

NEXT THURSDAY MAIL DEADLINE
 Submissions are due **MONDAY, January 13**
 and distributed **Thursday, January 16**
 Send to communications@thepresbytery.org



THURSDAY MAIL

December 5, 2024



MISSIONAL, PASTORAL, PROPHETIC

IN THIS EDITION

- NCP Calendar of Events
- VIDEO: NCP Offices are MOVING!
- from the Desk of Rev. David Baer
- from the Desk of Rev. Tara Spuhler McCabe
- Amendment Discernment Process
- Youth Leaders Day of Training
- Leadership Training & Safe Church Training
- Continuing Ed Gathering & Retreat
- Healthy Boundaries Opportunity
- December Birthdays
- Missional Incubator
- Presbytery Office Closed
- Around NCP
- Other Organizations

National Capital Presbytery

NEW ADDRESS:
 6700-A Rockledge Drive, Suite 250
 Bethesda, MD 20817
 240-514-5348
www.thepresbytery.org
communications@thepresbytery.org



NCP CALENDAR

December 10 12:30 pm	Prayer over Amendments @ Fairlington PC
December 24-January 1	Office Closed
January 12	NCP Youth Leaders (volunteer & paid) Day of Training
NEW DATE THURSDAY, January 23 5:00 pm	Stated Presbytery Mtg IN-PERSON at National PC
February 8	Ally Training - In-person
February 22	Leadership Training & Safe Church Training at National PC
March 10-13	Continuing Education Gathering & Retreat
March 25	Virtual Stated Presbytery Mtg
May 6	Healthy Boundaries Training



VIDEO:
 Message from
 General
 Presbyter,
 John Molina-
 Moore and
 Business
 Affairs
 Director,
 Heather
 Deacon

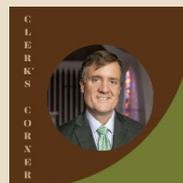
We are **MOVING**



NATIONAL CAPITAL PRESBYTERY'S
NEW ADDRESS

Effective Monday, December 9

6700-A Rockledge Drive, Suite 250
Bethesda, Maryland 20817



Summary of the 319th Stated Meeting of National Capital Presbytery

National Capital Presbytery held a stated meeting in Stone Hall at National Presbyterian Church on November 19. The Moderator, **Elder Lou Durden**, called the meeting to order and invited **Elder Mark Stunder**, chair of the Budget and Finance Committee, to offer the opening devotion. The Vice Moderator, **Elder Jesy Littlejohn**, led the Presbytery in the annual Necrology, giving thanks for those ruling elders and teaching elders who had died in the past year.

During the meeting the Presbytery:

- Received the report of the **Administrative Commission for Warner Memorial Presbyterian Church** and acted to dismiss the commission, effective upon the commission installing elders to the session of the church and returning original jurisdiction to the session, which it is anticipated to do on December 8.
- **Approved the minutes and registers** of those churches which had submitted them for reviews conducted by the Session Records Committee.
- Adopted the recommendation of the Leadership Council for the **Operating and Mission Budgets for 2025**.
- Heard a presentation on the ongoing work of the **Missional Incubator program**, in which participating pastors and church leaders spoke of the benefits and challenges of engaging the communities in which their churches are situated.

The next **Stated Meeting** will be held on **Thursday, January 23, 2025, at 5:00 p.m. at National Presbyterian Church**. *Please note both the time (a Thursday evening) and the in-person format of this meeting, which are a departure from our usual practice in January.* The Presbytery has been engaged in an extended consideration of two proposed amendments to the *Book of Order*, 24-A and 24-C, through several opportunities for dialogue and discernment beginning in September, and the Leadership Council has approved this change in time and format in order to allow this process to conclude with an in-person gathering and vote.

Grace and Peace,

Rev. David A. Baer, Stated Clerk



Greetings Advent People,

You are all in the midst of Advent now. I am guessing you are sorting through all that is fun and necessary in this Advent season. As we each are able, may we connect with the Advent prayers and disciplines that center us closer and closer to the Christ who saves and claims us.

If you are a congregation, pastor, or leader that is needing support through this season PLEASE do contact your Presbytery office. We can provide adaptive substitutes for your rituals and studies. We have also secured worship resources so that you do not need to reinvent the wheel for the Sunday after Christmas Eve. These resources will support a worship experience with or without a specific preacher or with or without music leadership.

