



 Newlonsburg Presbyterian Church
WORSHIP • SERVE • GROW

August 23, 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

VISITOR SIGN IN



THE CELEBRATION OF THE GOOD NEWS

August 23, 2026

10:00 am - Service is Live-streamed

GATHERING AROUND GOD'S WORD

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Curtis Paul

CALL TO WORSHIP

Ena Bolinger

Leader: Let Newlonsburg say,

People: If the Lord had not been on our side, where would we be?

*OPENING HYMN # 81 Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Ena Bolinger

Son of God, Son of Man, you offered your body on the cross. Help us to offer our bodies as a living sacrifice of thanksgiving, that we may be transformed and reformed by your Word, in the name of our Sovereign Lord, Christ Jesus. Amen.

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

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Ena Bolinger

***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

Joshua Kenst & Rev. Lori Bass-Riley

#188 (vs 1) Jesus Loves Me

BACK TO SCHOOL BLESSING

SCRIPTURE LESSON

John 4:1-26

Ena Bolinger

ANTHEM

My Lighthouse

Rend Collective

Kevin Pokrzywinski, solo

SCRIPTURE LESSON

John 4:27-42

Rev. Curtis Paul

SERMON

Seeing People the Way Jesus Does

Rev. Curtis Paul

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

*SERMON HYMN # 324 For All the Faithful Women

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

(Please mention first names only)

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

Joshua Kenst

OFFERING OF SELF AND SUBSTANCE

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

Irish Festival & Morning Prayer

Selina Jarvie, piano

*Doxology

*Prayer of Dedication

Ena Bolinger

CARRYING GOD'S WORD INTO THE WORLD

*CLOSING HYMN # 396 Brethren, We Have Met to Worship

* BRINGING CHRIST'S LIGHT INTO THE WORLD

*BENEDICTION

Rev. Curtis Paul

*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

- Special thanks to Selina Jarvie, a student of Becky Gard from the Newlonsburg Music Academy

- Special Thanks and Welcome Back to Becky Gard, our guest organist this morning.

SERMON NOTES

1. What does it mean to value others?
2. The Samaritan woman represents multiple social, cultural, and religious divides. Jesus intentionally moves toward someone others avoid. He neither compromises truth nor withholds compassion.
3. For today's Church, this means learning to engage people with curiosity, respect, and grace rather than suspicion and hostility.
4. Listen before judging. Seek understanding before disagreement. Build relationships with people who are different from you.
5. Jesus sees a person where others see a category.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME THE ASSOCIATE PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE (APNC): On Sunday, August 2nd the congregation elected Susan Keaney, Angel Stahl, Paul Thompson, Kathy Groll and Bill Soule as the APNC. With the saddening news that Paul joined the Church Triumphant on 8/17, the nominating committee will be searching for a few folks who will broaden the diversity of the APNC.

NEW ACCESS CONTROL SYSTEM (ACS): The new ACS and intercom systems have been installed and will replace the current key-based access to NPC. These systems will be gradually implemented over the next few weeks and will be fully operational by September 1st. If you currently have a key for access, you'll need to complete an "Access Request and Agreement" form to obtain a key fob that will replace your key. This form is available in the church office and must be returned to the office so that the data can be added to the system. Between now and September 1st, we'll be debugging the system and loading the system database with individuals and groups who currently have keys to the church. We'll also input time frames for when doors will be unlocked and locked for facility user groups. Not everyone will require an access device (fob) to enter the church. If you primarily attend Sunday worship services and occasionally visit the church to drop off something, you don't need to fill out an access form. The church doors will remain open for Sunday services and other church events.

SIGN UP FOR NPC BLOOD DRIVE: The American Red Cross has declared a **national blood crisis!** Blood donations have fallen to a four-year summer low.

All blood types are needed, but **the situation is especially dire for type O blood**. NPC's Deacons will be hosting a Red Cross blood drive for the Murrysville community on Tuesday, August 25, from 11:30am-5pm in Fellowship Hall. Please call 1-800-REDCROSS (1-800-733-2767) or go to RedCrossBlood.org and enter NPC and the sponsor code to schedule an appointment. Donors are needed immediately to help save lives!

