

Trinity Presbyterian Church

| Newberg, Oregon |

www.TrinityNewberg.org

Church Profile

Greetings

Trinity OPC consists of a small group of families committed to building a thriving, growing Orthodox Presbyterian church here in Newberg, OR on the doorstep of western Oregon wine country. Attendance has been up and down over the years, but as our faithful pastor of forty-eight years retires, we are taking this opportunity to honestly assess our strengths and weaknesses and have begun a long-overdue revitalization of our little church, looking at everything from web presence to the appearance of our property to our approach to outreach and discipleship. We are praying for a pastor who is excited about taking part in this “relaunch” of sorts. We believe Newberg is an ideal location for an OPC and are optimistic that, God willing and with the right leadership and vision, we should have no trouble building a strong, sustainable congregation.



What we hope to find in a pastor

We are looking for a pastor who leads worship with both reverence and joy. His preaching should be bold, rich, clear, and unapologetic; it should educate, convict, and inspire with a balance of deep theology and practical application. Because increased growth is non-negotiable if Trinity is to continue beyond a few more years, it is essential that our pastor be ambitious and creative in this regard, with a heart for rejuvenating small or struggling churches and able to develop and execute plans for strengthening our congregation both through outreach and evangelism and through investment in the spiritual growth of our existing members. And because there is a general lack of knowledge about the Reformed tradition in the Pacific Northwest, our next pastor should be comfortable preaching to both Reformed and non-Reformed alike. It is important to us that he be proactive in working alongside our session to shepherd and disciple our congregation, able to take the lead in showing hospitality and encouraging us to use our gifts to build up and serve the church body.

We also want to make it clear that we are committed to supporting and encouraging our pastor. We want him to prioritize his wife and family. If he is struggling or needs help, we want him to ask. In order to avoid burnout, he should maintain a healthy work/life balance, with interests and hobbies outside of the work of the church. We will be working alongside him in this undertaking every step of the way.

Due to our unique circumstances and the relative youth of our session, previous pastoral experience would be very valuable.



Who we are

Our church body consists of families from a variety of church backgrounds, including long-term members of the OPC (including 3rd and 4th generation OPCers and a 3rd generation OPC ruling elder) along with members who come from broadly Reformed and non-Reformed backgrounds. We are diverse in our ages, but more than half are families with young kids. We are diverse in our occupations and interests, working in real estate, tech, the arts, construction, music, and more. Almost the entire congregation has joined Trinity in the past 5-7 years. In 2018, before one of our families moved to Newberg and joined Trinity, there was an average of about 10 people in attendance on a Sunday morning. We steadily began to grow, until we were at around 50 people each Sunday. A few families moved out of state, and a couple moved to churches with more youth activities, and we currently have around 30-40 people attending each Sunday morning. We have a friendly community in our church and thankfully have not experienced any big issues with drama or strife for as long as most of us can remember. Because almost the entire church has joined in the past 5 years, we do not consider ourselves "set in our ways" as a whole, and we also do not have a solid or consistent "Mission Statement" or "Identity" for our church. We are committed to the OPC Book of Church Order, but beyond that we welcome some fresh changes and direction in this area. We are hoping to collaborate with Presbytery and our future pastor to form a more consistent vision for Trinity moving forward.



Fellowship

We are a church who enjoys each other's company. We share a potluck fellowship meal once a month, welcome each other into our homes, host a Memorial Day BBQ, and set up the volleyball net on the church lawn when possible. We currently have a morning and evening service, though the evening service generally has low attendance. There is a midweek bible study on Zoom that is also not highly attended. First OPC in Portland hosts a Family Camp each summer and a few of the families from Trinity have attended at least once. We would also like to see more Regional OPC Fellowship opportunities in the future. Most of our events are admittedly fairly inconsistent, and we are open to ideas and growth in this area because we are hoping to increase our fellowship events moving forward.



Our Worship Service

We currently serve communion every week and want to keep it that way. We offer red wine, grape juice, and homemade sourdough bread which is provided by a few congregants.

Children stay with their families during the church service, but we do have a "Cry Room"/Nursery available for parents to use at their discretion.

We currently exclusively sing hymns from the red Trinity Hymnal accompanied by the piano. We all love the old hymns but most of us would welcome some newer hymns mixed in with the old. The session has discussed introducing the new OPC/URC Psalter Hymnal when funds allow; we like the balance it provides between settings of the Psalms (which should be non-negotiable in worship), the Trinity Hymnal "greatest hits", and some modern classics. We have a number of musicians in the church and would love to find more opportunities to grow in our use of music to honor God, whether through community hymn sings, introducing fresh songs, learning to sing parts, Christmas caroling, etc.

