



Newlonsburg Presbyterian Church

WORSHIP • SERVE • GROW

January 25, 2026

Vision Statement

Be Christ's Hands, Feet, and Voice on Earth

Mission Statement

We are a Christ-centered community.
In joyful response to Christ's love, we worship God, nurture
disciples, accept all as God's children,
and reach out in love and service to further the Kingdom of God.

4600 Old William Penn Highway

Murrysville, PA 15668

Phone: 724-327-0061

<http://www.newlonsburgchurch.org>

The Rev. Curtis L. Paul II, Pastor

The Rev. Dr. Travis A. Webster, Associate Pastor

VISITOR SIGN IN



THE CELEBRATION OF THE GOOD NEWS

January 25, 2026

10:00 am - Service is Live-streamed

GATHERING AROUND GOD'S WORD

PRELUDE Prelude in D major BWV 532 Bach

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Rev. Paul

THE INTROIT Hallowed Be the Name arr. Douglas

CALL TO WORSHIP Kaitlyn Lippman

Leader: In the sea of life's daily stress and strife, in the struggle to keep our heads above the waves, Jesus calls us from the shore: "Follow me, and be fishers of people!"

People: God gathers us into new boats built with room for friend and stranger.

Leader: "Follow me, and use your gifts with purpose. Follow me, and build abundant life."

People: We will be weavers of community, architects of justice, gardeners of peace.

*OPENING HYMN # 331 God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand
Evelyn Makosey, Shawn Stewart & Connor Stewart,
trumpets

PRAYER OF CONFESSION Kaitlyn Lippman

God our light and our rescue, our fortress in times of trouble, when human powers seek to crush us, protect us in the hidden places of your heart. Ease our fears and let us rest in you. When we are safe, but other lives are threatened, fortify our resolve to be your protection for all our kin and all your good creation. When the work is done, we ask only to live in your house and enjoy your beauty forever. Amen.

(Let us take a moment for our silent confession.)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON Kaitlyn Lippman

***GLORY TO GOD #582 Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me, and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me, and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.**

HEARING GOD'S WORD

CELEBRATION WITH CHILDREN Rev. Lori Bass-Riley
#188 (vs 1) Jesus Loves Me

SCRIPTURE LESSON Philippians 3:13-14 Kaitlyn Lippman

ANTHEM Standin' in the Need of Prayer arr. Raney

SCRIPTURE LESSON Deuteronomy 8:17-18 & Matthew 6:19-21 Rev.
Paul

SERMON Letting Go to Step into What's Next Rev.
Paul

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

*SERMON HYMN # 177 I Will Come to You

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS Rev. Webster
(Please mention first names only)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/THE LORD'S PRAYER (Debts)

OFFERING OF SELF AND SUBSTANCE Rev.
Webster

Please continue to give to NPC by check or by texting "Newlonsburg" to 73256. Please visit www.newlonsburgchurch.org/give to give online or email giving@newlonsburgchurch.org with any questions.

Call for the Offering

Offertory Jesus Loves Me arr. Raney
Bell Choir

*Doxology

*Prayer of Dedication Kaitlyn Lippman

CARRYING GOD'S WORD INTO THE WORLD

*CLOSING HYMN # 852 When the Lord Redeems the Very Least

*BENEDICTION

Rev. Paul

*THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

*CLOSING RESPONSE

May the light of God shine on us today (repeat)
May it show us where to travel, lead us back if we should stray
May the light of God shine on us today and everyday

POSTLUDE

Reprise of "When the Lord"

SERMON NOTES

1. "Forgetting what is behind" may mean releasing pride, fear of loss, or outdated definitions of success in order to pursue God's future.
2. New beginnings occur when people stop asking "What have I built?" and start asking "What is God building through me?"
3. New beginnings often begin with reallocation—time, attention, generosity. Jesus doesn't shame wealth; he reveals its spiritual power.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THANK YOU TO OUR ACOLYTE: Parker Jessup.

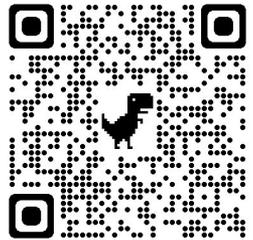
WE NEED A NOMINATING COMMITTEE FOR 2026: The Church works best when we have diversity to discern Christ's Spirit. If you are willing to meet new people and ask members to serve NPC as elders, deacons, preschool board members and an auditor then we need 2 of you. Please let Pastor Curtis know if you are willing to serve. We usually meet once per month starting in May for about 15-30 minute meetings.

