

The next Thursday Mail deadline is
Monday, August 18 with distribution
on Thursday, August 21.

THURSDAY MAIL

August 7, 2025



MISSIONAL, PASTORAL, PROPHETIC

National Capital Presbytery

Upcoming Events 2025/26

National Capital
PRESBYTERY

AUG
23

**Church Comms
& Marketing**
Workshop

SEPT
2

**Church Comms
& Marketing**
Workshop

SEP
8

**Antiracism -
Laity**
Six sessions via Zoom

SEP
9

**Antiracism -
Clergy**
Six sessions via Zoom

SEP
18

**Missional
Incubator**
Who, What, Why

SEP
22

**Action Item
Dialogue**
TBD - Meeting

SEP
23

**Presbytery
Meeting**
New Commissioner
Training & Business Mtg

SEP
29

**NCTC
Investment
Workshop**
Zoom - (coming soon)

OCT
5

**Pastors'
Hangout**
Social Hour

OCT
18

It's Not Weird
Start a Compelling
Missional Business

OCT
19

Youth Event
Presbytery-Wide
Praying with Our Feet

OCT
25

**Allyship
Training**
In-person

NOV
16

**Missional
Incubator**
Implementation

NOV
18

**Presbytery
Meeting**
Zoom Budget

NOV
21-23

**Keep
Awake**
Registration now open

FEB
3-5

**Missional
Incubator**
Immersion

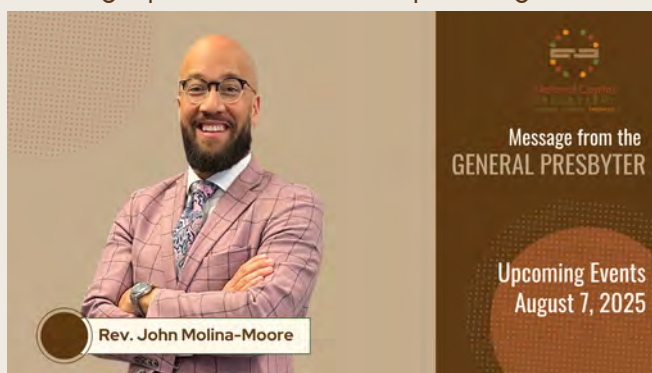
MAR
2-4

**Continuing Ed.
Gathering &
Retreat**

— For more information and to register -
thepresbytery.org/events
Questions?
communications@thepresbytery.org

VIDEO: MESSAGE FROM JOHN MOLINA-MOORE

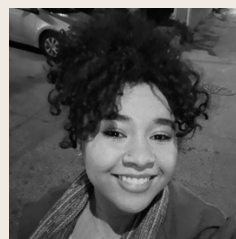
Gearing Up for the Fall and Upcoming Events



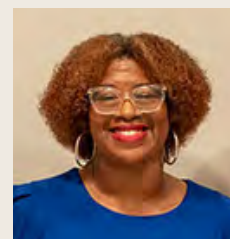
NCP STAFF UPDATE



Tempest



Gabrielle



Shani

Help us welcome back **Tempest Davis** from family leave. Tempest will be the Administrative Assistant for Committee Support, where she will primarily assist COM, CPM, New Things Team and Leadership Council

A warm welcome to **Gabrielle Dowery**, who joins us on staff in the role of Finance and Office Administrative Assistant.

Last but certainly not least, please join us in welcoming **Shani McIlwain** as our new Social Media Coordinator.

Let's celebrate these wonderful additions to our team!

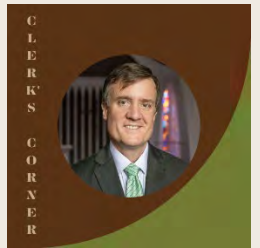
More detailed information
about each event, flyers and
registration may be found on
the [Events page of the website](#)

National Capital Presbytery

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

communications@thepresbytery.org





*For everything there is a season
and a time for every matter under heaven.*

— Ecclesiastes 3:1, NRSVUE -

Dear Friends,

As the only member of my family *not* in an official relationship with the public schools, I am nonetheless keenly aware of the impending end of summer vacation, as our rhythms begin to shift toward new fall routines. I hope your own summer season has brought time for rest, travel, or visits with friends and family, and I wanted to offer a preview of what is coming in our presbytery this fall.

We will gather for an **in-person stated meeting of the presbytery on September 23** at National Presbyterian Church. Please remember that while this meeting will be live-streamed, members of the presbytery and session commissioners will be able to participate in deliberations and exercise the privileges of voice and vote *only* if they are physically present. At this stated meeting we will:

- worship God together, hearing the proclamation of the Word by our outgoing Moderator, Elder Lou Durden, partaking in the Lord's Supper, and installing our new Moderator (Elder Jesy Littlejohn) and Vice Moderator (Rev. Rachel Vaagenes);
- commission one or more ruling elders to pastoral service; and
- welcome new members of our community and reconnect with old friends.

In addition, I will be offering an **orientation for new commissioners** prior to the business meeting. Please stay tuned for more information about this gathering, which will bring you up to speed on the people and committees we see front-and-center at our meetings (COM, ACCP, LC—what's all that about?), and how to serve as an effective commissioner before, during, and after the meeting.

