

May 4, 2008

THE
NATIONAL
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

A MINISTRY OF GRACE, PASSIONATE ABOUT
CHRIST'S MISSION IN THE WORLD

*While they were worshipping the Lord and
fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for me
Barnabas and Saul for the work to
which I have called them."*

Acts 13:2

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.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Douglas Learned

11 a.m. Children gather at the front of the sanctuary for blessing and dismissal to children's programming and Pathways.

Pastor: May the Lord bless you and guide you.

Congregation: May the Lord smile upon you.

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

Hymn to the Holy Spirit

Craig Courtney

Jefferson

Thou, O Christ, who came to kindle, now ignite us with thy fire;
While the earth resists thy burning, with thy passion now inspire.
Overcome our sinful calmness, make us know our share of blame.
Baptize with thy fiery Spirit, crown our lives with tongues of flame!
Thou who in thy holy purpose will that we should truly live,
Grant us grace to be thy servants, our tranquility forgive.
Teach us courage as we struggle in all liberating strife.
Shame the smallness of our vision by thine own abundant life.
Thou who does a sword deliver rather than a placid peace,
By thy sharpened word disturb us, from complacency release!
Save us from our satisfaction when we personally are free
Yet are undisturbed in spirit by our neighbor's misery! Amen.

D. Elton Trueblood

SCRIPTURE

Acts 13:1-12

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

What a Way To Go!

Rev. Eunice McGarrahan

HYMN 426

Lord, Speak to Me, That I May Speak

Canonbury

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Invitation to the Table

Words of Institution and Distribution

Music Meditation

Holy to the Lord

William Byrd

Holy to the Lord, a kingdom of priests to God, a holy nation,
To offer to the Lord God sacrifices to his most holy name. Alleluia!

Sacerdotes Domini

Prayer of Response and The Lord's Prayer

▲ HYMN 525

Here I Am, Lord

Here I Am

▲ BENEDICTION

▲ CHORAL AMEN

▲ PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

▲ POSTLUDE

Pasticcio

Jean Langlais

▲ Congregation standing, as able

The flowers in the Court of Flags today are given to the glory of God by David and Chrisanti Bollinger in celebration of their May 3 wedding.

- Pray with a pastor, an elder or deacon, and a Stephen Minister in the chapel after services.
- Join our church family for coffee and conversation in Stone Hall following the services.
- Tapes of today's sermon are available in Moehrle Bookstore today and next week in Culbertson Library. Transcripts are available at the Information Center the following week. Audio and text files of the sermons are available at www.NationalPres.org
- The Wm. S. Culbertson Library is open from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. each Sunday.

BRUNCH BUNCH QUESTIONS

BASED ON ACTS 13:1-12

For Adults:

1. Describe a time in your life when you had to make a significant decision that would affect the course of your life. What were your criteria? Whose advice did you seek? How effective do you think your decision-making was?
2. Describe how the church at Antioch decided to send out Paul and Barnabas. What were they doing? Who was involved? What was the outcome?
3. What do you think this says about our life together in the church?

For Kids:

1. The Holy Spirit does three things in this story. What are they?
2. What do you think this story tells you about how the Holy Spirit can help you follow Jesus?

Worship



MUSIC AT NATIONAL

On Sunday, May 18, at 3 p.m. *Music at National* presents the Master Chorale of Washington in “American Traditions.” Come explore traditional music, including sacred harp, folksong, and *A Bluegrass Mass*. For tickets and information, call 202.337.7464 or www.masterchorale.org

RECOMMEND CHURCH OFFICERS

The **Nominating Committee** is seeking recommendations for church leaders to serve as deacons, trustees, and elders. They are also seeking recommendations for the board of the Fund for Charitable Giving and the 2009 Nominating Committee. To recommend someone, complete *Recommendations for Church Office* and drop it in one of the boxes at the church entrances.

JOIN US ON MAY 18

Annual Meeting

All members are encouraged to **A**ttend the Annual Meeting of the congregation on Sunday, May 18, at 12:15 p.m. in Stone Hall. The purposes of the meeting are to hear reports from session, deacons, trustees, the Maryland Corporation, and Fund for Charitable Giving; to review pastors’ terms of call; to elect deacons; and to receive our 2007 financial reports. Lunch provided (\$6.50 donation).

FROM THE SESSION

On April 28, session accepted and forwarded recommendations of the Pastoral Roles and Job Descriptions Review Group to the Personnel Committee for consideration and implementation. As you know, Presbyterians do things decently and in good order. There are a number of delicate processes that are ongoing. We appeal to your patience and faith in God and our church, and will provide additional information as soon as possible. Rest assured that session is moving forward respectfully and prayerfully.

