

THURSDAY MAIL



October 2, 2025





VIDEO MESSAGE FROM GENERAL PRESBYTER: OCTOBER 18 MISSIONAL INCUBATOR EVENT FOR ALL



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



PASTORS' HANGOUT

Sunday, October 5, 2025 at 7:00 PM Mount Vernon Presbyterian Church

Join colleagues **THIS Sunday** for fun, firepit, yard games and a time to connect with each other. Bring a snack to share and a lawn chair. Register **HERE.**







October 2, 2025

Greetings friends,

It's really *not* that weird.
What's not that weird?
Being a church with a **Missional Business.**



Now, my question has evolved: Why not just try it? What's holding us back? And where can we begin?

October 18th is your invitation to join a meaningful conversation and a time of collaborative learning as we explore how churches can begin taking *first steps* toward building a **missional business.** This is not about simply making money to "save the church" or becoming a business instead of being a church. This is about **serving out of abundance**—and being the church.

If your church has ever taken part in the **Church Assessment Tool (CAT),** then you're familiar with these top priorities that emerge again and again:

- Making necessary changes to attract families with children and youth
- Developing and implementing a comprehensive strategy to reach new people and integrate them into church life
- Creating more opportunities for meaningful relationships

Siblings in Christ, these shared hopes are not out of reach. But they do require us to ask some courageous questions: What's holding us back? What are we willing to try? What do you need to try?

Our time together on October 18th will include: listening, learning, and dreaming collaboratively. Practical tools and best practices for shifting resources and energy toward missional business initiatives. Real data about what supports congregational vitality and what hinders it. Discernment exercises to help you take actionable next steps.

We hope you'll join us on **Thursday, October 18, from 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM** at **Ridgetop Coffee and Tea** (Riverside Presbyterian Church). Register <u>HERE</u>.

Peace and Courage,

Rev. Tara Spuhler McCabe





Currie Burris, retired John Chiang, retired **Caitlin Culp Abigail Evans** Nancy Fox, retired **Patricia Futato** Ron Hankins, retired Walter Harman, retired **Glenda Simpkins Hoffman** Haekil Kim **Robert Long III, retired Peter Manning** Joseph Matthews, retired Amy Schacht, retired **Stephen Smith-Cobbs** Katie Strednak Singer Ed Taylor, retired **Holly Ulmer** Alice Winters, retired Heemoon Youn, retired



UKIRK MARYLAND

Do you have students from your congregation who attend the University of Maryland at College Park? Let them know about UKirk Maryland – <u>ukirkmaryland</u> on Instagram share the form HERE.



FROM THE OFFICE OF THE STATED CLERK

Attention Clerks of Session! In the coming weeks you will be receiving a few emails. One request will be for your church's Necrology Report - those elders who have died during the period from November 1, 2024 through October 31, 2025. All churches are asked to submit a report no later than November 3, 2025 to ensure its inclusion at the November 18th presbytery meeting. The second request will be to schedule a Session Records Review. Those emails will come from communications@thepresbytery.org through Constant Contact.

CHANGING SEASONS, CHANGING CLERKS?

Has your congregation elected a new Clerk of Session or updated its church office email? Have you changed your personal email address?

Let us know! Send contact information updates to communications@thepresbytery.org



SPECIAL OFFERINGS

SPECIAL OFFERING CHANGES COMING IN 2026

As congregtations plan for the year ahead, note the 226th General Assembly (2024) approved changes to the churchwide Special Offerings to take effect January 1, 2026. To learn more about the 2026 changes, click HERE.

2026 CONTINUING EDUCATION GATHERING & RETREAT



We are pleased to announce that our **2026 Continuing Education Gathering & Retreat** will be back at the Hyatt Regency Cheasapeake 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.









SONG WRITING RETREAT



The Center for Congregational Song is offering another one of its **song-writing retreats.** This year's retreat we're returning to Richmond, VA on October 22–25, 2025. It is an ecumenical gathering of song writers. Many are clergy or worship leaders in their local churches who would like to begin or would like to get better at writing hymns and songs of the church. Others are simply lay folks who feel called to write. The clinicians this year are renowned hymn writers Mary Louise Bringle (Brevard, NC) and Ben Brody (Spokane, WA).

