

THURSDAY MAILING



National Capital
P R E S B Y T E R Y
MISSIONAL • PASTORAL • PROPHETIC

June 20, 2019

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"The Pulse of Generosity: Vital Signs of A Healthy Steward

September 30-October 2 – San Diego, CA

NCP Stewardship Committee is offering Scholarships to attend this conference!

Racial Awareness and Mindfulness 2019

Join Us for ALLYSHIP TRAINING – Led by Whitney Parnell

*October 19 – Westminster Presbyterian Church, DC (**registration required**)*

Healthy Congregations – Led by Lombard Mennonite Peace Center

Sponsored by Ministry Relations Team of NCP

*October 25-26 – Saint Mark Presbyterian church (**registration required**)*

Cuba Educational and Mission Trip

Bradley Hills Presbyterian Church

November 6-13

How the Church Is Complicit in #MeTOO

Ruth Everhart – Author (Available January 2020)

Pastoral Concerns

Randy Pullen, husband of **Rev. Mary A. Pullen, Honorably Retired**, continues to do well after his triple by-pass surgery on May 16. We are so very thankful for all of our NCP friends who have supported us in so many ways during this time. We especially treasure your prayers. Randy and I thank all of you. Peace, Mary and Randy Pullen

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The **Rev. Adam Bowling** will be installed as pastor of **First United Presbyterian Church of Dale City** on Sunday, June 30, 2019m at 4:00 p.m.

Bradley Hills Presbyterian Church together with its interfaith partner of 51 years, Bethesda Jewish Congregation, will host a joint event to welcome New Story Leadership 2019 program. NSL brings young people -- from Israel and Palestine -- to DC for two-month summer internship experiences. There is a tradition that all the interns come to tell their stories to a packed house in Bethesda. This year it will take place as follows.

Program: New Story Leadership welcomes 2019 summer interns from Israel and Palestine to tell their stories

- **Date: July 14, 2019**
- **Time: 3:00 PM**
- **Place: 6601 Bradley Blvd, Bethesda MD 20817**

Hosted by Bradley Hills Presbyterian Church and Bethesda Jewish Congregation

Years ago, **New Hope PC** was fortunate enough to have a volunteer Music/Choir Director- Elaine Yanisko, who for many years was the Organist/Pianist and Music Guru for our church. She purchased and accumulated many pieces of choir music, which she and husband- Elder George Yanisko now wish to donate to a needy church home in the NCP. Our current Music Ministry Director Tsveta Dabova has reviewed and took some material from the 6-boxes of music, which she describes as, "**a treasure chest of adult and children's choir Music**...The styles and the difficulty of the Music varies. You can satisfy a small and a bigger choir, depending. There are also a couple of Plays/dramas set to Music there as well." First come first taker OF ENTIRE 6-boxes, which is in our church building in Derwood. Receiver inquiries can be made to me at pfgebicke@verizon.net .

Darnestown Presbyterian Church - is sending a team to the Beth-el ministries in Florida this summer for our annual mission trip. Beth-el is where our former associate pastor Tamara Leonard Lara accepted a call to minister to the migrant farm workers in that area. This is our 1st trip to Beth-el, and we would like to invite anyone high school aged and up interested in going with us to join the team. The focus will be providing VBS to the children of the workers, but we are hoping to be able to also do some work to help improve the campus facilities. The dates for the trip will be from Sunday July 28th thru Saturday Aug. 3rd. If you are interested in joining please contact me at daleandterrie@msn.com. Please put "summer mission trip" in the subject line so I will know to answer you. I can answer questions or bring you up to speed with where we are if you want to jump right on board. Thank you for prayerfully considering this great opportunity to help DPC help those in need in God's kingdom.

June 20, 2019



Greetings!

Earlier this week I walked into the office of National Capital Presbytery as the new General Presbyter eager and excited to start the job. So, what first? A question, as you can imagine, was asked a lot as my first day approached. I could offer an answer around new vision and energy; a commitment to continuing the work that came before; turning half of our churches into sustainable alpaca farms (kidding!). What I hope to accomplish first in this new role is *listening*.

For the first few months on the job I want to hear from as many of you as possible. I want to hear your stories of celebration where you have seen the living Christ in and amongst your communities. I want to catch fire for your vision of what might be next in your lives, churches, and in this presbytery. Through listening I have faith that a real and honest relationship can begin as we support each other in ministry.

