



Newlonsburg Presbyterian Church

WORSHIP • SERVE • GROW

December 28, 2025

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

December 28, 2025

11:00 am - Service is Live-streamed

GATHERING AROUND GOD'S WORD

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: We gather to worship the Word made flesh, who fled from the wrath of human powers into Egypt.

People: The God we worship was a refugee.

Leader: We remember the children, from the time of Christ to today, caught in the cross-fires of fear and greed.

People: The God we worship was a refugee.

Leader: We gather to dream and build a better world where all children grow up, all exiles return home.

People: The God we worship was a refugee.

*OPENING HYMN # 140 Once in Royal David's City

PRAYER OF CONFESSON

Loving Parent God, Jesus shared our flesh and blood, and we share closeness with you. We thank you for making us your children, a divine chosen family. Make visible to us the ties that bind us to each other, to all creatures, and to you. Move us to guard each other's well-being and to treat each other's struggles as our own, that we may live into the perfect kinship already ours through Jesus our brother, woven together by his Spirit. Amen.

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

ASSURANCE OF PARDON Kloe Jarosz

HEARING GOD'S WORD

CELEBRATION WITH CHILDREN #188 (vs 1) Jesus Loves Me

Rev. Lori Bass-Riley

SCRIPTURE LESSON Hebrews 2:10-18 Kloe Jarosz

SCRIPTURE LESSON Matthew 2:13-23 Rev. Lori Bass-Riley

SERMON "Seriously . . . It was Fitting?" Rev. Lori Bass-Riley

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

*SERMON HYMN # 126 Jesus, Jesus, O What a Wonderful Child

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

(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

*Doxology

*Prayer of Dedication

Kloe Jarosz

CARRYING GOD'S WORD INTO THE WORLD

*CLOSING HYMN # 136 Go, Tell It on the Mountain

*BENEDICTION Rev. Lori Bass-Riley

*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

Joy to the World

Aber

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FLOWERS: Given by Jeff and Cynthia Goff. May we glorify God here at NPC in 2026!

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 at our annual simple, continental-style New Year's Potluck Brunch on Sunday, January 4th, 2026. We will meet in Fellowship Hall between worship services. Bring some fruit or breakfast pastries to share!

Thanks in advance to our New Year's Brunch Hospitality Chairs (Dodie Hagan & Judy Oates) and Team Members: Ken & Beth Ann Bobish, Amanda Bobish, Michael & Barbara Carroll, Todd Caughey, Ben Caughey, Ron & Caren Donaldson, Beverly Evans, Mitch & Bettie Jarosz, Susan Keaney, Bill & Kathy Lukitsch, Tom & Billie Moser, Anne Nevin, Michael & Rachel Oates, Amelia Oates, Lucas Oates, Jill Oster, Janice Rehwald, John & Diane Schaupp, Scott & Beth Sherman, Dave & Betty Trout, Debbie Wallisch, and Christy Weir.

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=NzNINWFiMGYtYTVmMC00YzNILWFkMmUtYjM5NTAxNjVjY2Vh>

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. Please sign up for this event by **Friday, January 16**. You can register using the link: <https://onrealm.org/NewlonsburgPres/Registrations/Info/e13d2250-047b-4fbf-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>

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>



"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.

WITH GRATEFUL HEARTS WE THANK OUR COMMUNION BREAD BAKERS: We give thanks to God for the volunteers who faithfully prepared gluten-free bread for our communion services throughout the year: Jeff Goff, Lois Nesbit, Marcia Smith, Christel Thompson, Sarah Jean Thompson. Your ministry is a quiet yet powerful expression of Christ's love, ensuring that all are welcomed and nourished at the Lord's Table.

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.

NOTE FOR END OF YEAR GIVING: If you are giving by check or cash, your donation will have to be handed in to the church by Sunday, December 28th 2025 in order to be included in 2025 donation statements. If you give on-line,

donations through December 31st will be included in your donation statement for 2025. As always, thank you for your generosity.

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 December 28	8:30 AM	Worship – Fellowship Hall
	11:00 AM	Worship - Sanctuary
Monday December 29	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 December 30	8:30 – 9:30 AM	Men's Breakfast – Dicks Diner
	11:00 AM	Leadership Programming
	1:15 PM	Leadership Meeting – Offsite
	2:00 – 3:30 PM	Rehearsal – Sanctuary
	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 December 31	8:30 AM	Women's Breakfast
Thursday January 1		Happy New Year!
Friday January 2	4:00 - 5:30 PM	Music Academy - 101/102
Saturday January 3	8:30- 9:30 AM	Newlonsburg Music Academy – 205
	9:45 - 11:45	OA - Gathering Place
	11-1:00 PM	AA – Common Ground
Sunday January 4	8:30 AM	Worship - Fellowship Hall
	9:30 AM	New Year's Brunch
	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

A Stephen Ministry Congregation
CLI License # 1289082