



NDPC COMMUNICATOR

January 20, 2016

From the Staff

You are invited to attend the **2016 Legislative Advocacy Kickoff, Tuesday, January 26, 2016, 6:00-8:30pm, Central Presbyterian Church, 201 Washington Street SW, Atlanta GA.** An inspirational, educational (and free!) event hosted by Central Outreach & Advocacy Center and Presbyterians for a Better Georgia. Free parking at the Georgia Department of Public Safety garage, 180 Central Avenue. Soup & Salad dinner provided. To register, go to <http://www.p4bg.org/>

Worship

Sunday, January 24, 8:30 & 11am, David Lewicki preaching

Sunday, January 31, 8:30 & 11am, David Lewicki preaching

Contemplative Prayer Group meets on **Thursdays at 7pm** in the Parlor (ground floor, Sanctuary building).

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.

January Adult Classes:

Awakening to True Self

Dates: January 10-31

Facilitator: Mary Anona Stoops

Location: Parlor

Inclusive Language

Dates: January 10-31

Facilitators: Karl Heimbeck, Beth Waltemath

Location: Large Classroom

Inquirer's Class

Dates: January 10, 17, 24. (Saturday 9-11 in April, TBD)

Facilitators: Evangelism Committee and Rev. David Lewicki

Location: Library

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

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who pledged to both the Capital Campaign and the Stewardship Season. We know that many people made financial sacrifices this year in support of this community and we are grateful.

Commitment 2015

To date we have received \$573,020 in pledges to support our 2016 goal of \$622,000 in pledge revenue. The original 2016 overall budget goal contained a 3% pay increase for staff and an additional administrative member, with all other categories held flat over 2015. The shortfall from our pledge goal for 2016 simply means that we will not be able to add administrative staff as hoped, and the Finance Committee had to make cuts to several programs to reach a balanced budget for this year.

How you can help: If you are able to make a new pledge or increase your existing pledge, please contact Jack Kittle at jack@ndpc.org

The 2016 budget will be presented to Session on January 24 and to the congregation on January 31, 2016.

Please direct any questions to Roberta Goldbaugh, rgoldbaugh@bellsouth.net

And thank you!

Community Fellowship

Salt Shakers (our communal dinners in members' homes JAN-FEB-MAR) **meal assignments** have been emailed. If you signed up and did not get an assignment, please send a note to Jack Kittle (jack@ndpc.org) so that he can track down the problem. If you forgot to sign up, there are spaces for four Mystery Guests on January 23 and one on March 19. Send Jack a note if you would like to participate as one of these special guests.

February SAGES Meeting - Come and join fellow Sages at our **Feb. 3** luncheon gathering!

TIME AND PLACE: 12:00 noon in the Fellowship Hall

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

PROGRAM: Brenda Bynam, well-known Atlanta actress, will present a one-woman show as Lillian Smith, Georgia born writer and social critic. Her novel "Strange Fruit" published in 1944 challenged the Jim Crow social structure. She was an outspoken opponent of racial segregation long before it became a celebrated cause. Ms. Bynam has presented this program in many venues in Georgia over the past 2 years as a result of a request from the Lillian Smith Center for Creative Arts.

RESERVATIONS: Watch for an e-mail from Jim Goodspeed if you are a regular attendee.

If not, you can contact him at goodspeedjimcar@bellsouth.net or 770/934-2008.

Deadline for reservations is Sunday, Jan. 31.

OPEN INVITATION: to anyone in the congregation who would like to hear Ms. Bynam's presentation. Please let Jim Goodspeed know if you are coming so seating will be available.

Book Group meets **Thursday, February 4.** Jim Topple hosts "Being Mortal" by Atul Gawande. Contact Kip Duchon, gkduchon@gmail.com if you are interested in participating.

"We Welcome All." You are invited to participate in the beginning of a spiritual journey to explore the role of human difference in your life, the life of our church, and the life of the world. Join us **Friday evening, February 5th** at NDPC for dinner and conversation with Paul Roberts, President of Johnson C. Smith Seminary. Then on **Saturday morning, February 6th**, we meet in small groups to learn about difference within our community and explore how we experience difference. This is an all-church, all-ages event that grows out of our long-range plan's direction to the congregation of NDPC to reflect intentionally on our own diversity.

The first step in this process is to gather information on how NDPC is diverse today. You are **invited to participate in a survey** that will give us some information on who you are and how you view our congregational life. All responses are anonymous. Members from high school age on are asked to respond. Electronically you can respond at: surveymonkey.com/r/SnapshotNDPC. If you prefer a paper response these will be

available at worship in the narthex for the next few weeks. The committee looks forward to hearing from all of you.

NDPC Diversity Working Group Members: Joanne Nurss, Sam Darko, Alice Hickcox, Dee Raeside, Darryl Payne, John Brogan Ellis.

Men's Breakfast will meet **Tuesday, February 9 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

NDPC Women's Retreat 2016 — Montreat, NC; Friday evening, February 26 - Sunday morning, February 28. This year's retreat will be led by **Melissa Tidwell and Ellen Gadberry**, and our retreat theme is ***Metaphors, Imagination and the Art of Our Stories***. We will remember stories from our experiences that offer a way to discern the themes of grace hidden and revealed that appear and reappear throughout our lives. Our time together will include personal reflection, group sharing, and creative expression to help us mine our stories for the patterns of blessing and challenge, giving and receiving, shadow and light that speak to us of the divine presence in the midst of our days.

