

***THURSDAY
MAILING***



National Capital
P R E S B Y T E R Y
MISSIONAL · PASTORAL · PROPHETIC

July 13, 2023



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Ally Training (*online registration now open*)

with Service Never Sleeps

October 2-3, 5:30 – 9:00 p.m. - Zoom



July Birthday Greetings

Nat Amarquaye

Eric Beckman

John Boyles, HR

Nancy Clark, HR

Rob Erickson

Ben Garris

Mark Gaskill

Norm Gordon

Susan Graceson

Juan Guthrie

Garrett Hoffmann

Lynn Johnson, HR

Connie Jordon-Haas

Gene Kendall, HR

Gyeong Mok Kim

Derek Longbrake

Chris Looker

Tara Spuhler McCabe

Riley McDonald, HR

John Molina-Moore

Truman Nabors, HR

Walter Owensby, HR

John Peterson, HR

Bill Phillippe, HR

Suzanne Rudiselle, HR

Knox Swayze

Charles VanGorder

Robbie Wellington

Susan Wilder

***From the staff of
National Capital Presbytery
david, dina, heather, john,
lajuan, tempest, and tara***



Announcements:

The offices of National Capital Presbytery will be closed July 24-28.

We are always mindful of the effect operating budget spending has on per capita. Each year, we utilize the Office Fund to subsidize per capita. Many people think the office fund just covers rent for National Capital Presbytery offices. It is used to pay for a variety of expenses related to our operating expenses. Without that fund, per capita rates would significantly higher.

Last year, facing a large per capita increase for 2023, we elected to stretch the money in the Office Fund a bit further. When COM released their COLA recommendation of, we encouraged churches to be creative. For National Capital Presbytery, that creativity took the form of giving staff a 3% COLA (instead of the recommended 6%) and closing the NCP offices for 2 weeks during the year, allowing staff to have that time as paid leave. The first of those week's is July 24-28 and the second is December 25-29.

NEW Church Leadership Connection system - As you may or may not know, The Office of General Assembly launched the [NEW Church Leadership Connection system](#) on June 5, 2023. See the [press release](#) from April 2023. Per the CLC, *"On Monday, June 5th the new CLC system will occupy the clc.pcusa.org domain site. This means that all new users: call seekers and congregations, will create their new accounts only in the new system. Those with active PIFs and MIFs can still use the Opportunity Search and Matching Process in this [legacy/old] system. Presbyteries and congregations need to transition to the new system if their calling process will extend further than August 31st, 2023."* In other words, MIFs and PIFs created prior to June 5th, can be viewed/downloaded in the legacy/old system, <https://clc-legacy.pcusa.org/> but will eventually disappear. MIFs and PIFs will NOT be transferred to the new system.



For congregations (PNCs/APNCs) - If your congregation currently has an active MIF or will start a search, create a Ministry Discernment Profile (MDP) for the new system. Click the above link "NEW Church Leadership Connection system" and then the button "Calling Organizations/Churches" for resources. Connect with Dina Bickel (dbickel@thepresbytery.org) if your congregation needs a login.

For Call Seekers - If you are searching for a call (call seeker) or if you'd like to be included in the matching or self-referral system, create a Personal Discernment Profile (PDP) for the new system. Click the above link "NEW Church Leadership Connection system" and then the button "Call Seekers" for resources.

If you have any questions about the new system, contact the CLC staff directly at clcstaff@pcusa.org



MARK YOUR CALENDARS! FALL ALLYSHIP TRAINING – Monday, October 2 and Tuesday, October 3, 2023, 5:30 – 8:30 pm. Registration coming soon!



July 13, 2023

Dear Partners in Ministry,

While most of the church world slows down during the heart of summer, the Budget & Finance committee begins the important work of planning for the next year's budgets. It seems hard to begin planning for 2024 with so much of 2023 left on the calendar but look ahead, we must.

The Budget & Finance committee recently sent out guidance to each committee/commission for developing their 2024 budgets. And while numbers are important, we know that behind each number *is a story*. Our hope is that those stories are shared through the budgeting process. Over the summer, we will collect the stories and hopes and plans and weave them into our 2 budgets: Operating and Mission. Those budgets will tell the story of who and what is important to us and to our congregations.

As the summer rolls on, dedicated leaders from across the presbytery will be working to discern how the resources available to us can do the best for the Kingdom of God. It isn't easy work; it isn't flashy or exciting – but it is vital. The work culminates at the November Presbytery meeting where you, the body of National Capital Presbytery, will review and vote on those budgets.

As this work takes place, I would offer that there is something for everyone to do. I encourage you to pray for your colleagues and engage with them on what programs and opportunities are important to you and the congregations you serve. Consider if the Presbytery's priorities and budgets are aligned. Evaluate whose voices we hear and whose voices are missing. Dream about where we need to go next. Share your wonderings, questions, and conclusions.

