

THURSDAY MAILING



National Capital
PRESBYTERY
MISSIONAL · PASTORAL · PROPHETIC

November 7, 2019



In this edition

November Birthday Greetings

Announcements

Message from the Stated Clerk

Officer Training

Sara Coe, Stated Clerk

From Tara's Table

Tara Spuhler McCabe, TDirector of Congregational Dev. & Mission

NCP Leaders Training 2019

Sponsored by NCP, BPU and NEXT Church

November 9 – Sargent Memorial Presbyterian Church

with New Officer Training from 12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

On-line Registration now available – visit www.thepresbytery.org

With breakout session descriptions

2019 Gordon L. Groover Preacher & Teacher

The Rev. Melanie C. Jones

November 10 – Bethesda Presbyterian Church

Grand Opening of Gilliam Place

November 14, 16 and 17 – Arlington Presbyterian Church

A Congregational Song Retreat

led by Brian Hehn

November 16 – Burke Presbyterian Church

Racial Justice Teach-In

Webinar series presented by More Light Presbyterians

November 17 – Clarendon Presbyterian Church

Shane Claiborne – Presbytery Meeting - Guest Preacher

“Contagious Love”

November 19 – National Presbyterian Church

(Shane will be leading an open space also)

Meet our Presbyterian Family in Syria

Open Space – Presbytery Meeting

November 19 – National Presbyterian Church

Engaging with Refugees in our Community

Solutions in Hometown Connections (SHC)

November 19 – Open Space National Presbyterian Church

Silent Retreat - Blessings

December 6-8 – Lost River, West Virginia

Alternative Gift Market

December 15 – John Calvin Presbyterian Church

Save the Dates:

CALM to the Waves: A Winter Retreat

guest presenter: The Rev. Melanie Jones

sponsored by the Care Team of Committee on Ministry

February 3-5, 2020 – Dunes Manor, Ocean City, MD

On-line Registration now available

Save the Dates:

Stronger Together: Faith in Action Across Generations

An Older Adult Ministry Regional Conference not to be missed!

April 30 – May 1, 2020 – Montreat Conference Center

Registration begins in November

Save the Dates:

Stewardship Kaleidoscope

Real Tools for Real Ministry

September 21-23, 2020 – Cincinnati, OH

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A Conversation with Doug Dicks, Associate for Ecumenical Partnerships in Israel and Palestine -- Meet your Mission Co-Worker in Israel and Palestine, Doug Dicks, at the **Open Space meeting on November 19 at 4:00 PM**. Learn about the ministry of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) in seeking peace in this troubled region. Based in Jerusalem, Doug serves as a liaison between PC(USA) congregations and councils, helping them prepare for pilgrimages and study tours and providing up-to-date information about the situation on the ground in the region. Learn about Doug's work and what Presbyterians can do to support a just peace for Israelis and Palestinians. More about Doug's ministry can be found [here](#).

Ways to Engage with Refugees Here in Our DMV Community - Solutions in Hometown Connections (SHC) provides support and resources to their volunteers to better enable them to empower resettled refugees in Maryland, DC and Virginia. The nonprofit grew out of Chevy Chase Presbyterian's co-sponsorship of a family in 2026 and learning about unmet needs for refugees in this area. Learn how you or your church can engage with refugees now. And bring your questions for Merritt who is well-connected and familiar with all the local resources and agencies. More information about SHC. Refugee Ministry Network: Merritt Groeschel, President and Founder, Solutions in Hometown Connections (SHC). *More information about SHC is included in this edition of the TM. Learn more at Open Space on November 19 at 4:00 p.m.*

Messiah Concert with a Cause - Sunday, December 1, 3 p.m. - Old Presbyterian Meeting House (323 S. Fairfax St., Alexandria, VA 22314) - The Meeting House Choir, soloists, and orchestra—under the direction of Music Director Dr. Steven Seigart—present Messiah, the immortal 1741 oratorio by G. F. Handel, featuring his famous “Hallelujah” chorus and some of the composer’s greatest arias.

