



NDPC COMMUNICATOR

October 28, 2015

**From the pastors,
David & Beth**

Daylight Saving Time Ends this Sunday, November 1. Move your clocks back one hour Saturday night.

"More than anything else, to be a saint is to know joy." Frederick Buechner wrote that, now some time ago. For all the things that have been said about saints--what they are and what it means to be one, I like Buechner's observation the best. Saints of God are given a glimpse of that most sublime form of human pleasure: joy. Everything is free, all of life is a gift, for us to enjoy.

This Sunday is All Saints Day. We invite everyone at NDPC to come to worship at 8:30 or 11am. But come with a trowel and your gloves, because at 10:30 and again after worship, we will be planting bulbs--daisies and daffodils--in the dirt by the stone wall beside the sanctuary. We will each plant one and honor the particular saints who have blessed our lives with joy. We expect to see hundreds of explosions of joy next springtime when we celebrate Christ's resurrection.

Worship

Sunday, November 1 - 8:30 & 11am; All Saints Day; Holy Communion; congregational meeting following worship

Sunday, November 8 - 8:30 & 11am; Agnes Norfleet, former NDPC pastor, preaching

Contemplative Prayer meets Thursday nights at 7pm in the Library.

Christian Education

Quiet Please: The students of adult education request we observe silent space in the adult education wing from 9:30 to 10:30am Sundays. All conversations should take place in Fellowship Hall or Pastor's Study, not in the hallways.

New Adult Classes:

The Idolatry of Violence (Large Classroom)

Violence manifests in our personal, communal, corporate, and global relationships. This seven-week class will explore the ways in which violence is idolized and visited upon all of us. With the contributions of speakers and course materials, we will discern and pray together over the question: "What are the subtle and not so subtle ways in which violence permeates public policies, our private lives, our choice of entertainment and our vision of the future?"

Dates: Nov 4, 11, 18

Dec 6, 13, 20 (9:30-10:30am)

Facilitators: Carol Tveit and Kathleen Allen, and guest speakers

Family as Forming Center (Parlor)

The primary place where most children learn about God is the family. This series will explore the role of primary caregivers, whether they are parents, grandparents or other family members in the faith formation of children. We will explore how to deepen

spirituality in the home. Participants will learn about the role of family in the faith formation of children and be encouraged to nurture their spiritual lives through specific practices in the home.

Dates: Nov 1, 8, 15, 22 (9:30-10:30am)

Facilitator: Rev. Mary Anona Stoops and Ginny Bowen

What You Want to Know About the Bible But Are Afraid to Ask (Sanctuary)

Engage your imagination as we explore the Bible as literature and life-giving guide. In each session, the group watches a short video featuring a leading voice from the Christian faith, spends time in guided reflection, and shares ideas with the group. The curriculum was developed by the same team behind last year's popular "Animate: Faith," an introductory class to Christianity. Like that class, each session delves into a particular theme: canon, history, genre, two testaments, gospels, interpretation, and application. The course is designed for an intergenerational audience. All are encouraged to participate and to develop their understanding of the Bible.

Dates: Nov 4, 11, 18

Dec 6, 13, 20 (9:30-10:30am)

Facilitators: Tim Merritt, Paige Castle, Larry Mosley, Audra Grace

Weekly Bible Study with Rev. Lewicki every Tuesday, 6-7pm. You are invited to sit with Rev. Lewicki and study the text for the following Sunday's sermon. Each week will begin with some teaching, followed by reflection, group discussion, and prayer. The point of this study is to bring the Bible's stories into your life. Attend every week or only the weeks that work for you. See you on Tuesday!

Season of Commitment 2015

On the heels of your very generous support of the Capital Campaign, you will notice a low key annual Stewardship Campaign this year and a proposed budget for 2016 that reflects modest increases.

Our annual letter, which includes the Time & Talents sheet along with your pledge card, has been mailed. If you currently make an annual pledge, we hope that you will be able to maintain your pledge. If you have never pledged, we ask you to start modestly. We will receive your pledges of time, energies, and financial support on **Dedication Sunday, November 8.**

We are so very fortunate to have a growing, thriving church. With your support NDPC will continue to reach out in ministry and mission and to follow God's call to new places not yet imagined.

With gratitude,
Roberta Goldbaugh, Stewardship Committee Chair

Community Fellowship

YOUTH FUNDRAISER - Oyster Roast & Low Country Boil, Saturday, November 7, 4:00-7:00PM: Support youth missions while enjoying a backyard Oyster Roast and Low Country Boil at the Brogan/Ellis family house. Tickets are \$25, for all you can eat Oysters, shrimp and sides. The money raised will go to support youth missions. Bring a guitar for pickin'. Children are welcome. There will be hot dogs for roasting and a backyard of fun: chickens, trampolines, zip lines. Dinner will be served from 4-7pm, but the festivities will continue until the fire goes out. Please RSVP to Linda Ellis by Nov. 1 at lindaellis37@yahoo.com. Please indicate whether you will be eating oysters, shrimp, hot dogs or any combination of the above.

