

# THURSDAY MAILING



National Capital  
PRESBYTERY  
MISSIONAL · PASTORAL · PROPHETIC

*May 13, 2021*



**In this edition . . . .**

**May Birthday Greetings**

**Pastoral Concerns/Joys/Announcements**

**From the Desk of**

*John Molina-Moore, General Presbyter*

**From the Desk of**

*Tara Spuhler McCabe, TDir. Congregational Development & Mission*

**Learning Labs**

*Sponsored by NCP led by Convergence*

*May 27 – October 28*

**Calling All NCP Youth/Young Adults**

*Sponsored by NCP Peace & Justice Team*

*Respond by May 21<sup>st</sup> (deadline extended)*

**Support YAV This Pentecost**

**NCP Presbyterian Women**

*Virtual Spring Gathering*

*May 15*

**“Sexism and Sin – Talk”**

**with Dr. Rachel Sophia Baard**

*Bethesda Presbyterian Church - Zoom*

*May 19*

**Escape of the Pearl**

*Presented by David Smith*

*Black Presbyterians United (BPU)*

*May 26*

**A Conversation with Lovett Weems & Ann Michel**

*Sponsored by NCP Stewardship Committee*

*June 2 – webinar format (registration required)*

**Graduation Celebration**

*Honoring our 2021 Graduates*

*Sponsored by Black Presbyterians United (BPU)*

*June 6*

### **Scholarships Available**

*Planned Giving Days (June) & Stewardship Kaleidoscope (September)  
offered through NCP Stewardship Committee*

### **ALLY TRAINING**

*led by Service Never Sleeps with  
the Dismantling Racism Team of NCP  
(this training is NOT for Clergy)  
September 15-16 (registration required)*

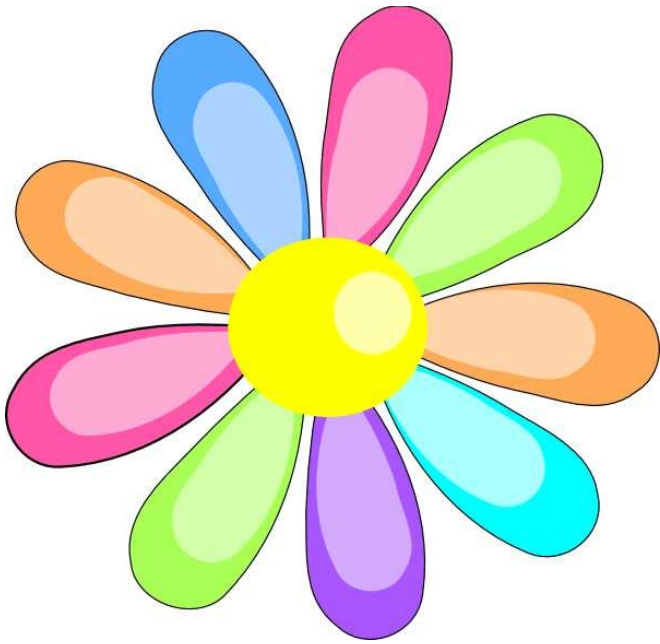
### **Dismantling Racism Training – Fall Cohort**

*led by Service Never Sleeps (mandatory training for all clergy)  
first session begins September 21-22 (registration required)*

### **Exploring the Bible through “City of Peace”**

*A Bible study based on Henry Brinton’s mystery novel  
City of Peace*

***Together We Can Make A Difference!***  
**ON-LINE GIVING**



# Birthday Greetings for the month of **May**

Alice Anderson

Edwin Andrade

Bob Angus, HR

Stan Bliss, HR

Leslianne Braunstein, HR

Gay Byron

Joseph Chen

Jay Click, HR

Camille Cook

Gary Cook, HR

Whitney Fauntleroy

Quinn Fox

Victor Hamel

Fuad Khouri

Larry Lees, HR

Aaron Nagel

Carl Rush

Matthew Schlageter

Lynn Stanton Hoyle

Kerry Stoltzfus, HR

Teresa Suder, HR

Jessica Tate

Dan Thomas, HR

Mark Tidd

Sara Varnado

John Wagner

Gloria Yi

*From  
the staff of  
National Capital Presbytery  
dina, edith, heather, jan, john,  
lajuan, tara*





