

Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church of Newberry

1701 Main Street, Newberry, SC 29108

Shut In of the Month

Edna Ringer
NHC Rm 307
2993 Sunset Blvd.
W. Columbia, SC 29169

May 2016

Issue 5
Volume LI

Update from the Session

Below is a summary of the actions taken at the April 13 stated meeting:

The March financial report was reviewed and received as information.

Reports and prayers were offered for the shepherding needs of the congregation. The Michael Davis family has transferred to Chapin PCA Church. Glenn and Cindy Gardner have transferred to Aveleigh Presbyterian Church.

The *Revised Trinity Hymnal* will replace the existing *Trinity Hymnal* on May 1.

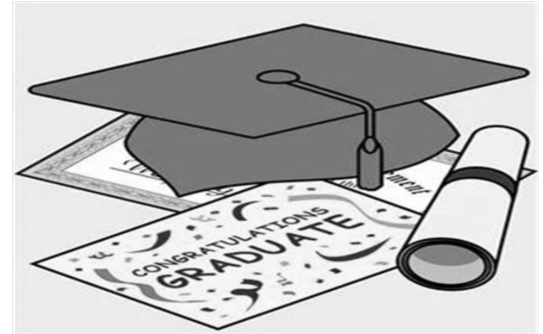
\$1,000 will be contributed to the Grant Family, WW missionaries in Spain, for 2016 and if funds are available for 2017. \$500 will be contributed to LifeBridge (formerly Crisis Pregnancy Center of Lake Murray) for 2016.

Maxine Jennings was granted permission to use the Grier Building on May 21 for a graduation celebration.

The next session meeting will be May 25th at 8:00 pm.

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

Doug Wicker, Clerk of the Session



Congratulations to **Caleb Yi**, our 2016 graduate. Caleb has been home schooled and will be completing his course requirements in May. During the year he has also been taking courses at Piedmont Tech in preparation for transferring to Florence-Darlington Tech College in the fall. His plans are to later complete his degree at USC.

Caleb loves anything outdoors and before moving to SC worked part-time at a vineyard. He will be working during the summer at the Kalmia Gardens in Hartsville.

Our church will be honoring Caleb at a luncheon on Sunday, May 29.

Our “hats are off” to Caleb on a job well done!!!

Prayer Request

David Bunn serving in the military; Betty Bland, Nelle Cromer, 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 - 2016

Budget Receipts	\$ 54,560.31
Budget Needs	\$ 49,020.16

Flowers for May

1 - Communion Flowers

8 - Carol McRacken

15 - Julia Rikard

22 - Jean Williamson

29 - Beverly Ringer

Nursery for May

1 - Frances Brown & Wren Winters

8 - Junah Winters

15 - Caleb Yi & Caleb Jennings

22 - Catherine Faulkenberry & Joseph Yi

29 - Joanna Bedenbaugh & Abigail Yi

Ushers for May

1– Cecil McRacken, Doug Wicker, Caleb Yi, Joseph Yi

8 - Don Ringer, Gene Wicker, Caleb Yi, Joseph Yi

15 - Mike Birochak, Andre Jennings, Caleb Yi, Joseph Yi

22 - Keith Avery, Marc Faulkenberry, Caleb Yi, Joseph Yi

29 - Lee Winters, George Farris, Caleb Yi, Joseph Yi



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.

Make a Joyful Noise Unto the LORD

Why do we sing in church? Why is music such a vital part of the worship of God? For some of you who are musically challenged or have not had a lot of training in singing or been exposed to much musical education in your life may raise these questions from time to time (especially after an unfamiliar hymn has been sung in the service). Moreover, singing in worship may seem like nothing more than just adding some variety to the service or providing an opportunity to stand up to stretch your legs. You may even have the impression that singing is included just to appease or attract those people who enjoy music into the life of the Church. That couldn't be the farthest from the truth, for music and singing play a vital role in the worship of God precisely because of divine revelation.

