

The Quarterly Journal



New Branding for NPC

by Ell Crosby

I grew up going to NPC and I admire the strength of this community. I am excited to share a bit about my creative process with you.

I started where many designers do, with the mission statement. I drew 3 key words from there: God’s grace empowers us to welcome, love, and serve in the name of Jesus Christ. I wanted to be sure to nod to the current logo, which features an iconic window in a warm blue tone.

My goal was to make the new logo feel both familiar and refreshed. I found inspiration from the church building and wanted to reference the architecture in tandem with the key words from the mission statement.

Each time I studied the church building, I was drawn to the 3 arches at the top of the stairs. These are not only beautiful and historic architectural features, but also the physical portals into the place of worship. They highlight the act of being welcomed into our community of love and service of Christ.

I created custom letters for the logo built from these arch shapes. This fortuitously aided my desire to highlight 3 key words from the mission. It also is a classic nod to the symbolic number 3 (a classic). It allows emphasis on how the shapes, as graphics, can portray ways to enter and engage with the community.

The updated color palette continues to highlight the physical place that holds our community. There are two color combinations: Sky and Brick. Brick references the warm hues of the church building and Sky pulls from blue shades that sit behind it.

I am excited to see this fresh take on NPC’s great tradition come to life.



A special thank you to the Coggin Christian Education Endowment Fund for providing financial support for NPC’s new branding design!

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New color palette inspired by NPC

NPC Life Events

Births:

- William Thomas Meyer, to Anne Cole Werner Meyer & Will Meyer, grandson of Jane & Mark Werner, on January 18, 2026

Baptisms:

- Olivia Kathy Kantorczyk, daughter of Andrea & Nicholas Kantorczyk, was baptized December 24, 2025
- Henderson "Henry" Bradley Wise, son of Maggie & Preston Wise, was baptized February 1, 2026

Weddings:

- Meredith Lodge & Justin Kantorczyk were married December 12, 2025

Deaths:

- James McCalla, husband of Linda Mitchell, December 9, 2025
- Philip Frieder, husband of Patti Keheley, January 4, 2026
- Retired USAF Brigadier General William (Bill) Berry, Jr., January 4, 2026
- Kim Frederking, January 18, 2026
- Barbara Kazmierczak, February 10, 2026
- Faye Davis, mother of Donna Dougherty, February 26, 2026

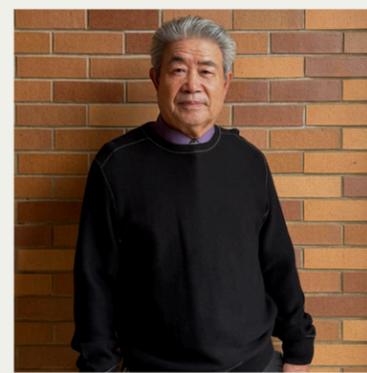
New Members



Maggie & Preston Wise,
with son Henry



Geneva Payne



Kyupung Yi



Jaewon David Ryu



Maggie & Phillip deGolian,
with son Winn



Ed Jenkins,
partner of Susan Coggin



Chris, Ryan, & Kate Morrison



Barbara Sepcie

Elder of the Quarter



My wife, Elaine, and I moved to Newnan from St. Johns County, Florida, in March 2020 — just in time for COVID. As restrictions began to ease, we started searching for a church home and quickly found one at Newnan Presbyterian. The congregation was incredibly warm and welcoming, and over time we discovered how deeply they care for one another, the church, and the wider community. Their quiet generosity and faithful service have been an inspiration to me and a model for how to share God’s blessings with others.

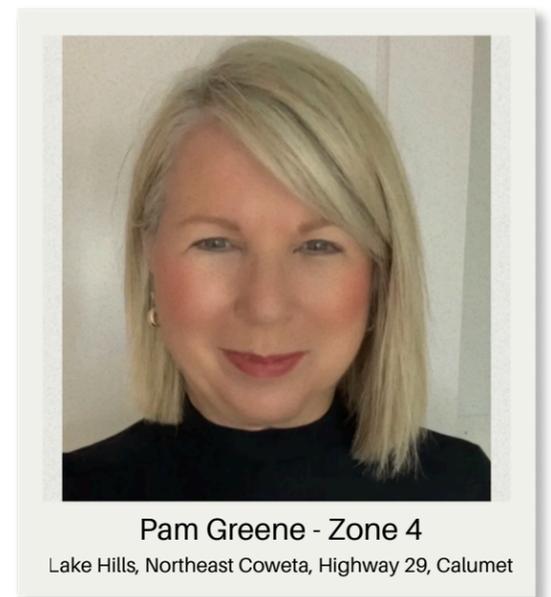
My professional background includes more than 25 years in the property restoration industry, with the last 10 years serving as a building consultant for commercial and historic structures. My work involved inspecting properties after major damage, determining what repairs were needed, and preparing cost estimates to restore them.

