

The Proclaimer

Metolius Friends Community Church
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"Then Samuel took a stone and set it up between Mizpah and Shen and called its name Ebenezer; for he said, 'Till now the LORD has helped us.'"

1 Samuel 7:12

Do you have any Ebenezers in your life? I'm guessing this is a question that you haven't ever been asked. And you might even be thinking to yourself right now, "Why is the Pastor asking me if I have any scrooges in my life?" Well, the Ebenezer that I'm looking for has nothing to do with the classic Christmas story, and more to do with God.

Samuel took a large stone and he named it Ebenezer for a very specific reason. It means "stone of help". Why did Samuel do this? I think there were a couple of reasons. First, he wanted a physical reminder for the nation of Israel. You see, God has just saved them by helping them defeat the Philistine army. Samuel knows that there is a good chance the Israelites will forget this miracle unless there is something they can associate it with. Hence, a giant rock in the middle of the battlefield. Those tend to be hard to forget or overlook...

And let's be honest, we forget things too, even huge things that God has done in our life. Why is it so important to remember those times and miracles? It's not just about the event that has happened in the past. It helps us to have hope for whatever circumstance we currently find ourselves in and for the future also. Because if God helped us then, He can help us now. If God was trustworthy then, He is trustworthy now. If God did a miracle in that situation then, He can do a miracle in this situation now. My Grandpa used to say, "God hasn't failed me yet." And if

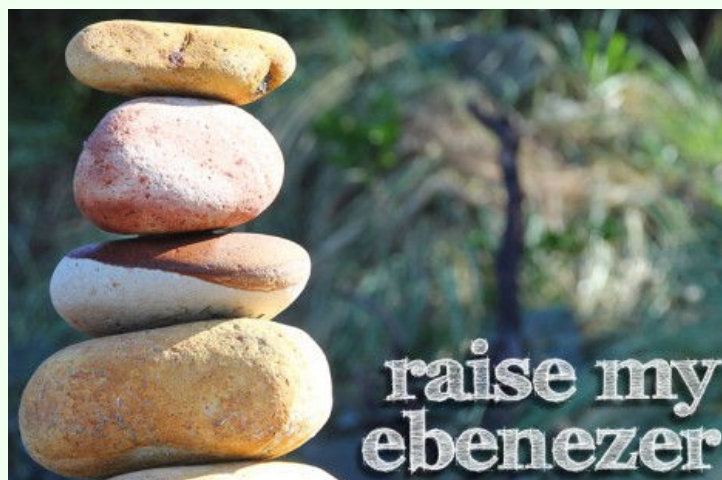
He hasn't failed us in the past, then He's not going to fail us in the present or the future.

I have a rock sitting in the window of my office that I picked up in Rockaway Beach on the Oregon coast. I even remember the day, January 29, 2015. This is my Ebenezer, my stone of help. I can look at it and remember that God has been faithful up to this point, and that gives me hope for whatever may come in the future. So if you answered no to my question at the beginning of this little article, I would encourage you to find something physical and tangible that you can look at to remember what God has done in your life.

And then we can join with Robert Robinson, the hymn writer of *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*, and say,

"Here I raise my Ebenezer;
 Here by Thy great help I've come;
 And I hope, by Thy good pleasure,
 Safely to arrive at home!"

Pastor Jadon



Summer Camps

Twin Rocks Friends Camp Schedule

Girls Camp (for girls entering 4th-6th grades in fall 2016).....	July 3-8
Boys Camp (for boys entering 4th-6th grades in fall 2016).....	July 17-22
Tween Camp (for youth entering 7th-9th grades in fall 2016).....	July 10-16
Surfside (for youth completing 8th-12th grades in spring of 2016).....	August 7-13
Family Camp Labor Day Weekend.....	September 2-5
Men's Retreat	September 16-18
Women's Retreat	September 30-October 2

Brochures with registration forms can be picked up at the church.



Metolius Friends All Church Campout
August 26-28 at Walton Lake

May Vacations

Pastor Jadon and family will be in Kansas May 5th to May 10th.

Teren will be out of the office May 12th and 13th.

Pastor Jadon and family will be taking a vacation to Wyoming May 30th to June 10th.

INVITE A FRIEND!



Women's Bible Study
Beth Moore, 'No Longer'
Two nights only;
May 18th and 25th
Beginning at 6:30 pm.
At the church.



On May 8, guest speaker and Lee Farrester's daughter, Becca Wieringa, will be bringing a special "Mother's Day" message. There will also be a gift for all of the mothers in attendance!

