

Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church of Newberry

Shut In of the Month

Nell Cromer
4577 Maybinton
Road
Whitmire, SC 29178

1701 Main Street, Newberry, SC 29108

October 2017

Update from the Session

Below is a summary of the actions taken this month:

1. The July and August diaconate minutes and the August financial report were reviewed and received as information.
 2. The August 16 session minutes were approved.
 3. Reports and prayers were offered for the shepherding needs of the congregation.
 4. Sessional Committees:
Finance: a draft of the 2018 budget was completed on 9/25.
Missions: Josh and Vonja Thomas will share about their ministry on Wednesday, Nov. 8, 6:30 pm. Dinner will be served.
 5. After following up with the letter sent to inactive members, the following actions were taken: David Sease requested to be removed from the roll, and Beth and Ronnie Johnson have been transferred to the Episcopal Church of St. Simon & St. Jude.
 6. A joint meeting with the diaconate will schedule for Oct. 17, 7:00 pm.
 7. The session will serve as the 2017 Nominating Committee for church officers.
 8. The Newberry County Election Commission's request to use the Grier Building as a future polling site was approved.
 9. A \$100 gift to the FCA's annual fund-raising golf tournament was approved.
 10. George Farris will serve as the church's delegate for the October Second Presbytery meeting and Marc Faulkenberry as the alternative.
 11. The next stated session meeting will be October 26 at 7:00 pm.
- If you have any questions or concerns, please contact an Elder.



Prayer Chain

If you have an urgent prayer request, please call or e-mail Lisa Senn, and she will send it out via e-mail. If you would like to be included on the e-mail list, please let her know. She can be reached at lisa-senn1309@gmail.com or 276-3253. It is indeed a privilege to lift up others in prayer to our great God.



FIFTH SUNDAY FELOWSHIP MEAL

On Sunday, October 29, following the worship service, we will share a covered-dish meal in the Fellowship Hall. More details will be shared in the coming weeks. This is also Reformation Sunday and the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation. Let us remember and celebrated what the Lord has done!

Prayer List

David Bunn - military;
Betty Bland, Nelle Cromer,
Pat Harmon, Mark
McGuffee, Billy Rikard,
Edna Ringer.

Worship Schedule

Sunday
9:45 am -
Sunday School
10:55 am -
Morning Worship

Wednesday
6:30 pm -
Bible Study/Prayer
6:30 pm -
Youth Group

FINANCIAL DATA - 2017

Budget Receipts	\$ 122,683.90
Budget Needs	\$ 123,772.35



Food Pantry Donations Needed

Manna House— Peanut Butter and Jelly

The Manna House box is in the Main Street vestibule.

The Youth of the Church recently assisted with Manna House. They shopped for food at WalMart, loaded and unloaded everything, stocked the shelves and ended by praying for Manna House and the people who would receive the food. A special thank you from the volunteers of Manna House.

Our next time to serve will be in November. We can still use volunteers, contact Julia if interested.

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

BACKPACK PROGRAM FOR SCHOOL YEAR

This year we will be sponsoring 10 children and need your help to be able to pack the bags.



Food items needed are individual size bags and cans of the following:

grits, cereal, milk, Pop Tarts, Beanee Weanees, Spam, soup, Mac and Cheese, spaghetti, ravioli, tuna or chicken kits, Ramen Noodles, peanut butter crackers, Cheez It, cookies, trail mix, fruit chewies, applesauce, fruit cups, pudding cups and juice.

The items can be placed in the Backpack Room next to the nursery at any time. Any monetary donations to purchase food items will be appreciated.

We have volunteers to pack backpacks through December. In January we will begin asking for volunteers for the last half of the school year; if you missed the opportunity to help this time consider signing up in January.



Our theme Scripture for 2017 is Galatians 5:22-23: "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law."

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, October 3** at 10 am in the Carson Room for Bible study, prayer, and fellowship. Dr. Mary Baker will be presenting our program on Martin Luther. Mary Parr and Julia Rikard will be hostesses for the meeting. After the meeting we will be wrapping shoe boxes. The Circle is always open for new members; contact Carolyn Fulmer for further information.

LADIES BIBLE STUDY

Prayer and Fellowship Thursday evenings

7-9 pm

Home of Catherine Faulkenberry

Currently studying the book ***Knowing God*** by **J. I. Packer**.

An email is sent out every Thursday morning to give up to date details.

If interested in receiving the email please contact either
Shannon Winter at 19golfaly@gmail.com or 803-940-1596 OR
Kristy Jennings andrenkristy@hotmail.com or 803-271-5298

ALL LADIES ARE WELCOME!!!!

