

Newlonsburg Presbyterian Church WORSHIP-SERVE-GROW

September 14, 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



September 14, 2025 11:00 am - Service is Live-streamed

GATHERING AROUND GOD'S WORD

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Paul

THE INTROIT

Wake Up, Church, Wake Up!

Choplin

CALL TO WORSHIP

Joey Breitkreutz

Leader: The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance,

People: that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.

Leader: Though the strong wind of judgment blows, all is not ended.

God will renew stubborn hearts and soften stiff necks,

People: for Jesus welcomed sinners and ate with them,

Leader: so we boldly come to make an offering of worship to the God

of mercy, who seeks and saves the lost.

People: Let us rejoice in the grace of our Lord!

*OPENING HYMN # 612 We Praise You, O God

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Joey

Breitkreutz

God of grace and mercy, we thank you for disregarding our foolishness and teaching us your holy wisdom. Instill in us the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus, who rejoices whenever what was lost is found. Amen.

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

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Joey Breitkreutz

*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 Colossians 1:15-17 & Proverbs 4:5 Joey Breitkreutz

ANTHEM Give Thanks Smith, arr. Hallquist

SCRIPTURE LESSON Proverbs 16:3; 1 Corinthians 10:31 Rev. Paul

SERMON How to Use A.I.? Is Artificial Intelligence Artificial? Rev. Paul

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

*SERMON HYMN # 829 My Faith Looks Up to thee

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 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

*Doxology

*Prayer of Dedication

Joey Breitkreutz

CARRYING GOD'S WORD INTO THE WORLD

*CLOSING HYMN # 839 Blessed Assurance

*BENEDICTION Rev. 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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FLOWERS: Given by Hal and Kimberly Burch in memory of Hal's brother, Jeff.

WELCOME OUR NEW DCFM! The FIND Team is happy to announce the hiring of Rev. Lori Bass-Riley as our new Director of Children and Family Ministries (DCFM). She has served in a similar role in two other churches in the area with over 10 years experience. In addition, she is an ordained minister who served a Presbyterian church in New Jersey after receiving her divinity degree from Princeton Theological Seminary. Needs for her greater attention on her family steered her to step back from the pastorate and start working just with children and families in the Pittsburgh region, where she grew up. She brings a wealth of experience to us. Her vitality and joy are contagious! Lori began her role as DCFM on July 1st. Please welcome her when you get a chance!

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!

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.

<u>HEALTHY SEMINARIANS</u>-Healthy Church's fall fundraiser, "Cultivating Joy," takes place in a little over a week, September 22 - 30, 2025. This event will raise essential funds to support our work of bringing about greater wellbeing among seminarians, clergy, and communities of faith. A special feature this year is our Joy Scavenger Hunt, where participants will be "hunting for" everyday moments of joy in their lives. By joining in, you'll not only help support HSHC's mission, but you'll also be entered into a drawing for a surprise gift (you do not

have to donate in order to play). To learn more and/or to donate, go to: https://bit.ly/HSHC-Cultivating-Joy-2025

<u>WE DON'T WANT TO SHRINK!</u> Our recent vacancies have threatened the normal size of the Bell group. We need help to ensure that all the bells will continue to ring! Please consider playing with us, talk to Bettie (email; bjarosz5678@yahooo.com) and see If you might be a good fit in the Bell Choir. While a little musical background is preferred, bell ringing experience is not 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

FOOD COLLECTION VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: We need volunteers to fill one-hour or two-hour shifts in collecting food at the Murrysville glass recycling event on Saturday, September 20 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 20. If you are interested, please contact Jon Moerdyk. (jonathan.moerdyk@gmail.com; 231-679-5861)

<u>JOSHUA NEEDS YOUR MASON JARS:</u> Dear friends and families of Newlonsburg Presbyterian Church, I am collecting old jars to use as a craft for Sunday School on October 5. If you have any gently used mason jars from jam or jelly, please place them in the box on the table located left of the office, labeled "jar collection" by Friday, September 26. Thank you so much for your investment in the spiritual enlightenment of our young people!

<u>CHILI, SOUP & BREAD COOK-OFF:</u> We're adding an extra twist to our Chili Cookoff 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.

<u>WOMEN IN THE WOODS RETREAT:</u> Women in the Woods (October 3 and 4, 2025) is a retreat designed to be physically and spiritually refreshing for women of all ages. The teaching will be incredible, and the retreat will be packed with great singing, fun, laughter and fellowship. Come by yourself, bring a group or a friend and enjoy the teachings of Kelly Miskis as we learn to rest – she will show us how to take what we study about God (Mind) and allow it to shape us and settle into us (Heart) and live into this knowledge and faith (Body.) The retreat will be held at Pine Springs Camp and runs from Friday to Saturday evening with a special dinner celebration. Find details and register at https://www.pinesprings.org/women-in-the-woods.