Here are some of the best ways to make that possible...

- Be on the lookout for regional “office hours” where I’ll be setting up camp in a coffee shop for the day.
- Invite me to worship with you and your congregation on a Sunday morning
- Call me at the office anytime (240)-514-5350.

My prayer for this body of good and faithful servants is that we live into our shared calling in ministry, build friendships where collaboration can flourish, and be ever ready to move to who and where our God is calling us to go and be.

John

Four Ways to Jumpstart Your Church's Planned Giving Program

By Aaron Siirila, CCA

In the United States, religion receives nearly 33 percent of all charitable donations, yet it only gets 8 percent of all estate gifts – and the ones it gets are far smaller than those to other causes. That's a big gap! Churches can be doing more to encourage giving through planned gifts to enable their members to share God's material gifts with the church and help fund its mission.

I had the chance to attend the National Capital Gift Planning Council's *Planned Giving Days*, courtesy of an NCP Stewardship Committee grant, and learned some valuable lessons to grow your church's planned giving:

1 KNOW YOUR AUDIENCE. While you should make planned giving available to everyone, it pays to target those who are most likely to make a change: those in their retirement years. Data shows that people generally, don't get serious about their wills and estates until after retirement and the decisions that really matter usually occur within the final five years of life. For example, half of all charitable bequests came from donors who did not have a bequest in their will in the previous 2-5 years. So, it's never too late to ask people to remember your church in their estate planning. Those without children are far more likely to make a planned gift, and single donors are twice as likely to make a charitable bequest as those who are married.

2 IF YOU DON'T ASK, THEY WON'T GIVE. The number one reason people don't include your church in their estate planning is because they were never asked. Most seniors receive regular solicitations for planned gifts from many nonprofits – if you don't ask, someone else will. When you ask, use a light touch rather than a hard sell, such as: "After taking care of your family first, please consider a planned gift to the church." Look out for the interests of the donor first. Encourage donors, especially seniors, to discuss charitable bequests with their close family – in most cases, family will be receptive to the donor's wishes when they have advance notice. Be prepared to answer the three main questions that donors consciously or unconsciously have: 1) Why me? 2) Why now? 3) What difference will it make? Here's something surprising: when writing a letter to ask for a planned gift, the data clearly shows that the longer the letter, the more effective it is. Do not be afraid to use two or three pages to make your case!

3 MAKE IT EASY. Charitable bequests make up 80 percent of all planned gifts, so a church planned giving program can be as simple as asking people to leave a bequest in their will to your church. It is easy for the church and donor. Another easy area is accounts with named beneficiaries – such as retirement accounts or life insurance policies – where donors can name your church as a beneficiary on the account. The donor usually only must fill out one form to complete this. IRA distribution gifts are becoming more popular and can represent a significant tax savings to those over 70½ year old. These can be promoted year-round. Once your church gets comfortable, you can expand your offerings to include charitable gift annuities, remainder trusts, lead trusts, and noncash gifts such as real estate.

4 GET PROFESSIONAL HELP WHEN YOU NEED IT. The Presbyterian Foundation has a free guide on their website [*Legacy of a Lifetime: Creating a Wills & Legacy Giving Program*](#) that helps churches start a planned giving program. The professionals at the Foundation can help. Also check out books like *Gift of a Lifetime* by J Gregory Pope and *Creative Giving* by Michael Reeves, Rob Fairly, and Sanford Coon.



Aaron Siirila, CCA, is Church Business Administrator at the Old Presbyterian Meeting House in Alexandria, VA, and is a Certified Church Administrator of The Church Network. Mr. Siirila thanks the National Capital Presbytery Stewardship Committee for the generous grant that allowed him to attend the National Capital Gift Planning Council's Planned Giving Days in May 2019.



