

The Newsletter of
Francis Makemie Presbyterian Church
francismakemiepc.org
&
Naomi Makemie Presbyterian Church
nmpreschurch.org

September
2024
VOLUME 2



GLAD TIDINGS

I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, God may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. – Ephesians 3:16-17

Dear Friends, We embark on a new season in the church with great enthusiasm, perhaps some trepidation, and most of all with an enormous amount of trust in God's grace. It has been a journey of grace as I mark ten years of service to Christ among you. Which brings me to share with you portions of a devotion for ministers by Rev. Chris Dela Cruz. Our journey of faith becomes fruitful as we recognize how we are grounded in love by the power of Christ. He says, "You're Grounded." I always like a little bit of humor amid my spirit talk and telling myself "You're Grounded" on a regular basis, at the very least, helps me crack a smile when I'm feeling down." **Who helps you stay grounded amid all the things?** It's helpful for me to be constantly reminded that the people and relationships, and being grateful for their presence, are what ground me when I'm going through stress and hardship and roadblocks in my life. What would it look like to set aside a moment alone regularly to intentionally name a few people in your life whose presence grounds you, and let your body feel that gratitude? Perhaps this isn't just a solitary activity but seeking more opportunities to intentionally celebrate those people and bask in their presence. **What practices and rhythms nurture my grounding?** Do you take a breath every morning before you open that laptop for emails? Great! Celebrate that! Do you savor that sip of coffee in the morning, or journal for three minutes before bedtime? Celebrate! And maybe that sip of coffee is an opportunity to connect just one short practice to something you already do, like say a one-line prayer or mantra. Through faith Christ dwells in my heart, and I'm not alone — we're not alone — as we all try to live into our call in ministry. We are all called and claimed by Christ-grounded-yes, in Him.

Blessings, *Monica*



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Staff and Elders:

Office Administrator: Jennifer Stapleton
Organist/Pianist-Mark Nuckols, Choir Director-Debbie Ryon, Videographer-Mike Gould, Head Usher-Suzanne Rogers, Nursery Worker-vacant, Treasurer-RickTurner, Patty Davis, Clerk-Jennifer Stapleton
Elders:2026 Suzanne Rogers, Kate Baird, Judd Everhart 2025 Jennifer Stapleton, Bill Baird, Patty Davis, 2024 Ron May, Linda Arvidson, Rick Turner
Web: www.NMPresChurch.org
naomimpchurch@gmail.com Go to Naomi Makemie Presbyterian Church **YouTube Channel** for Sunday service.

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Staff and Elders:

Organist & vocalist-Jill Cathey
Cynthia D. Hall-clerk Richard F. Hall III-treasurer, 2024: Wanda Hughes, Tammy Mason, 2025: Paul Hughes, 2026 Kathy Boggs, Barbara Haynes
Web: Francismakemiepc.org

SEPTEMBER Birthdays

HAPPY
Birthday
 FROM YOUR
 CHURCH FAMILY

SEPTEMBER

Pam Nielsen	09-05
Carol Farris	09-10
Carter Ames	09-16
Megan Ames	09-18
Marshall Ryon	09-21
Bill Mastyl*	09-24
Tine Kligen	09-24
Edward Barnes	09-28

"We turn not older with years, but newer every day." —Emily Dickinson

Sunday School Begins September 8 at 9:45

The Christian Education Team is excited to welcome learners of all ages back to Sunday school! We will have three classes meeting twice monthly starting at 9:45am. Classes are Scheduled for:

Sept. 8 & 22; Oct. 6 & 20; Nov.10 & 24; Dec. 8 & 22

The Adult Class will continue its in depth study of The Sermon on the Mount. The class is led by Bill Baird and welcomes those of all levels of biblical knowledge. Come join in the lively and thought provoking discussion of how to apply the rich stories and lessons Jesus shared with his followers to our lives today.

Our elementary youth will be led by Kate Baird. During the fall the class will learn about some new and different figures from the Old Testament, such as Jonah, Caleb, Joshua, Deborah, and Daniel, as well as 'buzz words' such as faith, hope, covenant and call, and of course prepare for Christmas with an Advent Study.

We are excited to be offering **a class for our 4-6 year-olds** this year to be led by Joan May and Jean Beard. Participants in this class will receive their own story Bibles from which they will hear stories of God's great love for us and about His Son, Jesus. The children will have a chance to respond to each story with activities and crafts.





Friday September 20 7:00-9:00pm

Coffee House-Music Jam

in the Fellowship Hall (Makemie Room) of Naomi Makemie.

Come enjoy a great night of enter-tainment. Come for a few minutes or two hours. Come sit, sip some coffee, listen, visit, and have an incredible night of fun.