The primary reason we sing unto the Lord in worship is because He has commanded us to do so. In fact, the command "sing unto the Lord" is one of the most repeated imperatives in the entire Bible. Therefore, refusing to sing or even passively not participating is a direct violating of God's command, in other words, it is disobedience. God deserves our worship, and one of the chief means by which we render worship to Him is via singing. He has commanded that His people sing regardless of our talents or abilities because He knows us well and what is ultimately good for us. Even though singing is primarily done to please God (so that not every song will be to everyone's liking or preference but to honor the Lord to whom it is sung), God also knows we will benefit greatly as a result of our sincere and thoughtful singing.

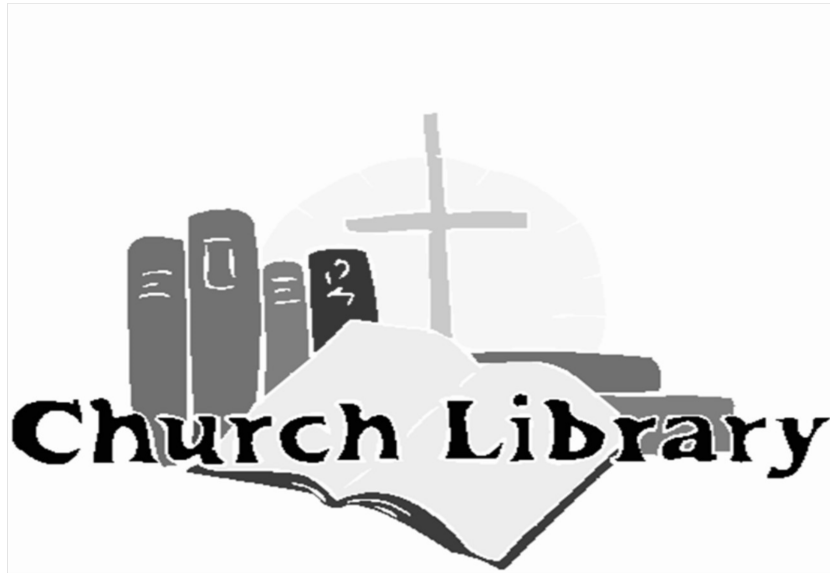
God in His wisdom gave us music and singing because it has the power to touch our hearts in ways that nothing else can. Think about how certain songs (patriotic, romantic, school songs, etc.), even if you typically have no musical interests, pull at your hearts and carry you away to another dimension, even to the point of actually drawing you into the singing itself. Songs have a way of leaving a deep impression on our souls. I suppose every one of us could finish the lines to "Amazing grace how..." or "Fairest Lord Jesus..." The melody and words have been indelibly woven into our hearts and how wonderful that is. Singing is a priceless gift that will last into eternity. Who knows, we will more than likely be singing some of the same songs in glory that we are singing now.

In commanding us to sing, God seeks to implant His Word into our hearts and lives. Paul writes in **Colossians 3:16** *Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.* This passage reveals the preserving effect that singing has with reference to the word of Christ. Songs are like an Ebenezer (a monument that help us remember God's deliverance). Better yet, they are not limited by time and space. Songs can be used anywhere over many generations. They help us to remember the works and words of our Lord. They are set to tunes and written in verses to facilitate the learning and memorization of them. For example, in **Exodus 15** Moses writes a song to commemorate the Exodus so that the Israelites for generations to come will remember how they gained their freedom.

This principle is the basis for the singing that we offer in our services. As I select the hymns for each Sunday, I try to use those that accentuate or reinforce the sermon. Therefore, from time to time you may be presented with a hymn that is unfamiliar or even difficult (at least musically) to sing. I earnestly try my best to select familiar hymns (based on members' suggestions) but there are occasions when that is not always possible. But that too is an opportunity to obey another command: *sing to Him a new song (Psalm 33:3; 96:1; 98:1; 149:1)*. As these occasions arise, I urge you to focus not just on the challenges that they present but rather on the privilege to learn and grow in your praise of God.

In an effort to enhance our congregational singing, the session has approved replacing the existing *Trinity Hymnal* with the *Revised Trinity Hymnal* effective May 1. In God's providence we were gifted with 75 copies and so it reduced in half the cost of replacing them. As you will come to enjoy, there are several improvements with this updated edition that will aid us in our worship. Beyond the hymnal in our hands, it is the attitude of our hearts that will ultimately determine the quality of our singing. So let us join Isaac Watts in affirming, love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all!