You can learn all about the retreat here: https://congregationalsong.org/event/writing-the-churchs-song-2025/

CAMP HANOVER OPPORTUNITY





National Capital Presbytery



pcoming Events 2025/26

SEPT

Ministry of Presence

SEP

8

Antiracism -Laity

Six sessions via Zoom

SEP

9

Antiracism -Clergy

Six sessions via Zoom

18

Missional Incubator

22

Action Item Dialogue

SEP

Presbytery Meeting

Training & Business Mtg

29

Faithful Investing

OCT

5

Pastors' Hangout Social Hour

OCT

It's Not Weird

Start a Compelling Missional Business OCT

19

Youth Event

Presbytery-Wide Praying with Our Feet

ОСТ

25

Allyship Training in-person

NOV

16

Missional Incubator

Implementation

NOV

18

Presbytery Meeting

Zoom, Budget

NOV

21-23

Keep Awake

Registration open

JAN

31

Leadership **Training** Coming soon

FEB

3-5

Missional Incubator

Immersion

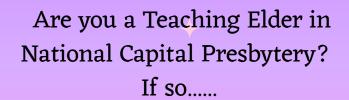
MAR

2-4

Continuing Ed. Gathering & Retreat

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

Questions? communications@thepresbytery.org



NCP's Teaching Elder Care and Nurture Team is here for you!

How can the TEC-N Team support you and your minstry?

Whether ministry is beautiful or hard and heartbreaking for you in this season, there are many ways that the TEC-N Team of National Capital Presbytery can support you!

Do you....

Need a Listening ear and prayer?

Need a sabbatical approved?

Need a grant to support an event or activity for your clergy group?

Need help navigating the process of getting your ministry recognized as a validated ministry within NCP?

Need a grant to support individual coaching or spiritual direction?

THE TEC-N TEAM IS HERE TO HELP WITH ALL OF THIS AND MORE!

Want more information? Contact team co-chairs Emma Horn ehorn@ipcmclean.org

or

Larry Golemon lgolemon@washingtontheocon.org



Join UKirk Maryland, The Humble Walk, and other progressive campus ministries from the region on our fall retreat at Camp Mount Luther!

Cost: \$25, scholarships available

October 3-5, 2025







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 <u>HERE</u> Questions? - Contact John Molina-Moore - jmolinamoore@thepresbytery.org



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.

WHO, WHAT, AND WHY?
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.

IT'S NOT WEIRD: START A COMPELLING 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.

IMPLEMENTATION

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.



: Start a Compelling Missional Business

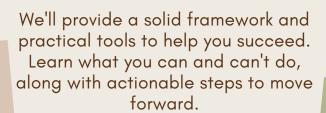


Saturday, October 18 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM Ridgetop Coffee and Tea 21631 Ridgetop Cir, Sterling, VA 20166

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





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



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











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

praying with our FEET

with Zy Bryant

Sunday, October 19

1:00 -3:30 PM

Hope Presbyterian Church

1100 Enterprise Road, Mitchellville, MD 20721

With NCP Hope 1100 Enter

Toburing food drinks games

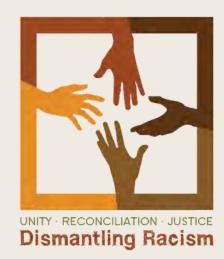


Please RSVP for a headcount for activities and food

THE DISMANTLING RACISM TEAM OF NCP INVITE YOU TO

ALLYSHIP TRAINING 2025

led by Service Never Sleeps



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: Care, Learn, Act, Influence, and Maintain. The workshops teach individuals about the causes of social injustice, how to be effective allies for marginalized communities, and how to actively influence and educate others. Our 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



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN NATIONAL CAPITAL PRESBYTERY

2025 FALL GATHERING - Hybrid

Saturday, October 18, 2025, 10am to 12pm – Lunch to follow Gaithersburg Presbyterian Church

610 S. Frederick Ave. Gaithersburg, MD 20877

Theme: PW IN THE WORLD

Speaker: Nina Khouri

"Her experience as a PW Delegate to the

UN Commission on the Status of Women"

Registration link:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfydICKWVJZva_GYtlxEndL658xIVgX9sGEDef3AJVuyM_XMg/viewform?usp= header

Least Coin Offering will be collected

Please no loose or rolled coin



Reflecting on Christian Patriotism: a Reformed Perspective Saturday, October 4, 2025 9:00-11:00 am (coffee 8:45)



Join Dr. Mark Valeri at the National Presbyterian Church 4101 Nebraska Ave NW, Washington, DC 20016



scan to RSVP

We live in a time when waving the flag and raising the cross go hand in hand for many Americans. But which one takes priority? Should Christians offer patriotic support or prophetic critique of the state in a time such as this? The Reformed tradition has engaged nations and the state in different ways over time, always asking. "What does God call this nation to be?"

