THURSDAY MAILING



National Capital PRESBYTERY

MISSIONAL · PASTORAL · PROPHETIC

October 5, 2023



In this edition

October Birthday Greetings

Announcements

Meet our Moderators

From the Desk of:

David Baer, Stated Clerk
Tara Spuhler McCabe, Dir. Congregational Dev. & Mission
Heather Deacon, Dir. Business Affairs

NCP FALL LEADERSHIP TRAINING

FOR current session members and elders elect Led by David Baer and Tara Spuhler McCabe October 7 – Zoom

Joyful Financial Stewardship - Reflections from Scripture and Experience

with Dr. David Renwick, HR – hosted by the Stewardship Cmte of NCP October 11 –Bradley Hills Presbyterian Church

Presbytery Wide Installation Service RSVP

October 28 - Gaithersburg Presbyterian Church

Presbytery Wide Installation Service Choir (signup)

October 28 - Gaithersburg Presbyterian Church

Becoming Better Earth Care Stewards (Reconsidering Lawn Care)

Earth Care Team of NCP

Solar Roof Dedication Celebration

October 15 - Warner Memorial Presbyterian Church

Bethesda Presbyterian Church Public Zoom

Tent of Abraham, Sarah, and Hagar: Being Christian in the Holy Lands October 18 & 25 - Zoom

Montgomery County Lynching Memorial Project

Mr. George W. Peck Marker Dedication October 22 –Poolesville Presbyterian Church

The Passion of Joan of Arc (1928)

with live organ soundtrack by Dr. Steven Seigart October 28 – Old Presbyterian Meeting House

Phantom of the Opera

Silent Film Featuring Live Organ Accompaniment October 28 – Bush Hill Presbyterian Church

How Does Someone Escape White Nationalism?

A Conversation with Derek Black November 5 – Saint Mark Presbyterian Church

SAVE THE DATE – 2024 Confirmation Retreat

Presented by the Reformed Institute of Metropolitan Washington February 9-11 – Bishop Claggett Retreat Center

2024 Mosaic of Peace

A Presbyterian Peacemaking Conference in Israel/Palestine March 4-15, 2024



October Birthday Greetings

Currie Burris, HR
John Chiang, HR
Abigail Rian Evans
Nancy Fox, HR
Ron Hankins
Wally Harman, HR
Mary Hill

Glenda Simpkins Hoffman
Woong Joe Kang, HR
Hae Kil Kim
Bob Long, HR
Joe Matthews, HR
Amy Schacht
Stephen Smith-Cobbs

Katie Strednak
Ed Taylor, HR
Holly Ulmer
Alice Ann Winters, HR
Heemoon Youn, HR

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



Announcements:

National Capital Presbytery

and Bradley Hills Presbyterian Church, Bethesda, MD, invite you to the ordination service of *Matthew Nabinger* on Sunday, October 8 at 3:00 p.m.

and the congregations of Christian Community Church, Darnestown Presbyterian Church, Leesburg Presbyterian Church, Rockville Presbyterian Church, Church of the Pilgrims, Emmanuel Indonesian Presbyterian Church, and Manassas Presbyterian Church, invite you to the installation service of *Rev. Dr. Kori Phillips McMurtry, Rev. Blake Collins, Rev. Katie Strednak Singer, Rev. Susan Graceson, Rev. Erin Counihan, Rev. Cynthia Kekung, and Rev. Laura Fitzgibbon on Saturday, October 28 at 3:00 p.m. at Gaithersburg Presbyterian Church.*

SOLAR PANEL DEDICATION - On Sunday, October 15th at 12:15, please join Warner Memorial Presbyterian Church when we'll dedicate our new rooftop solar panels. This is an exciting witness to our ministry as an Earth Care Congregation, especially because our roof installation is a Community Solar Project in Maryland. What does that mean? It means not only are we providing power for our own electricity, but we're also sharing some of that with a few Warner members who will see a 10% reduction in their electric rate, and with Housing Unlimited for low- to medium-income households, who will see a 44% reduction in their electric rate.

