



DECATUR PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Presbyterian Church (USA)

Every child of God ~ belonging, engaging, being transformed



October 29, 2023

22nd Sunday after Pentecost/Reformation Sunday

10:30 a.m.

Celebrating the Scottish Foundation of the Presbyterian Church

All who are able are encouraged to gather in the Terrace Garden by 10:15 am to process in to worship together.

Today we celebrate the Reformation with a special emphasis on the Scottish roots of the Presbyterian tradition. The Reformation was begun in Germany in 1517 by Martin Luther who insisted on grace and faith in Jesus Christ alone as the heart of Christian faith. Others coming along later brought various nuances to this way of being Christian, including John Calvin, the founder of the Presbyterian branch of Protestantism. From Calvin's Geneva, Protestantism spread to Scotland, where John Knox and others wrote the Scots Confession in 1560, marking the beginning of the Presbyterian tradition which later spread to the United States and other places around the world.

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

PROCESSIONAL

Highland Cathedral

Henry Frantz, piper; Matthew McMahan, organist

*Traditional Scottish
arr. M. McMahan*

Procession of the Bible and Cross

Procession of the Pastors and Tartans

*BLESSING OF THE TARTANS

Rev. Dr. Todd Speed

Leader: We present the tartans before Almighty God.

People: **On behalf of all the members of the Body of Christ, we raise these tartans before Almighty God in gratitude for the heritage of the Presbyterian Church and pray God's blessing on God's servant people in every land.**

Leader: *(Let us pray.)* Eternal God, in gratitude for the freedom of religious observance, we ask your blessing upon these symbols of our heritage, and we pray that all assembled believers here may respond to your gracious deliverance by doing justice, loving mercy, and walking humbly with you, our God; through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

People: **We proclaim that all who love and trust in Jesus Christ are united in the covenant of faith for there is but one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of us all.**

All: **Let us worship God!**

*HYMN 275

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

Ein' Feste Burg

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Tully M. Fletcher IV

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

CALL TO CONFESSION

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth of God is not in us. It is therefore essential for us to lay hold on Jesus Christ. Let us therefore confess our sins together.

(from THE SCOTS CONFESSION, chapter 12)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(unison)*

God preserved, instructed, multiplied, honored, adorned and called from death to life, God's Kirk in all ages. By God's grace alone, the church is called to live out God's promises in the world. Lord, we confess that we have not always chosen what will bring life to the church, and that we have worked as if the church depended on humans alone and not on God's grace...

(Silence is kept for personal prayers of confession.)

Forgive us, Lord, and renew our trust in you again so that we may live according to your grace and mercy. Amen. (Inspired by *THE SCOTS CONFESSON*, 1560)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Our faith and its assurance are the inspiration of the Holy Ghost. We confess that the Holy Ghost does sanctify and regenerate us, without respect to any merit proceeding from us. God who has begun the work in us alone continues us in it, to the praise and glory of God's undeserved Grace.

(from *THE SCOTS CONFESSON*, chapter 12)

**THE PASSING OF THE PEACE*

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

(Please turn to your neighbor, introduce yourself, and pass the peace of Christ.)

**RESPONSE TO PARDON HYMN 385 All People that on Earth Do Dwell*

Old Hundredth, LM

VIDEO GREETINGS FROM LOGAN DOUGLAS, STUDYING IN SCOTLAND

Kids Connected is a new faith formation program for children to engage with the Bible, connect with God and one another. Children PreK-5th grade are invited to leave the sanctuary with their teachers, after the inter-generational moment. After worship, children can be picked up in the room next to the nursery. All children are also welcome to remain in worship with their families. There are worship materials located in the Foyer to assist children in their exploration of worship.

Today's *Kids Connected* Leaders: Margaret Sheets and Susan Boudreau

INTER-GENERATIONAL MOMENT

Rev. Emily Wilmesherr

Leader: We now go our separate ways.

Adults: May God be with you there.

