

THURSDAY MAILING



National Capital
PRESBYTERY
MISSIONAL · PASTORAL · PROPHETIC

December 12, 2019



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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 – Register NOW! Spaces are filling up!*

Travel to Israel and Palestine on a Pilgrimage and Study Tour

October 9 – 19, 2020



Birthday Greetings for the month of **December**

Paul Anderson, HR

Glen Benson

Chuck Booker

James Brassard

Beth Braxton, HR

Ann Davie, HR

David Douthett

David Ensign

Ruth Everhart

Henry Ferry, HR

Larry Goleman

Mark Greiner

Richard Hansen, HR

Ed Harding

Curtis Kearns, HR

Michael Koppel

Joyce Mercer

Judith Michaels, HR

Bryan Mickle

George Pera, HR

Todd Sutton

George Taylor, HR

Beth Williams

Gayraud Wilmore, HR

***From
the staff of
National Capital Presbytery
debbie, jan, joan, john,
lajuan, sara, tara, todd***



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Noonday Noëls - Wednesday, December 18 - 12:05 p.m.–1:35 p.m.

Our popular Noonday Noëls series concludes with the Annandale Singers and Women's Chamber Ensemble (Patrick Vaughn, director). Join us for lunch after the concert in Fellowship Hall. A freewill offering will be collected to benefit the Meeting House's Music Fund.

Travel to Israel and Palestine on a pilgrimage and study tour, October 9-19, 2020. Join others from National Capital Presbytery for this trip, led by Rev. Dr. Ben Trawick, pastor at Grace, Springfield, and Rev. Susan Wilder, interim pastor at Kirkwood, Springfield. Travelers will walk in the land of the Bible beside those who live in the land today. Visiting places of Jesus' life and ministry and having conversations with Israelis and Palestinians, the group will consider what it means to be faithful witnesses to Christ in this time. Price: \$3,650, double occupancy, includes round-trip airfare from Dulles, lodging, and meals. See flyer in this Thursday Mail; for more information and brochure, contact Susan at wildersus@gmail.com or Ben at ben@gracepresby.org.



December 12, 2019

Greetings!

The other day I was sitting in a coffee shop waiting for a meeting to begin. I was doing my best to catch up on a few emails while I had some free time, but I found myself drawn to the conversation at the table behind me. It was a man and a woman who were in the middle of some “church talk”. You know it’s “church talk” when two people meet in public to discuss their opinions on the parish, elders, and worship (Greek to the rest of the people in the coffee shop). During their conversation, which I was trying not to overhear, the man said to the woman; “you know, some people think, if you want new people to come, you have to start doing things differently. I just don’t see it that way.” Sound familiar? It brings to mind an overused cliché describing insanity, *“doing the same thing over and expecting a different result!”* I did my best to hold my tongue.

Fortunately, this wasn’t one of our churches.

The other week I had the honor and opportunity to sit down with the PNC (Pastor Nominating Committee) from Warner Memorial to engage in some “church talk”. Their PNC asked me if I would be a reference on their MIF (Ministry Information Form, what churches use to call a new pastor). Before I said yes, I wanted to get to know them a little more and hear what kind of pastor they were looking for.

It was refreshing to hear them talk about the dreams they had for their congregation. I met with a collection of dedicated members of the church, faithfully considering their congregation and community. Their PNC was outward facing. They realized their church sat in the middle of an ever-changing community they weren’t fully in relationship with. The PNC was clear their marker of success with their new pastor would be how well they engaged the neighborhood that surrounded them.

This PNC was putting the needs of those who have never set foot in their doors on the same level as members who had been there for decades. They were honest and realistic. They are aware of the sacred cows and potential land mines that their new pastor would have to navigate. However, their focus remained centered on *“what could be.”*

As I visit our churches around the Presbytery, I encounter leaders who are ready to take full stock of the gifts their congregation has to offer to the world and their community. They are ready to make room for Christ to lead them into what they will be next.