I'm looking forward to the 2024 budget process and I hope you are too!

Please reach out with any questions you might have about our budgets or the budget development process.

Heather Deacon
Director of Business Affairs

A Chance for Connections

One of the words we love using around the PCUSA is "connectional." As much as we use it you won't find it in our polity. Much like you won't find the word "Trinity" anywhere in scripture. In both cases the absence of the word doesn't negate the absence of the spirit of what the words invite us to envision and live into. Here's one of the places where our polity lifts the hope for us to be "connectional."



The mutual ***interconnection*** of the church through its councils is a sign of the unity of the church. Congregations of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), while possessing all the gifts necessary to be the church, are nonetheless not sufficient in themselves to be the church. Rather, they are called to share with others both within and beyond the congregation - the task of bearing witness to the Lordship of Jesus Christ in the world. This call to bear witness is the work of all believers. The responsibility of the councils of the church is to nurture, guide, and govern those who witness as part of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), to the end that such witness strengthens the whole church and gives glory to God. - G-3.0101



The way in which we express our conventionalism as a presbytery will need to change, much like everything else we must navigate through in our ever-changing world and culture. Throughout the past two years we have been trying to create more touchpoints in the life of our presbytery for our congregations, leaders, pastors, church planters, specialized ministers, and youth. My hope is that the upcoming ***unified installation service*** is one of those opportunities to make connections across our body. On that afternoon we'll get the chance to worship with each other, share the Lord's table with each other, celebrate what Jesus is up to in the lives of our congregations and pastors, honor the full theological; cultural and racial diversity of our presbytery and fellowship with each other over semi-fancy finger foods.

The challenge of embracing new ways of doing things is not lost on me. We are hopeful that, in addition to this unified installation service, the churches and pastors who join in this celebration still honor this very special relationship through a "*welcoming service*" (or any wording that works for the life of your congregation) where the pastor and church are both charged, words of affirmation are lifted, questions are asked and responded to, and promises are made and prayed over. In the words of my father when I had the freedom to let my creativity fly; "go to town!"

I hope you will join us to make this day special for our churches and pastors. And, while you're there find new connections and strengthen old ones.

John



*For just as the body is one and has many members,
and all the members of the body, though many,
are one body, so it is with Christ. ...
Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.
– 1 Corinthians 12:12,27*

Dear Friends,

I am grateful to be a Presbyterian—even more so as I look back on my years in ministry and see how my colleagues and the wider church have undergirded my service. From my weekly small group in New Jersey that helped me face early challenges as a new pastor, to the friends that planned and offered officer training together, to the institutional support of Committees on Ministry and presbytery staff, I give thanks to God for that I have been connected in community with others, and for the ways my ministry has been richer and more joyful for that connection. I can see and feel us living out Paul's vision for the church as the body of Christ.



This year National Capital Presbytery is trying something new—a worship service conducted by the presbytery at Fairlington Presbyterian Church on October 28, to install several ministers to pastoral calls at our churches.

When a pastor or associate pastor is installed to serve a congregation of the PCUSA, the installation is an act of the presbytery (*Book of Order*, G-2.0805). The installation completes the call process and establishes the pastoral relationship, and it takes place in the context of a service of worship that focuses on Christ and the joy and responsibility of serving him through the mission and ministry of the church (W-4.0403).

By carrying out the installation of pastors and associate pastors in this way, we remember that we engage in ministry together. No one of us is isolated. No one part of the church stands on its own. And so, I look forward to this fall's joint installation service as an especially powerful reminder of our connectedness as Presbyterians. We will celebrate each individual call, while at the same time rejoicing at the strength and support, we draw from one another in our larger community.

So, mark your calendar, and plan on joining us for a Spirit-filled installation!

Grace and Peace,
Rev. David Baer, Stated Clerk

June 22, 2023

Greetings People,

Let's Get Together, *yeah yeah yeah!* (name the song, the movie, and the actress that sings this).



Church Development Committee (CDC) along with COM works with Sessions and PNCs to call their next pastor. The Congregational Assessment Tool (CAT) supports PNCs with focused discussions with their candidates and to explain who they are as a congregation. All this faithful discernment work deserves to be celebrated **TOGETHER!** There are pastors who are new to our Presbytery. There are congregations who want to meet other congregations and learn from your journeys. Especially when we share many of the same priorities.

You deserve to know that several of our congregations who have taken the CAT in the past 12-14 months overwhelmingly share the same priorities: attract families with children and youth; reach new people; make new friends. In fact, the direct quote is, **"Create more opportunities for people to form meaningful relationships."** This is a **growing PRIORITY** within our congregations. This specific priority, #51 in the CAT tool, has moved from being 8th or 10th in our congregations TO **3rd!**



One of the ways NCP can support YOU in **forming meaningful relationships** with one another is to attend a Presbytery wide celebration **Installation service, October 28th**. The shared Installation Service provides an opportunity for our congregational members and several of our newly Designated and Called pastors to be **together** and **form relationships!** Please be sure to read John's and David's TM as they share details of this celebration Installation Service for our Presbytery.