Children: May God be with you here.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Dr. Speed

NEW TESTAMENT READINGS

Matthew 22:34-40
(pew Bible page 25, NT)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

"Mind the One Thing"

Dr. Speed

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (from THE SCOTS CONFESSON, 1560 c.e., chapters 16 & 18)

Nicole Jiskoot

We confess and acknowledge one God alone... whom alone we must serve, whom only we must worship, and in whom alone we put our trust... As we believe in one God, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, so we firmly believe that from the beginning there has been, now is, and to the end of the world shall be, one Kirk... who rightly worship and embrace him by true faith in Christ Jesus, who is the only Head of the Kirk... This Kirk is catholic, that is, universal, because it contains the chosen of all ages, of all realms, nations, and tongues... The notes of true Kirk, we believe, confess and avow to be: first, the true preaching of the Word of God;... secondly, the right administration of the sacraments;... and lastly, ecclesiastical discipline uprightly ministered.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Wilmesherr

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.

RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP

Nicole Jiskoot

(Please sign and pass the **Ritual of Friendship Register** at this time so that we might know your concerns, and keep you informed about the life and ministry of this community of faith.)

STEWARDSHIP AND PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING

Lacy Bedol

Scan the QR Codes below to access the 2024 Pledge Card and our online giving site!



Scan for online pledge card!



Scan for online giving!

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

O How Amiable
Chancel Choir

Ralph Vaughan Williams

O how amiable are thy dwellings, thou Lord of hosts! My soul hath a desire and longing to enter into the courts of the Lord: my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God. Yea, the sparrow hath found her an house, and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young: even thy altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. Blessed are they that dwell in thy house: they shall be always praising thee. The glorious majesty of the Lord our God be upon us: prosper thou the work of our hands upon us, O prosper thou our handy work. O God, our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come, Our shelter from the stormy blast, And our eternal home.
[from Psalms 84 and 90]

*HYMN 643

Now Thank We All Our God

Nun Danket Alle Gott

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Nicole Jiskoot

FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN 649

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound
Henry Frantz, *piper*; Matthew McMahan, *organ*

Amazing Grace CM

*BENEDICTION

Dr. Speed

*PROCESSIONAL

Scotland the Brave

Traditional Scottish Folk Song

Procession of the Bible and Cross

Procession of the Pastors and Tartans

All are invited to the Keith Parlor/Session Room to enjoy a light lunch & scone competition as we continue the celebration today.

ORGAN POSTLUDE

Hyfrydol

Ralph Vaughan Williams

† † †

Music

Matthew McMahan, *Organist & Choirmaster*

Chancel Choir

Henry Frantz, *piper*

† † †

Sanctuary Flowers

The flowers in the sanctuary today are given to the glory of God

and in memory of Anne's grandmother,

Ophelia Scott Elliott Fayssoux,

and Mike's great grandmother,

Isabella M. McKenzie Adams,

through whom we trace our Scottish heritage

by Anne Fayssoux Leaf and Mike Leaf

† † †



Daylight Saving Time Ends Next Week!

Remember to set your clocks back an hour before heading to bed Saturday night, November 4. 'Fall back' for an extra hour of sleep!

† † †

Chancel Choir Christmas Wreath Sale

Look for choir representatives at Wednesday Night Suppers and in the Philips Foyer on Sunday mornings through October 31 to purchase your Christmas wreaths and help support the choir trip to Carnegie Hall in 2025!

† † †

Grief Group & Faith in Real Life Group

Rev. Vernon Gramling leads two wonderful groups at DPC. The Grief Group meets Wednesdays at 5:00 pm in the Session Room and is open to all. Vernon also has lead the two Bible study groups *Faith in Real Life* for years and these are great places to bring your questions and doubts—all are welcome! Currently the groups are meeting virtually on Zoom (Mondays at 7 pm and Wednesdays at 10 am). Vernon always has a fresh perspective and leads a thought provoking discussion. He writes a weekly blog that can be found on our website, just click on the "Adults" tab on the red ribbon on the home page.

