

THURSDAY MAILING



National Capital
PRESBYTERY
MISSIONAL · PASTORAL · PROPHETIC

June 24, 2021



In this edition

June Birthday Greetings

Pastoral Concerns/Announcements

From the Desk of

John Molina-Moore, General Presbyter

From the Desk of

Jan Moody, Stated Clerk

From the Desk of

Tara Spuhler McCabe, TDir. Congregational Development & Mission

Meet our Moderators – 2021-2022

The Rev. Dr. Diane Walton Hendricks

Elder Shani Mcilwain (Faith)

Nomination of Commissioners to the 2022 General Assembly

Nominating Committee of NCP

Learning Labs

Sponsored by NCP led by Convergence

June 24 – October 28

The Annual Campaign: What Does it Look Like Now?

Sponsored by NCP Stewardship Committee

July 21 – Zoom (Save the Date)

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)

Together We Can Make A Difference!
ON-LINE GIVING



Birthday Greetings for the month of June

Graham Bardsley, HR

Wayne Blaser, HR

Mick Burns

Scott Carlson

Laura Cunningham

Molly Douthett

John Green

Bruce Hartwig, HR

LeAnn Hodges

Su Pong Hwang, HR

Jay Losher

Jim McDonald, HR

Don Meeks

Dwight Peace

LaJuan Quander

Scott Ramsey

Christine Reimers

James Sledge

Lyman Smith

Alice Tewell

Minh Towner

Scott Winnette

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



June 24, 2021



Dear Partners-in-Ministry,

About 25% of all the churches in our presbytery can only sustain halftime (or less) pastoral leadership. That number has only grown in recent years and will most likely continue to grow. The pool of potential leaders to take these positions is not growing at the same rate as the opportunities. In fact, it's shrinking. The overwhelming majority of these churches still have strong leadership amongst their members and still have the energy and passion for thriving congregational ministry but lack the bandwidth.

The shared hope of Committee on Ministry (COM) and Church Development Commission (CDC) over the next few years is to present, what we have already begun to explore with some of our churches is a **"Cooperative Parish" model**. We feel this model is an opportunity for many of these churches to increase their bandwidths. Here's what that might look like... Church A and Church B, who are within 10 miles of each other, that can each only afford a half time pastor, would come together as one search team to select one candidate. This pastor would have a full-time salary but serve 2 different churches. This isn't a new idea. Our own presbytery did this regularly for smaller congregations. Presbyteries and middle governing bodies from other denominations, mainly in rural areas, still use this model. Just to be clear, this isn't "yoking" 2 churches. They each would maintain their own autonomy and they each would have their own session. Ideally the relationship would grow between the churches so that they could share some of the same missions and ministries. Using the **"cooperative parish model"** would require some flexibility in scheduling, such as Church A might have to move the time of their service up and Church B would have to move their service back and not hold both session meetings on the same day of the month. These are relatively easy trade-offs for securing longer term leadership that is only focused on congregational ministry. Ideally the pastor would lead a worship service at Church A, shake some hands, drink a cup of coffee, and then hop on their horse/bike/car/bus to lead the same service (in the flavor and tradition) of Church B.

Our plan is to have 2 additional **"cooperative parish model"** opportunities beginning this Fall and 3 or 4 more throughout 2022. By sharing our resources more churches will benefit and the bandwidth for thriving ministries will increase. So, for those of you reading this who might be sitting on the session of a church without a pastor or a part time pastor who is (and might have been for a while) ready to move on to a new calling, consider this your invitation to partner with us in this dream. If it sounds too farfetched right now and you're not sure how it could possibly work in your context, please invite me to join you at a session meeting. I'd love to vision alongside you.

"So That Our Churches Can Grow"

John



A Note from the Stated Clerk

The COVID-19 pandemic has compelled presbytery leaders to discern new ways of connecting and engaging churches that will bring unity and focus to the work God calls us to do. I am thankful for the adaptive leadership of the many who have designed and led the virtual presbytery meetings this past year. The June 22, 2021 presbytery meeting was held via the Zoom meeting platform along with portions of the meeting being live streamed from Falls Church PC. Best practices and lessons learned from the past year will be incorporated into upcoming presbytery gatherings.

Here are some highlights from June 22, 2021 . . .

The Bills and Overtures Committee hosted at 4:00 PM an Open Space that provided updates on the 2022 General Assembly. Topics included: process for applying to serve as a GA commissioner; process for submitting an overture; and plans for a hybrid in person/virtual meeting. For more information, go to the 2022 GA page on the National Capital Presbytery website. <https://thepresbytery.org/presbytery-meeting/225th-general-assembly-2022/>

The Stated Meeting began at 5:00 PM with a call to order, prayer, and the approval of the omnibus motion. Worship followed the business part of the gathering. Moderator Elder Michael Rankin preached a sermon titled *"Something within-you must be born again"* and Rev. Sterling Morse led the Sacrament of Communion. The Church of the Redeemer Chancel Choir, directed by Sandi Lewanika, and solo singers provided music. The meeting concluded with the installation of The Reverend Diane Hendricks as Moderator and Elder Shani McIlwain (Faith) as Vice Moderator.

As we journey forward together, we will keep you posted on plans for presbytery meetings in the fall. May your summer be a time of re-creation, relaxation, and renewal.

Grace and Peace,

Jan



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Greetings People,

I am usually a freak fan of the Olympics. I relish in the international spirit of it all. The “amateur” talent and competition. And the supposed opportunity to learn of places around the world. I get giddy when I see the curated bits of athletes crossing borders and cheering one another on beyond their own country. There is a value of being with others who can ignite and inspire one another to our best faithfulness.

