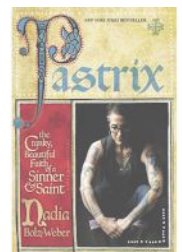
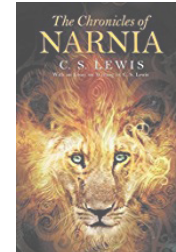
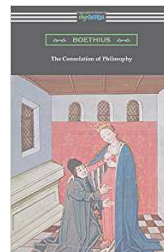
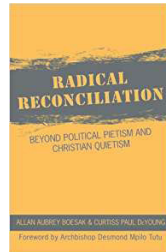


# Small Groups at Nassau Church

## Fall 2019



# Forming & Re-Forming Community

Fall is in the air, and that means it's time for Small Groups at Nassau, when we explore new horizons and expand our circle of friends. New opportunities for learning and growing in faith, led by members and church staff, are here, hot off the press!

There are many dictionary definitions of community, but they all are about a group of people who share something in common. Each Small Group will be a community, with something to say about other communities. Questions about community are in the headlines and preoccupy modern life. Are communities stronger when defined by common beliefs, or distinguished by a diversity of gifts?

Several groups will study the book of Exodus and learn how God formed a group of wandering refugees into a (mostly) faithful community.

Additional Small Group options include:

- A very contemporary pastor's entertaining take on what Christian community looks like today
- A classic children's fantasy series with deep theological truths
- A search for truth about nature through photography.

If you have never been part of a Small Group, why not try it out? If you are a perennial participant, welcome back! Space may be limited for many groups, so sign up soon!

# Exodus: Wilderness Formation

Do a deep dive into Exodus! Read the stories, remember the events, and revisit the characters that are formative to our faith. Each week we will focus on a handful of chapters and learn how God forms a people and the people, in turn, take leadership in shaping their relationship with God. Drs. Jacqueline Lapsley and Anne Stewart will be leading an Adult Education series, October 6 – November 3, on Exodus. Pastor Dave Davis will be preaching the same passages in worship those Sundays.

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## MONDAYS, OCT. 7 TO NOV. 4, 12:00-1:15 P.M.

*Corrie Berg, leader*

*Berg Home, Princeton*

*Light lunch (soup & bread) provided*

Corrie Berg is the Director of Children's and Family Ministry at Nassau Presbyterian Church. She loves stories (Bible stories, all stories!) and is a life-long reader who believes that great literature helps us understand our own world and ourselves.

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## WEDNESDAYS, OCT. 2 TO OCT. 30, 6:30-7:30 A.M.

*Dave Davis, leader*

*Conference Room, Nassau Presbyterian Church*

*Bring your own breakfast (coffee & tea provided)*

Dave Davis has been pastor and head-of-staff at Nassau since the fall of 2000. His PhD in Homiletics from Princeton Theological Seminary focused on preaching as a corporate act and the active role of the listener in the preaching event. He has published two sermon collections *A Kingdom You Can Taste* and *Lord, Teach Us to Pray*.

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## WEDNESDAYS, OCT. 9 TO NOV. 6 1:30-3:00 P.M.

*Kathie Sakenfeld, leader*

*Sakenfeld Home, Skillman*

Kathie Sakenfeld retired from Princeton Seminary in 2013 after teaching Old Testament there for 43 years. Her special interests are the Pentateuch and stories of women throughout the OT. An ordained PCUSA clergywoman, she has participated in the life of Nassau Church since 1970 and has served the denomination at Presbytery, national, and international levels.

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## TUESDAYS, OCT. 8 TO NOV. 5, 7:30-9:00 P.M.

### Liberation in Exodus

*Mark Edwards, leader*

*Edwards Home, Kingston*

Reading the sixth century classic, *The Consolation of Philosophy*, we will explore how the longings for the comforts and security of Egyptian slavery correlate to the quest for happiness in a world of success, reputation, and (modest) fortune.

Mark Edwards joined Nassau as Director of Youth Ministries in September of 2013. He is a lifelong Presbyterian and holds a PhD (Philosophy and Theology, 2013) from Princeton Theological Seminary. Mark is married to Janine and they have two children.