† † †

Threshold Ministry Needs

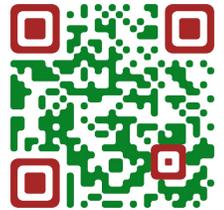
The DPC Threshold Ministry thanks all who contributed to the Coat Drive! They have already given out many of the donations as the weather turned cooler. The need for coats and cold weather items (scarves, hats, gloves) is on-going, so they would appreciate continued donations. Collection bins will be available at the Reception Desk.

† † †

Youth Poinsettia Sale

Use the QR Code to purchase Christmas poinsettias and help support the Youth program at Decatur Presbyterian! White, red, and regular or extra large sizes are available. Help the youth participate in summer trips and enjoy beautiful poinsettias this holiday season!

You may also use this QR Code to donate to the **Christmas Decorations and Music Fund** which funds the beautiful decorations at the church for Christmas and the special music of the season. You may give to the Christmas Decoration & Music Fund in honor or memory of someone and that information will be printed in the Christmas Eve Sunday bulletin.



† † †

Hands on Mission Spotlight: Global Village Project's Welcome Walk

Saturday, November 4 at 10:00 am

Starting at Refuge Coffee, 4170 E. Ponce de Leon Ave., Clarkston, GA 30021

Register at bit.ly/registerWW23

Global Village Project is an accredited, nonprofit middle school that reactivates the education of refugee girls aged 11-18, so they can access the benefits of a holistic education. The girls have been hosted on the upper floor of the McGeachy Building for over a decade. On **November 4**, we GVP will host its Annual Global Village Welcome Walk. We will celebrate and welcome immigrants and refugees to our local community. Global Village Welcome Walk represents our commitment to making this community a refuge - a safe place - for immigrants and refugees to live and thrive.

Founded in 2009, Global Village Project (GVP) has developed a holistic, innovative model to make education accessible, equitable, and empowering for refugee girls who have recently arrived in the U.S. Our unique model is carried out with the dual purpose of both serving the students who attend our school and making a broader social impact in the landscape of educational equity. GVP is more than just a school; it is a project. To learn more about GVP, go to <https://globalvillageproject.org>

Senior Adult Ministry (SAM) Trip to Tutankhamun Exhibit

Join your Senior Adult Ministry group for a trip to the Atlanta Arts Center to see the King Tut exhibit *Tutankhamun: His Tomb and His Treasures* on **Thursday, November 16**. We will leave the DPC parking lot at 9:30 am and arrive to tour the exhibit at 10:30 am. Explore and experience 1,000 replica artefacts crafted in Egypt of the treasures of Tutankhamun and his famous tomb. Items are shown exactly as they were when discovered in 1922 by Howard Carter. A free audio guide is included. After touring the exhibit and enjoying the gift shop, we will head to lunch at the 57th Fighter Group near Peachtree-DeKalb Airport. We expect to return to Decatur by 3:00 pm. Make your reservation online by scanning the QR Code or call the church office at (404) 378-1777 by Monday, Nov. 13.



Cost: Seniors: \$23.90, Adults: \$29.90, Children, \$20.90 payable that day. Invite family & friends!

† † †

Meals for UKirk



UKirk Atlanta is the Presbyterian-affiliated on-campus organization for college students at Emory and Agnes Scott, providing a safe, shared space for students to explore questions of faith and faith formation. UKirk, under Rev. Drew Wilmesherr's leadership, provides an informal worship service and fellowship over a meal at each campus weekly (Sunday, 6:30PM at ASC and Tuesday, 6:30PM at Emory). We would love for DPC members to volunteer with us to provide a meal (or donate via a meal gift card!) to support these young adults' faith experiences throughout the semester. The QR code to sign up for the UKirk Meal Train is to the left. Thank you!