There'll also be a karaoke setup for anyone to share their talents in between the other

acts. Donations in memory of Dave Wilson for the Polycystic Kidney Foundation will be accepted. PPKD Foundation PO Box 871847 Kansas City, MO 64187



Yoga

Every

TUESDAY

YOGA

At NMPC

5:45-6:45 \$10

You'll LOVE it.



WELCOME BACK, CHOIR!

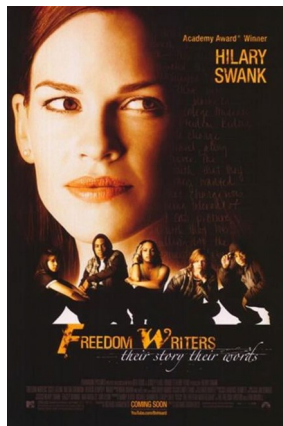
NMPC choir meets on Thursdays from 4:30-6pm

We encourage all ages and all levels of musical ability to join us. If you love to sing we'd love to have you.

Practices include vocal exercises, sectionals, and anthems several weeks ahead. Practice on Sunday mornings prior to worship begin at 10:30 am. We look forward to enjoying your fellowship with us. See you Thursday.



Potluck DINNER & A Movie
Where Film and Faith Intersect



Wednesday September 25 5:30 Pot-

luck and a movie! FREEDOM WRITERS *It's back-to-school month: Can one rookie teacher radically change the lives of teenagers who seem to be on a fast track to self-destruction?* Come and see this true-story movie . . . and hang around for some lively discussion afterward! We always have a great turn out and Great Food!! And Insightful Discussion!

Special dates

- Labor Day, *September 2, 2024*
- National Grandparents Day, *September 8, 2024*
- Patriot Day, *September 11, 2024*
- Hispanic Heritage Month, *15–Oct. 15, 2024*
- First day of autumn, *September 22, 2024*

Grandparents Day

I like to walk with Grandpa and Grandma,
Their steps are short like mine.
They don't say, "Now hurry up."
They always take their time.

I like to walk with Grandpa and Grandma,
Their eyes see things like mine do ...
Wee pebbles bright, a funny cloud,
Half-hidden drops of dew.

Most people have to hurry,
They do not stop and see.
I'm glad that God made Grandpa and Grandma
Unrushed and young like me.

Presbyterian Women New Season



Hi Ladies,

Thank you, Pam, for sending out this reminder for **Monday's September 9 at 11:30 am PW meeting**. I will do my best to follow your good example and send out reminders in the future.

To celebrate our first meeting of the year, we are ordering subs from Ocean Deli for our lunch (a veggie version for Kate - Laura, do you need something different? If yes, let Jennifer know soon). Bag lunches are not needed this month. As usual, desert will be provided. You can bring a side dish to share if you like. I'll bring some potato chips.

I'm looking forward to Monday's meeting. It's time to get serious about the [2025 Onancock Calendar](#) so if anyone has a few minutes to stay after the regular business meeting to help me make some decisions, I would greatly appreciate your input.

Hope to see you on Monday, Anne.



Special Breakfast Men's Group Meeting

After another successful and educational year, the church Men's Group took a two month break. Now we will kick off our fall meetings with a **9 am breakfast at the Sage Diner on September 20th**. All men in the community of all ages are invited to join us at the breakfast meeting or at our regular meetings on the last Friday of the month at Naomi Makemie Church. We enjoy Christian fellowship, the sharing of personal experiences, and biblical discussions. If anyone has any questions about the group please contact Rick Turner. His number is in our church directory or email the church at naomimpchurch@gmail.com

Naomi Makemie Six Month Financial Report

Six month financial report for Naomi Makemie January to July 2024
Thank you for all of your support for the mission and ministry of the church!

- Total annual OPERATING budget income \$130,800 (includes support form FMPC and from endowments)
 - **Six month actual** income \$119,832 (includes \$30k from endowment to pay steeple repair)
 - Expenses annual OPERATING budget \$74,159
 - **Six month actual** OPERATING expense \$122,881 (This includes the bill for the tower repair)
 - Endowment status for current month (July)
 - Livingston & Kellam bldg. \$106, 876
 - Livingston & Kellam mission \$242,603
 - **Pledges, offerings and tithes may also be designated to our non-budget funds which include:**
 - Prayer shawl
 - Sanctuary flowers
 - Worship music
 - Christian Education
 - Building
 - Memorials
 - Youth Ministry supports our youth programs inside and beyond the church such as CCYF.
- We currently support **6 college students** through our Youth College



Here is **our QR code for online giving to the Naomi Makemie church**. This is a really easy way to send in your offering even while you're not in church.