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## WEDNESDAYS, OCT. 9 TO NOV. 6, 12:00-1:00 P.M.

### Exodus & Radical Reconciliation

*Len Scales, leader*

*Conference Room, Nassau Presbyterian Church*

*Bring your own lunch (coffee & tea provided)*

God uses humans just like us to confront Pharaoh in the book of Exodus. What difficult conversations and actions might God be calling us to in our own day? We will draw on Boesak and DeYoung's *Radical Reconciliation* as we read and discuss passages in Exodus.

Len Scales is Chaplain and Executive Co-Director of Princeton Presbyterians of the Westminster Foundation. In 2017 she helped lead the Young Ministry Leaders' Gathering of the Synod of the Northeast on a similar topic.

# Additional Small Groups:

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MONDAYS, OCT. 7-NOV. 4, 7:30-9:00PM

## **Pastrix by Nadia Bolz-Weber**

*Marshall McKnight, leader*

*Conference Room, Nassau Presbyterian Church*

Discover the redeeming, destabilizing love of a surprising God and get to know the faith of Nadia Bolz-Weber through her New York Times Bestseller book *Pastrix*.

Marshall McKnight, a Nassau Church member since 2011, serves as a deacon and is active on the Mass Incarceration Task Force and the Membership Committee. He was a journalist for seven years and for the last fourteen has worked for the State of New Jersey. Also a member of the Adult Education Committee, Marshall notes that he's funny but maybe not as funny as Carol Wehrheim.

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

## **Dressing and Keeping the Garden: Photographing Nature**

*Ned Walthall, leader*

*Conference Room, Nassau Presbyterian Church*

"We have changed the atmosphere, and thus, we are changing weather. By changing the weather, we make every spot on earth man made and artificial. We have deprived nature of its independence, and that is fatal to its meaning. Nature's independence is its meaning; without it, there is nothing but us." Bill McKibben, *The End of Nature*

In this class we will consider nature photography in the context of a world where the dressing and keeping of the garden is not working out so well.

Has nature photography become an obituary written in anticipation of the death of our planet, or does it have a different role to play?

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TUESDAYS, OCT. 8-NOV. 5, 7:00-8:30PM

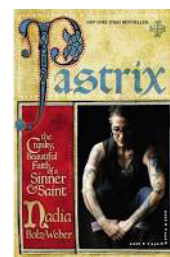
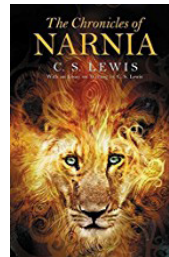
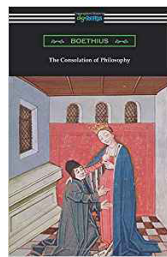
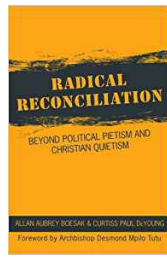
## **The Chronicles of Narnia by C.S. Lewis**

*Jade Hage, leader*

*Hage Home, Princeton*

In his beloved book series, *The Chronicles of Narnia*, C.S. Lewis dares to imagine how God might interact with a world that is not our own, with beings that range from our human kin, to the subtly non-human, to creatures that seem only to exist in the imaginations of story-book-writers. In his creation of Narnia, Lewis presents us with a world that is both fantastically alien, and yet remarkably similar to our own, and supposes how the truths of God's character might play out in such an environment. In this small group we will read three of Lewis' novels (maybe a fourth, if we're feeling brave) and unpack the ways Narnia helps us understand God in the context of our own world.

Jade Hage, has been grateful to call Princeton her home for the past year and a half. During the week she spends her days teaching the greatest hits of English literature at Princeton International School of Math and Science, and on Sunday mornings you can find her in the choir loft. Participating in small groups has helped shape Nassau as Jade's home away from home, and she is thrilled to be taking on a new role as a leader.



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 8, or online after Monday, September 9.

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



NASSAU PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
61 Nassau Street, Princeton, New Jersey  
609-924-0103 [nassauchurch.org](http://nassauchurch.org)