

September 15, 2024

Welcome to NATIONAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

*No one can tame the tongue—a restless evil,
full of deadly poison. With it we bless the
Lord and Father, and with it we curse those
who are made in the likeness of God.*

James 3:8-9



Senior Pastor
Associate Pastors

Parish Associates

Music

Ministry Directors

Dr. Ray Hylton, Sr.
Dr. Quinn Fox
Rev. Lisa Larsen
Dr. Nancy Fox
Dr. Kerry Stoltzfus
Dr. Michael Denham (Director)
Todd Fickley (Organist)
Joanna Zorack-Greene
(Contemporary Music Leader)
Jonathan Edwards (Serve)
Kristin Franke (Youth & Families)
Jill Meek (Children)
Leslie Saum (Connections)

EVENTS AT NATIONAL

For more information about all our events, please visit the [Events page](#) on our website at nationalpres.org. Questions? Email us at info@nationalpres.org!

The Life of Discipleship at NPC Today, Sept. 15, 12:15 pm Garden Rooms

Interested in nurturing a culture of discipleship at NPC? Join us for a conversation on discipleship. We will highlight spiritual growth opportunities, and envision new ways to deepen our walk with God in community. A light lunch will be provided. If you have any questions or to RSVP, please contact Margaret Gardner at mgardner@nationalpres.org.

Club 45 (4th & 5th graders) Today, Sept. 15, 5:00pm

All 4th & 5th graders are invited to grow in faith and friendship at Club 45 through games, Bible study, and more! We meet monthly at the Youth House. For more information contact Jill Meek at jmeek@nationalpres.org.

Youth Group

Beginning Today, Sept. 15, 6:30 pm

All 6th-12th graders are invited to youth group on Sunday evenings for a casual meal, Bible study, and games together! If you'd like to contribute a meal to our youth program, please contact Kristin Franke at kfranke@nationalpres.org.

Young Professionals Ice Cream Social Wednesday, Sept. 18, 7:00 pm

Yellow House - 4010 Van Ness St NW
Calling all young professionals! You're invited to say farewell to summer with one last ice cream social! Bring a friend, and bring a favorite topping or other dish to share. For questions and to RSVP, please email Kristin Franke at kfranke@nationalpres.org.

Week at a Glance

For information about all of these events, please see the [Events page](#) on our website.

Sunday, September 15

- 8:45 am: Contemporary Worship
- 9:55 am: Sunday School for all ages
- 11:00 am: Traditional Worship
- 12:15 pm: The Life of Discipleship
- 5:00 pm: Club 45
- 6:30 pm: Youth Group

Wednesday, September 18

- 7:00 pm: Young Professionals Ice Cream Social

Saturday, September 21

- 10:00 am: Community Food, Clothing & Blood Drive

Sunday, September 22

- 8:45 am: Contemporary Worship
- 9:55 am: Sunday School for all ages
- 11:00 am: Traditional Worship
- 6:30 pm: Youth Group

Community Food, Clothing, and Blood Drive Saturday, Sept. 21, 10 am-3 pm

Join us to make a difference in our community as we partner with Central Union Mission and Red Cross to collect and organize nonperishable food and gently used winter clothing for those suffering from the realities of hunger, food insecurity, and the approaching cold weather and respond to the national blood bank shortage. Click the [link here](#) or contact Serve Director Jonathan Edwards at jedwards@nationalpres.org.

Nominations for Church Officers

The Congregational Nominating Committee asks for your help in selecting Elders, Deacons, and board members for the Fund for Charitable Giving and next year's Congregational Nominating Committee. Please click [here](#) or visit nationalpres.org/nominate for more information or to submit recommendations.

8:45 AM WORSHIP

Sanctuary and Online

WE ENTER GOD'S PRESENCE

GATHERING

Improvisations

Joanna Zorack-Greene, piano

CALL TO WORSHIP

Dr. Quinn Fox

▲ OPENING SONG All Creatures of Our God and King arr. David Crowder

All creatures of our God and King, lift up your voice and with us sing:

O praise him, alleluia!

