



Small Groups Fall 2016


No one comes away unchanged

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. —Acts 2:42

Feed Your Mind and Your Heart Will Follow

Offering an opportunity for fellowship and love in a world ever more in need of the Kingdom of Heaven, Small Groups return to Nassau this October with a wide range of themes.

- ✂ What good is your faith when you are too afraid to read the news?
- ✂ How are American Creation myths relevant in an election year?
- ✂ How can food feed the spirit and bind us to the world?
- ✂ What do we have to do with white privilege?
- ✂ What can we do about the New Jim Crow?
- ✂ What can we do to make the lives of all children better?
- ✂ How did six women change the world of the New Testament?
- ✂ Overwhelmed by it all? Pick up your coloring book or learn how to photograph what you care about.

Sign-up on MyNassau or at coffee hour in September. Books for groups using them will be available at coffee hour, and at the first gathering of the group. Some books are also available in Kindle format (look for the  kindle symbol). Group size is limited so sign up soon!

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU
9:15AM (NPC)* Following Jesus			10:00AM (NPC) Calm & Color	9:30AM (NPC) Six New Testament Women
11:00AM (NPC)* Food & Faith				
12:15PM (NPC) American Creation Myth				
	7:30PM Waking Up White	7:00PM New Jim Crow	7:30PM Hope for the Future	7:30PM Photography

* childcare provided

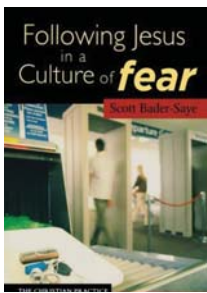
Following Jesus in a Culture of Fear

Sundays, 9:15 - 10:30AM

Room 202, Nassau Presbyterian Church

Ten sessions September 25 - November 27

Join this discussion to explore the tension between



Christian ethical imperatives and the anxieties of our world. Bader-Saye offers as a counterpoint to the culture of fear, "...an account of God's providence that does not promise safety but rather ... a way to go on with courage when we are not always able to 'make sense' of what has happened." Explore the impact of fear

on our personal, economic and political lives and how to claim hope in a fearful world.

Linda and **John Gilmore**, and **Keith Mertz**, have participated in and led small groups for many years. Linda is the Business Administrator at Nassau Church. John is senior vice president, chief operating officer, and treasurer of Princeton Theological Seminary. Keith Mertz is an engineer for Lockheed Martin.

Following Jesus in a Culture of Fear by Scott Bader-Saye \$20.00, paperback | kindle

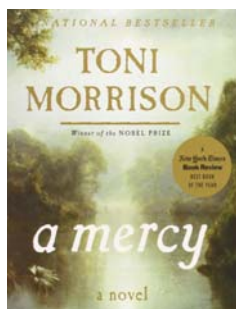
The American Creation Myth

Sundays, 12:15 - 1:45PM (BYO-Lunch)

Room 202, Nassau Presbyterian Church

Eight sessions October 2 - November 20

Who are we? Where did we come from? Why are we



here? The election season forces Americans to ask these age old questions. Yet, the scripted answer of "free men" is problematic. Walking through Toni Morrison's book *A Mercy*, we will look for new answers to these questions, focusing on the relationship between the American identity and religion, gender, class, and race. Then we will turn to how

this identity shift transforms a Christian's responsibility in the public realm.

Melissa Martin is a third-year student at Princeton Theological seminary and an Adult Education intern at Nassau. She also works in the church office as the Administrative Assistant for Pastoral Care. Between her many responsibilities, she loves to sneak in a good novel, because she finds that in those books her big theological questions are explored in a refreshingly human way.

A Mercy by Toni Morrison \$14.00, paperback | kindle

Food & Faith: Justice, Joy, and Daily Bread

Sundays, 11:00AM - 12:30PM

Room 301, Nassau Presbyterian Church

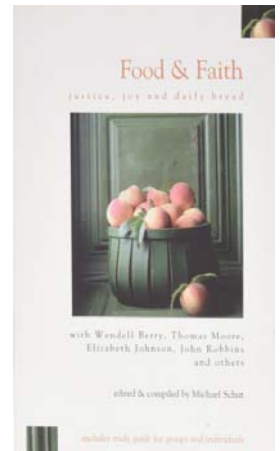
Seven sessions October 2 - November 13

This collection of reflections by Wendell Berry, Bill McKibben, Elizabeth Johnson, Alan Durning and others focuses on the enjoyment and spirituality of good food, ways in which eating connects us to the land and to each other, and on the economic, environmental and cultural impacts of daily food choices. Come and begin thinking about the moral, spiritual and economic implications of eating.

We hope some participants will be willing to assist with leadership.

Linda Jesse grew up in a Presbyterian Church in Pittsburgh Pennsylvania. She has lived in Vermont, California and eastern Pennsylvania, and finally settled in New Jersey in 1987 and started attending Nassau.

Food & Faith: Justice, Joy, and Daily Bread by Michael Schut \$24.00 | kindle



Waking Up White

Mondays 7:30 - 9:00PM

Home of Carol Wehrheim, Princeton

Eight sessions October 3 - November 21

Using *Waking Up White and Finding Myself in the Story of Race*, take a serious look at white privilege: what it is and how we participate in it. You are likely to be surprised, even shocked, at what the author discovered. Selected biblical readings and prayer will ground our discussion. Please select this group only if you are ready to examine what you believe and how you relate to other racial groups.

Carol Wehrheim participated in a community discussion group on this book last spring. She believes it is an important book for everyone to read, and even more so after the events of the summer. Carol is a regular small group leader at Nassau Church and Clerk of Session.