We also invite congregations who are in need of pulpit supply through the Christmas-Tide season to consider inviting your congregation to share in an experience of a congregational Field Trip! This is a great opportunity to enter into a different space with fresh eyes and fresh hearts. Folks can practice being connectional in the Presbytery and in your community. If this idea strikes your curiosity, please contact my office and learn about best practices for shared Worship Field Trips.

Our offices can provide suggestions of where to attend online if you are choosing to stay at home. Several of our congregations provide a welcoming online or streaming worship service. This continues to be a way we share with one another in our Advent blessings.

This particular Advent I am working with *Calling All Angels* by Erin Wathen. This study provides language, ritual, and silence as some of us wrestle with “two” truths: fear and how the Angels proclaim, Do Not Be Afraid! This is a prayer from the book:

“God, give us the courage to stand in the thin and holy places where hope and fear meet. Thank you for giving us wisdom, courage, and the support of community (our Presbytery) so that we can face our fears with hope. Send us your Angels when we lack inspiration, and let your creative word come live among us in new and surprising ways. Amen.”

Thanks be to God that our faith grounds us in the truth that even in our doubts, fears, anxiety and real life limits we are claimed, saved, and loved.

Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love,

Rev. Tara Spuhler McCabe

Amendment Discernment Process



Discerning Amendments 24A & 24C



General Presbyter John Molina-Moore facilitated a pre-presbytery discussion at 3:00 p.m. in Stone Hall.

([VIDEO Summary – HERE.](#))

All members of the NCP community were invited to participate. These proposed amendments were approved by the General Assembly last summer and are now among the thirteen items sent out to the presbyteries of the PCUSA for their consideration.

The Stated Clerk provided a brief presentation on the amendments: 24-A would add sexual orientation and gender identity to a list expressing the diversity of those united in Christ through baptism in F-1.0403. 24-C would amend the language of G-2.0401b, which addresses the examination of church officers, to require that the examination cover “the Historic Principles of Church Order (F-3.01), and ... the principles of participation and representation found in F-1.0403.” Currently, the Book of Order requires only that the examination address the requirements expressed in the constitutional questions asked of candidates at ordination and installation (W-4.0404).

The Stated Clerk noted that the affirmative votes of a majority of presbyteries would be required, in order for the amendments to be incorporated into the next edition of the Book of Order. Should this happen, he advised, it would be necessary for NCP’s Commission on Ministry to revise the set of questions in its examination policy that all candidates for ordination and membership are asked, in order to address the new requirements.

The General Presbyter invited participants to spend some time in groups discussing their fears or excitement around these proposed amendments, as well as their hopes for how NCP should implement them, if they are adopted. At the end of this time, the groups summarized their discussions.

Based on the discussion on September 24, the Leadership Council has decided to provide for an extended period of discernment before a vote by the presbytery on 24-A and 24-C, including the following:

✓	9/24/24	3:00 pm at National PC	In-person conversation to discuss Amendment 24-A and 24-C
✓	10/19/24	1:30 pm at Gaithersburg PC	In-person conversation to discuss Amendments with OGA’s Stated Clerk, Rev. Jihyun Oh.
✓	11/18/24	7:00 pm via Zoom	Action Item Dialogue - Zoom opportunity to discuss Amendments
	12/10/24	12:30 pm at Fairlington PC	In-person (hybrid) meeting for prayer over the presbytery’s discernment
	1/23/25 (THURS)	5:00 pm at National PC	Opportunity for small group discussion prior to the meeting and formal debate and vote on Amendments

YOUTH LEADERS DAY OF TRAINING

Click image for FULL FLYER



YOUTH LEADERS
(volunteer and paid)
DAY OF TRAINING

Sun, Jan 12, 2025
2:00 - 5:00 p.m.
TBD

Goals:

- Share about how the Presbytery office can support congregations with Youth Ministry
- Update on the offering of a Presbytery-Wide Confirmation Program (Sept. 2025 - May 2026) - with input from those attending
- Education on Presbytery mandate for Child Protection Policy and other Presbytery / Presbyterian questions from those attending



save the date

facilitated by Tara & John

questions?
tspuhlermccabe@
thepresbytery.org

LEADERSHIP TRAINING & SAFE CHURCH TRAINING



LEADERSHIP TRAINING & SAFE CHURCH TRAINING

Saturday, February 22, 2025
8:00 AM to 2:30 PM
Lunch open at 8:00 AM, lunch included
National Presbyterian Church
4151 Nebraska Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20016

Leading with ENERGY, INTELLIGENCE, IMAGINATION, and LOVE

Worship Leader
St. Paul's Luther
CSE, Adelphi Presbyterian Church

Plenary Speaker
Rev. John Collins Moore
General Presbyter, NCP

NCP's **Leadership Training & Safe Church Training** for elders will be held on **Saturday, February 22, 2025** at **National Presbyterian Church**, Washington, DC.
Click image for FULL FLYER

CONTINUING EDUCATION GATHERING & RETREAT



Mark your calendars for NCP's annual **Continuing Education Gathering & Retreat for Church Professionals** on **March 10-12, 2025** at the **Hyatt Regency Chesapeake Bay** in Cambridge, MD.