National Capital Presbytery is committed to supporting clergy. NCP expects that all clergy would be in some kind of support group and NCP does provide some funds for clergy support groups. The Care Team is collecting information about Clergy Support Groups to help clergy who want to be in a group but haven't been able to identify one.

Are you currently in a Clergy Support Group? How long has your group existed? Are you open to receiving new members? We'd like your feedback!

Please help our crowd sourcing efforts by responding to Fay Acker at fayacker@gmail.com and Nancy Clark at revnjbclark@gmail.com. Thank you.

Message from the Stated Clerk Officer Training



One of the distinctions of the Presbyterian system of church government is the concept of officers who are called to ordered ministry. These officers are, of course, deacons, ministers of Word and Sacrament, and ruling elders. In the context of an individual church, ruling elders and installed MSW are called “presbyters” and, together as the session, they govern the congregation. The session’s responsibilities and authority are significant, see BoO G-3.02, and so it is needful that ruling elders be trained when they undertake this critical responsibility.

Not only is it needful that ruling elders be trained, the Book of Order makes it imperative that ruling elders and deacons be trained, that they undergo a period of study and preparation. It provides that all persons elected to be ruling elders or deacons are to be examined by the session of their church concerning their personal faith, their knowledge of the doctrine, government, and discipline contained in the Constitution of the PCUSA, and the duties of the ministry. BoO G-2.0402.

Many churches provide the training to their officers. But I have learned that some do not and also that other officers could use a refresher. And there may be some people who are thinking about becoming an officer who would like to learn more about the church. Although it will not be in depth, at 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, November 9, I will provide an overview of church doctrine, the form of government, and the duties of deacons and ruling elders at the ***Leadership Training being held at Sargent Memorial Presbyterian Church. (See the flyer in this edition of the Thursday Mail and on the NCP Facebook page for other offerings at the Training.)*** Those attending are encouraged to bring a Book of Order with them. The new 2019/2021 Book of Order is available on the PCUSA

website: <https://www.pcusastore.com/AdvancedSearch/DefaultWFilter.aspx?SearchTerm=book+of+order>. It can be ordered in paper for \$10.00 or downloaded for free. It is available in Korean, Spanish, Indonesian, Braille, Large Print English, and English.

I hope to see many of you there. It is a privilege to work among so many dedicated folks.

Peace, Sara



November 7, 2019

Greetings,

Champions! As a follow up from my previous talk on Wins. For us Nationals fans, Champions! Championship happens from work, play, endurance, working and playing with a team who are willing to go the extra mile or inning! Give thanks to yourself for the hard play and work you do. Give thanks to the team you work and play hard with! And give thanks to the Triune God who is always present in the endurance of it all!!!!

In the past two weeks, the office of Congregational Development and Mission, my office, has been with congregations or has sent others to be with congregations and leaders in areas of ***Prophetic ministry***! Great questions are being asked like:



How are we to be prophetic when we do not want to offend any of our members?

This question is two steps ahead of where I suggest we can start. 1. What images and voices come to mind when you hear me say, prophetic ministry? 2. How do you define or understand what it means to be prophetic as a congregation? What are the assumptions we have about “being prophetic”? In answering each of these questions the community gets to wrestle and embrace the words, callings and cries of the Prophets in our Bible along with any contemporary images they hold. In this listening we tend to find out that we each still have some prophetic work to do. The assumptions point each of us back to ourselves and to our congregations.

A mantra from Coaching training is that we are CREATIVE, RESOURCEFUL, and WHOLE! Heck yeah, we are. We are created in God’s Image! In these moments of digging deeper in our prophetic dispositions I am witnessing congregational leadership stepping up to connect with others in our presbytery and in their communities. Consider a revival in these relationships! I am witnessing a congregation beginning their week as being a homeless shelter at Good Samaritan. The opportunity I see is to connect other congregations in our presbytery who know they want to be about this prophetic ministry but are concerned about the nay sayers. Before anyone can answer this concern, it is best to learn from others. The first question is how do you deal, stand, even lead in the midst of the tension?

