

THURSDAY MAILING



National Capital
PRESBYTERY
MISSIONAL · PASTORAL · PROPHETIC

February 20, 2020



In this edition

Joys/Announcements

Johns' Jottings

John Molina-Moore, General Presbyterian

Clerks' Tip

Connectionalism in Montgomery, Alabama

Sara Coe, Stated Clerk

Tara's Table

Tara Spuhler McCabe, TDirector of Congregational Dev. & Mission

We're Having an Office OPEN HOUSE

Light refreshments – RSVP required

March 18 – NCP Offices – Rockville, MD

Spiritual Formation is Missional Formation

Pastor Mark Greiner, M.A.c., L.A.c.

(spiritual formation team scholarship recipient)

Addressing climate change requires reconciliation with indigenous communities

Yenny Delgado, Ruling Elder, Bethesda Presbyterian Church

Commemorating Black History Month

Miss Sandi Lewanika, Music Director, Church of the Redeemer

February 22 – Church of the Redeemer Presbyterian Church

2020 Black History Celebration

Song, Word & Dance

sponsored by Black Presbyterians United (BPU)

February 23 – Faith Presbyterian Church

Revolution of the Heart – The Dorothy Day Story

Presented by the McClendon Scholar Program of NYAPC

February 25 – New York Avenue Presbyterian Church

Retreat for Confirmation Age Youth led by Matt Taylor

sponsored by the RIMW

February 28-March 1 – Bishop Claggett Retreat Center

BEYONCE MASS

Sponsored by NCP and the Kennedy Center

Led by Rev. Yolanda Norton

March 8 – Kennedy Center, Eisenhower Theater, Washington, DC

Beyond the Rhetoric: Faithful Conversations about Gun Violence

Led by Rev. Jim Atwood and Rev. Deanna Hollas

March 13-15 – Grace Presbyterian Church

Planned Giving Round Table

*Sponsored by NCP Stewardship Committee
March 18 – Bradley Hills Presbyterian Church*

Does Your Social Media Need Help?

*Hands-on Open Space with Jess Fisher
presented by the Communication of NCP
March 24 – National Presbyterian Church (registration required)*

Congregational Assessment Tool (CAT) Training with Holy Cow Consultants

*sponsored by Church Development Commission (CDC)
March 23-24 – National Presbyterian Church*

In the Footsteps of Harriet Tubman: A Lenten Pilgrimage

*sponsored by Race and Reconciliation Team (MCC)
March 27-29 – Cambridge, MD (registration required)*

39th Anniversary of the Sargent Gospel-Airs

*“Through the Fire”
April 4 – Sargent Memorial Presbyterian Church*

Join us for Compassion, Peace & Justice Training Day

*Ecumenical Advocacy Days
April 24-27 – Washington, DC*

EAPCE EVENT

*“Creating a Culture of Lifelong Faith Formation
April 27-29 – Rhodes Grove Conference Center*

Joys



Congratulations to the **Rev. Dana Olson** and Zeke Dowty on the birth of their daughter Fiona Marie Olson Dowty, born Thursday, February 13. Dana serves Ingleside at Rock Creek as Chaplain and Zeke is NCP's videographer (Glass River Media) extraordinaire!

NCP OFFICES MOVED! Our address is 11300 Rockville Pike, Suite 408, Rockville, MD 20852

ANNOUNCEMENTS

National Capital Presbytery and Clarendon Presbyterian Church invite you to the **Ordination Service of Blair Moorhead** as Minister of the Word and Sacrament, Sunday, February 23, at 4:00 p.m., Clarendon Presbyterian Church, 1305 N Jackson Street, Arlington, VA (the color of the day is Red) Reception will follow.

Minister Members of National Capital Presbytery: Please complete the **Annual Salary Report** form if you haven't already sent it in. Reports should be submitted by February 28. Any terms of call that are part of another report or contract approved since October 1, 2019 does not need to be submitted using this form. **CHECK YOUR EMAIL, forms will be resent later this week. If you have not received a form, contact comadmin@thepresbytery.org.**

As of today, over 60% of NCP churches have submitted their **2019 Statistical Report** to the Office of General Assembly. For NCP to meet its goal of 100%, the **deadline for submission is extended to February 18**. If you have questions or need assistance, please contact Jan Moody, Assistant to the Stated Clerk, jmoody@thepresbytery.org.

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



February 20, 2020

Greetings Partners in Ministry!

Something that I often hear from my colleagues after they have taken a new call is, they wish the interim pastor who preceded them did more “interim” work. Things that you think would be cleaned up and organized during the interim process were left untouched. This meant the new pastor needed to spend a fair amount of time and energy on task that should have been done before they arrived, thus slowing down the process for real growth and ministry in their new call.

We are having many conversations at our COM (Committee on Ministry) meetings about the current and future role of interim ministry. We are realizing that the trainings and teachings for successful interim ministry need to reflect the ministry of churches today. Interim ministry is a unique calling and there are plenty of pastors called to this work.

