

January 4, 2015

# THE NATIONAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

LEADING PEOPLE TO BECOME  
FAITHFUL FOLLOWERS OF JESUS CHRIST  
TOGETHER IN GOD'S WORLD

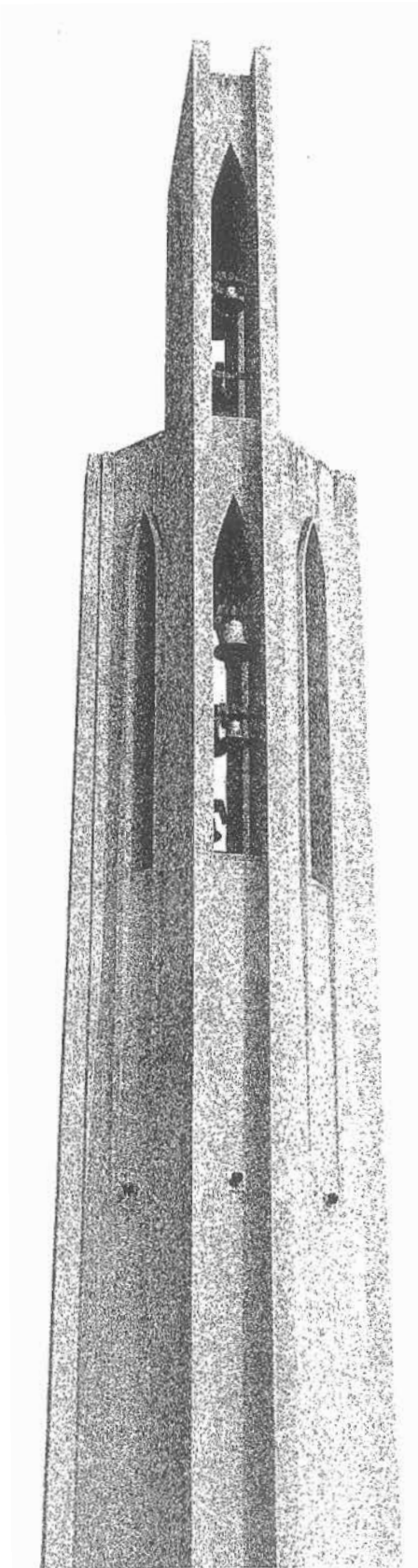
CHRISTMASTIDE

COMMUNION

*And ahead of them went the star.*

Matthew 2:9

Dr. David Renwick, *Senior Pastor* · Dr. Quinn Fox, *Associate Pastor*  
Rev. Donna Marsh, *Associate Pastor* · Rev. Evangeline Taylor, *Associate Pastor*  
*Parish Associates:* Rev. Nancy T. Fox and Dr. Donald R. Wilson  
Rev. Michael Denham, *Director of Music Ministries*  
William Neil, *Organist* · Hilda Gore, *Contemporary Music Leader*  
*Ministry Directors:* J. Theodore Anderson (Library & Older Adults),  
Jill Meek (Children), Leslie Saum (Connections)  
McLane Stone (Youth), and Sally Swanson (Serve)



# ORDER OF WORSHIP

9:15 & 11 A.M.

*Kindly turn off your cell phone and other electronic devices.*

## ENTERING GOD'S PRESENCE

PRELUDE

William Neil, organ

CALL TO WORSHIP

Dr. David Renwick

*Let us lift up our hearts and our voices, and together worship God!*

▲ HYMN 68 *verses 1-3*    What Star Is This, with Beams So Bright    *Puer nobis nascitur*

▲ PRAYER OF ADORATION    Rev. Donna Marsh

▲ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE    Hymn 68, verse 4

To God the Father, God the Son, and Holy Spirit, Three in One,  
May every tongue and nation raise an endless song of thankful praise.

CONFESSION OF SIN *in unison*

O God,  
your blessed Son was manifested that he might destroy the works of evil,  
and make us children of God, and heirs of eternal life.

Grant that, having this hope within us,  
we may be forgiven of our sins and purified, even as he is pure.

When he appears again with power and great glory,  
may we be made like unto him in his eternal and glorious kingdom,  
where with you, O Father, and with the Holy Spirit,  
he lives and reigns, ever one God, world without end.

SILENT CONFESSION

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.