We get to see one another, worship together, eat together AND form **meaningful relationships with one another** as the Body of Christ! Even if you have already had an installation service of your own, Let's still Get Together, we can have a great time.

We look forward to celebrating together, *yeah yeah yeah!*

Peace and Courage,

Rev. Tara Spuhler McCabe



Sixth Presbyterian Church

Reverend Rose Wayland, Interim Pastor

The Artist Group of Washington

Ben Holt Memorial Branch of NANM, Inc.

In celebration of the 170th Anniversary Celebration

will present

The Boy's Choir of Hampton Roads

Julius McCullough, Director of Music

in

A SUMMER CONCERT CELEBRATING "YOUNG PEOPLE"

Sunday, July 23, 2023, 3 pm.

Free and open to all!

Donations \$20 - \$50

**Donor Level \$50 - \$100 & Sponsor Level \$125 - \$500
will be accepted and your name will appear in the program**

Reception following the concert in Fowler Hall

SIXTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



170

YEARS OF
**GOOD
TROUBLE**
SINCE 1853

Do you like football? Do you like friendly competition? Do you like your NCP colleagues? 2 out of 3 isn't bad, so join the NCP fantasy football league!



If you are interested in participating in a National Capital Fantasy Football league, please email ckdeacon@yahoo.com by August 15th!

This league is for entertainment only. There is no entry fee and gambling involved. The only thing to be gained is bragging rights and the admiration of your colleagues! All skill and experience levels are welcome.



Church Financial Leadership Grants available now

If you are a pastor, commissioned ruling elder (CRE), a leader of a 1001 New Worshiping Community or a member of a stewardship team we have Church Financial Leadership Grants available for you. The grants will enable you to institute best practices for church financial leadership, introduce you to new models of giving and stewardship, and offer you new ways to talk about money and form generous disciples within your church.

Who can apply?

- PCUSA pastors
- Commissioned Ruling Elders
- 1001 New Worshiping Community leaders
- Church member attending the event with their pastor

What do the funds cover?

The grants are matching funds to help cover half of the cost of:

- Registration fees
- Transportation
- Lodging
- Meals
- Other expenses

The other half of the funds will need to be provided by the church or another source.

What events can I use the funds for?

- Stewardship Kaleidoscope
- Executive Certificate in Religious Fundraising (ECRF) through the Lake Institute
- Other church financial leadership events (subject to approval)

What is the deadline?

For Stewardship Kaleidoscope, we are asking that applications be sent in by Tuesday, August 15 so that we have time to process the application and send out the funds prior to the start of the event. Applications received after the deadline or for the ECRF program will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. Once we receive your application, it may take up to six weeks to process.

For more information, visit presbyterianfoundation.org/grant

The grants were made possible from the Foundation's work as part of a generous grant from Lilly Endowment Inc.'s National Initiative to Address Economic Challenges Facing Pastoral Leaders.

NCP NOMINATIONS FOR 226TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Applications due

Applications are due by September 28. Send applications, photos and reference letters to nominating@thepresbytery.org

How many folks will we send?

4 Teaching Elders (including NCP Moderator, Rev. Chris Deacon)

4 Ruling Elders (including NCP Vice-Moderator, Lou Durden)

1 Young Adult Advisory Delegate (YAAD)

2 Alternates (1 Ruling Elder, 1 Teaching Elder).

When and where?

The 226th GA will be virtual and in person.

Virtual committee meetings will be Tuesday, June 25 to Thursday, June 27.

In-Person plenary sessions will be Sunday, June 30 to Thursday, July 4 in Salt Lake City, UT.



How to apply

Applications for nominations are available on the [NCP website](#).

There are separate applications for Teaching Elders, Ruling Elders and Young Adult Advisory Delegates.

REs and YAADs must be endorsed by their sessions.

Timeline Review:

- September 28, 2023: All forms and recommendations due to the NCP Nominating Committee
- By October 25, 2023: NCP approves slate of nominees to be posted on the NCP website
- October 31: Forms due for those seeking to be nominated from the floor of Presbytery during the November 14, 2023 meeting
- November 14, 2023: Delegates approved at Presbytery Meeting

THE DISMANTLING RACISM TEAM
OF NCP INVITE YOU TO

ALLY TRAINING 2023

led by Service Never Sleeps



UNITY · RECONCILIATION · JUSTICE
Dismantling Racism

TRAINING OPPORTUNITY

(Training consists of TWO sessions.

Your registration confirms you will attend both)

**Monday, October 2 & Tuesday, October 3
(5:30 pm to 9:00 pm)**

via Zoom

**Open to CLERGY and members of NCP
congregations, communities and friends**

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](#)