Join the Reformed Institute to hear from **Dr. Mark Valeri: "Reflecting on Christian Patriotism: A Reformed Perspective."** The event takes place on Saturday, October 4, 2025 at the <u>National Presbyterian Church</u> in Washington, D.C. Registration and coffee begin at 8:45, program begins at 9 a.m. and ends at 11 a.m. Please RSVP below.

Dr. Mark Valeri is the Reverend Priscilla Wood Neaves Distinguished Professor of Religion and Politics at the John C. Danforth Center on Religion and Politics at Washington University in St. Louis. His areas of specialization include religion, social thought and economics in America; Reformation theology and the political history of Calvinism; Puritanism; and enlightenment moral philosophy. Dr. Valeri's latest book describes how Protestant views of other religions changed from 1650 to 1765: *The Opening of the Protestant Mind: How Anglo-American Protestants Embraced Religious Liberty* (Oxford, 2023). His book, *Heavenly Merchandize: How Religion Shaped Commerce in Puritan America* (Princeton, 2010), received the 2011 Philip Schaff Prize from the American Society of Church History. He is currently working on religious persuasion, evangelicalism, and secularism in the eighteenth century. He holds a Ph.D. from Princeton University, an M.Div. from Yale Divinity School, and a B.A. from Whitworth College.

RSVP at QR code above or visit: https://reformedinstitute.org/christian-patriotism/ 703-232-5303



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HOME COMING TENT SERVICE

FROM TENT TO TODAY?
NEW BEGINNINGS, ABUNDANT BLESSINGS

ALL ARE WELCOME!





FREE FOOD & FUN!

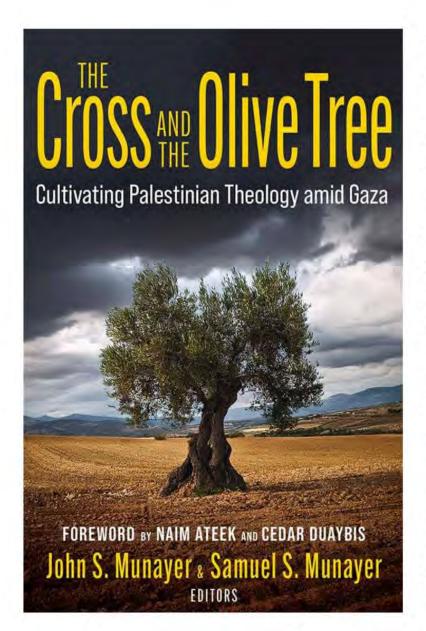
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5TH AT 10AM

COME JOIN US AT 5109 NANNIE HELEN BURROUGHS AVENUE NE, DC 20019

REV. BRIAN K. MCCOLLUM

FOR MORE INFORMATION

CAUS 202-500-1710 | SARGENT-MENORIAL-PROPERTY



"How does one keep faith and hope alive in times of genocide? How can we bear witness to suffering, imagine a different world, and move toward reconciliation in the face of destruction? These are not abstract theological exercises — they are urgent, lived questions that the next generation of Palestinian theologians wrestle with in this groundbreaking book."

 Rev. Mitri Rehab, founder and president,
 Dar al-Kalima University,
 Bethlehem, Palestine

The Cross and the Olive Tree Book Tour with John and Samuel Munayer

Join Palestinian theologians, John and Samuel Munayer, editors of this collection of lived theology of grandmothers and scholars, from ancient liturgies to contemporary resistance. Eight Palestinian Christian theologians offer a crucial and vibrant perspective on liberation, reconciliation, and divine imagination. Written within the heart of suffering, the cross and the olive tree interpret each other in an unwavering hope, symbols of faith and homeland.

Saturday, Oct. 11, 1:00 p.m.
Western Presbyterian Church, 2401 Virginia Ave. NW
Washington, DC



Special Forum with Rev. Paul Raushenbush

Immanuel Presbyterian Church Saturday, October 25 2:00-4:30pm

"The root of the word 'courage' is 'cor,' or heart. Jesus commands us to love and transform that love into courage required to show up for one another, with one another in this time."

President and CEO of Interfaith Alliance, Rev. Paul Brandeis Raushenbush, will join us at Immanuel to speak on how the church must respond to this pivotal moment in history, addressing the challenges of our time with faith and action, offering 'an invitation to courage.'



A Call to Courage.

Join us in the Immanuel Meeting House on Saturday, October 25 at 2:00pm for an inspiring conversation on how we can rise to the occasion and make a difference.

Questions? Please contact Pastor Blair Moorhead at bmoorhead@ipcmclean.org.





