



 *Newlonsburg Presbyterian Church*
WORSHIP • SERVE • GROW

February 15, 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

February 15, 2026

11:00 am - Service is Live-streamed

GATHERING AROUND GOD'S WORD

PRELUDE

Becky Gard

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Paul

THE INTROIT

Children, Children
Sunday School Singers

CALL TO WORSHIP

Marcia Smith

Leader: Though finite human minds cannot fathom God's fullness,

People: God gives us glimpses of divine glory every day in the night sky's depths and in the simplest flower,

Leader: in shared meals, shared stories, and shared struggles.

People: In the face of every person made in the sacred image, God's beauty glows like sunlight behind clouds.

Leader: We share God's sacred longing to be known, to be truly seen and loved for all we are.

People: But to be fully known, we must risk vulnerability.

Leader: When we dare to share ourselves with one another, when we work to understand a friend or stranger,

People: we come closer to catch a glimpse of God's presence. Let us worship God together.

*OPENING HYMN # 317 In Christ There Is No East or West

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Marcia Smith

Word made flesh, Eternal Mystery, on that mountain, you showed your core reality to three of your closest friends: a fabulous, though temporary, transition into your authentic truth. Transfigure our hearts and minds until we can share this honor. Pierce through our clouds of unknowing, the presumptions and failures of imagination that shroud our capacity to see the real you. Inspire us to seek to know you better through relationships with people of all faiths, all cultures, and experiences not our own, so that we might see, and know, and love you

fully as we are fully known and loved by you. Amen.

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

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Marcia Smith

***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

Luke 19:1-10

Marcia Smith

ANTHEM

Peace Like a River
Becky Gard and Jill Oster, 4-hand piano

arr. Raney

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 7:1-10

Rev. Paul

SERMON

Morality over Might

Rev. Paul

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

*SERMON HYMN # 442 Just as I Am, without One Plea

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

Becky Gard

*Doxology

*Prayer of Dedication

Marcia Smith

CARRYING GOD'S WORD INTO THE WORLD

*CLOSING HYMN # 853 We Are Marching in the Light of God

*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

Becky Gard

**A special thank you to Becky Gard for sharing her talents with us today!
Becky now teaches piano in the Newlonsburg Music Academy.**

A special thank you to Amy Smith for leading our Sunday School Singers

SERMON NOTES

1. Jesus is most concerned with how we use power, not if we have it.
2. Affluence can insulate us from accountability while quietly eroding our moral imagination.
3. New life in Christ shows up in how wealth is reoriented, not merely retained.
4. The kingdom of God advances not by coercion, dominance, or control—but by humility, repentance, and trust.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THANK YOU TO OUR ACOLYTES: Wes and Joanna Weir

HUNGER OFFERING ASH WEDNESDAY TO BENEFIT THE WESTMORELAND FOOD

BANK: On Ash Wednesday, this coming Wednesday, we will be taking an additional offering to benefit the Westmoreland Food Bank. WFB is a private, non-profit organization that collects, stores and distributes food and household products to over 80 member agencies in Westmoreland County. These include soup kitchens, food pantries, shelters, day care and senior centers for people

with low incomes and also summer programs for children. The Food Bank is located in Delmont just before the Route 22 and Route 66 Cloverleaf. The needs continue to be greater than ever as the WCFB works to provide additional food assistance to our neighbors in the area who are struggling to make ends meet in these very challenging times. Learn more about the Food Bank at their website www.westmorelandfoodbank.org. 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, Murrysville, 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> or click the **Give** button on the website. 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. Your generosity will be greatly appreciated. Roger Schneider - Outreach Ministry

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 22**. If you have any questions, please contact Joshua Kenst. Thank you!

MARDI GRAS MONDAY FUNDAY FOR GRADES K-8 ON 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=MTMOMzlkMjYtMDZiNi00NWZmLWE2ZGEtYjNiMTAxMzhiYzVi>



HEALTHY SEMINARIANS-HEALTHY CHURCH'S 40-DAY LENTEN CHALLENGE:

FROM PIXELS TO PRESENCE: Feeling like your screen is outshining the world around you? Lent is a quiet invitation to step back from the digital buzz and rediscover the grace and beauty already woven into your daily life.

You are invited to join HSHC for our "From Pixels to Presence 40-Day SIGHT Challenge" starting THIS Wednesday, February 18, where you will have the opportunity to practice three simple habits to help clear your vision.

Pick up a paper copy of the handout at church this Sunday (2/15/26) or download the digital version at bit.ly/PixelsToPresence.

KIDS MUSICAL AT NEWLONSBURG Rehearsals start March 1 Performance May

3! 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/1FAIpQLScNmBJdnerfR9DxS3R66yPawfp1qTBZyVIXbCHKTawdKKhvtQ/viewform?usp=header>



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

- **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



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.

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.

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.

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>

ADDRESS CHANGE: Hello NPC, Just a quick note to let y'all know Celine and I have moved. I have recently started a new position at a church near Harrisburg, PA. Our new address is: 536 Lewisberry Road, New Cumberland, PA 17070
Peace, Catharine Weiss

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

THIS WEEK AT NPC

Sunday February 15	8:30 AM	Worship – Fellowship Hall
	11:00 AM	Worship - Sanctuary
Monday February 16	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 February 17	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	Outreach - Session
Wednesday February 18	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
	6:00 - 8:00 PM	Club 45 & Youth Group - Fellowship Hall/Common Ground/Arc
	6:00 - 8:00 PM	Girl Scouts - 204
	7:00 PM	Ash Wednesday Service - Sanctuary
Thursday February 19	10:00 AM - 8:00 PM	Music Academy
	1:00 - 2:00 PM	Lent in Plain Sight - Virtual
	1:15 - 2:15 PM	NMA Board Meeting - Gathering Place
	3:00 - 4:45 PM	Ram - Arc
	4:45 - 7:30 PM	Mintec - Arc/Common Ground
	5:30 - 6:15 PM	Beginning Bells - Choir Room
	6:00 - 7:00 PM	Praise Team Rehearsal - Fellowship Hall
	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 February 20	9:00 AM - 1:00 PM	Quilters - Fellowship Hall
	4:00 - 5:30 PM	Music Academy - 101/102
Saturday February 21	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 22	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

Lynn Comstock, Correspondence Cards, '28

Tyler Hanchey, Coffee and Doughnuts, '26

Matthew Hand, Moderator/Liaison to Nominating Committee, '26

Bruce Hanington, Counters/Vice Moderator, '27

Abby Kemerer, Greeters, '28

Alyssa Kemerer, Deacon-Elect, Greeters, '28

Elizabeth Montgomery, Deacon-Elect, Childcare, '28

Lori Novak, Secretary, '27

Linda Palmer, HOPE Coordinator, '28

Doug Riethmuller, Flowers/COM Liaison, '28

ELDERS OF SESSION BY MINISTRY

Affirmation

Amanda Neely, Chair '26

Janice Rewald, '26

Care of Members

Lindsay Lippman, Chair '26

Kelly Hand, '28

Equipping

Kevin Tomer, Chair, '28

Julie Gebrosky, '28'

Finance

Susan Long, Chair, '28

Lindsey Berk, '27

Human Resources

Jan Hill, Chair, '26

Debbie Andrachek, '28

New Member Evangelism

Kate Montgomery, Chair, '27

Rachel Oates, '28

Outreach

Susan Keaney, Chair, '26

Heather Rusiewicz, '28

Property

Robin Pokrzywinski, Chair, '27

Michael Rhoades, '26

Communications

Angel Stahl, Chair '27

Clerk of Session

Susan Keaney