Waking Up White and Finding Myself in the Story of Race by Debby Irving \$17.00, paperback | kindle



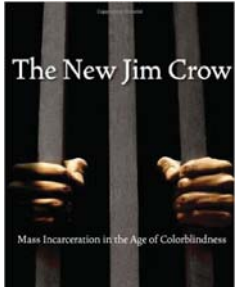
The New Jim Crow

Tuesdays, 7:00 - 8:30 PM

Home of Jonathan Shenk, Princeton Junction

Seven sessions October 4 – November 15

Explore how our current criminal justice system subjects an entire group of people to permanent second-class citizenship similar to the Jim Crow era of the past.



Those incarcerated – predominantly people of color – have difficulty becoming productive citizens upon release from prison because they are denied jobs, housing, financial aid for school, and the right to vote due to their criminal record.

Jonathan Shenk is a member of the New Brunswick Presbytery's

Mass Incarceration Task Force which seeks to educate and engage member congregations to bring healing to a destructive system. He is also a member of the Princeton/Trenton chapter of the Campaign to End the New Jim Crow and has served as a volunteer prison chaplain.

The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness by Michelle Alexander \$17.00, paperback

kindle

Enriching Our Faith with Calm and Color

Wednesdays, 10:00AM – 11:30AM

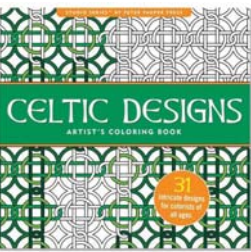
Conference Room, Nassau Presbyterian Church,

Six sessions October 5 - November 9

Put away your smart phone, table, and laptop. Pick up some crayons and colored pencils. Quiet your mind and soul. Enter the world of the adult coloring book. You will find scripture passages to savor, beautiful Celtic patterns to color by hand, and a full-bodied experience of fellowship and prayer. We will use two books, *Celtic Blessings: A Coloring Book to Bless and De-Stress* and *Celtic Designs Adult Coloring Book*.

Lauren McFeaters is an Associate Pastor at Nassau and a lover of all things faith-filled, mindful, and visual. Lauren is working on a pastoral project integrating the powerful balance and restoration found in Celtic crosses and pattern.

Celtic Pattern Adult Coloring Books \$17.00, paperback (includes both books)



Hope for the Future

Wednesdays 7:30 - 9:00PM

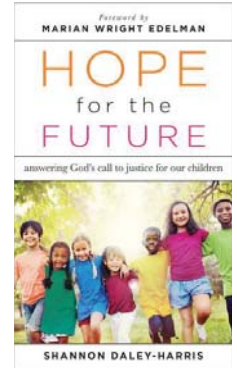
Home of Sam & Shannon Daley-Harris, Princeton

Seven sessions October 5 - November 16

Come and explore this series of 12 meditations on our calling to seek justice for children, the challenges we encounter as we nurture and protect children, and what may sustain us in this faithful work and witness. Whether a parent, grandparent, professional working on behalf of children, volunteer serving children and families, concerned individual, or a young person yourself, discuss how we are called, challenged and sustained as we seek to improve the lives of children in our nation.

Shannon Daley-Harris, author of *Hope for the Future*, has served the Children's Defense Fund (CDF) for 26 years, engaging the faith community in CDF's child advocacy efforts. Raised in Nassau Church, Shannon is a minister of word and sacrament serving in specialized ministry at CDF.

Hope for the Future by Shanon Daley-Harris \$15.00, paperback



Do What You Have the Power to Do

Thursdays, 9:30 – 11:00AM,

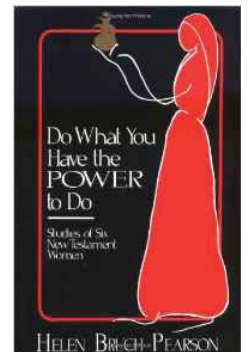
Music Room, Nassau Presbyterian Church

Seven sessions October 6 - November 17

Examine stories of six unnamed women from the gospels that will help us explore spiritual formation, personal growth, connection and community. We are called to do what we have the power to do in whatever situation we find ourselves, and with the means at our disposal. Come and discover that together.

Joyce MacKichan Walker is the Minister of Education at Nassau. **Kristie Finley** is the pastor of Abundant Grace Dinner Church, a PC(USA) 1001 New Worshiping Communities, and the project coordinator for the Confirmation Project, a Lilly Endowment funded grant studying confirmation across five Protestant denominations

Do What You Have the Power to Do: Studies of Six New Testament Women by Helen Bruch Pearson \$5.00, paperback (second hand copies)



The Sacred Art of (Your) Photography

Thursdays, 7:30 - 9:00PM

Conference Room, Nassau Presbyterian Church

Six sessions October 6 – November 10

Facebook, Instagram, Tumblr -- we live in a world awash in photographs. We take pictures of our children and grandchildren, of each other, and--at times with an unsettling preoccupation--of ourselves. But what makes a photograph meaningful? What makes it sacred to us?

Join us as we wrestle with these questions by looking at and taking photographs. Depending on interest, there may be one Saturday or Sunday field trip. We'll talk about--and practice taking--three kinds of photographs: pictures of people we care about (portraiture), pictures of places we care about (landscape/architecture), and pictures of things we care about (still life).

No experience or special equipment is required, but you will need something that can take a picture.

Ned Walthall has been a member of Nassau Church since 1987 and is the geeky guy you see taking pictures at coffee hour.



Linda Jesse

Moderator, Small Groups Coordinating Team

Joyce MacKichan Walker

Staff

Nassau Presbyterian Church

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The Groups (by day of the week)

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Don't miss this opportunity to share joys and concerns with fellow Nassau members in an intimate setting. Never let the price of a book keep you from signing up—contact Joyce MacKichan Walker (609-924-0103, x103, joyce@nassauchurch.org).