



APCE Annual Event 2023
 January 25-28, 2023
 Birmingham, Alabama

Are you tired? Worn out? Walk with me and work with me.
 Learn the unforced rhythms of grace.

www.apcenet.org

APCE Annual Event 2023 Workshops

Workshop Schedule

Thursday, January 26

10:00a.m. – 11:30a.m. Workshop A
 2:00p.m. – 3:30p.m. Workshop B

Friday, January 27

1:30p.m. – 3:00p.m. Workshop C
 3:30p.m. – 5:00p.m. Workshop D
 1:30p.m. – 4:30p.m. Workshop E (Extended and Off-Site)

Workshop Selection Tips

Choose carefully! You will be able to attend only the workshops for which you are registered. Rooms have space limitations, and leaders prepare materials in advance based on actual registration numbers.

It is important to plan for second (and possibly third) choices as some workshops have limited spaces available. As you register, the system will alert you if the workshop is full and prompt you to choose a different workshop.

On Friday, Workshops in the C and D blocks are 1.5-hour workshops; workshops in the E block are 3.0-hour workshops. You may register for one workshop in C and one in D OR one workshop in E.

To continue through the registration process, you must select a workshop in each block. If you choose not to register for a workshop in a block, select “No Workshop.”

Thursday, January 26 – Workshop A

10:00a.m. – 11:30a.m.

401. A Conversation with Pastor Michael Waters

Elizabeth Caldwell and Michael Waters

Come join a conversation with conference preacher, Rev. Dr. Michael Waters. Lib Caldwell will facilitate this conversation with Pastor Michael as he talks with us about why it's important to help our children and youth know about the history of racism in our country and the work we must all be doing. All workshop participants will receive a signed copy of Dr. Waters' book *Liberty's Civil Rights Road Trip*. **Fee: \$11.**

Rev. Dr. Elizabeth F. Caldwell (Lib) is Professor Emerita of Biblical Theology, McCormick Theological Seminary. She is a teacher, author, and quilter. Lib is a Past President of APCE and Educator of the Year in 2004.

Rev. Dr. Michael Waters is founding pastor of Abundant Life AME Church in Dallas, Texas. He is a much sought-after speaker, preacher, and teacher as a civil rights leader, author and minister.

- Faith Formation/Discipleship
- Leadership

402. A Day in the Life

Sherry Bray and Camilla Jones

First Light, this Annual Event's local mission partner, will present "A Day in the Life" of the shelter, capturing moments from intake to meeting with the case worker and eventually moving into housing or the next phase of a guest's life. Information will be presented on the daily work that goes on at the shelter, the history of the agency, its housing programs, and the future of the shelter's operations.

Sherry Bray is the Executive Director of First Light Shelter in Birmingham, Alabama. Sherry received her Bachelor of Social Work Degree from the University of Montevallo. She later received her Master's Degree in Social Work from the University of Alabama Tuscaloosa, and in 2019, she received her Master's Degree in Public Administration. Sherry is also an adjunct professor at the University of Alabama - Birmingham in the Social Work Department. She is married to Arther Bray and has four sons.

Camilla Jones is the Volunteer Coordinator at First Light, Inc. Camila has an enormous task of coordinating all the agency's volunteer needs including ensuring meals and activities are provided and volunteers are scheduled. Her most important role is being the mother of two girls. Spending time with her family is by far her favorite pastime.

- Mission and Social Justice

403. A Time for Innovation in Youth Ministry

PYWA Board Member

As we all continue to discover what youth ministry should be following the events of the past few years, it is critical that we don't approach problems, questions, and needs in the same ways as we have always approached them. This workshop will give an introduction to how we can confidently identify needs, and new approaches to

those needs to better connect with, minister to, and faithfully inspire the young people (and their families) whom we work with. Offered in partnership with PYWA.

- Faith Formation
- Leadership

404. Creative Uses of Photography in Faith Formation

John Johnson

There is a saying that "a picture paints a thousand words." If that saying is true, then how can we utilize photography creatively to help us tell the story of our faith in a variety of faith formation settings? Everyone has a smartphone camera in their hands. Let's learn to use them in creative and faithful ways.

John Johnson has served in leadership roles within APCE for over twenty years and has been using technology and photography in his ministry as long as he can remember! John has served as conference photographer for APCE for many, many years.

- Faith Formation/Discipleship
- Leadership
- Creative Arts

405. Faith Formation Playlists

Kathryn Pittenger

Faith Formation Playlists provide opportunities for on-demand access to content for deepening faith. Playlists are a tool for creative and flexible faith formation with all ages. Learn what playlists are and how they can be used in various ministries and how to curate and design them.

Rev. Kathy Pittenger is the Children's Initiatives Coordinator for the Michigan Conference of The United Methodist Church. Kathy is passionate about equipping, empowering, and encouraging faith formation leaders.

- Faith Formation/Discipleship

406. Foundation Building in Children and Youth Ministry

Jo Nygard Owens

Foundation building is vital for any ministry to thrive, but it's often overlooked or put off. In this workshop, you'll learn the key pieces to include in your foundation for children and/or youth ministry and receive a helpful guide to shoring up the foundation of your ministry.

Jo Nygard Owens is the founder of Vibrant Church Communications where she creates resources to help make ministry both vibrant and easy. Jo lives in Cleveland, Ohio, with her husband and two kids. She is passionate about seeing the holy in all moments and the divine spark ignite in children and youth.