We are excited to announce our speakers, Rev. Dr. Ted Smith, and Lakisha Lockhart! Registration will open in December. More information coming soon!

December



Paul Anderson, retired
Laura Batten-Carbaugh
Glen Benson
Chuck Booker
Adam Bowling
Beth Braxton, retired
Ann Davie, retired
David Douthett
David Ensign, retired
Ruth Everhart, retired
Henry Ferry, retired
Larry Golemon
Mark Greiner
Richard Hansen, retired
Curtis Kearns, retired
Michael Koppel
Chris McAuliffe
Brian McCollum
Joyce Mercer
Judith Michaels, retired
Bryan Mickle, retired
Todd Sutton
George Taylor, retired
Casey Thompson
Beth Williams



MISSIONAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP IMMERSION - JANUARY 29-31, 2025

This is deep dive into repurposing your facility for mission, hosted by the Missional Incubator of the National Capital Presbytery and Fresh Expressions US.

Biblically Rooted

Discover God's heart for mission and how that impacts our church's approach.

Practitioner Led

Learn from practitioners who have started businesses, reimagined church buildings and more

Actionable Focus

Learn practical strategies you can apply as soon as you get home.

Click [HERE](#) for more information

FOR National Capital Presbytery members - Register NOW for 50% off admission to the **MISSIONAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP IMMERSION** held Wednesday, January 29, 2025 4:00 PM to Friday, January 31, 2025 11:00 AM. This event would be ideal for one or two leaders from any church considering the Missional Incubator for 2025 to attend.

PRESBYTERY OFFICE CLOSED

The offices of National Capital Presbytery will be closed December 24 - January 1. We are always mindful of the effect of 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 the National Capital Presbytery offices; however, it is used to pay for a variety of expenses related to our operating expenses. Without that fund, per capita would be significantly higher.

Last year, facing a per capita increase for 2024, we elected to stretch the money in the office fund a bit further. When COM released their COLA recommendation, we encouraged churches to be creative. For National Capital Presbytery, that creatively took the form of giving staff a 2.2% COLA (instead of the recommended 4.4%) and closing the NCP offices for 2 weeks during the year, allowing staff to have that time as paid leave. The first week took place in July and the second week occurs the week between Christmas and New Year's Day.

INVITATION FROM WARNER MEMORIAL

On behalf of Warner Memorial Presbyterian Church, including the Administrative Commission, Rev. JC Cadwallander invites the Presbytery to join us in celebration and worship on **Sunday, December 8 @ 3pm**. In the context of worship, we will hold a congregational meeting wherein elders, deacons, and nominating committee members will be elected. The AC will hold a meeting in our presence to approve their examinations and to transfer jurisdiction back into the bounds of the Session upon their ordination and installation!



Warner Memorial
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

HEALTHY BOUNDARIES TRAINING

ATTENTION Minister Members!
SAVE THE DATE for the next
IN-PERSON Healthy Boundaries
Training opportunity on
Tuesday, May 6, 2025.
More information coming soon.



MISSIONAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP IMMERSION

Wed, January 29, 4:00 PM - Fri, Jan 31, 11:00 AM

Riverside PC / Ridgetop Coffee and Tea, Sterling, VA

This is deep dive into repurposing your facility for mission, hosted by the Missional Incubator of the National Capital Presbytery and Fresh Expressions US.

Biblically Rooted

Discover God's heart for mission and how that impacts our church's approach.

Practitioner Led

Learn from practitioners who have started businesses, reimaged church buildings and more

Actionable Focus

Learn practical strategies you can apply as soon as you get home.



Join us at Riverside Presbyterian Church, home of the bustling Ridgetop Cafe, to learn:

- How Churches become Community Hubs
- Best practices for Repurposing Church Facilities
- Opportunities for New Income Streams and New Expressions of Church

Ridgetop Cafe is so much more than a business. Expand your imagination for what is possible in your setting as you see, taste, and experience unique ways that mission and ministry can thrive in the midst of the marketplace. For More Information visit the Missional Incubator webpage [HERE](#).

