

STEEPLE TO PEOPLE



A Letter From The Pastor

REV. EMILY BERMAN D'ANDREA

It's church kick-off time (along with all the other kick-offs going on: football season, start of school, apple picking season . . .)! At PPC we kick-off the program year with the Berger Lecture also known as, "An Evening With Marcus Hummon." Kick-off weekend culminates **Celebrate 60** Summer that's been ongoing since May and jumpstarts **Worship + 1** which will take us to Advent.

Please share the excitement with friends and family as all are invited to the free event on **Saturday, September 9 from 7:00 – 9:00pm** in the church sanctuary. There will be a reception immediately following in the fellowship hall. Former member and Grammy award winner musician, Marcus Hummon will share how he shaped the score to the musical American Prophet (based on the life of Frederick Douglass). He will also sing and play his original music. All ages will enjoy the evening.

Fall worship kick-off will be Sunday, **September 10 at 11:00am** (note the later worship time) when we will highlight *Worship + 1*. You may know that **Worship + 1** means participating in Sunday Worship + 1 activity (serving on a committee, saying yes to a leadership position, or Bible Study, or book group, or mission project, or sharing your musical gifts) to nurture our spirits and serve others = *Caring for ALL with Faith, Hope, & Love* (and a healthy way of being in the world).

As we contemplate the equation, **Worship + 1 = Wholeness** we will feed our bodies on a barbecue lunch, feed our spirits on fellowship with others, feed our need for play at a cake walk & games for all ages, feed our understanding by learning about **+ 1** activities at a ministry fair.

Pray about your active participation in **Worship + 1** at PPC this Fall and kick-off the steps you've been meaning to take toward health & wholeness, and faith, hope & love on September 9 – 10. See you at church!

Faithfully Yours,
Pastor Emily



A Letter From The Associate Pastor

THE REV. CHRIS MCAULIFFE

We can't wait to kick off the program year at the church! There is perhaps no better way to do so than welcoming back former church member and Grammy award winner Marcus Hummon. If you haven't heard him sing, listen to one of my favorites that I listened to growing up: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cQm_YYmWyQc&ab_channel=PhivePhivoSteve.

Marcus will be sharing his musical gifts through song and piano, but he will also talk about composing the music for the American Prophet. It is perhaps Broadway bound, and is a powerful story about Frederick Douglass' life. You will not want to miss the evening with Marcus Hummon on Saturday, September 9 from 7:00pm-9:00pm or worship on Sunday, September 10 at 11:00am when he will share a couple of songs in worship. We hope you will invite friends, family, neighbors, and strangers all to join us!



Berger Lecture
AN EVENING WITH
Marcus Hummon

Potomac
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Book/Music and Lyrics
*American Prophet:
Frederick Douglass in
His Own Words*

**Saturday,
September 9, 2023
7:00pm-9:00pm**

301.299.6007
potomacpresbyterian.org
10301 River Road, Potomac, MD

Grammy winner, and
2019 inductee into
the Nashville
Songwriter's Hall of
Fame.

STAFF

The Rev. Emily Berman D'Andrea
Pastor, Head of Staff

The Rev. Chris McAuliffe
Associate Pastor

Lindsay Chapin
Treasurer

Jeanne Grillo
Office Administrator

James Chhetree
Technology Specialist

Angela Achee
Sunday School Teacher

Fela Huayta
Custodian

LEADERSHIP

[Session/Deacons \(click here\)](#)

A Letter From The Associate Pastor (continued)

September-May Program Year

Worship Potomac PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH +1

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

9:45am Children's Choir <i>Downstairs Classroom</i>	11:15am Children's Sunday School <i>Downstairs Classroom</i>
9:45am Adult Sunday School <i>Library and Zoom</i>	12pm Fellowship <i>Fellowship Hall</i>
11am Worship <i>Sanctuary and live-streamed</i>	5-6:30pm Youth Group <i>Fellowship Hall</i>

September 10 will also be our Fall Kickoff! Worship will switch back to 11:00am and we will be commissioning our various groups and programs as we begin the year. After worship, there will be a barbeque lunch, ministry fair, cake walk, and games for all ages. Get excited to welcome in the new year at the church! Here's a breakdown of all that will be happening Sunday mornings:

Youth Group,

We are pumped for the year ahead and will be doing things a little bit differently this year. We are shifting to a small group model and will have more events and gatherings than in the past. The hope is that we are able to build more connections and stay in better touch throughout the year. Practically, we will still meet Sundays from 5:00pm-6:30pm, but there will be a lot more fun to be had!