KNEAD COMMUNITY CAFE MOMENT FOR MISSION ON 9/6! Mary Bode, owner of the Knead Community Café (KCC) in New Kensington will share her amazing journey during both services. KCC was the first Pay What You Can/ Pay it Forward Café in western Pa., opened in 2017 by Mary and Kevin Bode. Mary and Kevin love their New Kensington community and provide a spark that brings new energy to the town while helping to feed their many neighbors in need. Their mission is driven by their faith and their desire to positively impact their community. KCC is a non-profit organization and is staffed almost entirely by volunteers. The atmosphere is warm, the food is amazing, as they want those who come to enjoy an ambiance of fine dining regardless of their personal circumstances. The mission is two fold: -Provide hunger relief for those in need by offering delicious and healthy food regardless of their ability to pay - Strengthen the bonds of the community by providing an environment where all are welcome. Interaction with neighbors is encouraged to enable increased understanding of people from diverse walks of life. On Thursday nights, "sponsored" dinners are provided to anyone in the community. To date they have served more than 72,000 meals! Newlonsburg will be sponsoring a dinner on Thursday September 17, 2026, when 8-10 of our members will assist in serving. This will provide a first hand experience of this special mission and a chance to witness the genuine fellowship that can be created when we engage with our neighbors in a truly caring way without judgment. The Hunger Offering on this date will be used to support this important mission.



9/11 WEEK OF SERVICE - HELPING OUR NEIGHBORS IN WESTMORELAND

COUNTY: In recognition of the 2026 National 9/11 Day of Service and Remembrance, Westmoreland Food Bank is kicking off the 9/11 Week of Service Food Drive, a county wide initiative honoring the spirit of service and unity that emerged in the wake of tragedy. This year, the event carries special significance as America celebrates its 250th anniversary, and we are reminded that the promise of this nation has always been fulfilled through the everyday acts of its citizens. As food insecurity continues to rise across Westmoreland County, the need for reliable food assistance has never been greater. To meet this growing need - and to mark America's 250th in a way that reflects our nation's founding ideals - we are being asked to host a food drive that also

serves as a call for action that is rooted in two powerful American traditions: the post 9/11 resolve that turned grief into service and the 250th year legacy of neighbors helping neighbors. Please consider bringing in non-perishable food items and placing them in the donation box in the narthex. The most requested items are canned tuna, canned chicken, canned fruits and vegetables, canned meals (stew, ravioli) peanut butter, macaroni and cheese, and cereal. Please do not bring anything that is in glass jars or containers. All donated items must be non-perishable, have its original manufacturer's label, and be free from obvious defects. Thank you NPC for your generosity and for helping take care of our neighbors in need! It's a Newlonsburg thing!

FALL FUSION TWEENER RETREAT 9/12-9/13: Fall Fusion is Pine Spring Camp's fall retreat for campers who are in 4th - 6th grade! Our desire is to continue to provide an amazing environment where campers can grow in their faith and have a "vital encounter with Jesus Christ." Cost is \$95/child or \$85/child when coming in groups of 10. **Price includes food, lodging and camp activities. Please contact Pastor Lori (text 412-737-1412) if you are interested in attending with us as a group or you can register individually by using the QR code.

KICK OFF SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 13 10:AM: Sunday School Returns on September 13th! All children and youth classes (besides confirmation) will begin in their classrooms and then after meeting their teachers, they will go to the ARC for a party! Pick up will be in the ARC.



FOOD COLLECTION VOLUNTEERS NEEDED - We need volunteers to fill one-hour or two-hour shifts in collecting food at the Murrys ville glass recycling event on

Saturday, September 19 near the Municipality building. The collection is done outside from those donating food to our Loaves and Fishes food pantry. This is a low-stress, low-physical activity that greatly benefits Loaves and Fishes and those with food insecurity. It's easy to do by yourself or make it a family outing. The only requirement is to have a car to put the food into so that it can be taken to Loaves and Fishes later that day or on Sunday. Volunteer slots are from 9:00 am - 2 pm on Saturday, September 19. If you are interested, please contact Jon Moerdyk. (jonathan.moerdyk@gmail.com; 231-679-5861)

3rd GRADE BIBLE DISTRIBUTION/PRESENTATION 9/27/26

sign up before 9/6: We will present our 3rd Graders (and any older elementary students who do not have one) a student Bible with interesting articles and activities incorporated throughout the Bible. These will be presented at both the 8:30 and 11:00 Service. Please sign your child up by 9/6 so we can have our church enter your child's name with calligraphy.



