

THE GOOD NEWLONSBURG

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Have you ever tried to change your behavior? It's not easy. Hope has been trying to change my behavior for 19 years, and the Holy Spirit has been trying even longer. In fact, some studies show that we need to practice the new behavior as many as 18 to 254 days.

The reason for the big difference in the number of days is that we individuals are incredibly psychologically different. If you want to have a deep dive into going to Heaven and behavior change, the letter to the Romans is for you! God's Word teaches it's not simply a psychological issue, it's spiritual. **Read Romans 6.**

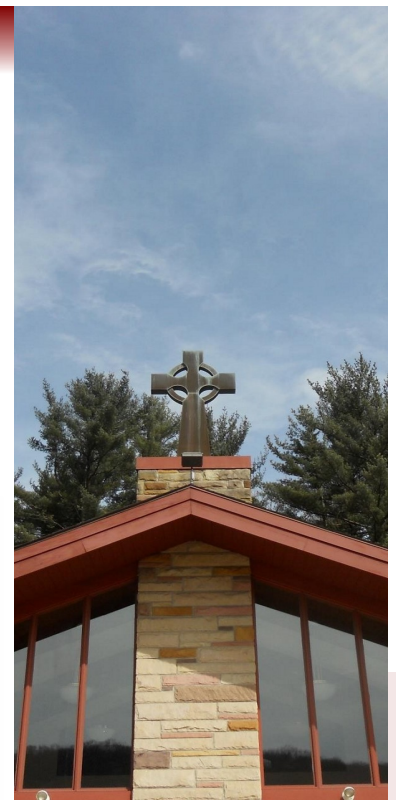
As Paul's friendship with Jesus Christ deepens, he proclaims the good news of the possibility of radical behavior change, radical spiritual change. Paul wouldn't use the phrase "behavior change," as you heard, he is using the phrases "slaves to sin" and "slaves to righteousness" or "dead to sin" and "alive to God in Christ." Paul believes God wants to save us from sin and the consequence of sin, which is death. Paul believes Jesus lives for us to live well, to live Heaven on earth, to live free!

God's Word teaches there is only one solution to our great spiritual crisis: proclaim the free gift of God, who is Jesus Christ. We can't force anyone to have faith. Love does not force. But we can proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ! Tell stories about Him.

Do you want to live well? Paul would say it this way, "Do you want to avoid God's wrath?" Accept God's gift by trusting that God wants good things for you by following Jesus Christ.

The first step is awareness. I teach the boys all the time, "Don't be zombies." And I have been preaching the image of zombies often because it is a great metaphor of life before and after Christ. Before Christ, we don't even know we are zombies. We are just following our guts, our cravings, our hunger. Zombies aren't alive, they are just living consuming others. For Paul, this is how he understands people before Christ, they are dead to sin. They are living but not alive, not even aware that they are heading to death or they are already dead.

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I like to use brushing teeth as an example. Our boys don't have the choice to brush their teeth. From little children, we encouraged, enforced the habit and eventually discussed the reasons why brushing teeth is beneficial because we understand that not brushing teeth leads to death. So not only must they trust us that teeth-brushing leads to life, but they must pursue this holiness morning and evening.

The more Hope and I discuss what we want for our sons when it comes to the faith of Jesus Christ, it is this: **instilling the habits of daily prayer and weekly worship like Jesus did.** Hopefully, they will come to have faith, but that is between them and the Holy Spirit. Hopefully, they will come to believe they no longer have to obey sin. Hopefully, they will offer their lives to God and embrace new life in Christ.

Love,

Pastor Curtis

ADULT EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

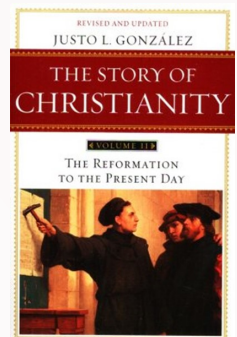
"Game On" Sunday is September 7th! Another programming year, another opportunity to join some fantastic Adult Education classes at Newlonsburg Presbyterian Church!

