

THURSDAY MAIL

January 30, 2025



MISSIONAL, PASTORAL, PROPHETIC



IN THIS EDITION

NCP Calendar of Events

VIDEO: Message from Rev. John Molina-Moore

from the Desk of Rev. David Baer

from the Desk of Rev. Tara Spuhler McCabe

Annual Statistical Report

Allyship Training

Leadership Training & Safe Church Training

Continuing Ed Gathering & Retreat

Healthy Boundaries Opportunity

February Birthdays

Around NCP

Other Organizations

National Capital Presbytery

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

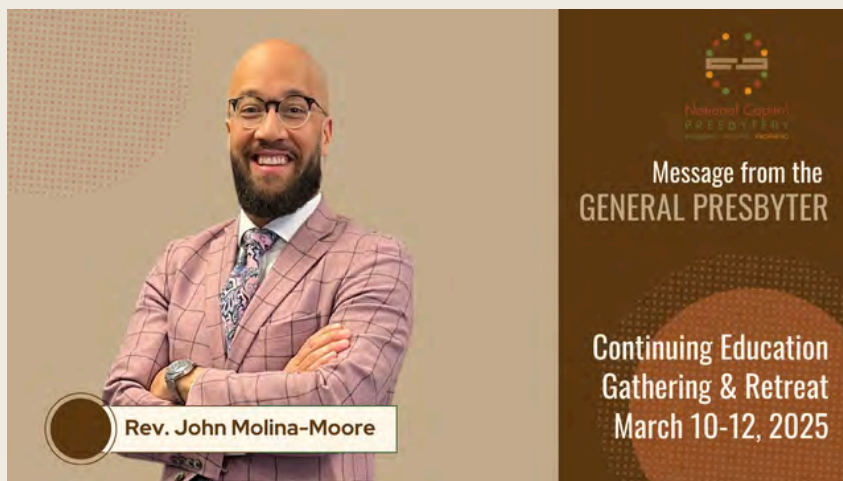
communications@thepresbytery.org

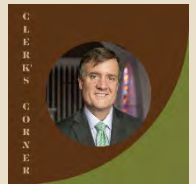
NCP CALENDAR

February 7	Bible Content Exam
February 8	Allyship Training - In-person
February 22	Leadership Training & Safe Church Training
March 10-13	Continuing Education Gathering & Retreat
March 20	Missional Incubator: Training with Tod Bolsinger
March 25	Virtual Stated Presbytery Mtg
May 6	Healthy Boundaries Training

More detailed information about each event, flyers and registration may be found on the Events page of the website

VIDEO: Message from General Presbyter, John Molina-Moore - Continuing Education Gathering & Retreat





Summary of the 320th Stated Meeting of National Capital Presbytery

National Capital Presbytery held a stated meeting in Stone Hall at National Presbyterian Church on January 23. The Moderator, **Elder Lou Durden**, convened the meeting with prayer.

During the meeting the presbytery:

- The Presbytery **commissioned Ruling Elder Kris Maldarelli to pastoral service** at Gaithersburg Presbyterian Church.
- Approved a **Policy to Authorize the Celebration of the Sacraments by Ministers of Other Denominations** proposed by the Commission on Ministry.
- Established two **Administrative Commissions**, one to carry out matters related to the dissolution of **Northwood Presbyterian Church**, and one to visit with and settle difficulties in the session and congregation of the **First Presbyterian Church of Annandale**.
- Approved, at the recommendation of the Commission on Preparation for Ministry, an **exception to time requirements** for two persons under care, and **alternative-means examinations** for another candidate for Ministry of Word and Sacrament.
- Acted on two proposed **amendments to the Book of Order**:
 - Approving 24-A, an amendment to F-1.0403, “Unity in Diversity,” by a vote of 130-45.
 - Approving 24-C, an amendment to G-2.0104b, “Gifts and Qualifications,” by a vote of 89-82.
- Recognized transitions in our community:
 - We celebrated the retirement of the **Rev. Catherine McCollough** from validated ministry at the Center for Pastoral Counseling of Virginia.
 - We welcomed the newly ordained **Rev. Adrian Rodriguez**, who is serving as Associate Pastor at Vienna Presbyterian Church.

