

CHILDREN AND YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL –
Classes meet in the Park Level at 10 a.m.

Class	Teachers
Nursery (8:15 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.)	Certified and professional staff members, supervised by Katie Cashwell
“Where the Wild Things Are” ages 3-5	Doug House, Brian Dewhurst, Sally Davis, Karen Cook, Kay Meek
Lower Elementary ages 5 to 8 years	Marsha Renwanz, Molly Lauer, Mark Sproles, Bridget Sproles
Upper Extravaganza ages 9 to 12 years	Mike Smith, Kathy Doan, David Gillies
High School and “Confirmation Commotion” 7 th - 12 th grade	Chris Rehling, Kevin Guy, Betsy Merritt, Pastor Katie Cashwell

Reminders

Christmas Eve, December 24:
Worship will be held 5:30 and 8 p.m.

December 30:
Worship will be held at 10 a.m.

Adult Sunday School	TODAY 11 a.m., Lincoln Parlor
Immediately following the 10 a.m. worship service, Rev. Gench will hold a Sermon Talk Back in the Lincoln Parlor. The subject is how we, as people of faith, respond to gun violence. All are welcome to join the conversation.	
Adult Sunday School	Sundays, January 6 – February 3 10 a.m., Room 511
“The Universe Is Made of Stories, Not Atoms: Short Stories in the World of Faith” This five-week series will consider short stories that touch in one way or other on the world of faith, stories of doubt, faith, forgiveness, grace, blessing, , sign and symbol. Participants will read each week’s stories and be prepared to discuss them and compare them. Copies of each week’s stories will be distributed in class. Stories for the first week’s class will be available at the desk in the church entryway. Led by Paul Dornan and Gwenn Gebhard. January 6: “The Shape of Faith”	
Adult Sunday School	Sundays, January, February and March 10 a.m., Room 520
"A Chat with Matt: Studying St. Matthew's Gospel" Please join us in this bible survey class to be taught by Samario Anthony of Howard University’s Divinity School.	

EXPECTING THE PRINCE OF PEACE

December 23– Numbers 24:14-17
 December 24– Hosea 2:18-23
 December 25– Isaiah 7:10-17
 December 26– Psalm 147
 December 27– John 1:1-14
 December 28– Luke 2:1-20
 December 29– Matthew 1:18-25

Opportunities for Service

7-2-9 Club - Enjoy a Wednesday evening (yes, from 7 to 9 p.m.), September until June, with guests recovering from mental illness. There are games, entertainment, refreshments and time for making friends. Contact Spence Gibbins, spencergib@aol.com

Community Club - A one-with-one tutoring and mentoring program for DC public and charter school students, primarily in grades 7-12, meets at the church on Thursday nights during the school year. Adult volunteers are needed! If interested, please contact Tom Karr and Shamika Bradley at directors@communityclub.org or go to www.communityclub.org for more information.

Food for the Hungry - Non-perishable food donations are being requested to share with the Capital Area Food Bank, the large nonprofit hunger and nutrition education resource in the Washington metropolitan area. Your donations are welcome in the baskets located at the rear of the Sanctuary.

New York Avenue Foundation - The NYAF mission is to be a catalyst of educational advancement for youth in need throughout Washington, DC. Annually it solicits proposals and awards grants to grassroots non-profits which further that mission. A volunteer Board of Trustees conducts the work of NYAF. If you are interested in learning more or participating in the NYAF mission contact John Courson, ja.courson@yahoo.com or (202) 735-5005.

Radcliffe Room Ministry - Come fellowship with our homeless guests, Sundays, 8:30-10:45 a.m. Activities include hymn singing, refreshments and socializing. Donations of clothing, toiletries and money for transportation are needed. Contact Eleanor Robins, robinsleanor@hotmail.com

The Peace Candle - Visitors are invited to take a prayer candle home to their congregations. Candles are at the rear, right side, of the sanctuary. Please sign the note pad there, so we may know who you are. For more information about the Peace and Justice Committee activities, contact Fritz von Fleckenstein, fritz@alumni.reed.edu

Triangle Park Committee - Working with the National Park Service to ensure maintenance and oversee the flower and plant beds along the church wall, we meet 4-6 times a year, conduct business via email, and schedule work days as needed. Contact Marilyn Seiber, mjs1wan2@bellatlantic.net Beth DuMez, bethdumez@erols.com or Barry Tindall, barrytindall@verizon.net

Ministers:	The Entire Congregation
Pastor:	Roger Joseph Gench, Ph.D.
Interim Pastoral Associate:	Katie Cashwell, M. Div.
Pastoral Associate:	Linda LeSourd Lader, M. Div.
Director of Music:	Stanley P. Engebretson, D.M.A.
Parish Associate for Visitation:	Ann Rose Davie, M. Div.
Director of Planned Giving:	Evelyn S. Ying, J.D.
Parish Associates:	Elizabeth P. Braxton, M. Div., MRE, D. Min J. Gary Campbell, M. Div., M.A. Frances Taylor Gench, M. Div., Ph.D. J. Riley McDonald, M.Div. Judith E. Michaels, D. Min., Ph.D. Glenn Myers, M. Div., M.A.

The New York Avenue Presbyterian Church
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 Telephone: 202-393-3700

"An inclusive and justice seeking church"



Celebration of Worship

The New York Avenue Presbyterian Church
 welcomes all people into community,
 worship, service and leadership.

December 23, 2012
10 a.m.
Fourth Sunday of Advent

The worship service begins with a brief period for personal meditation and the Prelude.