Don Pearson will be starting a new study on John's gospel. Drawing on the voices of several different pastors and scholars, the class will explore how John portrayed the life and person of Jesus. They meet during the Sunday Christian Education hour (9:45-10:45 am) in Common Ground.

Dennis Skeers will continue his leadership of the Faith and Contemporary Issues course. This class uses current events as a basis for discerning how to live faithfully in the world around us. They meet during the Sunday Christian Education hour (9:45-10:45 am) in the Gathering Place.

Curtis Paul will hold a class on Sunday mornings that will watch and discuss *The Chosen*. This will meet during the Sunday Christian Education hour (9:45-10:45 am) in Fellowship Hall.

Don Pearson and Travis Webster will be continuing their study, titled *Along the Way: On the Road to the Present Age*. Over 14 sessions, *Along the Way* will take participants through church history in the modern era, with an emphasis on the development of the church in the United States. We will use Justo Gonzalez's *The Story of Christianity* and lectures from "The Great Courses" as our primary sources. The class will meet on Wednesdays from 10:15 am to 12:15 pm, starting September 10th. All students will need a copy of *The Story of Christianity, volume two* (updated and revised edition), and will receive a workbook with additional materials. If you are interested, please contact Travis at travis.webster@comcast.net or in the church office at 724-327-0061 ASAP. In addition, be on the lookout for 2025 Advent studies, which will be offered at various times starting in late November. More information is coming soon!



CALLING ALL EIGHTH 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 a 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 class will start on "Game On" Sunday, which is Sunday, September 7th, along with the rest of our Christian Education program. We look forward to having you join us!

MUSICAL OPPORTUNITIES

"Music Makes the World Go Round" at Newlonsburg. Here are ways to join in.

- The 8:30 am *Praise Team* and the 11:00 am *Sanctuary Choir* sing/play weekly on Sunday mornings and rehearse separately on Thursday evenings at 6:00 pm & 7:30 pm to prepare for Worship. Specific needs in both groups are for singers, male and female, and for instrumentalists (guitar and percussion) in the Praise Team.
- There are two *Handbell Groups* who are looking for ringers. One group plays more advanced music while the other group is exploring music and beginning techniques. These groups rehearse on Thursday evenings at 5:30 pm & 6:15 pm. Specific needs for the advanced group are for several people to join who can already read music somewhat. Bell techniques can be easily taught. Beginning Bells welcomes anyone who wants to learn to play bells. It is a joy to play bells, and you will have fun while you're experiencing the joy!
- Young singers emerge during the Sunday School hour. *The Sunday School Singers* represent children through 2nd or 3rd grade, while the *Sunday School Choir* represents Upper Elementary children. There is much fun to be had during this short musical time. And there are times during Worship to appreciate what the children have learned.

SHOE DRIVE: TO BENEFIT LOAVES AND FISHES EMERGENCY FOOD PANTRY

Dear NPC Family,

The Franklin Regional Cross Country team is collecting shoes with the organization Funds2Orgs to benefit our Loaves and Fishes Emergency Food Pantry, and **we need your help!**

What shoes can be donated?

- Tennis shoes, boots, sandals, formal shoes, all types are great!
- New or used
- Any size (kid to adult)



There will be a donation box outside the office from **September 7th to 28th**. If you have any questions, please reach out to James Berk at jamesberk7@gmail.com. Thanks for your help!

HUNGER OFFERING ON SEPTEMBER 7TH TO HELP WILKINSBURG FOOD PANTRY

Our Hunger Offering in September will go to Wilkinsburg Community Ministry (WCM), which is located in downtown Wilkinsburg. WCM was originally a collaboration of several area churches, with members of the board representing each of the churches. In 1968, clergy and lay leaders from ten congregations formed the Board of Directors for the Wilkinsburg Community Ministry. The unity of several congregations made it possible for WCM to meet the extreme needs of poverty and hunger in the community. Today, WCM unites congregations, local business owners, service groups, and individuals to help the folks of Wilkinsburg, Homewood, East Hills, Swissvale, Braddock, Edgewood, and East Pittsburgh neighborhoods address food insecurity for all people regardless of race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, and creed.