The next stated meeting will be held via Zoom teleconference on Tuesday, March 25.

Grace and Peace,

Rev. David A. Baer, Stated Clerk



Greetings People,

When I write, ‘a whole bag of adapters’, what are you thinking? Were you thinking about how we can be the adapters in a bag for our churches? And for our communities? Are you thinking it now!

When Rev. Dr. Ted Smith (our Keynoter for the March Con-Ed Gathering) told us he will bring his “whole bag of adapters”, he was referring to necessary tech tools. But what I immediately saw was **US**. We get to be a whole bag of adapters! Or at least we can gather, retreat, listen, practice, worship, pray, play, and listen some more to how we get to be Jesus’ whole bag of Christian Adapters.

Think of it this way, we have two or more groupings of people (generations, cultures, Android/iPhone users...) and as all members and possible members of Christ’s body, **WE NEED TO INTERACT or interface** with one another. However, our methods and structures are not compatible or at least do not feel compatible in face of our current realities of decline in membership. **WE**, key leaders in our churches, need to be the adapters AND make way for new adapters so that they can be the translators between the groupings...with Christ we are the compatible interface for the other groupings to connect and grow!

We are the hands, hearts, feet, and voices that continue to show that when Jesus reveals he has come, “to proclaim good news, proclaim freedom to the prisoners, recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, and proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor”*, we are able to integrate this truth throughout the groupings and times of our lives.

Please direct your pastor(s), colleagues, professional church staff members to consider this **Con-Ed gathering (March 10-12, 2025)** in their calendars. Oh, and the location is truly a respite in the midst of it all!

Peace and Courage,

Rev. Tara Spuhler McCabe

*Luke 4: 18-19

ANNUAL STATISTICAL REPORT

The stated clerk has sent a notice to clerks of session that as of January 2, 2025, the Office of the General Assembly (OGA)'s statistical reporting system is open for the 2024 reporting season. We are asking churches to submit their reports by February 1, if possible. The absolute last day to enter statistical information is February 15. This is an OGA-set deadline, and NCP staff are not able to change it.

The notice sent to clerks included the username and password for each church to log in to the reporting system, which can be found, along with much helpful information, at the link below:

<https://pcusa.org/resources/statistics-lists/statistical-reporting-faq>

Thank you for your time and effort helping to provide current information on our congregations. While the OGA directs the statistical reporting process, this information is vitally helpful as National Capital Presbytery helps its churches plan for their future! Questions? Ask the Stated Clerk, Rev. David Baer.

LEADERSHIP TRAINING & SAFE CHURCH TRAINING



NCP's **Leadership Training & Safe Church Training** for elders will be held on **Saturday, February 22, 2025** at **National Presbyterian Church**, Washington, DC. [Click for more info and to register.](#)

CONTINUING EDUCATION GATHERING & RETREAT

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 have Rev. Dr. Ted A. Smith as our Framer and Rev. Corwin Davis as our Weaver for the gathering.

[Click for more info and to register](#)

FEBRUARY

Happy Birthday!

Dina Bickel	Lynn Jostes, retired
Henry Brinton	Deborah Kapp, retired
Layne Brubaker	Leslie Klingensmith
Byron Buck, retired	Rusty Lynn, retired
VLC	Kris Maldarelli
Koon Im Choi	Dean McDonald, retired
Brian Clark	Sterling Morse
Blake Collins	Jay Moses
Robbie D'Orazio	Katie Ross
Heather Deacon	Jon Smoot, retired
Karen Doty, retired	William Stuart, retired
Susan Fellows, retired	Molly Teichert
Bill Hale, retired	Casey Wait
Brian Hamilton	Rose Wayland
Larry Hayward	Jerry Wheat, retired
Yena Hwang	Scott Wilson, retired
Ray Hylton	Grace Woodward
Sarah Johnson	Bill Yolton, retired



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.