Missionary and author Elisabeth Elliot considered work a gift and a blessing. Ponder the following quotes of hers as you celebrate Labor Day. How do they mesh with your own views of work? "This job has been given to me to do. Therefore, it is a gift. Therefore, it is a privilege. Therefore, it is an offering I may make to God. Therefore, it is to be done gladly, if it is done for him. Here, not somewhere else, I may learn God's way. In this job, not in some other, God looks for faithfulness."

"Work is a blessing. God has so arranged the world that work is necessary, and he gives us hands and strength to do it. The enjoyment of leisure would be nothing if we had only leisure. It is the joy of work well done that enables us to enjoy rest, just as it is the experiences of hunger and thirst that make food and drink such pleasures."



Our NMPC nursery is for babies to 1st grade. We have an irregular schedule for our nursery. Parents register with the worker on Saturday evening if they will need childcare for the service of worship. If no one preregisters there will not be Nursery care for that Sunday. The nursery hours are 10:30 to 12 noon. Pay is \$25 per Sunday. If you are interested please email the church at

naomimpchurch@gmail.com

*Women's Retreat
November 1-2
Chincoteague, VA*

The Christian Ed committee are excited to invite you and maybe a special friend or family member to join us for an **overnight Woman's Retreat on Friday, November 1st to Saturday afternoon the 2nd to be held** at The Hampton Inn on Chincoteague Island! We have 18 committed. Spaces are limited please contact the leaders right away.

Our time together will be led by Nina Frost and Debbie Ryon and will include scripture, guided contemplation, periods of quiet reflection, art activities, meals and fellowship. *God's love and grace is Up, Down and All Around us. Kate.*



Our CCYF had a great start to the year with our kickoff Kayaking trip through Burnham Guides.

Our next meeting will be **Sunday September 22 from 3-5**. We will meet at NMPC 89 Market St. Come with a friend. Youth from all denominations welcome. Ages 11 (6th grade) to 12th grade. Our goal is to achieve life long leadership skills through working together in service to Christ by service to others. Our major project this year will be to plan and execute a town wide event. We will host a cardboard boat regatta at wharf of Onancock in the spring of 2025. Our September meeting will be important to gather together and learn who will be a committed participant for the year. We'll register, update our contacts, see who can build an unsinkable mini paper boat, and build our own ice cream sundaes.



Sunday October 27 3-5 How far can \$100 go for groceries? Create menu items with the least cost. Shopping competition.

Sunday November 17 3-6 Cooking, tasting, and inviting family to share the meal. How do we show our gratitude?

Retirement Letter

Dear Friends,

I shared this letter in worship and with our sessions in July. Since this is our first newsletter since June, I share the letter with all of you. There are not enough words to describe the joy, wonder, and fullness that ministry has offered me. I love you all so very much. Thank you. May our last year together be incredible!! :)

July 7, 2024

Members and friends of Naomi Makemie Presbyterian Church and Francis Makemie Presbyterian Church

Dear Friends,

Grace and peace to you in the name of God our Father and Jesus Christ our Savior.

I share the words of Paul with you,

“I thank my God for every remembrance of you, always in every one of my prayers for all of you, praying with joy for your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work in you will continue to complete it until the day of Jesus Christ.

Today marks the beginning of our journey together towards my retirement. In fourteen months, I will leave the pulpits of Francis Makemie and Naomi Makemie. **On September 7, 2025**, I am hoping the Lord will have your next pastor in place for me to pass the baton on to him or her.

This call from God with you has been the greatest joy of my life. We have been through many things together. We’ve cried together for those we’ve lost and moved away. We have celebrated new life, new members, new friends, missions, projects, fellowship, and so much more.

Our sabbatical sailing adventure in 2019 was only possible through your graciousness and your sacrifice of two years of planning. Your friendship is near and dear to our heart. The impact on our life shared in Christ with you will never change.

Our wonderful Presbytery of the Eastern Shore’s Commission on Ministry has granted permission for you to do the search for your next pastor while I am still serving you over the next year plus two months.

This time together, with the knowledge of my departure, will be exciting and energetic. We’ll get things done. We’ll have fun. We’ll continue to grow in faith and love. The light of Christ will shine bright.

You may ask, why now? We are not getting any younger. We plan another trip to the Bahamas fall of 2025. In June 2026 we plan to race from Annapolis to Bermuda. We want you to be part of our joy for the future as we begin all our planning.

We will move into our home in Onley and seek to be good stewards of the rules of retirement among ministers and churches.