WCM focuses its efforts solely on food and nutrition, which remains among the greatest challenges to residents. With fresh food provided by local gardeners and relationships with the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank, 412 Food Rescue, Trader Joe's, Market District, and Whole Foods, WCM strives to provide a more balanced source of food. Food is shared with over 5,000 residents per year, including senior citizens, citizens with disabilities, at-risk youth, and families who are economically challenged, underemployed, or facing emergencies.

Food is distributed through the storefront pantry that's located in the downtown Wilkinsburg location on Wood Street. In 2020, an urban garden was started at the rear of the building, which also contains a greenhouse, and this provides some locally grown fresh foods. In 2022, with the support of the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank, WCM started a mobile pantry service in which a 27-foot truck equipped with a refrigerator/freezer is taken to seven different locations in the service area (on separate days) six days a week, to distribute food to people with transportation challenges. This "storefront pantry on wheels" operates in the late afternoon and early evening to help working families. It serves about 50-65 families at each location. 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.

GIVING OPTIONS

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.

MURRYSVILLE CROP HUNGER WALK PLANS SET FOR OCTOBER 12TH

The 46th annual Church World Service Murrysville CROP Hunger Walk will be held on Sunday, October 12th. We will join with over 2,600 communities around the country that organize these walks each year to help provide funds to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, heal the sick, and provide shelter for the homeless children of God in more than 80 countries around the world. Last year, CROP Hunger Walks raised over \$3 million to assist those struggling to feed their families. Appropriately, the letters **CROP** stand for **C**ommunities **R**esponding to **O**vercome **P**overty.

Last year's hybrid virtual and in-person Walk saw NPC joining together with five other local area teams to raise a total of nearly \$8,000. Our NPC in person and virtual team raised an amazing \$5,864 of the total amount raised locally! Out of 2,416 teams with October Walk dates in 2024, our NPC team fundraising placed in the top 100 – coming in at #68 in the entire nation. This year's fundraising plans will continue to rely primarily on online and social media fundraising. Hopefully, it will also be possible for some Walker sponsors to contribute in-person again this year, as well.

This year, we'll continue to make use of the wonderful asset we have in the Westmoreland Heritage Bike Trail. The route will be an approximate total of 3.5 miles (5 kilometers), with an approximate walk time of 1.5 hours. A water stop will be provided at the Walk midpoint, located at the parklet where Carson Avenue intersects the bike trail near the Murrysville Community Center. The Walk will begin and end at the Duff Park shelter at the park entrance off School Road South. Fortunately, the severe flooding that occurred this spring did not affect the section of the trail that we'll be using again. 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. This is a great option for those who are unable to participate on the actual October 12th Walk day.

Through the years, over 4,400 Murrysville Walk participants have raised nearly \$268,000 to fight hunger and poverty. Twenty-five percent of the money we raise in our Walk stays right here in Murrysville. We will again divide this portion three ways, between the Murrysville Loaves and Fishes Emergency Food Pantry here at NPC and the two local food distribution centers for the Westmoreland County Food Bank. One is at Mother of Sorrows Parish, and the other is at Cornerstone Ministries heading east toward Delmont on Rte. 22.

During the weeks to come, we'll be contacting all who have walked with NPC and who have contributed in recent years. We'll also be reaching out to invite new participants from our congregation and the community. Our goal is to continue our annual tradition of raising funds in support of the vital work of Church World

Service to fight hunger in our community, our nation, and around the world. For more information, please contact local walk coordinator and NPC member, Roger Schneider, at 412-613-8470 day or evening. You may also contact him by email at rogerls@comcast.net.



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Please remember that hungry people in developing countries typically walk as much as six miles a day to get food, water, and fuel, and to take their goods to market. We walk to be in solidarity with their struggle for existence. WE WALK BECAUSE THEY WALK. Please join us on Sunday, October 12th – in-person or virtually, as we continue our shared commitment to stand up for the poor, the forgotten, and those left behind.

Roger Schneider, Murrysville CROP Hunger Walk Coordinator and NPC Member

ARE YOU ABLE TO HELP SPLIT FIREWOOD?

