

## ANNOUNCEMENTS | JANUARY 24, 2024

“Follow me.”

It all sounds so simple and straightforward. Though we complete and complicate Christian faith with a dizzying array of doctrines, politics, and theological formulations, if we were to boil a life of faithful discipleship down to its most base level, this is it. “Follow me,” Jesus says.

This often-repeated invitation shows up in each of the four Gospel accounts. To the curious and committed, the rich and poor, sinner and saint, Jesus welcomes those who will choose to journey with him. In doing so, He offers more than the grace of forgiveness and companionship. Jesus also offers the gift and discipline of a new identity, participation in a new community, and the opportunity to embark on a whole new way of life.

Maybe you are like me, however, and have found this “simple invitation” is not so simple. Digging a bit further into the texts where this offer is made, we find it comes with a cost that creates as much havoc as harmony in our lives and our relationships with others. Along with the comfort and care of God’s redeeming grace comes the chaos and confusing implications of God’s reconciling cross.

This week, as a community, we turn our attention in the ongoing visioning process to the query:

**HOW DO WE CONTINUE TO GROW INTO A CHURCH THAT FAITHFULLY FOLLOWS JESUS?**

There will be ways to write a response at the Meetinghouse. You can [submit your thoughts here](#) or email me at [colin.saxton@everence.com](mailto:colin.saxton@everence.com).

### **A MEAL & A MEETING | WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31**

We will be gathering together for a meal followed by a meeting for worship for business next Wednesday, January 31st. Please plan to join us for “breakfast dinner” at 5:30 pm and meeting at 6:30 pm. **Let the office know if you plan to join us for the meal by email or with [this link](#).** Childcare will be available during the meeting. The agenda and supporting documents for this meeting are attached.

### **2023 YEAR-END GIVING STATEMENTS AVAILABLE**

North Valley Friends Church 2023 Individual Giving Statements (for tax purposes) are available for you to pick up on a table in the foyer. The statements will be available in the meetinghouse through Sunday, January 28th. The office is open Monday through Thursday from 9:00 am - 1:30 pm. Those that are left will be sent by mail on Tuesday, January 30th. If you’d like your year-end statement to be mailed earlier, please contact the office at [office@northvalleyfriends.org](mailto:office@northvalleyfriends.org).

### **SIT & STITCH | TODAY, JANUARY 24**

Our “Sit and Stitch” affinity group will meet next Wednesday, January 24<sup>th</sup>, 7-8:30pm at Paula Hampton’s home. Bring your knitting, sewing, crocheting, drawing, etc. and enjoy fellowship with other artisans. Contact Paula Hampton or Susan Ankeny for more details.

### **BANNED BOOK CLUB | TODAY, JANUARY 24**

The Banned Book Club Affinity Group will be meeting in the NVFC Library on Wednesday, January 24<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm. This month we will be discussing *New Kid* by Jerry Croft. If you have any questions, contact Melanie Springer Mock.

### **YOUTH EVENTS**

- High School Hang Time is every Tuesday from 3:30-4:30 pm. Betsy and Rachelle will be there hosting space and will have tabs open at Chapters and Cream for high school students.
- Middle School (6:30-7:30 pm) and High School (7:45-8:45 pm) Youth Groups meet every Wednesday at Wayside Friends Church in the social hall (around the back of the building).

If you have any questions about youth programming, contact Rachelle at [rachelle@waysidefriends.org](mailto:rachelle@waysidefriends.org)

## THIS WEEK AT NORTH VALLEY

### JANUARY

- 24 Middle School and High School youth groups - Wayside  
Banned Book Club Affinity Group (*New Kid* by Jerry Croft)  
Sit & Stitch Affinity Group
- 28 Unprogrammed Worship & Programmed Worship
- 29 Basketball Night - gym
- 30 Colin's office hours (5-9 pm) - Leslie's office
- 31 **Gathered Meal & Meeting for Worship for Business**

### UPCOMING EVENTS

- Gathered Meal & Meeting for Worship for Business | January 31
- Plastics Recycling Event | February 3
- Parents of Kids Affinity Group | February 6
- Woolman Peacemaking Forum @ GFU | February 13

### LINKS

**\*\* ZOOM LINK FOR PROGRAMMED WORSHIP ON SUNDAYS | 10:45AM \*\***

- Tithely Giving Form
- Meal Support | Newberg Emergency Shelter
- Laundry Sign-up | Newberg Emergency Shelter
- Youth Summer Camps 2024

<b>2023-2024 Budget (July-Jun) General Fund Tithes and Offering</b>	
Donations are accepted at <a href="http://northvalleyfriends.org">northvalleyfriends.org</a>	
Need more info? E-mail <a href="mailto:office@northvalleyfriends.org">office@northvalleyfriends.org</a>	
<b>Jan 2024</b> Budgeted Tithes/Offerings:	<b>\$18,500.00</b>
Jan 2024 Tithes/Offerings Received through 1.21.24	<b>\$9,446.86</b>
Percent of Month's Projected Tithes/Offerings Received:	<b>51.06%</b>
<b>Fiscal Year</b> Budgeted Tithes/Offerings (July 23-Dec 23):	<b>\$121,170.00</b>
Tithes/Offerings Received (July 23-Dec 23):	<b>\$114,248.94</b>
Percent of Budget/Offerings Received (July 23-Dec 23):	<b>94.29%</b>
<b>Emergency/Benevolent Fund Balance:</b>	<b>\$609.95</b>