The Church Transitions Commission (CTC) needs people to serve as liaisons to Pastor Nominating Committees (PNC's)

Have you or someone in your church served on a PNC in recent years? If your congregation benefited from this experience, you may be interested in helping other congregations navigate the call process. The CTC will hold a briefing for current and interested PNC liaisons on a new, expedited call process. The briefing will be held on October 19, 1:00-2:30, at Lewinsville Presbyterian, Room 102B. Please let Mark Harper (markharper@takomaparkpc.org) or Carla Gorrell (mailto:carlagorrell@yahoo.com) know if you are interested. Walk-ins are welcome!

The Stewardship Committee of NCP is not hosting a planned giving or year-end giving event. GOOD NEWS! We have several offerings on our resource page from previous events. Visit - https://thepresbytery.org/resources-for-congregations/stewardship-workshops-webinars-events/ for a complete list. You can also find all our taped events on NCP's YouTube Channel - National Capital Presbytery-YouTube

Parish Associates

A parish associate is a specialized teaching elder, at-large, or honorably retired teaching elder member of National Capital Presbytery who wishes to associate with a particular congregation. Does your congregation have one? If so, the parish associate relationship requires approval and/or renewal every year. The form may be found here - https://thepresbytery.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/Parish Associate Policy-Form NCP.pdf

Questions? Ask Dina Bickel - dbickel@thepresbtyery.org

Camp Hanover has three events coming up this fall:

Youth Retreat

October 13-15, 2023

Youth ministry leaders, bring your middle and high schoolers to Camp Hanover for a fun-filled weekend. With retreat leader Rev. Mike Burcher, youth will explore the idea of belonging and fitting in by not fitting in. Youth will grow their faith through keynote presentations, small group discussion, and other activities. This event is

for youth groups of all sizes.

https://www.camphanover.org/youth-retreat/

Women's Retreat

October 20-21, 2023

Get away from the hustle and bustle of day-to-day life. Spend a night at Camp Hanover with someone else doing the planning and preparing. The retreat consists of a planned program, quiet time, activities, and worship. The speaker and program theme will be announced soon.

https://www.camphanover.org/womens-retreat/

Fall Mini Camp

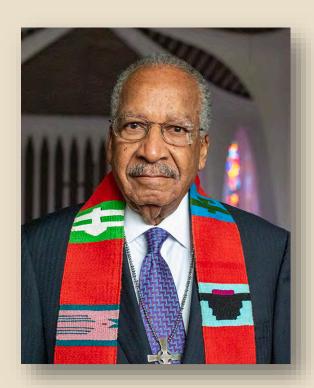
October 27-29, 2023

Youth in grades 5-12 can explore Camp Hanover in the cooler temperatures of fall. Spend time outside enjoying creation and nature through favorite camp activities. Campers are divided into groups based on their ages, each supervised by our caring staff of counselors.

https://www.camphanover.org/fall-mini-camp/

Meet our Moderators National Capital Presbytery 2023 -2024



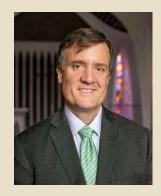


The Rev. Dr. Chris Deacon, Moderator, currently serves as the Stated Supply Pastor for Redevelopment at Northwood Presbyterian Church. He previously served the United Parish of Bowie for 8 years and the First Presbyterian Church of Farmington, IL for 6 years. He has served as chair of the New Things team and currently serves on CDC, Leadership Council. Within his local community, he has served as a community mentor for High School students and is a founding board member and treasurer of the Bowie Interfaith Coalition. **Reach Chris - ckdeacon@yahoo.com**

Elder Lou Durden (Northminster), Vice-Moderator, has been the Adult Bible School Leader for over ten years. A Commissioner of the 225th General Assembly, he is also on the Commission for Preparation for Ministry (CPM) and has served on three Administrative Commissions, including one he currently chairs. **Reach Lou – loudurden@gmail.com**



October 5, 2023



From the Stated Clerk Summary of the 313th Stated Meeting of National Capital Presbytery

National Capital Presbytery held a stated meeting at National Presbyterian Church on September 26. The outgoing Moderator, **Elder Shani McIlwain**, convened the meeting with prayer, and the assembly was welcomed by the pastor of the host church, the **Rev. Dr. Raymond I. Hylton**, Sr. Faith Presbyterian Church led the presbytery in a service of worship, with Elder McIlwain offering the sermon, and the **Rev. Bernice Parker-Jones** and the **Rev. Tara Spuhler-McCabe** presiding at a celebration of the Lord's Supper.