Thou, burning sun with golden beam, thou, silver moon with softer gleam,

O praise him, O praise him! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Thou, rushing wind that art so strong, ye clouds that sail in heaven along,

O praise him, alleluia!

Thou, rising moon in praise rejoice! Ye lights of evening, find a voice!

O praise him, O praise him! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Let all things their Creator bless! And worship him in humbleness.

O praise him, alleluia!

Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son, and praise the Spirit—Three in One!

O praise him, O praise him! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

O alleluia, alleluia! (3x) O alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

▲ PRAYER OF ADORATION

Dr. Fox

CONFESSION OF SIN *in unison*

Almighty God, your never-failing providence orders all things,
in heaven and on earth.

Put away from us, then, all hurtful things.

Give us those things which are only for our good and the good of others.

Forgive us when in sin we ignore your gracious ways and your holy will.

Guard us when concern for ourselves overshadows concern for others.

Then set a watch, O Lord, upon our tongues,

that we may never speak the cruel word which is untrue;

or being true, is not the whole truth; or being wholly true is merciless.

based on Eric Milner-White and G. W. Briggs

SILENT CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Believe the good news of the Gospel.

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God.

▲ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Nettleton

Glory be to God the Father, glory also to the Son, glory to the Holy Spirit,

Ever Three and ever One;

As it was in the beginning, now and evermore shall be;

Alleluia and thanksgiving, now and through eternity.

▲ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Apostles' Creed Dr. 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.

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, AND PATHWAY Dr. Fox

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE James 3:1-12 Joy Eckert
Pew Bible Pages 981-982

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

A TIME FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES Jill Meek
Director of Children's Ministry
*Kindergarten to 5th graders may exit with leaders for Children's Chapel.
Parents may take children Pre-K and under to the nursery.*

SERMON How to Bring Order to Your Life Dr. Ray Hylton, Sr.

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE AND CALL

Children return to join their parents in the sanctuary.

CALL FOR OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS Rev. Lisa Larsen

*You may bring your gift forward during the offering song,
or place it in an offering plate as you exit the Sanctuary.*

▲ OFFERING SONG O How Good It Is Keith and Kristyn Getty
O how good it is when the family of God
dwell together in spirit, in faith and unity;
Where the bonds of peace, of acceptance and love
are the fruit of his presence here among us.
*So with one voice we'll sing to the Lord,
and with one heart we'll live out his word
til the whole world sees the Redeemer has come,
for he dwells in the presence of his people.*
O how good it is on this journey we share
to rejoice with the happy and weep with those who mourn.
For the weak find strength, the afflicted find grace,
when we offer the blessing of belonging. *Chorus*
O how good it is to embrace his command
to prefer one another, forgive as he forgives.
When we live as one we all share in the love
of the Son with the Father and the Spirit. *Chorus*

Lasst uns erfreuen

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Rev. Larsen

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

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

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

Chris Tomlin

He humbled himself and carried the cross! Love so amazing! Love so amazing!

The rescue for sinners, the ransom from heaven. Jesus Messiah, Lord of all.

The whole earth trembled and the veil was torn.

Love so amazing! Love so amazing, yeah! *Chorus*

All the glory to you, God, the light of the world! *Chorus*

Dr. Hylton

NPC Band

▲ Congregation standing, as able

Songs used by permission: CCLI #100655 and #17315

NOTES

11:00 AM WORSHIP

Sanctuary and Online

WE ENTER GOD'S PRESENCE

PRELUDE

Ciacona in E minor, BuxWV 160

Dieterich Buxtehude
Todd Fickley, organ

CHIMES

CALL TO WORSHIP

Dr. Quinn Fox

▲ HYMN

Now Praise the Lord

St. Anne

Now praise the Lord, all living saints, sing praises that endure.

Our children God does surely bless. Our future is secure.

God brings us peace in midst of strife, our borders to protect.

All those who trust the Lord for strength need never fear neglect.

God's life-filled Word brings order to the chaos of our days.

In love he claims us as his own: What better cause for praise?

Instruction, guidance, holy law, some common names are these

For God's own rule for living life, what other word can please?