PULPIT SUPPLY LIST

If your congregation is in need of pulpit supply, reach out to our COM Administrator, Rebekah Greniven at comadmin@thepresbytery.org.

JASHEMSKI SCHOLARSHIPS

Takoma Park Presbyterian Church is fortunate to be able to provide financial assistance from the Stanley and Wilhemina Jashemski Scholarship Fund for undergraduate students of outstanding intellectual ability and significant religious commitment.

Eligible scholarship recipients will demonstrate in their thought and action the broad religious sensitivity characteristic of Stanley and Wilhelmina Jashemski and will:

- be active members of a Christian church;
- have a cumulative grade point average of 3.5 at the time of application;
- pursue a balanced curriculum that includes arts & humanities, sciences, social sciences, and mathematics; show evidence of social and civic concern;
- have financial need.

Applications for new and returning students are due February 15, 2025. The application and additional info can be found on the TPPC website: <https://www.takomaparkpc.org/jashemski-scholarship>

THE DISMANTLING RACISM TEAM OF
NCP INVITES YOU TO

ALLYSHIP TRAINING 2025

led by Service Never Sleeps



an **IN-PERSON TRAINING OPPORTUNITY**

Saturday, February 8

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

at Lewinsville Presbyterian Church

Honors the Minister Member mandate and an opportunity for all employees and members of NCP churches, congregations, and partners.

Lunch will be provided

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: **C**are, **L**earn, **A**ct, **I**nfluence, and **M**aintain. 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 **IN-PERSON** time together 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](#)

NOTE: NCP will be offering a NEXT Church training in *Racism as a Way of Being* in 2025. The SNS Allyship Training will be a required prerequisite!

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



**Saturday,
February 22, 2025**

8:00 AM to 2:30 PM
w/ Safe Church Training
from 2:45 to 4:45 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



Music
Paul Vasile
Interim Director of Music & Organist
New York Avenue 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 • THEOLOGICAL



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
2:45 - 4:45	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. Workshop 1: Polity 101 -Designed for New Officers & Workshop 2: Beyond the Basics



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



FUTURE READY CHURCH LEADERS

Embracing Today - Equipping for Tomorrow

March 10-12, 2025

Hyatt Regency Chesapeake Bay Golf Resort, Spa and Marina - Cambridge, MD

Leadership for The Church of the future will be different than it is today. Learn where the arch of change is pointed as we together discern how leadership of today can begin to live into the needs of The Church for tomorrow.



Framer: Rev. Dr. Ted A. Smith is Charles Howard Candler Professor of Divinity and Associate Dean of Faculty at Emory University's Candler School of Theology. He also serves as director of the Theological Education between the Times project. Smith is the author of three books: *The End of Theological Education* (2023), *Weird John Brown* (2015), and *The New Measures* (2007). Together these books try to think theologically about core American Protestant institutions, practices, ideals, and rhetoric in the time of their unraveling. Ordained to ministry in the Presbyterian Church (USA), Smith served as pastor to two small-membership churches prior to his doctoral studies.



Weaver: Rev. Corwin Malcolm Davis is a PhD Candidate in Religion at Emory University in the Person, Community, and Religious Life course of study, with a certificate in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality studies. Davis has received numerous fellowships and recognitions for his research that focuses on Black religious practices, sociality, and care. He serves as the Associate Director of the Theological Education between the Times project and the Director of the Writing Center at Candler School of Theology. His writing has appeared or is forthcoming in *Religions*, *Theology and Sexuality*, and *Political Theology*. The Rev. Davis is an ordained itinerant elder in the AME Church where he has served in congregational ministry and at the AME Publishing House.

