Small Groups at Nassau Church Fall 2018

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Find Your Way Back

Weary and burdened by a daily dose of news that you only wish you could believe was fake? Tired of living in an age when the Kingdom of Heaven seems like someone's idea of a cruel joke? Not after signing up for a small group, eight of which return this fall, offering myriad opportunities to strengthen your bonds to the fellowship of love and faith that is Nassau Church.

Find your way back...

...to the hymns, or contemplate how Christian faith is imagined in dystopian literature. Join a study of the brilliant Frederick Buechner, or attempt to unravel some of the mysteries of John's gospel. Want a preview of next week's sermon? We've got that! And what better time than now to join others in thinking about the Holy Spirit and the Work of Justice, or a study of Simone Weil's *Gravity & Grace*.

Finally, Ned Walthall returns with another session on the The Sacred Art of Photography, the medium now central to contemporary art, this time focusing on photography and the parables.

Maybe it's time to do more than read the paper; maybe it's time to act. Small Groups at Nassau are in the business of transformation: no one remains unchanged, no one.

Groups meet weekly for seven weeks.

SUNDAYS, OCT. 7 TO NOV. 18 5:00-6:00 P.M.

Taking Note of Hymns: Faith-full Music

Martin Tel, leader Tel Home, Princeton Optional: join the youth dinner at 6:15

Mindfully sing our Sunday morning hymns, then gather together in the evening for this small group reflection. Who wrote these hymns? When? Why? How do they relate to the proclamation of the gospel today? What new insights did a hymn give you? What memories were stirred? Hymns are windows which open to theology, history, the Bible, the life and faith of the Church. Our reflection and the sharing of our own hymn stories will also open us to one another. Hymnals will be provided. If we sing, anyone is free to simply listen!

MONDAYS, OCT. 1 TO NOV. 12 12:00-1:00 P.M.

Faith in the Future: Christianity in Dystopian Literature

Corrie Berg, leader Berg Home, Princeton Light lunch (soup & bread) provided

Come read three classics of dystopian literature and learn how Faith is imagined in the future. What role does the church play in these futuristic societies? Are people imprinted with a desire for God even when religion is outlawed? How does our faith influence our view of the individual? We will spend two sessions discussing each book (about 100-150 pages of reading each week). No literature degree required! Come join this casual, welcoming discussion.

		SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
Small Group Finder	MORNING				•	
	AFTERNOON		•			
	EVENING	•	•	•	• •	٠

MONDAYS, OCT. 1 TO NOV. 12 7:30-9:00 P.M.

The Road Goes On

Marshall McKnight, leader Conference Room, Nassau Presbyterian Church

Join us as we learn, share, pray and laugh with theologian, writer, preacher and faithful servant Fredrick Buechner as our guide. *Buechner 101* will lead us through a time of sharing that will be memorable and powerful. In the book's forward, Anne Lamott writes of Buechner, "He writes about listening to your own heart, to the rhythms and narrative of your own life."

TUESDAYS, OCT. 3 TO NOV. 14 7:30-9:00 P.M.

A Bible Study for Everyone: John

John Parker, leader Tazelaar Home, Princeton

John's Gospel contains some of the most thought provoking and poetic language in the Bible. Using the slim but superb N. T. Wright for Everyone Bible Study Guide, come explore the themes of the Gospel of John and its relevance for our lives today.

WEDNESDAYS, OCT. 3 TO NOV. 14 6:30-7:30 A.M.

Listening Ahead of Time: Preparing for Sunday's Sermon

Dave Davis, leader Conference Room, Nassau Presbyterian Church Bring your own breakfast (coffee & tea provided)

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.

WEDNESDAYS, OCT. 3 TO NOV. 14 6:30-7:30 P.M.

The Holy Spirit and the Work of Justice

Len Scales, leader Conference Room, Nassau Presbyterian Church

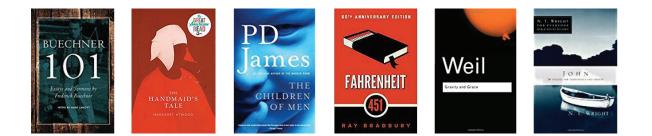
Prayerfully consider The Brief Statement of Faith and The Belhar Confession, two confessions of the PC(USA). We will also read The Sarasota Statement, a confessional statement written in 2017, and discuss how we are called to affirm our faith in our own contexts.

WEDNESDAYS, OCT. 3 TO NOV. 14 7:30-9:00 P.M.

Gravity and Grace by Simone Weil

Mark Edwards & Virginia Kerr, leaders Edwards Home, Kingston

Simone Weil's radical thinking swept across numerous fronts in theology, politics, philosophy, and in the daily way she cared for others. She has touched those who have sought both justice in human affairs and light in matters of the spirit. Join us in being challenged to live fully and love gratuitously as we reflect upon her life and work.



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

Study

Sign Up

Sign up in Fellowship beginning Sunday, September 9, or online after Monday, September 10.

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

THURSDAYS, OCT. 5 TO NOV. 15 7:30-9:00 P.M.

Photography and the Parables

Ned Walthall, leader Conference Room

In the Gospels, Jesus often used parables to teach. When asked by his disciples why he spoke to them in parables, he talks, among other things, about the paradox of seeing and yet not seeing. "That is why I speak to them in parables, because seeing, they do not see." (Matthew 13: 13).

A great photograph is like a parable: it enables us to see what it immediately reminds us we haven't seen. We will ask ourselves how a photograph can function as a parable, examine some of Jesus' parables, and create photographs to illustrate them.

No special skill or equipment is required, but you'll be asked to think about the photographs you take and share them with the group. In addition to Thursday nights, there will be two optional sessions, including a Saturday in New York