



Newlonsburg Presbyterian Church

WORSHIP • SERVE • GROW

September 7, 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

September 7, 2025

11:00 am - Service is Live-streamed

GATHERING AROUND GOD'S WORD

PRELUDE	Trio on "McAfee"	Portman
WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS		Rev. Paul
THE INTROIT	Wake Up, Church, Wake Up!	Choplin

CALL TO WORSHIP Lois Nesbitt

Leader: There is good and there is wicked in the world.

People: Lord, help us find the good.

Leader: The wicked are perishing. Like chaff, they will not stand before the Lord.

People: Lord, drive wickedness away with the wind.

Leader: The good is like a tree, planted by streams of sweet water.

People: Lord, let goodness yield its fruit in every season.

Leader: Our delight is in the law of the Lord.

People: Let us meditate upon God's promises from morning into night.

*OPENING HYMN # 611 Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

PRAYER OF CONFESSION Lois Nesbitt

God our Judge, we meditate upon your promises from morning into night. Our delight is in your law. Let goodness yield its fruit in every season, that, like a tree planted by streams of sweet water, we might find the good and live how you intended: free, flourishing, and in peace. Amen.

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

ASSURANCE OF PARDON Lois Nesbitt

***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

SCRIPTURE LESSON Selections from Genesis 1 Lois Nesbitt

ANTHEM Go Ye Into All the World
Butler

SCRIPTURE LESSON Selections from Genesis 1

SERMON Where are dinosaurs, unicorns and other fun facts about creation?

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

*SERMON HYMN # 824 There Is a Place of Quiet Rest

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS Rev. Webster
(Please mention first names only)

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

Words of Invitation

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving The Lord’s Prayer Pg. 35 (Debts)

Words of Institution

Communion of the People

Prayer after the meal

OFFERING OF SELF AND SUBSTANCE Rev. Paul

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 Toccata on “All Who Hunger Gather Gladly” Ashdown

*Doxology

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

Toccata on "Hymn to Joy" Macchia

SERMON NOTES

1. Not even God works 7 days a week!
2. Creation is essentially good.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THANKS TO OUR DEACON COMMUNION SERVERS TODAY: Lois Nesbitt and Debbie Carlson.

HUNGER OFFERING TO HELP WILKINSBURG FOOD PANTRY: Our September Hunger Offering, which will be taken this morning, will go to Wilkinsburg Community Ministry (WCM), which is located in downtown Wilkinsburg. WCM focuses its efforts solely on food and nutrition, which remains among the greatest challenges to residents. Food is distributed through the storefront pantry that's located in the downtown Wilkinsburg location on Wood Street and through a mobile food pantry. For more information, see the WCM website at: www.wcm15221.org. Please give generously to help Wilkinsburg Community Ministry continue to provide creative solutions to help overcome food insecurity for our neighbors in east suburban communities. 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. Roger Schneider - Outreach Ministry

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.

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 8th 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!

INTERESTED IN GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP? So many in our church family are grieving lost loved ones. Care of Members is exploring the possibility of offering a GriefShare support group if members would be interested. This 13-week support group program includes a weekly video featuring respected experts on grief-related topics and helpful stories from people who have experienced loss. This is followed by a discussion by group members about what was presented in the video and what is going on in their lives. If you think you could benefit from a GriefShare support group, please email careofmembers@newlonsburgchurch.org or call the church office (724-327-0061) to let them know.

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.

WE DON'T WANT TO SHRINK ! 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@yahoo.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

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, Murrysburg, PA 15668). We've already reserved enough spots for those who signed up by last Wednesday, but if you missed the

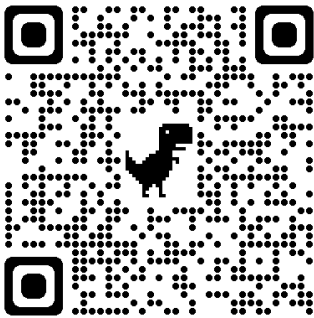
deadline and are still interested, text or email Lauren Babich (617-699-3990, lauren.babich@gmail.com) and we can try to get some extra seats.

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 people's choice winners 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 on the church board or on-line.

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.

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

- Women's Fall Breakfast on Saturday, 10/25/25 at 9:30am
- Puzzles & Pizza Night on Wednesday, 10/29/25 at 6pm in Fellowship Hall
- Hoss's Lunch on Sunday, 11/9/25 after the 11am service
- Advent Dinner on Sunday, 12/7/25 at 6pm in Fellowship Hall
- Christmas Caroling & Celebration on **SATURDAY** (yes, Saturday), 12/20/25 at 3pm...it's worth scheduling your other holiday celebrations around this if you can!



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)

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>



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 **\$34,350** 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 <https://onrealm.org/NewlonsburgPres/give/property>

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>

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

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.

Hey parents and guardians!
I want to hear from you about what
school activities your children
participate 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



PINE SPRINGS PRESENTS

THE BIG ONE

OCTOBER 17-19

Scan to register



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.

CHILDREN & YOUTH SURVEY
SCAN HERE



 *Newlonsburg*
Presbyterian Church
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THIS WEEK AT NPC

Sunday September 7	8:30 AM	Worship – Arc Patio
	10:00 AM	Worship - Sanctuary
Monday September 8	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
	5:00 - 6:30 PM	Security Management Team Meeting - Gathering Place
	6:30 – 8:30 PM	Boy Scouts – Rooms 104, 106, ARC
	6:30 - 8:30 PM	Matthew 25 - 204
	7:00 - 8:30 PM	Deacons - Gathering Place
Tuesday September 9	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 - 8:30 PM	Stewardship & Finance - Gathering Place
	7:00 PM - 8:30 PM	Outreach - 205
	7 – 9:00 PM	NA – Common Ground
Wednesday Sept. 10	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
Thursday September 11	10-8 PM	Music Academy
	3:00 - 4:45 PM	Ram - Arc
	5:30 - 6:15 PM	Beginning Bells - Choir Room
	6:00 - 7:00PM	Praise Team Rehearsal
	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 September 12		
Saturday September 13	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 14	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

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