



**Black History Month &
“LOVE” Sunday Before Valentine’s Day**

February 8, 2026 10:00 a.m.

**Northeastern Presbyterian Church
2112 Varnum Street, NE, Washington, DC 20018
Telephone: (202) 526-1730 Fax: (202) 526-5900
Email: admin@nepc-dc.org; Website: <http://nepc-dc.org>.**

**Pastor At Church Wednesday Afternoons and by Appointment
Pastor Mark Greiner Email: pastormfg@gmail.com Cell 301.310.5600**



Welcome to Northeastern Presbyterian Church

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE IN PRAISE AND PRAYER

VALENTINES WEEK QUOTE (Tennessee Williams, 1911-1983)

"The world is violent and mercurial--it will have its way with you. We are saved only by love--love for each other and the love that we pour into the art we feel compelled to share: being a parent; being a writer; being a painter; being a friend. We live in a perpetually burning building, and what we must save from it, all the time, is love."

INTROIT

"Love Divine All Loves Excelling"

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-4Afw27AwGg&list=RD-4Afw27AwGg&start_radio=1

INVOCATION

CALL TO WORSHIP (Africana Worship Book, Luke 10:13-17)

ONE Lift up your heads. This is no place to be bowed down.

ALL We'll stand up straight and praise the Lord!

ONE Leave last week with last week. This is a new day;
And we will listen to the Lord!

ALL We'll stand up straight and praise the Lord!

ONE We have no reason to be ashamed.
God knew all about it before we opened our mouths to confess,
and God still loves us!

ALL We'll stand up straight and praise the Lord!

OPENING HYMN - "I Love You Lord / We Exalt Thee"
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bxnY8Rj8CpY&list=RDbxnY8Rj8CpY&start_radio=1
From start to 4:52

INVITATION TO PRAYER (1 John 3:14-23)

ONE We know that we have passed from death to life because we love one another. Whoever does not love abides in death. We know love by this, that Jesus laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another.

How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help? Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey God's commandments and do what pleases God.

UNISON BIDDING PRAYER (Africana Worship Book)

Abba, help me to see you.

Help me to see you in every face I see.

Help me to see you in every voice I hear.

Help me to feel you in every touch of care, every embrace of love, every dance of celebration, and in every act of worship.

For God, you are truly God the Creator.

Maker of all, Savior of All, Lover of all.

Help us to see beyond ourselves and see in you in ALL the world.

It is because of your goodness and in response to your grace that we pray, in Jesus' name...

SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

ONE Let us embrace the Good News!
Who is in a position to condemn?
Only Christ, and Christ died for us, Christ rose for us,
Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us.
Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation.
The old life has gone; new life has begun.
Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.

ALL Thanks be to God. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS

PASSING THE PEACE

(Unmuted devices and turn on cameras to greet one another in love)

One: May the peace of Christ be with you!
Many: And also, with you! **Peace be with you!**

THE OFFERING

Use your bank's online bill-paying options
Mail your check to the church
2112 Varum St., NE
Washington, DC 20018

Go to nepc-dc.org
Click on Donate or Cash App at the bottom of the page

SLIDE INTRODUCTION

"During the year 1957, I experienced, by the grace of God, a spiritual awakening which was to lead me to a richer, fuller, more productive life. At that time, in gratitude, I humbly asked to be given the means and privilege to make others happy through music. I feel this has been granted through His grace. ALL PRAISE TO GOD.
... At this time I would like to tell you that NO MATTER WHAT ... IT IS WITH GOD. HE IS GRACIOUS AND MERCIFUL. HIS WAY IS

IN LOVE, THROUGH WHICH WE ALL ARE. IT IS TRULY – **A LOVE SUPREME.** *John Coltraine (1926-1967)*

OFFERTORY MUSIC FOR VALENTINES WEEK

A LOVE SUPREME JOHN COLTRANE

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8kOu61AtFVk>

OFFERTORY PRAYER (In Unison, from Zimbabwe)

Open my eyes that they may see the deepest needs of people;
Move my hands that they may feed the hungry;
Touch my heart that it may bring warmth to the despairing;
Teach me the generosity that welcomes strangers;
Let me share my possessions to clothe the naked;
Give me the care that strengthens the sick;
Make me share in the quest to set the prisoner free.
In sharing our anxieties and our love, our poverty and our prosperity,
we partake of your divine presence. Amen

WE EXPERIENCE GOD'S WORD

THE PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Pastor Greiner

THE FIRST SCRIPTURE READING 1 John 4:7-21

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit.

