

God and Food in Modern Life



Harvest Time, Rockwell Kent (American, Tarrytown, New York 1882–1971), 1950, Printed Cotton, 21 3/4 × 21 1/2 in., Metropolitan Museum of Art, NY, NY, www.metmuseum.org

Sundays, 9:30 a.m., in the Assembly Room unless otherwise noted

Join us as we hear from those in our community who wrestle with the big concepts and daily practice of food stewardship. We will learn about global projects and local initiatives that plan for the future and feed those who are hungry today, and we will provide hands-on assistance to a local food bank during a special Adult Education Project Day – learning brings forth doing!

Sep
8

Food. Faith. Bread. Wine.

Nathan Stucky

Does God care what we eat? Does God care how we eat? Do we think of God when eating? Should we? Though food runs like a thread through Scripture, we may or may not typically put God and food in the same conversation. What happens when we do? In this session, we'll begin finding out.

Nathan Stucky serves as Director of the Farminary Project at Princeton Theological Seminary. Nathan grew up on a farm in Kansas where his love for Christian faith and agriculture first took root. Nate earned a Ph.D. in Christian Education and Formation from Princeton Theological Seminary. He sees the Farminary as a locus for enacting the integration of theological education and agrarianism. He lives in Princeton with his wife and three children.



Sep
15

The Spiritual Significance of Seeds

Tessa Desmond

Seeds are ubiquitous. We eat them. We plant them. We blow them in the wind. While we may overlook seeds or think about them mostly as metaphors, God does not. In the Bible, central lessons of faith are taught using the imagery of seeds. Explore how paying attention to these things (that might be thought of as “the least” in nature) can actually help us better understand the grandness of God. Come marvel at seeds!

Tessa Lowinske Desmond is a scholar and a farmer. She is an Associate Research Scholar & Lecturer in American Studies at Princeton University where she teaches courses on food politics, agrarian thought, racial justice and multiethnic literature. Her current research focuses on the history of farming in twentieth century America and the practice of seed saving. She also owns and operates Firefly Homestead Farm in Hopewell where she raises livestock and plants for food and fiber.



Sep
22

Faith in Action – a Special Adult Education Project Day

All ages are invited to join us as we roll up our sleeves and put our faith into hands-on action! Every year Nassau prepares hundreds of sack lunches for our neighbors during Loaves and Fishes in August and our annual Martin Luther King Jr Day of Service in January. Now, we invite you to a new opportunity for building community during our September series on food and faith.

A variety of tasks and assembly stations, suitable for all abilities, will be available under the leadership of longtime volunteers and coordinators Angie and Allen Olsen. Afterwards, our assembled sack lunches will be delivered to TASK, which provides more than 3,000 free meals per week to people in need in the Trenton area.

The Trenton Area Soup Kitchen (TASK) was founded in the early 1980's by a small group of individuals from local churches and service organizations. Its mission is to feeds those who are hungry in the Trenton area and offers programs to encourage self-sufficiency and improve the quality of life of its patrons.

In-depth Bible Study with George Hunsinger

Colossians

Sundays, 9:15 a.m. (beginning September 15)
Maclean House (Garden Entrance)

George Hunsinger continues with a verse-by-verse examination of the Letter to the Colossians picking with Chapter 2. In this epistle, the Colossian congregation wrestles with folk beliefs and new age superstitions that are not as strange as they might at first seem. As usual Paul offers compelling good news in his understanding of the cross, the resurrection, worship, and Christian hope.

George Hunsinger is Professor of Systematic Theology at Princeton Theological Seminary. He is the founder of the National Religious Campaign Against Torture. This is his 23rd year leading this Bible study! New participants are always welcome.



Sep
29

'Til All God's Children are Fed – The Purpose and Practice of the Hunger Offering

Sarah Steward, Ria Smit, Ross Wishnick
Holley Barreto, moderator

Nassau Presbyterian Church has a decades-long tradition of collecting a freewill offering on the last Sunday of the month to alleviate hunger in our neighborhood, country, and around the world. As Pastor Dave Davis frequently affirms, we are committed to continuing this practice “until all God’s children are fed.” Come meet three representatives of local and international organizations who benefit from this long-standing commitment. Get to know their communities. Learn about their mission. Support their work. This panel discussion will be moderated by Elder and food-justice advocate, Holley Barreto, and will include time for questions.

