

August 31, 2025

Welcome to NATIONAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

*But you are a chosen people,
a royal priesthood, a holy nation,
God's own people, in order that you may
proclaim the excellence of him who called
you out of darkness into his marvelous light.*

1 Peter 2:9



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 & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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!

Care, Prayer, Dare Challenge Today!

We have shown **CARE** with donated diapers, we have shown **PRAYER** in worship, and now it's time to **DARE** to care in the coming week! Please fill out your Care Challenge card, and bring it out to the Plaza for hands-on opportunities, fellowship, cookies, and ICE CREAM!

- FLOWERS – make a bud vase and take to cheer someone
- CARE CARDS – make a card with an uplifting message
- HUNGER HANDOUTS – assemble granola bar kits and give to a hungry person
- PRAYER STONES – paint a special prayer on a stone to share

Men's Breakfast

Saturday, September 6, 8:00 am
Stone Fellowship Hall

Men are invited to join us in-person at NPC on the first Saturday of every month for our men's breakfast. Email grow@nationalpres.org for more information.

Special Plenary Session with International Justice Mission (IJM)
Sunday, September 7, 9:55 am
Stone Fellowship Hall

You are invited to a powerful and eye-opening plenary session with Jordan Gustafson, Head of Mobilization for International Justice Mission (IJM)—a global organization working to end human trafficking. Come hear how IJM is partnering with local communities around the world to rescue victims, hold perpetrators accountable, and strengthen justice systems to protect the vulnerable.

Week at a Glance

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

Sunday, August 31

- 10:00 am: Traditional Worship
- 11:00 am: Care, Prayer, Dare Challenge

Sunday, September 7

- 8:45 am: Contemporary Worship
- 9:55 am: Plenary with IJM
- 9:55 am: Sunday School for Children & Youth, Parent Gathering
- 11:00 am: Traditional Worship
- 12:15 pm: Coffee, Cookies, & Community
- 12:30 pm: IJM Trip Report & Luncheon
- 5:00 pm: Children & Youth Fall Kickoff Picnic

International Justice Mission
Ghana Trip Report & Luncheon
Sunday, September 7, 12:30 pm
Parlor

You are invited for a special luncheon and trip report highlighting the work International Justice Mission (IJM) is doing in Ghana to combat child labor. Members of Serve Council will share reflections on their recent trip and how the experience has shaped their faith and discipleship.

Children & Youth Fall Kickoff Picnic
Sunday, September 7, 5:00 pm
Stone Fellowship Hall

Families are invited to join us for a BBQ dinner and lawn games to celebrate the beginning of our fall semester with children's and youth ministries! Whether you're new and just checking us out, or looking forward to reconnecting with friends after the summer, come along to kickoff the new year together. Main dishes will be provided, but you are welcome to sign up to bring salads, desserts, or drinks. Contact Jill Meek (jmeek@nationalpres.org) or [RSVP online](#).

10:00 AM WORSHIP

Sanctuary and Online

WE ENTER GOD'S PRESENCE

PRELUDE

Preambulum and Fugue in E Major

Vincent Lübeck
Todd Fickley, organ

CHIMES

CALL TO WORSHIP *pastor and people responsively*

Dr. Quinn Fox

Pastor: Praise the Lord, O my soul; all my inmost being, praise God's holy name!

People: Praise the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits!

Pastor: Praise the Lord, you his angels, you mighty ones who do God's bidding!

People: Praise the Lord, all God's heavenly hosts, you his servants who do his will.

Pastor: Praise the Lord, all God's works, everywhere in his dominion!

People: Praise the Lord, O my soul!

▲ HYMN 138 *verses 1-3* Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!

Nicaea

▲ PRAYER OF ADORATION

Dr. Fox

▲ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Hymn 138, verse 4

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!

All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea;

Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!

God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

CONFESSION OF SIN *in unison*

Dr. Fox

Holy One, you see us as we are,

and yet you love us with a Father's patient heart.

In the light of your faithfulness and enduring love,

we clearly see both our guilt and our acquittal.

For the sake of your goodness, Lord, forgive our sins.

We need your guidance and your steady hand.

You lift us when we fall. You set us on a firm path.

Draw us close with your kindness and love,

that we may learn more and more to trust your care and to walk in your ways;

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

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 Heidelberg Catechism Dr. Fox
Pastor: What do we believe when we say, "We believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth"?
People: We believe that the eternal Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who out of nothing created heaven and earth and everything in them, who still upholds and rules them by his eternal counsel and providence, is our God and Father.
We trust him so much we do not doubt that he will provide whatever we need for body and soul, and that he will turn to our good whatever adversity he sends us in this world. He is able to do this because he is Almighty God. He desires to do this because he is a faithful Father. Question and Answer 26

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Dr. Fox

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

A TIME FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES

- THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM Rev. Lisa Larsen
 Baptismal Questions
 Reaffirmation of Baptismal Vows
Through baptism we enter the covenant God has established. Within this covenant God gives us new life, guards us from evil, and nurtures us in love. In embracing this covenant, God claims us as his own, as we choose whom we will serve, by turning from evil and turning to Jesus Christ.