† † †

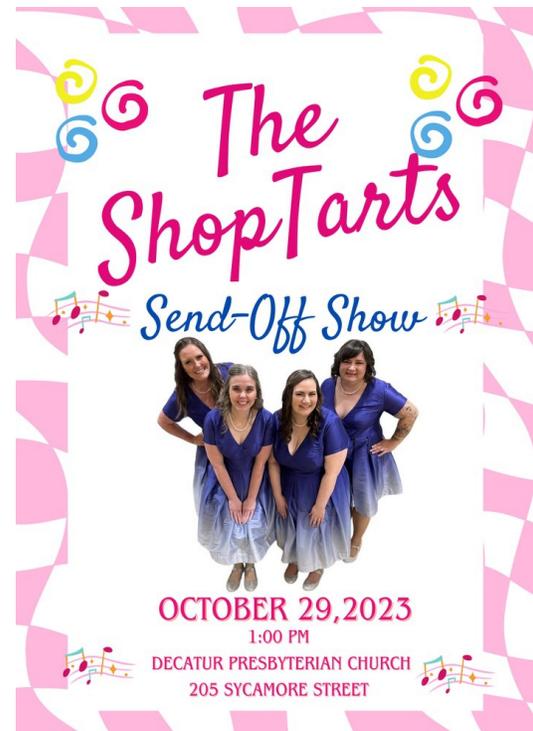
City of Decatur's Anti-Racism Speaker Series

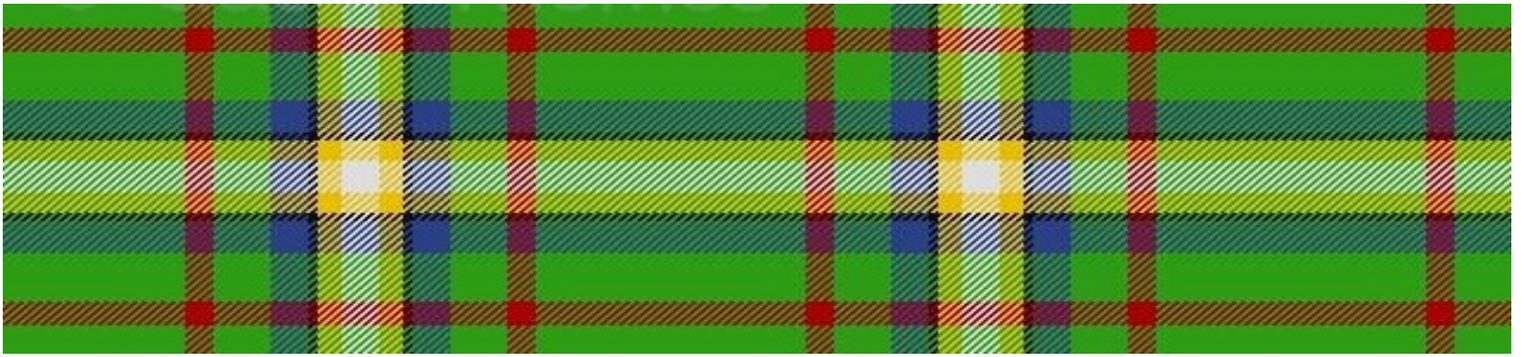
Your DPC Engage Team, in the spirit of being a Matthew 25 Church, encourages you to participate in the City of Decatur's ANTI-RACISM SPEAKER SERIES. The remaining date is November 16 (in person at Decatur Recreation Center). Go to decaturga.com/speakerseries to register and learn about the featured speakers.

† † †

Free Concert Today!

You are invited to join The **ShopTarts Quartet on Sunday, October 29, 2023 at 1:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall**. They will present a short send-off show of the songs they have prepared for the Harmony Incorporated International Barbershop Quartet Competition in Grand Rapids, Michigan in November as well as a few additional numbers for your enjoyment. The ShopTarts Quartet is a women's Barbershop Quartet with members from Metro Atlanta and the Charleston suburbs. The members of the quartet are Decatur Presbyterian Church's own Soprano staff singer Ginny Corradino of Lawrenceville, Georgia on Tenor, Ellen Messer of Vinings, Georgia on Lead, Katy Galvin of Summerville, South Carolina on Baritone, and Meg Westover of Grayson, Georgia on Bass. The ShopTarts Quartet was formed in February of 2023 and went on to win First Place in the Harmony Incorporated Area 6 Quartet Competition in April of 2023. The Barbershop style of music is four-part a capella arrangements sung with tight harmonies. You can look forward to arrangements of the Frank Sinatra classic "That's Life", a lovely ballad arrangement of "If I Give My Heart to You" originally performed by Doris Day, an uptune story about a certain Disney Villain with an affinity for fur coats, and a beautiful, heart-wrenching performance of "She Used to Be Mine" from the Broadway musical Waitress. This sendoff performance is free! A love offering will be accepted, but is not expected. We hope to see you there!