## ***Pastoral Concerns:***

Please hold in prayer the **Rev. Jeanne MacKenzie, HR**. Her husband, Col. Robert Listou, USAF, Ret., died on April 30th at the George Washington Hospital in D.C. Services will be shared later.

**The Rev. Susan Wilder** (member-at large) had a small stroke on April 22. She is recovering well with physical therapy. Prayers are much appreciated for the healing process.

## ***Joys:***

**Congratulations to Elder Mark Eakin (Warner Memorial)**, former chairperson of NCP's Mission Coordination Committee. Selected as a finalist for the #Sammies2021, the "Oscars" of government service for his work at "Coral Reef Watch." Read more here: [C. Mark Eakin, Ph.D. • Samuel J. Heyman Service to America Medals](#)

**Vienna Presbyterian Church** is pleased to announce and welcome the **Rev. Dr. Hope Italiano Lee** as the church's new Senior Pastor. Hope is a seasoned leader who has served congregations in Georgia, Pennsylvania, and Florida. Read more here: <https://www.viennapres.org/rev-dr-hope-lee/>

## ***Announcements:***

We know congregations are looking for helpful tools, resources, and connections to navigate the virtual ministry world. Upcoming opportunities are listed below. We will continue to cultivate other opportunities and please feel free to share what resources are helpful for you. Scholarships are available, [tspuhlermccabe@thepresbytery.org](mailto:tspuhlermccabe@thepresbytery.org)

### **Upcoming events at Convergence:**

Next online [1.5-day Conflict Transformation training](#) coming up on **May 21-22**. This course is designed for congregational leaders focusing on the most practical approaches to managing conflict within a faith community. You can read more here: <https://faithlead.org/p/transformingchurchconflict-may2021>

**June 9-10**, Rev. Jim Keat will be hosting the "[Online Church Conference](#)" with experts from many denominations who walk participants through the practical work of thriving in a hybrid church world. You can learn more here: <https://faithlead.org/p/tocc>

**Minister Information Form – ALL NCP CLERGY**, especially if you are new to NCP. We have updated the method for submitting your personal information. Please visit [Minister Information Form](#) and submit this document at your earliest convenience. If you are not sure we have your current information, now is the time to update! For more information contact Dina Bickel, [dbickel@thepresbytery.org](mailto:dbickel@thepresbytery.org). Form can also be accessed from NCP website, documents-committee on ministry.



## *“...so that our churches can grow”*

Over the next few months, you’re going to be hearing this phrase a lot around our presbytery. As we prepare our budget and set our priorities for the upcoming year, we will be asking ourselves, “will this help our church to grow?”

You might be already asking yourself, “well, what do you mean by “grow”? Good question. I can tell you that the answer is not how we often measure growth in the church. Growth doesn’t just mean numbers. It’s easy to use numbers as markers of success. How many pews were filled and how many budget lines were fulfilled? Those are important factors to pay attention to in the life of the church, but they do not paint the full picture of what it means to *grow the church*.

Take the tree that’s in front of my house for example. It grows taller every year and produces more leaves than it did the year before (it at least feels that way when I’m racking them in the Fall). At surface level, it would appear the tree is growing. Next week, a crew with cranes and permits to block off the street is coming to take down a tree that appears to be growing if you only measured those 2 factors. Turns out, the base is unhealthy. There is severe damage to the tree, it is unable to repair itself. Its roots were stunted in how far they could *reach* which has a direct *impact* on the overall strength of its foundation. At some point the tree would have fallen over in full bloom with more leaves than it ever had, and we would have been looking at it from our smashed in roof, scratching our heads saying, “but it was still growing”.

