

### Newlonsburg Presbyterian Church

August 24, 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

August 24, 2025 10:00 am - Service is Live-streamed

#### GATHERING AROUND GOD'S WORD

PRELUDE Jesus Loves Me Payne

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Paul

CALL TO WORSHIP Rowan Burch

Leader: O Consuming Fire, you spark awe and joy with the work of

your hands and the power of your deeds.

People: You give us an unshakable kin-dom in this ever-shaking

world.

Leader: So we give thanks and worship you with reverence and awe.

People: Let us worship God!

\*PRAISE THROUGH MUSIC #372 O For a World

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rowan Burch

God our rock and fortress, the task is daunting: remove the yoke, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil from among us. So we proclaim: You are my rock and my fortress! The work is hard: offer food to the hungry, satisfy the needs of the afflicted. So we sing out: You are my rock and my fortress! You crown us with steadfast love and mercy and work justice for all who are oppressed. You show us that we don't have excuses because you have given us the right words, the right actions. So we remember: You are my rock and my fortress! Give us refuge and guide us, Satisfy our needs and send us out to spread your message and do your will, that we may be like a watered garden, repairers of the breach, restorers of streets. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Rowan Burch

\*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 #188 (vs 1) Jesus Loves Me

Rev. Lori Bass-Riley

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 20: 20-28

Rowan

Burch

ANTHEM Nobody

Casting Crowns

Kevin Pokrzywinski, solo

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Philippians 2:3-11

Rev.

Paul

SERMON Be Great Rev. Paul

#### **RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD**

\*SERMON HYMN #767 Together We Serve

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS Rev. Webster

(Please mention first names only)

OFFERING OF SELF AND SUBSTANCE

Rev. Webster

Please continue to give to NPC by check or by texting 855-287-7898. The text should be the amount of your donation. Please visit the GIVE Section of the NPC website or email giving@newlonsburgchurch.org with any questions.

Call for the Offering

Offertory He Walks with Me arr.

Stephenson

Stephanie & Evelyn Makosey, bell duet

\*Doxology

\*Prayer of Dedication Rowan Burch

#### CARRYING GOD'S WORD INTO THE WORLD

\*CLOSING HYMN #826 Lift High the Cross

\*BENEDICTION Rev. Webster

#### \*THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

\*CLOSING RESPONSE May the Light of God

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 every day.

POSTLUDE Declamation Martin

#### **Sermon Notes**

- 1. Humility
- 2. Willingness to Serve
- 3. Focus on others: love.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**FLOWERS:** Given by Jeff and Cynthia Goff with gratitude for the blessing of 30 years of marriage. Praise be to God!

WELCOME OUR NEW YOUTH DIRECTOR: Dia Duit (God be with you), my name is Joshua Kenst. I'm a proud Pittsburgher, born and raised in the North Hills. I graduated from Thiel College located in Greenville, PA with a Bachelor's of Arts degree in Youth Ministry and Theology in 2018. In 2023 I earned my Master of Arts degree in Christian Ministry from Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary, recently relocated to Hickory, NC. Over the years I have been active in outdoor ministry, serving as a camp counselor at Camp Lutherlyn, where I met my Fiancé, Heidi. In addition to outdoor ministry I have gone on several mission trips to different parts of the United States and served as a missionary in Senegal, West Africa as a participant in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's (ELCA) Young Adults in Global Mission program. For me, youth ministry plays an important role in a person's faith. The youth ministers and campus ministers I have had over the years made a tremendous impact in my life and faith, and I hope to steward the gift of their faith, wisdom and experience by passing it on to others. My spiritual director once said to me, "God is in your life as you live it." The work of youth ministry is to help young people see God in their daily lives. This is my prayer and hope. Some fun facts about me include my love of being in nature, either hiking or kayaking. When

I'm not in nature, I can be found at my dojo, practicing Aikido and Toyama Ryu Batto Do. Additionally, I am a bit of an artist and crafter. My favorite things to make for people include walking sticks, canes, and prayer beads.

POWER OF HELLO TRAINING TODAY!: The Security Management Team invites all to learn how to greet each other in Christ while keeping NPC safe. Please join us TODAY, August 24th, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Light refreshments will be served. You will learn the OHNO approach: 1. Observe 2. Initiate Hello 3. Navigate the Risk 4. Obtain Help. You will also learn Incident Response Best Practices and Active Shooter Response Best Practices. The SMT's purpose: Jesus commissions Newlonsburg Presbyterian Church (NPC) to invite all people to Him and to protect the lives of all who enter our property in a loving and considerate way. The Security Management Team's goal is to ensure that this is done in a safe, healthy, Christlike, and careful manner.

**SEEKING MINTEC SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS:** We are looking for a few more folks to serve as MINTEC Sunday School teachers on a rotating basis for the coming year. The lessons and other materials will be provided; all we ask is that you have current child-protection clearances on file with the church office. If you are willing to be part of this fulfilling, long-time ministry, or would like to know more, please contact Travis, either by phone in the church office (724-327-0061) or email (travis.webster@comcast.net). Thank you!