And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them.

Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

The Word of the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

SERMON

"Radical Love"

Pastor Mark Greiner

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER (in Unison)

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

SEEKING A CHURCH HOME?

WE GO FORTH AND SERVE GOD AND NEIGHBOR

UNISON PRAYER W. E. B. DuBois (1909 – 1910)

Give us grace, O God, to dare to do the deed which we well know cries to be done.

Let us not hesitate because of ease, or the words of [people's] mouths, or our own lives.

Mighty causes are calling us – the freeing of women, the training of children, the putting down of hate and murder and poverty – all these and more. But they call with voices that mean work and sacrifice and death. Mercifully grant us, O God, the spirit of Esther, that we say: I will go unto the King and if I perish, I perish – Amen.

BENEDICTION

CLOSING MUSIC **Yes, Jesus loves you**

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LeGGwxYKt5E&list=RDLeGGwxYKt5E&start_radio=1 From start to minute 3:10

Lectionary: Isaiah 58:1-9a (9b-12) and Psalm 112:1-9(10); 1 Corinthians 2:1-12 (13-16); Matthews 5:13-20

Liturgist: **Elder Angela Hemphill**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING has been postpone today due to the freezing temperature and the icy road conditions.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS – The Northeastern Church Adult Sunday School Class convenes Sundays at 9:00 a.m. via conference call. The focus for Winter 2025-2026 Lessons is "Enduring Beliefs of the Christian Faith." You are cordially invited to join us next Sunday, February 15th, discussion on "Sabbath and Work," Genesis 2:2-3; Exodus 20:8-11; Matthew 12:1-14; 28: 1-10; John 20:19; Acts 20:7, 41; Romans 14:4-6; Revelation 1:10. Please dial **(267) 807-9601 Passcode 828-160-800** to participate in the lively conversations with church members.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH POTLUCK & HBCU CELEBRATION

February 15, 2026, following worship service the congregation is invited to a potluck luncheon celebrating Black History Month and the legacy of HBCUs. Please bring your favorite soul food dish to share as we enjoy food, fellowship, and a time of celebration together. All are welcome!

GET INVOLVED, PCUSA OFFICE OF PUBLIC WITNESS.

Sign up here for alerts to faithfully raise our voices in key state and national actions <https://www.votervoice.net/mobile/PCUSA/home>

LENTEN BIBLE STUDY: 2nd & 4th Wednesdays of the month, zoom@ 7 pm., February 11, 25, March 11, 25, April 8, 22, Based on the book " Plenty Good Room: A Lenten Bible Study Based on African American Spirituals "

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH LITERARY CLUB **Book selections for 2025**

Literary Club - Please join us via Zoom at 1:30 pm for the following book discussions.

March 1st----- Overground Railroad: the Green Book and the Roots of Black Travel in America, by Candacy Taylor

PER CAPITA FOR 2026 IS \$51.28

REMEMBER THE SICK AND SHUT IN: The list printed in the bulletin will be updated each week to reflect additions and deletions. Reach out to our sick and shut in a safe way that lets them know they are in our hearts, minds, and prayers. Please contact the church office if you know the names of people who should be added to the sick-and-shut-in list or if you have updates on anyone listed.

TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY: Please join us via Zoom at 11:00AM Eastern Time for Tuesday Morning Bible Study. We will have in-depth and exciting discussions as we learn more about people in the Bible called by God. Call the church office for the Zoom meeting information.