NDPC November SAGES Meeting, 11/9:

DATE: Monday, November 9 - 12:00 noon (Please note date change due to use of the Fellowship Hall as a polling precinct on November 3)

COST: \$8.00 for a great lunch provided by Badda Bing

PROGRAM: David Evans will reflect on his visit to Israel/Palestine in May with the Interfaith Peace-Builders group. He will discuss questions such as why more Americans are not outraged by the Occupation; the Wall is not on the border but snakes around everywhere; why are Americans not more critical of Israeli injustices, etc. David will also share a video from the trip.

REMINDER: It's "Invite a Senior to Sages" day!

RESERVATIONS: Please respond to Jim Goodspeed for a reservation at: goodspeedjimcar@bellsouth.net or 770-934-2008. Deadline for reservations is Friday, November 6.

SPECIAL INVITATION: You do not have to be in the Sages group to come and hear David's presentation--it is open to anyone interested in this ongoing problem. It is requested that you make a reservation whether for lunch or just the program with Jim Goodspeed so adequate seating will be available.

Men's Breakfast will meet **Tuesday, November 10 from 7-8am in the church Fellowship Hall**. The cost is \$2 and gets you a hearty breakfast and bottomless coffee. Questions? Contact Jack Kittle, jack@ndpc.org

Book Group meets **Thursday, November 12**. Carl Parlato hosts "The Boys in the Boat" by Daniel Day Brown. Carl's address: 431 Kirk Rd, Decatur; 404-432-5142. Contact Kip Duchon, gkduchon@gmail.com if you are interested in participating.

Thirsty Thursday Women's gathering is Thursday, November 19, 6:30pm at the home of Linda Curry, 201 W Ponce de Leon Ave #509. Bring a light appetizer to share and an appetite for thoughtful conversation. RSVP to: decaturcur@aol.com

Service & Mission

The Congregational Care committee is looking for a few good drivers! We need help transporting Claire Baldwin and Eleanor Moylan to and from church on Sundays. Please contact Susan Castle at scastle6@bellsouth.net or 404-388-2449 if you are willing and able. Thank you in advance!

Thank you to our NDPC congregation for being faithful in donating quarters to the Homeless Laundry Ministry. We begin our 3rd year in October, we have made good friends with our Memorial Drive PC partners, spread goodwill and kept a clean closet filled with clothing for Mercy Church street folks in the process.

We continue to invite drop in volunteers. Come for fellowship, bring a reflection to share and provide a work of mercy. Our seasons are as follows:

1st & 3rd Wednesday of every month from 6-8pm @ the Medlock Laundry (across from NDPC)

OCT 7 - DEC 16 2015 (FALL)

JAN 6 - MAR 16 2016 (WINTER)

APR 6 - JUN 15 2016 (SPRING)

JUL 6 - SEPT 21 2016 (SUMMER)

If you would like to be added to the volunteer list, the following roles will gladly be of assistance:

--Leading in a devotion that you wish to share

--Bringing the envelope of quarters and detergents collected from the previous week.

--Sending out the reminder e-mail to the group the weekend before Week 1 & 3 monthly.

Please contact Lynne Repasky 404 680-9816 (lynne_repasky@yahoo.com) to get better informed.

Presbyterians for a Better Georgia invites you to our 2015 Public Policy Forum, Thursday, November 5 7:30–9:30am, First Presbyterian Church-Atlanta, 1328 Peachtree

Street, Atlanta GA 30309. *Breakfast will be provided.* **Meet with key members of the State House and Senate to discuss Georgia's critical issues:** *Come to learn more about how we as Presbyterians can work towards fair access to healthcare in Georgia and find workable solutions that reduce gun violence in our communities. We will also touch on religious freedom, sex trafficking, education funding, hate crimes, and the proposed tax on groceries.* (Legislative Panelists: Sen. Bill Cowsert, Rep. Virgil Fludd, Rep. Stacey Evans, Sen. Chuck Hufstetler) Register now - www.p4bg.org

Continue to bring your **DEAM cereal donations**. Leave your cereal donations in the narthex each week when you come to church. Thanks for your participation in this important ministry.