John

Quill of the Stated Clerk

The National Capital Presbytery met on November 19, 2019 at National Presbyterian Church. During the meeting, National Capital Presbytery, led by Moderator Miriam Dewhurst:

- Gathered around the theme of evangelism
- Met this year's Young Adult Volunteers and YAV Coordinator Blair Moorhead
- Heard an inspiring sermon from Shane Claiborne, "Contagious Love"
- Shared around tables where God's love showed in our lives
- Learned that Leadership Council was considering recommendations presented by the Confronting Racism Report and would report back to the presbytery in January
- Watched a Mission Highlight on Light to the Nations (formerly Immigrant Ministries)
- Elected Commissioners and a Young Adult Advisory Commissioner to the 224th General Assembly in June in Baltimore, MD
- Received the Mission Budget for a First Reading
- Approved the return of the Rev. Mary Beth Lawrence to her previous installed position as Associate Pastor, Gaithersburg Presbyterian Church
- Remembered faithful Ministers of Word and Sacrament and Ruling Elders of National Capital Presbytery who died in the past year.

Our next meeting is Tuesday, January 28, 2020, at National Presbyterian Church.

Peace and blessings, Sara

Sara M. Coe
Stated Clerk
National Capital Presbytery
scoe@thepresbytery.org
240-514-5352

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December 12, 2019

Greetings,

Expectations are coming! Expectations are coming! Expectations are coming! Whew, now that I have that anxiety out of the way, I am grateful to each of our churches, communities and leadership that are pacing us through this Advent season. Thank you for the services, music, devotions, and wreath lighting rituals you have so diligently put together. It takes all your attention to remind many of us to be in this sacred space with a sacred pace. Thank you!

On the Longest Night, December 20th – 21st, the homeless advocacy community of DC will hold their annual memorial service and remembrances for sisters and brothers who have died in the year due to homelessness. This sacred time is a strong intersection of the business of justice and advocacy in the embrace of God's belovedness for so many who have found no room in the "Inn". Let us hold onto the sacredness that is necessary in all of God's justice and advocacy.

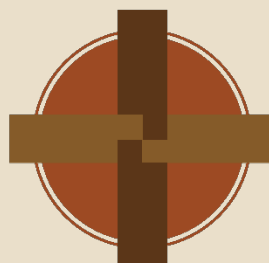
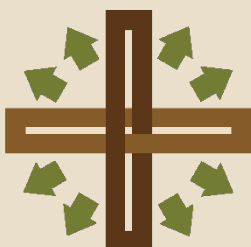
Coming in February, our NCP staff, NCP minister members, NCP Christian Educators, and spouses are invited to join the annual **Calm to the Waves Retreat, Feb. 3-5**. The links are within this TM. This annual gathering is only a part of how the **Care Team of the Committee on Ministry** seeks ways to connect and check in with one another. The Care Team also holds sacred space for clergy at every Presbytery Meeting during Open Space. This is a time you can come in and visit with one of the Care Team leaders and Mentors so that you are supported in making effective connections in NCP.

February 6th-8th, members of Leadership Council and our Stated Clerk will be part of the Mid-Atlantic Synod Pilgrimage to Montgomery, AL. Within our presbytery a few leaders and congregations have been on similar pilgrimages. We look forward to holding sacred spaces as we welcome the intentional work of learning, re-learning, and dis-mantling racism within our own church systems. More information will be shared on ways to support these key leaders through our prayers and invitations.

Again, I thank each of you for the intentionality you bring in marking this season with sacred space, sacred rituals, and sacred pacing! We are not alone. Hope abounds that we can be with. We get to share with so many that God is with us and for us!

Peace and Courage,

Rev. Tara Spuhler McCabe





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Attention Church Treasurer

2019 Year End Info & 2020 Info On Mission Giving and Per Capita

Date: January 8, 2020

All contributions must be received by the date listed above. Contributions received after January 8th will be posted to your 2020 church statement.

Please Remit to: 1 1300 Rockville Pike
Suite 408
Rockville, MD 20852

**Mission Pledge forms will be sent after the January 28th
Presbytery Meeting.**

Visit our website for:
Per Capita Brochure
Proposed Mission Budget 2020
Operating Budget 2020
www.thepresbytery.org

QUESTIONS - CONTACT
Debbie Golden, Bookkeeper/Office Assistant
phone: 240-514-5359
email: dgolden@thepresbytery.org



From left: Sam, Ailih, Keyah, Jack, Sara, and Langley

Thank you, NCP!