When we talk about growth in our churches, I want us to not just focus on the factors that we can easily measure, but to also look at our *reach and impact*.

How far is the *reach* of our ministry? Is it extending into our community? Is it constantly pushing us to share The Gospel further than we did the year before?

What *impact* is that reach having on those not part of the life of our church and those who are? Are they now excited about the work Jesus is doing in their lives?

These are hard things to measure but they are at the base of what it means to be The Church. In the book of Acts, as Paul is reaching new communities and spreading the impact the risen Lord has on human existence, we find the church doing what... *growing*. “So, the churches were strengthened in the faith and increased in numbers daily” Acts 16:5.

Let us continue that 2000-year-old journey. Sharing The Gospel as we *grow the impact and reach* of our churches.

*John*



# Get outside the box: Becoming a welcoming church during this time of reentry

May 7, 2021 by *The Presbyterian Outlook*

Guest commentary by *Tara Spuhler McCabe*

Thanks to COVID-19 (scratch that) ... thanks to the CDC guidelines, churches get a RESET button for being a welcoming church!

Right now, many congregations are navigating their reentry procedures and practices. Some churches are offering a limited number of sanctuary seats to attend worship in person. Some congregations have someone standing outside and checking temperatures of folks before they enter the worship space. I've heard a concern about the possibility of a "waitlist" to attend in-person worship. The motivation in all of this is so that congregations can get back together.

But there are questions of welcome to consider now, too. What about the people who have been joining you online and will not be attending in person — how do we welcome them? And how do we navigate the nuances involved with worshipping in person when all are not vaccinated? What if someone comes and does not follow the guidelines of wearing a mask while inside? And, what about music? Luckily, sitting 3 feet, 6 feet or even 10 feet apart will not be hard to do in many of our sanctuaries, but singing hymns together will surely not be the way it was before.

These questions are real and important — but they are not going to help us become welcoming churches. I want us to flip this question of welcome and ask new questions that can motivate and affirm who we are as members in the Body of Christ. We need to be where the people are. We need to see, need to see them dancing... oops, that is a song from "The Little Mermaid"! But it is the right idea. Here's the right question: How can we get to where the people are and make sure they know that they are welcomed into the life and love of Jesus Christ?

We can acknowledge that in-person worship will not be accessible for all people. And we can accept that we will need to provide several stages and phases of reentry in the coming months. A welcoming church will offer multiple entry points to rituals, Bible studies, Christian education, mission engagement and other ministries of the church. We need to be present wherever the people are and accepting of where they are coming from. With this in mind, we can develop and provide welcoming options.

Some welcome points can be online only. Some can be in person only. Some welcome points may start in person and then move online (or vice versa). What is not welcoming is if a visitor walks up to the doors of the church and must prove that they have been vaccinated in order to attend. Or if this is their first time to church and they can only meet new people from a distance (oh, that is another song!).

Give yourself credit that you have navigated a way to provide worship and congregational care during this pandemic. And now, we can meet people right where they are and in doing so, meet new people who are glad we welcomed them to this sacred entity known as church: people seeking to glorify God and fully to enjoy God forever.

That is correct, that is our goal! The first question of the Larger and Shorter Catechisms is our theological guide for these discerning times. How will we make sure people are able to glorify God and fully enjoy God forever? What can we provide for people to be welcomed into this life of enjoyment? Where do we need to be so that people know they are welcomed to glorify God and that we will enjoy God with them?

These are questions that we can use to begin our discernment. We can't assume that we are to only be fixated on the building doors and entryways. Thanks to the CDC guidelines, we can now work on other personal and practical ways to be about welcoming people into the Body of Christ. For the time being, we can consider providing multiple venues and encounters of welcome. And, we must accept that anything we "set up" will need to be adjusted. How can the community around the church building learn about you if they will not be coming into the building? What can you provide and what do you need to do so that you are where the people are?