A shining example of this was the Rev. Diane Hutchins. I didn’t get the chance to cross paths with Diane in the presbytery, I was only able to witness the ripples of where she had been. Her name was often mentioned in conversations about good leaders and moderators of this presbytery and where she offered ideas about vision and direction. Her memorial service was last week at Providence Presbyterian Church in Fairfax and it was there when the full impact of Diane’s gift to the presbytery sunk in. During the service someone listed the names of the churches where Diane had served as an interim pastor. As those churches were being read, I realized that ALL of them were healthy and in good shape. That is a testament to not just great interim work, but great leadership. Not many leaders, be it pastors, football coaches, or CEOs can say their track record is anything close to that of Diane’s. From what was shared about her life at her service I can only assume it was because she didn’t make the work about herself. It was obvious she wanted each church she served to be the best reflection of Christ as possible.

So may your ministry be modeled after Diane’s. One that has its foundation in the health and wholeness of the body, not just the self. May your leadership be remembered not for how good you were, but for how good the place was after you left.

John

Clerks' Tip Connectionalism in Montgomery, Alabama



One of the distinctions of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) is that it is connectional. As said at the beginning of the Form of Government: “The congregation is the basic form of the church, but it is not of itself a sufficient form of the church...” G-1.0101. Congregations are “bound in communion with one another, united in relationships of accountability and responsibility, contributing their strengths to the benefit of the whole.” G-1.0101.

I recently benefited from this connectionalism when I was able to go on a Synod of the Mid-Atlantic-sponsored pilgrimage to the Legacy Museum and the National Memorial for Peace & Justice in Montgomery, Alabama, a project of Bryan Stephenson’s [Equal Justice Initiative](#). On this trip were people from New Castle Presbytery, Presbytery of the James, Eastern Virginia Presbytery, Coastal Carolina Presbytery, and more. As we shared this moving experience with each other, we learned and risked with people different from ourselves, people who worship and live in different contexts, but who share love of Christ and the church and are interested in dismantling systemic racism.

The theme of the museum is that slavery did not end, it evolved. The museum, through heart-wrenching display after display, tells the story of the kidnapping, enslavement, and trade of millions of African people. Once the Thirteenth Amendment, abolishing slavery and involuntary servitude “except as a punishment of crime,” passed, slavery morphed into a system of racial terror, African American rights were violated, and all-white legislatures authorized convict leasing. Racial violence established white supremacy throughout the former confederate states—and the era of Jim Crow was supreme. Then, after the success of the Civil Rights Movement, the new slavery became the racialization of criminality in which blacks have been and continue to be disproportionately arrested, tried, convicted, and jailed.

After visiting the museum, we went to the National Memorial for Peace & Justice. The website for the memorial explains its genesis: “Work on the memorial began in 2010 when EJI staff began investigating thousands of racial terror lynching’s in the American South, many of which had never been documented. EJI was interested not only in lynching incidents, but in understanding the terror and trauma this sanctioned violence against the black community created. Six million black people fled the South as refugees and exiles as a result of these “racial terror lynchings.” Forty-four hundred lynchings are memorialized there, county by county. I had seen pictures of the memorial, but it was much vaster than any TV screen or picture can capture.

I know there will be other opportunities—by yourself, as a family, or as a member of a congregation, a presbytery, or a synod—for people to go on this pilgrimage. If you can, go.

Please let me know if you have questions or topics, you’d like me to address in Clerks’ Tips.

Peace, Sara

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

February 20, 2020



Greetings,

We are close to Ash Wednesday and Lent. There are many adjectives and verbs that we use to describe this season and tone. What are the adjectives and verbs you use? Lamenting, very purple, turning, dark, repent, remember.... We have many words of reflection in preparing for Ash Wednesday and the season of Lent.

For some of us, we are plenty prepared. We do “this” every year! We may be masters at preparing and ordering the services and the entire Lent season. So then how can we be un-ordered, or vulnerable enough into this time? Kind of catching myself when I have prepared abundantly for folks to have the “experience” of Ashes...that I forget all it takes is the breath prayer and the ashes themselves.

Many in our presbytery participate and provide ***Ashes on the Go***. This started within our band of leaders several years back. Some Associate Pastors at the time were less than busy in preparing for the evening services and they wanted to do something. Leaders like Rev. Lakesha Bradshaw, Rev. J.C. Cadwallader, and Rev. Denise Anderson (there were others but since they have left us, I can call them out!). These women went out into un-ordered places of city life: metro stops, parks, and courtyards. With a sign announcing, “Get your Ash over here”, wearing a stole, some oil and ashes they just stood there.... waiting, with a smile.

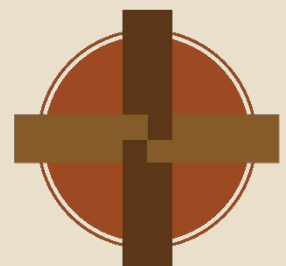
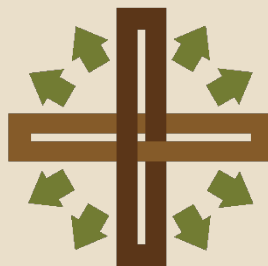
Every year since we continue to do this. It is super-duper vulnerable. We just stand there. Then, true to human nature, it takes just one person. They offer apologies for how they don’t go to church anymore, sometimes they offer money for the service, and sometimes they ask for prayers. I offer in response to the imposition, “remember the love you are created in and live fully into it.” Or, “from love and dust you are created and into this you return.” That is it. Sometimes we can advertise another service that is happening, or you have postcards to pass out AND it is this simple. It is a marking and a blessing.