The presbytery installed the Moderator, the Rev. Dr. Chris Deacon, and the Vice Moderator, Elder Lou Durden; installed the Stated Clerk, the Rev. David Baer; and commissioned two ruling elders to pastoral service: Elder Vanlalhriatrenga Vanlal "VLC" Chhangte (Mizo) and Elder Le Quan Turner (Southminster).

Following worship, the presbytery:

- Recognized transitions in our community:
 - o The **Rev. Robert Austell**, newly installed as Associate Pastor at Vienna.
 - o The Rev. Dr. Raymond I. Hylton, Sr., newly installed as Pastor at National.
 - o The Rev. Blake Collins, newly ordained and soon to be installed as Associate Pastor at Darnestown.
 - o The **Rev. Laura Fitzgibbon**, soon to be installed as Pastor at Manassas.
 - o The **Rev. Casey Thompson**, serving as Stated Supply Pastor at Idylwood and Knox.
 - Elder Vanlalhriatrenga Vanlal "VLC" Chhangte, commissioned to pastoral service at Mizo.
 - o Elder **Le Quan Turner**, commissioned to pastoral service at Southminster.
 - o The Rev. **Cynthia Kekung**, organizing pastor at Emmanuel Indonesian.
- Approved an exception under G-2.0504(c) for the **Rev. Connie Jordan-Haas**, currently serving as Stated Supply Associate Pastor at Vienna Presbyterian Church, to be eligible to be called and installed as an Associate Pastor.
- Upon presentation of a signed covenant in the form prescribed in *Book of* Order G-1.0201, recognized
 Emmanuel Indonesian Presbyterian Church as a congregation of National Capital Presbytery and authorized the Congregational Development Commission to provide the required support in establishing pastoral leadership and governance for the congregation.

The NCP Leadership Council has adopted the following schedule for upcoming stated meetings:

- November 14, 2023 virtual, via Zoom
- January 23, 2024 virtual, via Zoom
- March 19, 2024 virtual, via Zoom
- May 21, 2024 in person
- September 24, 2024 in person
- November 19, 2024 virtual, via Zoom

Grace and Peace, David Baer, Stated Clerk October 5, 2023

Greetings People,



What can be useful to energize and organize US? While responses can be subjective, I also offer categories that all of us deserve:

- Connecting with a specific purpose that IMPACTS the Body of Christ. You know this one, knowing you are needed for the bigger picture. CDC and MCC hope that along with pledging into the visions of your congregations YOU consider your impact in the Unified Mission Giving that resources the whole body of the Presbytery. Like supporting intercultural ministry that energizes a particular group of folks to become a chartered church. There are two more fellowships in this discernment!
- Joining a NEW THING! This gets each of us out of our comfort zones and supports the biblical practice of pruning so that new life can grow and be grafted in! We have churches sending youth to a Synod wide gathering for the first time this November at Keep Awake! We have congregations joining together for the first time in a joint BPU/NCP confirmation year program. Consider not inventing the program just for you but connecting with a new partner or congregation to share the practice and be BIGGER!
- Always stay CURIOUS! Join upcoming opportunities at a national and regional PCUSA level promises to support your ministries with skills, tools, refreshed lenses, and hearts. The Matthew25 Summit in Atlanta, GA is a first-time event. Members of MCC are looking forward to connecting with key leaders in our denomination on matters of Faith and Justice at the SUMMIT. MRT and CDC will provide another week-long training in Dialogue for Peaceful Change along with Baltimore Presbytery AND newly joined New Castle Presbytery. More information to come on each of these.

Some of the best practices that our congregations can do for themselves is to focus in on what we have, what we can do "exceptionally well" due to who we are and organize our resources around what energizes us as followers of Jesus Christ. My desk will continue to provide, upon request, the recent webinars from HolyCow! on Strategic Planning and Volunteer Leadership Development. We are here to equip and resource you.

Peace and Courage,

Rev. Tara Spuhler McCabe





October 5, 2023

Greetings,

I don't know about you, but October always feels like the biggest transition month of the year. School has started, fall is here, and the temperature begins its back-and-forth dance between warm and cool. It's the last month of "normal" before the holidays begin and then a quick slide right into 2024. Everywhere I look, the familiar is giving way to the new. That analogy holds true in the presbytery's business office as well. As we steadily march towards 2023, we can see 2024 on the horizon, full of possibilities. I'm not sure anything is quite so encompassing of possibilities than the budget of a new year. Rooted in those possibilities, I am excited to give you all an update on our 2024 budget process.