## HEARING GOD'S WORD

A TIME FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES

*Children may meet their Sunday School leaders in the Court of Flags:*

9:15 a.m.    *to join their peers in Sunday School in the school building. (grades K-5)*

11 a.m.    *to go to the Children's Church program in Church Room 106, then return after the sermon*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. David Renwick

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

Philippians 3:4-15  
*pew Bible pp. 954-955*

9:15 a.m. Elder Jim Anderson  
11 a.m. Katharine Wystrach

SERMON

*A Vision for God's Future*  
Following the Star: Moving On

Dr. David Renwick

## RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE AND CALL

### CHORAL RESPONSE

*Was Gott tut*

O God, what you ordain is right, your holy will abiding;  
We shall be still, whate'er you do, and follow where you are guiding.  
You are our God; though dark our road,  
you hold us where we shall not fall;  
Wherefore to you we leave it all.

Samuel Rodigast

### ▲ Affirmation of Faith                      Nicene Creed                      Rev. Evangeline Taylor

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally  
begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God  
from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he  
came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the  
Virgin Mary, and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified  
under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third  
day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into  
heaven and is seated on the right hand of the Father. He will come  
again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom  
will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from  
the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped  
and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one  
holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for  
the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and  
the life of the world to come. Amen.

### OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

#### Thou Didst Leave Thy Holy Dwelling

Hector Berlioz

Thou didst leave thy holy dwelling for humble crib and stable bare;  
Babe, all mortal babes excelling, content our earthly lot to share;  
Love Incarnate, Love Incarnate, gift of God's all-loving care.  
Blessed Jesus, thee we follow, with humble love and holy fear.  
In the way that lies before us we trust that thou will'st hold us dear.  
Love Incarnate, Love Incarnate, we would to thy heart draw near.  
Savior, thou, beyond all measure, are filled with grace and mercy mild;  
Word of God and heav'nly Treasure thou, Prince of Peace and Holy Child!  
E'er go with us, e'er protect us; guide us safely through the wild.

# THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Invitation to the Table

Words of Institution and Distribution

Music Meditation      Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether

Harold Friedell

Draw us in the Spirit's tether, for when humbly in your name  
two or three are met together, you are in the midst of them:

*Alleluia! Alleluia! Touch we now your garment's hem.*

As disciples used to gather in the name of Christ to sup,  
then with thanks to God the Father break the bread and bless the cup:

*Alleluia! Alleluia! So now bind our friendship up.*

All our meals and all our living make as sacraments of you,  
That by caring, helping, giving, we may be disciples true:

*Alleluia! Alleluia! We will serve with faith anew.*

Prayer of Response and 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 63

As with Gladness Men of Old

*Dix*

▲ BENEDICTION

▲ CHORAL RESPONSE

*Sandon*

God of the past, our times are in thy hand: With us abide.

Lead us by faith to hope's true promised land: Be Thou our guide.

With thee to bless, the darkness shines as light,

And faith's fair vision changes into sight.

Hugh Thompson Kerr

▲ PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

▲ POSTLUDE

- ▲ Congregation standing, as able

**The flowers in the Sanctuary** are given to the glory of God by Alice Elnora Ewing Foreman in loving memory of her parents, Mr. John and Mrs. Martha Bowler Ewing, and in remembrance of friends and family who have passed on.

**Take flowers to brighten someone's day.** Are you planning to visit someone who is ill or home-bound? Take along flowers to bring some cheer! Bud vases with fresh flowers may be found on the table outside of Elson Parlor.

**Chapel prayers after worship:** If you have a joy or concern on your heart, come to Elson Parlor, down the hall to the right as you exit the sanctuary. A pastor, elder or deacon, and Stephen Minister will be there to pray with you privately about your concerns and celebrations.

# TODAY

## SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ADULTS, YOUTH, AND CHILDREN *Sundays, 9:30 a.m.*

Classes and locations listed on pg. 8.

**CHILDREN'S CHURCH**  
*During 11 a.m. worship, Church Room 106*  
Children are always encouraged to join their families in worship. Children in grades K-2 may leave for a special Children's Church program after the Time for Children, and return to their families after the sermon. *Childcare is available for children under 4 – see back page for locations.*

## **NPC YOUTH** *5–7:30 p.m., Youth House*

Gather for food, fun, and fellowship!

- **Middle School (6<sup>th</sup>–8<sup>th</sup> grade):**  
5–6 p.m., Youth House
- **NPC Youth dinner (parents welcome!):**  
5:45–6:45 p.m., Multi-Purpose Room
- **High School (9<sup>th</sup>–12<sup>th</sup> grade):**  
6:30–7:30 p.m., Youth House

## **PLEASE SIGN FRIENDSHIP REGISTER**

To help us get to know one another, members and guests alike are encouraged to sign and pass along the Friendship Register during the welcome or the offering.