Basic practices in organizing are helpful here. Host one-on-one conversations with people who are seeking to belong. Listen to where they are now in their spiritual journey. Recognize the sparks and connections that arise during the conversation.

Let me share a story. For a second year in a row, I was invited to hold an outdoor Easter service right on the street in our neighborhood. The relationships are deep after 17 years. We share a lot with one another. Therefore, when asked I said yes. I was still nervous. It is vulnerable to be sharing and leading outside of my "box." The invitation went out via texts and was posted on the neighborhood Facebook page. A neighbor rolled out their mic and speaker into their driveway. I walked up and welcomed us all to a sacred time that we have set apart in an ordinary day with ordinary neighbors. Close to 60 of us shared in a service with prayer, Scripture, sermon, and a pop-up minute for mission from a child in the neighborhood. It was amazing.

As holy as that service was, we are not going to start our own church —many of us happily belong to other churches. But we know that along with our respective houses of worship we also want to have a street Easter service next year. There can be multiple welcoming points into the relationship with God. We need to be where the people are and welcome the invitations that come our way.

Here's another story about some leaders in a church who want to re-welcome themselves back to the community where their church building is. Even though the doors are not yet open, they want the community to know that the church people are still here! I love this idea. They are organizing to regularly host a time of blessing and welcome outside on the front steps of the building. They are blessed to be on the corner of a busy intersection with runners, young people, scooter riders, bicyclist, and dog walkers! The church wants to be welcomed back and welcome others back to them.

The trick is that moment in the organizing conversation with us church folk. The moment that we get nervous of being out of the box. Some started raising box-like questions: What about when the dog walker won't pick up after their dog? What if someone needs to use the bathroom? What if they can't find parking? Do we need better equipment to be outside? Who is going to set up chairs? Don't use the nicer chairs... do we need chairs? To which I want to cry, "STOP!"

Just hang out and meet the people where they are. On Easter, I just walked up to the driveway wearing my collar and carrying a notebook. (I don't even think I even opened the notebook.) Just gather on the steps and sing a favorite prayer song. Say hello and just ask how they are doing. Offer to pray with them.

People are out on the streets crying out to be heard. We are called by Christ to go to them. People are seeking belonging, acceptance and welcome. Jesus tells us, "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me" (Matthew 25:40). This pandemic has given us the opportunity to become congregations of welcome by meeting people where they are. We are called go to people and welcome them to glorify God and fully enjoy God forever.

We are still going to have to figure out how we will start gathering. We will need to model safe practices of welcome and care. But they do not need to all fit back into one box. In fact, by offering and organizing a few different ways to meet one another, we can meet people where they are and stay safe. In all the work and in all the rest, I believe God is doing a new thing, now it springs forth. Our opportunity is not only to perceive it but to welcome others to participate in enjoying God forever.

*I want to thank the congregations and leaders within National Capital Presbytery for asking their presbytery staff to be a resource of possibilities throughout this pandemic. From their requests we have been working with consultants from NEXTChurch, Service Never Sleeps, Convergence, Holy Cow and IAF organizers so that together we can navigate these days.*



**TARA SPUHLER McCABE** is the transitional director of congregational development and mission in National Capital Presbytery. She serves with a background in congregational growth, church assessment training, community building through outreach services, certified coaching, site coordinator for the Young Adult Volunteer Program in Washington, D.C., and as associate pastor at New York Avenue Presbyterian Church. She resides with her family in Arlington, Virginia.



