



 *Newlonsburg Presbyterian Church*  
WORSHIP • SERVE • GROW

January 4, 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 4, 2026

11:00 am - Service is Live-streamed

## GATHERING AROUND GOD'S WORD

PRELUDE                      Voluntary on "Let Us Break Bread"                      Ashdown

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS                      Rev. Webster

## THE INTROIT

CALL TO WORSHIP                      Natalie Bollinger

Leader:      Before the foundation of the world,

**People:      God destined us for love.**

Leader:      Through Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh,

**People:      God adopted us into her own family.**

Leader:      From the farthest edges of the earth,

**People:      God shepherds their family home.**

\*OPENING HYMN # 315 In the Midst of New Dimensions vs. 1-3

PRAYER OF CONFESSION                      Natalie Bollinger

**Eternal Word, you loved us into being, and your love sustains us still.  
Shepherd us toward your abundant life; teach us to tend to the earth  
until it blooms. And, when time has reached its fullness, gather us into  
yourself so that, with you, we may nestle close to the heart of Parent  
God. Amen.**

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

ASSURANCE OF PARDON                      Natalie Bollinger

**\*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. Paul

## #188 (vs 1) Jesus Loves Me

SCRIPTURE LESSON	Ephesians 1:3-14	Natalie Bollinger
ANTHEM	Let us Break Bread Together Cynthia Goff, solo	arr. Hopson
SCRIPTURE LESSON	Jeremiah 31:7-14	Rev. Webster
SERMON	The Season of Joy	Rev. Webster

### RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

\*SERMON HYMN      # 157 I Danced in the Morning

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

### CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

Words of Invitation

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving The Lord's Prayer Pg. 35 (Debts)

Words of Institution

Communion of the People

Prayer after the meal

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

OFFERING OF SELF AND SUBSTANCE      Rev. Paul

Please continue to give to NPC by check or by texting "Newlonsburg" to 73256. Please visit [www.newlonsburgchurch.org/give](http://www.newlonsburgchurch.org/give) to give online or email [giving@newlonsburgchurch.org](mailto:giving@newlonsburgchurch.org) with any questions.

Call for the Offering

Offertory      Interlude XXI      Murray

\*Doxology

\*Prayer of Dedication

### CARRYING GOD'S WORD INTO THE WORLD

\*CLOSING HYMN      # 192 Lord, the Light of Your Love is Shining

\*BENEDICTION

Rev. Webster

\*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

Fanfare Laudation

Groden

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**FLOWERS:** The flowers are dedicated to honor the birthdays of Elizabeth Montgomery (14) and her “Oma” (Kate’s mom - 84 years young!). We love you both very much. Love, The Montgomery Family

**THANK YOU TO OUR COMMUNION SERVERS:** Deacons Natalie Bollinger and Kathy Groll.

**HUNGER OFFERING TODAY TO AID STARVING PEOPLE IN THE SOUTH SUDAN:**  
Our Hunger Offering this morning will be used to help ease the tragedy that continues to befall our Sudanese friends and to show them that they are not forgotten. Please help feed His sheep and please pray for peace and comfort for all in Sudan, both North and South. Your generosity can truly make a life-saving difference to a brother or sister in the South Sudan. Our usual options are available to make your contribution: by check, online at our website or by text. Give by check: Checks can be made out to “Newlonsburg Presbyterian Church” and mailed to 4600 Old William Penn Highway, Murrysburg, PA 15668 or placed in the offering plate. Please include your envelope number and “hunger” on the memo line. Give online: <https://onrealm.org/NewlonsburgPres/-/form/give/now> You can select a specific fund or multiple funds when making your donation. Give by Text: Text Newlonsburg to 73256 You will receive a giving link and can then select a specific fund for your donation. Please give generously. It’s a Newlonsburg thing!

**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 5 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.

**NEW YEAR'S POTLUCK BRUNCH:** Come and enjoy fellowship with your NPC family THIS MORNING at our annual simple, continental-style New Year's Potluck Brunch. We will meet in Fellowship Hall between worship services.

*Please be sure to thank Judy Oates and Dodie Hagan as they host their final event as Hospitality Chairs after generously leading their Hospitality Team for more than 35 years!*

**PLANT-BASED PITTSBURGH COOKING WORKSHOP:** Plant-Based Pittsburgh and Healthy Seminarians-Healthy Church are inviting NPC members to participate in a special cooking workshop on how to prepare and share healthier Super Bowl party foods (spinach dip, queso, etc.). Karen Webster is presenting the workshop on Saturday, January 10, 2026 at 1-2:30pm in the Gathering Place.

