

September 5, 2021



Welcome to  
**NATIONAL  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH**

Leading people to become  
faithful followers of Jesus Christ  
together in God's world

*They are like trees planted by streams of water,  
which yield their fruit in its season,  
and their leaves do not wither.  
In all that they do, they prosper.*

Psalm 1:3

**Senior Pastor** Dr. David Renwick  
**Associate Pastors** Rev. Donna Marsh  
Dr. Quinn Fox  
Rev. Katie Francis  
**Parish Associates** Dr. Nancy Fox  
Dr. Kerry Stoltzfus  
**Music** Dr. Michael Denham (*Director*)  
Todd Fickley (*Organist*)  
Joanna Zorack-Greene (*Contemporary Music Leader*)  
**Ministry Directors** Kristin Franke (*Youth & Families*)  
Terry Kumnick (*Children*)  
Leslie Saum (*Connections*)

# TODAY AT NATIONAL

## Special Reception today - everyone is invited! Noon, Upper Plaza

Come out and see the lovely view from our renovated upper plaza and enjoy light refreshments and fellowship. Please exit through the side doors to the right and left and down the hall from the sanctuary.

## Today's Mission Opportunity

Offer people in need that you encounter on the street or at stoplights a healthy granola bar and info card listing where to go for a meal, care, or a bed. Pick up treat bags at a table in the narthex or out on the upper terrace. Please give away one or more this week.

## NEXT SUNDAY - FALL SCHEDULE KICK-OFF

**Starting next Sunday, September 12...**

### 8:45 am: Contemporary Worship

New time! Join us for worship in-person in the Sanctuary or online on our Watch page.

### 9:55-10:45 am: Sunday School

For more information about Sunday School for all ages, please see page 6.

### 11:00 am: Traditional Worship

Join us for worship in-person in the Sanctuary or online on our Watch page.

## SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **NPC Responds to Crises in Haiti and Afghanistan**

With your help, NPC is responding generously to urgent crises in our world.

- A special offering for Haitian earthquake victims will be sent to Salvation Army International and to our longtime partner Foundation for Peace, which operates in the Dominican Republic and Haiti. Please [click here](#) or visit our Giving page online and select the fund *Disaster Relief* (Haiti).
- \$10,000 is being sent this week to help with the arrival and resettlement of Afghan allies and their families here in the DC area through *Lutheran Social Services - National Capital Area*, the primary resettlement agency for Afghans coming to the DC area. Please visit their website at [lssnca.org](http://lssnca.org) for ways to volunteer.

### **Seeking Candidates for the Pastor Nominating Committee**

Following Dr. Renwick's announcement that he will retire in September 2022, the next step to find our future senior pastor is to put together a search committee. NPC's Church Nominating Committee (CNC) welcomes your input as it seeks to discern a slate of candidates for the Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC). Learn more on the website at [nationalpres.org/pastor-nominating-committee](http://nationalpres.org/pastor-nominating-committee).

PNC members should be people of clear and vibrant faith, committed to NPC, diverse in many ways, and should be team players who are able to do this job well. [Please share your ideas here](#) or on our webpage and please pray for this important process!

# 11:00 AM WORSHIP

*Sanctuary and Online*

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## WE ENTER GOD'S PRESENCE

PRELUDE                      Prelude and Fugue in A major, BWV 536                      J. S. Bach  
Todd Fickley, organ

CHIMES

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PATHWAY MOMENT                      Dr. David Renwick

CALL TO WORSHIP

▲ HYMN 139                      Come, Thou, Almighty King                      *Italian Hymn*  
Come, thou, Almighty King, help us thy name to sing, help us to praise:  
Father, all glorious, o'er all victorious, come and reign over us,  
Ancient of Days.  
Come, thou, Incarnate Word, gird on thy mighty sword, our prayer attend:  
Come, and thy people bless, and give thy word success; Spirit of holiness,  
on us descend.  
Come, Holy Comforter, thy sacred witness bear in this glad hour:  
Thou who almighty art, now rule in every heart, and ne'er from us depart,  
Spirit of power.