The Decatur Presbyterian Church Tartan

The DPC Tartan is designed with liturgical colors:

Green for Ordinary Time; **Red** for Pentecost; **Blue** for Advent and Lent; **Black** for Ash Wednesday/Good Friday; **White** for Easter and Christmas; **Gold** is for the love of God.

All are welcome to wear the DPC tartan and be included in this family of faith. DPC member Aaron McClennen designed and registered the tartan with the Scottish Registry of Tartans.

† † †

On August 17, 1560, Reformer John Knox and five of his colleagues presented the first Reformed confession of faith written in the English language to the Parliament of Scotland. "The Scots Confession," as it is now known, united all of Scotland in its politics and in the church. From that day on, the nation was united under a Protestant Flag, emblazoned with the Cross of St. Andrew. This was the birth of the Church of Scotland, a church governed by elders, which became the parent of Presbyterian churches around the world.

† † †

The History of Kirkin' o' the Tartan

The ceremony of Kirkin' o' the Tartan is of American origin, though based on Scottish history and legend. After Bonnie Prince Charlie's Scottish forces were defeated by the English at the Battle of Culloden in 1746, Scotland once again came under British rule. To control the Scots, a special act was passed that forbade the carrying of arms and the wearing of kilts, plaid, or any tartan which represented Scottish heritage. Orders were given for British troops to kill upon sight any person dressed in Highland garb or displaying the tartan.

As the Legend Goes . . .

This act prompted the stubborn Scots secretly to carry a piece of their tartan with them as they went to the Kirk. The minister then slipped a blessing (a Kirkin') into the service for the tartans. The prohibition against tartan lasted for nearly 50 years. At the repeal of the act, the Church of Scotland celebrated with a Service of Family Covenant, at which time the tartan of each family was offered as a covenant expression for the Lord's blessing.

The First Kirkin'

The Saint Andrew's Society of Washington, D.C. held the first Kirkin' during the early years of World War II. The late Dr. Peter Marshall, an eloquent Scot, then Chaplain of the U.S. Senate and Pastor of New York Avenue Presbyterian Church, led the service in 1943, choosing "Kirkin' o' the Tartan" for the title of his sermon. He had preached many sermons in support of the British War Relief and the Scottish Clans Evacuation Plan. His sermons were so popular that a request was made for their publication, with the proceeds from the sales designated for war relief programs. As the war continued, the D.C. Saint Andrew's Society continued to hold services of unified prayer for the subjects of the British Isles. These became known as Kirkin's.

The Service

The worship service is of traditional content, using much of the Church of Scotland form. Central to its theme is the presentation of various tartans—through the carrying of flags and the wearing of tartans—for a blessing. Clans provided protection and economic, political, and social support. The tartan is a symbol of love and togetherness. The Kirkin' is intended to encourage all participants to reflect with thanksgiving on their own family and ethnic heritage and to celebrate God's grace poured out for all generations. DPC has created its own tartan to include all who are part of the church community.

The Beadle

A kilted Beadle leads the worship procession carrying the Bible to the front of the sanctuary and the pulpit. Reminiscent of an old custom of the Church of Scotland, this tradition highlights the Bible as the Word of our Lord and the center of our faith. The term beadle comes from the Latin term *bedellus*, a word referring to a messenger or summoner of parties to court, which in this case was the Session. The term *bedellus* was too cumbersome for the Scots, and over time it slid down to beadle.