We know how to order services well! Amen. And that is exactly why I recognize it to be essential that we take some time in the day of imposition and be vulnerable. We know what is needed and we know what to offer. So many people have not carved out this kind of sacred time and when they encounter us, they say thank you!

Prophetically, standing out there, you are proclaiming the gospel! ***Missionally***, you are meeting people where they are. ***Pastorally***, we have set apart a moment for sacred space, breath, and ashes. We hope you can join others and get vulnerable while you share ashes on the go. If you have any questions about how to do this feel free to contact my office!

Peace and Courage,

Tara





National Capital
PRESBYTERY
MISSIONAL • PASTORAL • PROPHETIC

WE'RE HAVING AN OFFICE OPEN HOUSE!

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18
11 AM – 2 PM

11300 Rockville Pike, Suite 408, Rockville, MD 20850
Light refreshments. Garage and meter parking.

RSVP: lquander@thepresbytery.org



Spiritual Formation is Missional Formation

By Pastor Mark Greiner, M.Ac., L.Ac.

Scholarships Did you know National Capital Presbytery offers scholarships? Here's one:

"The Spiritual Formation Team is committed to assisting educators, pastors, youth leaders, and lay leaders to attend regional or national conferences, training events, or programs that help support their own spiritual formation and continued learning in order to serve their member churches and National Capital Presbytery." <https://thepresbytery.org/the-work-of-the-presbytery/spiritual-formation-team/>

These scholarships empower us to live into our Presbytery's vision: to be Missional, Pastoral, and Prophetic. These scholarships help us discern and deepen our vocation.

Over three years, the Spiritual Formation team has graciously granted me scholarships to learn healing ministry. I've completed a Master of acupuncture degree at the Maryland University of Integrative Health. Acupuncture compliments pastoral care by working with the body-mind-spirit. Acupuncture can help fulfill Jesus' Mark 16 mandate: "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation...they will place their hands on sick people, and they will get well".

Medical Mission My first step in medical missions is in Nepal from February to May 2020. I will be working with the [Acupuncture Relief Project](#). I am also studying wholistic mission with the [United Mission to Nepal](#). (In upcoming Thursday Mail updates, I will describe the work of each mission.) I'll return in May to practice acupuncture in Silver Spring, Maryland.

In Nepal, I'll treat 20 patients daily in a rural village clinic, aiming to reach 800 people. The Acupuncture Relief Project treats people with little or no other access to health care. Our clinic does "triage", provide appropriating care, and accompanying those who access need access to full hospital. The Acupuncture Relief Project's mission is "to provide free medical support to those affected by poverty, conflict or disaster while offering an educationally meaningful experience to influence the professional development and personal growth of compassionate medical practitioners."

Prayer Please continue to pray for the Holy Spirit to work through me for the healing of Nepalese patients. Thank you for praying for me at the January 28, 2020 Presbytery meeting.

Follow me on Facebook at "Pastoral Acupuncture and Wellness"

Contact pastormfg@gmail.com. I'm available to share stories, preach or teach on this Medical Mission after June 1, 2020. *Next articles in this series*

- *"Majority World Medicine": The Acupuncture Relief Project*
- *Fulness of Life in Christ: United Mission in Nepal*
- *Why Acupuncture? Caring for Body-Mind-Spirit all at once*

Courtesy of Juan Castillo



Yenny Delgado, center, is with Juan Castillo, left, and Eva Esther Morales.

Addressing climate change requires reconciliation with indigenous communities

Over the past few months, the world's attention has turned to the burning of the Amazon rainforest with a primary focus on Brazil, which is home to over 60% of the primordial forest that serves as the thermostat and lungs for the planet. However, the burning and loss of forest lands in Brazil have also taken place in neighboring countries, including Peru, Bolivia and Paraguay.

Why is the forest burning? The burning is not due to global warming or power lines tipped over in drought conditions (e.g., Paradise, California). The forest is burning because it was set on fire to provide more land for farming and mining with a tacit blessing from the current government. However, because of changing weather patterns the fires have been more intense than in years past.

The impact of these fires continues to have a devastating effect, not only on the environment but also the many indigenous communities that live in the affected areas. Last September, in collaboration with local religious leaders, I had the opportunity to visit a community struggling to recover. Though the narrative and media gaze have turned from those suffering to international power politics and unrest throughout America, those on the ground are still trying to regrow what was.

This is the story of one affected community and how we can show solidarity to our brothers and sisters around the world.

The road was narrow in my journey to the Chiquitanos community in Bolivia, also known as the Monkóx community. The smell of ashen wood served as our guide and engulfed the fibers of our clothes, skin and hair. The once blue sky was transformed into a gray post-apocalyptic vision of what destruction can bring. The Monkóx survived the invasion of the Europeans, who sought to exploit their labor and destroy their land. Today the Monkóx are now suffering as a result of the recent fires. They are struggling to find out who committed this crime, not only against nature but also against them.

What should we do? We must remember first the church's call:

We are challenged by the cries of the people who suffer and by the woundedness of creation itself. We see a dramatic convergence between the suffering of the people and the damage done to the rest of creation. We have heard that creation continues to groan, in bondage, waiting for its liberation (Romans 8:22).