## **“JANUARY TERM” CLASSES FOR ADULTS BEGINS** *Sundays through January 25, 9:30 a.m.*

*Why not make it a New Year's Resolution to become part of a class in January?*

Classes offered today, January 11 & 18:  
(locations listed on pg. 8)

- The Gospel According to *Downton Abbey*
- Journey Towards Emotional Wholeness
- Battle Rhythm: The Essential Patterns of a Healthy Spiritual Life
- Listening for God's Voice in Scripture
- Your Mind Matters

*Pick up a brochure on the information table to learn more about these classes.*

## **READ THE BIBLE IN 2015**

You can read through the **New Testament** in a year with just a few minutes a day, five days a week. You can complete both the **Old and New Testaments** in the next 12 months by reading fifteen minutes a day. Guides for both approaches are available on the information table to the right as you exit the Sanctuary.

## WELCOME, GUESTS!

*We are so glad you are here today.*

- **Welcome packets** and information on the church are available at the information table to the right as you exit the sanctuary, and at the entrances to the church building.
- Enjoy **coffee and cookies** downstairs in Stone Fellowship Hall after worship.
- Our **Connections Team**, wearing purple badges, are here to welcome you and answer questions.
- **Tours of the church** on Sundays or weekdays are available upon request. *Please call: 202.537.7529.*

# THIS WEEK AND UPCOMING

## **BOOK STUDY: “LIFE TOGETHER” BY DIETRICH BONHOEFFER**

*Thursdays in January & February,  
beginning Jan. 8, 7:15 p.m., Elson Parlor*

Dr. Quinn Fox will lead a study of this classic book from the renowned Christian minister, professor, author and martyr who recounts his unique fellowship in an underground seminary during the Nazi years in Germany. **On January 8, we will discuss the preface and the section titled “community,” pp. 25-47** from the recently translated Fortress Press edition; copies are available for sale in the NPC Bookstore. *Registrations welcome: HNovak@NationalPres.org or 202.537.7527*

## **BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL WOMEN’S GUILD LUNCHEON**

*Saturday, Jan. 3, Stone Hall  
12 p.m. (lunch), 1 p.m. (program)*

All women are invited for a fascinating presentation from guest speaker Christina Miller-Colton of American Leprosy Missions. She will share her experience as an international aide worker helping women in Nepal. *For lunch reservations (\$12), call Jane McRonal, 202.244.3224.*

## **MEN’S BREAKFAST**

*Saturday, Jan. 10  
Stone Hall, 8–9:30 a.m.*

Meet other men at NPC for a hearty breakfast and a presentation by Dr. David Renwick. *Reserve your place: Men@NationalPres.org or call 202.537.7527.*

## **A HEALTHY NEW YEAR**

*Saturdays, 8:30 a.m., Agencies Lower Level*  
Kick off 2015 right and try “Body & Soul”—an affordable, fun, and faith-filled fitness class (no cardio, just challenging moves for every major muscle group). Your first class is free! *Beginning Jan. 24, the class will be held in Jones Hall (School Gym).*

## **SECOND SUNDAY SANDWICH MAKING**

*Sunday, Jan. 11, Stone Hall  
after 9:15 & 11 a.m. worship*

All ages can help feed the hungry in our city by making sandwiches for the homeless to be distributed through NPC mission partner Martha’s Table. Together we can make 800 sandwiches!

## **ADULT FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON**

*Monday, Jan. 12, Noon, Stone Hall*  
Come for great food, fellowship and a special presentation by Dr. Renwick. *For lunch reservations (\$12) please call 202.537.0800.*

## **AFTERNOON T.E.A.**

*Wednesday, Jan. 14  
1:30–2:30 p.m. Elson Parlor*

All women with school-aged children are invited for a monthly gathering with *Teaching, Encouragement, and Adoration* as we study the The Sermon on the Mount from Matthew 5-7, share our lives and worship our God together. (Yes, tea and other refreshments are served!) Come for meaningful connection and fellowship before your kids get home from school. *Contact Alison Dickey: NPCafternoonTEA@gmail.com.*

## **WEDNESDAY WOMEN BIBLE STUDY & PRAYER GROUP**

*Wednesday, Jan. 14, 10 a.m.–1 p.m.  
Church Rooms 110/111 & 105*

Women are invited for prayer at 10 a.m., followed by a study of “Balaam” from our Bible study focus on “Biblical Bad Girls, Rogues, and Fools.” After the study, enjoy fellowship as we prepare cards for NPC members in need of care and prayer. *Contact: Mildred Wheat 703.931.1490.*