Congregational Meeting and Elder Bios

A Congregational Meeting will be held this **Sunday, November 1, 2015**, following the 11 a.m. worship service for the following stated purpose: To receive the report of the Elder Nominating Committee presenting the following slate:

- six members to be nominated and serve as Elders of NDPC as the Class of 2018,
- one member to serve as Youth Elder of NDPC for a period of one year, and
- one member to serve as Elder of NDPC for a two-year term to fill the vacancy created by the death of an Elder in the Class of 2017.

The moderator also will take nominations from the floor and then an election will be held for six elders for a term of three years, one elder to serve for a period of two years and a youth elder to serve for a period of one year beginning in January 2016.

Elder Bios

Ginny Bowen has been a member of NDPC for almost two years, returning to the Presbyterian church after 30 years 'away' as a Lutheran. She was raised in Chapin, South Carolina, and went to the University of Georgia for undergraduate. She met her husband, Jesse, while working for UGA, and they married in 2007. They spent 7 years in Baltimore, Maryland, while Ginny was in graduate school at Johns Hopkins. She joined the CDC's Epidemic Intelligence Service in 2013, and they made their way back down South, settling into Medlock Park to be near Jack's school. Luckily for her, they stumbled across NDPC while walking the neighborhood and decided to give it a try. It was the first and last church they 'explored' in Decatur...a perfect fit. Ginny is excited to be raising her two children, Jack (4) and Abby (1), in a church that teaches about a loving and gracious God and about the inherent beauty of Creation and all God's children. She enjoys the way NDPC encourages her to think more deeply about her actions and whether they contribute to a more just world. She likes traveling, watching Georgia football, and eating dessert first.

John Brogan Ellis is glad to be presented with the opportunity of serving on the session as a youth elder. He has been a member of NDPC for over a year now, and loves our community. Outside of church, he is an aspiring visual artist and avid guitar player, as well as a student journalist at Decatur High School. He looks forward to bettering our community in any way he can.

Pam Joyce has been part of the North Decatur family for over ten years. Most of her service has been in the area of children and youth: Christmas pageants, extended session, vacation bible school and senior high youth group. She has also participated in adult mission trips to Guatemala and New Orleans, served on the Pastor Nominating Committee and volunteered for numerous activities including Salt Shakers, the Pride Parade, Handbell Choir, Hagar's House, church retreats, and the Druid Hills dinner. Pam and her wife Jill consider NDPC an integral part of their lives and continually seek ways to have fun, grow spiritually, be challenged by, and serve the church.

David Markham is the husband of Rev. Beverly Markham (PCUSA) and father of Audrey

and Ben. He grew up in Marietta and was educated at Emory University. Over the last 18 years or so, the Markham's have lived in Virginia, North Carolina, and Texas, and they returned to Georgia almost three years ago. David previously served as an elder at the First Presbyterian Churches of Durham, NC and Dallas, TX. When the Markham's moved back to Georgia, it did not take them long to choose NDPC as their church home. David is an Emory cardiologist with broad interests in literature and poetry. He collects rare books and enjoys most sports, including hiking and fishing. Another long-term interest has been traveling to Haiti, where he visits the towns of Ft. Liberté and Deschapelles, the home of Hôpital Albert Schweitzer. The entire family recently had a wonderful trip to the rural area of Deschapelles, where they enjoyed practicing their Creole, working with friends in the community, and trying traditional Haitian cuisine. David looks forward to getting to know more folks in the church and serving the church and community with great enthusiasm.

Mary Nevil moved to Decatur from upstate New York in 1990 to work as a Presbyterian Volunteer in Mission for *Seeds Magazine*, a periodical focused on the causes of hunger and homelessness. She soon discovered NDPC and joined with her daughter, Liz. After leaving *Seeds*, she worked for 4 years as NDPC's office manager, as well as serving 2 terms as an elder. Mary chaired the Community Ministry Committee, working with the congregation to enhance our support for Initiative for Affordable Housing, making over the Winn House, and collaborating with other congregations to house families arriving in Atlanta after Hurricane Katrina. Mary retired last year after a 20 year career as an elementary school library media specialist, . She currently serves on the Creation Care Committee. An avid birder, she regularly volunteers at Atlanta Audubon and maintains NDPC's wildlife sanctuary.

Sallie Owens grew up attending NDPC with her family, Jack Kittle, Annie Godfrey, Andrew and James Godfrey-Kittle. She loves the close community, welcoming spirit, and commitment to service found at NDPC. In recent years, Sallie has served as an advisor for the high school youth group, chaperoned summer trips to Montreat, and served as a confirmation partner. Sallie works at the Emory School of Medicine and Primary Care Clinics as a data analyst, working on operations and quality improvement projects. She lives in Medlock Park with her husband, Taylor Owens. In her free time she enjoys Georgia Tech football, reading, spending time outdoors and traveling.