After the destruction, the time for healing and reconstruction is upon us all. Community members we talked with told us that when the fire goes out, the next job is going to be just as hard. They said we have to reforest, find water and keep the trees. Perhaps there is a need to dig wells for new water sources and make canals to ensure that

Yenny Delgado



Deforestation of the single largest remaining tropical rainforest is a threat to all humanity.



In Bolivia, earth blackened by ashes showed traces of the flames that destroyed it.

the forest can grow. In addition to the physical damage, there is also acute awareness of the trauma caused by the fires, as well as the need to learn from this tragedy. There was a sadness for the loss, a deep agony for nature. They said, “We have laws, ancestral rules of respect, and protect the nature, but as a community we cannot control what outsiders do to our land.”

Reconciliation with Mother Earth requires recognition

Policies that seek unlimited growth and the current crisis are directly related to the development of neoliberal economic globalization, based only on the growth of wealth, without concern for the planet or its people. The price is very high and the resulting destruction to the planet will take hundreds of years to recover, if ever.

The suffering of the natives is not new. For many indigenous people around the world, the arrival of colonizing and Christianizing Europeans has led to massive socio-cultural and environmental changes. Centuries have passed and the constant invasions of supposedly protected lands continue; and many indigenous people struggle to have the right to exist in their homeland.

Not only does the destruction of the Amazon for government and corporate interest continue, but the desire that indigenous populations disappear so others can take possession of the land has led governments to commit massacres of leaders who have risen up as prophets. Native Americans want dignity and to remain present on the continent. Indigenous people have suffered a home invasion on

a continental scale and have been relegated to natural environmental reservations. Now, even Native American reservations are being overrun for business interests (gas pipelines) in both the Amazon and Dakotas.

Undoubtedly, the Monkóx are a brave community. They were survivors of European colonization, and they are in this moment of pain and loss. The attitude adopted by the community is reminiscent of that shown by indigenous leader Mura, from Brazil, who said, “If necessary, I will use the last drop of my blood for this forest.” Showing the world, as well as politicians, that a true leader gives life not only for their people but for the world, “What really is life in the world without the Amazon?”

To address climate change and the destruction of the environment, we must recognize the struggle and the efforts of indigenous people to be the guardian of the land. We must assume responsibility to seek reconciliation and repair relationships. Our faith requires us to seek repentance, change policies, move to a more sustainable community and, above all else, to stand in solidarity with those who have suffered, before time runs out.

Yenny Delgado is a psychologist, theologian and social activist. She is co-founder of *Umbrella Initiatives Foundation* and has more than a decade of experience working with religious leaders, local governments and social organizations. She serves as a ruling elder at *Bethesda Presbyterian Church* in Maryland.

MEET NEEDS

Support God's mission in Latin America and the Caribbean:

pcusa.org/donate/E864600

Commemorating Black History Month

Miss Sandi Lewanika

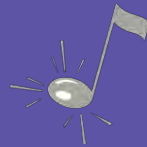
Music Director ~ Church of the Redeemer

*In A
Recital
Featuring...*

*Music from varied forms of
repertoire!*



SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2020 – 3:00PM



Church of the Redeemer Presbyterian (USA)

1423 Girard Street, N.E.

Washington, D.C. 20017

202-832-0095

Admission is free ~ A Freewill Offering will be received

All are welcomed

BLACK PRESBYTERIANS UNITED
PRESENTS



2020 BLACK HISTORY CELEBRATION

SONG, WORD & DANCE

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2020 3:30 PM

FAITH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
4161 SOUTH CAPITOL ST SW
WASHINGTON, DC 20032

LIGHT MEAL PROVIDED

PARTICIPATING CHURCHES

FAITH
NORTHEASTERN
SARGENT

FIFTEENTH STREET
GARDEN
WESTMINSTER

REDEEMER
NORTHMINSTER
PRINCE GEORGES COMMUNITY

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



@BPUDMV



@BPUDMV

The McClendon Scholar Program invites you to a screening of

REVOLUTION OF THE HEART

The Dorothy Day Story

A film by Martin Doblmeier



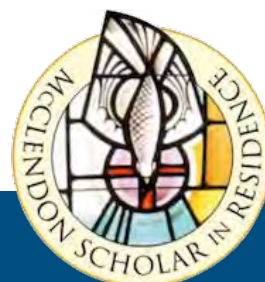
The New York Avenue Presbyterian Church
1313 New York Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20005

Free admission; but please register at
www.dorothydayfilm.eventbrite.com

Speakers include Sister Simone Campbell of Nuns on the Bus

Please come for refreshments at 6:30. Childcare available.

Free Parking at Green City Parking on H Street between 12th & 13th NW



Sponsored by the McClendon Scholar Program at
The New York Avenue Presbyterian Church. www.nyapc.org

Retreat for Confirmation- Age Youth

For all churches in the National Capital Presbytery

February 28-March 1, 2020

at Bishop Claggett Retreat Center

\$125 per student (if reserved by Feb 15)

\$165 per leader (\$100 for RI member churches)

1 leader for every 6 youth required (male and female if a mixed group)

The 5th Wave

By Rich Tennant

The Reformation began in the 16th century after Martin Luther nailed his 95 Theses on the door of the Palast Church in Wittenberg Germany



Join us for this weekend retreat that will engage confirmation-age youth with:

- Growing into the Reformed Christian Faith
- Living by Grace in the Reformed Tradition
- How to be a Lifelong Church Member and Bible Lover

We'll do this through three interactive, hands-on workshops, small groups, prayer, and worship.