## **BREAK THE ICE IN 2015!**

*Sunday, Jan. 18, Elson Parlor*

Would you like to meet more people at church, but small talk feels awkward? Whether you are new to National, or have been coming for some time: come after worship for an interactive conversation on “Icebreaking 101: From Conversation to Community.” This casual gathering is open to any and all – refreshments will be served! *Contact: Leslie Saum, LSAum@NationalPres.org 202.537.7494.*

## **“ANATOMY OF THE SOUL”**

*Sunday, Jan. 25, 9:30 a.m., Stone Hall*

Special guest Curt Thompson, M.D., author of *Anatomy of the Soul*, will discuss new discoveries in neuroscience – discoveries that reveal how our interactions with each other help shape our brains and relationships. Dr. Thompson will talk about how these discoveries reflect what we already know from Scripture – that God desires for us a better life than what we could plan for ourselves. By paying attention to how our brains and relationships shape each other, we create space for God to work.

## **TIME TO MAKE NPC YOUR CHURCH HOME?**

*Sunday, Jan. 25, 8:30 a.m.–2:30 p.m.*

Learn more about the Christian faith and membership at NPC, and spend time with church leaders at the Pathway of Christian Discipleship Class. *Contact Kemet Rakiatu to register: KRakiatu@NationalPres.org or 202.537.7578.*

## **PRAYER MINISTRY**

*We mourn the death of:*

*Vivian Sansoni*

*A memorial service will be held on January 7 at 3:30 p.m. followed by a reception in the Court of Flags.*

*Confidential prayer requests:  
nationalpres.org/prayer*

## **INTERNATIONAL STUDENT MINISTRY**

You can make a meaningful impact on the life of an international student at American University during this coming semester by offering love and encouragement. *Contact Hilda Gore, HGore@NationalPres.org for details on how to become an “American friend.”*

## **EXPERT ADVICE FOR OLDER ADULTS**

Lisa Rindner, MSW LGSW, is a trusted resource to our congregation, providing expert advice on practical and emotional matters of aging. *Free appointments available at NPC. Contact Lisa at 202.895.9440 or LRindner@iona.org*

## **PREPARE FOR MARRIAGE SEMINAR**

*Saturday, February 14, 2015*

*8:45 a.m.–3 p.m., Elson Parlor*

Are you planning on getting married in 2015? Join other engaged couples for a day of preparation, information, and reflection. This class is offered once per year and is required for all couples whose weddings will be held at NPC. Cost: \$100 per couple. *Contact: Holly Novak, HNovak@NationalPres.org; 202.537.7527.*

## **NEW MISSIONARY SEEKS SUPPORT FROM NPC FAMILY**

NPC member Anne Gochnour Snow is joining the Young Life staff in San Juan, Puerto Rico. She is currently fundraising for this position and needs your help! *If you would like to learn more about her ministry of reaching teenagers in Puerto Rico with the gospel of Jesus Christ and how you can play a part, please contact her at anne.g.snow@gmail.com.*

## **JANUARY’S FOOD DONATION: 1 LB. BAGS OF RICE**

Please bring donations of 1 lb. bags of white or brown rice for mission partner Martha’s Table to the baskets outside of Stone Hall, or upstairs at the information table. *You can help gather food donations or pack and deliver food to Martha’s Table! Contact: Nancy Chapman Colb, nancy@nchapman.com.*

# CLASSES AND GROUPS

## ADULTS

### LECTIONARY READINGS

Year 1

#### January 4 - 11

##### Sunday

Psalms 20; 97  
Deuteronomy 33:1-5  
1 John 2:12-17  
John 6:41-47

##### Monday

Psalms 99; 110  
Joshua 1:1-9  
Hebrews 11:32-12:2  
John 15:1-16

##### Tuesday

Psalms 72; 67  
Isaiah 52:7-10  
Revelation 21:22-27  
Matthew 12:14-21

##### Wednesday

Psalms 46; 93  
Isaiah 52:3-6  
Revelation 2:1-7  
John 2:1-11

##### Thursday

Psalms 47; 114  
Isaiah 59:15b-21  
Revelation 2:8-17  
John 4:46-54

##### Friday

Psalms 46; 93  
Isaiah 63:1-5  
Revelation 2:18-29  
John 5:1-15

##### Saturday

Psalms 47; 114  
Isaiah 65:1-9  
Revelation 3:1-6  
John 6:1-14

##### Sunday

Psalms 104; 29  
Isaiah 40:1-11  
Hebrews 1:1-12  
John 1:1-7, 19-20, 29-34

### January Term Sunday Classes, 9:30 a.m.

- Journey Towards Emotional Wholeness *Church Room 105*
- Battle Rhythm: The Essential Patterns of a Healthy Spiritual Life *Agencies 101*
- Listening for God's Voice in Scripture *Church Room 5*
- Your Mind Matters *Church Room 110/111*
- The Gospel According to *Downton Abbey* *Chapel*