\$350 /person (single occupancy)

\$225/person (double occupancy)

Includes programming, two nights, Monday heavy hors d'oeuvres, Tuesday breakfast, lunch, afternoon snack and dinner

[Click HERE to register](#)

(registration closes February 14, 2025)

Questions? Contact [Dina Bickel](#)



GROUPS FORMING NOW FOR THE FALL OF 2025

Missional Incubator: National Capital Presbytery

Interested? Contact Brian Clark, Director, to set up an initial conversation.

bclark@thepresbytery.org

***Missional:** Loving people. Engaging community on their terms and their turf.*

***Incubator:** Space to dream. Growing dreams into reality.*

Unless it is the LORD who builds the house, the builders' work is pointless. (Psalm 127:1)

OVERVIEW

Mixed-economy expressions of church have been with us since the beginning of Church. Throughout scripture are the stories of how God used shepherds, vinedressers, farmers, accountants, financial planners, tent makers, owners in the textile industry, fishers, and many others to lead and gather God's people.

The National Capital Presbytery seeks a more proactive, intentional approach to establishing new worshiping communities and new expressions of existing churches that will engage people currently unconnected to church. The decline in church membership, the increasing pace of church closures, and the growing disconnect between current ministries and a postmodern culture demand a different strategy. This strategy will need to incorporate a mixed economy ministry that can provide income streams to the mission while increasing opportunities to engage with those who would not be attracted to a more traditional church. **If your church is ripe for this kind of strategy and with the capacity to take this bold step, now is the time to apply to the Fall or 2025**

MISSIONAL INCUBATOR

The Incubator's goal is to empower your church to develop contextually informed, thoughtfully integrated, mission-hearted new expressions of the one Church. The Incubator will empower your leadership to develop a robust plan for a compelling business or social enterprise of your church that will engage the community and create collisions with people not associated with your church. The Incubator will give key leaders of your church nine to twelve months and resources to:

- Develop mission plans, including business plans that identify funding and investors.
- Draw on outside experts partnered with the Missional Incubator.
- Create a steady source of contacts and introductions in your community.
- Develop funding sources for a new expression of church paired with a compelling business.

WHAT WOULD BE REQUIRED OF YOUR CHURCH:

- Identify a lead person with the drive to develop a plan and the capacity to bring that plan into reality. The lead person is usually the pastor or associate pastor who is positioned to implement, or oversee the implantation of, the plan developed.
- The lead person will spend one day a week (10 AM - 3 PM) with 3-5 others in a cohort of the Missional Incubator. The location of these gatherings will rotate among Ridgetop Coffee and Tea, your church, and the churches of the others in the Incubator.

WHAT WOULD BE REQUIRED OF YOUR CHURCH (continued):

- The lead person will gather a team of 2-3 people connected with your Church who will meet monthly with the lead as dreamers, conversation partners, discerners, and explorers of this new mission. The team will also:
 - Engage in a regular posture of listening and learning as a missional practice in your local context:
 - Be open to community conversations.
 - Try a few experiments as a process of honing the most viable compelling business plan.
 - Engage in spiritual practices that will support the missional practices.

HOW THE MISSIONAL INCUBATOR WILL SUPPORT YOU IN THIS PROCESS:

- Equipping in the practices and skill sets needed to explore potential business opportunities, including community listening, networking, and market research.
- Coaching and mentorship in developing a business and mission plan.
- Connection to thought leaders and experts to build skills, strategies, and capacities for this work.
- An innovative environment of peers to generate ideas and feedback loops to support one another in the work.
- Dedicated energy and attention to developing a thorough plan, to include a business plan, mission plan, financial plan, and staffing plan.
- A “Cloud” of experts who would be available for consultation, to include builders, architects, accountants, lawyers, county experts, and more.
- Availability to meet with your team, your session, or your congregation at any time that will help bring along the stakeholders in this process.
- A spiritually vibrant environment to support prayerful discernment.
- A commitment to walk alongside your congregation to bring this plan into reality once the plan has been developed.

RESULTS: AT THE END OF NINE MONTHS YOU MIGHT DISCERN AS A CHURCH THAT:

- Now **is** the time for this new mission and you begin to implement the plan.
- Now **is not** the time for this mission:
 - The Incubator time revealed the road map for a business that will take 1-2 years to put the pieces together.
 - The Incubator revealed this is not the right mission for our church.