- Faith Formation/Discipleship

407. Google May Not Be Your Friend

JoAnne Sharp

You've been a Sunday school teacher for a few years, but now you are the Educator! Congrats? Now, let's chat

about how Google may not be your friend for resources! Find out how to build your circle of educators, connect in your presbytery, and find trusted resources. PCUSA store.com is your friend! We got you!

JoAnne Sharp, is the Director of Christian Education and Youth Ministries at First Presbyterian Church, Pueblo, Colorado. JoAnne is finishing her Christian Educator certification process. She is passionate about serving the youngest believers.

- Leadership

408. Intergenerational Pathways

Liz Perraud

Explore benefits of gathering generations for worship, study, service, and fellowship. An intergenerational approach to congregational life enhances sense of belonging, creates a welcoming environment, and develops a shared vision. Try out a tool for assessing current ministry and implementing a new direction.

Liz Perraud is Executive Director of GenOn Ministries with over thirty years of experience in Christian faith formation. She contributed "The Art of Christian Relationships" chapter in Holly Catterton Allen's InterGenerate.

- Faith Formation/Discipleship

409. Pathways to Healing Trauma and Empowering Women

Emily Enders Odom, Margaret Mwale, and Eileen Schuhmann

Because of the impact of violence on women, we seek to amplify women's voices and secure their rights. This workshop will explore how to integrate stories of women's empowerment into church programming to help move communities to a place where women can become agents of their own self development.

Rev. Emily Enders Odom graduated from Wellesley College and Union Theological Seminary. She has served as a pastor and hospital chaplain. Emily has ten years of experience in advertising, public relations, and television production.

Margaret Mwale is currently Associate for Community Development and Constituent Relations with the Presbyterian Mission Agency Self-Development of People (SDOP) program. She is excited to bring grantee partners and SDOP together to move people and places out of poverty. Margaret has dual master's degrees in Economics and Education from Eastern Illinois University and a BA in Economics from Bluffton University. Eileen Schuhmann has worked with the Presbyterian Hunger Program (PHP) since 2006. She manages the international grant process and the Together for Justice blog that highlights and amplifies the voices of PHP's international partners. Eileen also creates educational resources on international hunger issues and mobilizes Presbyterians to take action on those issues. She has her BA in International Economics and French from the University of Kentucky and her MA in Sociology from the University of Louisville. Eileen was trained as an organizer for social change at the Midwest Academy in 2010.

- Mission and Social Justice

410. Praying the Life Cycle

Lisa Nichols Hickman

Life Cycle theory helps us pay attention to questions of meaning and purpose across the generations. However, current life cycle theories are outdated. We will envision a new model based on Philippians 4:13 and discover together new options for faith formation through this interactive workshop. **Fee \$5.**

Lisa Nichols Hickman currently serves as an Associate Pastor for Children and Families at Myers Park Presbyterian Church in Charlotte, North Carolina. Her books include: Writing in the Margins, Praying the Alphabet, and The Worshiping Life.

- Faith Formation/Discipleship
- Spirituality

411. Faith Practices: In Community and at Home

Karen DeBoer

During this workshop, we'll explore interactive, intergenerational ideas for engaging people in the faith practices of prayer, wondering, engaging Scripture, celebration (and more!) both in community and at home. We will do so in ways that participants will be able to replicate in their own contexts.

Karen DeBoer writes and develops resources for Faith Formation Ministries (CRCNA) and is the co-host of the Open to Wonder podcast.

- Faith Formation/Discipleship
- Spirituality
- Worship and Music

412. Supporting APCE Members in Anti-Racist Work

Members of APCE's Diversity Task Force

Having challenges using anti-racism resources in your context? This workshop will support leaders in using resources, including books, videos, and podcasts in ways that are empowering and not overwhelming. Members of the Diversity Task Force will share processes to review and contextualize a variety of resources and suggestions for discussion and reflection on diversity, justice, and equity in ministry and mission. Participants will have opportunities to share best practices, offer feedback, and ask questions.

The Diversity Task Force was formed by APCE in 2019 to consider issues of justice and equity in APCE and in faith formation. It presented three panel discussion workshops at the virtual Annual Event in 2020 and a workshop at the Chicago Annual Event in 2022.

- Mission and Social Justice

413. The Future Ain't What It Used to Be

John-Peter Smit

Does it seem as if you are constantly trying harder but getting nowhere? We are in the midst of unimaginable cultural changes that are affecting not only the church but all of society. This workshop explores some of these factors and provides options for faithful, sustainable ministry.

The Rev. Dr. John-Peter Smit is the Regional Minister for Congregational Health for the Synod of Central, Northeastern Ontario and Bermuda. He helps with ministry transitions. John-Peter loves to travel and play with old cars.

- Leadership

414. The Gift of Lament

Fran Shelton and Shelley Craig

Participants will learn the definition of lament and how to incorporate lament in their journey. We will invite participants to create a lament as a spiritual practice in navigating their grief. We will explore the relationship of lament to the Christian experience through Scripture and this tradition.