Dena Stockton has been a member of NDPC for the past 11 or 12 years. She has two children, Orie and Annabelle, ages 17 and 14 years. Annabelle was baptized at NDPC by Agnes Norfleet. When Dena and her husband Meck began visiting churches in Decatur, they started with the "pretty" ones and as a last resort they visited "that weird looking one" and of course found their home. About 10 years ago, under the leadership of Eric Dillenbeck, Dena began working with the Youth Groups and she currently hangs with the fabulous Middle School gang. Also, in order to assure her children got the Sunday School experience, she taught grades 2-5 for sevenish years. She has loved every minute of the time she has shared with the youth of this church. They have taught her so much, and never cease to amaze her with their intelligence, honesty, and willingness to let her be a part of their lives.

Bob Way has been a member of NDPC since 2011. He is a native Georgian and, for the past 30 years, a resident of DeKalb County. Bob is a member of the NDPC Handbell Choir and currently sits on the committee charged with running the recently completed and successful "Green and Growing" Capital Campaign. Bob has also spent time on both the Adult Education and Evangelism committees in addition to serving as a Shepard to the 3rd – 5th Grade Sunday School Class. Professionally, Bob is a Talent Acquisition Manager at UCB, a global biopharmaceutical company with US Headquarters in Smyrna. He is a

graduate of the University of Georgia and an avid college football fan. Go Dawgs!

For Your Information

Are you interested in joining NDPC? There will be an inquirer's gathering on **Saturday, November 7, 9-11am** at the church. RSVP to david@ndpc.org. We welcome new members in worship on November 22.

Join Wendy Farley on a Yoga and Meditation retreat in Sewanee, TN on November 6-8. For details click [here](#), or go to the NDPC website and click on 'Resources' and 'Retreat Flyer'.

Thanks to the 60th Birthday Team who made Sunday's party a success.

- **Peter Dickson** – Logistics and Supplies
- **Deedee Murphy** – Logistics
- **Barbara Allen** – Communications
- **Woody Hickcox** – Birthday Logo
- **Linda Davis** – Trivia Placemats and Centerpieces
- **Sherrill Terry** - Centerpieces
- **Nancy Reynics** – Planning
- **Doug Reynics** – Planning
- **Javier Sanchez** – Set up
- **Pat Murphy** – Unintentional King of the Playground
- VIP helpers on the playground: **Parker Condon, Audrey Markham, Ike Veal, and Claire Dishman**
- **Bada Bing** – Food – Yum
- **Hicks with Picks** and **one additional Chick (Annie Godfrey)** - Music
- **Classic Party Rental** – Delivery, Set up, and Pick up of tables and chairs
- And the **many volunteers** who offered their assistance throughout the day.

Thanks for sharing your time and gifts with the NDPC community.

Happy Birthday, North Decatur Presbyterian Church!

Take care,

Fran Mohr, Chair of the 60th Birthday Team

PS: **David Lewicki**, good job on the perfect weather.

PSS: One trivia addition to the challenge: Name existing non-profits NDPC helped establish. We inadvertently left off *Our House* which was the brainchild of NDPC's **Juanita Velasco**.

WANTED: Pictures from NDPC's 60th birthday celebrations.

Please send your photographs to Fran Mohr at kfmohr@gmail.com and Melissa Tidwell at melissa@ndpc.org. Thank you!

If you are wondering how you are doing on your 2015 pledge, you will be pleased to know that statements of giving through September 30 are available upon request to jack@ndpc.org

Parking Considerations: All NDPCers..... If you can, please help us reserve the spaces around Retreat Nail Studio in Medlock Plaza for their customers and staff on Sundays. Thank you.

If you would like to meet at the church, weekday or weekend, please remember to reserve a room with Maria in the Church office (maria@ndpc.org)

This week's

Sunday, November 1
8:30AM Worship

volunteers

Head Usher: Carol Tveit

Usher: Dee Raeside

11:00AM Worship

Liturgist: Joan Edgerton

Word In Worship: Marie Schoeneberg

Acolytes: Alan Maharg

Head Usher: Cindy Hays

Ushers: David Markham, Chet McQuaide, Lynne Repasky

Sanctuary Flowers: Barbara Gifford

Greeters: Heidi Gleason, Anne Hendry

Communion Preparation: Marie Schoeneberg

Extended Session

Nursery: Glenda Clay

Age 2-3: Annie Goldbaugh, Kent Leslie

Age 4-6: Jack Kittle, Kara Morrison

Sunday, 10:30am, Coffee Fellowship Host(s):

TBD

Calendar Highlights

Sunday, November 8 – Grounded in the past, growing toward the future; Rev. Agnes Norfleet, preaching

Sunday, November 29 – Advent begins; Advent Festival at 9:30am