The 2019-2020 DC YAVs appreciate NCP's financial support, your prayers, and your words of encouragement. We are so glad to spend this year as a part of the NCP community. We're only just getting started, and your continued encouragement and support will help us make the most of the rest of our YAV year!

WANT TO SUPPORT YAVS?

Address checks to:

11300 Rockville Pike, Suite 408,
Rockville, MD 20852

And be sure to note that it is for the
DC YAV program on the memo line!

Want to learn more about the YAV program? We can visit your church! Contact Blair Moorhead (bmoorhead@gmail.com) about arranging a visit.





exploring gun violence

Free Film and Discussion Series

Sundays 2:00 – 4:30

Trigger: The Ripple Effect of Gun Violence

St. John's Episcopal Church

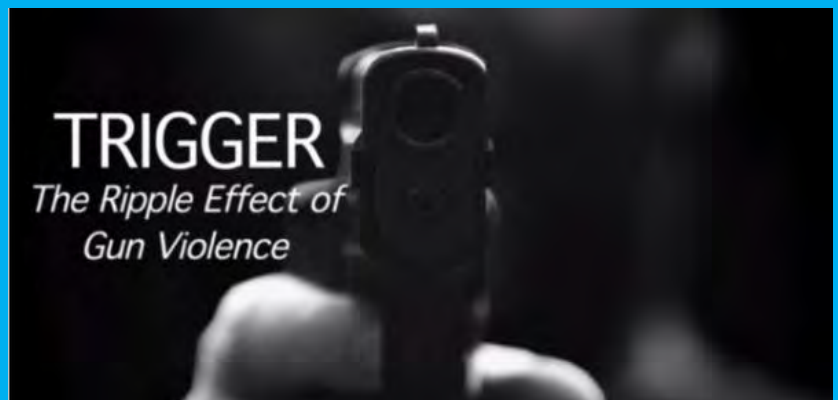
6701 Wisconsin Ave, Chevy Chase, MD

Sunday January 5th 2:00 – 4:30 pm

All Events Free – Public Invited

Light refreshments

This film frames gun violence as a public health epidemic by taking an in-depth look at how one shooting impacts individuals, families and communities. In the documentary, all those scarred by gun violence eventually arrived at the same question: "Why did this happen to us?" After looking at the devastation of gun violence, *Trigger* turns its attention to the bigger question:



"What can we do to prevent gun violence?"

David Barhhart (invited) – Director/Producer of *Trigger* will moderated a Q&A Discussion

Supporters: DC Area Interfaith Gun Violence Prevention Network • St. John's Episcopal Church • Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Fairfax • St. Mark's Episcopal Church • Westmoreland UCC • St. Columba's Episcopal Church • Burke-Fairfax Moms Demand Action

Youth Carbon Analyst Program

A project of the Earth Care Network
National Capital Presbytery, Presbyterian Church (USA)

*Because
the church building is a
testimony to the witness of
the church*



*we are
counting greenhouse gases
for net zero emissions
in our Presbytery*

Join this year's cohort of analysts for the 2020 YCAP Orientation Meeting

The season of transformational Climate Action has arrived.

Jan 25, 2020

11:00 AM to 1:00 PM

with lunch included

@ at a NCP church to be announced

Youth Carbon Analysts still accepted; Adult collaborators now invited

Register via email to Dave Grace (dce@warnermemorial.org)

Background

In the 2006 General Assembly, Presbyterians resolved to seek to lead “Carbon Neutral Lives.” Fourteen years later, it is now time for that seeking to bear fruit worthy of repentance. In 2008, the PC(USA) proclaimed the “Power to Change”, asking the U.S. government to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions (GHGs) 20% from 1990 levels by 2020 and 80% by 2050. It is now 2020, and U.S. GHGs have likely increased, rather than decreased. Further, the GHG reduction timeline proclaimed in 2008 is now inadequate to sufficiently limit global temperature increase brought about by new and lingering GHGs (cf. UN Emissions Gap Report 2019). Today, the impacts of failure to see beyond the horizon of nonrenewable, fossil fuels and the failure to mobilize around an urgent date for reaching netzero GHG emissions are increasingly unconscionable. Thus, in 2018 the PC(USA) proclaimed that “The Earth is the Lord’s” and urged courageous moral leadership on climate with transformational, incarnational climate action. Therefore, YCAP is counting GHGs to outline pathways to NetZero emissions in the National Capital Presbytery and the PC(USA). We ask for your help.