## Learning Labs:

Once a month Learning Labs are an opportunity for anyone in the Presbytery - clergy or laypeople - to engage with an online Learning Lab led by members of the [Convergence](#) Team and invited guests to explore critical topics in ministry today. **These will be held at 12:30 p.m. the fourth Thursday of each month.**

The current curriculum for these Labs as follows:

- Learning Lab 1: Best Practices in Online Church – [Jim Keet](#) – April 22
- Learning Lab 2: Post-COVID Trends Shaping the Church – [Cameron Trimble](#) – May 27
- Learning Lab 3: The Balanced Leader: Leading from Within Without Burning Out -[Cameron Trimble](#) – June 24
- Learning Lab 4: How to Build Community and Belonging Online – [Jim Keet](#) – July 22
- Learning Lab 5: Marketing for Ministry: What you need to know as a Local Church Leader - [Anna Golladay](#) – August 26
- Learning Lab 6: Family Systems and Conflict Transformation -[Cameron Trimble](#) – September 23
- Learning Lab 7: How to Turn Your Church into a Community Hub for Social Innovation & Neighborhood Economic Revitalization – [Anna Golladay](#) – October 28
- Learning Lab 8: Leading From the Future: Emergence Leadership For The Sake of the Church – [Cameron Trimble](#) – November (TBD)
- Learning Lab 9: Coaching Skills for Church Leaders or TBD

Our expectation is that these will be offered at 12:30 ET on the fourth Thursdays for 1.5 hours. There will be presentations, breakout groups, exercises, and opportunities for Q & A. These Labs will be recorded and edited and placed on our FaithLead.org Learning Platform so that anyone not able to access them live or who would like to go back and review them can do so on-demand and without cost.

<https://faithlead.org/p/learninglabs-ncp> The registration site will also contain recordings of each Lab for access after the live event.

***Learning Labs are sponsored by to Spiritual Formation Team, Congregational Development Committee, and Committee on Ministry in partnership with Convergence***



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## CALLING ALL NCP YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS

Peace and Justice Team of, the Mission Coordinating Committee (MCC) NCP, led by Trey Davis and Pat Petty Morse is looking to organize a core focus group of youth/young adults, that will identify or create peace and justice initiatives in the presbytery.

The year 2020 has been a pivotal moment in the Presbytery, in our communities, and in our country. During an ongoing pandemic and a tumultuous presidential election, there were demonstrations and protests nationwide in response to many issues including police brutality, institutional racism, and white supremacy. We saw many young people of all races take to the streets to make their voices heard. And we heard them! In the years leading up to 2020, the youth, along with others, were demonstrating and protesting mass shootings and gun violence, mass incarceration, violence against women and members of the LGBTQ community, abuses against immigrant communities, climate change, and environmental justice including native reservations.

The questions: What is the church going to do about it? What stance is the church taking on these issues? What is NCP going to do to support our young people who have taken the lead in addressing many of these issues?

The Peace and Justice Team of NCP propose creating a core group of youth and young adults to lead us in an effort by way of a “Peace and Justice Youth/Young Adult Summit.” This one-day summit would provide a forum/panel discussion to shape how NCP will address these issues.

We are asking that each one of our congregations identify a youth/young adult with passion for justice and advocacy, who may be interested in helping to organize the summit and to develop a Presbytery wide ministry.



Please send your contact information to  
Trey Davis – [davis.trey@live.com](mailto:davis.trey@live.com) no later than Monday, May 21, 2021

# SUPPORT YAV THIS PENTECOST!

With your PC(USA) Pentecost Offering

**WHEN YOU COLLECT THE PENTECOST OFFERING, YOU SUPPORT THE PC(USA) YOUNG ADULT VOLUNTEER PROGRAM, ALONG WITH OTHER CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND YOUNG ADULT PROGRAMMING.**

**YOUR CONGREGATION ALSO DECIDES WHERE TO SEND 40% OF ITS OFFERING IN LOCAL PROGRAMMING.**

**YOU CAN SPECIFY THE DC YAV PROGRAM TO RECEIVE THIS LOCAL FUNDING, WHICH HELPS US SUSTAIN OUR PROGRAMMING IN THIS CHALLENGING TIME!**

