

Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church of Newberry

Shut In of the Month

Eliza Parr
2000 Springfield Circle
Newberry, SC 29108

1701 Main Street, Newberry, SC 29108

October 2018

Update from the Session

Below is a summary of the actions taken by the elders at the September stated meeting:

1. The September Financial Report was reviewed and received as information.
2. The August stated Session minutes were approved.
3. The shepherding concerns of the church were discussed.
4. The Responsive Readings in the large print pew Bible was approved for the Congregational Scripture Reading in the worship service.
5. George Farris will shorten his term on the Session by one year to help with the rotation cycle of future elders.
6. George Farris was appointed as the delegate for the October 9th Presbytery meeting and Andre Jennings as the alternate.
7. The next stated meeting will be held on October 17, 8:00 pm.

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



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)

Officer Nominations

The deadline for submissions is Sunday, Oct. 7. The following offices need recommendations: Elder, Deacon, Church Treasurer, Church Trustee, and Congregational Chairman.

Prayer List

David Bunn - military;
Betty Bland, Pat
Harmon, Richard
Lominick, Eliza Parr,
Mark McGuffee.

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 September 23, 2018

Budget Receipts \$117,991.27

Budget Needs \$126,159.62



2018 Newberry Fall Festival

Saturday - October 13, 11 am - 4 pm

Everyone is Invited!

- \$8.00 BBQ Plate (includes pork BBQ, beans, bread, coleslaw) - To purchase or reserve tickets contact Andre Jennings
- Live Bluegrass Music Provided by Amick Junction
- Free Hay Ride Tours of the Farm
- Free Pony Rides
- Bouncy Houses for Kids



Our theme Scripture for 2018 is Genesis 17:7 - "I will establish my covenant as an everlasting covenant between me and you and your descendants after you for the generations to come, to be your God and the God of your descendants after you." (NIV)

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 2 at 10 am in the Carson Room for Bible study, prayer, and fellowship. Marcie Cole will be leading the Bible study on the life of Abraham. Light refreshments will be served by Carolyn Fulmer, Faye Hill, and Carol McRacken. The Circle is always open for new members; contact Carolyn Fulmer for further information.



Fellowship, Study, and Prayer

Tuesdays from 7 - 9 pm

Home of Catherine Faulkenberry/Marci Cole

Currently studying the book *Humility* by Andrew Murray

If you are interested in attending the study, please contact either

Shannon Winter at 19golfaly@gmail.com, 803-940-1596 OR

Kristy Jennings, andrenkristy@hotmail.com, 803-271-5298

ALL LADIES ARE WELCOME!!!!

Mark
Your
Calendar

The annual meeting of Women's Ministries will be held at Bonclarken on Saturday, **October 13**. Workshops will begin at 10 am followed by the Speaker and business meeting at 1:00 pm.

Second Presbytery women will meet on Saturday, **November 10** at 10 am at the Greenwood ARP Church. More details to follow as we closer to the date.



Saturday, December 8
Women's Ministries Christmas Fellowship
Brunch at the Church
More details to follow. . .



Manna House Food Pantry

Soup and Dried Beans

The Manna House box is in the Main Street vestibule.

"...the Lord Jesus Himself said, 'there is more happiness in giving than in receiving.'" Acts 20:35



MISSIONS FOCUS

Featured Field – Bridge Europe (previously “Muslims in Europe”)



World Witness is committed to sending missionaries to difficult places as has been our character since we sent our first missionary, Mary Galloway Giffin, to Egypt in 1875. We are currently interested in missionary candidates with a heart for unreached people's from limited access areas. These people are defined by their population being less than 2% evangelical, less than 5% professing Christian, and coming from countries where evangelism is illegal and/or results in persecution.

World Witness recognizes that restricting ministry to geographical parameters is a limited vision given massive people movements that are allowing access to unreached/limited access people. Consequently, we have targeted a new field that is not defined geographically, namely, “Bridge Europe.”

Given the ever increasing immigration of Muslims into Europe due to persecution and other issues of immigration, World Witness has identified Europe as a strategic area to reach Muslims and will be focusing its resources on this objective.

Sam and Martha Margaret Cotton



Sam, Martha Margaret, Ethan, Gloria-Noelle, Joel, and Andrew (children from left to right)

Sam and Martha Margaret Cotton became missionary candidates with World Witness in 2017, and will begin serving with the Mobile Theological Training Team (MT3), primarily in Africa. Their vision is to see pastors and church leaders established in Reformed teaching, in order to equip the church as it grows, particularly in its struggle with paganism and Islam. Sam has 12 years of pastoral experience in the U.S. With a BS from Erskine College and a Masters-Old Testament from Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary. He plans to

pursue a Ph.D. Martha Margaret has a BA in Social Studies from Erskine College, and is pursuing a MA-Theological Studies from Erskine Seminary. Their desire is to be based in Europe and work with a Bridge Europe team to minister to Muslims as well. Please pray for them as they seek to complete their support-raising so that Sam can begin teaching on the field, for their training in Muslim ministry, and wisdom for their future plans. Send requests to be added to their email prayer updates at cottenfamilymissions@gmail.com.

What Does It Mean to Be a Christian?