I also wanted to draw your attention to the **new Book of Order (2025-2027)**, which took effect on July 4. The interactive digital edition is available at <https://pcusa.org/resource/book-order-2025-2027-interactive-version>, and the softcover print edition can be ordered from the [PCUSA Store](#). All of the amendments proposed by last year's General Assembly received affirmative votes from a majority of the presbyteries in the PCUSA, and they have therefore been adopted. The new text is highlighted in **boldface** in both digital and print editions. While all the amendments may still be found in the [booklet released last fall](#), the following changes may be of particular interest to our congregations:

- The session's examination of officer candidates (i.e. newly elected elders and deacons) must now address "the Historic Principles of Church Order (F-3.01) and ... the principles of participation and representation found in F-1.0403" (new text of G-2.0104b). There are no mandated questions or expected answers, and it remains the responsibility of the session to evaluate each candidate individually, guided by the Scriptures and the confessions, but these topics must be included. A task force of the presbytery's Commission on Ministry is revising our own examination procedure for ministers, and will also prepare some guidelines for sessions.

- Temporary pastoral relationships (e.g. Interim Pastor, Stated Supply) may be approved for up to thirty-six months at a time, rather than twelve (G-2.0504b). Our pastors and congregations in long-term stated supply relationships may appreciate this added flexibility.
- Nondisclosure agreements are now prohibited when temporary or installed pastoral relationships end (G-2.0504b, G-2.0901). Discussion of this amendment at the General Assembly centered on the perception that such agreements may be coercive, and that the church as a whole would be better served by openness and transparency.
- Protection policies will need to be revised to include “adults with vulnerabilities,” in addition to children and youth (G-3.0106).

May God bless what remains of summer and any transitions that the fall may bring!

Grace and Peace,
Rev. David Baer, Stated Clerk



Greetings People,

This summer I had a social media discipline to post daily a Beautiful Thing (according to me). I wanted to share daily beauty that I encounter and invited others to share their beautiful observations. It was not a project or anything, just a way to remind myself how I want to be with a lens of the Triune God in front of me. And a way for me to act like I am on social media!

As a presbytery, we deserve to engage with one another and celebrate BEAUTIFUL Things in our ministries as a witness of the reconciling love of Jesus Christ! We need this! Listed are some BEAUTIFUL Things in your presbytery that my desk is grateful to be working on with you!

- **August 23rd**, registration is still open for in-person **Workshop on Communications** from and with your congregation on Saturday, August 23, 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM at Lewinsville Presbyterian Church.
- **September 2nd, 7am -9am Ministry of Presence with Prayers and Blessings at DC Metro Stations.** This is a repeat ministry of presence from June. Pastors and members will be present with signs and prayers for employees arriving to work after Labor Day holiday. This was not a protest (there are also times for that). This is a time of pastoral care and evangelism through a ministry of presence. And yes, you want to be ready with details of where your church is located. People were asking! Join us for **a zoom teach in on August 19th at 10:00 AM** [Zoom Link](#) Meeting ID: 843 2742 1318 Passcode: 025133
- **For Times Such as Now** continues to be provided online for our clergy in areas of prayer support in your ministry for the first Thursday of each month. The third Thursday of each month is Listen-n-Learn of ways to be faithfully engaged with partners throughout the DMV as many legal and employment changes are occurring: **August 21st** at noon will be with PCUSA Office of Public Witness. **September 18th** will be with Amica Center for Immigrant Rights. Pastors – Check your inbox for an email about these events.
- **NCP Youth Gathering** for the fall, October 19th with Zy Bryant at Hope Presbyterian Church in Mechanicville, MD. Praying with our FEET! More info to come!
- Add **Missional Incubator** events this Fall to your calendar!

Each of these gatherings, some in-person and some online, are provided so we can see the BEAUTY in one another and with one another. COME and join in on some Beautiful Ministry opportunities with your colleagues and churches of NCP!

Peace and Courage,

Rev. Tara Spuhler McCabe

CHURCH COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING IN 2025 AND BEYOND

**Saturday, August 23, 2025 from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM
at Lewinsville Presbyterian Church**

In today's ever evolving communication & technology landscape how do churches penetrate all of the noise to get their message out and reach their community? In this 2-part session, John Falke of Johnny Flash Productions, a web and digital marketing agency near Washington, DC that serves church, non-profits and small businesses, will unpack the latest in church communications, from AI, to social media, to the Google Ad Grant and other ways churches can market and reach their audience. We'll cover communications essentials and church marketing trends that are working today. Register [HERE](#).



THE 227TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY (2026)



The 227th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) will take place from June 23 to July 3, 2026, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, featuring both online and in-person sessions. For some FAQs, click [HERE](#). For NCP's nomination process, click [HERE](#). Deadline to be nominated is September 24, 2025.

NCP AT MONTREAT WEEK 3

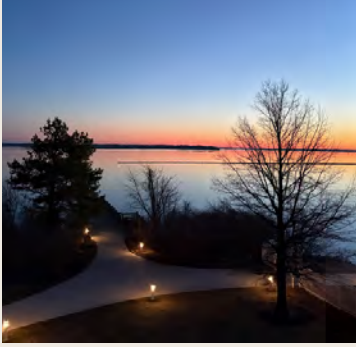


NCP represented well at the Montreat Youth Conference Week 3. NCP minister member Rev. Samantha Gonzales-Block preached and Bradley Hills, Chevy Chase, Darnestown, Immanuel, Old Presbyterian Meeting House, St. Andrew, and Saint Mark engaged with each other!