After retiring in December 2024, I contacted John McGee, who was then serving as Property Ministry Elder, to offer help with any property needs that might arise. In that conversation, I learned his term would be ending in January 2026. After prayer and discussion with Elaine, I spoke with John and Pastor David Jones about serving in this role.

I view the position of Property Ministry Elder as a calling to be a careful steward of the church’s resources while honoring and preserving the spiritual and historic significance of Newnan Presbyterian Church for future generations. John once shared that his goal has been to ensure that the sanctuary — along with the administration wing and the school building — will still be here in another 100 years providing the same essential spiritual and faithful service. I can think of no finer legacy to help carry forward.

Deacon of the Quarter

During COVID my husband’s job suddenly changed from commuting to work, to working away from home as an essential worker, and I was stuck at home by myself, taking some Bible classes online. One afternoon needing a break, I decided to take our tiny dog for a walk. It was a beautiful spring day and while walking, I spotted a woman, on the opposite corner of the block, foraging around in her yard. I quickly realized she was collecting sticks for a fire and I commented saying it looked like she was going to have some fun. She responded, inviting me to join her and I thanked her but declined. By the time I got home though, I decided I needed a friend! So, I dropped my little dog off and headed back! We just giggled seeing one another and she assured me we could sit six-feet apart even though we were outside. I was sold.



My neighbor is Nancy Ballard and in the following months our gathering grew quite large in number adding more neighbors and meeting almost once a month. Before long, we moved from outside to inside, playing games, laughing, and chatting about our lives. We encouraged one another first through COVID and then a tornado! Our group was filled with love and encouragement. Meeting quite often I began to notice a reoccurring theme among many of the women. They talked about their church and the various ongoingings and my interest was peaked. The next time my husband came home, I made it a point to tell him all about my new friends and how much I wanted to visit their church! I told him, “They were just so nice!”

My husband was raised Episcopalian and went to Catholic school. And, I came from a strict, independent, fundamental Bible church. NPC is traditional enough for him and Bible-based enough for me! My only regret is not having the opportunity to raise our three children at NPC and for them to have been able to attend the school. Thankfully, now, we have a daughter and granddaughter who are members of NPC as well.

I am honored to be a deacon. My relationship with God fills me with a desire to reflect God’s unconditional love and being a deacon provides me with the opportunity to love on God’s people. I enjoy sending birthday cards, delivering balloons, meeting for lunch, and just old school visits. And, if I see you at church on Sunday, I’m probably going to lean in for a hug!

C.A.R.E. Group Recap

Connecting with each other, Affirming our faith, Restoring our soul, and Engaging with the world



Friendly competition with Men's Poker Group



Lock City Adventures

The Mids escaped the escape room!



The Mids sharing a meal



Young Families at Team Trivia



Book Club discussing My Friends by Frederik Backman

NPC Women's Retreat 2026

From January 30 to February 1, NPC Women gathered for a retreat at Blalock Lakes. This year's devotions focused on identity and community, with fellowship time throughout the weekend.





newnan presbyterian
preschool & kindergarten



Visiting with patients at
Newnan Rehab



NPS 3rd, 4th, & 5th graders visited Newnan Rehab
during the holiday season

Sharing Carols & Cheer

Written by Robin Troxler, NPS Music & PE Teacher
Edited by Barbara Kookogey, NPS Director

Patients at Newnan Health and Rehabilitation made new friends on Wednesday, December 17, when third through fifth grade students from Newnan Presbyterian School delivered holiday cheer—and plenty of warm smiles—to the center.

The visit grew out of a Christmas program the students had been preparing and performing at school. “As we were working on the program, it gave me an idea,” said Robin Troxler, PE and Music Teacher at Newnan Presbyterian School. “Why not perform some of our songs and spend time with seniors in our community?”