REPORT ADDENDUM

An addendum to the Metanoia Ministries report was received by session on April 28. The addendum addresses two issues not mentioned in the original report: the Sunday schedule and contemporary worship. If you would like a copy, please pick one up at the Information Desk in the narthex of the church.

SERMON PODCASTS

To receive RSS feeds (podcasts), visit our web site: www.NationalPres.org/rss. It’s quick and simple to have the sermon files sent to your computer automatically to listen at your leisure. Questions? Contact Kate Brinkley, 202.537.7574.

THE NATIONAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

4101 Nebraska Ave., N.W., Washington, DC 20016
www.NationalPres.org ♦ 202.537.0800

Grow



REFORMED SPIRITUALITY

If you are seeking to grow spiritually, come hear Dr. Susan Kendall of Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, who also teaches at the Reformed Institute. This challenging four-part series is offered at 9:15 a.m. on Sundays through May 18, in lower level, Agencies Bldg.

A LOVING LEGACY

Preparing ahead is consistent with our Christian heritage—it is an act of love and stewardship. A new resource, entitled “A Loving Legacy,” will help you and your family plan for life’s transitions, so that you’ll be better able to deal with legal, financial, and family matters. This guide can now be purchased at the Moehrle Bookstore.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT ALIVE

Midweek Dinner & Study

Join friends and family for a buffet dinner from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Each Wednesday from 6:15 to 6:55 p.m. Rev. Eunice McGarrahan will lead a Bible study. At 7 p.m. there are two Institute for Christian Studies classes: “The Prophets: After Israel’s Exile and Return” and “The King James Bible: Its Origins and Influence.” Classes run from May 7 to June 4. For dinner reservations, call the church, 202.537.0800.

SUPPORT OUR YOUTH

YouthInc, a special giving opportunity, supports youth serving on mission trips, summer staff involved in discipleship programs, and other missions of NPC’s Youth Ministry. You may place your contributions in the offering plate today, noting “YouthInc” on the memo line of your check. We will continue to receive contributions to YouthInc through the end of June.

INGLESIDE ANNIVERSARY TEA

The Ingleside Presbyterian Retirement Community Women’s Board will host its Annual Silver Tea today at 3 p.m. at 3050 Military Road, N.W. Proceeds from this event will be donated to the Ingleside Supporting Fund. All are welcome; to learn more, call 202.363.8310.

SKIFF LUNCH AND PROGRAM

Join SKIFF on Monday, May 5, from noon to 2 p.m. in Stone Hall. You’ll enjoy “A Mission Visit to Thailand” with guests Charles Proctor and Woody Cunningham of our congregation. All are welcome. The cost of lunch is \$9. R.s.v.p., Lee Mace, 301.460.6074.

VBS NEEDS YOU!

This year’s vacation Bible school, Son-World Adventure Park, runs from July 7-11. If you’d like to lend a hand by working with our wonderful children, contact Sherry Waldrep, 301.927.7966 or sherry_waldrep@hotmail.com. If you’d like to register a child, visit our web site: www.NationalPres.org/children.php.

Serve



GUATEMALA MISSION TRIP

The **twenty-seven persons** on NPC's Guatemala Habitat for Humanity Build Mission Team are invited to meet today from 3:30 to 5 p.m. in the church parlor. The team hopes to sponsor and build three houses in Solola, Guatemala, from August 2 to 10.

MISSION EMPHASIS OF THE WEEK

New Hope International has served Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union for more than 25 years. Its staff brings the love and care of Jesus Christ to children and teens in schools, churches, and orphanages, and to persons in correctional institutions. Pray for God to strengthen New Hope in building bridges, mobilizing churches, and reaching the next generation. Visit www.NewHopeInternational.org.

FEEDING OUR FRIENDS

We **invite you** to share with those of our city who cannot afford to feed their families, by bringing non-perishable food to baskets outside the church parlor and Stone Hall. Donations are delivered to Martha's Table.

POTOMAC PARISH BIBLE STUDY

The **Bethesda-Potomac** parishes will have a Bible study from 10 a.m. to noon on May 14 at Marilyn Lacy's, 12509 Over Ridge Rd., Potomac. Our study, about the Holy Spirit as found in the book of Acts, is based on the book, *All the Miracles of the Bible* by Herbert Lockyer. Visitors are welcome. R.s.v.p. to Diane Palmer, 301.299.5195.