James Chhetree and Tera Gabriel will be our Adult Leaders, while Juliette Mamalian, Charlie Trenkamp, JohnPaul D'Andrea, and Harper Smith will be out Youth Leaders!

Our hope is that we all grow closer to God and one another in the year ahead. Here is a full year schedule of what the year ahead will look like, so be sure to put these dates on your calendar:

PPC Youth Calendar

(SEP) 10 KICK OFF SUNDAY WORSHIP AT 11AM	(JAN) 28 PANKCAKE FUNDRAISER 12PM-1:30PM
(SEP) 10 FAITH STORIES SERIES SEPT. 17, 24, OCT 1ST	(FEB) 3 SKI TRIP 9AM-5PM
(SEP) 30 CONFIRMATION RETREAT SEPT. 30 - OCT 1	(FEB) 11 FAITH STORIES 11TH, 18TH, AND 25TH
(OCT) 14 YOUTH RETREAT OCT 14TH & 15TH	(MAR) 9 AMUSEMENT PARK 9AM-7PM
(OCT) 29 PUMPKIN CARVING 5:00-6:30 PM	(APR) 8 DC EVENT 10AM-3PM
(NOV) 4 SERVICE PROJECT 9AM-12PM	(APR) 14 PEER PRESSURE SERIES 14TH, 21ST, AND 28TH
(NOV) 12 EVENT W/ BEAUTIFUL MINDS 5:00-7:00 PM	(MAY) 24 KAYAKING 9AM-3PM
(DEC) 3 GINGERBREAD HOUSE 5:00-6:30 PM	(JUN) 24 VISIT JAMES' STUDIO 10AM-3PM
(DEC) 10 CHRISTMAS TRIVIA BATTLE 5:00-6:30 PM	(JUL) 10 ADVENTURE PARK 9AM-2PM
(DEC) 17 YOUTH PARTY 5:00-6:30 PM	(JUL) 21 LASER TAG 12PM-3PM
(DEC) 18 WINTER BREAK UNTIL JAN. 13TH	(JUL) 28 MISSION TRIP JUL 28TH - AUG 3
(JAN) 14 YOUTH GROUP BACK! 5:00-6:30 PM	(AUG) 12 FAIR EVENT 5PM-10PM
(JAN) 20 CHARLIE'S TOURNAMENT CHURCHILL HS	(AUG) 23 MIDDLE SCHOOL MISSION 9AM-2PM

*DATES & TIMES SUBJECT TO CHANGE

10301 RIVER RD. POTOMAC MD. 20854
CHRIS.MCAULIFFE@POTOMACPRESBYTERIAN.ORG

Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee is Accepting Nominations for Elder and Deacon

The Nominating Committee is receiving names of nominees to serve as Elder and Deacon at the church for a three year term in the class of 2025. Please send the name(s) of those in the congregation who you discern may have the gifts of spiritual leadership and compassion to any of the members of the Nominating Committee for consideration.

Nominating Committee members are:

Cyndy Mamalian, Chair (cyndy@mamalian.com)

Jon Davies, Elder (jonathanrdavies@gmail.com)

Julie McMahon (rmcma44662@aol.com)

Rob Wescott (rwescott@keybridgedc.com)

Deacon Defined Book of Order G2.02

The ministry of deacon as set forth in Scripture is one of compassion, witness, and service, sharing in the redeeming love of Jesus Christ for the poor, the hungry, the sick, the lost, the friendless, the oppressed, those burdened by unjust policies or structures, or anyone in distress. Persons of spiritual character, honest repute, exemplary lives, brotherly and sisterly love, sincere compassion, and sound judgment should be chosen for this ministry.*