Samuel Atiemo, retired
Matt Baker
Donald Benjamin, retired
Jean Brown
J.C. Cadwallader
Tempest Davis
William Darnie
Jen Dunfee
David Gray
Christian Halverson, retired
Ruth Hamilton, retired
Robert Harris, retired
Maggie Hayward
Diane Hendricks
Ann Herlin
Patrick Hunnicutt
Elenora Giddings Ivory, retired
Sun Mook Jhee
Chul Kim
Shannon Kiser
William Kosanovich, Jr.
Matt Nabinger
Gail Nelson, retired
Deborah Dodson Parsons
Jacob Rodawla
Mary Rodgers
Steven Swanson, retired
Beverly Swayze
Donna Weddle, retired
Juli Wilson-Black
John Yoo
Yeo Cheon Yun, retired

2026 CONTINUING EDUCATION GATHERING & RETREAT



We are pleased to announce that our **2026 Continuing Education Gathering & Retreat** will be back at the Hyatt Regency Chesapeake Bay in Cambridge Maryland on **March 2-4, 2026**. We will offer **early bird pricing** with the fee increasing on December 1! We are excited for our speakers **Brennan Breed**, Associate Professor of Old Testament at Princeton Theological Seminary and **Lakisha Lockhart**, Associate Professor of Christian Education and Acting Director of the Center for Womanist Leadership at Union Presbyterian Seminary. Register [HERE](#).



ORDINATION SERVICE

National Capital Presbytery invites you to a worship service celebrating the ordination of **Caitlin Culp** as a Minister Member of Word and Sacrament in the Presbyterian Church (USA) on **Saturday, September 6, 2025 at 10:00 AM at Church of the Covenant in Arlington, VA.**

MEMORIAL CELEBRATION



You are invited to the **Memorial Celebration of Rev. Lincoln "Lon" S. Dring**. Lon was a proud and devoted Presbyterian who, following his retirement as Executive Director of Community Ministries of Montgomery County (now known as Interfaith Works), served as NCP moderator in 1983 and later as pastor of two churches in Scotland. The memorial celebration of Lon's life and ministry will be held at the [Rockville Presbyterian Church](#), 215 West Montgomery Avenue, on **Saturday, August 23 at 10:30 AM**. Read the obituary [HERE](#).

LEADERSHIP ETHICS TRAINING OPPORTUNITY



UNIVERSITY of DUBUQUE
THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

LEADERSHIP ETHICS

STARTING SEPT. 2

Taught by the Rev. Emily Blue

100% Online and Semi-Synchronous

Course Topics:

- Theologically Grounded, Personal Ethical Leadership
- Corporate Practices and Commitments for Justice
- Congregational Practices for Safe Sanctuaries
 - Avoiding or Responding to Misconduct
- Congregational Communication and Information Sharing
- Trustworthy and Transparent Finances

Course Outcomes:

- Personal Code of Ethics
- Program for Congregational Training
 - A program you can implement immediately in your context
- Judicatory Letters Confirming Training

(Please confirm with your judicatory, this course meets their requirements)

For more information or an application:
Contact: Rev. Krista Denne, Director of Seminary Admissions
UDTSAdmission@dbq.edu

The University of Dubuque Theological Seminary is offering a robust, one credit course in Leadership Ethics. The course begins September 2. A majority of the course is working on boundary training with the final project allowing participants to walk away with their own, ready-to-go, congregational training program in hand. If this is something your Pastors and Congregations need, please share far and wide. There is a brief application process for taking the course, and it will run around \$910. It makes a great continuing ed opportunity for pastors that could meet the requirements for boundary training and places a program in their hands to train others. Contact Rev. Krista Denne, Director of Seminary Admissions at UDTSAdmission@dbq.edu for more information.

CAMP HANOVER EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES



HOMECOMING:
LABOR DAY WEEKEND | AUG 29-SEPT 1

We invite everyone who loves Camp Hanover to this special weekend when all ages can experience the fun and beauty of God's creation together in fellowship. Come for the weekend or a day.

CRAFTS • ARCHERY • CAMPFIRE
CANOEING • CLIMBING WALL
GAMES • NATURE WALKS • SWIMMING
PADDLEBOARDING • WORSHIP



LEARN MORE & REGISTER
camphanover.org/homecoming




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.



September 19-20, 2025



Learn more: CampHanover.org/womens-retreat

INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITY @ 



Interested in serving God and others through camp ministry?

Apply now to become a Camp Hanover MVP! MVP stands for **mission, vocation, and practice**. MVPs are paid interns who live and work at Camp Hanover for nine to twelve months while developing skills to help in their futures. Applications are being accepted now for the 2025-2026 year which begins in August. Learn more at camphanover.org/about/mvp/.





National Capital Presbytery

Upcoming Events 2025/26

AUG
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Church Comms & Marketing
Workshop

OCT
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It's Not Weird
Start a Compelling
Missional Business

SEPT
2

Ministry of Presence
Prayers at DC Metro
Stations

OCT
19

Youth Event
Presbytery-Wide
Praying with Our Feet

SEP
8

Antiracism - Laity
Six sessions via Zoom

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Allyship Training
in-person

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Antiracism - Clergy
Six sessions via Zoom

NOV
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Missional Incubator
Implementation

SEP
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Missional Incubator
Who, What, Why

NOV
18

Presbytery Meeting
Zoom, Budget

SEP
22

Action Item Dialogue
TBD - Meeting

NOV
21-23

Keep Awake
Registration now open

SEP
23

Presbytery Meeting
New Commissioner
Training & Business Mtg

FEB
3-5

Missional Incubator
Immersion

SEP
29

NCTC Investment Workshop
Zoom - (coming soon)

MAR
2-4

Continuing Ed. Gathering & Retreat

OCT
5

Pastors' Hangout
Social Hour

→ For more information and to register -
thepresbytery.org/events

Questions?
communications@thepresbytery.org



Times Such as Now

In **Times Such as Now**, you, the spiritual leaders and guides of NCP shall be nurtured and resourced. Your presbytery continues to host bi-monthly gatherings, zoom and in-person gatherings. This series is intended to deepen our connections with one another.