CALLING ALL VALENTINE CARD MARKERS! Care of Members is looking for creative card-making volunteers of all ages to craft Valentines for members who are homebound, living alone in assisted living facilities, going through difficulties or loss, and for our super seniors. Please help us bless these members by making cards no larger than 5"x7" that will lay flat. You may want to include a bible verse or encouraging message. You can drop off cards in the box outside the church office before 12pm on Sunday, February 8th. You can also help us pack the cards after the second service on 2/8/26 (in the "yellow room"...first room on the right as you enter the Education Wing from the Sanctuary).

HOSS'S LUNCH: Enjoy a nice lunch immediately after the second service with a group of fellow NPC'ers on Sunday, 2/1/26 at Hoss's Steak & Sea House.

FUTURE EVENTS: Save the dates for these other events so you don't miss out on the fun.

- **Hoss's Lunch:** Sunday, 2/1/26 immediately following the second service
- **Puzzles & Pizza Night** on Wednesday, 2/25/26 @ 6pm
- **Hoss's Lunch** on Sunday, 3/8/26 after the 11am service
- **Export Moose Fish Fry** on Friday, 3/20/26 at 5:30pm
- **Easter Brunch Potluck** on Sunday, 4/5/26 between services
- **River City Brass Band "Les Mis N'At"** on Saturday, 4/11/26 at 7:30pm at The Palace Theatre (preceded by dinner at 5:30pm location TBD)
- **Senior Celebration** on Sunday, 4/26/26 after the 11am service



TWO EXCELLENT LENTEN STUDY OPPORTUNITIES!:

1. This Lent, join Healthy Seminarians-Healthy Church for a 7-week online study inspired by *Lent in Plain Sight: A Devotion through Ten Objects* by Jill J. Duffield, as we learn to notice God in the ordinary moments of daily life. We'll meet Thursdays from February 12 (starting before Ash Wednesday) through March 26, from 1-2 pm ET on Zoom. Participants may purchase the book in digital or print format. If you would like us to order you a paper copy, note it on your registration form or contact travis.webster@newlonsburgchurch.org. Order deadline: February 1, 2026. Checks (\$10) should be made payable to Newlonsburg Presbyterian Church (NPC). More info and register at bit.ly/HSCLent26

2. The Walk: Five Essential Practices of the Christian Life

In *The Walk*, Adam Hamilton focuses on five essential spiritual practices (worship, study, serving, giving, and bearing witness to our faith) that are rooted in Jesus' own walk with God and taught throughout the New Testament. In each chapter, Hamilton explores one of these practices, its New Testament foundation, and what it looks like to pursue this practice daily in our personal life and together in the life of the church.

This year, we are doing something new – we are offering an option for some of our youngest members! This six-week course will have one section for children (3 years old-5th grade) and one for adults and youth together in the weeks leading up to Easter. The meetings for all ages will take place on Monday evenings from 5:30-6:30pm (Feb. 23, March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30); there will also be a Zoom option for the Monday adult/youth class.

If you would like to take part, books are currently \$15 for a hard copy and \$10 for an electronic version (there is no charge for child participants). You can register using the following links: [Monday Evening Children's Session \(3 years old-5th grade\)](#) with Pastor Lori and [Monday Evening Adult and Youth Session](#) with Joshua and Travis. You can also call (724-327-0061) or email Travis (travis.webster@newlonsburgchurch.org) if you're interested. Please register by 5pm on Monday, Feb. 9, so we can order you a book if you want a paper copy.

KIDS MUSICAL AT NEWLONSBURG! We are so excited to invite your child to be part of our upcoming kids musical, the Good News Cruise! This experience is designed to be joyful, encouraging, and beginner-friendly for children Kindergarten through 8th Grade. No prior theatre, singing, or performance experience is needed—whether this is your child's very first musical or they've been on stage before, they are welcome here. Our goal is to create a safe, supportive environment where kids can learn, grow in confidence, make new friends, and have fun while sharing their gifts with our congregation. This musical will be presented as part of the 11am worship service on May 3, with a required tech rehearsal on May 2, and weekly rehearsals taking place weekly after the 11am service starting March 1. Deadline for sign ups is February 8. Members, Amy Smith, Stephanie Babich Mihleder, and Pastor Lori will be leading this ministry! Amy, Steph, and Pastor Lori all have a youth background as well as a musical theatre background. We are so excited to grow together!

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScNmBJdnerfR9DxS3R66yPawfp1qTBZyVIXbCHKTawdKKKhvtQ/viewform?usp=header>



WINTER REMIX RETREAT: Pine Springs will host its Winter Remix retreat February 6th-8th. For Junior and Senior High Students, and will include time for games, fellowship and worship. Registration opens January 1st. Please see the link for costs, forms, and to register. <https://www.pinesprings.org/remix>

VALENTINE'S DAY CLOTHING DRIVE: During the season of love, show some love to the Haitian community in Charleroi by donating any gently used winter clothing. We will take any coats, boots, scarves, gloves and hats. You can place your donations in one of the two boxes located in the narthex and by the office. Please bring all donations to the church by **February 15**. If you have any questions, please contact Joshua Kenst. Thank you!