Rev. Fran Shelton is one of the founders of Faith and Grief Ministries, a Dallas-area ministry whose mission is to provide opportunities for comfort and hope to those who have experienced the death of a loved one. Fran received a Master of Divinity and a Doctor of Divinity from Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary. Her doctoral project was titled "Blessed Are Those Who Mourn: Offering Comfort Through Worship and Theological Reflection."

Shelley Craig is the Program Director for Faith and Grief Ministries. She has a passion for serving others and has experience in non-profit consulting, digital marketing, and corporate training. She has a degree in Communications from the University of Southern Mississippi and a Master's Degree in eLearning from Texas A&M - Commerce.

- Leadership
- Spirituality

415. The Language of Grace

Elizabeth Boulware Landes

In this workshop we will together seek to answer the question: "What does it look like when we live a life that reflects the rhythm of grace and how do we teach and model this for all ages in the church?" Internalizing the rhythm of grace allows us to blur the lines between secular and holy.

Rev. Elizabeth Boulware Landes is Pastor at St. Paul Presbyterian Church in North Richland Hills, Texas. Elizabeth is passionate about sacramental education and exploring how we live this in and out of the church walls.

- Bible and Theology
- Faith Formation/Discipleship
- Spirituality

416. Trauma-Informed Faith Formation

Christy Miller White

Being aware of how trauma affects all our lives is greatly beneficial to general ministry and personal mental health. This is a crash course about the effects of trauma in our world and how we can develop practices of resiliency in our ministries.

Rev. Christy Miller White serves as a coordinator for age group ministries for The United Methodist Church and as a Minister of Children and Families in Michigan. Christy has dedicated her ministry to breaking down the barriers that keep people from God's love.

- Faith Formation/Discipleship

417. Walking Children Through Lament

Shelley Henning

Lament is a big word involving bigger emotions! Helping children express lament allows them to process grief in a natural and healthy way. Using Scripture as a guide, this session will share how we can teach children the art of lament as a way of communicating their feelings to God.

Shelley Henning is the Facilitator for Kidmin for the Reformed Church in America and the co-founder of GrowFamily Faith. Shelley is a published author for RoseKidz and co-author of Mourning Star Grief Curriculum for adults, teens, and children.

- Faith Formation/Discipleship

418. Ten or More Ways to Use Follow Me

Meg Elliott Rift and David Maxwell

Ten? Twenty? Who knows? There are plenty of ways that congregations are using the Follow Me: Biblical Practices for Faithful Living curriculum. Discover how you might use it or add to the ways you now use this curriculum which is for all ages and congregations of various sizes and programs.

Rev. Meg Elliott Rift is the Curriculum Editor at Presbyterian Publishing Corporation. She has written and/or edited PC(USA) curriculum for over twenty years and loves creative endeavors of all kinds.

Rev. David Maxwell is the Vice President for Curriculum and Church Resources with Presbyterian Publishing Corporation and a minister member of Mid-Kentucky Presbytery. He enjoys hiking and craft beer.

- Faith Formation/Discipleship

Thursday, January 26 – Workshop B

2:00p.m. – 3:30p.m.

420. Building and Maintaining Resilience

Kathy Riley and Pat Ashley

This workshop addresses the resilience needs of faith leaders in the midst of the challenges brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic and its aftermath. It will focus on practical ways to support participants' own resilience and tools to support others, including self-care and spiritual practices.

Rev. Kathy Riley is a clinical psychologist and an ordained minister in the PC(USA) who serves as the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Associate for Emotional and Spiritual Care. Kathy has responded to natural and human-caused disasters.

Rev. Pat Ashley is a retired PC(USA) minister and spiritual director. She has been a member of the volunteer National Response Team of Presbyterian Disaster Assistance for over ten years.

- Leadership
- Spirituality

421. Caring with Children

Jen Bluestein

Children need pastoral care. Often, children and their families seek out educators for care in difficult situations. In this workshop, we will identify children's needs for care, learn basic pastoral care skills with children, and prepare to equip other adults to provide care.

Rev. Jen Bluestein, Ph.D., is the Children's Minister and Day School Chaplain at First Presbyterian Church of Dallas, Texas. Prior to this position, Jen served for five years as a chaplain in a pediatric hospital.

- Leadership

422. Meet the Freedom Riders

In the spring of 1961, a small interracial band of “Freedom Riders” set out to challenge discriminatory state laws and local customs that required a separation of the races on buses and in bus station facilities, such as waiting areas, lunch counters, and restrooms. Their journey was dramatically opposed by white supremacists who viciously attacked the Freedom Riders on multiple occasions.

Through the media, the nation and the world witnessed the violence. Images, like that of a firebombed bus burning outside Anniston, Alabama, shocked the American public. Although only thirteen Freedom Riders started the journey, they inspired hundreds of others to join their cause. In the end there were over four hundred Freedom Riders. Come hear their stories directly from a panel of Freedom Riders.

- Mission and Social Justice

423. Dismantling Transactional Ministry

Rev. Emily Norris

Taking seriously the call to be Matthew 25 people, the church has been investing in ministries that feed the hungry, give water to the thirsty, welcome the stranger, clothe the naked, care for the sick, and visit the prisoner for as long as we can remember. However in many cases, after years of good and faithful ministry the church has fallen into transactional rhythms. Historically, these transactional relationships have created inequitable power dynamics, but Christ has called for the dismantling of power. As the church enters into a new season of reformation, the call to shift the paradigm of ministry on the margins is more essential than ever. Join us as we wrestle with the barriers that make change difficult, share stories of the undeniable movement of the Spirit on the margins, and brainstorm ways to initiate sustainable and equitable change in the church.