CONFESSION OF SIN *in unison*                      Dr. Quinn Fox  
Almighty God, your mercy and faithfulness reach to the heavens.  
We bless you for your gracious providence and care  
in the creation, preservation, and reformation of your Church.  
We beseech you to stretch forth your mighty hand today,  
to forgive and purge us of sin, to establish us in truth, to unite us in love,  
and to inspire us with zeal for the coming of your kingdom;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.                      John R. W. Stott

SILENT CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON  
Believe the good news of the Gospel.  
**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God.**

▲ RESPONSE OF PRAISE                      Hymn 139 verse 4  
To thee, great One in Three, the highest praises be, hence evermore!  
Thy sovereign majesty may we in glory see, and to eternity love and adore.

## WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

A TIME FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES                      Dr. David Renwick

- <sup>1</sup> Happy are those  
 who do not follow the advice of the wicked,  
 or take the path that sinners tread,  
 or sit in the seat of scoffers;
- <sup>2</sup> but their delight is in the law of the LORD,  
 and on his law they meditate day and night.
- <sup>3</sup> They are like trees  
 planted by streams of water,  
 which yield their fruit in its season,  
 and their leaves do not wither.  
 In all that they do, they prosper.
- <sup>4</sup> The wicked are not so,  
 but are like chaff that the wind drives away.
- <sup>5</sup> Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgement,  
 nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;
- <sup>6</sup> for the LORD watches over the way of the righteous,  
 but the way of the wicked will perish.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Jesus: Teacher of a Happy Kingdom  
 Matthew 4:23-5:12

Dr. Renwick

## WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE AND CALL

HYMN 333

Seek Ye First

*Lafferty*

*Choir*

Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness,  
 And all these things shall be added unto you. Allelu, alleluia!

*Congregation*

Ask and it shall be given unto you, seek and ye shall find.  
 Knock and the door shall be opened unto you. Allelu, alleluia!

▲ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Apostles' Creed

Dr. Quinn Fox

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,  
 and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,  
 born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and  
 buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead;  
 he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;  
 from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church;  
 the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;  
 the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

CALL FOR OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

*There is an offering plate in the narthex to receive your offering.*

OFFERTORY

I Love You, Lord

Laurie Klein/ James Gray

I love you, Lord, and I lift my voice to worship you. O my soul, rejoice!

Take joy, my King, in what you hear: May it be a sweet, sweet sound in your ear.

DOXOLOGY

*Old Hundredth*

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below:

Praise God above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Donna Marsh

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread;

and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors;

and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

▲ HYMN 441

I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord

*St. Thomas*

I love thy kingdom, Lord, the house of thine abode,

The church our blest Redeemer saved with his own precious blood.

I love thy church, O God; her walls before thee stand.

Dear as the apple of thine eye, and graven on thy hand.

Beyond my highest joy I prize her heav'nly ways.

Her sweet communion, solemn vows, her hymns of love and praise.

Sure as thy truth shall last, to Zion shall be given

The brightest glories earth can yield, and brighter bliss of heav'n.

▲ BENEDICTION

Dr. Renwick

▲ PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

▲ POSTLUDE

Festive Trumpet Tune

David German

Mr. Fickley

▲ Congregation standing, as able

Immediately following worship come out to our renovated upper plaza

and enjoy light refreshments and fellowship!

Please exit through the side doors to the right and left

and down the hall from the sanctuary.