COST: \$225 until Jan 6 (price increase to \$250). For the first 40 members of the National Capital Presbytery that register the cost is \$115 if you use the code "Missionalincubator" when you enroll from the registration page

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/missional-entrepreneurship-immersion-tickets-962039936347>

LODGING:

For those who would like to stay overnight rather than commute there is a special hotel rate at the Hyatt Place / 21481 Ridgetop Circle / Sterling, VA 20166 / ph. (703) 444 – 3909 / \$119 per night plus taxes, price expires 12/31/24 / [Click Here to make a reservation](#)

so that our churches can grow 



National Capital
PRESBYTERY
MISSIONAL • PASTORAL • PROPHETIC

YOUTH LEADERS (volunteer and paid) DAY OF TRAINING

save the date



Sun, Jan 12, 2025



2:00 - 5:00 p.m.



TBD

facilitated by Tara & John

questions?
tspuhlermccabe@
thepresbytery.org

Goals:

- Share about how the Presbytery office can support congregations with Youth Ministry
- Update on the offering of a Presbytery-Wide Confirmation Program (Sept. 2025 - May 2026) - with input from those attending
- Education on Presbytery mandate for Child Protection Policy and other Presbytery / Presbyterian questions from those attending

NATIONAL CAPITAL PRESBYTERY
**LEADERSHIP
TRAINING &
SAFE CHURCH TRAINING**



**Saturday,
February 22, 2025**

8:00 AM to 2:30 PM

(doors open at 8:00 AM; lunch included)

**National Presbyterian Church
4101 Nebraska Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20016**

**Leading with
ENERGY,
INTELLIGENCE,
IMAGINATION,
and *LOVE***



**Worship Leader
Le Quan Turner
CRE, Adelphi Presbyterian Church**



**Plenary Speaker
Rev. John Molina-Moore
General Presbyter, NCP**

Register HERE

thepresbytery.org/ncp-events

**Deadline to register:
Wednesday, February 12, 2025**



**National Capital
PRESBYTERY**
MISSIONAL • PASTORAL • PROPHETIC



NATIONAL CAPITAL PRESBYTERY
**LEADERSHIP
TRAINING &
SAFE CHURCH TRAINING**
February 22, 2025

SCHEDULE

- 8:00 - 9:00 Welcome and Light Breakfast / Coffee
9:00 - 9:30 Plenary - Rev. John Molina-Moore
9:45 - 11:00 Workshop 1
11:15 - 12:30 Workshop 2
12:30 - 1:30 Lunch (Open Facilitated Conversations
grouped by Trustees, Deacons and Elders)
1:45 - 2:30 Closing Worship, led by Le Quan Turner, CRE Adelphi
Presbyterian Church
4:00-6:00 Safe Church Training

Offerings (select TWO)



Presbyterian Polity: Organizing and Making Decisions with Energy, Intelligence, Imagination, and Love - Led by Rev. David Baer, NCP Stated Clerk - God is up to something, and it's the church's job to discern, follow, and lead people in God's mission! Come and learn the basics of governance in the congregation, and leave equipped with tools to help your church stay focused and faithful.



Ordained Spiritual Leadership Outside of the (Session, Deacon, Trustee) Meeting - Led by Rev. Tara Spuhler McCabe, NCP Director of Congregational Development and Mission - Ordained officers are called into Spiritual Leadership of the church. How we live into and practice this spiritual leadership deserves to be constant and not just in our meetings.



Hospitality Plan - Led by Rev. Elizabeth Brookens-Sturman - Sharing the good news of the gospel includes how we welcome and are welcomed. Learn best practices in hospitality as this is one of the quickest fixes out of your Church Assessment Tool (CAT). Leaders from Brambleton Presbyterian Church will be guides for this practice based workshop.



Tools for Managing Change & Conflict - Led by COM's Ministry Relations Team members - Change is inevitable and at times our responses are driven more out of anxiety and fear of change. This can show up in our church systems as growing conflict. We all deserve ways to manage these realities into practices that enable our congregations to thrive and grow. This workshop offers helpful tools you can use right away. Resources will also be provided to take back to your congregations.



People and Property: Led by Heather Deacon, NCP Director of Business Affairs & Rev. John Molina-Moore, NCP General Presbyter. Stewarding the resources we have into the resources we want and need to grow in Christ's mission.

Safe Church Training: Offered for *current session members or elders-elect*. Topics include sexual misconduct and child sexual abuse prevention, satisfying the new Book of Order training requirement for session members.