As of this writing, under the direction of the Budget & Finance Committee, the various committees and commissions have shared their hopes about what work NCP will undertake in 2024. Using those hopes, Budget & Finance built the 2024 Operating and Mission Budgets. Yesterday, the Leadership Council reviewed both budgets and affirmed the possibilities they contain. At our Presbytery Meeting on November 14, many of you will have the opportunity to vote on both the Operating and Mission Budgets – setting into motion the work of 2024.

We are currently working to prepare the budget presentation video and finalize the 2023 Impact Report and physical budgets for distribution. In the meantime, I'd like to share the proposed 2024 per capita rates. The proposed numbers reflect countless hours of work done by many of your colleagues: committee meetings, prayerful discernment, calculations, research, planning, wondering, and hoping. The presbytery is not immune to the issues facing many of our congregations: rising costs and shrinking memberships; however, we also believe these numbers reflect a commitment to live into possibilities instead of scarcity. While the full justification for the recommendation will be released as part of the official budget presentation later this month, below is the per capita proposal that will be considered at our November Presbytery Meeting.

	2024 Per Capita Rate	2022 Per Capita Rate
General Assembly	\$9.80	\$9.85
Synod	\$1.15	\$1.15
National Capital Presbytery	\$37.61	\$36.13
Total	\$48.56	\$47.13

We recommend that you use the 2024 numbers above when building your budgets for the coming year. If you have questions about per capita or anything else finance related, the business office is here to help!

Blessings as we continue this important work together!

Heather Deacon
Director, Business Affairs

NCP FALL LEADERSHIP TRAINING

for current session members and elders elect

Saturday, October 7, 2023

9:30 AM - 11:30 AM via Zoom

This training will address:

- Being a Session from the New Form of Government, BOO
- The roles, duties, responsibilities of the Session
- The spiritual role and responsibilitie of the Session

LED BY



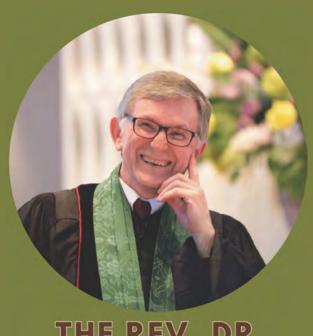
DAVID BAER STATED CLERK



TARA SPUHLER MCCABE DIR. CONGREGATIONAL DEV. & MISSION

ZOOM LINK HERE





THE REV. DR.
DAVID RENWICK
SPEAKER



Joyful Financial Stewardship Reflections from Scripture & Experience

- Stories of Surprising Generosity
- Scriptures that Preach and Teach
- Stewardship Within Our Own Lives



Wednesday, October 11, 2023
10 a.m. - noon

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

David Renwick retired in September, 2022, after 45 years in ordained ministry, most recently at National Presbyterian Church in DC. David's ministry spanned churches of all sizes (from 17 to 2500) in diverse communities, from Texas to northern Canada. Inspired by his home congregation that covered all the costs of his seminary education, stewardship has been a key component of David's ministry. In all but one year, David's congregations ended the financial year with a surplus, and in 5 of his congregations capital campaigns of various sizes were held that usually began with much anxiety, but always ended with spiritual growth, missional unity, joyful vitality and an outpouring of generosity in each congregation.

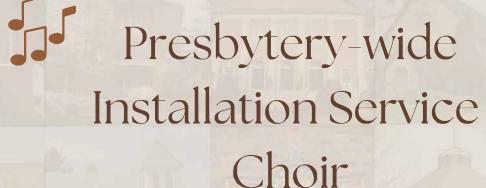
Hosted by the Stewardship Committee of NCP

www.thepresbytery.org





Looking for Sopranos, Altos, Tenors and Bass for the





All are invited to the join the presbytery-wide choir!
The choir is led by Kevin Allen Director of Music,
John Calvin Presbyterian Church.

Kevin Allen is a multi-faceted musician, working as a music educator, conductor, pianist, accompanist, and singer.

The Service is Saturday, October 28th, 3:00 pm, at Gaithersburg Presbyterian Church.

Rehearsal will be held in the choir room of Gaithersburg, 1–2:30 pm on October 28th. Use this <u>link</u> to sign up.