So praise the Lord, all living saints, sing praises that endure,

Now and forever unto life eternally secure.

Fred R. Anderson, alt

▲ PRAYER OF ADORATION

▲ CHORAL RESPONSE

Kurt Kaiser

My mouth shall speak the praise of the Lord, my mouth shall speak the name of the Lord.

O let my tongue bless God's holy name forever and ever.

CONFESSION OF SIN *in unison*

Almighty God, your never-failing providence orders all things,
in heaven and on earth.

Put away from us, then, all hurtful things.

Give us those things which are only for our good and the good of others.

Forgive us when in sin we ignore your gracious ways and your holy will.

Guard us when concern for ourselves overshadows concern for others.

Then set a watch, O Lord, upon our tongues,

that we may never speak the cruel word which is untrue;

or being true, is not the whole truth; or being wholly true is merciless.

based on Eric Milner-White and G. W. Briggs

SILENT CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Dr. Fox

Believe the good news of the Gospel.

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God.

▲ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.

Amen, amen.

▲ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Apostles' Creed Dr. 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.

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, AND PATHWAY Dr. Fox

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE James 3:1-12 Elder Gerri Hall
Pew Bible Pages 981-982

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

A TIME FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES Jill Meek
 Director of Children's Ministry

*Kindergarten to 5th graders may exit with leaders for Children's Chapel.
 Parents may take children Pre-K and under to the nursery.*

SERMON How to Bring Order to Your Life Dr. Ray Hylton, Sr.

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE AND CALL

Children return to join their parents in the sanctuary.

RESPONSE Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak Canonbury
Choir

Lord, speak to me that I may speak in living echoes of thy tone;
 As thou hast sought, so let me seek thine erring children lost and lone.

Congregation

O guard my tongue from carelessness, from biting, coarse, and hurtful speech;
 But give me grace-filled care to bless, and thereby all your children teach.

CALL FOR OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS Rev. Lisa Larsen

OFFERTORY O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing Eric Nelson
Azmon

O for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise,
 The glories of my God and King, the triumphs of grace!
 My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim,
 To spread throughout the earth abroad the honors of thy name.
 Jesus, the name that charms our fears, that bids our sorrows cease,
 'Tis music in the sinner's ears, 'tis life, and health, and peace.
 Christ breaks the pow'r of reigning sin, he sets the prisoner free;
 His blood can make the foulest clean, his blood availed for me.
 Hear him, ye deaf! His praise, ye dumb, thy loosened tongues employ!
 Ye blind, behold thy Savior come, and leap, ye lame, for joy!
 O leap and sing for joy!

Charles Wesley

- ▲ DOXOLOGY *Lasst uns erfreuen*
 Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below:
Alleluia! Alleluia!
 Praise God above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER Rev. Larsen
 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 *Tallis' Ordinal*
 When In God's Word I Meditate
 When in God's Word I meditate on mercies multiplied,
 My grateful heart inspires my tongue to bless the Lord my guide.
 Forever in my thought the Lord before my face shall stand;
 Secure, unmoved I shall remain, with God at my right hand.
 My inmost being thrills with joy and gladness fills my breast;
 Because on God my trust is stayed, my flesh in hope shall rest.
 The path of life thou showest me, a boundless, ordered store
 Is ever found at thy right hand, and pleasure evermore.

- ▲ BENEDICTION Dr. Hylton

- ▲ CHORAL AMEN

- ▲ PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST Rev. Larsen

- ▲ POSTLUDE Dieterich Buxtehude
 Fugue in C Major, BuxWV 174
Mr. Fickley, organ

- ▲ Congregation standing, as able

*Please join us in Stone Fellowship Hall for
 Coffee, Cookies, and Community after worship.*

Songs used by permission: CCLI #100655 and #17315

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

All worship services are in the Sanctuary and online on our [Watch](#) webpage.

- **8:45 am:** Contemporary Worship
- **9:55 am:** Sunday School for all ages
- **11:00 am:** Traditional Worship

Childcare

Childcare is available 8:30 a.m. until the close of the 11:00 a.m. service. The Nursery (Room 207), the Early Walker Room (Room 231), and the Toddler Room (Room 230) are located on the second floor of the main church building. Infants and crawlers should go to the Nursery; walkers under 2 as of September 30 should go to the Early Walker Room; and those age 2-pre-K should utilize the Toddler Room.

