

Adult Education Summer 2017

The Heart of the Matter

Sundays, 11:15 a.m., in the Assembly Room
Bagels and coffee provided

Grab this summer opportunity to reflect on our role as Christians in a world of uncertainty, change, and anxiety. Come looking to claim your hope, Christian resilience, and the gifts God bestows for the work our times call us to do.



The group prays before serving at Loaves and Fishes last August. Every year volunteers go to Trenton to serve a warm meal to hundreds of people and demonstrate God's love.

Jun
11

Churches Matter! Lives Matter!

Rick Ufford-Chase

Rick will focus the conversation on one of the central questions he takes on in his recent book, "What does it take to create strong faith communities that have the capacity to provide solidarity to those who are most at risk in our community and around the world." Rick knows Nassau Church well, and we have worked together on numerous projects over the last few years. Please come for a conversation together about what it takes to shape a relevant Christian witness in the challenging times in which we live.



Rick Ufford-Chase and his wife Kitty are the Co-Directors of Stony Point Center and co-founders of the multifaith Community of Living Traditions. Rick

is the author of the book *Faithful Resistance: Gospel Visions for the Church in a Time of Empire*, and he is the Associate Director for Interfaith Formation for the Presbyterian Mission Agency. He is an avid outdoorsman, and spends his spare time guiding whitewater raft trips in the Adirondacks.

Jun
18

Refugees Matter!

Deborah Amos

Deborah Amos of NPR will bring us an update on current refugee resettlement developments. Deborah has become our life-line to knowledgeable analysis and continuing compassionate action on this issue.



Deborah Amos covers the Middle East for *NPR News* with reports heard on "Morning Edition," "All Things Considered," and "Weekend Edition."

LEARN SOMETHING? SHARE IT
#calledtohope

Jul
2

Mission Matters: Christianity in Taiwan Today

Jonathan Seitz

Come hear about what Presbyterians are doing in Taiwan today. Explore ongoing issues and challenges and questions that impact the future. You will have a chance to ask your questions of our mission co-worker on the ground in Taiwan.



Jonathan Seitz has lived in East Asia for more than a decade, first in Beijing and Singapore, and now in Taipei after first going in 2005. Jonathan and Emily are two of about 120 PCUSA mission co-workers serving throughout the world. Jonathan teaches at Taiwan Graduate School of Theology. They also lived in New Jersey for about ten years. Jonathan did his MDiv and PhD at Princeton Theological Seminary and Emily did graduate school in library science at Rutgers. Nassau has proudly supported their work since 2013.

Jul
9

Advocacy and Change Matter: Writing Checks, Signing Petitions, and Protest Marches... Is That All There Is?

Sam Daley-Harris

Are you hungry for a bigger voice in our democracy? Are you frustrated by the options you see: writing more checks, signing more petitions, and joining more protests or counter-protests? Are you wondering if that's all there is? Sam Daley-Harris answers no, there's so much more. For Daley-Harris the key is connecting with an organization committed to helping dissolve the powerlessness, but that's not an easy task. Join Sam as he guides us around the pitfalls and on a path to making a profound difference on issues like getting money out of politics, climate change, ending global and domestic poverty, and reducing the Pentagon budget.



Sam Daley-Harris founded the anti-poverty lobby RESULTS in 1980 and founded the Center for Citizen Empowerment and Transformation (CCET) in 2012. CCET helps non-profits train their members to create champions in Congress and the media for their cause. Daley-Harris coached Citizens Climate Lobby the first seven years of its existence and is author of *Reclaiming Our Democracy: Healing the Break between People and Government*. Ashoka (Everyone a Changemaker) founder Bill Drayton called Daley-Harris "one of the certified great social entrepreneurs of the last decades."

Jul
16

The Constitution Matters: Reviewing the U.S. Supreme Court's 2016–17 Term

Larry Stratton

Explore the U.S. Supreme Court's cases regarding playgrounds and religious school funding; the scope of the duty of prosecutors to give defendants exculpatory evidence; presidential appointees and congressional recesses; gerrymandered congressional districts; land use regulation and takings; and other hot-button legal issues in the overall context of the judiciary's place on the constitutional map following Justice Neil Gorsuch's elevation to the U.S. Supreme Court to fill the seat of the late Justice Antonin Scalia.



Lawrence M. Stratton is Director of Waynesburg University's Stover Center for Constitutional Studies and Moral Leadership, and Assistant Professor of Ethics and Constitutional Law at Waynesburg. Dr. Stratton received his M.Div. and Ph.D. in Christian Social Ethics from Princeton Theological Seminary and also has a J.D. from Georgetown University Law Center and B.S. in Economics from the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School. As a field education intern at Nassau Presbyterian during his M.Div. studies, Dr. Stratton began an ongoing exploration of American constitutional law in relation to insights from the Christian faith during many sessions at Nassau Presbyterian beginning in the fall of 2001.