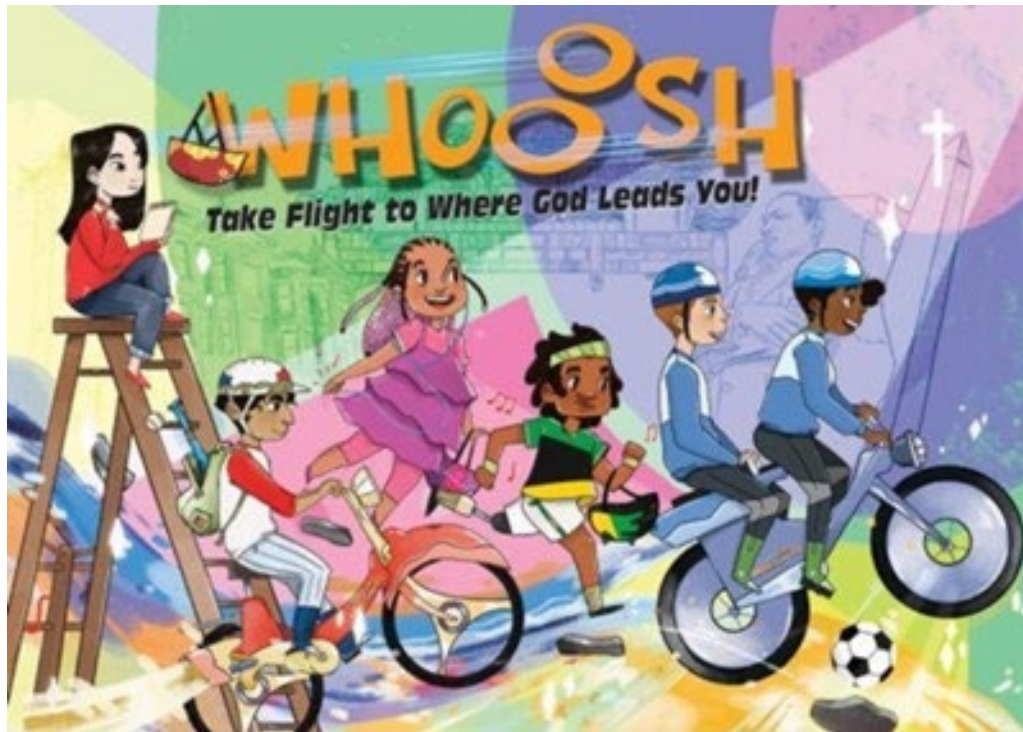
**Submission of Overtures for 224th General Assembly
June 20-27, 2020
Baltimore, Maryland**

Deadlines for Submission to the Bills and Overtures Committee of Overtures and Requests for Concurrences with Other Presbyteries' Overtures for the 224th General Assembly:

- a) November 30, 2019 for
 - a. amendments to the Book of Order,
 - b. overtures seeking an authoritative interpretation of the Book of Order, and
 - c. all requests for concurrences with other presbyteries' overtures amending the Book of Order or seeking an authoritative interpretation.

- b) January 31, 2020 for all other overtures and for all requests for concurrences with other presbyteries' other overtures.

Northeastern Presbyterian Church



Come Join Us for WHOOOSH ~ Vacation Bible School, an exciting journey where everyone will experience God's power, presence, and steadfast love! We will celebrate how throughout the Bible, monuments are built to remember what God has done in the lives of God's people. Guided by six Church Kids, who by faith, take flight— **WHOOOSH**—on Holy Spirit-powered bicycles, participants will move across the country, to experience God's power, presence, and steadfast love, through games, interactive art, music and crafts.

Where: Northeastern Presbyterian Church
2112 Varnum Street NE
Washington, DC 20018
For more information, call 202 526-1730

When: June 24-June 28, 2019. 5:30pm-8:30 pm

Dinner Provided

Therese Taylor-Stinson Reports on Next Church's Recent "Holy Land Pilgrimage" at Upcoming June 25 Presbytery "Open Space" Program

Well-known and well-loved NCP figure **Elder Therese Taylor-Stinson**, head of our Presbytery's **Race and Reconciliation Team** and a former NCP moderator, participated in PCUSA Next Church's ten-day trip to Israel and Palestine just four weeks ago (May 19-28) and will share her experiences with us at an Open Space program on **June 25, 4pm-5:15pm**, in the Choir Room at National Presbyterian Church.