**QUESTIONS?  
CONTACT DC SITE  
COORDINATOR  
REV. BLAIR MOORHEAD AT  
[DCYAVPROGRAM@GMAIL.COM](mailto:DCYAVPROGRAM@GMAIL.COM)**





# Virtual Spring Gathering and Annual Business Meeting

Saturday, May 15, 2021  
10:00am

Please join us on Zoom for  
friendship and fellowship  
starting at 9:30am



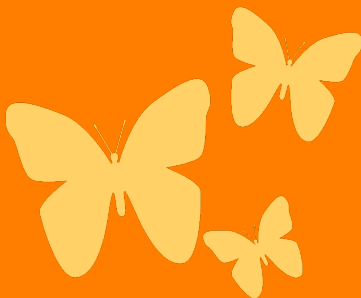
National Capital  
Presbytery

Presbyterian  
Women

For more information please check out the NCP PW website:

[Presbyterianwomenncp.org](http://Presbyterianwomenncp.org)

The Spring  
Gathering  
offering will  
benefit the  
Presbyterian  
Women Annual  
Fund (Mission  
Pledge).



## Renew, Refresh and Revitalize

With signs of spring everywhere  
and feelings of hope in the air, let  
us gather together and share  
ways we can *renew* our  
relationships, *refresh* our spaces  
and *revitalize* our communities.

Please register [here](#)  
by May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021

Bethesda Presbyterian Church  
presents  
"Sexism and Sin-Talk"  
with

Dr. Rachel Sophia Baard

Assistant Professor of Theology & Ethics, Union Presbyterian Seminary

Wednesday, May 19th 7:00-8:00 pm

Zoom link [here](#) - & at [www.bethesdapresbyterian.org](http://www.bethesdapresbyterian.org).



In this talk, Dr. Baard, author of *Sexism and Sin-Talk: Feminist Conversations on the Human Condition*, will discuss classical Christian perspectives on the human condition - in conversation with feminist theology in particular.

**Black Presbyterians United (BPU)**  
*presents*

# ESCAPE OF THE PEARL

*the long-ignored story of an important slave escape that greatly advanced the cause of Abolition*

Presented by

**David Smith**

Executive Director, The Pearl Coalition

On the Evening of April 15, 1848, seventy-seven slaves attempted one of our history's most audacious escapes-and put in motion a furiously fought battle over slavery in American that would consume Congress, the streets of the capital, and the White House itself. Setting sail from the 7th Street Landing at the Wharf and the Anacostia River in Washington, D.C. on a schooner named the Pearl, the fugitives set course for Philadelphia and freedom. After a calm night, the wind picked up at dawn and they sailed at a good pace down the Potomac. Early that Sunday morning, stunned owners sounded an alarm, commissioned a steamer and set after them, overtaking them at Point Lookout at the southern tip of St. Mary's County, MD.



On board the Pearl that night were Mary and Emily Edmonson, two children of a freedman, Paul Edmonson. They worked in prominent homes until they were "sold down the river" and sent to the deep South and more harsh conditions. Through the efforts of their father and abolitionist supporters, an outcry arose in the North calling for the two to be rescued. Eventually, they went on to stand beside abolitionist champions like Frederick Douglass and attended Oberlin College under the sponsorship of Harriet Beecher Stowe.

Equally important is how little interest has been taken in this incident as public and private interests in D.C. and at the Wharf have failed to support the important work of the Pearl Coalition, initiated by Lloyd Smith and continued to the present by his grandson, David Smith.