Register HERE
thepresbytery.org/ncp-events



“Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.” -
1 Thessalonians 5:11 NIV

Keep the COMMUNITY WARM

EVERY SATURDAY | DECEMBER 2024

11:00am - 1:00pm

Available items
(while supplies last):

Hot soup and beverages
Chips
Gently used clothing for all
in different sizes

Bags filled with winter favorites
for children, men and women

Available on Saturday, December 14th and Saturday,
December 21st ONLY

SARGENT MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
5109 Nannie Helen Burroughs Ave, NE 20019



www.sargent-memorial-pc.org



202-396-1710



Zoom: ID 843 7163 8361/Password: 5109



Bush Hill Presbyterian Church Concert Series:

 **Holiday Hits!**
with Virginia Bronze

Sunday, December 8 at 7:30 p.m.

A free will offering will be taken to support various Bush Hill missions.



Bush Hill Presbyterian Church | 4916 Franconia Rd., Alexandria, VA 22310 | 703.971.1171



1975 **NORTHEASTERN** 2025
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

50th ANNIVERSARY KICK OFF WEEKEND

January 4 & 5, 2025

Prayer Breakfast

Saturday, January 4, 2025
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

Speaker
Reverend Veronica Cannon, Pastor
First Presbyterian Church,
Waxhaw, North Carolina



Worship Service

Sunday, January 5, 2025
10:00 a.m.

Guest Speaker
Reverend Dr. Jerry Cannon,
V. P. Ministry Innovation,
Board of Pensions of
The Presbyterian Church, USA



Liturgical
Dancers

Guest Musicians

Breakfast

Prayer Requests

Reception to immediately follow Service

TAIZÉ PRAYER SERVICE

FIRST WEDNESDAYS AT 7 PM

MUSIC, PRAYER, CANDLELIGHT AND SILENCE IN
THE STYLE OF THE TAIZÉ COMMUNITY

Fairlington United Methodist Church Chapel

3900 King Street, Alexandria, VA 22302

Hosted by Fairlington United Methodist,
Fairlington Presbyterian and St. Clement Episcopal Churches.
Parking available in Fairlington UMC and Presbyterian lots.



November 6 Prayer after the Election

December 4 Advent Prayer

January 1 Prayer to begin the New Year

February 5 Midwinter Prayer

March 5 Ash Wednesday



Save the Date



National Capital Presbytery
Presbyterian Women

Virtual

Prayer Gathering

“Peace, Hope, and Love”

Speaker: Kris Maldarelli CRE Gaithersburg

Small Group Discussions and Uplifting Stories

Saturday, January 18, 2025 at 10 a.m.

Registration Information To Follow



PRESBYTERIAN
WORLD PRIDE 2025
PLANNING COMMITTEE



**Seeking enthusiastic volunteers to support
with World Pride 2025 events!**

"Support Our World Pride Planning Committee!

**Are you a fun-loving, welcoming, and hospitable person interested
in supporting LGBTQ+ initiatives? We're seeking dedicated
volunteers to contribute to the events we're organizing.**

We need your help with:

Designing and decorating floats

Greeting people

Parade support

Prayer

**Even if you don't know where you want to serve, we'd love to have
you join! Your creativity and enthusiasm will help make this event a
memorable one for all.**

Contact: Ivana & Héctor

- imiranda3426@gmail.com**
- htorres734@gmail.com**



Hanover Christmas



**CAMP
HANOVER**

A candlelit trail winds through the woods, transporting you back in time. Along your journey, meet other travelers, shepherds, kings, and angels. Immerse yourself in the greatest story ever told...

More than “just another live nativity,” you’ll experience musical performances, dramatic re-enactments, and fellowship with others while leisurely strolling a candlelit wooded path. After your journey, warm up in Wise Lodge with festive music and hearty refreshments.

LEARN MORE AT

camphanover.org/hanover-christmas



**Friday, Dec. 13 and
Saturday, Dec. 14**

6:00 – 9:00 p.m.

**3163 Parsleys Mill Rd
Mechanicsville, VA**

**A donation of \$10 per
person to the Annual
Fund for Camp Hanover
is appreciated**

This event is suitable for all ages and physical abilities. Visitors with mobility issues can request transportation around the event via golf cart.

Winter Camp

December 28-30

CAMP
HANOVER



Bonfires



Time with friends



Gaga

Nature hikes



Crafts



Archery



High ropes

Cookouts



Open to
campers in
grades 5-12



LEARN MORE AT

[camphanover.org/
winter-camp](http://camphanover.org/winter-camp)