Rev. Emily Norris was ordained as a Pastor in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) in May of 2020 and serves as the Lead Pastor and Developer of The Dwelling, a community of faith intentionally, but not exclusively, for neighbors who are currently or have lived the experience of homelessness and the often intersecting identities of addiction/recovery, severe and persistent mental illness, incarceration reentry, and/or other marginalized experiences.

- Mission and Social Justice

424. Educational Technology for Expansive Ministry

Rebecca Davis

Educational technologies that support the teaching ministry are now essential for educators and pastors as we lean-into our new normal for nurturing faith. Let's learn tips, tricks, and tools as we become as comfortable with edu-tech as we are with easels, flip charts, and markers.

Rev. Rebecca Davis is Professor of Christian Education at Union Presbyterian Seminary, Charlotte, NC. She is a teaching elder and Certified Christian Educator who intentionally bridges the false divide between theory/theology and the practices of ministry.

- Leadership

425. Embodied Faith

Dr. Lakisha R. Lockhart

In this workshop educators will play, learn, reflect, and encounter the divine through various embodied aesthetic practices. These practices not only help us connect more deeply to our Christian faith, but also revitalize, rejuvenate, and offer wisdom to help sustain us in an ever-changing world. **Fee \$25.**

Rev. Dr. Lakisha R. Lockhart is the Assistant Professor of Christian Education at Union Presbyterian Seminary in Richmond, Virginia. She is a playful womanist scholar who believes in the power of play, movement, and aesthetics in life and theology.

- Spirituality
- Creative Arts

426. Engaging Children and Youth in Matthew 25

Jenna Campbell

Explore a Matthew 25 emphasis for children's and youth ministry. Learn creative ways to engage children and youth in Matthew 25:31-46. Leave with ideas to adapt for your context (and for adults too!) and materials for hosting a Pay It Forward challenge to empower young people as world-changers.

Jenna Campbell is a certified Christian educator serving as the Director of Children and Youth Ministry at First Presbyterian Church in Stillwater, Oklahoma. She is passionate about empowering children and youth to put their faith in action.

- Faith Formation/Discipleship
- Mission and Social Justice

427. Rhythm of Grace: Exploring Lent Resources

Meg Elliott Rift and Katie Snyder

Discover Lent resources for children, youth, and adults through curriculum and books curated by staff from Presbyterian Publishing Corporation. Bring some ideas and practices you have found helpful to share with the group.

Rev. Meg Elliott Rift is the Curriculum Editor at Presbyterian Publishing Corporation. She has written and/or edited PC(USA) curriculum for over twenty years and loves creative endeavors of all kinds.

Katie Snyder is the POINT Coordinator and Curriculum Specialist at Presbyterian Publishing Corporation. Katie is a Certified Christian Educator and lives in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, with her husband, Matt, new daughter, Zoe, and dog, Mia.

- Faith Formation/Discipleship
- Spirituality

428. Got Rhythm Drumming

John Scalici

Drumming connects us with one another, with creation, and with our Creator. John Scalici, musician, artist, and

author, weaves powerful metaphors of leadership and team dynamics into the empowering experience of community drumming. No musical knowledge is necessary. Come and be energized. **Fee \$20.**

John Scalici, award-winning teaching artist, author, internationally recognized facilitator, musician, and a member of the John C. Maxwell Team of certified speakers, coaches, and trainers. His passion lies in empowering others through an interactive rhythm experience.

- Creative Arts

429. Healing Trauma in the Rhythm of Worship & Wonder

Olivia Stewart-Shoemaker and Elaine Austin

We will examine how Worship & Wonder (previously Young Children & Worship) helps us navigate trauma through the gift of story and handle it when a situation arises. We will give you tools to help you use this in your churches, homes, and organizations. **Fee \$5.**

Rev. Olivia Stewart-Shoemaker is a founding member of the Worship & Wonder program and granddaughter of Sonja Stewart, creator of Young Children & Worship. She has served children, youth and their families for the past fifteen years.

Rev. Elaine Austin is a beloved pastor, camp minister, and founding member of Worship & Wonder. She has worked with young and old for over thirty years

- Bible and Theology
- Faith Formation/Discipleship
- Spirituality
- Worship and Music

430. Mission Work Begins Within (Mission Post-Covid)

Christopher D. Williams

This Youth Mission Co workshop aims to reflect on pre-COVID mission trips and offer an alternative version of post-COVID mission. Each participant will leave equipped with tools for future mission work and ready to tackle issues of race, poverty, power, and love.

Christopher D. Williams is the Mission Immersion Director and the Youth Director of Shady Grove Presbyterian Church in Memphis, Tennessee. A Tennessee native, he holds a B.S. in History from Bethel University and a Masters of Arts in Ministry from McCormick Seminary.

- Faith Formation/Discipleship
- Mission and Social Justice

431. Now What?

Marie Coutts

You said "yes" to the call to serve as a Sunday school teacher, but now what? This workshop will explore the call to serve as it takes you beyond preparing the Sunday school lesson. Content will include: teaching broad age groups in one class; creating a learning environment; how to engage the larger congregation with the Sunday school program; classroom management; the importance of ritual; growing support for the Sunday school program; how to make the Scriptures come alive for your students; teaching through the seasons...and more. This workshop will primarily address those who teach K - sixth grade children.