Please register now! ([Retreat registration form](#))

The cost of the retreat is \$130.00, which includes lodging for Friday and Saturday evenings and the following meals: Friday dinner, Saturday breakfast, lunch, dinner and Sunday breakfast. You can stay at the Evans' or Browns' homes (thank you Gail and Becky!), cabin-style (bring your pillow and sleeping bag) or at The Assembly Inn.

If you'd like to stay at The Assembly Inn, you will pay \$75 for the retreat (food and programming) + the cost of your room (shared or otherwise) at the Inn.

Space is limited. Your deposit of \$75.00 and registration form are due by **Sunday, February 7**. Your check should state 'Women's Retreat' in the memo section; place it in the offering plate, or in the church office.

If you would like to help with the retreat this year, we would love someone to organize carpools! Please contact Angela Towner (aatowner@comcast.net) or Dee Raeside (deeraeside@gmail.com) if you're able to help, or if you should have any questions. We look forward to seeing you in Montreat!

Service & Mission

Mercy Laundry Ministry continues with the following cycle -

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

JAN 6 - MAR 16 2016 (WINTER)

APR 6 - JUN 15 2016 (SPRING)

JUL 6 - SEPT 21 2016 (SUMMER)

OCT 5 - DEC 21 2016 (FALL)

We appreciate the donation of Quarters for the Laundry machines and your volunteered time. For information contact lynne_repasky@yahoo.com

MERCY CHURCH will be serving lunches to the DRUID HILLS shelter community and NDPC continues its involvement there.

SAVE THE DATE: Saturday, March 5, 7PM: The Atlanta Church Group invites you to reserve Saturday, March 5, 7pm for TASTE OF THE CARIBBEAN: A Celebration of the Haitian Eco Villages School at the Decatur Art House. Registration will open Friday, February 5th. If you want to help or learn more, contact beckyevans@mindspring.com

For further information please contact Cheryl Parlato: clparlato@bellsouth.net
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.

For Your Information

You are invited to a **Presbyterian Heritage program this Sunday, January 24 at First Presbyterian Church, Atlanta**. There will be an exhibit of first edition Bibles from the Reformation to the Enlightenment with a presentation on how these translations shaped our history as a Reformed denomination, given by renowned church musician, Michael Morgan, from 3pm to 5pm. See the [brochure on our website](#) for details.

Children's Choir Rehearsals: Any child in grades 1-5 are welcome to join. Rehearsals are Sunday evenings 6:30-7:30pm with meal together at 6:00pm. (The meal is optional.) The kids rehearse and will sing January into early May. Don't let them be cooped up at home all weekend this winter—bring them to choir! For more information contact Clint at clint@ndpc.org

Session will meet January 24 at 1pm in the Parlor. Session meetings are open to anyone who would like to attend.

The future of the PCUSA is coming to Atlanta. The NEXT Conference is a gathering of church leaders from across the country who are leading the process of change in congregations and in the denomination. You are invited to attend part or all of the conference from February 22-24 at First Presbyterian Church, Atlanta. Information and registration are found at <http://nextchurch.net/2016-national-gathering/theme/#.Vpa1WFLeOUg>

The NEXT Conference is looking for people to host individuals from Scotland who are traveling Feb. 19-26 to attend the conference. If you are interested in offering a guest room and/or transportation for these Scots attending this conference, please contact Rev. Allan Purtill, apurtill@hopewellpresby.com

Stock (or other marketable security) gifts to NDPC are always welcome! Contact Jim Topple (jtopple969@gmail.com) for details on how to transfer your securities to our brokerage account. After you have initiated a transfer, please send a note to Jim Topple and Jack Kittle (jack@ndpc.org) describing your gift and how it should be credited to your giving account.

Tax Savvy ways to make your charitable contributions

Are you over 70 ½? Do you have an IRA? Do you make charitable contributions? Then you may benefit from the IRA Charitable Rollover Provision which was made permanent in December 2015 with the PATH Act of 2015.

The law permits individuals who are 70½ or older to transfer funds directly from their traditional IRA to eligible charitable organizations. The provision has a cap of \$100,000 for charitable distributions from individual IRAs each year. Individuals may exclude the amount distributed directly to an eligible charity from their gross income. And the amount transferred will count toward your required IRA withdrawal for the year. Who will benefit from this provision? 1) Donors who itemize deductions and whose charitable contributions are reduced by the percentage of income limitation, 2) individuals who do not usually itemize their deductions, and 3) individuals in states where the operation of state income tax law would offer greater benefits as a result of a direct charitable contribution.

For more information, please contact Jack Kittle (jack@ndpc.org) or Roberta Goldbaugh (rgoldbaugh@bellsouth.net)

Current statements of giving are available. Send an email to jack@ndpc.org if you would like a copy of yours.

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 volunteers

Sunday, January 24

8:30AM Worship

Head Usher: Roberta Goldbaugh

Usher: Kent Haythorn

11:00AM Worship

Liturgist: TBD

WIW: Ellen Gadberry

Acolytes: Anna Cook, Bailey Buchanan

Head Usher: Ben Green

Ushers: Glenda Clay, Jaime Jones, Lin Wormley, Bert Weaver

Sanctuary Flowers: Barbara Gifford

Greeter: Betty Busbee

Extended Session

Nursery: Jean Are

Age 2-3: Ellyn Cochran, Anna Kershaw

Age 4-6: Andrew Godfrey-Kittle, Mark Cochran

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

TBD