This is a spiritual disposition of Prophetic ministry. I hope that you can join others in NCP who will be gathering this Saturday at Sargent Memorial Presbyterian Church for Leadership Training (registration is within this TM). You can take sessions that will continue to support and equip your congregations so that we can be grounded and active into ***Missional, Pastoral, and Prophetic*** ministry. We can connect into similar questions and find partnerships that we can learn from. Communities want to know if we can serve, stand, and do a bit more than show up. We do! We can even hold the space for tension so that when they ask, why, we share how Jesus teaches us and shows us how to live prophetically. See you on the prophetic playing field!

Peace and Courage, Tara



NCP LEADERS TRAINING 2019

Saturday, November 9th, 2019 • 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

All active and discerning leaders of God's Church are welcome!

-  **Spiritual Formation**
-  **Christian Education**
-  **Worship & Sacraments**
-  **Stewardship and Finance**
-  **Congregational Care**
-  **Mission and Evangelism**
-  **Communications**

AGENDA FOR THE DAY

- 8:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. - Registration
- 9:00 a.m. - Introductions and Worship
- 9:20 a.m. - Keynote — The Rev. John Molina-Moore,
General Presbyter
- 9:45 a.m. - Plenary I
- 10:50 a.m. - Plenary II (repeat of Plenary I topics)
- 12:00 p.m. - 12:30 p.m. Closing Worship and Communion
(teach about the role of serving communion)
- 12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. - Lunch
- 1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. - Officer Training for New Officers

Sargent Memorial Presbyterian
5109 Nannie Helen Burroughs Ave., NE WDC 20019

**This event is sponsored by
NCP, BPU, and Next Church.**



Register link - <https://thepresbytery.org/event-directory/>

LEADER TRAINING 2019 – BREAKOUT SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

Congregational Care: Facilitator – Perzavia Praylow, pastor, Fifteenth Street Presbyterian Church

The ministry of pastoral and congregational care provides compassionate support to families and individuals both within and beyond our local congregation and Presbytery. This workshop will engage conversation and share resources and practices on a range of topics including: the partnership of care ministry among pastors, elders, deacons and church members; structuring ministries of care and compassion; self-care for care leaders/care givers; care through congregational change and transition; the church and care in the community. All are invited to attend as we learn from each other through shared reflections on pastoral and congregational care praxis.

Communications

Facilitator LaJuan Quander, Dir. Of Comm, NCP, and guest presenter Jess Fisher, Communications

Coordinator, Western Pres. Church will discuss the communication tools used by NCP, the importance of identifying communication tools and having an overall communication plan. We will also talk about social media presence and its importance in a digital world. Jess Fisher will offer her expertise in content design and management.

Cultivating Ministry

Moving to Impact: Getting at the “Why” of Ministry: Facilitators: Kerry Grannis and Jen James

Are your programs making a lasting impact? Why do you do what you do inside and outside your church walls? Most of us spend more time figuring out HOW to run a program rather than WHY we have the program in the first place--but the "why" can be the key to transformative ministries. Using some principles of Cultivated Ministry, a field guide from NEXT Church, come discuss how thinking about the "why" can help you build ministries with deep impact for your church and community.

Evangelism and Mission: Facilitators, Juan Guthrie, pastor, Sargent Memorial Presbyterian Church & Ed Harding, pastor, Community Church Prince George’s County

Spiritual Formation

Facilitators, Tara Spuhler McCabe, TDirector, Congregational Development and Mission, NCP and Shani McIlwain, Elder, Faith Presbyterian Church and member, NCP Spiritual Formation Team – *Spiritual*

Formation, what does this even mean? Elders and Deacons in our congregations are the Spiritual Leaders of the church. Participants will be guided into best practices of how we share and lead others with our faith. It may sound easy and it is but sometimes we forget to be intentional for others to learn from our faith! Join us as we lead together.