We have a special program for the Listen and Prayer session for

Thursday, August 7, Noon – 1:30 PM

The Teaching Elder Care and Nurture Committee is pleased to provide this online opportunity. **It is important to pre-register for this event, 8/7**, so that PDA can send you some handouts ahead of time. Contact Emma Horn: ehorn@ipcmclean.org for any questions. A description of the program is below: *Faith*

2025 Faith Leader Support Discussion

Members of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance will facilitate a conversation on Zoom for faith leaders in a conversation about how they and those with whom they minister are affected by concerns surrounding immigration and migrants, LGBTQIA+ issues, and job loss and economic uncertainty. The conversation will provide an opportunity for sharing, reflection, and tools for self-care and resilience in times of deep distress and uncertainty. These meetings will last one hour with an additional 30 minutes of optional continued conversation. The sessions will not be recorded and all participants will be asked to keep everything that is shared confidential.

This session is not designed to offer technical, policy, or grant information related to immigration and migrant concerns. Omar Salinas-Chacon, Missions Specialist for Migration Accompaniment Ministries with PDA at Omar.Chacon@pcusa.org can provide details about these issues.

Here is the zoom link for 8/7, noon – 1:30 PM:

<https://thepresbytery.zoom.us/j/83480642468?pwd=L4xDuESCY23YG8oHYOWEcDwdQCULTf.1>

Meeting ID: 834 8064 2468

Passcode: 091764

NCP NOMINATIONS FOR 227TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

(June 23rd to July 2nd, 2026; Milwaukee, WI)

Dear Members of National Capital Presbytery:

Please read the following for information about the 227th General Assembly (GA) and the NCP nomination process. We hope you will prayerfully consider applying and/or seeking those equipped to serve in this essential function in the larger church.

Our presbytery will be represented by the following distribution of delegates:

- 4 Teaching Elders (including NCP Moderator)
- 4 Ruling Elders (including NCP Vice-Moderator)
- 1 Young Adult Advisory Delegate (YAAD)
- 2 Alternates (1 Ruling Elder, 1 Teaching Elder).

Transportation to the General Assembly, and room and board are reimbursed for commissioners and YAADS in accordance with General Assembly policy.

Nomination Process

- **Ruling elders** - Click **HERE** for RE form
 - Nominees must be endorsed by their church's Session and will have preferably: a) been a member of their congregation for at least three years; and b) attended at least two presbytery meetings in a two-year period
 - Nominees must submit their forms to their church's Clerk or Moderator of Session. After the Session has endorsed the nomination, the Clerk or Moderator shall complete and submit the form electronically to nominating@thepresbytery.org **no later than September 24, 2025.**
 - Ruling elders must also provide at least one (and up to three) reference letters, which shall be sent by the person making the recommendation to nominating@thepresbytery.org by **September 24, 2025.**
- **Teaching elders** - Click **HERE** for TE form
 - Potential delegates may self-nominate by completing the form and submitting it in electronic format only to nominating@thepresbytery.org **no later than September 24, 2025.**
 - Nominees must have a minimum of three years of membership in the presbytery, a record of regular attendance (~~at least half~~) of presbytery meetings, and demonstrated service to the presbytery.
 - Letters of reference are welcome but not required.

- Young Adult Advisory Delegates - Click [HERE](#) for YAAD form
 - Nominees must be endorsed by their church's Session and submit their forms to their church's Clerk or Moderator of Session. After the Session has endorsed the nomination, the Clerk or Moderator shall complete and submit the form electronically to nominating@thepresbytery.org **no later than September 24, 2025.**
 - YAADs must also provide at least one (and up to three) reference letters, which shall be sent by the person making the recommendation to nominating@thepresbytery.org **by September 24, 2025.**
- All candidates must provide a picture in electronic format

Timeline Review:

- September 24, 2025: All forms and recommendations due to the NCP Nominating Committee
- October 1, 2025: NCP Nominating Committee approves slate of nominees to be posted on the NCP website by October 10, 2025
- November 4, 2025: Forms due for those seeking to be nominated from the floor of Presbytery during the November 18, 2025 meeting
- November 18, 2025: Delegates approved at Presbytery Meeting

Please see the presbytery web site for additional criteria that the NCP Nominating committee will consider to select nominees that are best positioned to serve and honor the diversity and abundance of gifts in our presbytery. Please hold this committee and our nominees in prayer, and thank you for your faithful consideration.

If you have questions, please contact us at nominating@thepresbytery.org



CHURCH COMMUNICATIONS & MARKETING *in 2025 & beyond*

Saturday, August 23, 2025

9:00 AM to 1:00 PM

with lunch (\$10 suggested donation)

Lewinsville Presbyterian Church

1724 Chain Bridge Road, McLean, VA 22101

» **REGISTER HERE** «

In today's ever evolving communication & technology landscape how do churches penetrate all of the noise to get their message out and reach their community? In this 2-part session, John will unpack the latest in church communications, from AI, to social media, to the Google Ad Grant and other ways churches can market and reach their audience. We'll cover communications essentials and church marketing trends that are working today.

