

Adult Education Summer 2015

Sundays 11:15AM – 12:15PM, Assembly Room

SUMMER ADULT EDUCATION 2015 OPPORTUNITIES:

All “stand-alones” – come when you can!
All from 11:15AM – 12:15PM in the Assembly Room
All accompanied by a “Hunger-Hold-Off” of bagels and coffee
All meant to engage your mind and heart
All meant to speak to your life of faith

June 14

How Matthew, Mark and Luke Together Shape Faith

Gospel

READING

The Gospels According to Matthew, Mark, and Luke are called “syn-optics” because, especially when contrasted with the fourth gospel, *The Gospel According to John*, they offer similar views of the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. But the background, beginnings, meaning, and development of these documents, their relationship to each other and to our Old Testament (Hebrew Scriptures) and other New Testament writings, has been the subject of much exploration. How do contemporary Christian communities practically hear, read, meditate on, and respond to *The Gospels According to Matthew, Mark, and Luke*? Should they have any special priority in the life of faith? Is it possible to maintain the unity of scripture and its importance in the life of faith while supporting serious historical investigation?

Explore these and other thought-changing, and possibly change-provoking, questions!

Thomas John Hastings, an ordained minister, is Senior Research Fellow at the Japan International Christian University Foundation in New York City. He was formerly

Director of Research at the Center of Theological Inquiry in Princeton and Professor of Practical Theology at Tokyo Union Theological Seminary. Tom and his wife Carol served for twenty years as PC (USA) Mission Co-workers in Japan. He is author of Practical Theology and The One Body of Christ.

June 21

Psalm Singing in Presbyterian Churches Then and Now

Presbyterians at one time were known as the Psalm-singers. What happened? Explore historical antecedents to the demise of the Presbyterian Psalter in North America and consider recent attempts to reclaim Psalm singing in modern Reformed worship.

Martin Tel grew up hearing his father singing psalms in the milking parlor of their family farm. Now he serves as Director of Music at Princeton Seminary and ruling elder at Nassau Presbyterian Church. He is the senior editor of *Psalms for All Seasons: A Complete Psalter for Worship* (2012).



June 28

A Window into Nassau's Family Album

In 2016 it will be 250 years since Presbyterians first met for worship on the current site of Nassau Presbyterian Church. This year is the 42nd anniversary of the merger of First and St. Andrew's Presbyterian churches to constitute Nassau. Come for a look at some of the ministers who led our ancestors and how their sanctuaries have changed over the years. What was the price of your pew? How many places can you put an organ in the sanctuary? Where was the Lecture Hall and why did the University ask that it be removed? What happened to the Sunday School House? And how did Princeton come to have one, then two, then three and now two Presbyterian Churches? Finally, see "A Day to Remember," a video of the events of the merger on June 24, 1973.



Jock McFarlane is Nassau's "historian" (in quotes so as not to be confused with a real historian) and has been a member of First and Nassau since 1967.

July 5: No Class

July 12

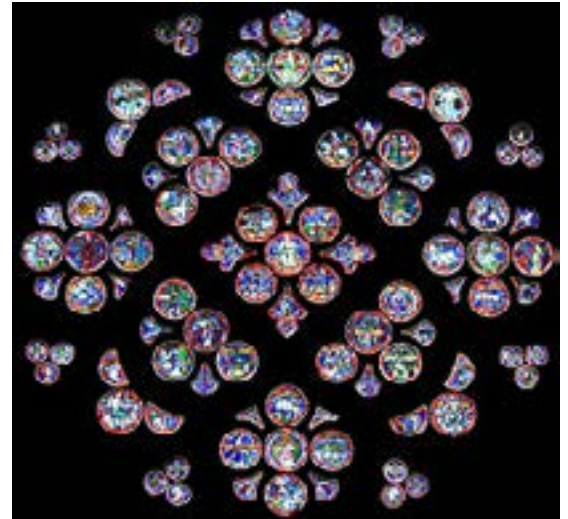
New Eyes – A Vicarious Pilgrimage to the Holy Land with Our Nassau Explorers



July 19

Lausanne Cathedral: The Great Rose Window

Lausanne is well known as the seat of the International Olympic Committee but it has also a gorgeous cathedral dating back to the 13th century. The Rose Window in the south wall displays a bewildering host of individual scenes in an architectural setting of simple geometric forms. The imagery adds up to a comprehensive vision of the world as nascent science in the High Middle Ages understood it.



Karlfried Froeblich is the Benjamin B. Warfield Professor of Church History Emeritus at Princeton Theological Seminary. He lectures internationally on Christian art and he was the extraordinary Theologian in Residence for this unique and exceptional tour.