Stewardship and Finance

Facilitator Olanda Carr, Presbyterian Foundation, Ministry Relations Officer serving the East Region - The presentation is an interactive seminar designed to help you move your church from conducting a traditional stewardship campaign to building a year-round, spiritually based culture of generosity. You will walk away from this seminar with ideas on organizing your generosity/ stewardship leadership group, communicating with the different generations that exist in your congregation, integrating all aspects of your church into the life of generosity, and teaching the spirituality of generosity.

Worship & Sacraments

How We Worship God - Facilitators Brian and Ruth Hamilton, co-pastors, Westminster Presbyterian Church, DC - From Peacocks to Roadkill In this honest and lighthearted workshop on an incredibly serious topic, participants will reflect on their congregation's worship and consider ways we might make our services more authentic and meaningful to ourselves and others (maybe even God).

New Officer Training

Elder Sara Coe, Stated Clerk

The Book of Order provides that all persons elected to be ruling elders or deacons are to be examined by the session of their church concerning their personal faith, their knowledge of the doctrine, government, and discipline contained in the Constitution of the PCUSA, and the duties of the ministry. This session will provide an overview of church doctrine, the form of government, and the duties of deacons and ruling elders. People attending are encouraged to bring a Book of Order with them. The new 2019/2021 Book of Order is available on the [PCUSA website](#). It can be ordered in paper for \$10.00 or downloaded for free. It is available in Korean, Spanish, Indonesian, Braille, Large Print English, and English.

Agenda for the Day

8:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. – Registration

9:00 a.m. - Introductions and Worship

9:20 a.m. - Keynote — The Rev. John Molina-Moore, General Presbyter

9:45 a.m. – Breakout Session I

10:50 a.m. – Breakout Session II (repeat of Session I topics)

12 p.m. - 12:30 p.m. Closing Worship and Communion

(teach about the role of serving communion)

12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. – Lunch

1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. – Officer Training for New Officers, Sara Coe, Stated Clerk

Bethesda Presbyterian Church, Bethesda, MD

Sunday, November 10

11:00 am Worship in the Sanctuary

12 Noon Lunch in the Fellowship Hall

**2019 Gordon L. Groover Preacher & Teacher:
The Rev. Melanie C. Jones**



Rev. Melanie C. Jones is the Instructor of Ethics, Theology and Culture at Union Presbyterian Seminary in Richmond, VA. She is also the Inaugural Director of the Katie Geneva Cannon Center for Womanist Leadership there.

Her areas of expertise include womanist theology, liberation theology and ethics, millennials and faith, and Black faith and public life.

A third-generation Baptist preacher, Rev. Melanie is a sought-after speaker and catalyst of the church's efforts to dismantle structural racism from a faith perspective rooted and grounded in God's love.

Rev. Melanie's November 10 Sermon: "Liberation in Living Color."
Lunch dialogue will focus on "sermon talk-back."

For more on Rev. Melanie, see her colorful website: <http://revmelanie.com/>

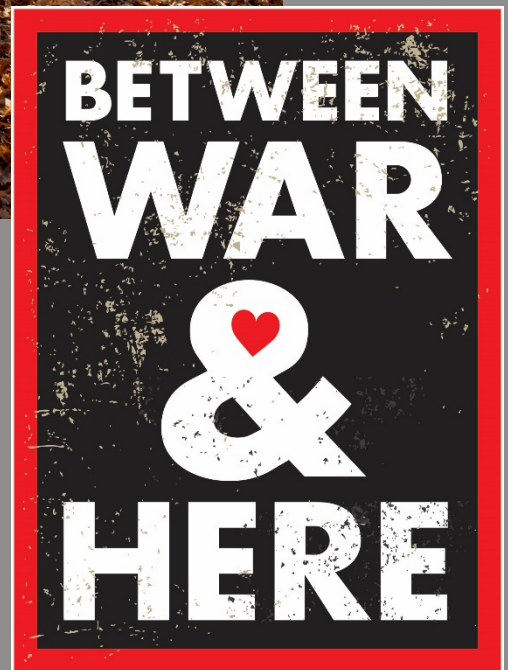
All are welcomed to the Worship and free will offering Lunch.