John Falke (aka Johnny Flash), is the Founder & CEO of **Johnny Flash Productions**, a web and digital marketing agency near Washington DC that serves church, non-profits and small businesses. Prior to that John ran communications & marketing full-time at a church for over a decade and helped it grow from 500 to over 2500 in weekly attendance.



Questions? Contact Dina Bickel - dbickel@thepresbytery.org



THE DISMANTLING RACISM TEAM OF NCP INVITE YOU TO

Antiracism as a Way of Being

LED BY **NEXT CHURCH** COACHES



Rev. Christopher J.
Holland II



Chip Low

CLERGY COHORT 6-SESSION ONLINE TRAINING

SCHEDULE

10:00 am to 11:30 am

Tuesday, Sept 9

Thursday, Sept 25

Thursday, Oct 9

Thursday, Oct 23

Thursday, Nov 6

Thursday, Nov 20

**Register [HERE](#)
Space is limited**

**This is for NCP Clergy to
take their antiracism
learning and go deeper.**

**Completing SNS Allyship
Training or equivalent is
a prerequisite.**

**NEXT Church describes
the training as:
"Antiracism is not a
program, a mission
project, or even this
course. Antiracism is a
way of being."**

**This training equips
participants to move
from education to action
in our personal and
congregational lives.**



THE DISMANTLING RACISM TEAM OF NCP INVITE YOU TO

Antiracism as a Way of Being

LED BY **NEXT CHURCH** COACHES



Rev. Christopher J.
Holland II



Chip Low

This is for lay people from NCP congregations to take their antiracism learning and go deeper.

Completing SNS Allyship Training or equivalent is a prerequisite.

LAITY COHORT 6-SESSION ONLINE TRAINING

SCHEDULE

7:00 pm to 8:30 pm

Monday, Sept 8

Wednesday, Sept 24

Monday, Oct 6

Monday, Oct 20

Monday, Nov 3

Monday, Nov 17

Register [HERE](#)
Space is limited

**NEXT Church describes the training as:
"Antiracism is not a program, a mission project, or even this course. Antiracism is a way of being."**

This training equips participants to move from education to action in our personal and congregational lives.

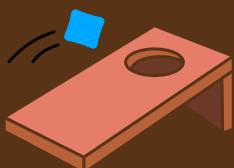
Pastors'

*Firepit, yard games &
a good time!*

Hangout

**Sunday,
October 5, 2025
7:00 PM**

Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church
2001 Sherwood Hall Lane, Alexandria VA 22300

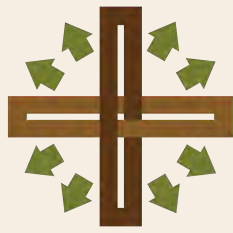


BRING A SNACK TO SHARE & A YARD CHAIR



Register [HERE](#)

Questions? - Contact John Molina-Moore - jmolinamoore@thepresbytery.org



Upcoming MISSIONAL INCUBATOR EVENTS 2025 - 2026

Explore ways to use your existing facility to create fresh expressions of church that build new communities.

All events have a suggested donation of \$10 to offset food costs unless otherwise noted.

18 **2025** | **WHO, WHAT, AND WHY?** **SEPT**

Thursday, September 18, 6:00 -8:00 PM
Ridgetop Coffee and Tea, Sterling, VA

The future of your church will be shaped by how you answer three simple questions:

- “Who are you here to engage and serve?”
- “What are you doing to engage your who?”
- “Why are you doing what you do?”

This evening event is designed to help you and possibly a few others from your church wrestle with the implementation of your mission as it relates to your “who”, “what”, and “why”. This will also be an opportunity to evaluate your mission plans considering your answers to the three key mission questions. For churches who are in the second round of the cohort and who bring a team, a coach will be provided to guide your table discussion at this event making this time a deeper dive into your concept as it relates to the mission. Dinner included. To reserve your spot, register [HERE](#).

18 **2025** | **IT'S NOT WEIRD: START A COMPELLING** **OCT** **MISSIONAL BUSINESS**

Saturday, October 18, 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM
Ridgetop Coffee and Tea, Sterling, VA

A church starting a compelling missional business or a social enterprise, is that weird? Would Jesus turn over the tables or would Jesus be the one who greets the strangers at the door of your gym, grocery store, coffee café, bookshop, learning center, music store...? Many churches do not find the amount of giving in offering able to sustain the mission and few churches have visitors flocking into their doors. Maybe a compelling business is a path to a viable future. Lunch included. To reserve your spot, register [HERE](#).

16 **2025** | **IMPLEMENTATION** **NOV**

Sunday, November 16, 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM
Ridgetop Coffee and Tea, Sterling, VA

How do you go from “discernment” to “implementation”? How do you take an idea and make it a reality? Join us early at 1:30 PM for an ideation lab that will explore how to discern which idea to implement. Dinner included. To reserve your spot, register [HERE](#).

It's not **WEIRD** : Start a Compelling Missional Business



Saturday, October 18
10:00 AM - 2:00 PM
Ridgetop Coffee and Tea
21631 Ridgetop Cir, Sterling, VA 20166

Are you passionate about making a difference in your community?
Discover how to start a missional business that impacts lives at our upcoming workshop led by the NCP staff.

Dive into essential topics like
Community Exegesis, Non-profit Making Profit, and Case Studies.



We'll provide a solid framework and practical tools to help you succeed.
Learn what you can and can't do, along with actionable steps to move forward.

Don't miss this opportunity to turn your vision into reality.