In June Nassau pilgrims explored the Holy Land from the Galilee to Jerusalem and beyond – Nazareth, Capernaum, the Dead Sea, Bethlehem, the Wailing Wall.... Come and learn what these ancient stones and recent ones revealed as we examine the fruits of centuries of conflict, compassionate peacemaking efforts, and contradictory interests. Listen for the voices of both Jewish and Palestinian leaders and advocates the group met, and hear in their midst the one clear voice for reconciliation and unconditional love of neighbor – the voice of Jesus who walked this land and spoke peace to the people.

David A. Davis, Pastor, and **Shane Berg**, Vice President of Communication and External Relations at Princeton Theological Seminary, led this pilgrimage and will guide this vicarious adventure.

July 26

Kaiseraugst: The Roman Silver Treasure

Augst in the Swiss Canton of Aargau has long been known as the site of a military garrison founded by the Emperor Augustus in Roman times with temples, baths, and an amphitheater in which even today plays are being staged. In the 1950s, a most amazing archeological discovery was made in the pile of rubble excavated at a construction site in town: an incredible trove of household silver probably buried by a wealthy Roman commander in anticipation of an imminent invasion of Germanic tribes.

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August 2

Basel: Sacred and Secular Art in the Christian Minster

The sculpture of Christian cathedrals normally focuses on Christian saints and biblical scenes. The outside of Romanesque churches, however, often also displays the unholy images of demons and dragons. The Basel Minster has plenty of both, and secular subjects invade even the inside of the church, the sacred space of the High Choir behind the altar. The enigmatic capitals of its columns derive their inspiration not only from the Old and the New Testament but also from classical mythology and medieval folklore.



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August 9

The Church's Mission in Southeast Asia

Southeast Asia is teeming with opportunities for the Church to bring transformative change through preaching the gospel, community development, planting churches, as well as educational and health ministries. Learn about this culturally and religiously diverse region where the Presbyterian Church (USA) works with mission partners to alleviate poverty, train a new generation of leaders, and also address human trafficking and escalating migration.



Barry and Shelly Dawson, Presbyterian Church (USA) mission co-workers, based in Bangkok, Thailand, serve together as the Regional Liaison for Southeast Asia. They work with mission partners in nine countries, provide support and supervision for all PC(USA) mission co-workers in the region, and facilitate partnerships between PC(USA) congregations and mission projects throughout Southeast Asia.

August 16: No Class

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August 23

The (Slowly) Changing Educational Context in Myanmar

Explore the educational challenges in Burma/Myanmar, the site of Nassau's international mission partnership with Cetana. Examine the context for teaching English, and gain a first-hand picture from a member of Cetana's board.



Ba Win worked at Bard College in Annandale, NY since 1979, most recently as Vice President of Early College Policies and Programs. He is currently engaged in helping university faculty at Yangon and Mandalay universities with writing, thinking, and other pedagogical issues. His parents were good friends of Nassau Church member Lois Young's parents, Fred and Bertha Dickason, and family ties continued with Lois and her siblings. Ba Win was "present at the creation" of Cetana Educational Foundation, the meeting in 1993 when things were especially bleak in Burma and Lois and her family chose to help.

Sponsored by the Adult Ed Committee

Larry Alphas, Moderator
Joyce MacKichan Walker, Staff

August 30

Stewards of the Earth: Sustainability at NPC

Many congregations and other non-profits are engaging in more sustainable, earth-friendly practices because they understand care of the earth to be central to Christian faith. The newly re-constituted Earth Care Team of Nassau Presbyterian Church will share some of the "best practices" they have gleaned from the PCUSA, other nearby churches, including our neighboring Presbyterian churches, and implications for thinking about our life together at Nassau.

Led by Earth Care Team Members:

Sam Bezilla is co-founder of Green Paper Cup, a company that sells compostable disposables at low cost (www.greenpapercup.org). He is a freshman at Princeton High School.

Jacqueline Lapsley teaches theologically responsible, earth-friendly interpretation of Scripture at Princeton Theological Seminary.

Jonathan Milley is an energy sector executive who has developed traditional and renewable power projects in various regions of the world. He is currently developing a company with an energy storage technology that allows the grid to operate more efficiently and thus produce fewer emissions across God's creation.

Nicos Scordis has practical and conceptual expertise on how insurers extract value from risk and uncertainty in the insurance industry. Nicos holds the John R. Cox/ACE Limited Chair of Risk and Insurance at St. John's University in New York.



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Nassau Presbyterian Church

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Comprehensive listing of all Adult Education opportunities at www.nassauchurch.org