### Groups

- Across the Aisle (ages 22-35) **Resumes Jan. 11, Sundays, 12:15 p.m.** *Church Room 110/111*
- Adult Fellowship Luncheon **3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month, Noon** *Stone Hall*
- Cub Scout Troop 1946, **Every other Tuesday, 6-7 p.m.** *MP Bldg. & Agencies Lower Level*
- "Real Moms" Coffeehouse **Wednesdays, 9:30 a.m.** *Church Room 107*
- Wednesday Women **2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.** *Church Room 110/111*
- Boy Scout Troop 1946, **Wednesdays, 7-8:30 p.m.** *Agencies Lower Level*
- Afternoon T.E.A. Bible Study **2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month, 1:30-3 p.m.** *Elson Parlor*
- WomenConnect **3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month, 7-8:45 p.m.** *Elson Parlor*
- Community Bible Study **Thursdays, 7-9 p.m.** *Agencies 105*
- Men's Breakfast **1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month, 8 - 9:30 a.m.** *Stone Hall*
- B&P Women's Guild Luncheon **1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month, Noon** *Stone Hall*
- Saturday Morning Bible Study **Saturdays, 8:30 - 10 a.m.** *Satellite Library*
- Women in the Word Bible Study **Saturdays, 9:30-11 a.m.** *Church Room 105*
- GriefShare **Resumes Jan. 11, Sundays, 12:30 p.m.** *Culbertson Library*

## YOUTH

### Sunday School, 9:15 - 10:30 a.m.

- Middle School (6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> grade) *MP Building; Multipurpose Room 101*
- Middle School (8<sup>th</sup> grade) *Agencies 102*
- High School (9<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grade) *Youth House*

### Youth Group, Sundays, 5-7:30 p.m.

- Middle School (6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade): **5-6 p.m.** *Youth House*
- NPC Youth dinner (*parents welcome!*): **5:45-6:45 p.m.** *Multipurpose Room*
- High School (9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade): **6:30-7:30 p.m.** *Youth House*

## CHILDREN

### Preschool Sunday School, 9:15 - 10:30 a.m.

*Parents drop off children between 9:10-9:15 and pick up children in their classrooms at 10:30 a.m.*

- 2-year olds: Church Room 8
- 3-year olds: School Room 104
- 4-year olds: School Room 106

### Elementary Sunday School, 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.

*Children meet teachers in the school gym at 9:30 a.m., whether coming directly to Sunday School, or from worship after the Time for Children. Parents, pick up children in their classrooms at 10:30.*

- Kindergarten: School Room 108
- 1st Grade: School Room 132
- 2nd Grade: School Room 200
- 3rd Grade: School Room 208
- 4th Grade: School Room 240
- 5th Grade: School Room 242

### Children's Church, 11 a.m.

*Church Room 106*

*Children grades K-2 begin in worship, attend the children's church program, and return after the sermon.*

## CHILDCARE 8 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

- Crib Room: Babies 6 weeks - Crawling *Church Room 16*
- Walker Room: Toddlers and walkers up to 4 yrs. *Church Room 7*

## MUSIC

- Chancel Choir **Wednesdays, 7:30 - 9:30 p.m.** *Choir Room*
- Contemporary Music Team **Wednesdays, 6:30 - 7:45 p.m.** *Chapel*
- Grace Chimes Handbells **Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m.** *Church Room 110*
- Children's Choir (K-5<sup>th</sup> grade) **Sundays, 10:30-10:55 a.m.** *School Building*
- Youth Choir (6<sup>th</sup> grade +) **Sundays, 10:25-10:55 a.m.** *Multipurpose Room*

## BOOKSTORE & LIBRARY Sundays 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

- Culbertson Library (also: M-TH 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.) *Admin. Bldg., Second Floor*
- Satellite Library & Moehrle Bookstore *Adjacent to Stone Hall*

## THE NATIONAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

4101 Nebraska Ave. NW Washington, DC 20016 • 202.537.0800 • www.NationalPres.org