The Evolution of the Kilt

No doubt the most identifiable garment worn by the Scots is the kilt, regardless of the fabric. The kilt of modern times is made with several yards of tartan, pleated together in the back, left unpleated in the front, and designed like a wrap-around skirt. Kilts used to be made to cover the upper body as well, sometimes including the head.

The Claymore Sword

The Claymore Sword was the mighty weapon of the Scots. It represents earthly power. In today's service, the Claymore is used as a processional cross. Its blade pointed down, and its hilt, in the form of a cross, is held high to the glory of God. We symbolically and ultimately yield our power on earth to the love and peace of Jesus Christ.

....the sword is the Spirit and the word of God. Ephesians 6:17

November
Women's Ministry
Thursday, November 9: Gatherings
 6:30—8:30 pm in Keith Parlor; Dinner & Lesson
Sunday, November 12:
 Meet in Parlor after worship to walk to Raging Burrito for lunch
Tuesday, November 14:
 10 am to 12 pm in Keith Parlor; Lesson & Lunch
 RSVPs for Lunch/Dinner are Appreciated!



Robert Gamble
 Executive Director of *This Child Here*
 Ministry in Ukraine
Will be at DPC
Wednesday, November 29

Robert will speak on his experiences and mission in Ukraine at the *Faithful Living* Bible Study at 5:30 pm in the Parlor Classroom and also at Wednesday Night Supper

This Child Here is a validated ministry in the Presbyterian Church and a U.S. 501c3 at work in Ukraine, Believing children deserve a life grounded in justice, dignity, and peace. thischildhere.org

ADVENT FESTIVAL
 Wednesday, November 29th
 6:30p-7:30p
 DPC Parlor
 Dinner served from 6:15p-7:15p in the Fellowship Hall.

Nov. 29th Advent Festival, 6:30pm-7:30pm in the DPC Parlor
 *Dinner in Fellowship Hall from 6:15pm-7pm
Dec. 17th Live Nativity, 5pm-7pm on the Church Lawn
Christmas Play at 7:13pm in the sanctuary
Christmas Eve
 10:30am Family Worship
 7pm Potluck
 8:30pm Lessons & Carols

CHRISTMAS & ADVENT
at Decatur Pres
www.dpchurch.org

DPC Youth Summer 2024
 June 9-15, Montreat High School
 Open to current 8th-12th graders
 June 23-28, CROSS Mission Trip
 Open to current 6th-12th graders
 July 17 - 21, Montreat Middle School
 Open to current 5th-8th graders
 Sign up now & save \$75
 Discounted cost is \$425
 Regular cost is \$500 per trip, after Jan. 1st



Bible & Music Camp
 JUNE 3RD-7TH
 REGISTRATION OPENS FEB. 2024

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance

On Oct. 7, 2023, Israel suffered its deadliest attack in decades. Hamas-armed militants breached many security sites and launched a barrage of rockets to Israel. More than 1,300 people were killed, at least 3,000 people have been injured and 200 people were taken as hostages. In response, the Israeli government declared both a “state of emergency” and a “state of war,” which has initiated a series of airstrikes on the densely populated Gaza Strip. This offensive has led to the tragic loss of thousands of Palestinian lives, over 50% of them women and children, and over 6,000 injured. The ongoing response from Israel has created a dire humanitarian crisis, with homes, schools, medical facilities and critical infrastructure extensively damaged or destroyed. Access to water and power is a major concern. The impact of this conflict has forced approximately 1 million of Gaza's 2.2 million residents to flee their homes, either out of fear for their lives or due to the ongoing bombardments.

The situation is dreadful. Civilians, including women, children and the elderly, are trapped in a war zone, facing a severe humanitarian crisis. They are enduring unimaginable hardships, and the need for immediate humanitarian relief is paramount. We cannot stand by and watch their plight without taking action. Our partners and other humanitarian organizations are imploring a cease-fire so that medical assistance and humanitarian corridors may be provided for those ordered to leave their homes or forced to flee. Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) joins these voices as we pray for peace and safe passage for those seeking help and fleeing the ongoing chaos. Through PDA, the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) is providing assistance to those most vulnerable and supporting partners in Palestine and Israel who are responding to the needs of neighbors and strangers in their midst, no matter their religious beliefs, political views or nationality. We are called to care for all of God’s children, especially those in war-torn communities, by responding to the urgent needs of those directly affected by the current conflict. pda.pcusa.org

Refer to the card in the hymnal pew pocket for more information on DPC.