Our leader will be Matt Taylor, who wowed us as he subbed in at the last minute at our last confirmation retreat!

To reserve places for your youth, contact Yvonne McKinney at ymckinney@reformedinstitute.org or call 703-232-5303



Leader: MATTHEW D. TAYLOR

Protestant Scholar, The Institute for Islamic, Christian, and Jewish Studies in Baltimore; Ph.D. (Islam and Christianity) Georgetown University; M.A. (Theology) Fuller Theological Seminary; Ruling elder, Georgetown Presbyterian Church

“Growing into the Reformed Christian Faith” Friday Session 1: Family Trees

- Begin with a small group experience of a eucharistic meal in the Roman Catacombs
- Experience the medieval Latin mass with debrief and questions to follow
- Presentation on the Christian Family Tree from beginnings to Catholic, Orthodox, Protestant
- **Key Themes:** We're born into a faith family with a backstory. There are different ways to be Christian, and to be Reformed means claiming your place on a branch of Christianity that emphasizes ongoing reform in the Christian life.

Saturday Session 2: Living by Grace in the Reformed Tradition

Orient Reformed belief/life around 4 themes

- Sovereignty of God
- The power of sin in every aspect of our lives
- Unconditional Grace in Christ as a comfort
- Gratitude and Stewardship as responses to God's amazing gift
- Work together on how Reformed beliefs address current issues, like climate change.
- **Key Themes:** How we think about and relate to God is important; and the Reformed tradition helps us do that. Confirmation involves thinking with the tradition, challenging it, and owning it as part of your life.

Saturday Session 3: How to Be a Lifelong Church Member and Bible Lover

- Reformed Christians make direct connections with the Bible because it is the main resource for shaping our lives and reforming the Church and the world.
- Some practical advice on how to open the Bible, read it, pray with it, and grow in it.
- In the Presbyterian church, confirmation makes you a full member of the community who can vote and help lead the church toward change and reform.
- **Key Themes:** Church and community are essential parts of being Christian. The Bible is a foundation for growing in Christ and leading in the Church. Confirmation is a commitment to a life of participation in, reliance on, and service to the Church and its ongoing change.

Other Activities:

- Games for getting to know friends
- Outdoor activities
- Final celebration and Worship on Sunday morning
- Small Group sharing and learning;
- Movie

Our Hope for You:

- Grow in friendships,
- Get closer to God and Jesus, and
- Commit to help reform the Church and the world.

Join us on
March 8th

BEYONCÉ MASS

On Sunday March 8, 2020, 6:00 p.m., at the Kennedy Center, Eisenhower Theater, Washington, DC National Capital Presbytery is co-sponsoring “**BEYONCÉ MASS**,” a womanist worship service that uses the music and personal life of Beyoncé as a tool to foster an empowering conversation about Black women—their lives, their bodies, and their voices. Curated by Rev. Yolanda Norton, this groundbreaking spiritual experience has gathered thousands of people at worship services from Southern California to Portugal.” (*doors open at 5:30 pm - tickets are not needed*)

What is Beyoncé Mass?

What if “Flaws and All” was a song about a complicated relationship with God? And “Survivor” spoke to how Black women thrive even as they’re undervalued and underestimated? Beyoncé Mass is a womanist worship service that uses the music and personal life of Beyoncé as a tool to foster an empowering conversation about Black women—their lives, their bodies, and their voices. Curated by Rev. Yolanda Norton, the H. Eugene Farlough Chair of Black Church Studies at San Francisco Theological Seminary, this groundbreaking spiritual experience has gathered thousands of people at worship services from Southern California to Portugal

For more information visit: <https://www.beyoncemass.com/home/#about>



REVEREND YOLANDA NORTON

Rev. Yolanda M. Norton is the H. Eugene Farlough Chair of Black Church Studies at San Francisco Theological Seminary. Her womanist scholarship explores how Scripture treats foreign women and how this has led to the oppression of women of color who encounter the Bible today. She is also a PhD candidate in Hebrew Bible and Ancient Israel and Theology and Practice Fellow at Vanderbilt University.

Rev. Norton is ordained in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), and she holds a Master of Divinity and Master of Theological Studies degree from Wesley Theological Seminary and a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Syracuse University.

THIS EVENT IS FREE!!



National Capital
PRESBYTERY
MISSIONAL • PASTORAL • PROPHETIC

GRACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH PRESENTS

Beyond the Rhetoric: Faithful Conversations about Gun Violence



March 13-15, 2020
Grace Presbyterian Church
7434 Bath Street
Springfield, VA
www.gracepresby.org

FRIDAY, MARCH 13

7-9pm: Documentary screening and discussion
Trigger: The Ripple Effect of Gun Violence

SATURDAY, MARCH 14

8-9am: Registration and breakfast

9-10: "Changing the Conversation about Firearms and Faith"- Rev. Atwood

10:30-12:30: "How to Have Courageous Conversations about Gun Violence"- Rev. Hollas

SUNDAY, MARCH 15

9:15am: "Unmasking the Powers Behind Gun Violence"- Rev. Hollas

10:30am: Morning worship with Rev. Hollas preaching

REGISTER: www.gracepresby.org/beyond-the-rhetoric



Rev. Jim Atwood is a retired pastor, activist, and author of *Collateral Damage* and other books on guns and faith.

