexes, just about anywhere the children can easily and safely meet with their parent's permission. Each week the teacher presents an exciting Bible lesson using materials from CEF Press. This action-packed time also includes songs, Scripture memory, a missions story, and review games, or other activities focused on the lesson's theme.

The purpose of *Good News Club* is to evangelize boys and girls with the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ and establish (disciple) them in the Word of God.

Since 2018 we have been sponsoring a club at Newberry Elementary School during the fall of the year for any child interested in attending. Donations for the snack and any related materials are accepted from the congregation.

### **FREE MEDICAL CLINIC**

The mission of the Newberry Free Medical Clinic is to understand and serve the health and wellness needs of the medically underserved, and their households, who live and work in Newberry County.

The Clinic opened its doors in December 2004 with services including medical and dental care as well as prescriptions.

The Clinic is funded through various grants and the support of local county churches, individuals, businesses, industries, and service organizations. All Newberry County churches are invited to participate in the mission. Our Church donates from our budget \$50 per month as well as individual contributions.

They are always seeking volunteers to assist with the publicity and public relations, reception and greeting, translating and administration. Anyone interested is encouraged to call 276-6665 for further information.



## **BACKPACK PROGRAM**

The purpose of the Backpack program is to provide for children who are at risk of hunger with healthy nutritious food to take home for the weekend during the school year.

We currently provide for 10 children each week. The backpacks contain food for breakfast, lunch, dinner, and snacks for Saturday and Sunday. This program is funded through donations from the congregation. Volunteers are always needed to pack the backpacks.

When the 2020-2021 school year begins, it will be our fifth year of participation.

## **MANNA HOUSE**

Manna House is our local Food Pantry and was started thirty years ago by a group of local Churches (ARP, Aveleigh, Central United Methodist, Redeemer Lutheran. and St. Luke's Episcopal).

The mission of Manna House is "To exalt the Name and Example of Jesus Christ by providing food and encouragement for families in need"; we not only provide physical food but also spiritual encouragement through His Word by presenting each client a Bible.

It is a nonprofit organization that uses volunteers for any aspect of the operation. Currently it has 20 churches and one organization that provide the volunteers.

Manna House is located in the building of the Department of Social Services. It is open Monday-Friday from 1:00 pm until 2:00 pm but is available anytime for emergencies. Clients are kept confidential and can/have been referred by pastors, hospice, school teachers, law enforcement officers, Human Services at DSS, and caseworkers.

The contribution of food and monetary donations come from churches, service organizations, individuals, schools, and businesses

We have a Manna House food box in the Main Street vestibule for any donations.

## **WORLD WITNESS**

World Witness is the international mission agency of the ARP Church and is headquartered in Greenville, SC. Their purpose is to plant healthy, reproducing GOD-glorifying churches, which are winsomely Reformed in doctrine and Presbyterian in structure, in defined communities across geographic and cultural boundaries.

World Witness realizes this purpose by sending and supporting missionaries and by mobilizing ARP churches to do so. Our missionaries proclaim Jesus Christ as the only Savior and LORD through evangelism, discipleship, church planting, Christian education, and works of compassion.

**Structure:** 59 Missionaries & Families. WW Greenville staff and volunteers. 2 MT3 (Mobile Theological Training Teams) located in the US and traveling internationally. Projects - Child Sponsorship, Nurse Student Scholarships - ARP Hospital, Sahiwal, Pakistan. Medical Student Scholarships.

# ARP Church of Newberry

1701 Main Street  
Newberry, SC 29108

We're on the web  
[NewberryARP.org](http://NewberryARP.org)



## Manna House Food Pantry

### Dried Beans and Soup

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

#### Flowers for June

7 - Communion

14 - Meri Avery

21 - Lillian Price

28 - Kathy Seigler

#### Ushers for June

7 - Keith Avery, Clyde Brown, George Farris, Cecil McRacken

14 - Aaron Eising, Marc Faulkenberry, Benjamin Jennings, Caleb Jennings

21 - George Farris, Andre Jennings, Michael Jennings, Don Ringer

28 - Jason McCoy, Lee Ringer, Doug Wicker, Gene Wicker