Since 2004, Marie Coutts has served as Director of Christian Education for the Eastern District of the Moravian Church, a staff position covering five states and the District of Columbia. Prior to her current position, she served as Parish Assistant with primary responsibilities in Christian education for a Moravian Church in Ohio, then as an appointed Licensed Lay Pastor for a small rural congregation. Marie and her husband reside in Gnadenhutzen, Ohio, and have three children and eight grandchildren.

- Faith Formation/Discipleship

432. Parent/Guardian Ministry: A Youth Ministry MUST

Rev. Andrew Esqueda

A trap that churches continue to fall into is trying to minister to youth without engaging their parents/guardians. When we don't engage with the parents we miss opportunities to support, educate, encourage, and just get to know the people who are spending the most time with our youth. If we are not supporting the adults in the lives of young people we are not doing all we can to support young people. This workshop will help you create a framework for parent/guardian ministry no matter what your ministry context looks like. Offered in partnership with Presbyterian Youth Workers Association (PYWA).

Rev. Andrew Esqueda is a member of the PYWA Board of Directors and is the Associate Pastor for Family Ministries at Trinity Presbyterian Church in Atlanta, Georgia. He is originally from San Diego, California. He attended Whitworth University, and graduated from Fuller Theological Seminary. He has taken a keen interest in the integration of theology and ministry and exploring what it looks like to do church in a post-Christian world. He is married to Megan, and they have a six-year-old son and an eight-month-old son.

- Leadership

433. Rhythms of Grace through Storytelling

William Wildey

Effective storytelling is an art. Like other forms of art, it can be learned and practiced to be more effective. Stories help us see the world through a different lens. Through a highly participatory style, participants will explore together how storytelling can enhance educational ministry.

William Wildey is the Director of Adult Ministry at Palms Presbyterian Church, Jacksonville, FL. He has a passion for mission and social justice, loves storytelling, and is known for his sense of humor.

- Mission and Social Justice
- Pastoral Skills

434. Empowering Families in Becoming Anti-racist

Members of the APCE Diversity Task Force

This workshop will help congregations, community groups, and anyone who loves children enrich their understanding of systems of oppression, sustain them in the work of becoming anti-racist, and empower the to raise anti-racist children. This workshop will present practical models and share curriculum, literature, and online and digital resources for children, youth, and families with a focus on APCE's Children and Anti-Racism Toolkit. Participants are encouraged to bring resources to share.

The Diversity Task Force was formed by APCE in 2019 to consider issues of justice and equity in APCE and in faith formation. It presented three panel discussion workshops to the virtual Annual Event in 2020 and a workshop at the Chicago Annual Event in 2022.

- Faith Formation/Discipleship
- Mission and Social Justice

435. Sustain the Weary with Words: Writing for Healing

Julie Hester

Your words matter. Whether you're a seasoned wordsmith or think you're "not a writer," this workshop will help you give voice to what's inside, using your words to move towards healing. We'll explore writing as a spiritual practice in an interactive experience that you can use in your faith setting. **Fee \$5.**

Rev. Julie Hester is a pastor and writer in Western North Carolina, specializing in curriculum and faith formation. She leads workshops on writing through grief and writing as a spiritual practice, and she scribbles online at www.juliehester.com.

- Spirituality
- Creative Arts

436. Time with Children 101: Why, How, for Whom

Carol Wehrheim and Corrie Berg

Crafting and telling an engaging and effective children's sermon is a challenge. This workshop will focus on basic skills and best practices, guided by theological principles and solid pedagogy, that lead to creating and delivering a meaningful and memorable message each week.

*Carol Wehrheim is the author of the "Feasting on the Word Children's Sermons, Year A, B, and C" and editor of *Growing in God's Love: A Story Bible* with Lib Caldwell.*

Corrie Berg is the Director of Educational Ministries at Nassau Presbyterian Church, Princeton, New Jersey. She and Carol are regular presenters for the time with children during worship.

- Worship and Music

Friday, January 27 – Workshop C

1:30p.m. – 3:00p.m.

**Choose one workshop from C and one workshop from D
or one workshop from E. You cannot choose from C and E.**

501. "Found Objects" Folk Art Workshop

Scott McQueen

Hungry for an opportunity to feed your creative spirit? Join Scott McQueen, artist in residence at the Kentuck Art Center, in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, for this creative folk art workshop. Using found and recycled objects, you will create a piece of artwork to keep or to gift. Scott invites us to see familiar things in new ways. (All materials provided.) Also offered in block D. **Fee \$35.**

Scott was ordained in the Baptist Church. After his son came out in high school, he revisited the "clobber texts," and he and his wife are both actively engaged in supporting LGBTQ individuals.

- Creative Arts

502. Children's Music and Worship: Bridging the Gap

Megan Higle

Are you looking for ways to encourage participation in a worship setting for the youth of your church? Children and youth have a lot to share within a worship setting, but they need help in finding the language to do so. Through music, we can encourage participation and ownership in a worship setting!