Ruling Elder Defined Book of Order G2.03

Congregations should elect persons of wisdom and maturity of faith, having demonstrated skills in leadership and being compassionate in spirit. Ruling elders are so named not because they "lord it over" the congregation (Matt.20:25), but because they are chosen by the congregation to discern and measure its fidelity to the Word of God, and to strengthen and nurture its faith and life. Ruling elders, together with ministers of the Word and Sacrament, exercise leadership, government, spiritual discernment, and discipline and have responsibilities for the life of a congregation as well as the whole church, including ecumenical relationships. When elected by the congregation, they shall serve faithfully as members of the session. When elected as commissioners to higher councils, ruling elders participate and vote with the same authority as ministers of the Word and Sacrament, and they are eligible for any office.*

Director of Music and Organist Search Committee Update

Dear PPC,

Your Director of Music & Organist Search Committee has been hard at work this Summer to select the person God is preparing to lead our community musically. So far, we have met with six candidates for the position on Zoom. All applicants for the position have sent online links for committee members to review before the Zoom interview of their piano, organ, bells, & conducting expertise. We invited three of the six candidates to the church for an in-person audition. The audition consists of:

- A church tour
- A 30-minute choir rehearsal
- Playing piano 15 minutes
- Playing organ 15 minutes
- A candid conversation with committee members

One of the three finalists pulled out at the last minute due to the realization that the DMV was not the location of choice for this person. After meeting the other two in person, the committee realized neither was the right fit.

We are prayerful that we will find the creative musician that will lead us forward for this season of ministry but have not yet gotten there. In the meantime we have one more Zoom interview scheduled. We ask that you share the position description with musicians you think may be right for our church.

Going forward musically in September, Arianna McFeaters who so ably led our Vacation Bible School music has agreed to lead the children's choir until we find the right person. Guest pianist Sean Cavanaugh has agreed to be with us through the month of September. Feelers are out among the Handbell Musicians of America community to see if a bell conductor is looking for a position in Potomac, MD. Please continue to pray for the Music Search Committee. Feel free to reach out to any of us with questions, comments, and thoughts you may have on the subject.

Prayerfully Yours,

Cyndy Mamalian, Chair & Sanctuary Choir Member

Emily Berman D'Andrea, Pastor

Chris McAuliffe, Associate Pastor

Jon Davies, Worship Committee Chair

Linda Knowles, Handbell Choir member

Corey McAuliffe, Sanctuary Choir member, Acapella Singer

Arianna McFeaters, Children's Choir Parent, Preschool Music Teacher, Musician

Charlie Nahabedian, Sanctuary Choir Member

Chinyere Obasi, Children's Choir Parent

[Click here for the job description.](#)



WORSHIP SCHEDULE SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER

September 3, 2023 @10:00am

14th Sunday after Pentecost/Labor Day/Communion

Romans 12:9-21 & Matthew 16:21-28

“Peter the Stumbling Block”

The Rev. Chris McAuliffe

September 10, 2023 – return to 11:00am worship

Kick-Off Sunday with a Picnic after worship & Ministry Fair

15th Sunday after Pentecost

Romans 13:8-14 & Matthew 18:15-20

“Fundamentally it’s About the Fundamentals”

The Rev. Emily Berman D’Andrea

Guest Musician: Marcus Hummon singing & playing

“Bless the Broken Road” & “Stained Glass Love”

Sat. 9/9 from 7-9pm Berger Lecture & reception “An evening with Marcus Hummon”

September 17, 2023

16th Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 50:15-21; Psalm 103: (1-7) 8-13; Romans 14:1-12 & Matthew 18:21-35

“Worship +1: The Need for Community”

The Rev. Chris McAuliffe

September 24, 2023

17th Sunday after Pentecost

Jonah 3:10-4:11; Psalm 145:1-8; Phil.1:21-30 & Matthew 20:1-16

“Living Life Worthily”

The Rev. Emily Berman D’Andrea

OFFICE HOURS

The Church office is open Monday-Thursday from 9am-4pm. We are closed on Friday and Saturday.

CONTACT

10301 River Road, Potomac, MD 20854

www.potomacpresbyterian.org

301-299-6007

SUNDAY SCHEDULE Beginning 9/10

9:45am *Children’s Choir*

9:45am *Adult Sunday School*

11:00am *Worship*

11:15am *Children’s Sunday School*

12:00pm *Fellowship*

5-6:30pm *Youth Group*
(Middle School and High School)

CLICK HERE

To view sermons on our website



October 1, 2023

World Communion Sunday/Peace & Global Witness Offering

Ezek. 18:1-4, 25-32; Psalm 25:1-9; Phil. 2:1-13 & Matthew 21:23-32

“What’s Humility Got to Do With It?”