MURRYSVILLE CROP HUNGER WALK PLANS SET FOR OCTOBER 12: The 46th annual Church World Service Murrysville CROP Hunger Walk will be held on Sunday, October 12. Be sure to mark your calendars and save that date now! This year we'll again be making use of the wonderful asset we have in the Westmoreland Heritage Trail. The route will continue to be an approximate total of 3.5 miles (5 kilometers) as it has been for many years. The estimated walk time will be about 1.5 hours. The Walk will begin and end at the Duff Park shelter at the park entrance off School Road South, with a water stop at the Walk midpoint near the Murrysville Community Center. Sign-in will begin at the shelter at 1:00 PM, with the Walk beginning at approximately 1:30 PM. As we did, beginning in 2020, those who prefer to walk "virtually", may do so as well. During the weeks to come, we'll be contacting all who have walked with our teams and who have contributed in recent years. We'll also be reaching out to invite new participants from our congregation and from the community. For

more information, please contact Roger Schneider at rogerls@comcast.net or during the day or evening at 412-613-8470. To join the NPC team or make a contribution, please use this QR code or go to:

https://events.crophungerwalk.org/crophungerwalks/team/newlonsburg-presbyterian-church



<u>Future Events:</u> 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

DONATION STATEMENTS WILL BE SENT OUT FOR GIVING FROM JANUARY

<u>THROUGH AUGUST, 2025:</u> They will be either emailed or sent out via USPS for those not using email. If you have any questions please contact Ginny Rygg (412-491-7937) or Lindsey Berk (412-559-7862). You can also check your giving through REALM. As always, thanks for your continued generosity.

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.

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

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

	Common Good+	Special Gifts *
Giving for Month	\$ 49,293	\$ 21,789
Year to Date Giving	<u>\$404,365</u>	\$ 172,720
Year to Date Spending Budget	\$ 444,293	Not Applicable
Year to Date Spending Actual	<u>\$ 415,781</u>	\$ 124,069

_+ Common Good giving includes offerings, short-term investment interest and facility usage.

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

^{*}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.

PARKING LOT COMPLETION & NEXT STEPS FOR 2025 PROPERTY

IMPROVEMENTS: The parking lot is done and paid for! It looks fantastic. Session and the Leadership Team offer their sincerest appreciation and heartfelt thanks for your generous support of the 2025 Property Improvements Projects. Your gifts have played a pivotal role in ensuring our ministry and mission continue to grow and flourish. Special thanks go to the Property Ministry for their thoughtful design and dedicated oversight of this timely project. With this major improvement complete, we continue looking forward: we still need donations by September 30th to move ahead with our next exciting projects—the new church sign and the replacement of the Common Ground HVAC system.

How Your Gift Makes a Difference The new sign will make our church more visible and welcoming to newcomers, guests, and longtime members alike—helping all find their way to worship, fellowship, and support. Replacing the HVAC system will ensure comfortable and safe gathering spaces year-round for all our ministries, programs, and community events, making NPC a true resource for everyone who enters our doors. We need approximately \$25,000 to reach our goal. Every gift, no matter the amount, brings us closer to making these improvements a reality. Your support is crucial in ensuring NPC continues to be a welcoming, vibrant hub for faith and community. Please prayerfully consider a gift to help us undertake these two essential projects.

How to Donate

- · Send a check with "2025 Capital Improvements" on the memo line to the church office
- · Place your donation in the offering basket
- Or donate online at https://onrealm.org/NewlonsburgPres/give/property

Every contribution matters! If you have any questions about giving, please contact the church office. Thank you again for your steadfast generosity and for being an essential part of our shared ministry.







Register

1st and 3rd Wednesdays





Call/Text Pastor Lori 412-737-1412

4600 Old William Penn Hwy. Hurrysville

Newlonsburgchurch.org

Newlonsburg Presbyterian Church
WORSHIP-SERVE-GROW

Hey parents and guardians!
I want to hear from you about what school activities your children particpate in. Please scan the QR and respond the Google survey.

Thank you!

Peace and blessings,

Joshua



Hey High Schoolers!

I'm planning on starting a new program just for you! Please scan the QR Code and respond to the Survey Monkey by Sunday Sept. 7. I look forward to meeting with you and hearing your ideas about this new opportunity! Blessings, Joshua







THIS WEEK AT NPC

Sunday Sept. 14	8:30 AM	Worship – Arc Patio
	11:00 AM	Worship - Sanctuary
Monday September 15	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 September 16	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	Session - Gathering Place
	7 – 9:00 PM	NA – Common Ground
Wednesday Sept. 17	8:30 AM	Women's Breakfast
	10:15 AM - 12:15 PM	Along the Way Church History Class - Gathering Place
	3:00 PM	Music Academy – Rooms 101- 103, 201, 208, Nursery
	6:00 - 7:30 PM	Youth Group/Club 45 - Arc, Common Ground, Fellowship Hall
	6:00 - 7:30 PM	Girl Scouts - Room 204
Thursday September 18	10:00 AM - 8:00 PM	Music Academy
	3:00 - 4:45 PM	Ram - Arc
	5:30 - 6:15 PM	Beginning Bells - Choir Room
	6:00 - 7:00 PM	Praise Team Rehearsal
	6:15 - 7:15 PM	Bell Choir - Choir Room
	7:00 - 8:30 PM	Choir Practice - Choir Room
	8:30 PM-9:30 PM	Music Academy- Sanctuary
Friday September 19	9:00 AM - 2:00 PM	Quilters - Fellowship Hall
	4:00 - 5:30 PM	Newlonsburg Music Academy - 101/102
Saturday September 20	8:30-9:30 AM	Newlonsburg Music Academy – 205
	8:30 - 10:30 AM	Men's Breakfast - Fellowship Hall
	11-1:00 PM	AA – Common Ground
Sunday September 21	8:30 AM	Worship - Fellowship Hall
	11:00 AM	Worship - Sanctuary



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 Neelv. '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

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