

Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church of Newberry

1701 Main Street, Newberry, SC 29108

June 2021

Shut-In of the Month

Richard & Glenda
Lominick
[REDACTED]
Newberry, SC
29108

Prayer List

David Bunn (milt.); Mark McGuffee, Vernetha Renwick, Glenda & Richard Lominick, James Hill, Doris Singley, Marci Cole

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 in May:

1. The April Financial Report and the May Diaconate minutes were received as information.
2. The April Session minutes were approved.
3. The shepherding concerns of the congregation were shared and discussed.
4. Maxine Jennings was removed from the membership roll at her request.
5. The Joint Sunday school class for the summer quarter will meet in the Fellowship Hall.
6. The Jubilee Ice Cream Social is scheduled for August 22, 5 PM.
7. The June stated meeting is scheduled for the 22nd at 6:00 PM.

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



PRAYER CHAIN

If you have a prayer request, please email, text, or call **Marc Faulkenberry** or **Pastor Seth**, and it will be distributed via email.

prayers4newberry@gmail.com

[REDACTED]
sethyi1969@gmail.com

318-680-4375 (cell)

Covenant Baptism

David Adrian Eising
Son of Aaron and Katie
was baptized on
May 5, 2021



GENERAL SYNOD 2021

June 8-10 - First Presbyterian Church, Columbia, SC

Please pray for all the decisions that will be made at this year's meeting. In addition to the regular committee and board reports that will be discussed, there are several special committee and commissions reports (Catechetical Instruction Manual, Net Assets Reallocation, Restructuring, Retirement Fund Crisis Study) that will have significant, long-term impact on our denomination. We need the Lord's wisdom and grace to seek His will for our church!

FINANCIAL DATA as of May 23, 2021

Budget Receipts \$ 84,492.97
Budget Needs \$ 70,123.83

Church Membership: A Privilege and a Responsibility

Back in the late 1980's to mid 1990's, American Express trademarked the slogan, "Membership has its privileges," to market their unique credit card that charged a fee in contrast to their rivals like Capital One, Discover, MasterCard, and Visa that did not. They claimed to offer consumers certain advantages that the other competitors did not. With their exclusive membership that came with the annual fee, they sought to earn additional revenue above and beyond the typical interest levied on the borrower. It was a novel idea that sought to leverage the perceived benefits that an exclusive "membership" offered. American Express launched this campaign with the hope that there were enough consumers who would be willing to pay an additional fee to belong to this privileged membership.

Whether or not this was a successive campaign remains to be seen, but the principle of *a membership that costs nothing is worth nothing* is a truth that applies to the church of Jesus Christ as well. To even use the word *membership* in the same sentence with the *church* may seem like a foreign concept to many Americans today, but when we faithfully read and understand the Bible, church membership is revealed all throughout Scripture. Even if the term "church membership" is not found in the Bible, it is a concept that has its roots in Old Testament Israel. In fact, for certain transgressions against the Lord's covenant, God required that such offenders be "cut off" for his people (*Gen 17:14; Ex 12:15, 19; 30:33, 38; Lev 17:9-10* just to mention a few). In essence these violators lost their membership in the visible church, the people of God.

In the New Testament, Jesus in *John 15* uses similar language to describe what He does with those branches that do not bear fruit. These branches that are cut off are removed *from* the vine which implies that they were connected or joined to Christ and the visible church. It is a process that takes into account the privileges as well as the responsibilities of being a professing Christian and a church member and living in accordance with that identity. Moreover, in *Matthew 18:15-20* Jesus gives clear instructions on how an unrepented church member is to be treated. When the offender is unwilling to repent after multiple attempts at restoration, the church is to treat him as a Gentile and a tax collector. In other words, he is to be *removed* from the membership of the church. Likewise the apostle Paul clearly alludes to the reality of church membership when he rebukes the Corinthian church for not removing a scandalous sinner from among them (*1 Cor 5:2-5; 13*). Their unwillingness to expel the church member called into question the honor of Christ and the witness of the church. Furthermore, Paul formalized church membership to the extent that he instructed Timothy (*1 Tim 5:9-16*) to keep a separate record (*enroll*) of certain widows who would be supported by the church. A definitive church membership would have been necessary in order for this instruction to have been cogent and obeyed. Church membership has always been a mark of the people of God.

Being a church member comes with many spiritual and temporal benefits. We may take some of them for granted but the effects of the coronavirus in 2020 have brought many of them to the surface. Therefore, church membership necessarily includes responsibilities. To truly benefit from our membership, we must also be diligent to exercise the responsibilities of a healthy member. As a helpful summary, the ARP Form of *Government* (4.4) lists the responsibility of church members as: "A. Make diligent use of the means of grace. B. Share faithfully in the worship and service of the Church. C. Give of their substance as the Lord may prosper them. D. Render wholehearted service to Christ and His Kingdom throughout the world. E. Continue in the peace and fellowship of the people of God. F. Submit to the authority of the elders. G. Live so as to bear faithful witness to the Gospel."