ZOOM MEETING ID: The **ZOOM MEETING ID** for our worship services is: Meeting ID: **876 1357 9552**; Passcode: **295504**

NORTHEASTERN'S "TOP FOUR GOALS"

results of the 2024 Congregational Assessment Tool (CAT) Survey

1. Make necessary changes to attract families with children and youth to our church.
2. Develop and implement a comprehensive strategy to reach new people and incorporate them into the life of the church.
3. Work to renew and revitalize the community around the church by building coalitions with partners that share this vision and commitment.
4. Develop ministries that work toward healing those broken by life circumstances.

HARRIET TUBMAN TOUR (PLUS BIRDING!)

Cost: \$65

Date: April 23, 2026 Thursday, 2-6 pm

Place: Cambridge, MD

Info: <https://delmarvabirding.com/birding-tubman-2026/>

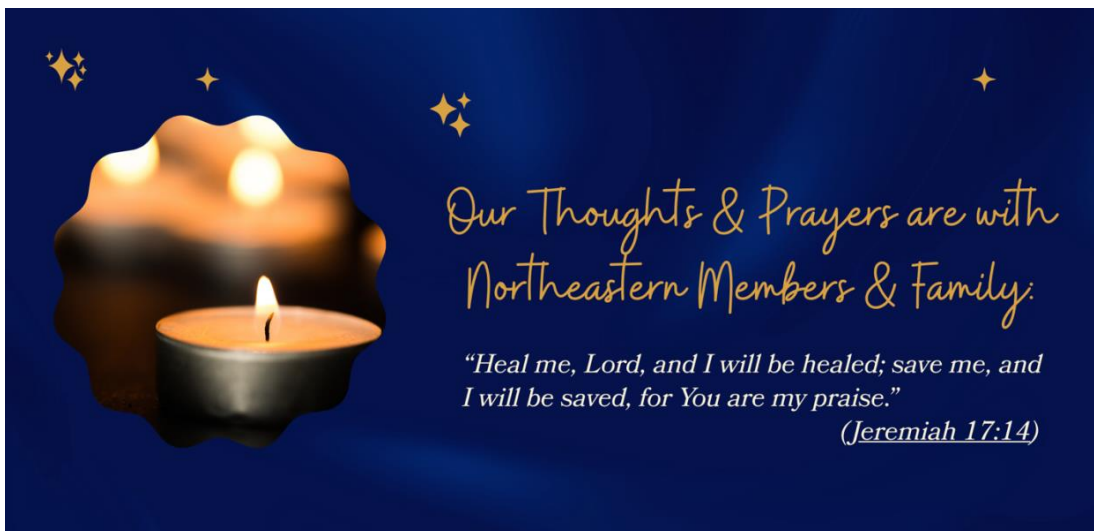
Register at dmvbirds@gmail.com (put April 23 Tubman tour in subject line) Register ASAP as the tour fills quickly.

NORTHEASTERN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH VISION STATEMENT

As we rely on God's guidance, the vision of Northeastern Presbyterian Church is to fulfill the command of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, to promote Christian faith and practice through evangelism, outreach, compassion and fellowship to our congregation and the wider community.

We commit to:

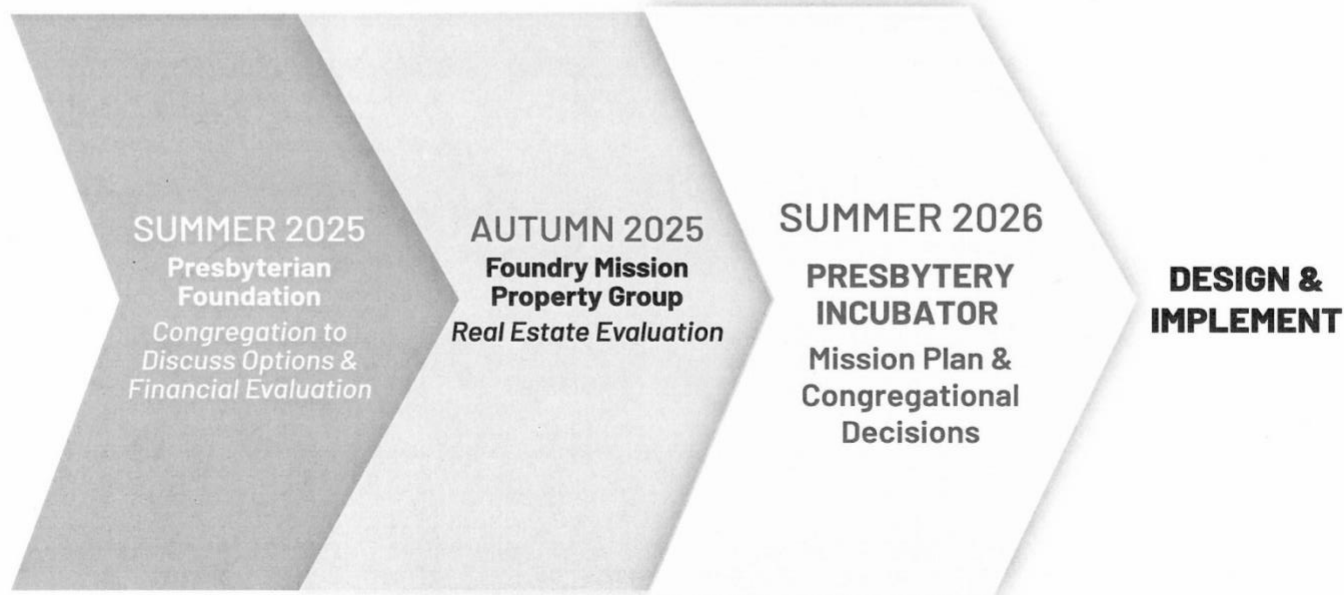
- **Worship**
- **Witness**
- **Learn**
- **Grow**
- **Nurture**
- **Serve**





OUR NEXT 50 YEARS

The 40 Days of Prayer lead into these conversations:



Staff

Ministers
Pastor (Stated Supply)
Director, Chancel Choir/Organist
Director, Pianist, Celestial Choir
Director, Pianist, Youth/Cherub Choir
Administrative Assistant
Sexton
Assistant Sexton

All the people of the Church
Pastor Mark Greiner
Dr. Laddie Bell
Mr. Joshua Jenkins
Ms. Jennifer Allen
Ms. Kathy Cuff
Mr. Randall Timbers
Mr. Kyler Spencer

Ministries of Session

Budget & Fiscal
Buildings & Grounds

Christian Education
Interpretation & Stewardship
Personnel

Worship & Music
Technology Committee

Nominating

Clerk of Session
President of Corporation
Social Concerns & Outreach

Foundry Task Force

Elders

Pamela Gessesse
James Haggins, Chair,
Nachee Miller, Co-chair
Jennifer Allen
William Hymes, Jr., Chair
Charles Barber, Chair
James Haggins, Co-chair
Angela Hemphill
Nachee Miller, Chair
Deacon Katrin Jones, Co-chair
Cherie Becton, Chair
Angela Hemphill, Co-chair
Valerie McCray (non-Session member)
Charles Barber
William Hymes, Jr., Chair
Patricia Young, Co-chair
James Haggins

DEACONS

Karen Cooper, Vice Moderator
Glen Grier, Moderator
Valencia Hawkins
Bishetta Merritt,
Amanda Sargent
Penny Thomas- Corresponding Secretary
Randall Timbers
Charles Webb-Treasurer

SENIOR USHERS

1st, 4th Shirley Wilson – President, Wilhelmina Davis, Brenda, Kuznof, Mary Allen, Ruby Webb
3rd, 5th Glynis Higgs, Pamela Gessesse, and Jordan Gessesse, Stephanie White

JUNIOR USHERS

2nd, Pamela Gessesse, Jordan Gessesse, Ava Kennedy, Cecil Nixon, Chidera Uduma
Priya Young