The Rev. Emily Berman D’Andrea

October 8, 2023

19th Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 5:1-7; Psalm 80:7-15; Phil. 3:4b-14 & Matthew 21:33-46

“What is Most Important in Life?”

The Rev. Chris McAuliffe

October 15, 2023

20th Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 25:1-9; Psalm 23; Phil. 4:1-9 & Matthew 22:1-14

“Worried? Think About These Things”

The Rev. Emily Berman D’Andrea

Stewardship/Generosity Theme “We Are An Offering”

What does it mean to be an offering to God as an individual & as a church?

What does this offering look like and involve?

October 22, 2023

21st Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 45:1-7; Psalm 96:1-9 (10-13); 1 Thess. 1:1-10 & Matthew

22:15-22

“Church & State”

The Rev. Emily Berman D’Andrea

October 29, 2023

22nd Sunday after Pentecost/Reformation Sunday

Lev. 19:1-2, 15-18; Psalm 1; 1 Thess. 2:1-8 & Matthew 22:34-46

“Generous to Our Core”

The Rev. Chris McAuliffe

CLICK HERE

To view sermons on our website

14th Sunday after Pentecost

Peter the Stumbling Block
The Rev. Chris McAuliffe

SEPTEMBER 3, 2023
10 AM

15th Sunday after Pentecost

Fundamentally it's About the Fundamentals
The Rev. Emily Berman D’Andrea

SEPTEMBER 10, 2023
11 AM

16th Sunday after Pentecost

Worship + 1: The Need for Community
The Rev. Chris McAuliffe

SEPTEMBER 17, 2023
11 AM

17th Sunday after Pentecost

Living Life Worthily
The Rev. Emily Berman D’Andrea

SEPTEMBER 24, 2023
11 AM

World Communion Sunday

What’s Humility Got to Do With It?
The Rev. Emily Berman D’Andrea

OCTOBER 1, 2023
11 AM

Worried? Think About These Things
The Rev. Emily Berman D’Andrea

OCTOBER 8, 2023
11 AM

What is Most Important in Life?
The Rev. Chris McAuliffe

OCTOBER 15, 2023
11 AM

Church & State
The Rev. Emily Berman D’Andrea

OCTOBER 22, 2023
11 AM

Reformation Sunday

Generous to Our Core
The Rev. Chris McAuliffe

OCTOBER 29, 2023
11 AM

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL...

Sundays @ 9:45am

Sunday, 9/17/23

What's Gone Wrong with the Global Economy? Why are People Everywhere So Worried?'

Rob Wescott, PhD

Subtitle: Inflation, Recession Risks, War in Ukraine, Frictions with China—But are There Reasons for Hope?

[Click here for a bio of Rob Wescott](#)

Sunday, 9/24/23, 10/1/23, 10/8/23

Gospels & Psalms: Three Common Themes, The Rev. Dr.

David Renwick

[Click here for a bio of David Renwick](#)

Sunday, 10/15/23

**Global Climate Change and the Role of the National Hurricane Center,
John Cangialosi**

Sunday, 10/22/23

Faith and Work in Malawi, Daniel and Esme Chombo

[Esme Chombo is Malawi's ambassador to the United States](#)

Sunday, 10/29/23

Hope, The Rev. MaryAnn McKibben Dana

[Click here for MaryAnn McKibben Dana website](#)



SMALL GROUPS

**Wednesday Bible Study-
resuming September 13,
will study the book of
Exodus. 10-11:30 am
Hybrid/Library**

**Faith, Hope, and
Lunch/Coffee (resuming
week of 9/11)**

- Faith, Hope, and Lunch, in person, Mondays at 12pm
- Faith, Hope, and Coffee, [ZOOM](#), Thursdays at 4pm

Men's Book Club (hybrid)