# FALL SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES

- **Children ages 0-11:** Visit the check-in station upon your arrival to check in your children prior to bringing them to the Nursery, Toddler Room or Sunday School. These are located inside the covered driveway entrance in the main church building, outside the Toddler & Nursery Rooms on the 2nd floor and inside the main entrance of the Education Building (National Presbyterian School).
- **Ages 2-11 Years:** NPC Children is offering Sunday School classes for ages 2 through 11 years. All classes are held in the Education Building (National Presbyterian School).
- **Youth Sunday School** starts together at the Multipurpose Building then we split into our smaller groups.
- **Adults Sunday School:** Go deeper with God in one of our fantastic adult classes this fall!

## Adult Sunday School Classes

To read the full class description and for Zoom links, please visit our [Adult Classes page](#) online.

- **Protestant Christian Traditions** in the Chapel & online | Teacher: R.V. Seep; This course intends to be an invitation to theological generosity and an opportunity to understand the various Protestant traditions as they understand themselves.
- **God's Many-Colored Kingdom: Bridging the World's Divides** - online | Teacher: Nancy Fox; Using *Mending the Divides: Creative Love in a Conflicted World*, we will explore together what it means to follow Jesus in our world of conflict, injustice, racism and need.
- **Exploring John's Gospel** in the Garden Room | Teacher: Currie Renwick; We will read about and discuss the wonderful signs that John shares in his gospel!
- **One Blood Book Discussion** TBD | Facilitator: Elder Peggy Lewis (Chair, Race Task Force); A conversation about race using John Perkin's book *One Blood* for those who would like to engage in conversation about the book, and the greater issue of racial reconciliation.

- **The Story Behind "The Story:" God's Plan of Redemption Through History** in the Garden Room | Teacher: Quinn Fox; This year we will explore in depth the identity and character of God and his saving plan for humanity in Jesus Christ that is revealed in the pages of the Bible.
- **Parent Gathering** in Jones Hall in the Education Building | Facilitator: Margaret Gardner and others; Join parents of similar ages and stages for fellowship for a small group reflection on the Scripture teaching your children are learning.

## Nursery & Toddlers: 8:45 am-12:00 pm

During our Sunday programming, our NPC Nursery and Toddler Rooms will be available for children ages 0-4 years old. Our nurseries are located on the second floor of the main church building. To find them, take the elevator to the second floor. After exiting the elevator, turn left and walk past the central staircase. You will find a volunteer with a check-in station for the nursery before the door.

## Children's Check-In and Check-out

These new protocols support the safety of our children and provide secure environments for all our church families. Please visit one of our three check-in stations upon your arrival. If you have question about check-in and check-out procedures, please visit our [Children's Ministry page](#) or contact Terry Kumnick at [tkumnick@nationalpres.org](mailto:tkumnick@nationalpres.org).

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## **Pathway Membership Class**

Becoming a church member here at National can be a meaningful step in your spiritual journey. To inquire about membership or learn more about Christian faith, please attend the two half-day Saturday online Pathway of Christian Discipleship classes on September 18 and 25. More information can be found on our website, or contact Kemet Rakiatu to register by **September 8th** at 202.537.7578 or [KRakiatu@NationalPres.org](mailto:KRakiatu@NationalPres.org).

## **In-Person Men's Breakfast**

Saturday, September 11 NPC men will gather in person (location TBA) for a catered hot breakfast. Elder Dick Pera, Captain, U.S. Navy (Ret.) will share memories from 20 years ago. For further information and to make a reservation, contact [men@nationalpres.org](mailto:men@nationalpres.org).

## **Wednesday Night Faith Connection**

Join us online at 7:00 pm on September 15 as Dr. Quinn Fox kicks off his series titled: *Planets in Peril: The Science Fiction novels of C.S. Lewis*.

## **Adult Fellowship Broadcast Online - September 20, 1:00 pm**

Our speaker will be Reverend John Molina-Moore, General Presbyter of the National Capital Presbytery, speaking about *Presbytery, Congregations and Life in General*. Visit [Events](#) online for more information and the link to join.