A vision of a man from Macedonia came to Paul during the night. He stood urging Paul, “Come over to Macedonia and help us!” Immediately after he saw the vision, we prepared to leave for the province of Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them. Acts 16:9-10 (CEB)

Ultimately the Missional Incubator is designed to help your church discover who is God urging you to engage and how can you meet them on their terms and on their turf.

so that our churches can grow 



Training Night with Tod Bolsinger
The Mission Always Wins:
Quit Appeasing Stakeholders

March 20, 2025, 6:00 PM

@ Ridgetop Coffee and Tea

21631 Ridgetop Circle, Sterling VA 20166

Sponsored by National Capital Presbytery

6:00 PM: Dinner

6:45 PM to 7:45 PM: Presentation by Tod Bolsinger



Tod Bolsinger is the author of five books and served as a pastor for 27 years. Bolsinger speaks, consults, and is an executive coach for corporate, non-profit, educational and church organizations in transformational leadership.

Tod Bolsinger, author of *Canoeing the Mountains*, is uniquely positioned to explore the qualities of adaptive leadership in contexts ranging from churches to nonprofit organizations. He deftly examines both the external challenges we face and the internal resistance that holds us back.

Registration and Cost:

- \$30/person – includes dinner and Tod's recent book, *The Mission Always Wins*
- \$35/church team - includes joining us on a livestream and Tod's recent book, *The Mission Always Wins*
- Register [HERE - NCP Events | National Capital Presbytery](#)

Missional: Loving people. Engaging community on their terms and their turf.

Incubator: Space to dream. Growing dreams into reality.

Unless it is the LORD who builds the house, the builders' work is pointless. (Psalm 127:1)

so that our churches can grow

Sing a New Song!

CONCERT SERIES 2024 -2025



TERRAPIN BRASS ENSEMBLE

**JAN 31
7:00PM**



Potomac
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

10301 River Road, Potomac, MD

www.potopres.org



Hearts in SERVICE

A Day of Ministry & Outreach

**Join us we serve, pray, and connect with the
community**

Will be serving hot soup and hot beverages and more to the community

SATURDAY | 1 FEBRUARY, 2025

11:00am – 1:00pm

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

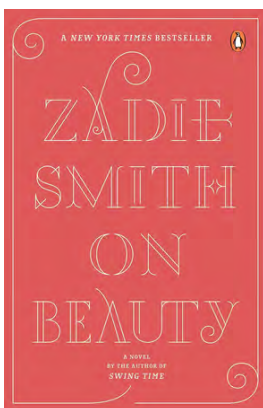
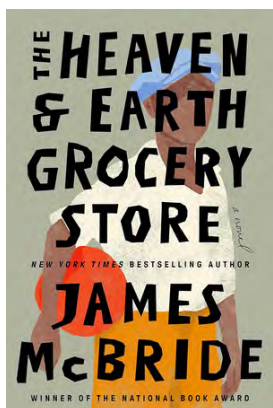
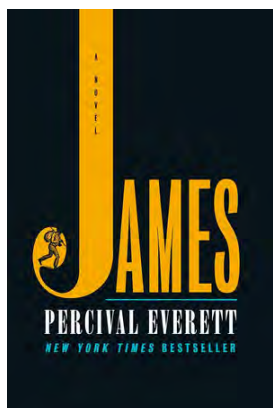
Old Presbyterian Meeting House

323 S. Fairfax Street, Alexandria, VA 22314

opmh.org

Black History Month

Book Discussions



Wednesday, February 5

7:00-8:30 PM

RSVP: opmh.org/books

Concert With A Cause



Choir of William and Mary

February 23, 4:00 PM

Old Presbyterian Meeting House

FREE with an offering to benefit two scholarships for the Alexandria Community Remembrance Project. The Alexandria Community Remembrance Project established two \$3,000 scholarships in 2024 to recognize and remember this City's lynching victims Joseph McCoy (1897) and Benjamin Thomas (1899). Scholarships are awarded to two Alexandria City High School students annually.

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.