CALLING ALL 8TH GRADERS FOR CONFIRMATION: Confirmation class will be starting soon! This is an important process of discernment, as participants learn more about both their faith and the Presbyterian tradition and think about joining NPC as members. Every NPC student on our rolls who will be in 8<sup>th</sup> grade in the coming 2025-2026 school year, as well as their parents, should have received an invitation to and description of our confirmation program by mail. If you did not, if you know you will be participating, or if you have any questions/would like more information, please let Travis know as soon as possible, either by phone (724-327-0061) or email (travis.webster@comcast.net)! Confirmation will start on Rally Day, which is Sunday, September 7, along with the rest of our Christian Education program. We look forward to having you join us!

**SHOE DONATIONS:** The FR Cross Country team is collecting shoes to financially benefit our Loaves and Fishes Emergency Food Pantry. Any type and size of new or used shoes can be donated in the box by the office from September 7-28th.

**BELL RINGERS ARE NEEDED** Several vacancies in the big bell group have occurred. We need help! If you are interested in ringing this fall, please let

Bettie know ASAP. While a little musical background is preferred, bell ringing experience is not needed because we will teach you how to ring. It is a joy to be a ringing part of worship. Why not give it a try and be part of the joy?

BACK TO SCHOOL MEANS MORE LAUNDRY: Please help up provide laundry detergent to the Westmoreland County distribution at Mother of Sorrows in October. This is our 10th year to add this high-cost item to the monthly food given out to local families in need of support. Place the detergent in the narthex. We need 200, so please be generous. (You always are!!) BLESSINGS! Outreach Ministry

**TRIVIA NIGHT @ GINNY'S!:** Come join us at 6:45pm (7pm start) on Wednesday, 9/10/25 for trivia on the front patio of Ginny's Neighborhood Pizza Joint (5549 Old William Penn Highway, Murrysville, PA 15668). Sign up sheet coming soon!

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

- Puzzles & Pizza Night on Wednesday, 10/29/25 at 6pm in Fellowship Hall
- Women's Fall Breakfast on Saturday, 10/25/25 at 9:30am
- Hoss's Lunch on Sunday, 11/9/25 after the 11am service



CHILI, SOUP & BREAD COOK-OFF: We're adding an extra twist to our Chili Cook-off this year! Bring your favorite chili, soup, or bread dish (or enter a dish in every category!) and prove that you are top chef at Newlonsburg! We'll have a judge's choice winner and a people's choice winner in each of the three categories. If you aren't a chef, bring your appetite! You can enjoy lunch and vote on your favorite dishes. Cook-off will be held in the Fellowship Hall following the 11:00 service on Sunday, September 28th. Sign-up sheet coming soon!

Thanks in advance to our Cook-off Hospitality Chairs (Lauren Babich & Kimberly Burch) and Team Members: Tom and Mary Ann Austin, Buck Babich, Hal Burch, Lynn Comstock, Jim and Diane Delbridge, Greg and Caroline Franko, Sylvia Henriquez, Cindy Hopper, Mark and Gale Lieber, Dean and Sue Matanin, Andrew and Jordan McBurney, Matt and Megan Nicely, Keith Paulson, Jim and Heidi Scriven, and Kevin and Nicole Tomer.

PROPERTY CAPITAL PROJECTS FINANCIAL UPDATE: In June we launched a campaign to raise \$127,000 for three key projects: new sign, parking lot pavement and HVAC improvements for Common Ground. Because of your generosity, we are on the way to meeting this goal. Thank you to those who donated. Check out the progress meter in the Narthex and outside Common Ground to see how close we are to reaching our target. We urgently need additional support to reach our overall goal by September 30th. Please prayerfully consider a gift to help us raise the remaining \$25,000 needed to undertake these important property projects to maintain our building and grounds. Your support is crucial in ensuring NPC remains a resource furthering the Kingdom of God. Donations: To donate please send a check with "2025 Capital Improvements" on the memo line to church, place in the offering basket, or donate online at <a href="https://onrealm.org/NewlonsburgPres/give/property">https://onrealm.org/NewlonsburgPres/give/property</a>

**FINANCIAL SUMMARY** Thank you to all those who give in gratitude for what God has given to us. As of the end of July 2025:

	Common Good+	Specia	al Gifts *
Giving for Month	\$ 32,917	↔	81,768

Year to Date Giving	\$355,071	\$ 140,719
Year to Date Spending Budget	\$ 389,254	Not Applicable
Year to Date Spending Actual	\$ 367,949	\$ 85,585

<sup>+</sup> Common Good giving includes offerings, short-term investment interest and facility usage.

JOIN REALM: NPC is rolling 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.

<sup>\*</sup>Special gifts include Haiti Kids support, Hunger Offerings, Youth Fund-Raising, Legacy Endowment Fund Gifts, 2025 Property Improvements, Reserve Account giving, Memorial Gifts, and others.

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.

#### **A Litany for Students**

Jesus, teacher of all, Instruct me.

From the anxiety of tests, Jesus, deliver me.

From the temptation to procrastinate on projects, Jesus, deliver me.

From the fears of failing assignments, Jesus, deliver me.

