

Please Join Us for the Old Presbyterian Meeting House All-Church Retreat: Friday November 1 – Sunday November 3, 2024

Our lives are often too busy, filled with obligations large and small. We yearn for community and connection with others within our church but may be at a loss on how to foster them. Time for deepening understanding of our faith, and for meaningful conversation and reflection, can seem illusive.

One weekend a year can make a real difference in our lives.



The All-Church Retreat is a time to listen and discuss an engaging topic of our faith in depth. To get to know other Meeting House members in an informal, nurturing setting. To make new friends and visit with those you've known for a while. To enjoy the beauty of nature in the fall Shenandoah Valley. To have fun, with time for all ages to sing and play and laugh with each other.

The OPMH Fall Retreat is for everyone in our congregation: retired, mid-life empty nesters, singles and couples, families with young children or teens, and young adults alike!



- Age-appropriate, stimulating Christian education
- Meals and conversation shared together in the dining hall
- Free afternoon for hiking, reading, front-porch rocking, games, crafts, or napping.
- Saturday evening campfire, smores, singing and square dancing
- Informal, meaningful congregation-led worship on Sunday morning

2024 Adult Educational Program: *Power and Privilege: Our Participation in God's Kingdom Work*

As disciples of Jesus, God calls us to share the good news of the kingdom, and we do so with our worship, mission dollars, prayers and compassion. But we may feel ambiguous about using other critical resources – power, influence and agency – in our participation in God's beloved community.

Together, we will explore Jesus' radical teachings about God's kingdom as they appear in the stories of hospitality (Luke 18:15-17) and generosity (Luke 18:18-30). We will also discuss what we mean by "kingdom" language and discern how the Holy Spirit can guide our use of power and privilege for the good of God's creation.



[continued on next page]



Our Retreat Speaker

The Rev. Dr. Bridgett A. Green is the Vice President of Publishing for Presbyterian Publishing Corporation (PPC) and Editorial Director of Westminster John Knox Press. She guides the editorial development of the nearly 200-year-old Press, including author relations, project approval, development of new series, and relations with seminaries and other academic institutions. Green also assists the rest of the Press executive staff as they re-envision it as an antiracist publisher and organization. Previously, she served as Assistant Professor of New

Testament at Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary in Texas.

Educational and Fun Program for Children and Teens

- Children and youth are led by our wonderful, capable OPMH education staff and volunteers.
- Bible stories combined with fun music, games and crafts for kids.
- Opportunity for participation in Sunday worship.
- Youth group discussions, games and projects.
- Free time for supervised play.
- Loving childcare for the littlest ones with our own OPMH caregivers.



The Setting

Massanetta Springs is a historic camp and conference center on 200 beautiful acres near Harrisonburg, Virginia. For over 100 years, this ministry of the Presbyterian Church has been a place for people to experience God through renewal, discovery and hospitality. It is located about two hours from Alexandria.

We will stay together on the property: the hotel-like **Hubler Lodge** rooms, each with two queen beds and **Richardson Dorm** with jack-and-jill bathrooms between two twin rooms. Handicapped-accessible rooms are available in Hubler.

The Weekend

We arrive early **Friday evening** for dinner and get-to-know-you activities before bed. Educational activities are **Saturday morning and late afternoon**, with time for meals, rest and fun in-between. On **Saturday evening** we share lively inter-generational activities. **Sunday morning** wraps up our classes, followed by worship and lunch together, then travel home.

Reserve Your Place

Participation cost and other information can be found **now** on our website: OPMH.org.

Online registration begins on Rally Day, Sunday, September 8 at 8 AM. Please sign up at OPMH.org no later than Wednesday, October 16. NOTE: *Space in Hubler Lodge is limited.*

Can't register online? Contact Ellen Haas or Vicki Stones in the church office at 703-549-6670.

Need transportation? Contact Martha Gibson, eadg@verizon.net.