MARDI GRAS MONDAY FUNDAY FOR GRADES K-8 2/16/26 9:30AM-2PM:

Join the masquerade! We will build masks, make pancakes, and have crazy games to learn all about the traditions around Mardi Gras! Your child should bring their own lunch. Snacks will be provided! Registration will close 2/13/26. Spaces are limited! \$25/child. Please contact Pastor Lori for any questions. Call/Text 412-737-1412

<https://onrealm.org/NewlonsburgPres/PublicRegistrations/Event?linkString=MTMOMzlkMjYtMDZiNi00NWZmLWE2ZGZlYjNiMTAxMzhiYzVi>



CHILD WORSHIP LEADERSHIP! We want our children to know that they are an important part of our community! We love that our children can begin

developing leadership skills at an early age! We are looking for child acolytes (people who light the worship candles) and liturgists (people who read in worship)! Acolytes should be at least 4 and liturgists need to be very good readers and be willing to practice previous to their participation. Sign them up for a date that works for you!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F44AEA82CA2F8CF8-59246032-children>



CALLING ALL STITCHING ENTHUSIASTS! Do you like to do cross stitch? If you do, we'd like to ask you to join us in a long standing Newlonsburg tradition – making personalized bookmarks for our 2026 confirmands. All materials and instructions will be provided to you – it's easy, it's fun and our finished products are a meaningful reminder to our confirmation class how much God loves them. If you are interested in helping out by stitching one (or more!) bookmarks, please reach out to Susan Keaney (slkeaney@comcast.net or 412.414.6881) Many, many thanks!

THANK YOU FOR THE BOXES! Judy Radcliff would like to thank everyone for donating boxes to the Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry. At this time, we don't need any more boxes. Thank you again for your support of this ministry.

EMERGENCY MEALS AVAILABLE: If you or someone in our church family is facing a short-term challenge that makes it hard to prepare meals, we'd love to help. Emergency meals are available for anyone in need. Please reach out to Pastor Travis, Pastor Curtis, or Carol Byers (412-841-5508) to let us know how we can support you.

A FRIENDLY NOTE REGARDING DONATIONS: For any donations that are being sent in through your financial institutions, please instruct them to put YOUR name somewhere on the donation paperwork. Many checks have been sent without that information and in that case we do not know who to give the credit to. Thanks as always for your financial support.

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION: You can easily meet the New Year's resolution of helping to reduce Per Capita costs to NPC. Congregations pay an annual amount

of money per church member - per capita apportionment - to their respective presbyteries. Please consider including your share (\$55 per member in 2026) of this amount with your offerings. Per capita is the way congregations of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) connect, participate, and share in the work of the wider church, "mutually sharing the costs of coming together to discern the Spirit's leading". Blue per capita envelopes are available in the pews and in the hall racks or the office, or just write per capita on the memo line of your check. You can also contribute online via Realm and select "Per Capita Contribution (\$55 per member for 2026)" from the list of funds for donations. Thank you.

2025 DONATION STATEMENTS: The donation statements for 2025 will be sent out this month (January 2026). You also can view and print your statement in REALM at any time. Please call Ginny Rygg (412.491.7937) or Lindsey Berk (412.559.7862) if you have any questions. Thanks as always for your support.

IT'S NOT TOO LATE: If you forgot to make your 2026 commitment, there is still time. Thank you to the 100 families and individuals that have made their 2026 commitment. You can (1) return a commitment card by mail, with your offering, or to the church office, (2) Email: You can email your commitment to giving@newlonsburgchurch.org, or (3) Online: www.newlonsburgchurch.org/give. Thank you for your continued support and faithfulness.

2026 GIVING ENVELOPES: The giving envelopes for 2026 will be put in the hall on the table near the office on Friday, October 31st. Please pick them up at your earliest convenience and let Ginny Rygg (412-491-7937) know if you no longer need envelopes. As always, thank you for your continued generosity.

JOIN REALM: NPC continues to roll out Realm as a new church management system. This system provides better donation tracking and accounting programs while giving NPC expanded management capabilities and resources for events, volunteer scheduling, small groups, etc., (and it is a cost savings to NPC!) **Realm Logins :** Everyone should have received an email invitation from Realm to join Realm. You can use the link in the email to sign into the system and create a password. This will give you access to your profile's basic information and your giving information. If you did not receive an email (perhaps it went to spam, your email wasn't in the church system, etc.), you can request a Realm login <https://onrealm.org/NewlonsburgPres/Account/Start>

BULLETIN DEADLINE: Please have all articles for the bulletin to the church office no later than Wednesday at noon.