**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



**FAMILY PLAYDATE SATURDAY JAN. 10 10:30AM-12PM** Get out of the cold and run off some energy! Bring friends and neighbors! Join us for open gym, a few silly family games, arts and crafts, and snacks! Sign up so we have enough supplies!

<https://onrealm.org/NewlonsburgPres/PublicRegistrations/Event?linkString=NzNINWFiMGYtYTVmMC00YzNlWFkMmUtYjM5NTAxNjVjY2Vh>



**MLK DAY OF SERVICE:** Please join us on Monday, January 19th for a special presentation and discussion with our friends from Charleroi Presbyterian Church. We will have two guest speakers share their experience followed by a small group discussion, all of this will take place in fellowship hall. The event starts at 10aM and will end at 1PM with a lunch break between sessions This is an educational experience open to everyone and all are encouraged to attend. I Please sign up for this event by **Friday, January 16**. You can register using the link: <https://onrealm.org/NewlonsburgPres/Registrations/Info/e13d2250-047b-4bfb-a0dc-b3bb00ea532f?returnTo=upcomingEvents>

Or on the sign up sheets. Contact Joshua Kenst if you have questions.

**PS-** Let me know if you are available to come early to help set up, stay longer to help clean up, or would be willing to donate fruit, cookies, or other snacks for the event. Thank you!

**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>

**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>



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**"O GIVE THANKS TO THE LORD, FOR HE IS GOOD; FOR HIS STEADFAST LOVE ENDURES FOREVER" Psalm 136:** Thankful Thoughts. Please consider sharing one or many (there is no limit) of your favorite things (big or small, specific or general) about Newlonsburg (from chocolate sprinkle donuts during the early service to the Cantata). Where have you seen and felt God's presence? You can sign your name or submit anonymously (these will be shared in a section of the website and a physical display at NPC. What about NPC makes you feel blessed? Your "thankful thoughts" can be returned with your stewardship commitment card or dropped in a box in the Narthex.

**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.

**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](mailto:giving@newlonsburgchurch.org), or (3) Online:

[www.newlonsburgchurch.org/give](http://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 4	8:30 AM	Worship – Fellowship Hall
	9:30 AM	New Year’s Brunch - Fellowship Hall
	11:00 AM	Worship - Sanctuary
Monday January 5	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
	7:00 - 9:00	Matthew 25 - Gathering Place
Tuesday January 6	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
	6:00 - 7:00 PM	Executive Meeting - Gathering Place
	7:00 - 9:00 PM	Committees - Fellowship Hall, Gathering Place, 104, 106, 204, 205, 207
	7:00 – 9:00 PM	NA – Common Ground
Wednesday January 7	8:30 AM	Women’s Breakfast
	3:00 PM	Music Academy – Rooms 101- 103, 201, 208, Nursery
	6:00 - 8:00 PM	Club 45/Youth Group - Fellowship Hall/Common Ground
	6:00 - 8:00 PM	Girl Scouts - 204
	7:00 - 9:00 PM	Stephen Ministry - Gathering Place
Thursday January 8	10:00 AM - 8:00 PM	Music Academy
	3:00 - 4:45 PM	Ram - Arc
	4:30 - 7:00 PM	Mintec - Arc/Common Ground
	5:30 - 6:15 PM	Beginning Bells - Choir Room
	6:00 - 7:00 PM	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 9	9:00 AM - 2:00 PM	Quilters - Fellowship Hall
	4:00 - 5:30 PM	Music Academy - 101/102
Saturday January 10	8:30- 9:30 AM	Newlonsburg Music Academy – 205
	8:30 - 10:30 AM	Men’s Breakfast - Fellowship Hall
	9:45 - 11:45 AM	OA - Gathering Place
	11-1:00 PM	AA – Common Ground
Sunday January 11	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**

Emily Bondi, Ushers, '26

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

Natalie Bollinger, Childcare, '27

Kathy Groll, Flowers/Reminder Cards, '25

Bruce Hanington, Counters, '27

Tyler Hanchey, At-Large, '26

Matthew Hand, Coffee and Doughnuts/Vice Moderator '26

Lois Nesbitt, HOPE/COM Liaison, '25

Jim Scriven, Moderator/Liaison to Nominating Committee, '25

Larry Stoken, Correspondence Cards, '25

Lori Novak, Secretary, '27

### **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 Keaney, Chair, '25

#### **Property**

Robin Pokrzywinski, Chair, '27

Michael Rhoades, '26

#### **Communications**

Rhonda Johnston, Chair, '26

Angel Stahl, '27

#### **Clerk of Session**

Susan Keaney