This is one of our intentions through the **Learning Labs with Convergenceus.org**. You are in the virtual “room” with others from our own presbytery learning and sharing best practices. We are being guided by some experts in the field who have a larger view and engagement from around our country. We intend for each of our congregations and communities to participate in “Olympics” of Learning Labs. And maybe by the end of the Fall, we can award the Gold, Silver, and Bronze to leaders from within our presbytery who have been ignited and inspired!

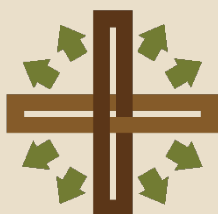
Already, a crew of worship tech disciples are putting together a collaborative package of more tech teaching opportunities as they were inspired by a Learning Lab. The Olympic game beauty for me was that without attending the NCP only Learning Lab, they would not have met one another! Look for more info coming soon through NCP social media outlets.

Remember, this Thursday is *Learning Lab 3: The Balanced Leader: Leading from Within Without Burning Out facilitated with Rev. Cameron Trimble, June 24th*. Remember, all you need to do is register through the exclusive NCP link in the flyer or [here](#) and you have access to each Learning Lab throughout the year. This is a great way to get others from within your congregations and communities to engage in the shared learning power. And to be inspired with others. We want congregational leaders to meet one another through these virtual transitions.

We look forward to learning with you.

Peace and Courage,

Rev. Tara Spuhler McCabe



Meet our Moderators
National Capital Presbytery
2021-2022



Diane Walton Hendricks, Moderator, is the pastor at Clifton PC. She previously served on staff at Falls Church Presbyterian, where she served as Pastor for Spiritual Growth. She received her Doctor of Ministry from Virginia Theological Seminary and her Master of Divinity from Princeton Theological Seminary. Diane is a practicing spiritual director. In her time at NCP, she has served actively on the Church Development Committee and its working groups. *Reach Diane* - dianewaltonhendricks@gmail.com

Shani McIlwain, Vice-Moderator, is a Ruling Elder at Faith Presbyterian Church (Washington, DC), serving on CPM, Spiritual Formation, Co-Chair for the Young Adult Volunteer Board, Co-Moderator of Black Presbyterians United, and a NEXT Church strategy team member. You can also find her serving as a pulpit supply preacher, retreat leader, and sought-after conference speaker. *Reach Shani* – info@shanimcilwain.com



Nomination of Commissioners to the 2022 General Assembly

Grace and Peace, brothers, and sisters of the National Capital Presbytery.

Nomination forms for Teaching Elder, Ruling Elder Commissioners to the 225th General Assembly to be held virtually and in Louisville, KY, from June 18-July 9 are now available on the [NCP website](#). There you can also find nomination forms for the Young Adult Advisory Delegates (YAADs). These forms can ONLY be submitted electronically. No paper copies will be accepted. Criteria for nominations from NCP to the General Assembly can be found [here](#).

It is the mandate of the Presbytery to nominate commissioners who reflect the theological diversity as well as the social diversity that exists in our presbytery. The information provided on these forms helps the Nominating committee assure an appropriate balance of theological diversity; clergy and lay people; male and female; all ages; racial/ethnic groups; geographical area; and congregation sizes.

- All applications should be emailed to nominating@thepresbytery.org, attached as a word document or pdf. The file should be named [LAST NAME]GAapp
- All candidates must also attach a picture, named [LAST NAME]GApic
- Clergy may submit forms on their own. Letters of recommendation are not required but may be submitted if desired.
- Elders and those seeking to be YAADs will complete the form and send it electronically to their Clerk or Moderator of Session. The Clerk or Moderator shall complete and submit the form electronically after the Session has endorsed the nomination.
- At least one (and up to three) reference forms for Ruling Elders and YAADs are to be submitted electronically by the person writing the recommendation to nominating@thepresbytery.org.

Transportation to the General Assembly, and room and board are reimbursed for commissioners and YAADS in accordance with General Assembly policy. A Dependent Care Reimbursement Policy was developed for commissioners and advisory delegates to the General Assembly – beginning with the 222nd GA (2016). Follow this link for info: <https://www.pcusa.org/resource/dependent-care-reimbursement-policy-commissioners-/>

All forms are due by **Tuesday, September 28, 2021**. The Nominating Committee will post the slate of commissioners and delegates online by October 23, 2021. Anyone who



is not nominated at that point and wishes to be nominated from the floor must submit a completed form to the Presbytery office by November 2, two weeks before the November 16th presbytery meeting.

If you have questions about this process, please contact me at R.E.Landers@gmail.com or call the presbytery office. We anticipate a larger than usual number of applicants this year, so whether or not you are selected, we thank you for your willingness to serve the church in this special way.

God's Peace,

Rev. Rachel Landers Vaagenes,
NCP Nominating Committee Chair
202.644.3447 cell

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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Save
the
Date!



Olanda Carr

Senior Ministry Relations Officer
Presbyterian Foundation

will offer the basics of annual campaigns and recent online resources. We will hear from several NCP congregations on their recent experience with financial stewardship in the online age. You'll get some examples of creative ways NCP churches have adapted. This Zoom gathering will have time for sharing and questions.



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The Annual Campaign: What Does It Look Like Now?

Wednesday
July 21, 2021
@ 7:00 PM

Presented by the Stewardship Committee of NCP

THE DISMANTLING RACISM TEAM
OF NCP INVITE YOU TO

ALLY TRAINING



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**