Sarah Steward is the Chief Operating Officer at HomeFront, a non-profit agency dedicated to ending family homelessness and breaking the cycle of poverty for families in Central New Jersey. Previously, Ms. Steward served as Deputy Chief of Staff and District Director for Congressman Rush Holt. Ms. Steward holds a B.A. in Government and Psychology from Franklin and Marshall College and a Masters of Public Administration from Rutgers University. Ms. Steward also currently serves as a Councilwoman in the Township of Ewing.

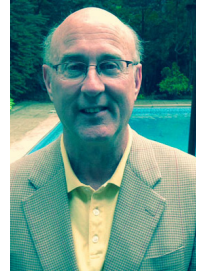


Ria Smit is from South Africa and moved to Princeton in 2017 with her spouse who teaches at Princeton Theological Seminary. They were members of the Uniting Reformed Church in Stellenbosch for 37 years and are now members of Nassau Presbyterian Church.



Ria has a doctorate in Lexicography and was an Associate Professor in Music Education at Stellenbosch University, where she helped a team to coordinate an in-service training program for music teachers from disadvantaged communities and edited a South African music dictionary. She now does translating and editing work on a freelance basis.

Ross Wishnick is the chairperson of the Princeton Human Services Commission. He, together with other members of the commission and other members of the community, started Send Hunger Packing Princeton with the inaugural event June 9, 2013 at the Garden Theater. Ross is also a member of the Board of The Bank of Princeton and a member of the Advisory Board of the Princeton Education Foundation. He and his wife, Lesley have two children who graduated from Princeton Public Schools.



Holley Barreto is a former social worker and a current cooking instructor. She has attended NPC with her family since 2016 and is active with the adult education committee, children and family ministries, NPC’s TASK volunteer team, and the Christmas cookie baking crew. You can follow her kitchen adventures at 48sugarstreet.com.



Conversations with International Peacemakers

Sep
15

Xinia María Briceño with Karla Ann Koll

12:15 p.m., Niles Chapel

Come welcome and meet International Peacemaker Xinia María Briceño from Costa Rica. Xinia's passion and work centers around preserving access to clean water for local Costa Rican communities impacted by industrial agriculture. Her presentation will address contamination of water sources, models of agricultural production, the role of transnational corporations and climate change.

Xinia María Briceño is currently the administrator of three rural aqueducts in the Caribbean region of Costa Rica. Xinia moved to the community of Milano, Siquirres in 2005. She soon discovered that the water sources for the community were being contaminated by agrochemicals used in nearby pineapple plantations. She has led her community in a protracted legal battle to force the Costa Rican government and the pineapple industry to clean up Milano's water sources. She lives with her husband, Roberto Brenes, and their two daughters in Milano.



Karla Ann Koll, a Presbyterian Church (USA) mission co-worker, serves as professor of history, mission and religions at the Latin American Biblical University in San José, Costa Rica. A graduate of St. Olaf College, she holds two master's degrees from Union Theological Seminary in New York and a doctorate from Princeton Theological Seminary. In Costa Rica, she teaches women and men from throughout Latin America and the Caribbean. Among the courses she has taught recently is a seminar on eschatology in times of climate change.



Sep
29

Monique Ngoie Mukuna Misenga

12:15 p.m., Assembly Room

Come welcome and meet International Peacemaker Monique Ngoie Mukuna Misenga from the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Ms. Misenga will talk about how education and income-generating projects help women lift themselves out of extreme poverty. She is an advocate for women's rights and works to end violence against women, particularly sexual violence used as a weapon of war. A light lunch will be served.

Monique Mukuna Misenga serves as President of the Presbyterian Community of Kinshara's (CPK) Committee in Charge of Projects. She previously served the CPK as Director of the department of Women and Families and as Coordinator for HIV/AIDS. She also served as President of a Christian nonprofit organization, Woman Cradle of Abundance. She holds a degree from Institut Supérieur Pédagogie in Gombie, DR Congo.



ADULT EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Lisa Burke, moderator

STAFF

Corrie Berg

ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

Lauren Yeh

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Thinking Ahead...

**EXODUS: WILDERNESS
FORMATION**