**MAY 26, 2021**  
**6PM**

*Sponsored by*  
**Black Presbyterians United**  
of the National Capital Presbytery



The Stewardship Committee of National Capital Presbytery host

# A Conversation with Lovett H. Weems & Ann A. Michel



National Capital  
PRESBYTERY  
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Wednesday, June 2, 2021  
11:30 AM to 1:00 PM  
via Webinar Platform

Our guest leaders will introduce us to their book,  
"Generosity, Stewardship, and Abundance:  
A Transformational Guide to Church Finance"

**Register [HERE](#)**

Address topics around:  
The Spirituality of Money  
Generosity  
Stewardship  
Abundance

Developing a Comprehensive, Year-round Stewardship Ministry  
Leadership for Stewardship

Webinar participants, after the webinar, will receive a copy of  
"Generosity, Stewardship, and Abundance: A Transformational Guide to Church Finance"



## Generosity, Stewardship, and Abundance

A TRANSFORMATIONAL  
GUIDE TO  
CHURCH FINANCE

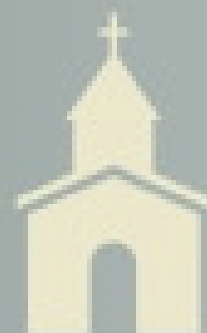
Lovett H. Weems Jr.  
and Ann A. Michel



Lovett H. Weems Jr. is Wesley Seminary distinguished professor of church leadership and founding director/senior consultant of Wesley's Lewis Center for Church Leadership. He has published over 15 books on church leadership and the challenges of the church today.



Ann A. Michel is associate director of the Lewis Center for Church Leadership of Wesley Theological Seminary and teaches in the areas of stewardship and leadership. She is the author of Synergy: A Leadership Guide for Church Staff and Volunteers.



*Black Presbyterian United*  
*presents*



# GRADUATION CELEBRATION

Join us as we honor celebrate our 2021 graduates and their accomplishments.

**SUNDAY, JUNE 6, 2021 AT 3 P.M. EST VIA ZOOM**

*"The Places We Can Go"*



Keynote Speaker:

**Elder Willie T. Montgomery, Jr**  
Fifteenth Street Presbyterian Church

If you are graduating, getting promoted, or completed a certificate program and want to be included in our celebration complete this form by May 20th >>> <https://bit.ly/graduationassets>



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The Stewardship committee of NCP supports and recommends to our stewardship minded folks the opportunity to participate in two offerings!

Through your Unified Giving



Scholarships Are Available!

Click to Apply



National Capital  
Gift Planning Council

### Planned Giving Days June 10-11, 2021

This is a unique opportunity to learn from leaders in the non-profit sector.

The Committee is offering full scholarships, on first come first serve basis for virtual attendance.

Throughout the two-day event, you'll have the opportunity to learn from experts in sessions like "A Legacy Plan in Your Hand," "Using Your Fundraising Campaign as a Catalyst for Legacy Giving," "How a Pandemic Magnified the 'Why' in Planned Giving," and more. For more info, click [HERE](#).



Stewardship  
Kaleidoscope  
*Real Tools for Real Ministry*

### Stewardship Kaleidoscope September 13-15, 2021

This annual conference offers education, worship, and amazing opportunities for growth in stewardship and generosity. Kaleidoscope is the Presbyterian Foundation-sponsored Annual National Stewardship Conference.

The Committee is offering scholarships for the "virtual experience". NCP is a "friends sponsor" of this conference and we encourage NCP member participation. For more info, click [HERE](#).

THE DISMANTLING RACISM TEAM  
OF NCP INVITE YOU TO

# ALLY TRAINING



FALL

led by Service Never Sleeps



UNITY · RECONCILIATION · JUSTICE

**Dismantling Racism**

When:

**Wednesday, September 15, from 6:00pm to 9:00pm**  
**AND**

**Thursday, September 16, from 6:00pm to 9:00pm**

(This is a TWO day training. Your registration confirms  
you will attend both sessions.)

Where: **Zoom**

Who: **ALL (Members of NCP congregations &  
communities & friends of our congregations)**

Led by Whitney Parnell, CEO and Founder of Service Never Sleeps, these sessions will provide helpful definitions, invitations to self-mirroring, and active ally education involving the CLAIM acronym: Care, Learn, Act, Influence, and Maintain. The workshops teach individuals about the causes of social injustice, how to be effective allies for marginalized communities, and how to actively influence and educate others. Our time together on Zoom will involve breakouts for practice together in pairs and small groups intermittently throughout our time of learning, so come ready to "try on" the Ally Training strategies of Service Never Sleeps.