Photo by Burgess Blevins

Ensemble Galilei with
Neal Conan & Anne Garrels

*Extraordinary music.
Powerful memoir. Unforgettable stories*



Monday, November 11, 2019 7:30pm

Saint Mark Presbyterian Church
10701 Old Georgetown Rd, Rockville

Tickets \$20 general admission, \$15 students & seniors
\$10 active duty or retired military

Tickets and info: www.EGmusic.com

Proceeds go to support the Special Operations Warrior Foundation.



Invites you to the Grand Opening of
GILLIAM PLACE

Gilliam Place Apartments Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

Thursday, November 14, 12:00-2pm

APC Open House, 3-5pm for "Those Who Work Sunday"

APAH Health Fair & APC Open House

Saturday, November 16

9am-Noon: APAH Health Fair

Noon-3pm: APC Open House with Food Trucks

Celebratory Worship at Arlington Presbyterian Church

Sunday, November 17, 11am

918 S. LINCOLN STREET, ARLINGTON, VA 22204

Questions? Contact: agoff@arlingtonpresbyterian.org

*Sponsored by Arlington Partnership for Affordable Housing (APAH),
Arlington Presbyterian Church, and La Cocina VA.*



Coming this fall!

A Congregational Song Retreat

**Burke Presbyterian Church
9 am-2 pm, Saturday Nov. 16**

This ecumenical workshop is designed to encourage, promote, and enliven congregational singing. We will be led by Brian Hehn, director of The Center for Congregational Song in Baltimore, Md. Brian is an inspiring song leader with expertise in a variety of genres and instrumentations: He has led worship for Baptists, Roman Catholics, United Methodists, Presbyterians, and many more. All are welcome: Join us! RSVP by writing to lucindasexton@gmail.com. The event is free and includes lunch and snacks. We will accept free-will donations to cover expenses.



5690 Oak Leather Drive
Burke, VA 22015
703-764-0456
www.BurkePresChurch.org

Sundays: Oct 6, November 3, and November 17
6:30-8:00pm, Dinner Served

RACIAL JUSTICE TEACH-IN

A Three Part Webinar Series
from More Light Presbyterians

October 6: Defining Racism and White Supremacy

Please see date changes:

November 3: Engaging White Fragility

November 17: Decentering Whiteness

Clarendon Presbyterian Church
1305 N Jackson St, Arlington VA 22203
Please RSVP to: clarendonmission@gmail.com



Featuring Jessica Vasquez Torres, webinar
facilitator

**GUEST PREACHER AT
NATIONAL CAPITAL
PRESBYTERY MEETING,
TUESDAY, NOV. 19, 6:00 P.M.**

**SHANE
CLAIBORNE**
on "Contagious Love"



Shane Claiborne is a prominent speaker, activist, and best-selling author. Shane worked with Mother Teresa in Calcutta, and founded The Simple Way in Philadelphia. He heads up Red Letter Christians, a movement of folks who are committed to living "as if Jesus meant the things he said." Shane is a champion for grace which has led him to jail advocating for the homeless, and to places like Iraq and Afghanistan to stand against war. Now grace fuels his passion to end the death penalty and help stop gun violence.