- 3rd Tuesday of the month at 10:30am

**Presbyterian Association on
Science, Technology, and
the Christian Faith (hybrid)-
once a month on Saturday
morning**

SUNDAY SCHOOL

**Adult Sunday School
(hybrid)**

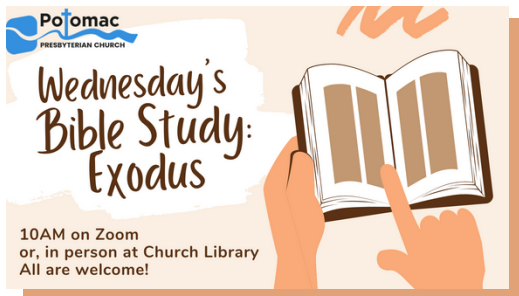
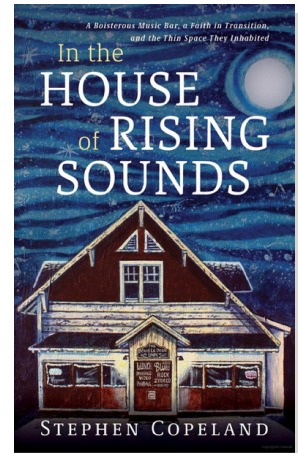
Children (Preschool-5th)

- 10-15 minutes into the service, we will invite children to come to the front pew for a children's message. After this, they are invited to head downstairs for a Sunday School lesson.

**Youth Group (grades 6-12)-
Sundays, 5-6:30pm**

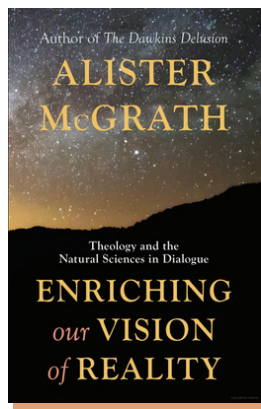
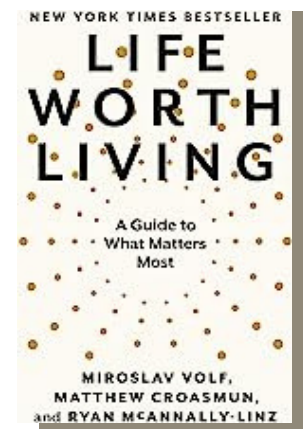
Faith Hope & Lunch, Monday @ noon – will resume weekly meetings on Monday, September 11. Will discuss "The Prologue" & Chapter 1: "That's What Love Can Do" in Stephen Copeland's book *In the House of Rising Sounds*. We will meet on the patio, weather permitting or in the library.

Questions - Cyndy Mamalian (cyndy@mamalian.com)



Bible Study, Wednesday @ 10-11:3 am – will resume on September 13. This fall we will study the book of Exodus led by Pastors Emily Berman D'Andrea and Chris McAuliffe. Open to all!

Faith, Hope, & Coffee, Thursday @ 4pm on Zoom - will resume meetings on Thursday, September 14. discussing the book *Life Worth Living: A Guide to What Matters Most* by Miroslav Volf. All are welcome! Questions, Sonia Russo at soniaarusso@hotmail.com

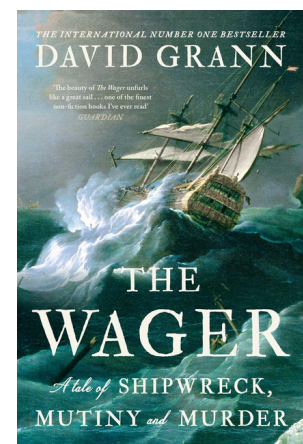
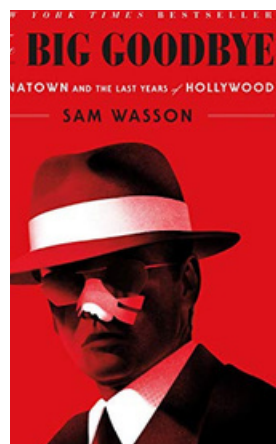


PASTCF, Saturday, 9/16 @ 9am – will resume Monthly hybrid meetings on Saturday, September 16, 9 am discussing the first six chapters in *Enriching our Vision of Reality: Theology and the Natural Sciences in Dialogue* by Alister McGrath. Questions - Bob Stow (bobstow1@mac.com)

Men's Book Group, Tuesdays at 10:30am, Church Library/Zoom

September, 19, 10:30am - *The Big Goodbye: Chinatown and the Last Years of Hollywood* by Sam Wasson

October 17, 2023 – *The Wager: Tale of Shipwreck, Mutiny and Murder*, by David Grann



GIVING GARDEN

We are excited to work with Harvest Share to create a vegetable garden in a nearby property that will provide food to food banks in Montgomery County.