Look what's coming up!

Look for more information in our announcement slides and church emails on these events

(If you're not receiving our emails, please contact dhowell@dpchurch.org)

October 29–Kirkin' o' the Tartan Service celebrating the Scottish heritage of the Presbyterian Church; **Scone Competition** and light lunch after worship in the Keith Parlor

October 29–Commitment Sunday

November 4–Global Village Welcome Walk, register to walk at bit.ly/registerWW23

November 5–All Saints' Sunday, remembering those we have lost in the past year

November 29–Advent Festival, DPC Parlor, 6:30–7:30 pm

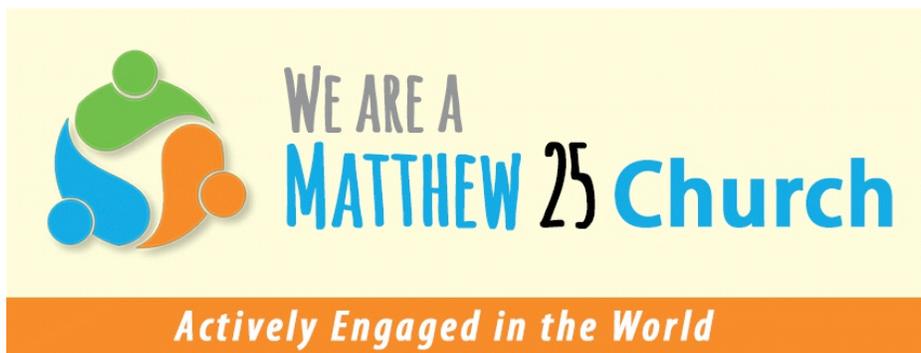
November 29–Robert Gamble of *This Child Here* Mission in Ukraine visits Wednesday 5:30 pm Bible Study & Dinner

Wednesday Night Dinner, Programs, & Fellowship Schedule

5:00 – 6:00 pm	'ReFuel'–Small Group for Parents	3 rd Floor Conference Room
5:00 – 7:30 pm	Nursery (up to 3 yrs)	Nursery, Main Level
5:00 – 5:25 pm	Cricket Children's Choir (3–5 yr olds)	Lower Level, Children's Choir Room
	Kid's Club+ (1 st thru 5 th Grade)	Lower Level, Children's Ministry Room
5:30 – 6:15 pm	Covenant Children's Choir (1 st – 5 th)	Lower Level, Children's Choir Room
	Kid's Club (3 yrs–5 yrs)	Lower Level, Godly Play Room
	<i>Faithful Living</i> Bible Study with Dr. Speed	Parlor Classroom
6:15 – 7:00 pm	Wednesday Night Dinner	Slack Fellowship Hall
6:45 – 7:30 pm	Club 345 (Monthly, 3 rd thru 5 th graders)	Lower Level, Tween Room
7:30 – 9:30 pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal	Lower Level, Chancel Choir Room

A Bold Vision and Invitation:

- **Building Congregational Vitality** by challenging congregations and their members to deepen and energize their faith and grow as joyful leaders and disciples actively engaged with their community, seeing new disciples engaged in ministry and longstanding believers develop in faith as the gospel of Jesus Christ is shared in word and deed.
- **Dismantling Structural Racism** by fearlessly applying our faith to advocate and break down the systems, practices and thinking that underlie discrimination, bias, prejudice and oppression of people of color.
- **Eradicating Systemic Poverty** by acting on our beliefs and working to change laws, policies, plans and structures in our society that perpetuate economic exploitation of people who are poor.



Scan this code with your smart phone to give online!



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