By His grace,
Pastor Seth



Have you been by the Church Library lately? Not sure where it is? It is located in the room to the right just as you go into the outside door marked Nursery. Now that you have located it, you'll find it empty. All the books have been removed and the room will be getting a new facelift in the next few weeks.

If you have some books that you would like to find a home for.....consider donating them to the library. Please see George Farris for further information.



Her children rise up and bless her; Her husband also, and he praises her saying;" Many daughters have done nobly, But you excel them all." Charm is deceitful and beauty is vain, But a woman who fears the LORD, she shall be praised. Give her the product of her hands, And let her works praise her in the gates. Proverbs 31:28-31

Happy Mother's Day to all Mothers.

MARK YOUR
CALENDAR!

All ladies of the church are encouraged to
mark your calendar for
SATURDAY, JUNE 4

Plans are being made to gather for food, fun
and fellowship. More details to follow.



Thank you to the Ladies of the Morning Circle
for the new book cart for the Fellowship Hall.

Manna House—SOUP and PEANUT BUTTER

The Manna House box is in the Main Street vestibule.

School will soon be out for the summer and during the
time the children are not in school we have more families
that are in need of food. When you shop think about
putting an extra can of food in your buggy to donate to
help feed others.

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



**Food Pantry
Donations Needed**



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, May 3** at 10am in the Carson Room for Bible study, prayer and fellowship. The study of Joshua will be continued and all ladies are asked to read chapters 7 and 8 in preparation for the study. Light refreshments will be served by Dr. Mary Baker and Mary Sease Hanna. 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

The Ladies are currently studying the **Minor Prophets**.

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!!!!

ARP Church of Newberry

1701 Main Street
Newberry, SC 29108

We're on the web

NewberryARP.org

Improving Security

In an effort to improve our security and safety during the worship service, all access to the sanctuary will be locked at 11:05 AM except the Main Street vestibule doors. The double-glass doors to the Grier Building on the sanctuary side will remain unlocked to access the bathrooms during the service if necessary. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

Community Baby Shower

On May 21, LifeBridge (formerly the Crisis Pregnancy Center of Lake Murray) will be hosting a community baby shower at their facility on 1510 Main Street. Expectant mothers from around our community will be showered with gifts by local churches. There will be a lunch, special presentations, gifts, and more. Our missions committee is planning to decorate a table for the shower providing the table cloth, center piece, paper plates, cups, napkins, and plastic ware for 4-6 settings. If you are interested in assisting, please communicate with Shannon Winters.

National Day of Prayer

On May 5, the National Day of Prayer will be observed at Memorial Park in downtown Newberry. There will be a service held at noon and another at 5:30 PM. The Newberry Community Choir will sing three selections. Pastor Seth will be participating in the evening session. You are encouraged to participate in this national and community prayer service.

Youth News

The Newberry ARP youth, through some hard work and several generous donations, have a new youth room. It has been a year long project, but the results have been worth the wait. The youth painted the "room of many colors," removed the old furniture, and the shag carpet was replaced last summer.

The youth moved to the larger corner room above the Fellowship Hall and have turned their former area into a recreation room



complete with a ping-pong table, and an area for board games. Not only will our youth grow in Christ, but also in loving fellowship with one another.

The new youth room is now colorfully appointed with new Bibles, sofas, tables, lamps, and curtains.

We will continue to organize and redecorate upstairs as time and budget allows. Come upstairs and take a look!

YOUTH OF THE MONTH

Each month our newsletter will feature a brief bio of one of our youth. May's youth is: **Rachel Faulkenberry**, age 16

Q: What grade are you in? *I am finishing up 10th grade this year.*

Q: Where do you go to school? *I am homeschooled.*

Q: What are some of your hobbies? *I enjoy reading, writing, and watching Netflix.*

Q: What extracurricular activities are you involved in? *I am a part of the NCFCA Debate Society.*

Q: What are your plans after high school? *I plan to go to college and study to become a clinical psychologist and counselor.*

Q: Do you have a book or movie? *I have many favorite books, but some of them are Pride and Prejudice, The Giver, and The Hunger Games trilogy.*

Q: Do you have a favorite Bible verse? *Psalm 6. My favorite part says, "The LORD has heard my plea; the LORD accepts my prayer."*