The Property Ministry is looking for help splitting wood! The storm in May took down some of the trees on our property, but some other trees have been taken down by our team. The trees that we have taken down were obstructing power lines or too close to the building. We were able to sell many of the logs for \$500. There are some logs that we have kept so that we may enjoy a fire during the winter at the early service. If you are able to help split the logs for firewood, please contact Robin Pokrzywinski or Michael Rhoades.

SEPTEMBER MEN'S SATURDAY BREAKFAST

The Men's Saturday Breakfast will be **September 20th, 2025**, at 8:30 am in Fellowship Hall. All NPC men and their male friends are invited. No reservations required. For more details or questions, contact Carl Vernon.

TUESDAY MEN'S BREAKFAST/STUDY

We will resume meeting on **September 9th** in the back room of Dick's Dinner. We order at 8:30 am and have a discussion after eating. For more details or questions, contact Carl Vernon.



BACK TO SCHOOL MEANS MORE LAUNDRY



Please help us provide laundry detergent to the Westmoreland County distribution at Mother of Sorrows in October. This is our 10th year of adding this high-cost item to the monthly food that is given to local families who need support.

Place the detergent in the narthex by October 6th . We need to supply 200 bottles or boxes of detergent, so please be generous. (You always are!!) BLESSINGS!

-Outreach Ministry



Fellowship Events

WOMEN'S FALL BREAKFAST

Come enjoy a morning of food, fellowship, and spiritual refreshment at our Women's Fall Breakfast on **Saturday, October 25th**, at 9:30 am-11:30 am. Ages 13+ welcome. Bring a friend or two!

Thanks in advance to our Women's Fall Breakfast Chairs (Linda Gossar-Loesch & Diane Sciuillo) and Team Members: Kim Anderson, Debbie Andrachek, Don & Darlene Blansett, Brian Boyd, Lori Brickner, Dreama Delmar, Bob Dippolito, Alex & Julie Gebrosky, Rhonda Johnston, John Kaye, David & Michelle Lint, Todd & Lindsay Lippman, Kaitlyn Lippman, Mark Loesch, Michael & Connie Lowe, Chris & Sybil Marshall, Abbygayle Marshall, Darlene Matta, Michelle McAllister, Jon & Kate Moerdyk, David & Lynne O'Connor, Joe & Jessica Phillips, Walter & Joelle Pitts, John & Leanne Salava, Hope Schilling, Frank Sciuillo.

TRIVIA NIGHT AT GINNY'S!

Come join us at 6:45 pm (7:00 pm start) on **Wednesday, September 10th**, for trivia on the front patio of Ginny's Neighborhood Pizza Joint (5549 Old William Penn Highway, Murrysville, PA 15668). Please sign up on the posted sign-up sheet at church or online.

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. The Cook-off will be held in the Fellowship Hall following the 11:00 service on **Sunday, September 28th**. Please sign up on the sign-up sheet at church or online. 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.

- **Puzzles & Pizza Night** on Wednesday, 10/29/25 at 6:00 pm in Fellowship Hall
- **Hoss's Lunch on Sunday**, 11/9/25 after the 11:00 am service

Please sign up on the sign-up sheet across from the office, or in the Narthex, or online at our [website events page](#).



QR code for Fellowship Event
Sign-up Form



THANK YOU FROM THE PROPERTY MINISTRY

- Special thank you to the TREKkers! A group of our middle schoolers did a wonderful job weeding the property, thank you!
- The mailbox was in shambles, and Jim and Janis Baker revitalized it! Thank you, Jim and Janis!
- The benches on our front walk had bees and broken boards. Jerry Selia has fixed both! Thank you, Jerry!



ALMOST THERE!!! PROPERTY CAPITAL PROJECTS FINANCIAL UPDATE

This summer, we launched a campaign to raise \$127,000 for three key projects: a 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 goal by September 30th. Please prayerfully consider a gift to help us reach \$127,000 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 the church, place it in the offering basket, or donate online at <https://onrealm.org/NewlonsburgPres/give/property>

BIOGRAPHY OF THE DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES MINISTRY

Greetings, Friends in Christ!