Rev. Deanna Hollas is the Gun Violence Prevention Ministry Coordinator with the Presbyterian Peace Fellowship.





Planned Giving Round Table

sponsored by NCP Stewardship Committee

Bradley Hills Presbyterian Church
6601 Bradley Blvd., Bethesda, MD

Date: March 18, 2020

Time: 9:30am – 12:00pm

Pastries and Coffee provided

Agenda:

9:30 – Welcome

Introductions:

Name/Church/Planned Giving Status (2 min. each)

10:00 – Presentations

Special Report: Giving USA's *Leaving a Legacy*

A new look at today's planned giving donors.

Research on what motivates a planned gift, how to reach donors, what donors expect, when donors are most likely to make a gift, etc.

Presenter: Karl Mattison

Re-energizing a planned giving program

Assessing a program's status and planning a way forward.

Presenter: Aaron Sirilia, Business Administrator, OPMH

11:15 – General round table discussion

Sharing materials

Sharing experiences

Resources

Q&A

PARKING: park at the front of the church and enter up the outside stairs to the front of the church
OR park on the office side (off Greentree Road) and use door #4 into the office (our doors are numbered above each exterior entrance.)



National Capital
PRESBYTERY
MISSIONAL · PASTORAL · PROPHETIC



MARCH OPEN SPACE

DOES YOUR SOCIAL MEDIA NEED HELP?

- Learn tips, tricks, and resources for your church.
- Bring your laptop and Holy Week service times to get started!

Tuesday, March 24 at 4pm
National Presbyterian Church
RSVP to lquander@thepresbytery.org



Presented by

JESS FISHER

**Freelance Graphic Designer &
Communications Coordinator
at Western Presbyterian Church**
liturgybeyondwords.com



National Capital
PRESBYTERY

Sponsored by NCP
Communications

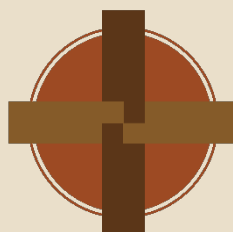
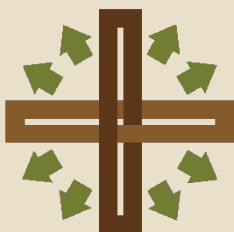
Congregational Assessment Tool (CAT) Training With Holy Cow Consulting

Join a team of interpreters equipping our congregations! Would you like to be trained as an interpreter of the Congregational Assessment Tool? Limited spaces are available for our next training session, Monday March 23 and Tuesday, March 24, 9 am - 3 pm, at National Presbyterian Church. This is open to anyone currently a member of congregations in NCP and minister members of NCP.

Holy Cow Consulting works to assist congregations and organizations determine where they are in order to help them get to where they need to be. Take a quick look [here](#). Current Interpreters in our Presbytery share that this training and experience gives them a chance to see more of our presbytery and gain solid visions and bigger dreams of what they can do with their congregations and in their ministry. Living into visions and dreams is our opportunity in being *Missional, Pastoral, and Prophetic*.

If interested, email Tara Spuhler McCabe, tspuhlermccabe@thepresbytery.org with your responses to the questions below. No more than 200 words per question. *Due by February 18, 2020*. Applicants will be reviewed and informed by CDC leadership if they have been selected by February 20, 2020.

1. Why do you want to be an Interpreter in NCP?
2. What excites you about congregations and ministry these days?
3. What do you notice about yourself in facilitating group conversations?



SAVE THE DATE: Noon Friday, March 27 – Sunday, March 29, 2020
IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF HARRIET TUBMAN: A LENTEN PILGRIMAGE



Purpose: To Understand History and To Build Empathy

Bus leaves from National Presbyterian Church at Noon, Friday, March 27, 2020

Bus to leave for return to National Presbyterian Church at Noon Sunday, March 29, 2020

Lodging at Holiday Inn Express in Cambridge, Maryland \$119 per night—call with code “Harriet Tubman Pilgrimage” by **March 1, 2020**. (You can choose to share a room.)

Free Breakfast with lodging

Two Group Dinners pay on your own.

Your lodging and dinners are your only expense! Lunch on Saturday included with tour.

Full Itinerary with registration.

Capacity: 30 pilgrims

Sunday worship at historic New Revived United Methodist Church (a church on the Underground Railroad)

Arrival back at National Presbyterian Church by 3:00PM, Sunday, March 29, 2020.

BE PREPARED TO CONTRIBUTE TOWARD A TIP FOR THE DRIVER!

Please complete and return the following to **Therese Taylor-Stinson, MCC Race and Reconciliation Team**, via email at taylorstinson2@earthlink.net

or mail to her at: 9409 Crosby Road, Silver Spring MD 20910

Registration for Lenten Pilgrimage “In the Footsteps of Harriet Tubman

Full Name: _____

Address: _____

Mobile Phone Number: _____

Emergency Contact and Best Phone Number: _____

List names of any others traveling in your group: _____

_____ Sharing a room? ☐ Yes ☐ No

*Each member of your party should complete a separate registration form.