February 5 Midwinter Prayer

March 5 Ash Wednesday





BLACK PRIDE SUNDAY

celebration

**JOIN US IN-PERSON TO HELP CELEBRATE OUR
CULTURE OF TODAY
REPRESENT YOUR FAVORITE HBCU,
YOUR SORORITY OR FRATERNITY, OR
WEAR ALL BLACK AND SHOW YOUR PRIDE**

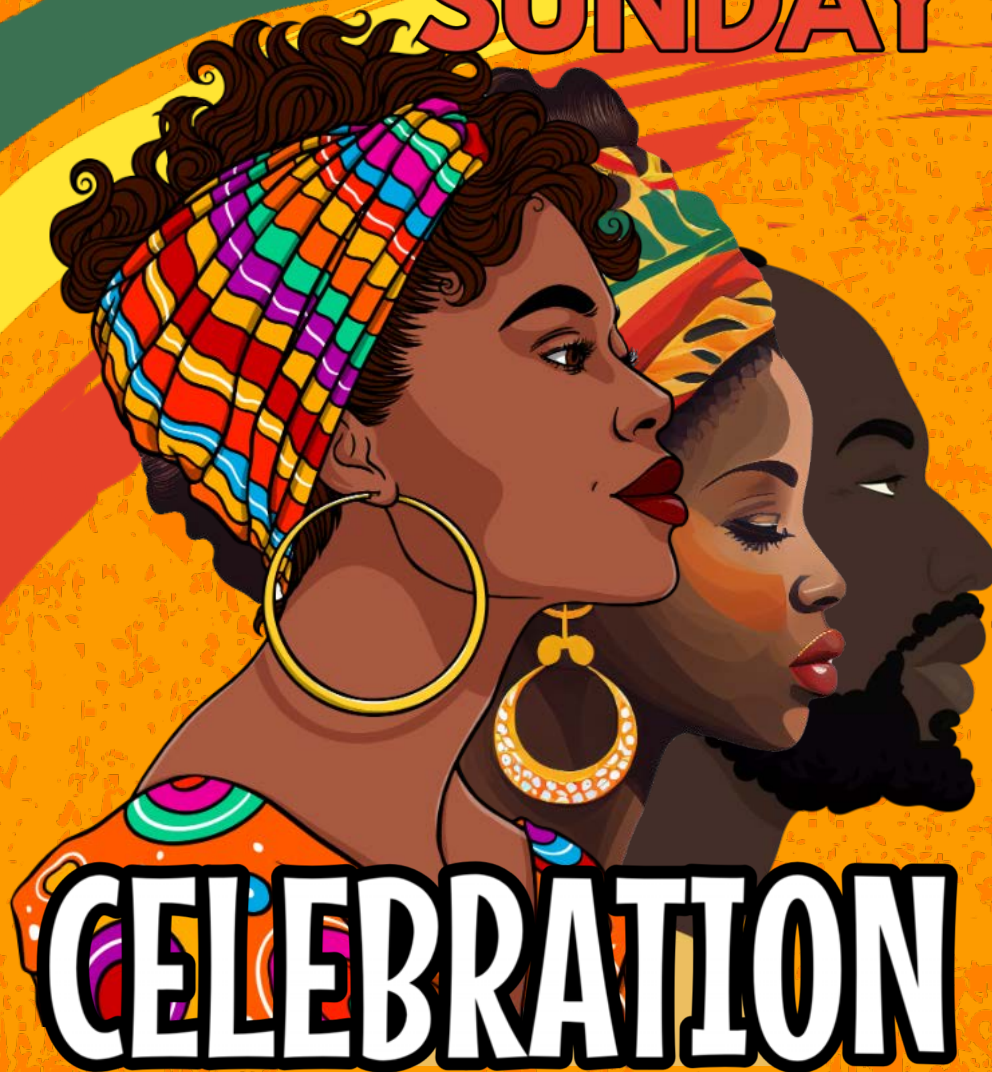
***A SPECIAL SHOWING OF THE SIX TRIPLE EIGHT
FOLLOWING SERVICE***

**SUNDAY
FEBRUARY 9 AT 10:30 AM**



**SARGENT MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
5109 NH BURROUGHS AVE NE, DC 20019**

AFRO CENTRIC SUNDAY



WORD BY REV. BRIAN K. McCOLLUM - MUSIC BY THE SARGENT WINGS

**WEAR YOUR BEST AFRO-CENTRIC ATTIRE AND LET
US PRAISE CHRIST TOGETHER**

SUN, FEB 16TH AT 10:30 AM

**SARGENT MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
5109 N.H. BURROUGHS AVE, NE DC 20019**

An Evening with Professor Tiya Miles

*Author of Night Flyer: Harriet Tubman and the Faith
Dreams of a Free People*



Dr. Tiya Miles is a Professor of History at Harvard University and an award-winning author of eight books. She will discuss her new book *Night Flyer* which focuses on the eco-spiritual worldview of Harriet Tubman and other similar women of her time. Her emphasis will be on how these spiritual insights can help us navigate a just and sustainable path during difficult days.

Tuesday, February 18, 2025 at 6 pm EST

Metropolitan AME Church

1518 M Street, NW, Washington, DC 20005

Register to attend in person or for the webinar:

nyapc.org/miles

Sponsored by the McClendon Scholar Program of New York Avenue Presbyterian Church