Children's Sunday School

Visit our [Children's webpage](#) to learn about our Children's Ministry.

- Children ages 2-3 years have Sunday School in the Toddler Room in the main church building.
- Children age 4 through 5th grade meet for Sunday School in the Education Building (National Presbyterian School).

Youth Sunday School

Visit our [Youth webpage](#) for information about Sunday School, youth group, and other special events.

Youth Sunday School, for grades 6-12, meets in the Multipurpose Building for fellowship, worship, and small group Bible studies.

Fall 2024 Adult Sunday School

The fall Adult Sunday School classes begin September 15. For class descriptions and more information please visit our [Adult Classes webpage](#).

- ***The Spirit of Our Politics***
Facilitators: Ginny Beeson and Nancy Fox
We will read and discuss Michael Wear's book, along with associated articles and readings.
- ***The Gospel of Mark - A Study***
Facilitators: Donna Duss, Margaret Gardner, and others
We will discuss Jesus' life and teachings as presented in the Gospel of Mark using N.T. Wright's Bible Study guide, *Mark for Everyone*.
- ***The Early Church: The First Three Centuries***
R.V. Seep ZOOM LINK
Join us for a comprehensive survey of the first three centuries of the Christian movement and its impact on the future shape of the church.
- ***The Journey of Discipleship: Building Your Life in Christ***
Dr. Quinn Fox
This course, a biblical exploration of a life with Christ at the center, also fulfills the requirement for becoming a member of NPC.
- ***Parent Gathering***
All parents of youth and children are invited to stop by Jones Hall in the Education building for coffee, fellowship, and small group Bible studies that correspond with the children's and youth classes.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mission Gifts for Christmas Nominations Sept. 8 - Sept. 23

This is the perfect opportunity to support God's work throughout the world. You're invited to nominate a missionary or organization for this year's Mission Gifts for Christmas using the [online form](#). Not sure what Mission Gifts is? Please visit our Events [webpage](#) to read more or make a nomination.

Pathway of Christian Discipleship Class Saturday, Sept. 28

We want to walk with you on your journey of faith. To inquire about church membership or just learn more about Christian faith, come to this one-day class. For more info or to [register](#) by September 18, visit our [Events webpage](#) or contact Kemet Rakiatu at 202.537.7578 or krakiatu@nationalpres.org.

Women's Ministry Lunch Saturday, October 5, at 12:00 pm Stone Fellowship Hall

All women are invited to NPC's Fall Women's Ministry Lunch. Christian writer and ministry leader Susan Yates will speak about "Trusting God in Transitions." Please join us for delicious food and faith-filled conversation. Click [here to register](#) and bring a friend!

Short-term Small Groups Beginning Sept. 30 - Sign up now!

Interested in deepening your walk with God? Join a short-term small group discussion of our upcoming sermon series - First Things First: Prioritizing God. In-person and online small groups will explore Bible teachings on the challenges and joys of placing God first in our lives. Please visit our [Small Groups webpage](#) to [register](#) for a group by September 25.

Friends of the History & Archives Ministry Luncheon, Saturday, Oct. 12

Stone Fellowship Hall

The NPC History and Archives Ministry will resume our Annual Meeting Luncheon on Saturday, October 12, 2024 in Stone Fellowship Hall. The featured speaker will be our pastor, Dr. Ray Hilton, Sr. He will share about his life and ministry. We'll enjoy an elegant meal together prior to hearing from Dr. Hylton. To register for the luncheon, or for further information, please see the Events page on the [NPC website](#), email grow@nationalpres.org or call 202-537-0800. A donation of \$30 is requested to cover the cost of the food.

JOIN OUR NPC TEAM!

Communications Support Contractor

NPC is seeking a creative and detail-oriented contractor to support the Communications Office and the NPC brand. Tasks include content creation using Canva or Adobe CC; social media scheduling and management; and event photography. Additional possible tasks include livestream moderation and in-house printing. Qualified applicants should send a resume to pcarder@nationalpres.org.