THIS WEEK AT NPC

Sunday January 25	10:00 AM	Worship - Sanctuary
	11:00 AM	Annual Meeting - Sanctuary
Monday January 26	2 - 9:30 PM	208 - Sanctuary
	3:30 PM- 8:00 PM	Music Academy- Room 101
	4:00 PM- 6:30 PM	Music Academy- Room 102/103
	4:30 - 7:30 PM	Music Academy - Rooms 202/203
	5:00 PM- 8:30 PM	Music Academy- Room 201
	7:30 PM- 8:30 PM	Music Academy- Sanctuary
	6:30 - 8:30 PM	Boy Scouts - Rooms 104, 106, ARC
Tuesday January 27	8:30 - 9:30 AM	Men's Breakfast - Dicks Diner
	11:00 AM	Leadership Programming
	1:00 - 3:00	Crochet Group - Gathering Place
	1:15 PM	Leadership Meeting - Offsite
	2:00 - 3:30 PM	Rehearsal - Sanctuary
	3:00 - 4:45 PM	RAM - Arc
	2:30 PM- 3:30 PM	Music Academy- 208
	3:00 PM	Music Academy - Rooms 101, 102, 103, 201, Nursery
	3:30 PM- 7:30 PM	Music Academy- 202/203
	7:00 - 9:00 PM	NA - Common Ground
Wednesday January 28	8:30 AM	Women's Breakfast
	10:15 AM - 12:15 PM	Book Study - Gathering Place
	3:00 PM	Music Academy - Rooms 101- 103, 201, 208, Nursery
Thursday January 29	10:00 AM - 8:00 PM	Music Academy
	3:00 - 4:45 PM	Ram - Arc
	5:30 - 6:15 PM	Beginning Bells - Choir Room
	6:00 - 7:00 PM	NO PRAISE TEAM
	6:15 - 7:15 PM	Bell Choir - Choir Room
	7:30 -8:30 PM	Choir Practice - Choir Room
	8:30 PM-9:30 PM	Music Academy- Sanctuary
Friday January 30	4:00 - 5:30 PM	Music Academy - 101/102
Saturday January 31	8:30- 9:30 AM	Newlonsburg Music Academy - 205
	9:45 - 11:45AM	OA - Gathering Place
	11-1:00 PM	AA - Common Ground
Sunday February 1	8:30 AM	Worship - Fellowship Hall
	11:00 AM	Worship - Sanctuary

NEWLONSBURG PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH LEADERSHIP TEAM

The Rev. Curtis Lane Paul II, Pastor

The Rev. Dr. Travis A. Webster, Associate Pastor

Matt Klumpp, Music Director & Organist

Bettie Jarosz, Choir & Bell Director

The Rev. Lori Bass-Riley, Director of Children and Family Ministries

Joshua Kenst, Youth Director

Jennifer Wagner, Office Manager

Rachel Oates, Interim Office Manager

Leanne Salava, Treasurer

BOARD OF DEACONS AND ASSIGNMENTS

Natalie Bollinger, Childcare, '27

Emily Bondi, Ushers, '26

Debbie Carlson, Baptism Books and Newborn Roses/Affirmation Liaison, '26

Kathy Groll, Flowers/Reminder Cards, '25

Tyler Hanchey, At-Large, '26

Matthew Hand, Coffee and Doughnuts/Vice Moderator, '26
Bruce Hanington, Counters, '27
Lois Nesbitt, HOPE/COM Liaison, '25
Lori Novak, Secretary, '27
Jim Scriven, Moderator/Liaison to Nominating Committee, '25
Larry Stoken, Correspondence Cards, '25

ELDERS OF SESSION BY MINISTRY

Affirmation

Kate Moerdyk, Chair, '25
Amanda Neely, '26

Care of Members

Lauren Babich, Chair, '25
Lindsay Lippman, '26

Equipping

Beth Ehrlich, Chair, '25

Finance

Ken Bird, Chair, '25
Lindsey Berk, '27

Human Resources

Jan Hill, Chair, '26

New Member Evangelism

Kate Montgomery, Chair, '27
Rachel Oates, '25

Outreach

Susan Keane, Chair, '25

Property

Robin Pokrzywinski, Chair, '27
Michael Rhoades, '26

Communications

Rhonda Johnston, Chair, '26
Angel Stahl, '27

Clerk of Session

Susan Keane