We prefer a consistent liturgical service. We are generally flexible on what that may look like with a new pastor, but we have been gradually moving towards greater congregational participation over the past year or two with more responsive readings and things of that nature. This has been well received and multiple members have expressed an interest in even more traditional liturgy.

We desire worship services that are full of joy and reverence, to be felt by the members of the church and visitors alike.



Current church make-up (2025 numbers)

We currently have 3 ruling elders, two who were ordained in 2023 and one long standing elder who has expressed that he will be retiring shortly after our pastor. The long-standing elder attends Trinity only half the month and lives over an hour away. Because we have a fairly new session, we would prefer if our next pastor has some experience.

Communicant Members: 30 [20]

Average Weekly Attendance: 10-13 families, or 30-40 people

Average Numbers of Adults: 22-26

Average Numbers of Kids: 10-14

Current Session: 3 ruling elders (1 is approaching retirement)

Deacons: 2

Board of Trustees: 7

Our Giving (2025 numbers):

Total giving: \$84,350

Total pastor's support: \$81,552

Total expenditures: \$95,156

On a financial note: While Trinity Presbyterian is currently not quite self-sustaining long term, we have money in reserves that will allow us to pay a pastor a comfortable living wage with housing for 2-3 solid years, even if nothing else changes financially. If our church is able to start growing within that time, we are confident that we will be in a much better place financially.

Newberg, Oregon

Newberg is a lovely town in Yamhill County, Oregon with a population of around 27,000 and counting. It is located in the beautiful wine country of the Willamette Valley, about 25 miles from Portland, and about 30 miles from Salem. It is an ideal location: far enough away from Portland that we are not affected by the controversies that often embroil the city, but close enough to visit when desired. The Portland International Airport (PDX) is within an hour drive. In addition to being centrally located amidst a variety of communities ranging from small farm towns to artistic and culinary hubs to suburban tech centers, Newberg also provides easy access to the dramatic Oregon coast, which is about 90 minutes away. Newberg is also a desirable location for the outdoorsman with many hikes, ski resorts, river accesses, and mountains all near enough for a day trip. It is conveniently located within a 15-35 min drive to the nearest Trader Joes, Costco, Walmart, Target, REI, and many other popular shopping spots.

Newberg has a wonderful community feel, with a quaint downtown and a variety of walking trails, disc golf courses, gift shops, restaurants, grocery stores, coffee shops, and wineries. Newberg is also home to a large reputable hospital, Providence Medical Center. There is a large homeschool community in Newberg, and a few Christian schools. Newberg is known as a fairly conservative “Christian” town, in part because it is home to George Fox University, a Christian college with around 4,300 students. Historically, the town and the college were Quaker in origin, and the Friends continue to maintain a strong presence here. There are quite a few churches in Newberg. Mostly non-denominational but also including, but not limited to two Baptist churches, a Lutheran church, a Roman Catholic church, and a few Friends churches. There are two other Reformed churches in Newberg: a PCA (currently around 85 attendees and growing), and an Anglican church (currently around 200 attendees and growing). Outside Newberg, the closest Reformed church is about 30 minutes away, and the closest OPCs are Portland and Corvallis, each about 1 hour away. Though Newberg itself is generally a “Christian” town by reputation, it is surrounded by cities that are fairly secular and progressive, and without the building of a strong Christian witness and culture here, Newberg itself is likely to trend in the same direction as it continues to grow. Our next pastor will likely have the mindset of considering the PNW a mission field.



Thank you

In summary, we want to express that we know that there is a hunger among Christians in this area for solid, expository preaching. We believe that there are many Christians here that would appreciate the Reformed Faith but have never been exposed to it. We truly believe Trinity Presbyterian will be able to grow in number with a new pastor who has the mind for outreach. We are hopeful that when our church is self-sustaining, we will be able to be more effective in evangelizing to unbelievers as well, so that we can share the mercy of Christ and help expand His kingdom.

Thank you for taking the time to read our church profile. We appreciate your interest in learning about our church as a potential pastoral candidate. We request that you prayerfully consider if you may be the right pastor to fill our pulpit, and you can trust that we are praying for you as well.

Thank you from the Trinity Presbyterian Pulpit Search Committee,

Nathan Kent, Nolan Lynch, Hans Lee, Caleb McMillan and Heather Kent

Qualified and interested candidates may email our Search Committee directly at Search@TrinityNewberg.org