**Called
to Care**

Experiencing the challenges and opportunities of aging?

NPC partners with the non-profit IONA senior services, which has a geriatric social worker available to help our church family. Preliminary consultations are free. careoffice@nationalpres.org / 202.537.7540

Let us work for the good of all and especially for those of the family of faith.

Galatians 6:10

THANK YOU FOR BEING HERE!

New to National? Welcome!

Welcome and thank you for being here today! Please stop by the Welcome Center just outside the sanctuary. We would love to meet you, and we have a gift for you! Here are some other easy ways to connect with us:

- Sign the guestbook in the pews or online on our [Watch webpage](#).
- Sign up for our e-newsletter on our website or info@nationalpres.org.

Children and Youth E-newsletters

If you have little ones or youth in your household and would like to receive our updates, please:

- Visit our [Children's webpage](#) for kids up to 5th grade.
- Visit our [Youth webpage](#) for kids in middle and high school.

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.

You can support the general ministry of National:

- Go to nationalpres.org/giving
- Text "NPC" to 833.414.9444
- Scan the QR code below:



For help or questions about giving, please contact our Finance Office at 202.537.7495 or email our Director of Finance and Administration, Leah Skrine at lskrine@nationalpres.org.

Prayers

We mourn:

the passing of CD Ward.

We pray for:

Little Lights Urban Ministries
as they provide tutoring, friendship,
holistic ministry and services
to children and families
living in poverty
in DC housing projects.

How may we pray for you?

Please submit prayer requests
to the Care Office,
careoffice@nationalpres.org
202.537.7540.

Today's Flowers

The flowers in the Sanctuary
are given to the glory of God
and in memory of
Dr. Elizabeth Wenger Stone,
former Director of
The Library and Archives,
by Mr. J. Theodore Anderson.

Heritage Brief

PECK CHAPEL: OUR GEORGETOWN MISSION

It is “back to school” season in our schools, as well as in our church. Long before education was widespread and available to all children, Sunday schools were started to teach children to read, so they could learn from the Bible. In 1886 a group of women from the newly formed Church of the Covenant (NPC’s predecessor congregation) envisioned such a school at 28th and M Streets in Georgetown, which, at the time, centered on industry (saw mills, iron furnaces and foundries) and had almost no churches. They came alongside a Black Georgetown man who was leading a Bible study in a rundown building on that site. Dr. Teunis Hamlin, Covenant’s first pastor, encouraged this mission outreach that eventually became Peck Memorial Chapel, serving a largely Black population—many impoverished from slavery—living there (very different from the neighborhood now, where the Four Seasons Hotel is located). In 1891 money was donated by a member of Church of the Covenant to construct a worship space, and a congregation formed alongside the Sunday School. In the words of Peck Chapel’s first called pastor, Rev. Charles Alvin Smith (1892-1908), “the place of need, we believe, is the field of duty.” **Even before Church of the Covenant had a building, the DNA of local mission was present in its vision for the city, with volunteers and funds making Peck Chapel possible.**

Named after Charles Peck, a Civil War veteran, lawyer, and businessman whose life was seen as modeled after Christ, Peck Chapel grew to be much more than a Sunday School. Its gifted teachers—volunteers from Church of the Covenant—offered an astonishing array of instructional and recreational opportunities in academic subjects, sports, and vocational/household skills; the membership of the Sunday morning congregation grew from five to 740 at its height! In 1938 the outreach associated with the Peck Chapel building shifted when it was purchased by the Rotary Club to house the Boys Club of Washington until 1951, when the building was demolished.

However, the mission spirit continued! “A Ministry of Grace, Passionate about Christ’s Mission to the World,” Peck Chapel’s vision statement, appeared in Session minutes and on the cover of Sunday worship bulletins well into the 21st century. **And the vision to reach out to the needy in our city continues in our local mission partnerships, such as Central Union Mission, Martha’s Table, and at Unique Learning Center, where volunteers from NPC tutor children living in the Shaw neighborhood on Wednesday nights.**



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