The National Capital Presbytery began a pilot year of YCAP in 2017-2018. The inaugural youth carbon analysts formulated an estimate of the GHG emissions from the buildings of the ten congregations in the Earth Care Network and they assessed the scale of renewable energy projects that would be necessary to achieve netzero GHG emissions for those congregations. The current YCAP program seeks to expand the foundational work of the inaugural analysts by involving more congregations in order to formulate a more precise estimate of the total GHG emissions in the presbytery and to draft a climate action plan.

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”



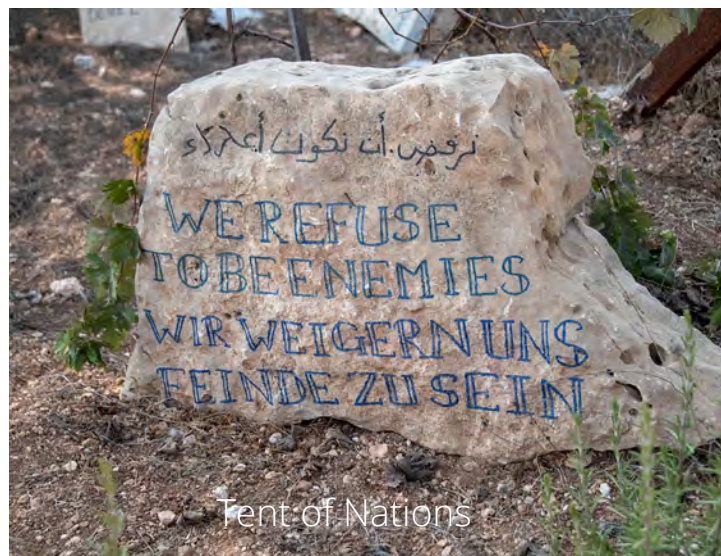
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Travel to Israel and Palestine on a Pilgrimage and Study Tour, October 9-19,2020

- Visit with the Palestinian Episcopal Congregation in Nablus
- See biblical sites in the areas of Galilee, Jerusalem, Bethlehem, and elsewhere
- Converse with local peacemakers
- Tour Bethlehem Bible College
- Visit Tent of Nations--a Palestinian Farm and Peace Center

On this educational and inspirational trip, travelers will walk in the land of the Bible beside those who live in the land today. Visiting places of Jesus' life and ministry, the group will consider what it means to be faithful witnesses to Christ in this time. Conversations with Palestinians and Israelis will offer a window on their hopes and dreams for a peace-filled future and how we can support them in that vision.



Tent of Nations

Leaders are Rev. Dr. Ben Trawick, pastor of Grace Presbyterian Church, in Springfield, Virginia and Rev. Susan Wilder, interim pastor at Kirkwood Presbyterian Church in Springfield, Virginia.

Rev. Dr. Ben Trawick is Grace Presbyterian Church's Head of Staff where he has served since February 2017. Prior to accepting the call to Grace Presbyterian, Ben served as Head of Staff at North Wilkesboro (NC) Presbyterian Church (2003-2017), and as Pastor of Christ Presbyterian Church, High Point, NC (1999-2003) and of New Dublin Presbyterian Church, Dublin, VA (1993-1999). Prior to entering seminary, he served four years as a US Naval Officer.

Rev. Susan Wilder is the Interim Pastor at Kirkwood Presbyterian Church. Susan has lived in Jerusalem, led trips to the region, and previously served as a consultant to the Faith Forum on Middle East Policy, a network of Christian denominations and organizations working for a just peace in the Middle East. She served as representative for Middle East Policy in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) from 2008 to 2012 and has served in pastoral roles at Grace Presbyterian Church in Springfield and Trinity Presbyterian Church in Arlington.

For more information and brochure, contact Susan at wildersus@gmail.com or Ben at ben@gracepresby.org.