<https://onrealm.org/NewlonsburgPres/PublicRegistrations/Event?linkString=ZmRmYzRmM2ltMmMzNC00YjY3LWlwZTYtYjQ4MzAwMDAxMDI1>

A NOTE FROM THE CROCHET GROUP- As most of you know Newlonsburg Church has a crochet group that meets every Tuesday September thru May. This group has been in existence since 1993. Thanks to the support of outreach, individual monetary and acrylic yarn donations we were able to help various organizations by giving them blankets and hats. Last year we donated 425 blankets and 85 hats. Just recently our blankets were featured in a story that appeared on WPXI news. This is a wonderful program that is part of the Pittsburgh Public School run by Carolyns Rychick. We have put a link on the Newlonsburg Facebook page. if you would like more information. We would like to thank this congregation for your continued support in helping us provide this service to others. If you'd like to join us, donate ,or just come to see us work, please don't hesitate to contact Debbi Grimaldi.

MEN'S BASKETBALL MINISTRY: Looking for a great way to stay active while growing in faith and fellowship? Join our **Men's Basketball Ministry** every **Tuesday and Thursday evening from 9:00–11:00 PM** in the **Newlonsburg Presbyterian Church ARC Gym**. Each evening begins by sharing our joys and concerns, followed by a time of prayer before we hit the court. It's a wonderful opportunity to build friendships, encourage one another in Christ, and enjoy the gift of exercise through basketball. **A suggested donation of \$8 per night** helps support this ministry, but any amount that is financially feasible is appreciated. No one is turned away due to financial circumstances. Whether you're a

seasoned player or just looking for fellowship and fitness, we'd love to have you join us! Contact Michael Lancaster mikelancastertech@gmail.com

LOAVES & FISHES NEEDS YOUR HELP: Loaves & Fishes is looking for a volunteer to shelve food monthly. Please call Judy Radcliff if you are interested, 724-787-3745.

OUR HAITIAN FRIENDS IN CHARLEROI NEED YOUR HELP! Our Haitian friends are in need of feminine hygiene products (pads only please!) diapers and wipes. Please place them in the collection boxes. Many thanks to you all for your tremendous generosity for those in need. It truly is a Newlonsburg thing!

"TEACHING OF JESUS" YARD SIGNS: Available for Purchase. Political signs soon will be sprouting up like wild flowers. Let's take this opportunity to also display simple messages of love and hope. Yard signs reflecting teachings of Jesus Christ that were displayed in front of the church last fall are once again available for purchase at cost (\$13 per sign). If you are interested in obtaining one of these signs, please contact the church office at 724.327.0061 or look for the table in the narthex display between services.

HELP US PUT NAMES TO FACES IN OUR CHURCH PHOTO COLLECTION: The office team is purchasing photo albums to give our NPC photos a home. We need your help to put names to faces and help us determine the years the photos were taken. If you are able to help, please reach out to Jenn or Rachel at office@newlonsburgchurch.org or 724-327-0061.

DAILY DOSE: Welcome to your Daily Dose of spiritual friendship. Each day in the Realm App or in your email box (whatever your preference) you will receive daily encouraging, challenging voices of Christianity to deepen your friendship with Jesus Christ and Christ's Church. You will need to go to the App or Realm Connect to opt-in yourself or email office@newlonsburgchurch.org to be added to the Daily Dose messages.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: The Nominating Committee at NPC has begun our search for members to join our already committed Elders, Deacons, Pre-school Board and other roles at NPC. If you have an interest in learning more about the duties on any of these jobs at NPC, or perhaps in joining other members in serving the church please call one of the members of the Nominating Committee. They are: Shauna Frantz, Matt Hand, Susan Hois, Rob Jessup and Angel Stahl.

SAVE THE DATE:

Hoss's Lunch on Sunday, 9/13/26 after the 11am service

Puzzles & Pizza Night on Wednesday, 9/23/26 @ 6pm in Fellowship Hall

A FRIENDLY REMINDER FOR HUNGER OFFERINGS: Please put your name on the envelope when donating towards Hunger. The Hunger envelopes do not have your individual envelope number and we do not know who is giving unless you give us your name / envelope number. If you have given towards hunger and do not see contributions on your giving statement, please call Ginny Rygg (412)-491-7937. Thanks for your help with this and as always, thanks for your support.