Becoming Better Earth Care Stewards in Montgomery, MD: Reconsidering Lawn Care

Nearly every church in our presbytery and for that matter the whole country, confronts the same balancing act that homeowners face: How can we create an attractive landscape and also be responsible stewards of our environment? In this piece the NCP Earth Care Network would like to offer a couple of recommendations – reduce the size of our lawns and reduce the amount of herbicides, fertilizers, and pesticides that we apply to them.

Reduce our lawns

Dan Zak of *The Washington Post* summarized the issue:

"We are still, largely, lawn people. The biggest irrigated crop, by area, in the United States? Not corn, or soybean, but lawn. Unproductive, ornamental lawn: around 40 million acres of it, or 2 percent of the land area of the Lower 48, according to multiple estimates cited by Garik Gutman, program manager for NASA's Land-Cover/Land-Use Change Program.

Forty million acres: The entire state of Georgia couldn't contain America's total lawnage. And we pour 9 billion gallons of water on landscaping every day, according to the Environmental Protection Agency. Meanwhile the Southwest United States is enduring a megadrought; the past two decades constitute its driest period since the year 800. California Gov. Gavin Newsom declared a drought state of emergency in October. In a world thirsty for water, lawns are a sneaky siphon."

Dan Zak, "There's a Water Crisis, so why do we still have lawns?" *The Washington Post*, 8/24/2022 (https://www.washingtonpost.com/lifestyle/2022/08/24/lawns-and-replacement/)

We can reduce the size of our lawns and still have attractive grounds by opting for native plants. This will support native insects, birds, and other animals. So, what native plants might you consider? See this brochure from Fairfax County. https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/soil-water-conservation/native-plants

Reducing the amount of lawn chemicals

The Maryland Lawn Fertilizer Law limits the amount of nutrients that can be applied to lawns or turf and restricts phosphorus content in lawn fertilizer. The goal is to help homeowners and lawn care professionals maintain healthy lawns without applying unnecessary amounts of nitrogen and phosphorus. Homeowners and do-it-yourselfers are required to obey fertilizer application restrictions, use best management practices when applying fertilizer, observe fertilizer blackout dates and follow University of Maryland recommendations when fertilizing lawns. Click here for more information.

- A single fertilizer application may not exceed 0.9-pound total N per 1,000 sq ft which can include no more than 0.7 pound of soluble N per 1,000 sq ft
- Phosphorus may only be applied when a soil test indicates that it is needed or when a lawn is being established, patched or renovated
- Don't use fertilizer to de-ice walkways and driveways
- Clean up fertilizer spills
- Keep fertilizer 10 to 15 feet from waterways
- Do not fertilize lawns if heavy rain is predicted or the ground is frozen
- Do not apply lawn fertilizer between November 16 and March 1
- Enhanced efficiency controlled release products may be applied at no more than 2.5 pounds per year, with a maximum monthly release rate of 0.7 pound of N per 1,000 sq ft
- When hiring lawn care professionals, hire only certified professionals to fertilize lawns

This law helps protect the Chesapeake Bay from excess nutrients entering its waters from urban sources, including golf courses, parks, recreation areas, businesses and thousands of lawns. Nutrients, primarily nitrogen and phosphorus, are key ingredients in lawn fertilizer. When it rains, unused nutrients can wash into nearby storm drains and streams that empty into the Chesapeake Bay. Once in our waterways, these nutrients contribute to the growth of algae blooms that block sunlight from reaching Bay grasses, rob the water of oxygen and threaten underwater life. Turfgrass Nutrient Management Program (maryland.gov)

The Pesticide Law in Montgomery County restricts the use of certain pesticides on private lawns, playgrounds, mulched recreation areas, and childcare facilities. Most synthetic pesticides are not allowed to treat pests in lawns. Only organic or minimum-risk pesticides are allowed. https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/lawns/law/

It is recommended to prevent weeds and pests by practicing organic lawn care, which should not require the use of any chemicals.