Saturday, September 9 will be a big workday (snacks/beverages) provided!

Harvest Share is asking volunteers to fill out an emergency contact and medical info sheet that they can access on the SignUp Genius to download and print or complete at the garden

The garden is thriving! This is the season for pruning, harvesting, planting cool weather vegetables, spreading woodchips for weed control.

[CLICK THE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED ICON ABOVE TO SIGN UP.](#)



Earth Care Pledge

Peace and justice is God's plan for all creation. The earth and all creation are God's. God calls us to be careful, humble stewards of this earth, and to protect and restore it for its own sake, and for the future use and enjoyment of the human family. As God offers all people the special gift of peace through Jesus Christ, and through Christ reconciles all to God, we are called to deal justly with one another and the earth.

- Our worship and discipleship will celebrate God's grace and glory in creation and declare that God calls us to cherish, protect and restore this earth.
- In education, we will seek learning and teaching opportunities to know and understand the threats to God's creation and the damage already inflicted. We will encourage and support each other in finding ways of keeping and healing the creation in response to God's call to earth-keeping, justice and community.
- Our facilities will be managed, maintained and upgraded in a manner that respects and cherishes all creation, human and non-human, while meeting equitably the needs of all people. In our buildings and on our grounds we will use energy efficiently, conserve resources, and share what we have in abundance so that God's holy creation will be sustainable for all life and future generations.
- Our outreach will encourage public policy and community involvement that protects and restores the vulnerable and degraded earth as well as oppressed and neglected people. We will be mindful that our personal and collective actions can positively or negatively affect our neighborhood, region, nation and world. We will seek to achieve environmental justice through coalitions and ecumenical partnerships.

[CLICK HERE](#)

for more information on the garden on our website

**Pick up your
free reusable
grocery bag on
kick off Sunday
(9/10/2023) and
find out what
SWAG will be in
the bag!**



Small Steps We Can Take To Help The Planet: Reducing Waste

According to the EPA, the most effective way to reduce waste is to not create it in the first place. Save money, conserve natural resources, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by practicing the three R's: reduce, reuse, and recycle.

- Reduce your food waste by shopping smart, buying only what you need, eating leftovers, composting food scraps, and donating unused food to food banks or shelters. Food is the single largest category of material placed in municipal landfills, where it emits methane, a powerful greenhouse gas.
- Think green before you shop. Reduce associated greenhouse gas emissions by thinking about the environmental impact of products. For example, consider a product's durability, sustainability, and ease of recycling when making a purchase.
- Reuse or repurpose items such as old clothing, cloth grocery bags, and containers to cut down on the amount of waste you create in the first place. Find out more ways to reduce your impact.
- Buy used items to reduce waste as well as the emissions created by producing new materials or disposing of them in landfills. Donate your old items to make sure others can reuse them, too!
- Buy products made with recycled content. Check labels to see if a product or its packaging is made from recycled content.
- Know before you throw. Know what items your local recycling program collects and encourage your household to recycle right and recycle more.

Learn about what else you can do at home, at school, at work, and in your community. Go to:

www.epa.gov/recycle/reducing-waste-what-you-can-do

Other Tips

1. **Eat less meat and dairy.** You might be surprised to discover that farming animals is one of the biggest contributors to climate change. Meat and dairy production causes 14.5% of planet-warming gases. Consider meatless meals in your menu planning and when you eat out.
2. **Reduce plastic pollution.** It's impossible to go for a walk without finding plastic waste. Take steps to reduce your plastic consumption. Avoid buying plastic water bottles or food packaged in plastic containers, wrap food in wax paper or store in reusable containers.
3. **Be mindful of travel.** On a personal level, pick the lowest-carbon mode of transportation whenever possible. Air travel packs a big climate punch. If you can, take fewer flights and fly direct. Check out the travel website Kayak for filters that highlight lower-carbon flights.

The Potomac Presbyterian Church Session signed the Earth Care Pledge at the December 2022 Session meeting. Our application to become an Earth Care congregation was approved by the PC(USA) in January 2023.

Earth Care co-chairs John Sohl & Julie McMahon