We look forward to this next year together and the joys that God has for us in the future. So, for now, *let us rise and be on our way.*

Much love

Monica



*“The LORD make his
face shine upon you ...
and give you peace.”*

Numbers 6:25-26, NIV



The power of invitation

I asked one of our church members how he came to Christ. He said, "For 10 years I was in a searching mode. I was trying to find out what life was all about and what was worth pursuing. I wondered about Christianity. I wondered about Eastern religions. But I didn't know where to turn, and nobody during that 10-year period offered me any help. Then one day I was out jogging. A man from our neighborhood started jogging with me, and when he learned I was new to the area and didn't attend church, he invited me to visit church with him. I did, and I met Christ. I don't know where I'd be if that man hadn't invited me."

-Bill Hybels in Honest

New Member Class

A new member class will be held on **Wednesday September 18 from 5:30-6:30** at Naomi Makemie Presbyterian Church for all interested in learning about membership at Frnacis Makemie and Naomi Makemie churches. If you are already a member, have requested membership, or are just interested in learning more about our congregations. Please send an email to the church to register or let Pastor Monica know.



Looking Ahead activities

Wednesday October 2nd 5:30-6:30 Crafty Crafters and chatters. Begins with brief devotion from Kate Bowler's Book and then work on crafts from home, help with chrismons, or just come to chat.



Saturday October 19 tour Fisherman's Island as a church group.

November mission Operation Christmas Child

Friday November 15 Spaghetti Dinner

MY PRAYER JOURNAL

GOD, I ASK YOU FOR:

I'M THANKFUL FOR:

I'M SORRY FOR:

A SPECIAL NOTE OR PICTURE FOR GOD:

TODAYS DATE

MONTH: J F M A M J J A S O N D

DAY OF THE WEEK: S M T W T F S

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

SOMETHING GOOD THAT HAPPENED TODAY WAS:












SOMETHING NOT SO GREAT HAPPENED TODAY, AND I NEED PRAYERS:

I AM PRAYING FOR:



Mission News

September Mission Focus for both congregations is prayer. Use the journal shown here as your guide. At the end of the month review your journal and recognize the power of God at work in you.

September 2024	September 2024	September 2024	September 2024	September 2024	September 2024	September 2024
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	Wednesday	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 	2 Labor Day	3 Yoga 5:45-6:45 OBCA 5:30 	4	5 Choir 4:30-6	6	7
8 RALLY DAY Backpack blessing both churches 9:15 FMPC 9:45 Sunday School NMPC 11:00 NMPC Communion, commission, chili cookoff	9 Presbyterian Women 11:30-1pm 	10 Yoga 5:45-6:45 	11	12 Choir 4:30-6	13 "Put on Your Play Clothes" The Academy of Lifetime Learning Kelly Harris 10:45 -12:15.	14
15 9:15 FMPC 11:00 NMPC	16	17 Yoga 5:45-6:45 	18 New Member Class 5:30-6:30	19 Talk Like a Pirate Day Prayer meeting Choir 4:30-6	20  Men's Group 9 am at Sage Diner  MUSIC COFFEE HOUSE 7-9pm	21
22 9:15 FMPC 9:45 Sunday school 11:00 NMPC Guitar Sunday <u>CCYF 3-5</u> 	23 Session mtg NMPC 5:30	24 Yoga 5:45-6:45 	25 MOVIE NIGHT 5:30pm FREEDOM WRITERS 	26 Choir 4:30-6	27	28
29 9:15 FMPC 11:00 NMPC	30	October 1 Yoga 5:45-6:45 	2 Crafty Crafters & Chatters 5:30-6:30	3 Choir 4:30-6	4	5

A Closing blessing to sustain you

God's got you

In Roman 4 Paul writes: "If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ... For this reason the promise depends on faith, in order that it may rest on grace" (v. 14, 16, NRSV). Here and elsewhere, Paul firmly explains that we are saved through God's grace, or unconditional love, made known most profoundly in Jesus Christ. But this passage raises a question: If belief (trust, faith) reckons us as righteous before God, what if we don't trust, can't believe, have lost all faith?

Pastor Martin Luther (1483-1546) assures us that even this is a gift of God: "I believe that by my own understanding or strength I cannot believe in Jesus Christ my Lord or come to him, but instead *the Holy Spirit* has called me through the gospel, enlightened me with his gifts, made me holy and *kept me in the true faith*" (*The Small Catechism*; emphasis added). Later in Romans, Paul declares that when we feel so lost (unbelieving, lacking in faith) that we don't even know how to pray, the "Spirit himself intercedes for us" (8:26, NIV). **Rest assured, dear one: God's got you.**