TIPS FOR MANAGING LAWNS ORGANICALLY

- Mow grass high (keep at least 3" tall)
- Leave grass clippings on the lawn to recycle nutrients
- Only water during dry spells
- Add materials, such as compost, to support healthy soil biology
- Replace some lawn with native plants
- Overseed every fall for a dense lawn, and aerate compact soils
- Get help from an experienced organic lawn care provider
- Keep mower blades sharp.
- Use an electric or manual mower for reduced emissions and noise, and for energy efficiency.
- Use a mulching mower.
- Mulch leaves that fall on the lawn, rather than removing them.
- Do not use Weed & Feed products. These contain both a fertilizer and a pesticide and are NOT allowed for use under County law on lawns.
- Use only the following organic pesticides (Go to MontgomeryCountyMD.gov/Lawns to check for allowed products):

- o Products with an EPA label only if it is also labeled for organic use by the USDA
- Organic pesticides labeled by OMRI
- Organic pesticides labeled "Exempt from EPA labeling under FIFRA 25(b)" are designated a "minimum risk" pesticide by the EPA and have no EPA label or numbers
- o USDA certified organic products labeled "For Organic Gardening"



Solar Roof Dedication Celebration

Sunday October 15th 12:15 PM

A Community Solar Project



Skyview Ventures

POWERING INDEPENDENCE





Warner Memorial Presbyterian Church 10123 Connecticut Ave. Kensington, MD

Bethesda Presbyterian Church Public Zoom

Here's Our Zoom link.

Gordon L. Groover Presenters Wednesdays October 18 & 25 7:00-8:00 pm

The Tent of Abraham, Sarah, and Hagar: Being Christian in the Holy Lands

Dr. Christine Luckritz MarquisAssociate Professor of Church History
Union Presbyterian Seminary

Dr. Safwat MarzoukAssociate Professor of Old Testament Union Presbyterian Seminary





Christine and Safwat have led recent Union study seminar to Egypt and Palestine/Israel. They will share with us a survey of contemporary Christianity in these holy lands – and how the Christian minorities navigate their relationships with other faith communities around them.

Montgomery County Lynching Memorial Project

invites you to the

Mr. George W. Peck Marker Dedication

Program and Reception

Sunday, October 22, 2023 | 3-5 p.m.

Poolesville Presbyterian Church

Outdoors at 17800 Elgin Rd., Poolesville, MD | Reception at Locals Farm Market Parking is free and clearly marked | Sign Language interpreted

Montgomery County Lynching Memorial Project (MoCoLMP) will unveil the first historical marker in the county to acknowledge a racial terror lynching. Mr. George Peck was murdered by a mob in Poolesville in 1880, one of three lynchings that took place in our county.

Free and open to all

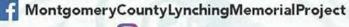
In case of rain, the event will be indoors at Poolesville Memorial United Methodist Church, 17821 Elgin Rd. Register at: bit.ly/peck-marker to receive updates



Remembering is Resistance
MoCoLMP

Montgomery County Lynching Memorial Project

To get involved, email: mocolynchingmemorial@gmail.com www.mocolmp.org



o mocolmp

Sign up to receive MoCoLMP's News at bit.ly/mocolmp-news



CONCERT FOR A

THE PASSION
OF
JOAN OF ARC

(1928)

with a live organ soundtrack by Dr. Steven Seigart

7:00 PM SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28 FREE TICKETS: OPMH.ORG/EVENTS

OLD PRESBYTERIAN MEETING HOUSE 323 S. FAIRFAX STREET ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314





How Does Someone Escape White Nationalism?

A Conversation with Derek Black

November 5, 2023 | 7:30 PM
Saint Mark Presbyterian Church
10701 Old Georgetown Road

For FREE tickets and to learn more:

SAINT MARK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH PRESENTS

FAITH IN PUBLIC LIFE SPEAKER SERIES

Save The Date

2024 CONFIRMATION RETREAT

FEBRUARY 9-11, 2024

THE BISHOP CLAGGETT CONFERENCE CENTER
3035 BUCKEYSTOWN PIKE
ADAMSTOWN, MD 21710



FOR MORE INFORMATION EMAIL: INFO@REFORMEDINTITUTE.ORG or yMCKINNEY@REFORMEDINSTITUTE.ORG

REGISTRATION OPENS NOVEMBER 1, 2023

REGISTRATION \$185 paid before January 22, 2024

Late Registration \$200 paid January 23 - Feb. 2, 2024

REGISTRATION CLOSES FEB. 2, 2024





March 4-15, 2024 Time sensitive! Apply by Oct. 20, 2023



oin the Presbyterian Peacemaking Program as we:

- · experience this remarkable and troubled region,
- encounter its diverse people,
- · explore its rich history and complex current situation, and
- engage with those who seek its peace.