Megan Higle has a Bachelor's Degree in Vocal Performance from Marygrove College and a Master of Music in Choral Conducting from Oakland University. She works as a conductor, educator, and clinician in Michigan. Her passion for teaching children and youth music began in 1999.

- Creative Arts
- Worship and Music

503. Creative Worship Practices

Sandy Safford and Cindy Moorman

This workshop will explore creative worship practices for the commissioned pastor and/or small church leader. It will look at incorporating visual arts into your space and order of worship, dressing the Lord's Table, and using prayer practices and interactive hands-on practices. Participants will learn to create generative practices into their worship experiences.

Sandy Safford has served as Commissioned Pastor and educator for almost ten years in a small congregation in Eastern Colorado. She loves living in Colorado and spending time outside.

Cindy Moorman has served over twenty-five years in faith formation ministry and is a Commissioned-ready Lay Pastor. She lives in Colorado with her family and loves being creative.

- Creative Arts
- Worship and Music

504. Five Simple Steps for New Christian Educators

Suzie Lane

This workshop looks at the who, what, when, where, and, most importantly, why of faith formation. Participants get practical tools for managing day-to-day tasks, discover ways to be connected to other educators, and share ideas for sustaining their energy. This workshop is for both new and experienced educators.

Suzie Lane is the Program Director for GenOn Ministries, where she writes and edits training materials and curriculum. Suzie is retired from over twenty years of Christian education in small and large middle- Tennessee church settings.

- Faith Formation/Discipleship
- Leadership

505. Gather Us In: Intergenerational Worship

Sarah Allen

God has gifted each age and lifestage with a particular vocation. Explore how you can create intentionally intergenerational worship services that honor the unique gifts and vocations of each lifestage. We will draw from research in faith formation, human development, and research on vocation.

Rev. Sarah Allen is the Director for Ministerial Formation and Advanced Studies at Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary. She is a PC(USA) minister and is passionate about intergenerational ministry. Sarah is a mom of three, wife to Cam, and lover of books, ice cream, and hiking.

- Faith Formation/Discipleship
- Spirituality
- Worship and Music

506. Improv with Positively Funny, Inc. (Minimum of 15 participants)

David Grissom

The pandemic took its toll on our sense of community. As we emerge, we need to revisit our communication skills and reimagine how to be community. We need to discover the power of vulnerability. Improv exercises are the perfect cure for those woes. Practice your improvisation skills with David Grissom of Positively Funny, Inc., an improvisation comedy club in Birmingham. Also offered in block D. **Fee \$35.**

David Grissom is the Executive Director of Positively Funny, Inc. in Birmingham. The company was founded on the belief that we can change the world! We believe that bullying, teen suicide and school violence are preventable. Through our sister company, Perform-4A-Purpose, we go into schools and teach acceptance using professionally developed Improv-based curriculum.

- Creative Arts

507. Lifting Up Marginalized Voices with Flyaway Books

Meg Elliot Rift and Katie Snyder

Stories give us words and pictures to see the world bigger than us, different from us, yet with also the commonality of the human story to deepen our vocabulary, broaden our imagination, and offer us a spirit of possibility. Dive into several children's picture books that explore complex topics in approachable ways and discover activities with each book you can use in your ministry. Sponsored by PPC.

Rev. Meg Elliott Rift is the Curriculum Editor at Presbyterian Publishing Corporation. She has written and/or edited PC(U.S.A.) curriculum for over twenty years and loves creative endeavors of all kinds.

Katie Snyder is the POINT Coordinator and Curriculum Specialist at Presbyterian Publishing Corporation. She is a certified Christian educator. Katie lives in Pittsburgh with her husband, Matt, new daughter Zoe, and dog Mia.

- Faith Formation/Discipleship
- Mission and Social Justice

508. Moving from Being an Ally to Being a Co-conspirator

Members of APCE's Diversity Task Force

Often our work in anti-racism is performative. This workshop will enrich participants' understanding of the work of anti-racism and empower them to become co-conspirators instead of mere allies. Co-conspirators speak up and risk action. The workshop will look at taking an activist stance through demonstrations, protests, street level mission, freedom schools, and other similar types of actions. The group will learn from each other and connect through small group discussions and debriefing.

The Diversity Task Force was formed by APCE in 2019 to consider issues of justice and equity in APCE and in faith formation. It presented three panel discussion workshops to the virtual Annual Event in 2020 and a workshop: at the Chicago Annual Event in 2022.

- Mission and Social Justice
- Leadership

509. Planning Your Last Party: End-of-Life Celebrations

Doreen Sterba DeZur

This workshop provides staff/leaders an outline for leading the congregation in decisions around end of life and discerning how each individual might want to be honored or remembered after their passing. Suggestions are offered for discussion to be held around medical and spiritual topics and the peace these offer to all.

Rev. Doreen Sterba DeZur serves as chaplain for Plymouth Place Senior Living where she walks with persons of all spiritual dimensions and faith traditions on the journeys in their retirement years. Pastoral care of seniors is rewarding work for her.

- Spirituality
- Leadership

510. PW Bible Study: Sacred Encounters with Jesus

Betsy Ensign-George and Olive Mahabir

With a radical, inclusive, and hope-filled message to his community, Luke highlights the universal scope of Jesus' message and the inclusivity of God's love and salvation. Participants will explore the grace-filled theme of the 2023–2024 PW/Horizons Bible study in Bible study with the author.