THROUGH the Fire

*The 39th
Anniversary of
the Sargent
Gospel-Aires*

*Saturday,
April 4, 2020
4:00 pm*

Sargent Memorial Presbyterian Church
5109 Nannie Helen Burroughs Ave. NE
Washington, DC 20019
(202) 396-1710
Rev. Juan P. Guthrie, Pastor

*"If our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the furnace of
blazing fire and out of your hand, O king, let him deliver us." Daniel 3:17 NRSV*



Join us for Compassion, Peace & Justice Training Day

Stay for Ecumenical Advocacy Days

April 24-27 | Washington, D.C.

We believe that God created this world, called it good, and told humans to care for it. We are blessed to have this sacred task.

On April 24, 2020, join with Presbyterians from across the nation in Washington, D.C. to

learn how Presbyterians and partners are answering this call and working for the restoration of God's creation and people. Through plenaries, workshops, and networking opportunities, this CPJ Training Day offers the chance to explore the various ways we are addressing climate change, ecological destruction and environmental racism. Advancing climate justice and just transition to value and protect people who have historically been made vulnerable by economic and environmental injustice will be a special focus.

Many will continue the learning by attending the Ecumenical Advocacy Days: Imagine! God's Earth and People Restored from Friday evening on April 24 through Lobby Day on Monday the 27th. Almost 1,000 Christian advocates join us every year for a weekend of workshops, lectures and concrete actions addressing movements for social change.

Use this link for more information and registration:

<https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/compassion-peace-justice/washington/advocacy-training-weekend/>

Keynote Speaker:
John Roberto

John Roberto is a member of the Vibrant Faith Executive Team, and Project Coordinator for the Vibrant Faith Institute. He is the Founder and President of Lifelong Faith Associates, editor of the *Lifelong Faith Journal*, and coordinator for the Faith Formation 2020 Initiative. For over four decades John has provided consultation to churches, and authored books and manuals in youth ministry, family ministry, and intergenerational faith formation.



Through four plenary sessions, we will explore several timely questions for congregations.

1. What does research on congregations teach us about creating a culture of life-long faith formation?
2. Which practices create and sustain a culture of lifelong faith formation?
3. What are the process and tools for building such a culture?
4. How can church leaders apply the practices, process, and tools in their congregations?

Whether you are a volunteer in your congregation, a full or part-time educator, or a pastor, the importance of creating a culture of lifelong faith formation affects the church of today and tomorrow.

Worship: Rev. Dr. Anna Pinckney Straight

Anna is pastor of the Old Stone Presbyterian Church in Lewisburg, West Virginia, a congregation founded in 1783 worshipping in a sanctuary built in 1796. A child of Second Presbyterian Church in Charleston, SC, she's a graduate of Agnes Scott College, Union Theological Seminary in New York City and Wesley Theological Seminary. The last 22 years of ministry have (joyfully) taken her full circle – from WV to PA to NC, and now back to WV.



Music: Anne Marie Juliano
Anne Marie was born to Christian Cuban missionaries in Tangier, Morocco, and grew up in Spain before her family moved to NJ where her father pastored a Hispanic Baptist church. From age 14, Anne Marie was the church pianist and director of music and choirs! Now retired after 35 years teaching music in public schools, she currently is the Director of Music at The Presbyterian Church of Upper Montclair.



Morning Workshops:
10:30 AM - 12:00 Noon

#1. Life-long Faith Formation: When Does it Begin?

Led by Lynne Pabst, CCE
This workshop explores the Biblical and Developmental beginnings of faith formation and the faith community's response to this understanding. Participants leave with a new way of thinking about how early life experiences lay the foundation for life-long faith and how in acting as a community of faith the church nurtures relationships in response to Baptismal vows.



#2. I Don't Care How Old You Are, We Need to Finish the Roof Before It Rains

Led by Rev. Derek Wadlington
Evangelism through service: how a motley group of college students and retirees learn from each other and form a community while performing disaster relief work. A collaboration between students from Wilson College and volunteers from Lend A Hand. Find inspiration for your own mission context from intergenerational mission.



#3. Connecting Bible Stories with Discipleship

Led by Carol Wehrheim, CCE
Using stories from *Growing in God's Love: A Story Bible*, we will read them with discipleship and how to live faithfully with differences (race, culture, abilities, etc.) in mind. This is the child's version of reading the Bible with the newspaper alongside it. Bring contemporary picture books you like to use with children.



Afternoon Workshops: 1:00-2:30 PM

#4. Lifelong Learning Toward Justice

Led by Rev. Jimmie Hawkins
Justice is integral to a life of faith. As Christians we embrace the Biblical command to "do justice, love kindness and walk humbly with our God." Our Lord and Savior Christ Jesus criticized the Pharisees for neglecting the "weightier matters of the law: justice, mercy and faithfulness." We teach children stories of Jesus' love for children as he blessed them. Teens learn that the church is called to engage in mission. As adults, we challenge systemic evils which prevent others from realizing their full humanity as self-sustaining children of God. We will engage in conversations about utilizing the gifts and resources God has placed before us to transform this world into the Beloved Community.



#5. Baptismal Water is Thicker Than Blood: Becoming a Church That Embraces Single People

Led by Stephanie Borger
Nearly half of American adults are unmarried, increasing numbers are remaining single their entire lives. Yet so much of congregational life centers around the nuclear family, often leaving adults without spouses and/or children feeling profoundly alienated by the church. Perhaps nowhere is this more evident than in our faith formation and educational ministries. We will reclaim a robust theology of singleness, consider practical ways to fully welcome unpartnered and/or childless adults into the household of faith, and discover how the singles in our congregations can help remind us all that our primary site of belonging is not to our biological family, but to the Body of Christ.