For more information call 240 393-7246



**New York Avenue
Presbyterian Church**



Bush Hill Concert Series Presents:

LIFE

in full bloom



February 22
3PM

Bush Hill
Presbyterian
Church

Add some "spring" in your step as District5 presents an afternoon of music that celebrates the trials and triumphs we endure throughout the seasons. Thunderous tempests, icy snow storms, and flourishing gardens are expressed through works by composers such as Fanny Mendelssohn Hensel, Samuel Barber, and Tara Islas!

DISTRICT5

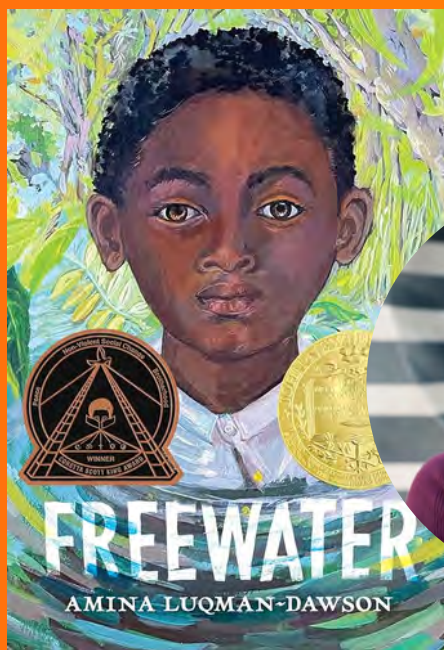
Bush Hill Presbyterian Church
4916 Franconia Rd.
Alexandria, VA 22310
703.971.1171 | www.bushhill.org



CROOKED STEEPLE

Literary Festival

WELCOMES
AMINA LUQMAN-DAWSON



SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22TH AT 2PM

READING & RECEPTION
\$20 SUGGESTED DONATION
225 E. BROAD STREET, FALLS CHURCH, VA

SCAN TO
REGISTER!



WITH SUPPORT FROM



FALLS CHURCH
PRESBYTERIAN



National Capital
PRESBYTERY
MISSIONAL • PASTORAL • PROPHETIC

LEADERS in National Capital Presbytery...
Would you like some help on the Sunday after Easter, April 27, 2025?
Members of the National Response and National Volunteer Teams of



PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE

will be attending our Annual Meeting in DC and are ready to help!*

Find out what PDA is doing by asking for one of them to...

Preach

Moment for Mission

Sunday School presentation

Want to know more about what *you* are doing through
Presbyterian Disaster Assistance?
You are doing more than you might think!