Jul
23

The Constitution Matters in the Age of Trump

Keith Whittington

Come and explore constitutional issues in the Trump administration. Included will be an examination of the Supreme Court confirmation politics.

Keith E. Whittington is the William Nelson Cromwell Professor of Politics at Princeton University. He is the author of several books on American constitutional history, the U.S. Supreme Court, and the U.S. presidency. He has two forthcoming books, one on the history of judicial review of federal statutes and one on free speech on college campuses.



Jul
30

The Presidency Matters: What God Wrought?

Mark Herr

No, not Samuel B. Morse, but Trumpalooza. Come for a post mortem of the 2016 election and an interpretation of the first six months of life under the presidency of Donald J. Trump.

Mark Herr is a Managing Director and Head of Corporate Communications of Point72

Asset Management, L.P. He is responsible for creating and overseeing the firm's enterprise-wide internal and external communications strategy and operations. Previously, Mr. Herr was a member of the administration of New Jersey Governor Christine Todd Whitman, serving as the Director and Assistant Attorney General in charge of New Jersey's Division of Consumer Affairs and Bureau of Securities. Mark is a member of Nassau Presbyterian Church.



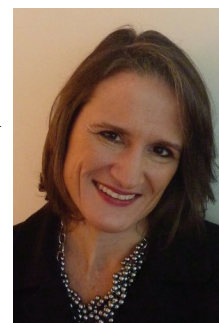
Aug
6

Justice for Our Children Matters

Shannon Daley-Harris

Most of us are aware of children who who don't experience the love and justice God intends. And so we yearn for more inspiration, guidance, and sustenance from our faith so we can begin to close this gap between the world God intends and the one we know, between our Sunday worship and our weekday world in which children suffer injustice. What is God's word to us in the tension between the vision and the reality? How can we draw on Scripture, story, and statistic to put our faith into action? What lessons can we take from biblical times, historic justice movements, and our own day to fuel our work for justice? Come for a time of learning, sharing, and taking action.

Shannon Daley-Harris is the Senior Religious Advisor and Proctor Institute Director for the Children's Defense Fund (CDF). During her more than 26 years with CDF, she has created the Samuel DeWitt Proctor Institute for Child Advocacy Ministry and the National Observance of Children's Sabbaths. Her work includes speaking, preaching, leading retreats and workshops, and consulting with religious groups from the national to the local level. Her most recent book is *Hope for the Future: Answering God's Call to Justice for Our Children* (Westminster John Knox Press, 2016)



Aug
13

The Religious Lives of Presidents Matter

David Mulford

Learn about the denominational affiliations of our presidents as they are reviewed, along with the role religion has played in the lives, both personal and political, of several of our presidents.

David E. Mulford is a retired Presbyterian minister who continues a life-long study of the American Presidency. He has taught classes and has spoken to numerous groups on the subject over the years.



with the Adult Ed Committee, no single musical excerpt will be longer than 45 minutes).

Tom Coogan has been a member of Presbyterian churches for 22 years, and a fan of the Grateful Dead for 38 years. At Nassau Church, where he and his family have been members for 10 years, Tom has been a Deacon, a Session member, and a softball coach.

Aug
27

Vocation Matters: Pursuing a Life of Meaning Halfway across the World

Marisa Charles

Marisa Charles, an international development specialist raised at Nassau Church, reflects on her decade of work in Burma/Myanmar, which has coincided with the country's ongoing transition to democracy. Explore the foundational experiences that prompted her life abroad, the joys and challenges of living in a country that is not your own, and the people, experiences, and local initiatives that give her hope for Myanmar's future.

Marisa Charles is the Deputy Director of Tharthi Myay Foundation, a Myanmar NGO that supports local civil society initiatives for rights, justice, and equality. She's been engaging with Burma/Myanmar issues for 10+ years. And for full disclosure, yes, she is Tom and Lynn Charles' daughter and a child of this church's long history of mission engagement.



Aug
20

Music Matters: There Is Nothing Like a Grateful Dead Concert

Tom Coogan

A peace-and-love community of itinerants, living hand to mouth at the fringes of society and calling each other Brother and Sister, continues to grow in numbers twenty years after the death of its leader. Come hear what the fans of the Grateful Dead have in common with another early religious movement of long ago; it's more than long hair and sandals. (By agreement



ADULT EDUCATION COMMITTEE

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Thinking about Fall...

**REFORMATION: 500 YEARS
HOPE FOR OUR TIMES**