By attending this conference, you will:

- be inspired by the stories of Christian peacemakers in the Holy Land, walk in the footsteps of the Prince of Peace and encounter contemporary Palestinians and Israelis;
- be equipped by engagement with Christian, Muslim and Jewish leaders, experience contextual theology and study peacemaking practices within the framework of PC(USA) policy;
- be connected with global and local partners to take meaningful action for a just and lasting peace in the region.

APPLICATIONS

Apply online at presbyterianmission.org/mosaic through Oct. 20, 2023. Notification and commitment packets will be sent shortly after your application is received and processed. Late applications will be considered if space is available. First-time visitors to the Holy Land are encouraged to attend. Previous conference participants and seasoned travelers to the region are welcome as well. Must be 18 or older.

COST

The double-occupancy rate for the conference is \$3,690. The rate includes all conference expenses (including all meals, accommodations, programs, tips, tours and on-the-ground transportation). Airline travel is not included. Limited single occupancy is available for an additional charge of \$1,100.

HOTELS

The conference includes 11 nights of lodging: 4 nights at the Gloria Hotel in Jerusalem, 4 nights at Bethlehem's Manger Square Hotel and 3 nights at the Golden Crown Hotel in Nazareth.

TRAVEL

Participants are responsible for their travel and may book their own airline tickets, but all itineraries must be submitted for approval by the conference registrar prior to ticketing. Departures from the U.S. should be on Sunday evening, March 3, to arrive to Tel Aviv (TLV) on Monday, March 4. (Those who wish to arrive a day early to recover from travel and ready themselves for the conference may do so at their own expense. Hotel rooms at the conference rate are available on March 2 and 3.) Return flights may depart TLV on Friday evening, March 15, to arrive in the U.S. on Saturday, March 16..

SMALL GROUPS

Conference participants will be placed into small groups led by group leaders. These teams will engage in preparation before the conference, meet as a group during the conference and consider meaningful collective action upon returning home.



OPTIONAL JORDAN EXTENSION — March 15–19

Those who wish may sign up to take part in an optional 3-day, 4-night addition after the conference. Participants will return to Bethlehem on March 15 for transfer to Jordan at the Allenby Border on March 16. The extension will include visits to Bethany, Madaba, Mount Nebo, Um Rassas and Petra. Extension participants will depart Queen Alia Airport (AMM) in Amman, Jordan, on March 19. The double-occupancy rate is \$970. Limited single occupancy is available for an additional charge of \$290.

Sample Schedule

The following is provided to give those interested an idea of the Jordan Extension content. All items are subject to change.

Friday, March 15	Participants return to the Manger Square Hotel in Bethlehem for	overnight

accommodation.

Saturday, March 16 Shuttle to the Allenby Border for visa formalities and transfer to visit Madaba,

Mount Nebo and Um Rassas. Continue to the Petra Elite Hotel for dinner and

overnight.

Sunday, March 17 Following breakfast, spend a full day at Petra. Transfer to Amman West Hotel

for dinner and overnight.

Monday, March 18 Following breakfast, depart for Bethany and Jerash. Return to Amman for

dinner and overnight.

Tuesday, March 19 Following breakfast, transfer to Queen Alia Airport (AMM) in Amman for

departure.

Includes:

- All meals from breakfast March 16 through breakfast March 19.
- Accommodation at Bethlehem's Manger Square Hotel for 1 night, Petra Elite Hotel for 1 night and Amman West Hotel for 2 nights.
- Transfer to Bethlehem on March 15, to the Allenby Bridge on March 16, and to AMM airport on March 19.
- Greeting and assistance by Grace Tours representative in Jordan upon arrival and departure.
- Transportation in air-conditioned tourist minivan or small bus.
- English-speaking escort guide from arrival in Jordan to departure.
- Entrance fees to Bethany the Baptismal site, Madaba, Mount Nebo, Um Rassas and Petra.
- Tips for guides and drivers.
- Israeli exit taxes and collective group visa to Jordan. (All participants will provide full passport details in advance to Grace Tours.)





For more information, including a sample conference schedule and information from past conferences, visit **presbyterianmission.org/mosaic** or contact the Presbyterian Peacemaking Program at **800-728-7228**, ext. **5805** or **502-569-5805**.