**[Register HERE](#)**

# DISMANTLING RACISM -TRAINING- FALL COHORT

BROUGHT TO YOU THROUGH PARTNERSHIP WITH  
SERVICE NEVER SLEEPS



UNITY · RECONCILIATION · JUSTICE  
**Dismantling Racism**

*COHORT TWO begins September 21! Space is limited to 50 participants for cohort one! Sign up today to reserve your spot in this four-part series happening September through November.*

**WHO:** Minister members of NCP (**mandatory for all clergy every 3 years**) and ministry professionals of member congregations and specialized ministries ([Policy Statement on Dismantling Racism](#))

**WHAT & WHEN:** Four-part series on the following topics, (**all classes held from 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM**)

- Class One: Allyship (class one is TWO sessions), September 21 & 22
- Class Two: White Supremacy 101, October 12
- Class Three: Bias and Microaggressions, October 13
- Class Four: Building Equity (TWO sessions), November 9-10

**Register [HERE](#)**

*registration for this cohort closes 9/15*

**WHERE:** Wherever you are! Join us on Zoom.

**WHY:** Racism is more than individual acts of bigotry or prejudice. Racism is any system, institution, or cultural practice or tradition, which protects or prefers the lives, property, and status of White people--or any group which takes power over another, at the expense of our siblings of color or other marginalized persons or groups. Racism is contrary to the Gospel injunction to love God and our neighbor as ourselves.

**\*National Capital Presbytery is providing this series of trainings free of charge to participants. Those who wish to contribute continuing education funds toward this important educational series, to help make it available to the widest possible audience within our Presbytery, may [make contributions](#) to National Capital Presbytery, Memo: Race & Reconciliation Fund**





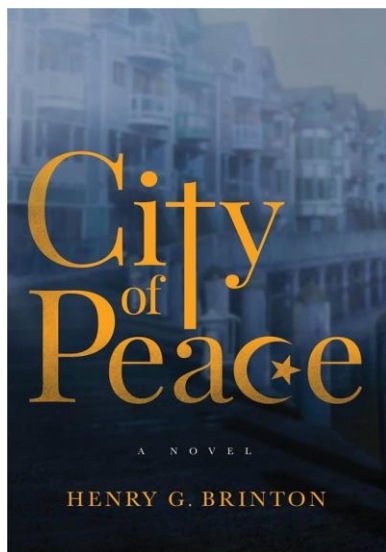
## *Exploring the Bible through “City of Peace”*

A Bible study based on Henry G. Brinton’s mystery novel *City of Peace* is now available as a FREE download.

Perfect for a 6 or 12-week summer study. Each lesson asks you to read chapters from the book, and then discuss the questions and issues raised by the story. As Jesus himself knew so well, there is nothing in the world more powerful than a good story.

Download here:

[www.henrygbrinton.com](http://www.henrygbrinton.com)



*City of Peace* is a mystery novel, but is full of biblical insights. The study includes lessons that address some of our most pressing religious and cultural issues:

- Week 1: Black Jesus
- Week 2: A Christian and a Fighter
- Week 3: A Mighty Wind
- Week 4: God is Love
- Week 5: Finding Calm in Creation
- Week 6: Justice and Love
- Week 7: Tradition and Jesus
- Week 8: Christian Hospitality
- Week 9: Encountering Jesus
- Week 10: Spirit in Community
- Week 11: One Spirit-filled Body
- Week 12: Be a Galilean

*City of Peace* is available from Amazon, Barnes & Noble, and independent bookstores through [indiebound.org](http://indiebound.org). Henry G. Brinton is pastor of Fairfax Presbyterian Church in Virginia.