What does it mean to be a Christian? That is a loaded question! If you were to ask a hundred people this question, you might easily get a hundred different answers. Unfortunately, because of the age in which we live with the proliferation of biblical illiteracy there would be many who would miss the mark with their answer. Nevertheless, it is one of the most important questions with which anyone can be asked and needs to be answered correctly. How accurately would your answer align with the teachings of Scripture?

As we have been studying the first two chapters of *Ephesians* in our sermon series, the apostle Paul has provided abundant revelation to this question. It is so valuable for us that I want to review these truths for our eternal good. I trust that this summary will not only prepare you to share your faith with others who may ask you a similar question but also encourage you to live up to the calling with which you have been called (what Paul addresses in *Ephesians* 4-6).

First of all, being a Christian means having been chosen by the Heavenly Father before the foundation of the world (**1:4-5**). Our adoption into the family of God was determined by our Heavenly Father prior to any decision or action committed on our part. His choice of us was totally voluntary and unconditional. There was nothing in us that made us commendable or deserving of such a supreme honor. It was simply and purely of His sovereign will.

Moreover, in decreeing our election, God the Father entered into a covenant (the covenant of redemption) with the Son to secure our salvation. The Father and the Son made an agreement/covenant that outlined how the elect would be redeemed. God the Father would willingly offer His only Son as the substitute for the elect and the Son would submit to the demands of the Law and God's righteous judgment to justify the elect. Finally, the Father promised the Son to raise Him from the dead to vindicate His righteous life and award Him eternal life. In summary, to be a Christian means to be loved by the Heavenly Father with an eternal love.

Secondly, being a Christian means to receive by faith (**2:8**), wholly trusting in Jesus alone, the finished work of Christ in His active and passive obedience as the only basis for salvation (**2:9**). Christ's active obedience refers to His fulfilling all the demands of the law as the Second Adam, and his passive obedience refers to His appeasement of God's just wrath on the cross as the Lamb of God for the elect (**1:7**). Jesus obeys where we fail, and suffers eternal death so that we might live. By grace through faith in Jesus, Christians also share in the resurrection and the exaltation of Christ who is seated at the Father's right hand ruling over the whole cosmos. We are made more than conquerors in Christ as we share in His triumph over sin, Satan, and death.

Being a Christian means sharing in the past, present, and future life of Christ. By grace we have become partakers of the infinite blessings that have been awarded to Christ. Because

of our spiritual union with Christ, we have at our disposal all the resources of heaven to live a triumphant life over the world, the Devil, and the flesh. Even though sinless perfection in this life is not possible, Christ has ensured with the gift of the Holy Spirit that we no longer be held captive to the evil spirits of this world. By faith in Christ, our identity has been radically and supernaturally recreated.

Thirdly, being a Christian means having experienced a supernatural work of the Holy Spirit. Prior to this grace of regeneration, we were like the rest of mankind dead in our trespasses and sins (**2:1**). But because of the Father's mercy and grace toward us, the Holy Spirit made us alive in Christ (**2:5**)! We were born again, born from above! The life we now live by faith in Christ is a life of God's recreation; the old has passed away and all has been made new. To be a Christian is to walk in this newness of life under the power of the Holy Spirit. It is a life that manifests the creative power of God. No longer are we subject to our old sinful self, but now we have the Holy Spirit dwelling within our hearts enabling us to walk in truth and grace.

As new creatures in Christ, we now enjoy a nearness to God that was previously impossible because of our sin and a peace with our fellow brothers and sisters in Christ. The Holy Spirit has converted us into the new people of God with all the blessings fulfilled in the New Covenant. God, by the Holy Spirit, makes His presence known to us, whenever and wherever God's people gather for worship.

The hostility that once existed between Jews and Gentiles, and generally between all sinners, has been abolished through the reconciliation that has been achieved in Christ by the Holy Spirit. All believers share in a union that binds us together. It is a bond based on our new identity and status in Christ, not based on racial, social, economic, political, or religious standing. There is a oneness that transcends all earthly bonds. Therefore, being a Christians means having a whole new set of relationships within the body of Christ that redefines who we are.

Being a Christian means having and enjoying a salvation that involves the work of the Triune God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Sprit. It is a blessing that we experience in part now and in its fullness at the consummation. It means knowing our Creator and Redeemer in a way that God intended His people to enjoy from all eternity. It is my prayer that we will regularly meditate on these truths so that we might grow in our relationship with God and one another and reflect His grace in our lives in such a way that others are drawn to our gracious God!

By His grace;

Pastor Seth

ARP Church of Newberry

1701 Main Street
Newberry, SC 29108

We're on the web
NewberryARP.org

Flowers for October

7 - Communion
14 - Carol McRacken
21 - Faye Hill
23 - Merri Avery

Nursery for October

7 - Merri Avery & Elizabeth Yi
14 - Joanna Bedenbaugh
21 - Rachel Faulkenberry & Abigail Yi
23 - Allison Yi & Gracie Faulkenberry

Ushers for October

7 - Andre Jennings, Lee Winters, Aaron Eising, Noah Yi
14 - Marc Faulkenberry, Keith Avery, Lee Ringer, Caleb Jennings
21 - George Farris, Jean Williamson, Herb Seigler, David Jennings
23 - Doug Wicker, Cecil McRacken, Gene Wicker, Junah Winters