Silent Reflection: When the Holy Child is born into our hearts there is a rain of stars, a rushing of angels, a blaze of candles. God burst into our lives. Love is running through the streets. –Ann Weems, Kneeling in Bethlehem

Prelude “What Child is ‘This’” (Greensleeves)
 Ralph Vaughan Williams
 Kenneth Law, Cello

Introit "Quia fecit mihi magna," from **Magnificat**
 J. S. Bach
 Translation: Because he who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name.
 Nathan Moon, Baritone

***Lincoln Chimes**

I. The Community Gathers for Worship

***The Lighting of Advent Candles and Call to Worship**

Leader: Prepare the way of the Lord. We lit the first three candles in hope, in love, and in joy. Now we light this candle in peace, the peace that Jesus, our Savior, gives to the world.

All: Prepare, then, the way of the Lord.

Leader: God of peace, come to us again this Advent.

All: May Your peace live within us, burning as a light in our lives.

Leader: Let us pray.

All: A candle burns, the fourth marker of our Advent journey. As we continue, may we travel with peace. As we continue, God of journeys, guide our footsteps. Amen.

**all liturgy adapted from Candles & Conifers and The Worship Sourcebook*

Silent Confession

***Opening Hymn** #49 (verses 1-3), “Once in Royal David’s City”
 Irby

Prayer of Confession Creator of light and darkness, we so often chase shadows and fail to walk in the light. We have forgotten how to hope in miracles. We have ignored the promise of Your kingdom. We get distracted by all the busyness of this season. Bright God of Advent, blaze in our darkness. Incinerate our iniquity. Light up our road. Rekindle in us Your justice and love. Amen.

**Please stand, if able*

Silent Confession

*Assurance of Pardon

*Response #49 (verse 4), "Once in Royal David's City"
Irby

And our eyes at last shall see Him, Through His own redeeming love, For that Child so dear and gentle Is our Lord in heaven above; And He leads His children on To the place where He is gone.

*A Brief Statement of Faith (May be found in the back cover of pew Hymnal)

II. The Community Hears the Word of God

First Lesson Micah 5:2-5a, page 815, NRSV
Leader: This is the word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Anthem "Glory to God"
Randall Thompson

Time for Children

Second Lesson Luke 1:39-55, pages 53-54, NRSV
Leader: This is the word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon "Shalom"
Rev. Roger J. Gench

III. The Community Responds to the Word

*Sermon #36, "In the Bleak Midwinter"
Hymn Cranham

Minute for Mission Christmas Joy Offering

Concerns of the Church

Giving of Morning Tithes and Offerings

Offertory "The First Nowell"
Traditional English Carol

*Response #591 "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"
Doxology
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ, all people here below; Praise Holy Spirit evermore; Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

*Prayer of Dedication O Mighty One, You have done and are doing great things for us, and holy is Your name. Bless all we offer You – ourselves, our time, our possessions – that through us Your grace and favor may be made known to all the world, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Redeemer. Amen.

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

*Passing of the Peace

*Sending #37, "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"
Hymn W Żłobie Leży

- 1 Infant holy, Infant lowly, For His bed a cattle stall; Oxen lowing, Little knowing Christ the babe is Lord of all. Swift are winging Angels singing, Noels ringing, Tidings bringing: Christ the babe is Lord of all.
- 2 Flocks were sleeping: Shepherds keeping Vigil till the morning new. Saw the glory, Heard the story, Tidings of a gospel true. Thus rejoicing, Free from sorrow, Praises voicing Greet the morrow: Christ the babe is born for you.

*Commissioning to Ministry and Benediction

*Congregational Alleluia! Amen!

Response

Postlude "Allegro," from Sonata in E Minor
Benedetto Marcello
Kenneth Law, Cello

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The poinsettias are given to the glory of God and in memory and honor of friends and family of the congregation as listed in today's bulletin insert.

Many thanks to the children and teachers of our Preschool Sunday School Class for their creativity and hard work in creating our Advent wreath.

We wish to thank *Kenneth Law and Nathan Moon* for their participation in worship this morning.

Katie Cashwell will be out of the office on December 26 and 27.

Greeters	Jace Han and Edwige Mendouga
Advent Wreath Lighting	Jace Han
Liturgist	Margaret House
Tour Guide	Len Shabman

Preaching Schedule

December 23	Rev. Roger J. Gench
December 30	Katie Cashwell
January 6	Rev. Roger J. Gench
January 13	Rev. Linda LeSourd Lader

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Information for Sunday Visitors

We extend a warm welcome to visitors!

We invite you to sign the guest book at the rear of the Sanctuary.

Garage Parking: Free self-parking is available on Sundays in the garage next to the church at 1399 New York Avenue until 1 p.m. Please park in any non-reserved space.

Radcliffe Room Ministry: Everyone is invited and encouraged to come to the Radcliffe Room on Sunday mornings. This is a vibrant NYAPC ministry and we would love to have you join us: meet our friends for coffee, conversation, bagels and hymn singing.

Restrooms: The Deacons remind members and friends that the restrooms on the fifth floor are available on Sundays mornings.

Infants and children: Babies and toddlers under 4 are welcome in the Park Level nursery. **Care is provided by licensed, paid professionals.** During the services, children's worship aids are available in the rear of the Sanctuary.

Building Tours: To take a tour of our building and learn about this congregation's heritage and current ministry and outreach, meet the tour guide at the front of the Sanctuary immediately following the service.

Large Print Bibles and Large Print Bulletins: Available at the front of the Sanctuary.

When bulletins are waved during worship at NYAPC, it is a sign of appreciation for the music or other contribution to the service. It is an action which we learned from our partner church, the First Presbyterian-Reformed Church of Havana, as an alternative to clapping. For the wavers, it is an expression of joy in the moment and our connections with sisters and brothers in faith.

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