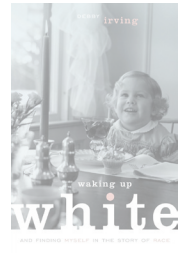
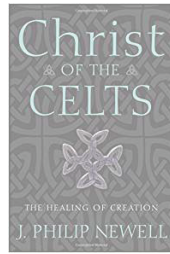
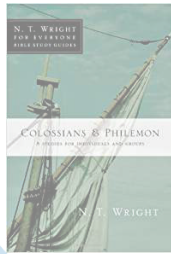
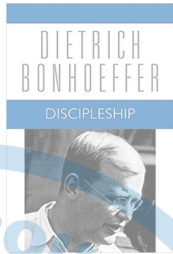


# Small Groups at Nassau Church

## Fall 2017



## Don't Conform, Transform

Afraid to open the paper this morning? What might you see? A world more out of sync with the Kingdom of Heaven than it was yesterday? One step forward, two steps back? And more to the point, what are you going to do about it? Finish breakfast? Head for work?

Offering fellowship and love, small groups return to Nassau in the fall of 2017 with a myriad of offerings, each of which, in its own way, provides you with the opportunity for renewal.

Small groups are not about conforming. They are about transforming — learning something new and meeting that person to whom you say, “Peace be with you,” on Sunday, but don’t really know.

Small groups are about binding ourselves together in a community of faith and becoming different people in the process. No one comes away from a small group unchanged.

Let’s seek, and act on, hope together.

## Small Group Finder

	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
MORNING			●	●	●
AFTERNOON	●				●
EVENING	●	●	●	● ●	●

**SUNDAYS, OCT. 1 TO NOV. 12**

**1:00-2:30 P.M.**

### Champions of Children

*Patti and Eliot Daley, leaders*

*Room 202*

*Bring your own lunch*

As a nation, we give abundant lip service to our love for children, but there are few sainted souls who have been vibrant, visible champions of children's wellbeing. Join us in considering the work and influence of three such champions: Fred Rogers, Marian Wright Edelman, and Geoffrey Canada. Each gathering will begin with some thoughts and actions from each of them, followed by discussion of its significance and ways we might emulate and/or amplify their work on behalf of children. On October 22, the group will worship together at Westminster Presbyterian Church as they celebrate the "Children's Sabbath" sponsored by Children's Defense Fund.

**SUNDAYS, OCT. 1 TO NOV. 12**

**4:00-5:30 P.M.**

### Fresh Air by Jack Levinson

*Dan Dorrow and Mani Pulimood, leaders*

*Pulimood Home, Princeton*

*Fresh Air* invites us to examine the Holy Spirit in scripture in the everyday ordinariness of life. The Holy Spirit is "God's mystical, practical, expansive, unbridled presence in the world, where we least expect it—in every breath we take, in social transformation, in community, in hostile situations, and in serious learning" (page 5). "Which dimension of the Holy Spirit do you want to experience afresh?"

**MONDAYS, OCT. 2 TO NOV. 13**

**7:30-9:00 P.M.**

### Tapping into the Sermon Archive: A "No-Homework" Small Group

*Tom Coogan, leader*

*Princeton Theological Seminary Library*

We can certainly benefit from repeated hearings of the same Scripture passage, and we may also benefit from a repeat listening to an exposition of that passage. That is the idea behind trying a new format for a small group: listening to recordings of a Scripture reading and sermon, and then discussing. We will go through the sermon series from past years on Philippians and James.

**TUESDAYS, OCT. 3 TO NOV. 14**

**10:00-11:30 A.M.**

### A Bible Study for Everyone: Colossians

*Cecelia Tazelaar, leader*

*Tazelaar Home, Princeton*

Using the slim but superb N. T. Wright for Everyone Bible Study Guide, come and delve into Colossians, one of Paul's Prison Letters intended to guide and correct the new Christians of Colossae. Wright's study will guide us through a close reading of this scripture, helping us understand its content, meaning, and application.

**TUESDAYS, OCT. 3 TO NOV. 14**

**7:30-9:00 P.M.**

### Discipleship by Dietrich Bonhoeffer

*Mark Edwards, leader*

*Edwards Home, Kingston*

*Note, no meeting on Oct. 31*

Join in a discussion of Bonhoeffer's most famous work, a readable and spiritually challenging masterpiece. A reflection on the Sermon on the Mount, *Discipleship* seeks to uphold the deepest commitments of the Reformation amidst the darkest problems of the modern era.

## Groups meet weekly for six to ten weeks.

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**WEDNESDAYS, OCT. 4 TO NOV. 15**

**6:30-7:30 A.M.**

### **Listening Ahead of Time: Preparing for Sunday's Sermon**

*Dave Davis, leader*

*Conference Room*

*Bring your own breakfast*

Join a Bible study on the sermon text for the coming Sunday, examining and probing and drawing relationships with life and mission as followers of Jesus Christ.