Baptism

James Schafer Sandora
Son of Christy Connolly Sandora and Stephen Joseph Sandora

Prayer of Response

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

- SCRIPTURE 1 Peter 2:1-10 Elder Gerri Hall
Pew Bible Page 984

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

- SERMON Holiness: Glorious Otherness Dr. Ray Hylton, Sr.

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE AND CALL

Children return to join their parents in the Sanctuary.

- RESPONSE There Is a Redeemer Melody and Keith Green
Soloist
 There is a Redeemer, Jesus, God's own Son; precious Lamb of God, Messiah, Holy One.
*Thank you, O my Father, for giving us your Son,
 and leaving your Spirit till the work on earth is done.*
Soloist
 Jesus, my Redeemer, name above all names; precious Lamb of God, Messiah, hope for sinners, slain.

Congregation

*Thank you, O my Father, for giving us your Son,
and leaving your Spirit till the work on earth is done.*

Congregation

When we stand in glory, we will see his face; then we'll serve our King forever in that holy place.

*Thank you, O our Father, for giving us your Son,
and leaving your Spirit till the work on earth is done. Repeat Refrain*

With Kevin Rose, leading

CALL FOR OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

Rev. Larsen

OFFERTORY

By the Mercies of God

William Byrd

By the mercies of God, present yourself a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God. Alleluia!

▲ 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 *prayed responsively*

Rev. Larsen

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

How Lovely Is Your Dwelling Place

Crimond

How lovely is your dwelling place, O great and Holy One,
The space wherein your glory dwells more brightly than the sun.

What beauty lies and love abides, a place of rest and peace,
Where restlessness shall be no more, where sin and sorrow cease.

The mansions of your heav'nly home await our journey's end;
The promised rooms prepared for us receive us once again.

Rejoicing with the heav'nly host whose lives have gone before,
Our songs will then with theirs unite to sing forevermore.

Mary Jackson Cathey

▲ BENEDICTION

Dr. Hylton

▲ CHORAL AMEN

▲ PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Rev. Larsen

▲ POSTLUDE

Toccata in G Major

Théodore Dubois
Mr. Fickley, organ

▲ Congregation standing, as able

*Everyone is invited outside to the Upper Plaza after worship
for hands-on activities, fellowship, and ice cream.*

Songs used by permission: CCLI #100655 and #17315

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

- **10:00 am:** Traditional Worship
- **11:00 am:** Care, Prayer, Dare Challenge

Childcare

Childcare is available today from 9:45 am until 11:15 am. The Nursery (Room 207) and the Toddler Room (Room 230) are located on the second floor of the main church building. Infants - crawling should go to the Nursery and those who are walking - pre-K 4 should utilize the Toddler Room.

Library Hours: 9:00 am-1:00 pm

Our NPC Library, located on the second floor, is open from 9:00 am-1:00 pm on Sundays. Stop in to say hi! We've got books for all ages and ministries to enrich your faith journey and further our mission of leading people to become faithful followers of Jesus together in God's world.

Sunday School will begin on September 7. Adult Elective Classes will begin on September 14.

Upcoming Schedule:

Regular worship schedule resumes September 7

(8:45 am Contemporary Service, 11:00 am Traditional Service.)

- September 7: Sunday School begins for Youth, Children, and Parent Gathering
- September 7: Special Plenary with International Justice Mission
- September 14: Adult Sunday School Elective Classes begin

Adult Sunday School Elective Classes:

- **Galatians and James**, R.V. Seep
- **Discovering the Gospel of John**, Margaret Gardner & Dr. Quinn Fox
- **Uncommon Ground: Living Faithfully in a World of Difference**, Ginny Beeson, Lewrene Glaser, Nancy Fox
- **Financial Peace University**, Megan Schmoll & Leah Skrine

Upcoming Chapel Hallway Construction - No anticipated impact on Sunday activities

On September 22, construction will begin on the hallway outside the Chapel in the main church building to repair a leak in the ceiling. Due to the nature of the work and the material of the ceiling, this work will include asbestos abatement. This construction will likely not affect any proceedings on Sundays, it will only occur during the week. We have selected a licensed asbestos abatement contractor to perform this work, and all work will be conducted in accordance with health and safety regulations. We anticipate this work will be completed in mid-October. For more information, check out our

[Chapel Hallway Construction Webpage.](#)



**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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Fall Small Groups Registration Open Register by Wednesday, September 10

Small group Bible studies will explore the challenges of trusting God's healing power in our lives. Together we will learn how to step into deeper service, intercessory prayer, and hope in Jesus. Please register [on our website](#) by September 10 to be placed in an in-person or Zoom group.