Betsy Ensign-George is associate editor on the staff of Presbyterian Women in the PC(USA), Inc. Author Rev. Olive Mahabir is Associate Pastor for Adult Spiritual Growth and Pastoral Care, Northminster Presbyterian Church, Roswell, Georgia.

- Bible and Theology
- Faith Formation/Discipleship

511. Sustainable Compassion: A Retreat for Caregivers

John Pavlovitz

To be compassionate is to bleed, to feel deeply for the damage around you and to be moved to respond to it. This is a beautiful and invaluable instinct, but it is costly too. There is a toll the trauma of the world takes on us when we seek to step into that dangerous space and to work for healing and justice. In days when so much need is at our doorsteps and on our news feeds, how do we attend to it all without becoming overwhelmed and consumed by it? How can we cultivate hope when it is hard to come by? Join pastor and author John Pavlovitz for a time of authentic conversation on how to be safely burdened with the pain of this world and what to do when you've exhausted your resources.

John Pavlovitz is a writer, pastor, and activist from Wake Forest, North Carolina. Over the past six years his blog, Stuff That Needs To Be Said, has reached a diverse worldwide audience, recently passing the one hundred million views mark. A twenty-five-year veteran in the trenches of local church ministry, John is committed to equality, diversity, and justice - both inside and outside of faith communities.

- Leadership
- Spirituality

512. The Grace of Story

Elizabeth Caldwell and Carol Wehrheim

The rhythm of reading the Bible is nourishing for people of all ages. The practice of reading the Bible with children and engaging biblical stories in ways that invite children to want to know more is a graceful act. Come engage stories and learn how contemporary biblical scholarship is made available to children.

Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Caldwell is an author, teacher, quilter, and gardener. Her most recent books are Wondering about the Bible with Children, and God's Big Plan with Theodore Hiebert. She has been APCE Educator of the Year and President.

Carol Wehrheim is an active member and elder at Nassau Presbyterian Church where she is a storyteller for children in worship. She is an author, curriculum writer and editor, educator, and long time member of APCE.

- Bible and Theology
- Faith Formation/Discipleship
- Spirituality

513. Unforced and Grace Filled Social Justice Ministry

Michele Holifield and Katy Allen

This workshop will focus on how a congregation created and sustains Stone Catchers, its social justice ministry. Learn the history of the ministry, ideas on selecting issues, resources for organizing a similar ministry, and challenges this congregation faced. Come see how you can provide an avenue to empower all to speak the truth and act in love.

Michele Holifield and Katy Allen created and sustains Stone Catchers - the social justice ministry at First Presbyterian Church Arlington Heights, Illinois. They created this ministry as an avenue for education and advocacy for all in the congregation.

- Mission and Social Justice

Friday, January 27 – Workshop D

3:30p.m. – 5:00p.m.

**Choose one workshop from C and one workshop from D
or one workshop from E. You cannot choose from D and E.**

514. "Found Objects" Folk Art Workshop (Minimum of 20 participants)

Scott McQueen

Hungry for an opportunity to feed your creative spirit? Join Scott McQueen, artist in residence at the Kentuck Art Center, in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, for this creative folk art workshop. Using found and recycled objects, you will create a piece of artwork to keep or to gift. Scott invites us to see familiar things in new ways. (All materials provided.) Also offered in block C. **Fee \$35.**

Scott was ordained in the Baptist Church. After his son came out in high school, he revisited the "clobber texts," and he and his wife are both actively engaged in supporting LGBTQ individuals.

- Creative Arts

515. A Faith of Their Own: Theology and Youth Ministry

Nathan Wheeler

In this workshop you will learn more about the need to expand theology in youth ministry. Participants will examine something called DRAFT and how non-DRAFT theologies such process, liberation, feminist, and radical theology, can help guide young people to a faith of their own.

Nathan Wheeler serves as the Coordinator of Youth and Young Adult Ministries for the Discipleship Ministry Team of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. Nathan lives in Memphis, Tennessee with his wife Marissa and dog Lucky.

- Bible and Theology
- Faith Formation/Discipleship
- Leadership

517. Creating an Intergenerational Mentoring Culture

Lesli van Milligen

We will explore strategies for creating an intergenerational mentoring culture that goes beyond program to create organic, life-giving congregational communities where coaching and mentoring engagement becomes a way of being and a blessing for for all ages. We will talk about how to look at participants' own church cultures and why creating a culture of mentoring is more sustainable than a programmatic approach. Finally, we will look at the particular needs of Gen Z and emerging adults, as well as those who are in the third third of their faith journey, and how mentoring supports the spiritual needs of both these groups.

Lesli van Milligen is Faith Formation Ministries Christian Reformed Church Regional Catalyzer. She has been in ordained ministry for over 25 years. Lesli is passionate about supporting emerging leaders through mentoring and leadership training.

- Faith Formation/Discipleship

518. From Programmed Church to Connectional Church

Karen Hammond

Participants will be invited to consider change for the church. We'll focus on moving from a programmed church to a church focused on encouraging and fostering authentic relationships among all ages. Participants will have the opportunity to listen and share so that they learn from one other.

Karen Hammond is the Director of Faith Formation at Westminster Presbyterian Church in West Hartford, Connecticut. Her background in elementary education has grown into a passion for intergenerational faith formation. She loves idea sharing!