Register HERE
and take the first step towards creating a compelling missional business!

Lunch included
(suggested \$10 donation to offset food costs)



THE DISMANTLING RACISM TEAM OF
NCP INVITE YOU TO

ALLYSHIP TRAINING 2025

led by Service Never Sleeps



UNITY · RECONCILIATION · JUSTICE
Dismantling Racism

an **IN-PERSON TRAINING OPPORTUNITY**

Saturday, October 25

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

at National Presbyterian Church

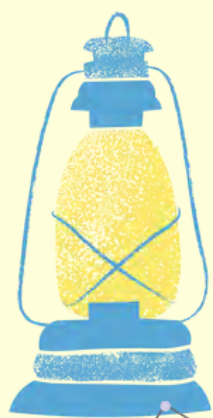
Honors the Minister Member mandate and an opportunity for all employees and members of NCP churches, congregations, and partners.

Lunch

(\$10 suggested donation to offset food costs)

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](#)



KEEP
AWAKE!



November 21 - 23, 2025

Massanetta Springs

This is a pay-what-you're-able retreat for high school students and their leaders, centered on worship, leadership development, and small group discussion in line with PC(USA)'s Matthew 25 vision.

IMPORTANT DATES

Monday 10/6/25: group holds expire

Monday 11/10/25: final day to register

Register your church group [HERE](#)

Questions? Contact Colleen Earp

540-434-3829 - colleen@massanettasprings.org

Contact NCP's Tara Spuhler McCabe -

tspuhlermccabe@thepresbytery.org

AFTER your church has registered.



SUMMER POP-UP MARKET

Hope Presbyterian Church
1100 Enterprise Road,
Mitchellville Maryland
20721

Join us for a fun-filled day on August 23rd from 10am-2pm!

We're looking for vendors to participate in our upcoming pop-up market to showcase your products and services.
Come be part of our community!

Details:

**Space: \$30 per space - the size of the space is
6 x 8 feet (Please bring your own table and chairs)
Food Truck fee is \$75 per truck**

Music, Raffles, Food Trucks and More!
Please visit our website to sign up or scan the QR Code
www.hopepresbyterianchurch.com
Contact: Victor Tarkeh 240-422-5354

BEER + SINGING = FUN!

NO REHEARSALS, NO PERFORMANCES - ALL ARE
WELCOME TO SING OUT AND DRINK BEER!

SUNDAY NOV. 1 @ 7PM



9812 FALLS RD #106,
POTOMAC, MD 20854



Summer Events

Theology by the Vine at Windridge Vineyards

Thursdays – 5/29, 6/26, 7/24, 8/28, 9/25

Beer Choir at Whelan's dates

June 29th, July 20th, August 24th at 7PM

Mission Trip

July 27, 2025 – August 2, 2025

Children's Music & Arts Camp

Ages pre-K through 5th grade, August 11 – 15th



Divine Harmony



PreK-5 STUDENTS

Summer Camp
for Music, Art, and Drama

AUGUST 11-15

9AM-2PM

AFTER CARE 2-5PM

POTOMAC PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

10301 River Rd. ~ Potomac, MD

[The Raleigh Ringers](#) will be performing here at The First Presbyterian Church of Annandale on Saturday, August 23, 2025, at 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary. We are so happy that this “*Internationally-acclaimed and Emmy-Nominated Handbell Group*” will be performing here at the First Presbyterian Church of Annandale during the 11th Season of our FPCA Concert Series. **Online Tickets are on sale for this special event for \$30.00.**

Tickets can be purchased by going to the following website:

<https://fpcava.ticketspice.com/the-raleigh-ringer-handbell-group>. Or, you will find a **LINK** to the site where you may purchase tickets to this wonderful concert on the

First Presbyterian Church of Annandale FACEBOOK site:

<https://www.facebook.com/FirstPresbyterianChurchOfAnnandale>. So, mark your calendars and please get your tickets online, as tickets sold at the door on the day of the concert will be \$35.00.

Thank you so much for your continued support for the mission, ministry, and music program here at the First Presbyterian Church of Annandale



***Tickets Available Online
At fpcannandale.org for \$30.00
Paper Tickets at the Door - \$35.00***



***The Raleigh Ringers
FOR ONE NIGHT ONLY!***

***Live and In Concert - August 23, 2025 (7:00 - 8:30 PM)
Location: The First Presbyterian Church of Annandale
7610 Newcastle Drive, Annandale, Virginia 22003***



Northeastern Family, Friends and Neighbors!!

Free Prostate Screening including MRI

Run by the National Institutes of Health
in Bethesda, MD.

Free transportation (Uber or Taxi) is available.

GIVING OURSELVES PATHS TO BEST HEALTH!!

Contact details for
those conducting the
study, and information on
where this study
is being conducted

STUDY CONTACT

Name: Yolanda McKinney, R.N.
Phone Number: 240.760.6095
Email: ymckinney@mail.nih.gov



STUDY CONTACT BACKUP

Name: Ismail B. Turkbey, M.D.
Phone Number: 240.760.6112
Email: turkbey@mail.nih.gov

NEPC is not officially affiliated with NIH

Can Your Congregation Help Support A Refugee Family?

The Urgent Need: In late January 2025 the U.S. government took two actions: It discontinued the entrance of almost all refugees into the U.S., and it ceased all funding for resettlement for newly arrived refugees. The nine non-profit resettlement agencies throughout the country no longer have federal funds to provide rent, living expenses, or assistance in job-search, connections to public benefits, or guidance in finding healthcare providers. There are hundreds of refugee families in the DMV area that have visas from the State Department and arrived in the U.S. between November and late January, but who are living in apartments with no way to pay rent, no money for food or basic necessities, and have only limited access to local, state, and private services. Many of these refugees do not speak English, and when they do their English is often very rudimentary.