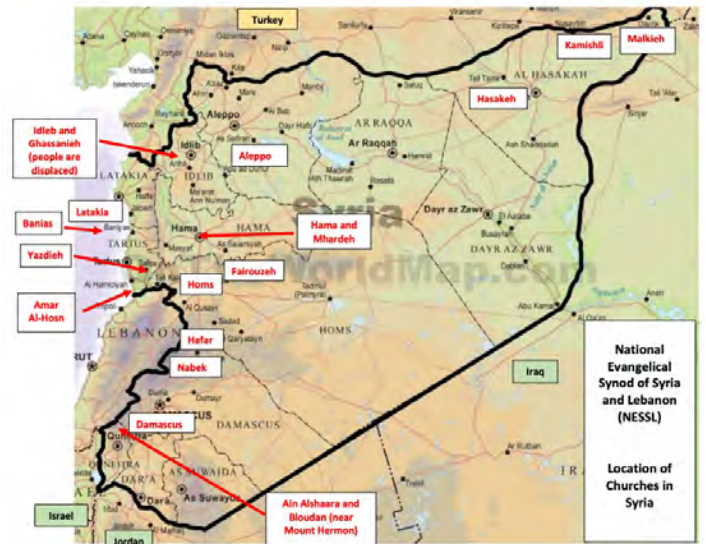
Shane's books include *Jesus for President*, *Red Letter Revolution*, *Common Prayer*, *Follow Me to Freedom*, *Jesus, Bombs and Ice Cream*, *Becoming the Answer to Our Prayers*, *Executing Grace*, his classic *The Irresistible Revolution*, and his newest book, *Beating Guns*. He has been featured in a number of films including "Another World Is Possible" and "Ordinary Radicals." His books have been translated into more than a dozen languages. Shane speaks over one hundred times a year, nationally and internationally. His work has appeared in *Esquire*, *SPIN*, *Christianity Today*, *TIME*, and *The Wall Street Journal*, and he has been on everything from Fox News and Al Jazeera to CNN and NPR. He's given academic lectures at Harvard, Princeton, Liberty, Duke, and Notre Dame.

Shane speaks regularly at denominational gatherings, festivals, and conferences around the globe.

Open Space:

November 19 – Presbytery Meeting

“Meet” our Presbyterian Family in Syria



Current reports and how to help

Personal stories and photos, especially of the churches in the current conflict areas as well as rebuilding in places like Homs and Aleppo.



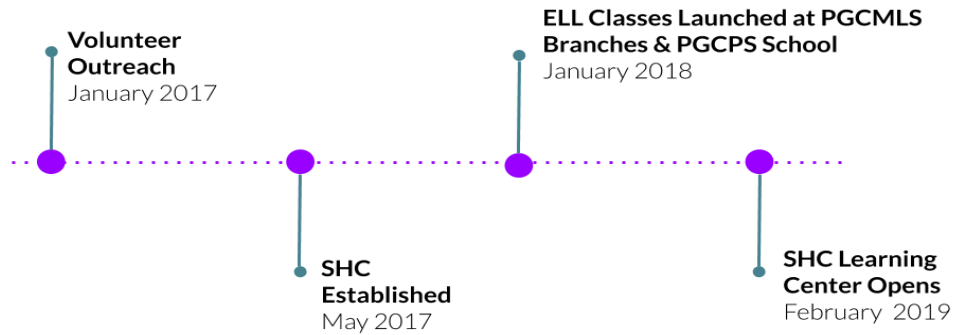
Engaging with Refugees in our Community

Solutions in Hometown Connections (SHC) is a volunteer led and run 501(c)(3) non profit organization working with refugees and immigrants in Maryland, Virginia and Washington DC. SHC supports individuals and their families through a network of mentors, tutors, community groups. Our family friendly English Language Program eases family transition into new communities and builds confidence and independence.

Our Story

SHC was established in 2017 as a result of volunteer outreach to refugee families living in Prince George's County through the efforts of SHC Founder, Merritt Groeschel. We began by coordinating volunteers to tutor and mentor recently arrived refugee families. Word soon spread and within a year we were working with approximately 200 individuals from Syria, Afghanistan, Iran and Iraq. Altogether, SHC has directly assisted 448 individuals through family mentoring, English language tutoring or English Language Programs since 2017.

The goal of Solutions in Hometown Connections is to provide refugee and immigrant families with the building blocks they need to access educational, vocational, and family programs. We focus closely on women who are not accessing the workforce or English programs as easily as the men in their families. Through SHC, families receive English language instruction and educational programs, learn to navigate services, and get connected to a warm and inclusive community.



