

Greetings People,

We are Into the New Year! I am stating the obvious. This is my authentic language for this time. It is not that I do not believe in Happy New Year. The assumptions I have with Happy are not qualifying what living into what this New Year means for me, my family, and many I am in relationship with. So, I am completely being authentic as I proclaim, we are into the New Year. I am not ignoring the New Year. I am not denying the New Year. I am also not going to judge the New Year. Maybe I am a little tired of the pivots and adaptations. I also know I get excited by some of the adaptations: new babies, new friendships, fresh snow. I accept that I am a part of the New Year and therefore, I am Into the New Year. How one wants to be “into it” well, that is my faith-based personal business and your personal faith-based business. What I do recognize is because of our faith and discipleship, we are called to be “into” all that is towards building up God’s sacred realm (all of it): Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven! God with us, Emmanuel.

So, into this New Year, I pray you and your leadership will engage into the New Year with the Mission Coordinating Committee and Church Development Committee through these creative ways:

- Take the time to note the update from the **Global Mission Network** that is within this Thursday Mail. You may be inspired to connect into a global partnership!
- Join Black Presbyterian United of NCP for “**A Kind of Black Theology’ Aborning**” this month for the virtual session honoring Rev. Dr. Gayraud Wilmore (flyer included in this TM)
- Engage by attending or reviewing previous webinars from our partnership with Convergence. The January session is, **Learning Lab 8: How to Turn Your Church into a Community Hub for Social Innovation & Neighborhood Economic Revitalization – Anna Golladay – January 27, 2022** (flyer included in this TM)
- Calling my desk or emailing about a congregational vitality check-up in participating in the Church Assessment Tool. There are seven congregations engaging in this right now and already over 70 congregations in our presbytery have taken the **Church Assessment Tool**. Find out why!
- Be sure to have leadership in your congregation mark the upcoming dates of **Dismantling Racism Cohort Training in 2022** (Flyer with registration link included in this TM) *dates Allyship Training for Elders and members coming soon...*
- Engage with Networks of the Presbytery around Refugee Ministries, Property Development opportunities, New Ministries and Worshipping Communities, and more.

We are into the New Year. Maybe a little bit happy, maybe a little bit glad, maybe a little tired, and maybe a little grateful. Along with the grief and hope, joy, peace, love we live into it all with Emmanuel, God with us! Joy to the World....and a little bit extra please!!!!

Peace and Courage,

Rev. Tara Spuhler McCabe