SHOW SUPPORT FOR HAITIAN REFUGEES: There are multiple ways we can demonstrate our support for our Haitian friends in Charleroi. One of the ways is to contact our elected officials to institute systemic change in our country's current approach. If you are interested in this, please refer to the Matthew 25 page on the NPC website or use this link <https://www.newlonsburgchurch.org/matthew-25-at-newlonsburg>

PER CAPITA: Congregations pay an annual amount of money per church member, per capita apportionment, to their respective presbyteries. Please consider including your 2026 share of this amount (\$55 per member). 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." For more information, please contact giving@newlonsburgchurch.org. Online Giving Form: <https://onrealm.org/NewlonsburgPres/give> (select per capita contribution)

STOCK CONTRIBUTIONS: Transferring appreciated stocks, bonds, and mutual funds is a great option for charitable giving. Gifts of appreciated securities owned more than one year can provide additional tax savings by decreasing long-term capital gains and through itemized deduction of the current value, rather than the initial cost. Note: You should consult with your personal tax advisor about the impact of making such a gift.

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.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY: Thank you to all those who give in gratitude for what God has given to us. As of the end of July 2026:

	Common Good	Special Gifts/ Reserve Accounts
Giving for Month	\$35,094	\$5,540
Year to Date Giving	\$380,885	\$58,336

Year to Date Spending Budget	\$411,173	
Year to Date Spending Actual	\$396,116	\$114,943

Common Good giving includes offerings, short-term investment interest and facility usage fees. Special gifts are Reserve Account gifts such as Haiti Kids support, Hunger Offerings, Youth Fund-Raising, Legacy Endowment Fund Gifts, Memorial Gifts, Capital Campaigns and others.

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 August 23	8:30 AM	Worship – Patio
	10:00 AM	Worship - Sanctuary
Monday August 24	4:00 PM- 5:00 PM	Music Academy- Rooms 102/103
	4:45 - 8:00 PM	Music Academy- Room 201
	6:30 – 8:30 PM	Boy Scouts – Rooms 104, 106, ARC
Tuesday August 25	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
	2:30 - 9:00 PM	Music Academy - Choir Room
	3:30 PM- 7:30 PM	Music Academy - 202/203
	4:00 - 5:00 PM	Music Academy – 102/103
	4:45 - 8:00 PM	Music Academy - 201
	7:30 - 9:30 PM	NA - Common Ground
Wednesday August 26	8:30 AM	Women’s Breakfast
	11:00 AM - 9:00 PM	Music Academy - 208
	1:30 - 3:30 PM	Music Academy - Choir Room
	3:30 - 9:30 PM	Music Academy - 101
	3:30 - 7:30 PM	Music Academy - 202/203
	4:00 - 5:00 PM	Music Academy - 102/103
	4:45 - 8:00 PM	Music Academy - 201
Thursday August 27	2:30 - 9:30 PM	Music Academy - 201
	2:30 - 9:00 PM	Music Academy - 208
	4:00 - 5:00 PM	Music Academy - 102/103
	4:45 - 8:00 PM	Music Academy - 101
	5:30 - 6:15 PM	Beginning Bells - Choir Room
	6:00 - 7:00 PM	No Praise Team Rehearsal
	6:15 - 7:15 PM	Bell Choir - Bell Duet Only
	7:30 - 8:30 PM	No Choir Rehearsal
Friday August 28	4:00 - 5:00 PM	Music Academy - 102/103
Saturday August 29		
	9:45 - 11:45AM	OA - Gathering Place
	11-1:00 PM	AA – Common Ground
Sunday August 30	8:30 AM	Worship - Patio
	10:00 AM	Worship - Sanctuary

NEWLONSBURG PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH LEADERSHIP TEAM

The Rev. Curtis Lane Paul II, 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

Lindsey Berk & Ginny Rygg, Financial Secretaries

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, Greeters, '28

Elizabeth Montgomery, Deacon, Childcare, '27

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 Rehwald, '26

Care of Members

Lindsay Lippman, Chair, '26

Kelley Hand, '28

Equipping

Kevin Tomer, Chair, '28

Julie Gebrosky, '27

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