Family Friendly English Language Programs

After observing that many refugee and other newly arrived mothers with young children were unable to attend traditional ESL classes, SHC developed an English Language Learner Program combining **in-home tutoring, English classes** and a **librarian led storytime**. SHC partners with [Prince George's County Memorial Library System](#) to offer classes to students of all English levels at neighborhood library branches close to many of our students' homes.





SHC's English Language Program provides a safe and friendly space for mothers and children to learn English with peers as well as age-appropriate activities for young children to prepare for school.

Once students are ready to venture further from home they can choose between continuing English classes at the child-friendly SHC Learning Center in Hyattsville, or SHC will help students connect to academic or workforce intensive ESL programs offered through the Montgomery and Prince George's County Community College System, or other programs through local organizations. We also assist students entering the workforce, and enroll their children in Head Start programs when possible.

SHC's English Language Learner classes:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Taught by experienced ESL teachers. ● Recognize the value of fun in learning. ● Incorporate differentiated learning for students who are pre-literate in their native language. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Promote family literacy. ● Emphasize the benefits of parental involvement in children's schooling. ● Teach life-skills necessary to navigate the American educational system ● Create a positive and empowering environment for families.

Family Mentoring:

Thoughtful mentoring helps families and individuals develop the skills and confidence to ultimately advocate for themselves.

Some examples of SHC Family Mentoring:

- Make medical appointments and connect to low cost dental care.
- Model preparing for interviews and applying for jobs in the US.
- Prepare for the Learner's Permit Driver's Test.
- Gather documents to register for school.
- Connect to vocational training and college career counseling.
- Understand how to apply for benefit programs when available.
- Locate and enroll in local food banks.
- Locate pro-bono legal assistance for immigration or other matters.



Volunteers and Staff

In 2019, SHC received grants from the International Monetary Fund and the Prince George's County Council to fund part-time teaching positions and an Early Childhood Specialist. When possible, SHC hires from within our network of families and our newly hired certified early childhood teacher arrived in the US as a refugee herself just four years ago.

SHC programs are possible through a network of over 60 dedicated volunteers. Most have been active with SHC for more than a year. We work hard to provide ongoing support including:

- Information session
- Tutor shadowing
- Monthly tutor meetings
- Celebrations and social events
- Regular tutor trainings and tips
- Special SHC Events



Refugee Sponsors' Group

A collaborative group of faith based organizations, non-profits and individual volunteers that is a vital part of the SHC volunteer network. SHC invites experts to present at meetings. Recent topics included financial literacy, early childhood education and mental health. Group members include:

Adas Israel (DC)
Adat Shalom (MD)
Beth Chai (MD)
Bethesda Friends Meeting (MD)
Blessed Sacrament (DC)
Bradley Hills Presbyterian/Bethesda
Jewish Congregation/Idara Jaferia
Mosque (MD)
Chevy Chase Presbyterian (DC)
DC Christian Reformed Church (DC)
Ethiopian Community Development
Council (MD)
Fabrangen's Refugee and Immigrant
Committee (unaffiliated Chavurah)
(DC)
Fairfax Presbyterian (VA)
Good Neighbor Capitol Hill (DC)
Grace Episcopal Church, Silver Spring,
(MD)
Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church
(DC)
International Rescue Committee (IRC)

Jewish Community Relations Council
KindWorks
Lutheran Social Services (MD)
Machar: The Washington
Congregation for Secular Humanistic
Judaism
Montgomery County Welcoming Our
New Neighbors Program(MD)
Montgomery County Interfaith
Refugee Resettlement Neighbors
(MCIRRN)
Muslim Community Center (MD)
National Presbyterian (DC)
Ohev Shalom The National Synagogue
(OSTNS) (MD)
Ohr Kodesh (MD)
Oseh Shalom (MD)
Peace Lutheran (VA)
Restoration Church (partner with UU
Reston) (VA)
River Road Unitarian (MD)
Rodef Shalom (VA)