My name is Reverend Lori Bass-Riley, and I am grateful and excited to be your Director of Children and Families here at Newlonsburg. I am a graduate of Penn Trafford, West Virginia Wesleyan (Music Ed/Theater), and Princeton Theological Seminary. I am married to Bryan and have two wonderful adult daughters, Anna and Abby. I served as an ordained solo pastor in NJ for 11 years before moving home in 2012 to care for family. During those first few years here, I preached in local congregations as well as participated in the ministry of my home congregation, Cross Roads Presbyterian Church in Monroeville. In 2015, members of Cross Roads asked me to apply for a part-time children and family director job, and I began working with them shortly after. I quickly realized that God had called me away from general ministry to educational ministry. In short, I was hooked! The spiritual formation of children and families is a holy calling that I am excited to fulfill with you. I love working to develop faith, knowledge, and practices within and through all generations. It is my greatest joy to see a child develop the awareness that their place within the community of Christ is vital, no matter what their age. When they recognize their power to do good through the love of Christ, their hearts open, they want to learn more about scripture, and they want to be more integrated into their faith family. My hope is that through our ministry together, children and their families develop a thirst for knowing about and growing a relationship with our God, as well as embrace their special callings within our congregation and in their worlds. I have many interests, which include music, theater, nature, science, and making silly games out of unexpected objects that I regularly utilize in my work! I can't wait to share them with all of you and get to know one another in this community of Christ!

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES ANNOUNCEMENTS

Game On Sunday, September 7th!

Join us for a fun-filled day as we get back to our school year schedule! Teacher commissioning will be at both services. At 9:45 am, children will meet in their classrooms. Then, we will gather in the ARC to get our "GAME ON!" for this year's Sunday School. We will meet our teachers, have some game-themed crafts, activities, and food, and get our pictures taken for our classroom bulletin boards.

Child Liturgists

We are looking for good readers to share their gifts in our worship ministry! Does your child read well? Would you like them to gain confidence in speaking while at the same time serving within their church community? We would love them to help lead worship! Dates left for 2025: 9/14, 10/12, 11/9, 12/14. Contact Pastor Lori for more information.

Fall Fusion Retreat 9/13-9/14 at Pine Springs Camp (Grades 4-6)

WHEN: Saturday, 9/13 - Sunday, 9/14 (11:00 Sat. drop off/4:00 Sun. pick up) COSTS: → CAMPERS: \$90 → GROUPS: \$80 for 10 or more from the same church **Price includes food, lodging, and camp activities. This is an individual event. We will not be going up as a group, but we can get the discount if enough NPC kids sign up! Contact Pastor Lori with any questions! 412-737-1412

Open Gym Begins September 14th

Want to have a place to let your kids blow off some steam, get to know their church family, and for you to connect with other parents? Join us after our 11:00 am service in the ARC from 12:00 pm-1:00 pm. Children younger than Kindergarten age must have a parent/guardian in the room with them at all times.

Club 45 Starts September 17th: 6:00-8:00 pm

Our 4th and 5th-grade kids' club will be returning September 17th and will be on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month, from 6:00-8:00 pm. We will have dinner and fun Bible-themed activities. Registration forms will be forthcoming on our website!

Bibles for Third Graders on September 21st

Bibles for third graders will be given out on September 21st. Please contact Pastor Lori if your third grader will be receiving one, and let her know what the name should read on the nameplate. Contact her at 412-737-1412.

Fall Festival: Sunday, October 26th: 3:00 pm-4:30 pm

We will have our traditional Fall Festival with pumpkin decorating, Trunk or Treat, crafts, games, and more! We will be looking for people to help plan the event and sign up to give out candy!



