



NDPC COMMUNICATOR

January 27, 2016

From the Staff

Lenten Diversity Writing Group, February 9, 7pm, NDPC Library: For all who love writing with other people and sharing that writing, for all who have been surprised by what surfaces after that deep dive, or for all who have NEVER experienced these things but would like to try, please join us on Tuesday, February 9 at 7pm in the Library. Writing prompts will be provided that will help us to explore our experiences and ideas around diversity. If we want to continue meeting, we will discuss future dates at that time. -Kelly Craigmile, kcraigmile90@gmail.com

Worship

Sunday, January 31, 8:30 & 11am, David Lewicki preaching
Sunday, February 7, 8:30 & 11am, David Lewicki preaching
Wednesday, February 10, Ash Wednesday, 5pm-meal/activity; 7pm-Worship
Sunday, February 14, 8:30 & 11am, David Lewicki preaching
Sunday, February 21, 8:30 & 11am, David Lewicki preaching
Sunday, February 28, 8:30 & 11am, Karl Heimbeck preaching

Contemplative Prayer Group meets **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

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!

Community

February SAGES Meeting - Come and join fellow Sages at our **Feb. 2** luncheon gathering!
TIME AND PLACE: 12:00 noon in the Fellowship Hall
COST: Still \$8.00 for a great lunch provided by Badda Bing

Fellowship

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. **Please RSVP to rsvp@ndpc.org and let us know if you plan oncoming Friday, Saturday, or both and if you will need childcare.**

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.

Those living with ongoing physical or mental health issues, including caregivers, **are invited to gather in the Parlor on Monday, February 8, at 1 and Sunday, February 21, at 6pm.** Newcomers are welcome and will find a compassionate and wise circle of fellowship. Please contact Mary Anona (maryanona@ndpc.org) with questions.

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

Step up! Stop Hunger! Support the Atlanta Community Food Bank and join our 5K Walk team **Sunday, March 13**. We will carpool to MARTA or meet at Turner Field/Green Lot after worship for the 2:00pm event. Registration is \$25 via website, or simply donate:

http://engage.acfb.org/site/TR?fr_id=1734&pg=entry

Join either team, "NDPC- Youth" or "NDPC/MDPC/Mercy Church" teams under Presbytery of Greater Atlanta. We will all walk together! Thank you! Questions?

deeraeside@gmail.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

Please **stop by the Fellowship Hall before the 11am worship this Sunday, 1/31**, to sign valentines for our college students, homebound and military members.

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

Upcoming New Member Sundays, 2/7 & 4/10. If you are feeling led to join North

Decatur Presbyterian Church, we would love to have you. We will be receiving new members on February 7 and April 10. Please contact Pastor David Lewicki at david@ndpc.org or Heidi Gleason, Evangelism Chair, at heidikgleason@gmail.com for more information.

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 Purtil, apurtil@hopewellpresby.com

Printed statements of giving for 2015 will be available in the narthex this Sunday, 1/31.

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 31

8:30AM Worship

Head Usher: Cheryl Parlato

Usher: Marie Schoeneberg

11:00AM Worship

Liturgist: Ben Green

WIW: Carol Tveit

Acolytes: Kate Johnson, Paige Johnson

Head Usher: Cindy Hays

Ushers: John Upchurch, Kathleen Allen, J.W. Balsley, Jarvis Ellis

Sanctuary Flowers: Martha Shepherd

Greeter: Charles Dewald

Extended Session

Nursery: Betty Busbee

Age 2-3: Dee Raeside, Becky Evans

Age 4-6: Tanya Condon, Mary Tveit

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

TBD