Troxler is passionate about creating meaningful opportunities for young people and seniors to connect. “I think it’s important that students are taught to value all ages and stages of life,” she said. “It also gives them a chance to practice public speaking, conversation, and social skills.”

School Director Barbara Kookogey enthusiastically supported the idea and suggested visiting the nearby Newnan Health and Rehabilitation center—one of the school’s close community neighbors.

Armed with Christmas crafts, carols, and joyful attitudes, the students arrived at the center, introduced themselves, and performed “Silent Night” in American Sign Language. The morning was spent working on crafts together, sharing favorite Christmas traditions and memories, laughing, and—most importantly—forming new friendships.

Debbie Azzarelli, Lifestyle Enrichment Program Director at the center, shared her appreciation for the visit. “The residents had a blast,” she said. “They loved talking to the kids and felt like they had made instant friends that day.” That same sentiment carried back to the school later that afternoon as students reflected on the experience. Third grader Haley Lowe summed it up simply: “I miss my new friend already!”

The visit concluded with students distributing handmade Christmas cards and gifting residents cozy, warm socks. “We wanted them to know they are loved,” Troxler said. “And I think we did.”

2025 Tour of Homes Update



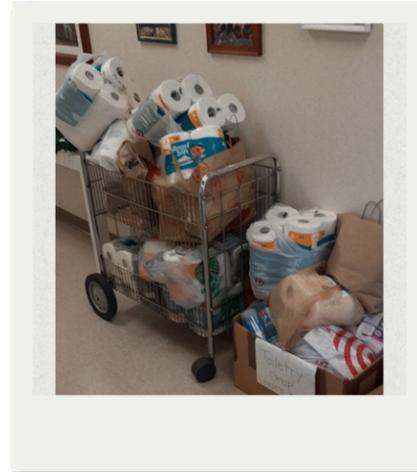
NPS's Barbara Kookogey & Jill Green with Hank Arnold of Coweta Force

Barbara Kookogey and Jill Green, co-chairs of the Christmas Tour of Homes sponsored by Newnan Presbyterian School (NPS), presented a check to Hank Arnold of Coweta F.O.R.C.E.. Friends Of Recovery for Community Empowerment (F.O.R.C.E.) provides support for recovery from addiction.

Each year, a local nonprofit organization is selected to receive 10% of the tour's proceeds. This year, NPS was pleased to present \$2,300 to Coweta F.O.R.C.E. in support of its work in the community.

More NPS News

Also this winter, NPS collected toiletry donations for the Coweta Samaritan Clinic, pictured at right.



Question: What is the meaning of Maundy Thursday?

"Maundy Thursday" designates the Thursday before Easter. Most Presbyterian churches have an evening service on Maundy Thursday that includes the celebration of the Lord's Supper. This marks the traditional day on which Jesus instituted the Lord's Supper during his last meal with his disciples and before Good Friday, when Jesus died on the cross.

The term "maundy" is from the Latin word *mandatum*, meaning "mandate" or "commandment." In the Gospel of John, there is no mention of the sharing of the bread and the wine in the meal of Jesus and his disciples. What John has instead is Jesus' washing his disciples' feet (John 13:5ff.) and giving them a command: "If I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet" (John 13:14).



In traditional church liturgies of the washing of the feet, the first antiphon or responsive music features the Latin term *mandatum novum*, or "new commandment." This is from Jesus' command at the end of his washing the feet of his disciples when he said, "I give you a new commandment, that you love one another" (John 13:34). Jesus' command for his disciples to love one another is repeated in the Gospel of John (15:12, 17) and is in force through the rest of the New Testament (e.g., Rom. 12:10; 13:8; Gal. 5:13; 1 John 3:18; 4:7).

Jesus' footwashing enacts his whole posture through his ministry of service and love for others. The footwashing is a visual parable. It is a complement of Jesus' institution of the Lord's Supper, in which the bread and the wine are a visible expression of his body and blood given for his disciples and for the world (e.g., Mark 14:22-25; 1 Cor. 11:23-26). As the context for the church's celebration of the Lord's Supper and Jesus' footwashing, ending with the command to love others, Maundy Thursday is a powerful time of receiving and giving. We receive the benefits of Christ's body and blood, given for us in salvation. We give ourselves as Christ's disciples to live out his love for the world through our love for others.

NPC will host a Maundy Thursday Supper & Communion
on April 2 at 6:00 pm in Barrow Hall.