Children and Families Ministry

Fall Schedule 2025



September

9/7 - Game On Sunday -

- Teacher Commissioning at both services
- Sunday School Begins 9:45AM-10:45AM(meet in ARC)

9/14 - Open Gym Begins 12PM-1PM (most Sundays)

9/13-14 - Fall Retreat -for 4th-6th grade at Pine Springs

9/17 - Club 45 Begins 6PM-8PM (Kids' Club for 4th-5th grade)

9/21 - 3rd Grade Bible Presentation & Children Sing in 11AM Worship

October

10/1 and 10/15 - Club 45 6PM-8PM (Kids' Club for 4th-5th grade)

10/5 & 10/19 Open Gym 12PM-1PM (None on 10/12 or 10/26)

10/12 - Crop Walk (after 11AM service)

10/19 - Children Sing in 11AM Worship

10/26 - Fall Festival /Trunk or Treat 3PM-4:30PM

November

11/2, 11/9, 11/16,11/23 Open Gym 12PM-1PM (none on 11/30)

11/5 & 11/19 - Club 45 6PM-8PM (Kids' Club for 4th -5th grade)

- Friendsgiving on 11/19

11/10 - Monday Funday 9:30AM-1:30PM

- (Crafts and Fun Activities for School Age Kids)

11/16 Children sing in 11AM Worship

December

12/3 & 12/17 - Club 45 (Kids' Club for 4th -5th grade)

12/7 4:30PM Advent Adventure and Dinner

12/13 - Cookie Walk

12/14& 12/21 Open Gym 12PM-1PM (none on 12/7 or 12/28)

12/21 - Birthday Party for Jesus (During Sunday School)

12/24 - Family Christmas Service 5PM



Live It Out VBS!



This year's VBS focused on how we can love like Jesus! We learned this through three stories - Jesus washing the disciples' feet, Jesus teaching the disciples to pray, and the first Christians living together and taking care of one another! In our three days together we did Bible time, crafts, games, science, music, and service! We are so thankful for all our ministry partners who led our children and supported us through donations and prayers!



We are especially grateful to high school senior, Katie Breitkruetz who told us all about the Foster Love organization and helped lead our service project which was filling after school snack bags for families.

YOUTH: SAVE THE DATE!

We have a lot to look forward to this year! Here are some dates you'll want to add to your calendar.

Sept. 7 - Game On. I hope you're ready to play and learn. Sunday, September 7th, marks the start of our Sunday School Year and promises to be a time of fun and a way for students to meet their teachers.

Sept. 9 - RAM. I'm sure you missed the days of walking from school to the church, running around the ARC, and enjoying some fellowship with your friends. RAM resumes Tuesday, September 9th, after school and ends at 4:45 pm.

Sept. 14 - Open Gym. We will resume open gym after worship.

Sept. 17 - Youth Group. You've been waiting for it all summer, and now it's back!

Youth Group returns Wednesday, September 17th. This fall, we are going to be focusing on living well with technology, exploring the relationships between science and faith, and what life as a Christian looks like as technology continues to advance. Our programming will start at 6:00 pm and end at 8:00 pm.

Oct. 12 - Crop Hunger Walk. Our Crop Hunger Walk is scheduled for Sunday, October 12th. We'll meet at Duff Park Shelter at 1:00 pm. Please see the section written by Roger Schneider for more details about this event. It will be an incredible opportunity to educate middle schoolers and high schoolers about food insecurity, which affects people everywhere, even in our hometown, and is a great way to contribute to a great cause simply by walking.

Oct. 17 - 19 – The Big One. Pine Springs will host its fall retreat October 17th - 19th. Trust me, this is one retreat you CAN'T miss. There is NO deadline to register. I'm working on creating a flyer to be published in the bulletin. In the meantime, here is the link to register and additional forms:

<https://www.pinesprings.org/the-big-one>

Oct. 26 - Trunk or Treat. Our Trunk or Treat is scheduled for October 26th from 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm. This is a great opportunity for rising 6th -12th graders to enjoy some fellowship with the church AND earn some community service hours. More details to come.

Oct. ? - Fall Work Day. The date and time for this event are to be determined, so stay tuned for that information. It is a great opportunity to be stewards of our church and gain some community service hours.

Nov. 19 - Friendsgiving. Come hang out before we take a break from our programming for Thanksgiving. Our Friendsgiving will take place during our Wednesday Evening Youth Group program.