JOIN THE PICNIC TEAM

Our Annual Church Picnic is scheduled for Labor Day Sunday, August 31, and we are gathering a team to organize this wonderful event. Consider joining the team – we need you! Contact Leslie Saum, LSaum@NationalPres.org or 202.537.7494.

CARE TEAMS

NPC Care Teams offer practical, emotional and spiritual support to persons experiencing need. If you, or someone you know, could benefit from an NPC Care Team, call Al Bissell, 301.229.1381.

PRAYER MINISTRY

Please keep the following members of our church family in your prayers:

Health Concerns

— Dorothy Fletcher — Adele Jackson
— Emmet Mittlebeeler — Jack Naughton

CHURCH-AS-A-MISSION POTLUCK

Fun for the Family!

The next Church-as-a-Mission Potluck is today at 5 p.m. in Stone Hall. We'll focus on NPC mission partners in Africa. Come for a relaxing evening of singing, home-cooked dishes, and an intergenerational hands-on project to benefit an NPC partner in Africa. To learn more visit our web site, www.NationalPres.org.

SUNDAY AT NATIONAL

ADULT LEARNING COMMUNITIES

9:15 a.m.

Challenging Bible Texts	AD-107
Faith & Works	S-240
Guided Tour of the Bible	A-101
Marriage Builders	S-234-236
Men's Challenge Class	A-105
Studies in Isaiah	C-5
Women's Bible Class	S-140
Women's Discipleship	A-102
Also meets biweekly Fridays, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.	
Worship & Justice	S-220
Wrestlers	A-Lower Level

YOUTH CLASSES/GROUPS

9:15-10:20 a.m.

6th-8th Grade	MP
9th-12th Grades	YC

MILESTONES IN WORSHIP EDUCATION

This program teaches children to use the language and traditions of the Christian people to worship God and respond to his grace. The remaining Milestone for 2008 is:

2nd Grade

The Apostles' Creed May 18

Key: A - Agencies; AD - Admin.; S - School; MP - Multi-Purpose; C - Church; YC - Youth Center

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY MORNING PROGRAM

Children are welcome to worship with their families. There is a dismissal during 11 a.m. service for children, Fours through 5th Graders, who attend programs in the school.

Nursery Childcare

9 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

6 weeks – Crawling	C-16
Crawlers – Toddlers	C-107
Walkers	C-7

Preschool, 9:15 – 10:25 a.m.

Twos	S-102
Threes	S-106
Fours	S-130

Early Elementary, 9:15 – 10:25

Kindergarten A	C-110
Kindergarten B	C-111
First Grade	C-105
Second Grade	C-106

Older Elementary Sunday School

9:15 a.m. Chapel	Gym
adjourns to classes:	
Third Grade	S-208-210
Fourth Grade	S-204-206
Fifth Grade	S-228

Pathways

10:30 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.	
Twos, Threes	S-104

Angel Choir

11 - 11:20 a.m.	
Fours through Kindergarten	Gym

Pathways

11:20 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.	
Fours through Kindergarten	S-130

Elementary Special Programming

11:20 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.	
1st through 5th Grade	Gym

RESOURCES FOR CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Wm. S. Culbertson Library is located on the second floor of the Administration Bldg. and is open Monday through Friday, 8 a.m.. to 4 p.m. and on Sundays from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The Satellite Library is located on the lower level of the church near the Stone Hall entrance and is open on Sundays from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

DAILY READINGS

May 4 – 11 (Year 2)

Sunday

Psalms 150, 117
Exodus 3:1-12
Hebrews 12:18-29
Luke 10:17-24

Monday

Psalms 145; 115
Joshua 1:1-9
Ephesians 3:1-13
Matthew 8:5-17

Tuesday

Psalms 146; 116
1 Samuel 16:1-13a
Ephesians 3:14-21
Matthew 8:18-27

Wednesday

Psalms 147, 118
Isaiah 4:2-6
Ephesians 4:1-16
Matthew 8:28-34

Thursday

Psalms 147, 113
Zechariah 4:1-14
Ephesians 4:17-32
Matthew 9:1-8

Friday

Psalms 148; 138
Jeremiah 31:27-34
Ephesians 5:1-32
Matthew 9:9-17

Saturday

Psalms 149; 114
Ezekiel 36:22-27
Ephesians 6:1-24
Matthew 9:18-26

Sunday

Psalms 150; 33
Deuteronomy 16:9-12
Acts 4:18-21, 23-33
John 4:19-26