Therese (right) and co-traveler the Rev. Lakesha Bradshaw are seen wading in the Sea of Galilee in the photo below. Therese expects to be joined by other National Capital Presbytery leaders who participated in this exciting venture in the Holy Land. Therese and the others will provide their perspectives on the Presbyterian travel group's visits with Palestinians and Israelis in Nazareth, Caesarea, Capernaum, the Sea of Galilee, Bethlehem, Jerusalem, Masada, and other Holy Land sites. The trip's purpose was to gain a deeper understanding of the conflict between Israelis and Palestinians, and to be able to look at the conflict alongside our American experience of racism.

Rev. Dr. Mitri Raheb, pastor of Christmas Lutheran Church in Bethlehem, explains the harsh realities of the Israeli Occupation to Therese and the other Next Church visitors.



Therese (left) at table with Next Church Director, the Rev. Jessica Tate (center), who led the ten-day trip, and the Rev. Whitney Fauntleroy.

Sponsored by the Israel-Palestine Mission Network of the National Capital Presbytery. More info: Paul Verduin, 301-518-5551 or phverduin@gmail.com.



July 25-28, 2019
Highlands Retreat Center
Allenspark, CO



Malawi Mission Network

2019 Annual Conference

Who We Are:

MALAWI MISSION NETWORK is a Christian community of individuals, organizations and churches related to the Presbyterian Church (USA) and its mission partners in Malawi.

Anyone interested in mission in Malawi is welcome to join and participate in the network and our gatherings.



Annual Conference:

We meet annually to worship, pray, share fellowship, news and knowledge about our many partnerships and ministries in Malawi. We invite church and ministry leaders from Malawi to address our gathering and join us in fellowship and worship. New people and organizations interested in Malawi are always welcome to attend and join the network.

Speakers:

This year we are pleased that REV. ALEX MAULANA, General Secretary of Church of Central Africa Presbyterian's Blantyre Synod, will be our keynote speaker.

We will also welcome REV. PAULA COOPER, PC(USA)'s new East Africa Mission Liaison to address the conference for the first time in her new position.

We have a solid agenda of informative talks, workshops and small group Discussions. You can find details on our website www.MALAWINETWORK.org



Rev. Alex Maulana



Rev. Paula Cooper

Organizations:

Ministries expected to attend and share news about their work in Malawi:

Malawi Matters, Marion Medical Mission, Ministry of Hope, Africa Bags, PC(USA) World Mission, University of Livingstonia, Malawi Mission of Liberty Corners Church, First Presbyterian of Plymouth/Mtenthara CCAP partnership, Mountain View Pres/Engalaweni CCAP partnership, Veritas College Malawi, Y-Malawi



Registration details can be found on the Malawi Mission Network website:

www.MALAWINETWORK.org



SEPTEMBER 11

A STEWARDSHIP PRESENTATION

Vulnerability and Courage: The Practice of Stewardship

This is an introductory workshop that explores the practice of stewardship through the lens of researcher Brené Brown. Dr. Brown, a practicing Christian and professor of Social Work, has published her research on shame, vulnerability, and the practice of courage that leads to “wholeheartedness”. Her data conclude that persons who experience “wholeheartedness” strengthen the communities to which they belong, including congregations.



National Capital
PRESBYTERY
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**Led by the Revs. Roy
Howard and Shelby
Etheridge Harasty,
pastors, Saint Mark
Presbyterian Church**

**Registration
Required**
([click here](#))

**September 11, 2019
9:30 am – 12:30 pm
Saint Mark
Presbyterian Church,
North Bethesda, MD**



THE PULSE OF

generosity

VITAL SIGNS OF
A HEALTHY STEWARD

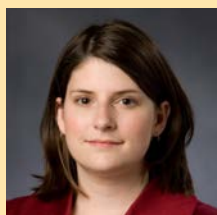


Stewardship
Kaleidoscope
Real Tools for Real Ministry

September 30 – October 2, 2019

San Diego, California

Catamaran Resort



Keynote

Melissa Spas
*Managing Director for
the Lake Institute on
Faith & Giving*



Keynote

Eric Law
*Author of "Holy Currencies:
6 Blessings for Sustainable
Missional Ministries"*



Worship Leader

Diane Moffett
*Executive Director of
the Presbyterian
Mission Agency*

Plus over 30 workshops covering topics such as annual stewardship, planned giving, theology of giving, current trends in stewardship, capital campaigns, and generosity

To register and for more information visit:
www.stewardshipkaleidoscope.org



generosity

Who should attend?:

Pastors, lay leaders, judicatory staff, and anyone who is looking to learn more about stewardship in today's church context.