1st - Curt Drahn
3rd - Dennis Hardman
Emily Leeper
5th - Dan Quinn
7th - Brogan Powell
10th - Ray Stephens
11th - Mike Wirt
15th - Jeff Morse
23rd - Katy Meredith
24th - Jim Hutchins
25th - Chuck Alexander



2nd - Ed & Sharon Macy
4th - Dennis & Mona Hardman
10th - Dave and Norma Bergstrom
15th - Matt & Hally Moore
17th - George & Gamin Snyder
22nd - Don & Elaine Henderson
Richard & Terry Macy

» FROM THE Youth Pastor »

[Amanda and I have been taking the youth through a 12 week series that includes lessons on](#) Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph. We look at many varying themes through the lives of them as individuals, but we are also looking at an overarching theme that seems to surround all of their lives: their Spiritual progression. Everybody has to go through growing pains in their relationship with God. God is constantly molding, meshing, and changing us to prepare us for what He has planned for our lives. This is no different with these four people we read about in Scripture. We have been studying their Spiritual strengths and weaknesses and comparing them to our own. Often times, I feel as though we lift up people we read about in Scripture on a pedestal. We give them credit for the things they accomplished as opposed to giving God the credit for the

way their lives played out. Everybody looks at Moses as the person who freed the Israelites, when in all actuality, Moses would have never done that had God not got his attention and molded Moses into the leader he needed to become.

I feel we do a similar things with our own lives at times. We see success that we have in certain situations, and we credit ourselves for the achievements for which God is responsible. Through this series we have been looking at Spiritual progression of famous Scriptural figures, examining our own lives, and looking to see positive things God is responsible for which we have given ourselves credit. We are working with several students who do not yet know Christ, and this is a great chance to help them recognize the work of God when they haven't always been in recognition of His intervention.

As we continue to examine our lives in this light, we are then asking our students to give some time to God to allow Him to mold them in ways that He needs them changed. We have explained to them the concept of Spiritual, growing pains and also explained that it is not always easy. Sometimes, it is downright painful, and it makes it easy for us to want to give up on the change through which God is bringing about in our lives. We are explaining that we have to die to our old selves and be reborn as God's vessel. We have to repent of things we have done wrong in our lives. This means admitting we have messed up, agreeing that God's way is best, and following in the plan that God has for each of us together and as individuals.

We are working with students who have not always believed in God and still sometimes doubt His existence. Examining the lives of famous people whom students sometimes think are infallible and bringing them to our level has given Amanda and I a great opportunity to show how God works in the lives of His children, even those who we think would not be capable of horrible things. Abraham slept with his maidservant, and Jacob stole his brother's birthright. However, God still used them in mighty ways, and that is the message we are teaching our youth. They are not perfect, but God can use you and can do so in a way they cannot even fathom.

~Michael Vance



Samuel School is a place for students selected by the elders of their church to discover and hone their spiritual gifts as well as their relationship with God. Samuel School II is for juniors and seniors in high school. Many of these students will be facing big choices and significant changes in the near future. Many of the attenders have perspective-altering experiences, which is very understandable and perhaps expected, at such a pivotal time in their life. This year the Elder's have chosen Travis Farrester for this special experience. He will be gone May 27th to May 30th. Please keep him in your prayers.

Congratulations to our Senior!

Katurah Cloud

We will be honoring Katurah on Sunday,
May 22.

God Bless You!



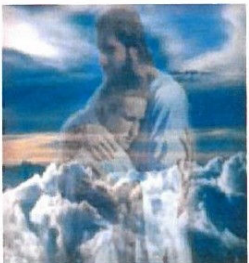


The grace of the
Lord Jesus be with
all the saints.

Revelation 22:21, NRSV

THE OFFICE WILL BE
CLOSED
MONDAY,
MAY 30TH,
IN HONOR OF
MEMORIAL DAY.

NWYM FRIENDS WOMEN
SPRING RALLY 2016
OUR REFUGE



"But let all who take refuge in you be glad,
let them ever sing for joy. Spread your
protection over them, that those who love
your name may rejoice in you."

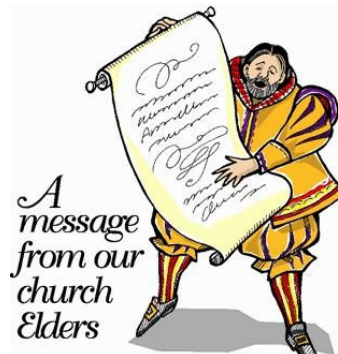
Psalms 5:11 (NIV)

Menu: **Salad Luncheon:**
Bring a salad to share
(Drinks and tableware provided)

Speakers: **Anna Thomas and Kara Maurer,**
NWYM young adults who spent a year in
Russia – learning the language, teaching
English, and sharing the love of Jesus.

Offering: Assist bringing Natasha from Moscow
Monthly Meeting (Russia) to build
relationships while visiting NWYM
churches, events and Friends Women.