United in Worship

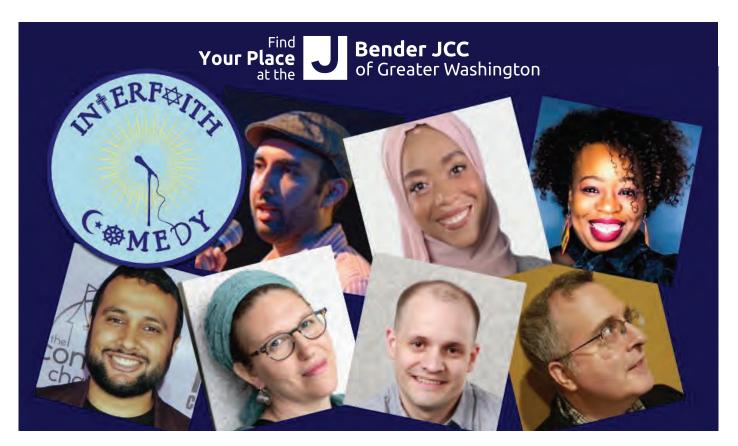
Saturday, 25 October 2025 06:00 - 08:00 PM

2666 Military Road, Arlington, VA 22207

"Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs." (Psalm 100:2)







Interfaith Comedy Show

Sunday, October 19 | 5:30 PM

Individual Tickets: \$20

Laugh. Connect. Build. All Are Welcome!

Join us at the Bender JCC for a night of hilarious, heartwarming comedy (from InterfaithComedy.com) that brings together voices from across our interfaith community. This special evening kicks off our "Build Bridges" initiative with laughter and connection.

Sponsorship Package available for community organizations.

For more informations, contact Lauren Dworkin at 301-348-3837 or ldworkin@benderjccgw.org.



Scan QR code to purchase tickets >>

Thank You to Our Sponsors

Beth Sholom | Bahaii's of Rockville | Congregation Beth El | CESJDS | We Do Seva B'nai Israel | Islamic Community Center of Potomac | Adat Shalom 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





NEXT CHURCH NATIONAL GATHERING

ALREADY & NOT YET

GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN NOVEMBER 11-14, 2025



AUSTIN
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ORGANIZING



KIM WAGNER COMMMUNAL TRAUMA



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CULTIVATING
COMMUNITY



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CULTIVATING
COMMUNITY



JULIE
DELEZENNE
WORSHIP
LEADER



SHAWNA BOWMAN ART AS RESISTANCE



JEN
JAMES
MISSION
REALIGNMENT



ROBERT RAGOONANAN WORSHIP LEADER



REGISTER TODAYwww.nextchurch.net

November 11-14, 2025

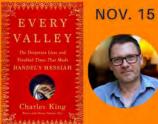
Explore the issues facing the Church right now.

A Gathering for Leaders Committed to Transformation



2025-2026 SEASON

CHARLES KING



TERAH SHELTON HARRIS



FEB. 28



JEFFREY DALE LOFTON



APR. 25



SATURDAYS | 2PM | READING & RECEPTION

with support from













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.



v is coming

November 8, 2025

Union Presbyterian Seminary

10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Is worshiping with your child a joy?

Do you want your chie's prayer lie to be more than meals and bedtime?



Spend a day with us and your family

- children, parents, grandparents, caregivers -- however your family is configured •
 - exploring new ways to *nurture your child's faith through worship and prayer *experience intergenerational learning

Let us partner with you on the journey of baptismal living.

What to do next...

We have 50 spaces for families. including children up to 12 years old. Use the QR Code to apply to participate. All supplies, lunch, and snacks are provided. More information is available on our website. Spaces will fill. Apply now!











PRESENTS

2025 CHRISTMAS ELSTMAS

THEME: "She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." Matthew 1:21

VENUE: CHURCH OF THE COVENANT 2666 MILITARY ROAD, ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22207

FOR ANY ENQUIRY PLEASE CONTACT

BUDDI 301-580-7907

FREDDIE 240-217-9960

GUEST PREACHER: RULING ELDER AND FORMER MODERATOR, SHANI MCILWAIN

DEC. 6TH, 2025 5PM



MASSANETTA SPRINGS 2026 PROGRAM DATES

Confirmation Retreat

1/30-2/1

Ringing at the Springs

2/13-15

Netta Day Camp: Spring at the Springs

3/30-4/3

Easter Respite

4/6-10

Netta Day Camps

9 weeks starting 6/8

Middle School Conferences

6/18-21, 6/23-26, 7/9-12, 7/14-17

Bible & Church Music Conference

7/19-25

Called Together

7/27-30

Keep Awake

11/20-22