#6. When They Stop Coming to Sunday School – Creating Teaching Moments

Led by Rev. Katy Yates Brungraber, CCE
These days, many sessions have decided to let go of Sunday School because "nobody comes." We will explore ways for grandparents (and any adult who cares about lifelong learning and discipleship) to create and make the most of teaching moments. Nurturing spiritual growth can be as simple as anticipating and making theologically meaningful what already goes on around the church building – from unlocking doors, to collecting Communion cups, to setting up for a church supper. Let's connect life-in-the-church activities to scripture and discipleship.



Afternoon Workshop: 2:30-4:00 PM

#7. Art for Everyone

Led by Barbara Chalfant
How do you make traditional art forms accessible to everyone, even those who "don't do crafts?" Come join us, try out "Suminagashi" an early form of paper marbling, and other crafts. We will discuss how they are made fail proof so that people of all skill sets and ages can enjoy working together. Busy hands help open hearts in conversation and allow deep fellowship to form.



Spirituality Center

The 2020 EAPCE Event Spirituality Center will be constructed as an example where children and youth can learn, appreciate, and enjoy some of the Spiritual Disciplines of the church.

Stations and activities will be created highlighting a specific Bible story, each one concerning a child or youth. Instructions and handouts will be available to enable each participant to create as they need.
Created by Carolyn Leah, CCE, EAPCE's 2020 Educator of the Year



EAPCE SPRING EVENT 2020
REGISTRATION FORM

Name (as desired on your nametag) _____

Address/City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____

Cell _____

Email _____

Church/Position _____

APCE Member? Yes _____ No _____

First time attendee? Yes _____

Are there any dietary or special needs? _____

WORKSHOP CHOICES: (circle one for each time slot)

10:30 AM #1 / #2 / #3 1:00 PM #4 / #5 / #6

2:30 PM #7 (optional)

Conference Fees:

(Includes Conference, Keynotes, Workshops,
2 nights lodging and 5 meals and snacks):

Double Room(\$380) _____

Single Room(\$430) _____

Commuter.....\$150 3 day (meals included) _____

.....\$115 1 day (meals included) _____

Add \$40 for non-APCE members _____

Conference Fee Total _____

Roommate Preference _____

Scholarships Available for Spring 2020 Event

For first-time conference attendees, EAPCE will provide partial scholarships on a first-come first-served basis, as funds allow. Share the good news with your church friends! Email Cheryl Betts EAPCE Treasurer/Registrar, cheryl.betts52@gmail.com to receive a Scholarship Application Form.

Cancellation Policy: Cancellations can be honored only if made ten days or more before the event.

Please complete and mail registration with check payable to APCE Eastern Region to:

Cheryl Betts EAPCE Treasurer/Registrar,
Gettysburg Presbyterian Church,
208 Baltimore Street,
Gettysburg, PA 17325

Deadline to Register: Wed, April 1, 2020

Questions: Treasurer/Registrar Cheryl Betts (717.334.1235/church)

Hearts and Minds Bookstore

Byron Borger will be back with the newest resources edited with his experienced and trustworthy eye. Remember to save luggage space for your purchases.

Book Exchange

If you need to make space for new books and want to share your resources, there will be a book exchange. Bring some, take some, and make sure you take back what is not snapped up by other conference goers.



Keynote: John Roberto

Monday April 27

- 1:00 Registration and Check-In
- 3:00 Welcome and Community Building
- 4:00 Opening Worship with Rev. Dr. Anna Pinckney Straight and Anne Marie Juliano
- 5:00 Dinner
- 6:30 Plenary #1
- 8:00 Vespers
- 8:30 Hospitality Hymn Sing

Tuesday April 28

- 7:30 Morning Prayer
- 8:00 Breakfast
- 9:00 Plenary #2
- 10:30 Morning Workshops
 - #1 Lifelong Faith Formation
 - #2 Finish the Roof
 - #3 Connecting Bible Stories
- 12:00 Lunch
- 1:00 Afternoon Workshops
 - #4 Lifelong Learning Toward Justice
 - #5 Baptismal Water is Thicker Than Blood
 - #6 When They Stop Coming to Sunday School
- 2:30 Free Time – Spirituality Center, Movie, or joining Workshop #7 Art for Everyone
- 4:00 The Best from Hearts and Minds Bookstore
- 5:00 Dinner
- 6:30 Plenary #3
- 8:00 Evening Worship
- 8:45 Educator of the Year Celebration

Wednesday April 29

- 7:30 Morning Prayer
- 8:00 Breakfast (reminder: check out is at 11 AM)
- 8:45 EAPCE meeting
- 9:30 Plenary #4
- 11:15 Closing Worship with Communion

EAPCE EVENT
Eastern Association of Presbyterian Church Educators



April 27-29, 2020
Rhodes Grove Conference Center
7693 Browns Mill Road
Chambersburg, PA

Keynote:

John Roberto

Creating a Culture
of Lifelong Faith Formation

Worship Leader:
Rev. Dr. Anna Pinckney Straight
Music:
Anne Marie Juliano