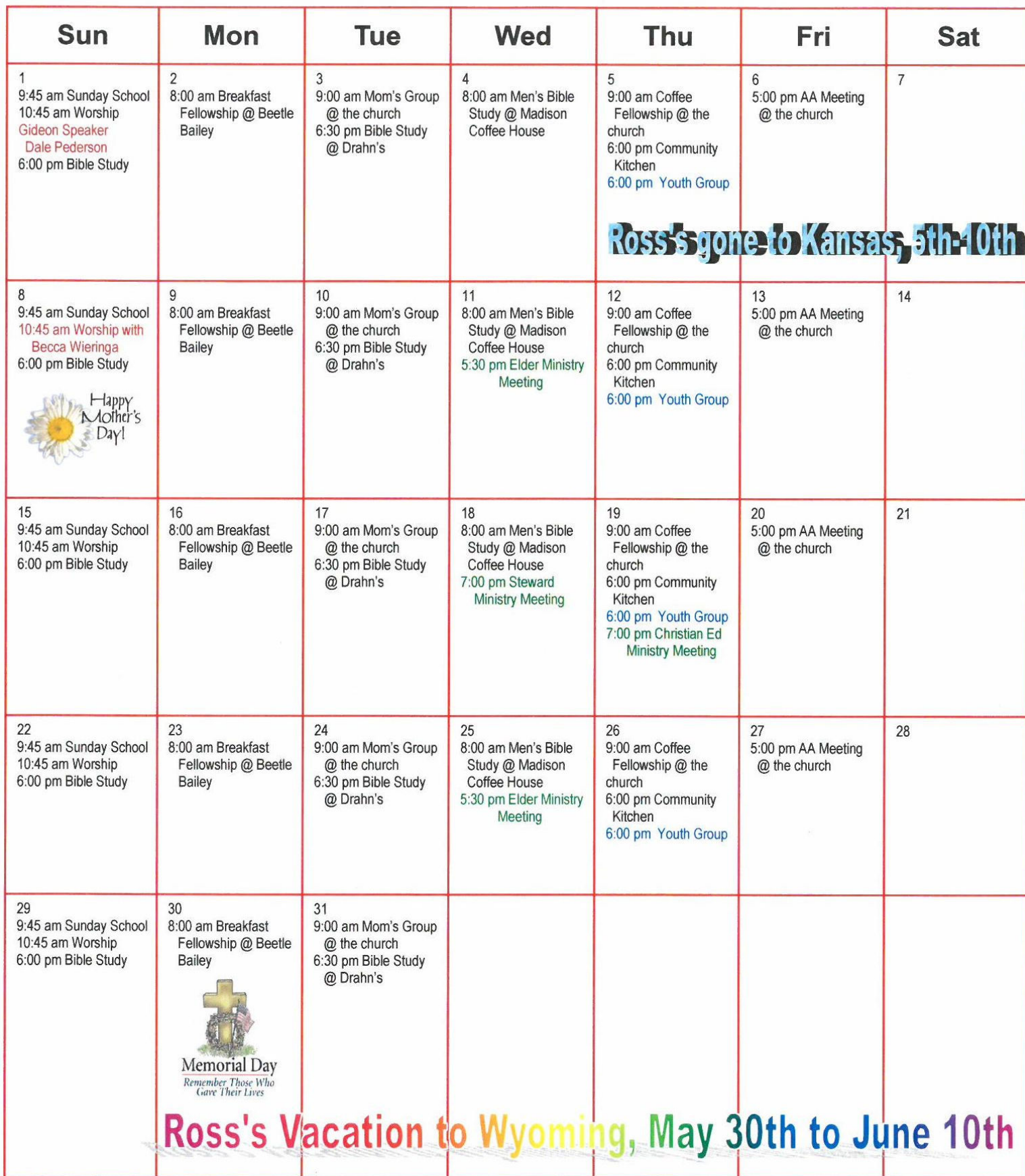
June 4, 2016 11:00 am – 1:30 pm
Newberg Friends Church,
307 S. College, Newberg, OR 97132



Hey friends,
Just a quick
note from the
Elders. I just
want you to
know we are
here for you.
Most of us are
in this ministry

as God has called us to be servants
by serving you, our family. We all
would love the opportunity to pray
with or for you, fellowship with you,
or anything else we can do. We want
to be here for you. We work with and
beside Pastor Jadon. We all take
this ministry very serious and we all
seek the Pastor's guidance and also
wisdom from the Holy Spirit as we
serve you. All our phone numbers are
in the church directory, please call.
Current Elders are Jim Struck, Barb
Hutchins, Malcolm Meredith, Sandy
Brendle, Dayton Durley and Lee
Farrester.

God Bless You,
Lee



Come Worship with Friends



Sunday

9:45 am Sunday School

10:45 am Morning Worship

6:00 pm Evening Bible Study

Metolius Friends Community Church
575 Hood Ave.
Metolius, OR 97741