Conference Fee and Location:

\$300 on or before August 1, 2019

\$325 after August 1, 2019

Catamaran Resort in San Diego, CA

Conference Room Rate of \$169/night

Conference includes:

Four plenary sessions

Four workshops (30+ to choose from)

Two worship services

Dinner Monday

Lunch Tuesday

Conference schedule:

Monday, September 30

Registration (12-2 p.m.)

Conference begins (2 p.m.)

Plenary 1, Workshop Session 1

Dinner, Worship

Tuesday, October 1

Plenary 2, Workshop Session 2

Lunch

Workshop Session 3, Plenary 3,

Free Evening

Wednesday, October 2

Plenary 4, Workshop Session 4, Closing Worship

Conference ends at 12:30

Workshops:

(This list is just a sampling of the 30+ workshops that will be offered.)

Teaching and Preaching Biblical Stewardship

Barbara Rossing, Professor of New Testament at the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago

Asset-Based Stewardship in the Small Church

Olanda Carr, Ministry Relations Officer for the Presbyterian Foundation

Practicing Generosity of Body, Mind and Spirit: Loving Kindness

Cheryl Galan, Interim Executive Presbyter with The Presbytery of Carlisle and Certified Yoga Instructor

Stewardship Across Cultures: A panel discussion

Neil Bullock, Stewardship Project Coordinator, Domestic Mission Unit of the ELCA and Jerry Cannon, Pastor of C.N. Jenkins Memorial Presbyterian Church in Charlotte, NC and Jonah So, Lead Pastor of the English Ministry of Korean Presbyterian Church of Winchester, NY

AirBnB and the Early Church: a Theology of Possessions for the Sharing Economy

J. C. Austin, Pastor/Head of Staff at First Presbyterian Church of Bethlehem, PA.

Creating a Culture of Generosity

Robert Hay, Jr., Ministry Relations Officer for the Presbyterian Foundation

Vulnerability and Courage: The Practice of Stewardship

Roy Howard, Pastor, Saint Mark Presbyterian Church in Bethesda, MD

When enough is enough: the sufficiency of God's blessing

David Loleng, Director of Church Financial Literacy and Leadership at the Presbyterian Foundation

Active Community Stewardship for Hunger and the Environment

Phoebe Morad, Lutherans Restoring Creation

To register and for more information visit:
www.stewardshipkaleidoscope.org



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10AM-5PM**

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REGISTER: [HTTPS://RAF2019ALLYSHIP.EVENTBRITE.COM](https://raf2019allyship.eventbrite.com)



HEALTHY CONGREGATIONS

This workshop will help you . . .

- Learn how you as a leader can influence the health of your congregation – how to detect and avoid unhealthy patterns of living together in community.
- Learn how to keep anxiety from becoming infectious.
- Gain confidence in responding to challenges and opportunities.
- Learn how to put limits on invasive behavior, manage reactivity, and overcome sabotage.
- Discover how leaders can function as the congregation's immune system.
- Learn to focus on strengths, resources, options, and the future.
- Based on the insights of family systems theory developed by Dr. Peter Steinke & Dr. Edwin Friedman

Registration Details:

Cost: \$75/person (\$60 for each additional person from the same congregation.)
Registration fees will increase by \$20 on October 17, 2019.

OCTOBER 25-26, 2019

Friday: 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

Saturday: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Light Dinner, Breakfast & Lunch included

Saint Mark Presbyterian Church

10701 Old Georgetown Road
North Bethesda, MD 20852

Sponsored by

NCP Ministry Relations Team

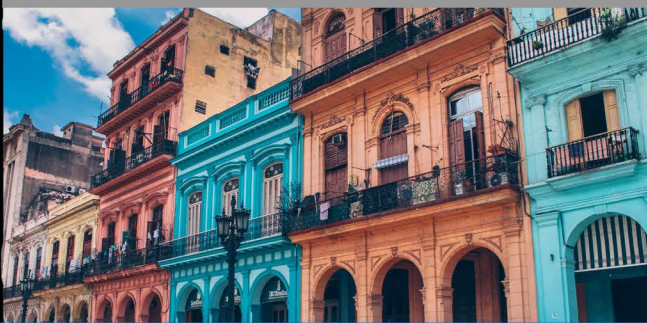
Led by Richard Blackburn, Executive Director
of the Lombard Mennonite Peace Center

Who Will Benefit...