Lewinsville Presbyterian Church's Response: Since 2022 Lewinsville's Refugee Resettlement Team (RRT) has partnered with Lutheran Social Services of the National Capital Area (LSSNCA), one of the official refugee resettlement agencies. We have helped resettle four families (three Afghan, one El Salvadoran). Now we are helping a Ukrainian family with basic expenses after the federal government suspended the Temporary Protective Status Program that enabled Ukrainians to flee their war-torn country.

Our Appeal: We invite your congregation to help support a family for a few weeks or even with a one-time donation. Members of our RRT are willing to put you in touch with Lutheran Social Services and provide more information about how your congregation might help. For example:

- You may be able to pay the rent for a family until the parents find employment.
- You may be able to provide funds for groceries.
- You may be able to help furnish an apartment.

Feel free to contact Betty Douglass or Layne Brubaker for more information.

CONTACT:

Betty Douglass, RRT team lead
ebdouglass22046@gmail.com

Rev. Layne B. Brubaker, Associate Pastor,
Lbrubaker@lewinsville.org

For more information about the challenges of LSSNCA due to the pause to refugee resettlement program and its funding freeze, please refer to this article:

<https://apnews.com/article/afghan-refugees-eviction-trump-foreign-aid-cuts-ef1c6ceabdeca71a212e9b230c0c5fed>



Scan QR Code to read article



PCUSA Administrative Personnel Association

Empowering
Excellence
in Church
Administration



About Us

Founded in 1976 by Joyce Bauer, the Administrative Personnel Association (APA) is dedicated to educating and certifying administrators serving the Presbyterian Church (USA). Recognized as a certifying body at the 2016 General Assembly, the APA encourages proficiency in administration. With members across five regions—Heartland, Atlantic, Pacific, Southeast, and Southwest—the APA continues to grow and host annual conferences.

Contact

Atlantic Region
Membership Chair:
Julie Anne McCormick
summervillepres@gmail.com

Membership

Those eligible for membership include employees of churches and other Presbyterian governing bodies in positions such as:

- Administrative Assistants
- Church Administrators
- Financial Administrators
- Office/Business Managers

Why is Certification Important?

At the heart of APA, the Certification Program equips members with expertise in their roles within the Presbyterian Church (USA). Through continued education, members enhance their value to staff, congregations, and themselves. Open to people of various faiths that serve PCUSA entities, the program deepens our understanding of the Presbyterian workplace through polity, training in church procedures, the digital world, management of time, work relationships, and spiritual health.

Certification Program

Level 1

Total Hours Required – 40 Hours

Level 2

Total Hours Required – 45 Hours

Level 3

Total Hours Required – 50 hours

Three levels of education are offered with areas of specialization.

APA also offers general continuing education and advanced certification in concentrated studies in the areas of Administration and Facilities Management, Church History, Communications, Finance, Polity, and Theology.



REGISTRATION OPEN TO CHURCH ADMIN STAFF!

PC(USA) Administrative Personnel Association Atlantic Region Conference

Sept 7-10, 2025

Summerville, SC

Classes toward Certified Church Administrator (CCA) certification will be held at Summerville Presbyterian Church at 407 South Laurel Street, Summerville, SC

Conference Registration fee \$195

Hotel accommodations by Hilton Hotel

Not attending in person? Zoom classes are \$25/ea.

Reserve your hotel room by calling

Jennifer Moody, 843-412-1974

Ask for APA Group rate

Rooms \$135/night + taxes & fees

Reserve your room by 8/7/25

Classes begin

Sunday afternoon!

Join the Atlantic Region

Board for a

Meet-n-Greet

at 7pm at the church!

Scholarships available

Contact Ruth Mikalonis, Treasurer

rmikalonis@verizon.net

Questions about registration

Contact Julie McCormick

summervillepres@gmail.com

**Register
HERE for
classes
by Aug 31!**

The certification program is the core of the Administrative Personnel Association (APA). It allows for members to gain expertise in all fields associated with their position within the PC(USA).

Each member, regardless of current certification or continuing education status, must take a Polity class at least once every three years to maintain any awarded certification(s). If you are not sure when you took your last Polity class, or if you have any questions regarding the certification process, please contact Romelda Guglielmo, office@fpcusa.org.

LEVEL 1 Core Courses

Polity – 5 hrs.

PC(USA) – 5 hrs.

Admin., Finance & Facilities Mgmt. – 2.5 hrs.

Self-Care & Personal Development – 2.5 hrs.

Communication/Technology – 2.5 hrs.

Ethics, Advocacy & Inclusion – 2.5 hrs.

Total Core Hours: 20

+ Total Elective Hours: 20

Total Hours required: 40

LEVEL II Core Courses

Polity – 2.5 hrs.

PC(USA) – 2.5 hrs.

Admin., Finance & Facilities Mgmt. – 5 hrs.

Self-Care & Personal Development – 2.5 hrs.

Communication/Technology – 2.5 hrs.

Ethics, Advocacy & Inclusion – 2.5 hrs.