Dec. 7 - Advent Adventure and Advent Dinner. Advent Adventure is scheduled for Sunday, December 7th, from 4:30 pm - 5:30 pm, followed by the Advent Dinner. Advent Adventure is a great way for youth and children to interact, and for our middle schoolers and high schoolers to serve the younger members of our congregation. Plus, at the dinner, there's food. Who doesn't enjoy food? *Both of these events are a great way to earn community service hours for students who need them.*

Dec. 13 - Cookie Walk. Did someone say cookie??? Why yes, we did. Our winter fundraiser is scheduled for Saturday, December 13th. The time is to be determined.

Dec. 14 - Birthday Party for Jesus. On Sunday, December 14th, we will host our birthday party for Jesus during the Sunday School hour.

FROM THE YOUTH DIRECTOR: AN INTRODUCTION

Hello there! It's an exciting time for Newlonsburg Presbyterian Church.

Fall is considered to be a season of change, and one of those changes is that I have the privilege to serve as your new Director of Youth Ministry. Let me introduce myself. My name is Joshua Kenst. I am a native of Pittsburgh and the youngest of four. I grew up in the North Hills, where I graduated from Shaler Area High School in 2014. I earned my Bachelor of Arts in Youth Ministry from Theil College in 2018, and my Master of Arts in Christian Ministry from Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary in 2023. Over the years, I have spent my time as a camp counselor for Camp Lutherlyn, where I met my fiancé, Heidi, served as a missionary in Senegal, West Africa, and assisted with volunteer and disaster relief efforts in different parts of the United States. I'm an outdoor enthusiast who enjoys hiking and kayaking, a practitioner of martial arts, and a fan of making walking sticks and other crafts out of paracord. It is a joy to be here, and I look forward to meeting everyone and to serving in this position.

PARENTS OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH

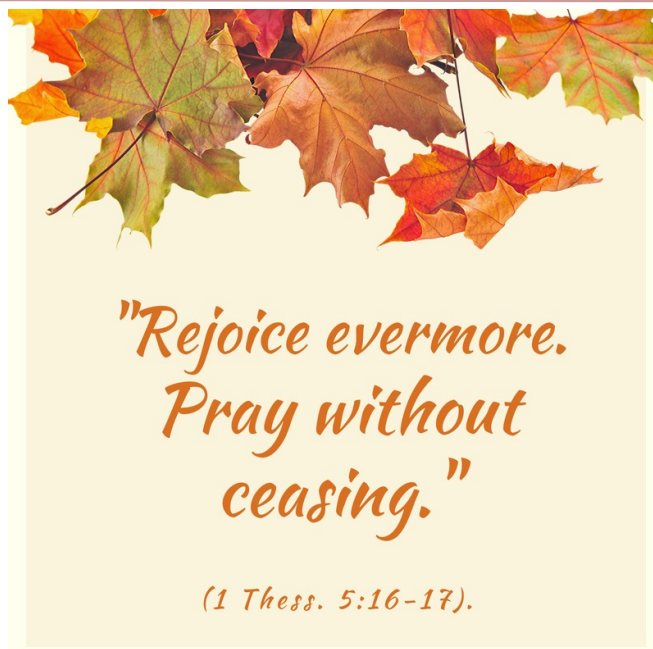
At Newlonsburg Presbyterian Church we strive to best meet the needs of our families and further the kingdom of God. We need your help to shape the future!

Please take a moment and share your honest thoughts on children and youth programs by filling out this brief survey – <https://forms.gle/454SVBhSfTrixsHs7>

Your responses will help guide us on the best use of time, talents and resources. We value your honesty, even if your family is not currently interested in NPC programs. Thanks very much for your time and consideration.

Blessings,

NPC Equipping Ministry and Leadership Team





You are invited to join *Healthy Seminarians–Healthy Church's (HSHC)* **7th annual fall fundraiser**, taking place **September 22–30, 2025**.

This year's theme, **"Cultivating Joy,"** is rooted in Psalm 51:12 (NRSVUE):

***"Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me
a willing spirit."***

In the midst of all that weighs heavy in the world, we believe now is the time to lift up joy—and to support the mental, emotional, physical, and spiritual wellbeing of seminarians, clergy, and faith communities.

Our goal is to raise \$10,000 in 10 days, and we'll be sharing joyful poems, photos, and reflections on social media and through email to our newsletter subscribers. We're also hosting a **joy-themed scavenger hunt** (with a chance to win a prizes) that anyone can join.