## **Food & Clothing Drive - September 25**

Help us pack the truck! 1:00-3:00 pm on Saturday, September 25, we are collecting food and clothing for Central Union Mission. Invite your friends and neighbors and donate or serve. For [more information](#) or [to volunteer](#), please visit our Events page.

## **Renovation Dedication - Save the date!**

Mark your calendars! On October 17, we will dedicate and celebrate our renovation – Building Together for the Next 50 Years! For more information about our project, please visit [Building Project](#) on our website.

## **Children's Ministry Volunteers Needed**

Use your gifts to bless our children by becoming a Children's Ministry volunteer! Please email Terry Kumnick at [tkumnick@nationalpres.org](mailto:tkumnick@nationalpres.org) for more information.

## **New Spaces! New Faces!**

### **New Welcome Team!**

As our renovated church opens up, we will need many smiling faces to greet, usher and connect with folks on Sundays. Join our dynamic new Welcome Team and be part of the excitement. Please [click here](#) or visit our [Serve at Church](#) page to sign up today and enjoy a private tour of the church on September 11 at our 10:00 am training session or contact Leslie Saum at [LSaum@nationalpres.org](mailto:LSaum@nationalpres.org).

## **Want to join a great staff team?**

Visit to our [jobs page](#) to read about our job openings for the following:

- Director of Serve Ministries
- Executive Assistant to the Senior Pastor
- Communications Contractor (part time)

## **Call for Musicians!**

Do you sing, play guitar, drums, bass, violin, cello, flute or another instrument? We are looking for more musicians for the NPC band in the Contemporary service! For more information, please email Joanna Zorack-Greene at: [jzorackgreene@nationalpres.org](mailto:jzorackgreene@nationalpres.org)

# THANK YOU FOR JOINING US!

## New to National? Welcome!

Welcome and thank you for being with us today! Here are some easy ways to connect with us:

[Click here](#) to sign our online guestbook.

[Click here](#) or visit our home page at [nationalpres.org](http://nationalpres.org) to sign up for our e-newsletter.

Follow us on social media!

[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [YouTube](#)

## Prayer LIVE

Would you like to pray with a live person after worship? Call 202.800.9121 between 12-1 pm. A Pastor, Stephen Minister, or Deacon will be prepared to take your call. If all lines are busy, please leave a voicemail with your name and number and you will receive a return call.

## Join us for in-person worship (and we're still online)!

We are so pleased to welcome you to in-person services every Sunday! We are no longer requiring pre-registration for in-person worship. For now, we will still require masks and seating will be in every other pew. There will be no special check-in procedures. For more information, please [click here](#) or visit [nationalpres.org/return](http://nationalpres.org/return).

**Trying times take their toll – we are here to support.** The Care/Connections staff have prepared resources that may help on topics like isolation, anxiety, and difficult conversations. Use them on your own or share with a friend. Find these resources on the Care webpage or reach out to Liz at [lmartin@nationalpres.org](mailto:lmartin@nationalpres.org) in the Care Office if we can help.

## Prayers

*We pray for:*

Shirley and DeVier Pierson

*We pray for our mission partners including our Middle East missionaries that serve in a majority Muslim context that is home to large numbers of displaced people from the region.*

*How can we pray for you?* Please submit prayer requests to Liz Martin, [lmartin@nationalpres.org](mailto:lmartin@nationalpres.org), 202.537.7540.

## Your Giving and Commitments Make a Difference

Thank you! Because of your financial generosity, National continues to bear powerful witness to the Good News of Jesus Christ at this critical time. Not yet made a gift online or by phone? Go to [nationalpres.org/giving](http://nationalpres.org/giving), text “NPC” to (833) 414-9444 or scan the QR code below:



## Happy Labor Day!

Praying for a blessed and restful Labor Day for you and your family!

*Truly my soul finds rest in God;  
my salvation comes from him.*

Psalm 62:1


## Today's Flowers

The flowers in the Sanctuary today are given to the glory of God in thanksgiving for his constant presence in our lives.



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