Total Core Hours: 17.5

+ Total Elective Hours: 27.5

Total Hours required: 40

Conference Schedule

Date/Time/Class

(All classes available via Zoom)

Sunday, Sept 7

4pm Personal Safety (*Self-Care/Personal Development*)

7pm Meet-n-Greet/Registration

Monday, Sept 8

8am Breakfast & Morning Devotions

9am Supporting the Executive Staff (*Admin/Fin/Fac.*)

9am Theology A (*PC(USA)*)

11:45am Morning classes end; proceed to Lunch

1:30pm Managing Life Changes (*Self-Care/Personal Dev.*)

1:30pm Theology B (*PC(USA)*)

4:15pm Classes end for the day

4:30pm Atlantic Regional Meeting

Tuesday, Sept 9

8am Breakfast & Morning Devotions

9am Directory for Worship (*Polity*)

9am Social Media including Canva (*Communications*)

11:45am Morning classes end; proceed to Lunch

1:30pm Presbyterian Historical Society (*PC(USA)*)

1:30pm Creation Stewardship (*Ethics, Advocacy & Inclusion*)

4:15pm Classes end for the day

6pm Celebration Dinner

Wednesday, Sept 10

8am Breakfast & Morning Devotions

9am Board of Pensions (*PC(USA)*)

11:45am Class & conference ends

LEVEL III Core Courses

Polity – 2.5 hrs.

PC(USA) – 2.5 hrs.

Admin., Finance & Facilities Mgmt. – 2.5 hrs.

*Self-Care & Personal Development – 2.5 hrs.

*Communication/Technology – 2.5 hrs.

Total Core Hours: 12.5

+ Total Elective Hours: 37.5

Total Hours required: 50

**Ethics, Advocacy & Inclusion may be taken as an alternative*



Concerned about Gun Violence?

Learn Faith-Based Skills for
Gun Violence Prevention at the
Atwood Institute for Congregational Courage
Harrisonburg, VA Sept. 24-27, 2025

The Presbyterian Peace Fellowship invites you to the [Atwood Institute for Congregational Courage](#) at Massanetta Springs Conference Center in Harrisonburg, VA, Sept. 24-27, 2025. The Institute offers continuing education for clergy and lay leaders on educational, pastoral and action steps for gun violence prevention mission with the local congregation.

Who should come? Lay leaders and teams, parents and grandparents, gun violence survivors, suicide prevention groups, gun owners, safety advocates, veterans, pastors, youth leaders—people of faith who are committed to saving lives. All denominations are welcome.



Photo: 2024 Atwood Institute Graduates at Ghost Ranch, NM. They returned to their churches with new skills, courage and friends in the ministry of gun violence prevention.

See a short video from last year's participants [HERE](#).

Find a story from Presbyterian News Service [HERE](#).

2025 Atwood Institute Leaders Include: Rev. Sharon Risher, author of *For Such a Time as This: Hope and Forgiveness after the Charleston Massacre*; distinguished faculty from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg Center for Gun Violence Solutions; Rev. Dr. Kathy Riley of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance; hands-on training in Guns to Gardens by Quaker blacksmith Scotty Utz of RAWtools South; Rev. Rosalind Hughes, Episcopal Canon for Beloved Community, the Diocese of Cleveland, Ohio; and the Presbyterian Peace Fellowship Gun Violence Prevention Ministry team.

Learn more at www.presbypeacefellowship.org/james-atwood-institute

Thanks to generous sponsors, scholarships are available.

Sponsors include the Wisconsin Council of Churches, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, New Mexicans to Prevent Gun Violence, Trinity Presbyterian Church in Harrisonburg, VA, the Riverside Church in New York City, First Presbyterian Church of Santa Fe, NM, Oakland-Cambridge Presbyterian Church, Cambridge, WI, **The Presbyterian Outlook**, and others. The Atwood Institute is an ecumenical project of the [Presbyterian Peace Fellowship](#). For questions, contact: gvp@presbypeacefellowship.org



Join us October 8-11, 2025 for

SACRED CREATION:

Justice Flows Down Like Water

Earth Care Conference

Ferncliff Camp & Conference Center in Little Rock, AR and online

Keynote Speaker: Rev. Andrew Black, EarthKeepers 360

Worship Leaders: Rev. Rebecca Barnes & Rev. Jocelyn Wildwright

The Future of Water

Dr. Linda K. Smith

Dam Removal/Stream Restoration

Joel Gill

**Spiritual Practices & Personal Renewal
in a Threatened Creation**

Dr. Rebecca Langer

**Water: Essential Resource for Health
Yet Vulnerable to Contamination**

Dr. Marilyn Howarth

**When the Earth Cries Out:
Disasters & Creation Care**

Rev. Edwin Gonzalez-Castillo

Soil to Soul Awakening

Joyce & James Skeet

**Applying the Precautionary Principle to
Restoring God's Water**

Dr. Thomas Pakurar

International Panel Discussion:

**Rev. Jed Koball, Dr. Anne Hallum, Bishop Tom Ochuka
moderated by Rev. Dr. Patricia Tull**



REGISTRATION:

presbyearthcare.org/2025-earth-care-conference



Are you looking for ways to *nurture the faith*
of children & their families through *worship & prayer?*

Applications are open!



Pastors ~ Educators ~ Families
Congregations and their Leaders

*Two-day in-person gatherings
that will engage:*

- biblical & theological exploration
- deep listening & critical conversations
- contextual analysis that presents both challenges & opportunities
- theory & practices of culture change
- best practices & emerging ideas

*Travel, lodging, food, and materials related to participating in the
Summits are covered by the Font and Faith Initiative.*

<https://fontandfaith.cece.upsem.edu/>
Join us for the *journey*