Ways To Donate:

Learn more and give online by following this link: bit.ly/HSHC-Cultivating-Joy-2025

To donate via check, please mail to:

Healthy Seminarians – Healthy Church
4600 Old William Penn Hwy
Murrysville, PA, 15668

Make payable to: Healthy Seminarians–Healthy Church

Let's cultivate joy, together.

— Karen & Travis Webster (HSHC Co-Founders)

Support HSHC's ministry of bringing about greater wellbeing among seminarians, clergy, and communities of faith. Donate today!

(470) 228-1682   info@thehshsc.org

HSHC is a 501(c)(3) non-profit and a validated ministry of Trinity Presbytery (SC).

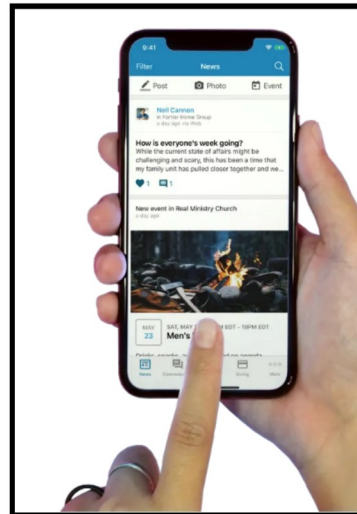


The Realm Connect App is Ready!

What can NPC members do on the Realm App?

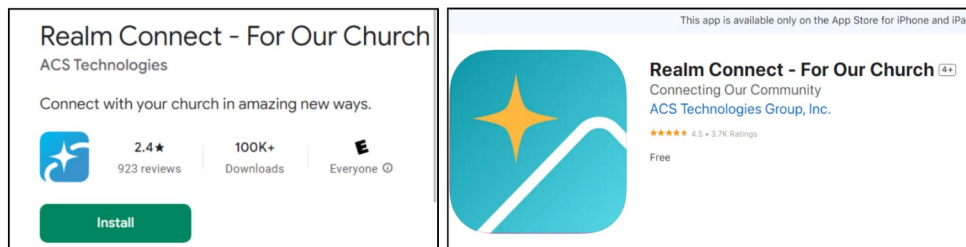
Congregants Can:

- Register for churchwide events
- RSVP to group events
- Send in-app messages
- Interact with your newsfeed
- Set up recurring giving
- See upcoming events
- Communicate with groups
- Search congregant profiles
- Track consistent personal giving
- Create and edit events
- Find new groups
- Call, text, or email individuals from their profile



Downloading the App

The Realm Connect app is available to download for free for iOS or Android devices at the apple app store (www.apple.com/app-store/) or from Google Play (play.google.com).



Logging into the App

When the app is on your phone or other device, you can log in using your user name and password for the Realm Connect Website. If you have not set up a log in, you can visit: <https://onrealm.org/NewlonsburgPres/Account/Start>.

4600 Old William Penn
Highway
Murrysville, PA. 15668
724-327-0061

Emails :

newlonsburgpresby@
comcast.net

Website :

www.newlonsburgchurch.org

 *Newlonsburg Presbyterian Church*
WORSHIP • SERVE • GROW

The Good Newlonsburg: September 2025

We are a Christ Centered community. In joyful response to Christ's love, we worship God, Nurture Disciples, accept all God's Children, and reach out in love and service to further the Kingdom of God.



The Good Newlonsburg:

A newsletter for the congregation and friends of NPC

Article deadline for the October issue:

September 11th, 2025

Newlonsburg Presbyterian Church Leadership Team

The Rev. Curtis Lane Paul II, Pastor

The Rev. Dr. Travis Webster, Associate Pastor

The Rev. Lori Bass-Riley, Director of Children and Family Ministries

Joshua Kenst, Youth Director

Jennifer Wagner, Office Manager

Rachel Oates, Interm Office Manager

Bettie Jarosz, Choir and Bell Director

Matt Klumpp, Early Service Music Director & Organist

Leanne Salava, Treasurer

Ginny Rygg & Lindsey Berk, Financial Secretaries