The Believer's Highest Privilege and Calling

John Piper's foundational book on missions, *Let the Nations Be Glad!* (which has fueled the Church in global evangelization for almost 25 years), opens with these profoundly stimulating and God-centered words:

Missions is not the ultimate goal of the church. Worship is. Missions exists because worship doesn't. Worship is ultimate, not missions, because God is ultimate, not man. When this age is over, and the countless millions of the redeemed fall on their faces before the throne of God, missions will be no more. It is a temporary necessity. But worship abides forever.

This God-glorifying theme has served as a compass for me for many years. Not only because of my personal zeal for missions, but more fundamentally, the truth that the worship of our Triune Creator-God and Redeemer is the central aim of my life, and in fact everyone's life! Man being made in God's image is created with a propensity for worship. God's gracious redeeming work in Christ, turns that drive for worship from all other idols to the one, true, living God. Praise be to God that the eyes of our hearts have been opened to see and long for the glory of the Lord Jesus Christ (2 Cor 4:6).

With this truth in mind, I want us to see the practical link that our current sermon series on *Leviticus* has with the centrality of worship. As we have discovered, the opening chapters of *Leviticus* are properly focused on the holy administration of the sacrifices. In God's mercy and grace, these sacrifices provided a means for Israel, and any foreigner who sought to be a covenant member, to approach God confidently in solemn worship. These detailed and strict prescriptions protected the sinful worshipper from the glory of a holy God. Only by following the law accurately and sincerely could the people of God be assured that the Lord's blessing and *shalom* rested upon them. Any deviation from the law exposed them to God's holy wrath and justice (*i.e.*, Lev 10, Nadab and Abihu).

Obviously, with the finished work of Christ in his life, death, and resurrection, we have through faith in him alone no further need for material sacrifices; however, what can we learn and apply about worship from these chapters that might serve us today? Fundamentally, the sacrificial system along with the tabernacle (and eventually the temple) were at the very heart of Israel's worship. It was there and through the symbolic rituals that the worshipper came to recognize the glory (the weightiness of his being) of God and see his ever-present need for God's mercy. Through these temporal services, ancient Israel enjoyed God's presence with them.

Today, our New Covenant worship is free from all the regulations tied to the sacrificial system, but the priority to worship him is even greater. The fact that he has revealed through the gospel the supremacy of his grace is the highest reason for believers to worship him. In Christ we have been blessed beyond earthly measure. Our treasures are not only of this world, but the world to come and for eternity. Thus, worship for Christians is not only a responsibility, but truly a privilege. By faith in Christ, we can boldly approach our God knowing that he is pleased with everything that his Son has accomplished on our behalf.

What is your attitude and approach, then, to corporate worship? What value do you place on worshipping our Creator-Redeemer every Lord's Day? Interestingly enough, the two times that the Ten Commandments are recorded in the Pentateuch (*Ex 20* and *Deut 5*), the fourth commandment regarding the Sabbath is the only commandment that is worded differently. In *Exodus* the basis for the command is God's role in creation, but in *Deuteronomy* it is redemption. In other words, when

the generation that survived the wilderness wandering was preparing to enter the Promised Land, the Lord wanted to emphasize the gift of redemption as the emphasis of holy worship. One day in seven the Israelites renewed their identity as the redeemed by setting apart this day in holy, corporate worship.

The weekly Sabbath was a day when sacrifices were offered in greater abundance. It was to be a day of exuberant celebration and rest from their daily labors. It served as a living parable of the heavenly rest and blessing that Christ is preparing for us now! It was a time when the presence of God was particularly heavy on them. The unique blessing of being God's chosen people was magnified on this holy-day.

All of this, and much more, is true for us today. How much more of God's redeeming love have we experience by faith? The rest that we enjoy is not only physical but spiritual. We no longer need to strive for God's approval. In comparison to what the Israelites were promised, our reward is far superior. The means by which we access God's presence has fortunately changed, but our need and rationale for drawing near to him on a weekly basis are even more precious!

God does not threaten in the New Covenant to "cut off" a person, as he did in *Leviticus*, when someone approached him carelessly or insincerely, but the cost of not worshipping him in Spirit and in truth, especially on the Lord's Day, will have eternal consequences (*1 Cor 3:10-15*). As one wise pastor has said, "The sermon you missed, is the sermon you needed to hear," This is not only true of the sermon, but it applies to all the elements of corporate worship: prayers, hymns, confessions, the sacraments, etc. The Lord's promise to meet his people in corporate worship is an inestimable blessing that should not be exchange too lightly. The next time you are tempted to forsake the assembly of God's people for some other activity, ask yourself what value you are placing on the worship of God? How much more valuable can some other activity have over the honor that is due to our Creator-Redeemer? Parents, are you communicating to you children by your deeds that something else is more important in your life than worshipping God? Remember, just because corporate worship is weekly does not diminish its value. The value of worship is related to whom we worship! God is worthy of worship over everything else on the Lord's Day.