That I may study, Grant me this desire.

That I may work hard on my assignments, Grant me this desire.

That I would pursue knowledge with an open mind, Grant me this desire.

That I might work well with fellow students and teammates, Grant me this desire.

That I may be humble and teachable in all I do, Grant me this desire.

That above all else; I trust in you to direct my heart, mind and actions,

Grant me this desire.

Amen

### YOUR HELP IS NEEDED SO OUR FACILITY CONTINUES TO ENABLE CHRIST'S WORK.

The Property Ministry has identified three near-term projects that need to be undertaken for safety concerns and/or to continue the usability and welcomeness of our facility.

**Parking Lot:** Property has evaluated repairs to get a few more years out of the current surface, but repairs would be extensive and costly. Based on the most effective use of our gifts, the contractor will repair the large holes and install a new 2-inch asphalt layer over the entire lot, with new line striping. We hope to receive enough gifts or commitments before July 25th so that we can take advantage of lower-than-expected paving quotes and do work this summer while the lot is less used.

**Common Ground HVAC System:** This work is a follow up to the successful 2023 water infiltration/wall project. As users of Common Ground know, the original duct work, installed in the 1970s, is in the floor and these ducts have collapsed resoling in a nonfunctional HVAC. This project will include new ductwork in the ceiling.

**NPC Sign:** A recent storm destroyed our NPC sign and surrounding stone. Thankfully no one was hurt. Right now, we have no road signage informing drivers we are here.

These three project costs are estimated to total \$127,000. Please consider a gift this summer to maintain our building and grounds so they can continue to be a resource to further the Kingdom of God. Gifts and commitments are requested by July 25, 2025. Thanks to the generosity of the congregation and its donations of funds, talent, and time, we can continue to maintain the church as a welcoming facility in good repair.

To donate now please send a check with "2025 Capital Improvements" on memo line to church, place in the offering basket, or donate online at <a href="https://onrealm.org/NewlonsburgPres/give/property">https://onrealm.org/NewlonsburgPres/give/property</a>

If a current gift is not feasible, your commitment will allow Property to plan the

work. Commitments can be emailed to giving@newlonsburgchurch.org or made online at <a href="https://onrealm.org/NewlonsburgPres/AddPledge/property">https://onrealm.org/NewlonsburgPres/AddPledge/property</a>



## Blood Drive Murrysville Community Newlonsburg Presbyterian Church

Fellowship Hall 4600 Old William Penn Highway Murrysville

> Tuesday, August 26 11:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Maximize your blood donation. Help more patients.

If you are an eligible type O, B - or A - donor, consider making a Power Red donation.

Red blood cells are the most commonly transfused blood component.

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: NPC to schedule an appointment.

Streamline your donation experience and save up to 15 minutes by visiting RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass to complete your pre-donation reading and health history questions on the day of your appointment.



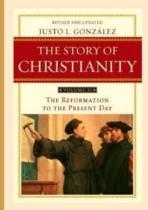
Come give Aug 1 to 28 for a \$15 e gift card to choice of



1-800-RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767 | RedCrossBlood.org | Download the Blood Donor App

\$171; Carcill \$150; See D 1000; Sq. Let 1 2000; 300, Mr. 2002; ARC 2000





JOIN DON PEARSON AND TRAVIS WEBSTER IN THIS 14-SESSION STUDY OF MODERN CHRISTIAN HISTORY!

WHEN: WEDNESDAYS

TIME: 10:15AM-12:15PM

**LOCATION: GATHERING PLACE** 

STARTING SEPTEMBER 10

**RSVP BY AUGUST 31ST** 

HTTPS://TINYURL.COM/24CEKUHF



Newlonsburg Presbyterian Church

At Newlonsburg Presbyterian Church we strive to best meet the needs of our families and further the kingdom of God. Please take a moment and share your honest thoughts on children and youth programs; this will help guide us on the best use of time, talents and resources. We value your honest responses, even if your family is not interested in NPC programs. Thanks very much for your time and consideration.

# SCAN HERE



Sunday August 24	8:30 AM	Worship – Arc Patio	
	10:00 AM	Worship - Sanctuary	
	11:30 AM - 1:00 PM	Power of Hello Training - Fellowship Hall	
Monday August 25	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 August 26	8:30 – 9:30 AM	Men's Breakfast – Dicks Diner	
	9:00 AM - 6:00 PM	Blood Drive - Fellowship Hall	
	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 – 9:00 PM	NA – Common Ground	
Wednesday August 27	8:30 AM	Women's Breakfast	
	3:00 PM	Music Academy – Rooms 101- 103, 201, 208,	
		Nursery	
Thursday August 28	10-8 PM	Music Academy	
	8:30 PM-9:30 PM	Music Academy- Sanctuary	
Friday August 29			
Saturday August 30	8:30- 9:30 AM	Newlonsburg Music Academy – 205	
	11-1:00 PM	AA – Common Ground	
Sunday August 31	8:30 AM	Worship - Arc Patio	
	10:00 AM	Worship - Sanctuary	

#### **THIS WEEK AT NPC**

#### 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