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**WEDNESDAYS, OCT. 4 TO NOV. 15**

**7:30-9:00 P.M.**

### **Just Mercy by Bryan Stevenson**

*Marshall McKnight, leader*

*Princeton Theological Seminary Library*

*Just Mercy*, a memoir by activist lawyer Bryan Stevenson, tells the struggle against injustice embedded in the U.S. criminal justice system. Stevenson attended Eastern College, a Christian institution outside Philadelphia, and then Harvard Law School. Afterward he represented poor clients in Georgia and Alabama, where he co-founded the Equal Justice Initiative. Ted Conover, writing for the New York Times Book Review, said, "*Just Mercy* will make you upset and it will make you hopeful."

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**WEDNESDAYS, OCT. 4 TO NOV. 15**

**7:00-8:30 P.M.**

### **Christ of the Celts by Philip Newell**

*Jonathan Shenk, leader*

*Shenk Home, Princeton Junction*

*Christ of the Celts* connects the Celtic tradition with our Christian beliefs and offers a vision of concern for healing creation and the environment — for the presence of the sacred in nature and all creatures, the essence of the ancient Celtic vision of Christ. As an ever-unfolding mystery of life rather than a one-time event, the Celtic tradition encourages us to revere the matter of our bodies and the earth. Come and discuss themes of Celtic spirituality and explore contemplative practices.

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**THURSDAYS, OCT. 5 TO NOV. 16**

**9:30-11:00 A.M.**

### **Faithful Resistance by Rick Ufford-Chase**

*Carol A. Wehrheim & Joyce MacKichan Walker, leaders*

*Music Room*

Maybe our times call for a new and radical exploration of how to be faithful Christians, both individually and as "church," and for striving to shape "church" with biblical and theological images that draw us closer to who Jesus calls us to be and what the gospel would have us do in our time. Bring an open mind and heart willing to look inside yourself, ourselves, as we listen to voices for resistance and change, including that of the Stated Clerk of the PCUSA General Assembly.

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**THURSDAYS, OCT. 5 TO NOV. 30**

**12:00-1:00 P.M.**

### **Waking Up White by Debbie Irving**

*Len Scales, leader*

*Conference Room*

*Bring your own lunch*

*Note, will not meet Oct. 19, Nov. 9, or Nov. 23*

*Waking Up White* uncovers white privilege in the United States through Debbie Irving's experience. We will examine white privilege in our own lives. Whether you have your own "Stay Woke" protest sign or you're not sure what that phrase means, you are welcome to join this group as we wrestle with racism in culture, institutions, and ourselves.

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**THURSDAYS, OCT. 5 TO NOV. 15**

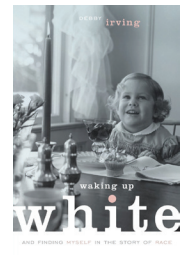
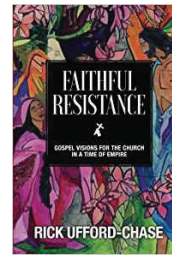
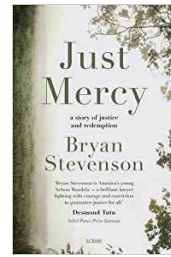
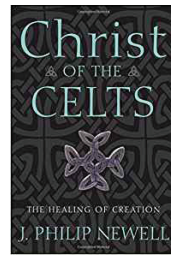
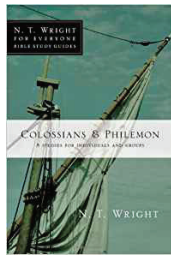
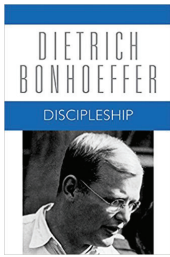
**7:30-9:00 P.M.**

### **Photographing the Psalms**

*Ned Walthall, leader*

*Conference Room*

This group's basic premise is that photography, yours and that of others, forces you to see what you see differently, to see in a way you didn't before. This session will focus on creating and studying photos that connect us to themes in the Psalms. We will also have two additional extracurricular sessions alongside our normal meetings.



Books will be available for purchase in Fellowship on Sunday morning or in the church office during regular business hours.

## Sign Up

Sign up in Fellowship beginning Sunday, September 10, or online after Monday, September 11.

Space is limited for many groups, so sign up soon!

### TOP REASONS TO JOIN A SMALL GROUP

- 1 Turn off the news for awhile and learn something about some of our country's most famous champions of children, including Fred Rogers.
- 2 Or about how to discover the Holy Spirit in the details of our ordinary lives.
- 3 Or about new ways to think about The Letter of James – “Faith without works is dead,” or the Letters to the Philippians or the Colossians.
- 4 Maybe it is time to think a little about Dietrich Bonhoeffer, maybe more than a little.
- 5 Want a preview of Dave’s sermon from Dave himself? We’ve got that, if you are willing to get up early enough.
- 6 Ever wonder what the Celts have to do with Christianity? We have got that too.
- 7 Or you could join in a conversation about Just Mercy, an amazing memoir by a lawyer who confronted injustice in the South.
- 8 Maybe you want to explore the gospel basis for resistance?
- 9 Or maybe you just want to learn how to look through the viewfinder of a camera and see the world in a different way.