Since worship is *ultimate* and it *abides forever*, what's the difference in eternity, and even in this life, if a worship service is skipped a few times a year? If we have learned anything thus far in *Leviticus*, it is the fact that our God cares about details. He is precise about how we worship him. The Lord's benevolent desire in worship is to commune with us so that we might be blessed. This blessing is to be cherished above all things in this life. Why would you want to forfeit such a gift? In this fallen world, there will be occasions when it is unavoidable or even an expression of loving our neighbor to forego corporate worship on the Lord's Day. But let that be the rare exception and not the norm. Seriously evaluate your situation and seek the Lord in prayer before missing on God's blessing. If your heart's desire is to please the Lord, planning and preparation will also play a role in honoring the Lord's Day. Holding the Lord's Day worship in its biblical center is not intended to be burdensome task, but a yoke that is easy and provides rest for your souls (*Matt 11:29-30*). May you grow more and more in the grace of Christ to see this blessing as a delight each and every week.

By His grace,
Pastor Seth

*Thank
you*

Dear Friends at the Newberry Church,

Thank you for your gift to ONA in Jim's memory. He loved to help plant new churches and would be pleased to be remembered in this way. We both enjoyed our time at Newberry and value our friendships there. It is very hard without him, but with God's help I am going on.

Love to all,
Nancy Corbitt

Thanks to all who attended the Jubilee Birthday Ice Cream Social, for those who made churns of ice cream, and for the donations given to support our missionaries. We received \$743 and it has been sent to support the Jubilee Birthday ladies, Rebekah Carson and Sheila Osborne.

Dear Church Family,

Billy and I would like to thank you for your kind gestures extended during our latest "bump in the road." The many prayers that were offered on our behalf, the visits, telephone calls, cards, flowers, and food were certainly appreciated. We truly felt your love and concern for us. Billy is doing well and is determined to be back doing all the things he once did very soon. Please continue to keep us in your prayers.

In Christ's Love,
Julia

CHURCH WEBSITE



NEWBERRY
ASSOCIATE REFORMED
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

When was the last time you visited our church's website? It is a valuable resource for both members and guests. You can preview the upcoming bulletin, listen to the music of hymns, recordings of sermons and other key teachings, monthly newsletters, just to name a few. Recently a new page, **WEDNESDAY PM Bible Study** (under **RESOURCES** header or in the **footer** navigation) was added with recordings of weekly lessons. Make it a regular part of your online experience and share it with a friend or a potential guest!



Prayer Walk AND Interactive Fellowship Supporting LIFE

Walk—Run—Bike 1-6 Miles

Family Friendly Event—Pets Welcome—Potluck Lunch

LOCATION:	Dreher Island State Park 3677 State Park Rd. Prosperity, SC
REGISTRATION	803.276.4173
<small>AND</small> T-SHIRT ORDERS:	LIFEBRIDGESOUTHCAROLINA.ORG

Our congregation was nominated to receive a **LIFE Supporting Church - LIFE Award!** This is in recognition of taking a stand for LIFE. We will be presented this award during the LIFE Walk gathering, so be a part of the celebration. This is a FREE event, but registration (call or online) is requested. There will be food, fun actives, and fellowship for all.

ARP Church of Newberry

1701 Main Street
Newberry, SC 29108

We're on the web
NewberryARP.org

Flowers for October

1 - Communion

8 - Carol McRacken

15 - Faye Hill

22 - Mary Baker

29 - Julia Rikard

Nursery for October

1 - Merri Avery & Michael Jennings

8 - Joanna Bedenbaugh

15 - Kristy Jennings & Elizabeth Yi

22 - Allison Yi & Wren Winters

29 - Catherine Faulkenberry & Joseph Yi

Ushers for October

1 - George Farris, Jean Williamson, Andre Jennings, Benjamin Jennings

8 - Lee Ringer, Cecil McRacken, Keith Avery, Joseph Yi

15 - Gene Wicker, Mike Birochak, Aaron Eising, David Jennings

22 - Doug Wicker, Lee Winters, Robbie Kopp, Caleb Jennings

29 - Mark Faulkenberry, Don Ringer, Andre Jennings, Noah Yi