As shepherds of the flock (*1 Pet 5:2; cf. Acts 20:28-33*), God has called the elders to tend to the soul care of the members of this congregation. We are humbled and aware of our own deficiencies in fulfilling this calling; nonetheless, it is a responsibility that we must diligently pursue, knowing that we will give an account to the Lord on the Day of judgement. Pray for and with us as we seek to glorify God in magnifying the privileges and responsibilities of church membership in this congregation.

Pastor Seth



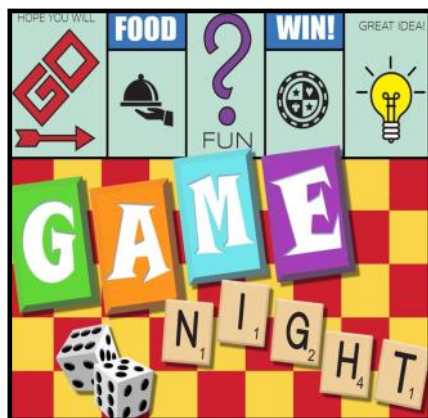
SUNDAY, JUNE 13

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.

SUNDAY MORNING CONGREGATIONAL ASSEMBLY

Everyone is invited to gather in the Fellowship Hall on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month from 10:25 to 10:50 AM to nurture *koinonia* with one another. Drinks and refreshments will be available. Prayer requests will also be shared.

FAMILY GAME NIGHT



Gather with your church family on June 25, 6:30 PM, in the Fellowship Hall, for a joyful time of fellowship and outreach. Bring your favorite games and snacks and invite others who may enjoy the fun!

JOINT SUNDAY SCHOOL

For the summer quarter (June - August), all the Sunday School classes will meet together in the Fellowship Hall. All the elders and Aaron Eising will rotate teaching using the *ARP Quarterly* (Job & Proverbs). Please take advantage of this opportunity to strengthen your relationship with members from the others classes.



Our theme Scripture for 2021: "And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved." Acts 4:12 (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 1** at 10 AM in the Carson Room for Bible study, prayer, and fellowship. The Bible Study will be on the Parables of Jesus. Marcia Cole will be leading the study. In preparation for the study please read Matthew 13:31-33 (The Mustard Seed) and Mark 4:26-29 (The Growing Seed). Lunch will be served.*

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

SUSPENDED FOR THE SUMMER

The study will RESUME, Lord willing, in the fall.

If you are interested in participating, please contact either

Marci Cole, [REDACTED] OR

Allison Yi, [REDACTED]

ALL LADIES ARE WELCOME!!!!



Living Hope Foundation Food Pantry

There is a box in the Main Street vestibule to receive non-perishable food donations. Living Hope Foundation focuses on the needs of our community in the areas of hunger, counseling, youth education, mentoring, health awareness, computer, and literacy skills. Their mission is “to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ throughout our community ~ through our time, finances, product and lives. To be good stewards of all that God has given us, and to serve our fellow man faithfully using Christ as our example.”

School of Nursing Scholarship Program Christian Hospital, Sahiwal (CHS)



Most CHS student nurses come from impoverished, minority (non-Muslim) communities and would not have an opportunity to train for a promising career without the Nursing Scholarship Program. Here are some helpful facts, as you consider your role in helping shape their futures.



PROGRAM SIGNIFICANCE

- Shapes the futures of young Pakistani women by providing opportunity for an excellent education and promising career
- Offers spiritual instruction and encouragement toward serving as Christ's ambassadors and becoming highly skilled medical professionals in their communities and around the world

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- Completion of high school-level studies
- Interviewed and tested
- Ages 16-24
- From a Christian home

ENROLLMENT

- 125 – enrollment capacity
- 300 new applicants per year
- 25 new-student slots available per year

BSN DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

Students must complete 4 years of resident studies, clinicals, and pass the national boards.

POST-GRADUATION

Students are expected to complete a one-year internship at CHS.

TUITION, ROOM & BOARD

\$3600 per year

SUGGESTED AMOUNTS FOR SCHOLARSHIPS

\$1,200 – year

\$ 600 – ½ year

\$ 100 – month

All other amounts are appreciated. You will receive a personalized packet for ongoing support of a student nurse.

Our Missions Committee has committed to sponsor a nurse! Please pray about your partnership in this ministry. **To learn more, visit worldwitness.org/nurse-students**

On Friday mornings, 6:45 AM, a group of men gather at Doug Wicker's home, [REDACTED], for an encouraging time of food, fellowship, Bible Study, and prayer. Pastor Seth leads an interactive study of God's Word (currently *Jeremiah*). Email Doug to be added to the weekly reminder.



ARP Church of Newberry

1701 Main Street
Newberry, SC 29108

We're on the web
NewberryARP.org

Flowers for June

6 - TBA

13 - Meri Avery

20 - Vernetha Renwick

27 - Kathy Seigler

Ushers for June

6 - Keith Avery, Andre Jennings

13 - Cecil McRacken, Herb Seigler

20 - Chip Porth, Michael Jennings

27- Jason McCoy, Marc Faulkenberry