St. Columba's Episcopal (DC)
St. Dunstan's Episcopal (MD)
St. Johns Lafayette Square (DC)
Saint Johns Norwood (MD)
Saint Luke Lutheran Church, Silver
Spring (MD)
Saint Mark Presbyterian (MD)
Silver Spring Christian Reformed
Church (MD)
Temple Beth Ami (MD)
Temple Micah (DC)
Temple Shalom (MD)
Temple Sinai (DC)
Tifereth Israel (DC)
Trinity Lutheran
United Christian Parish and Unitarian
Universalist Church, both of Reston
(VA)
Wallace Presbyterian (MD)
Washington Ethical Society (DC)
Westmoreland Congregational United
Church of Christ (DC)



Solutions in Hometown Connections

301-615-1034

www.shconnections.org info@shconnections.org

Become our friend on facebook @shconnections.org

Silent Retreat

Blessings

December 6-8, 2019

Spend a weekend in silence in Lost River, West Virginia.

"I have come to see with greater and greater clarity that a blessing is at its most potent in times of disaster, devastation, and loss. When God's providence seems most difficult to find, a blessing helps us perceive the grace that threads through our lives. A blessing does not explain away our loss or justify devastation. It does not make light of grief or provide a simple fix for the rending. It does not compel us to 'move on'. Instead, a blessing meets us in the place of our deepest loss. In that place, it offers us a glimpse of wholeness and claims that wholeness here and now. **A blessing helps us to keep breathing—to abide this moment, and the next moment, and the one after that**".

Introduction to The Cure for Sorrow: A Book of Blessings for Times of Grief
by Jan Richardson



Myra Bridgforth

is a poet and a practicing psychotherapist in private practice in Vienna, Virginia



Diane Walton Hendricks

is a spiritual director, retreat and small group leader, and an associate pastor at Falls Church Presbyterian Church

To register and for more information

<https://myrabinnbridgforth.wixsite.com/silent-retreat>

Visit Our Gift Market!

Details Below



CHANGING THE WORLD, ONE GIFT AT A TIME

John Calvin Presbyterian Church
6531 Columbia Pike, Annandale VA 22003
Sunday, December 15
11:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Give an alternative gift of food, medicine, livestock or education in honor of a friend or relative. These special gifts support outreach projects that relieve suffering worldwide through outreach programs and locally through the Annandale Christian community Action (ACCA).

Come, shop, enjoy baked treats and help our world!
Cash, Checks, Credit Cards accepted!

SAVE THE DATE
February 3-5, 2020

CALM to the Waves: A Winter Retreat

“Igniting Education” with guest presenter the Rev. Melanie Jones
*For NCP Minister Members, Christian Educators,
NCP Staff and their Spouses*

Monday, February 3—Wednesday, February 5, 2020

Dunes Manor Hotel

2800 Baltimore Avenue, Ocean City, MD 21842

Join members of the Care Team of NCP’S Committee on Ministry for:
Two nights Oceanfront Room accommodations; 2 breakfast buffets; 2 plated lunches;
and 2 plated dinners!

What to Expect: Restoring Rest and Free Time

COST: \$50.00 per person – ONLINE REGISTRATION WITH PAYMENT OPTION [HERE!](#)



Teacher and activist: Rev. Melanie Jones, Instructor of Ethics, Theology and Culture / Director of the Katie Geneva Cannon Center for Womanist Leadership at Union Presbyterian Seminary. She is a Doctor of Philosophy candidate at Chicago Theological Seminary (CTS) studying ethics, theology, and culture. Her doctoral dissertation entitled “Up Against a Crooked Gospel: Black Women’s Bodies and the Politics of Character in Religion and Society”



National Capital
PRESBYTERY
MISSIONAL · PASTORAL · PROPHETIC



Stewardship
Kaleidoscope
Real Tools for Real Ministry

SAVE THE DATE

Sept. 21-23, 2020

Cincinnati, OH



Northern Kentucky Convention Center

Cincinnati Marriott RiverCenter

Embassy Suites Cincinnati RiverCenter