Initial Response * Host Sites * Human-Caused Disasters
Disaster Preparedness * Refugee & Immigration * Story Ministry
Long-term Recovery * Emotional & Spiritual Care



Contact Rev. Merritt Schatz merritt.schatz@gmail.com
to schedule or for more information

*Scheduling subject to availability and transportation



Rev. Dr. Carrie Mitchell
Church Consultant

m: 215-587-7239

cmitchell@pensions.org

January/February 2025

We at the Board of Pensions are working hard to serve our churches, ministers, and employees of the Presbyterian Church (USA). I am here to support you and your congregation should you have any questions about the Board's benefits and programs. I look forward to our continued partnership in the new year.

The Board of Pensions is a national agency of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), offering a broad range of benefits to PC(USA) churches, agencies, mid councils, and affiliated employers.

Member/Employer Services: 800-773-7752 M-F 8:30 am to 6:00 pm ET. memberservices@pensions.org

Shared Ministry Program

The new Shared Ministry Program encourages two or more Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) congregations to covenant to create sustainable pastoral positions for ordained ministers. Participating congregations enter into a five-year dues incentive program with the Board to receive a subsidy of the cost of benefits for pastors. Shared Ministry is not a merger of churches; rather, it is multiple, individual congregations sharing a minister with a living wage and benefits that helps ministry flourish and be sustained for the long term. [Learn more about the program](#), including key considerations and how to get started.

Assistance Program Updates

As part of our commitment to mutual care and wholeness, the Board of Pensions continues to expand access to grants through the Assistance Program to serve more ministers, employees, retirees, and surviving spouses who have financial need. In 2024, the Assistance Program distributed over 2,500 grants for a total of approximately \$8.5 million in funds. [Read about potential grant opportunities.](#)

Other important information:

Employee Assistance Plan (EAP): Effective Jan. 1, 2025, Spring Health replaced Cigna as the provider for the EAP. Spring Health offers mental health care navigation with a broader network of providers in addition to the EAP services with which members are familiar. [Learn more about Spring Health.](#)

Remember to update Effective Salaries for the new year: Any changes to effective salaries must be reported to the Board of Pensions via Benefits Connect within 30 days of the effective date. Details about forms of compensation included in effective salary are found in [Understanding Effective Salary.](#)

Call to Health well-being program begins a new year: Call to Health is a well-being program that focuses on self-care in all areas: spiritual, health, financial, and vocational. It offers members in the medical plan the opportunity to reduce their medical deductible(s) and earn Tango cards, which can be redeemed for gift cards or used to make charitable donations. [Learn more](#) and start today.





SAVE THE DATE
PW SYNOD SUMMER GATHERING
Thursday, June 12 – Sunday, June 15, 2025

MASSANETTA SPRINGS CAMP AND CONFERENCE CENTER
HARRISONBURG, VIRGINIA

A place for all people to experience God through renewal, discovery, and hospitality

Catch a first glimpse of the 2025-2026 *Horizons* Bible study
Finding Resilience, Joy, and Our Identity in Jesus Christ.

BE READY! BE INFORMED!

Hear it from the author herself—Rhashell Hunter. She will speak at two plenaries and teach two workshops.

Gain knowledge from Keynote Speaker, Bronwen Boswell, Immediate Past Acting PC(USA) Stated Clerk.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS AND PLAN TO BE THERE!

Worship, education, camaraderie, and the natural beauty of Massanetta Springs await you.

Registration information will be available by the end of January, 2025.

REGISTRATION FEES

Full-Time (3 nights and 8 meals)

Double Occupancy	Early Bird -- \$430.00	Regular Fee -- \$475.00
Single Occupancy	Early Bird -- \$455.00	Regular Fee -- \$500.00

Part-Time (2 consecutive nights and 6 meals)

Double Occupancy -- \$350.00
Single Occupancy -- \$380.00

Part-Time (1 night and 3 meals)

Double Occupancy -- \$295.00
Single Occupancy -- \$320.00

Commuter

Full Event (no meals) -- \$230.00
Single Day (no meals) -- \$150.00

Virtual Option

4 plenaries (Thursday evening, Friday morning, Friday evening, Saturday morning) -- \$100.00
--