- Pastors and other church staff, lay leaders, all congregation members.
- Anyone interested in enhancing their capacity to manage self in a non-anxious and responsible way, whether in the church, the home, the workplace, or the community

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER TODAY!](#)

Contact Rev. Juli Wilson-Black at 703.931.7344 if you are unable to register online.



CUBA

Educational and Mission Trip

November 6 - 13, 2019



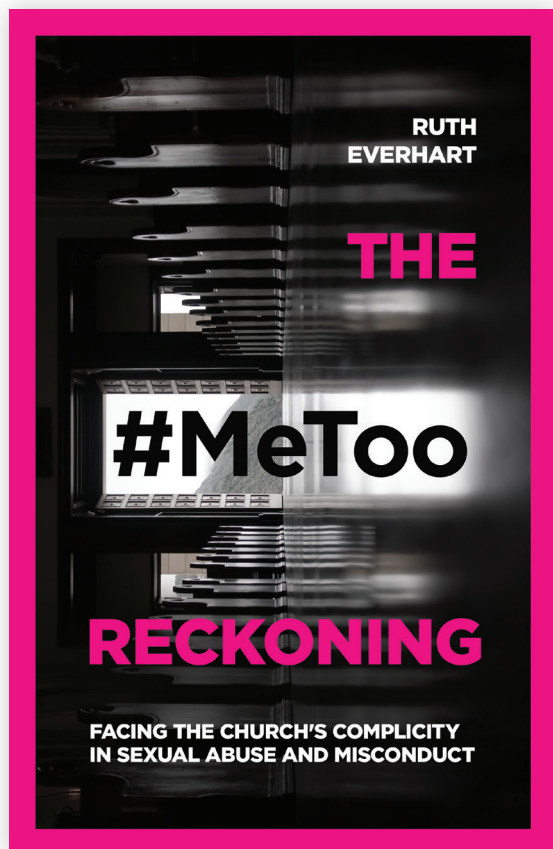
Join us for the BHPC Cuba America Jewish Mission trip in November. Connect with the Cuban Presbyterian and Jewish communities, as well as those from other religions. Visit Cuban heritage sites and bring needed supplies to missions.



To learn more
Contact: David@BradleyHillsChurch.org



How the Church Is Complicit in #MeToo



Available
January 14, 2020

240 pages, paperback,
978-0-8308-4582-8,
\$17.00, \$11.90

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Expires 12/31/19

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5-9 units, 35% off
10+ units, 40% off

The #MeToo movement has revealed sexual abuse and assault in every sphere of society, including the church. But victims are routinely ignored by fellow Christians who deny the victims' accounts and fail to bring accountability to the perpetrators. All too often, churches have been complicit in protecting abusers, reinforcing patriarchal power dynamics, and creating cultures of secrecy, shame, and silence.

Pastor and survivor Ruth Everhart shines a light on the prevalence of sexual abuse and misconduct within faith communities. She candidly discloses stories of how she and others have experienced assault in church settings, highlighting the damage done to individuals, families, and communities.

Everhart offers hope to survivors as she declares that God is present with the violated and stands in solidarity with victims. Scriptural narratives like those of Tamar and Bathsheba carry powerful resonance in today's context, as do the accounts of Jesus' interactions with women. God is at work in the midst of this #MeToo moment to call the church to repentance and deliver us from violence against the vulnerable.

"Ruth Everhart takes the church to task in what has been an abysmal response to sexual abuse behind its closed doors. Laying out proof of the abuse of the most vulnerable among us in the place that should be the most safe, she gives suggestions for how pastors, congregations, and the church at-large can begin to serve everyone through openness, victim support, and use of the legal system."

—Lisa Samson, author of *The Church Ladies* and *Love Mercy*



Ruth Everhart is pastor of Hermon Presbyterian Church in Bethesda, Maryland. She earned a BA from Calvin College and a Master of Divinity from United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities. She is the author of *Chasing the Divine in the Holy Land* and the *Christianity Today* award-winning memoir *Ruined*.

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