Adult Sunday School Class

Financial Peace University

Register by September 12

Reorient your life around God's purpose, take control of your finances, and make a plan for your money! Using the biblically based Financial Peace University curriculum, you'll learn to budget, eliminate debt, save wisely, and live more freely. The group will meet on Sundays, Sept. 14–Nov. 16 at 9:55 am. If able, we welcome an optional contribution towards course material costs of \$75. Register on our [website](#).

Pathway of Christian Discipleship Class

Saturday, September 27, 9:00 am

Register by September 17

Becoming a church member here at National can be a meaningful step forward in your spiritual journey. To inquire about membership or just learn more about Christian faith, please attend the membership class on September 27. For more information or to register by September 17, visit our [website](#) or contact Kemet Rakiatu (202-537-7578 or krakiatu@nationalpres.org).

Middle School Fall Retreat

September 26-28

Register by September 19

All middle school youth are invited for a weekend away, growing in faith in Christ and fellowship with fellow NPC youth friends at the Breakaway Retreat. We're also in need of adults who would like to be chaperones for the weekend! For more information, to register, or to volunteer, please visit our [Events page](#) or contact Kristin Franke (kfranke@nationalpres.org).

Military Ministry Meeting

Sunday, September 14, 12:15 pm

All are welcome to the next military ministry meeting after the 11:00 am service on September 14 in the Garden Rooms. Our speaker will be Colonel John Venable, USAF (Ret.), an Air Force pilot, former leader of the Thunderbirds, author, leadership coach and National Defense Expert. Lunch will be served.

Fall Community Blood, Food, & Clothing Drive

Saturday, September 20, 10:00 am-3:00 pm

Come make a difference in our community as we partner with Central Union Mission and the 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 national blood bank shortage. For more details, [visit our website](#) or contact Serve Director Jonathan Edwards (jedwards@nationalpres.org).

Nominate Organizations for Mission Gifts for Christmas

September 7-28

Mission Gifts for Christmas is a meaningful way for our church to share Christ's love and generosity during the Christmas season. Each year, members of our congregation are invited to nominate a 501(c)(3) organization or a missionary affiliated with a 501(c)(3) to be featured in our Mission Gifts for Christmas Catalog and displayed in Stone Hall during December. Nominations are open from September 7–28. Visit our [Events](#) page to learn more and nominate an organization.

Serve on the NPC Welcome Team - Up Front or Behind the Scenes!

You are invited to be part of the vital team that not only greets and connects with folks on Sundays, but does important work behind the scenes to care for and connect our NPC family. Please visit our [Serve at Church](#) page and sign up today! You may also contact Leslie Saum (202-537-7494 or lsaum@nationalpres.org).

Our Journey of Discipleship Together!

We are all on a journey of faith to grow closer to Christ—through worship, prayer, scripture, and service. NPC has many resources available to support you on your journey. Please visit nationalpres.org/discipleship or contact the Connections Ministry (202-537-7494 or lsaum@nationalpres.org).

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!

Scan this QR code to learn more about NPC & get connected:



Newcomers and long-timers:

Let us know you are here!

Whether in the Sanctuary or worshipping online - we want to know you and care for you:

- Please sign the guestbook in the pews or online on our [Watch](#) webpage.

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.

Get Connected Through Service!

Want to share in faith and fellowship through service? No matter your age, skills, or ability, you can use your gifts to serve our church and our community.

- View upcoming community service opportunities on our [Events](#) page or contact Serve Director Jonathan Edwards (jedwards@nationalpres.org).
- Want to serve at church? Visit our [Serve at Church](#) page or contact Leslie Saum (202-537-7494 or lsaum@nationalpres.org).
- If you're interested in photography, we would love to utilize your skills to capture photos of our NPC family on Sundays. Contact Caroline Etgen (cetgen@nationalpres.org).

Your Giving Makes 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.

To 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 (lskrine@nationalpres.org).

Prayers

We pray:

that we would be a blessing to our community.

We pray for:

Young Lives, as they present the gospel to teenage parents and help them grow in their faith.

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 by Joanna Lam in loving memory of her grandmother Wee Siew Kim, her mother Judy Lam, and her niece Carrissa Lam, remembering their birthdays in February, March and August.



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