



NDPC COMMUNICATOR

January 6, 2016

Save the Date

"We Welcome All." What does this mean at NDPC? Save the Dates! Friday evening, **February 5th** dinner & speaker and Saturday morning, **February 6th** small groups to 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.

Worship

Sunday, January 10, 8:30 & 11am, Baptism of Jesus & Reaffirmation of Baptismal vows;
Karl Heimback preaching
Sunday, January 17, 8:30 & 11am, David Lewicki preaching
Sunday, January 24, 8:30 & 11am, David Lewicki preaching
Sunday, January 31, 8:30 & 11am, David Lewicki preaching

Contemplative Prayer will resume on Thursday, January 14 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.

January Adult Classes:

Awakening to True Self

If we are lucky, we have had moments when we feel deeply connected to our life, those around us, and a sense of beauty larger than ourselves. By contrast we all have experienced moments of disconnect, when we feel detached, compulsive, unworthy or self-absorbed. Thomas Merton introduced the language of "true self" and "false self" to describe these qualities of human experience. What does this language mean? How do we find our true self? Does it matter? What does it have to do with the Christian journey? This series will explore these questions and invite participants to reflect on their own experiences of living authentically. The role of practices such as presence, centering prayer, non-judgment, and curiosity in encountering our true selves will be explored. Whether these questions are new to you, or you have been chewing on them for a while, you are welcome to the conversation. While not essential for participation in the series, Richard Rohr's *Immortal Diamond* is recommended for those wanting to read on the subject.

Dates: January 10-31

Facilitator: Mary Anona Stoops

Location: Parlor

Inclusive Language

NDPC has long had a practice of using inclusive language. In this class, we will discuss the history of what inclusive language has meant to our congregation and its members, investigate historical theological understandings of the image of God and the witness of the Trinity, and discuss what inclusivity in our speech and witness means for human

flourishing in 2016.

Dates: January 10-31

Facilitators: Karl Heimbeck, Beth Waltemath

Location: Large Classroom

Inquirer's Class

Consider becoming a member of NDPC and learn more about what makes this church unique. This class will provide participants the opportunity to explore the benefits and responsibilities at NDPC, learn about the PCUSA and the wider church, listen to other's faith stories and nurture friendships with other new members.

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

Facilitators: Evangelism Committee and Rev. David Lewicki

Location: Library

Bible Study with Rev. Lewicki will resume on January 12.

Season of Commitment 2015

Thank you to everyone who has pledged their support through money and time & talents to NDPC for 2016. We have received 132 pledges committing \$555,000 to support our staff, programs and outreach in 2016. And equally exciting is the vast commitment of time across our wide variety of programs and activities.

The budget for 2016 called for pledge income in the amount of \$622,000, so to reach a balanced budget, the session will need to reduce planned spending in some areas. If you intended to pledge for 2016 please do so in the next few days by contacting Jack Kittle at jack@ndpc.org so that your pledge will be considered as we finalize our budget for 2016.

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

And thank you!

Community Fellowship

Book Group meets **Thursday, January 7**. John Parks hosts "To Kill a Mockingbird" and "Go Set a Watchman" both books by Harper Lee. Contact Kip Duchon, gkduchon@gmail.com if you are interested in participating.

Men's Breakfast will meet **Tuesday, January 12 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

Salt Shaker assignments will be sent out by early next week. A few hosts are still needed! Please send a note to Jack Kittle (jack@ndpc.org) if you can host. If you forgot to sign up, you can still volunteer to be a substitute - just send a note to Jack.

SAVE THE DATE for the Women's Retreat 2016: Friday afternoon, Feb 26 – Sunday morning, Feb 28. We'll gather again for fun, exploration and reflection at Montreat, NC. Retreat cost will be \$130, which will include meals, lodging and program. You can choose to stay at the Evans' or Browns' homes, cabin-style (bring your pillow and sleeping bag) or at Assembly Inn (cost will vary at the Inn). Led by Melissa Tidwell and Ellen Gadberry, 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. (Stay tuned for more info to come.)

Service & Mission

Thank you to our NDPC congregation for being faithful in donating quarters to the Homeless Laundry Ministry. 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)

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](tel:404-680-9816) (lynne_repasky@yahoo.com) to get better informed.

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

Children's Choir Rehearsals begin this Sunday. 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

The Capital Campaign Committee seeks input regarding the renovation of the Fellowship Hall and Kitchen. Prior to final designs being completed, we would like to hear from the congregation about:

- Issues of functionality that need to be addressed, or
- Specific ideas that are important to consider

While the architects and our budget won't allow us to do everything we want, this is the time to factor in the details of what would make the kitchen and fellowship hall space visually appealing and very functional for NDPC's needs.

We will meet on Sunday, Jan. 10 after the 11:00 worship service, in the Fellowship Hall, and on Tuesday, Jan. 12 at 7:00 p.m. in the Library. Some of you have already expressed your opinions in the survey or informally, and we will include these in our planning. If you have new suggestions but can't attend either meeting, please feel free to email Susan Constantine (constantine.susan@yahoo.com). Thank you for your input!

The Congregational Care Committee will be collecting donations in the narthex after church on Jan. 10 and 17 for our Valentine's Day fund. The funds will be used to send valentines to our NDPC members in college, in the military, those in mission and those who are homebound. Thanks in advance for your generosity!

The **Diversity Committee**, responding to the long-range goal of increasing the diversity of our congregation, **invites you to participate in a survey** that will help with two goals of the committee. The first part of the survey will ask you to give us some information on who you are so that we can get a more accurate view of who we are as a congregation. The second is to give the committee some feedback and direction on how we view our congregational life and in what direction we would like to move in to increase diversity.

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 three weeks. The committee looks forward to hearing from all of you.

Session will meet January 24 at 1pm in the Parlor.

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.

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 10

8:30AM Worship

Head Usher: Barbara Gifford

Usher: Charles Dewald

11:00AM Worship

Liturgist: Claudia Brogan

WIW: Amanda Osenga

Acolytes: Freeman Mosley, Martin Cochran

Head Usher: Charlotte Stone Black

Ushers: Marie Schoeneberg, Tim Merritt, Pat Mueller, Dee Raeside

Sanctuary Flowers: Meg Lange

Greeters: TBD

Extended Session

Nursery: TBD

Age 2-3: Sarah Erickson

Age 4-6: Angela Cass, Annie Goldbaugh

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

TBD