- Faith Formation/Discipleship
- Leadership

519. Holy Rhythms for Overwhelmed Souls

April Fiet

Are you weary, longing to embrace the sacred in your everyday life? God is inviting each of us to slow down and embrace holy rhythms that refresh and restore. This workshop is an opportunity to explore the rhythms of rest, grief, and friendship (among others) and join in with the dance of God.

Rev. April Fiet is co-pastor of First Presbyterian Church in Scottsbluff, Nebraska, and author of the book *The Sacred Pulse: Holy Rhythms for Overwhelmed Souls*. She delights in pastoring, parenting, and feeding her backyard chickens.

- Faith Formation/Discipleship
- Spirituality

520. Improv with Positively Funny, Inc. (Minimum of 15 participants)

David Grissom

The pandemic took its toll on our sense of community. As we emerge, we need to revisit our communication skills and reimagine how to be community. We need to discover the power of vulnerability. Improv exercises are the perfect cure for those woes. Practice your improvisation skills with David Grissom of Positively Funny, Inc., an improvisation comedy club in Birmingham. Also offered in block C. **Fee \$35.**

David is the Executive Director of Positively Funny, Inc. in Birmingham. The company was founded on the belief that we can change the world! We believe that bullying, teen suicide and school violence are preventable. Through our sister company, Perform-4A-Purpose, we go into schools and teach acceptance using professionally developed Improv-based curriculum.

- Creative Art

521. Preparing for and Responding to Human-Caused Disasters

James Kirk and Laurie Kraus

Violence changes everything, and it requires different skills from responding to natural disasters. Participants will learn definitions and guidelines for human-caused disasters. In addition, participants will be able to bring their learnings directly to their ministry context.

Rev. Jim Kirk is an ordained minister in the (PCUSA) and Associate for Disaster Response for Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA). Jim is a Certified Compassion Fatigue Professional and has responded to natural and public violence disasters.

The Rev. Dr. Laurie Ann Kraus directs Presbyterian Disaster Assistance and is a Certified Compassion Fatigue Professional. She is a co-developer of PDA's emerging Public Violence and Mass Casualty response ministry and curriculum.

- Bible and Theology

522. Soap-making (Minimum of 30 participants)

Soapy Jones

Sometimes we just need to get messy...but what if you could get clean while getting messy? Join Soapy Jones, founder and owner of Left Hand Soap Co., to learn the process of soap-making and create your own fragrant bar to take home with you. Imagine the possibilities for your church or non-profit!

Fee \$20.

Soapy Jones is the founder and owner of Left Hand Soap Co., proudly keeping Birmingham clean since 1999.

- Creative Art

523. Stitched: Handsewing as Meditation and Metaphor

Lynn Miller

Handsewing is artistic expression and a metaphor for healing and reconciliation. Through hands-on practice (embroidery, cross-stitch, smocking, etc.), Bible study, and conversation, we'll explore techniques for individual projects and brainstorm group applications. No experience is needed. **Fee \$10.**

Lynn Miller holds degrees in art and art history as well as theology. She works at the intersection of art, education, and faith. She is the author of "Into the Light: Finding Hope Through Prayers of Lament."

- Bible and Theology
- Spirituality
- Creative Arts

524. The Best Lessons We Learned from Children's Books

Anne Wilson

Join us for a fast-paced, highly interactive workshop! Bring your favorite children's book, share how you have used it in your ministry, and then be willing to give it away! We'll all leave with a different book to use in a new way! Extra credit for books that focus on racial equity!!

Anne is a seasoned educator having served three different churches in Houston, Texas in the area of Children and Family Ministry. She is a Past President of APCE and the 2017 Life Achievement Award winner.

- Faith Formation/Discipleship
- Mission and Social Justice

525. What to Do When the Kids Are Few

Tori Smit

Many of our churches have ten or fewer children and struggle as they try to use programs designed for hundreds of kids. It's not working! Together we will consider six best practices for ministry with few children that take the emphasis off Sunday school and place responsibility with the whole church.

Tori Smit serves as Regional Minister for Faith Formation with the Presbyterian Church of Canada (PCC). She has written a broad variety of curriculum, keynoted and led workshops across North America, and taught at CTS, Emmanuel and Knox Colleges. She's a committed Louise Penny fan.

- Faith Formation/Discipleship
- Leadership

526. Opening Doors to Discipleship

Rebecca Guzman and Jessie Kuehner

Have your teachers been the victims of a Google search about Reformed theology? Do you struggle with helping your leaders understand basic educational principles? Do you need a quick refresher yourself? Come see how we are Opening Doors to Discipleship with many options that require 10 minutes or less.

Rebecca Guzman is the Director of Spiritual Formation at South Mecklenburg Presbyterian Church in Charlotte, North Carolina. She also serves as the Opening Doors to Discipleship liaison to the APCE Communications and Resource Ministry Team.

Jessie Kuehner is Family Ministry Director at First Presbyterian Church in Pearland, Texas. She has been a Youth Director and Christian Education Director in churches for ten+ years and is working towards educator certification in the PC(USA).

- Faith Formation/Discipleship
- Leadership

Friday, January 27 – Workshop E

1:30p.m. – 4:30p.m.

Extended 3-Hour and Off-Site

Choose one workshop from E. You cannot choose from E and C or D.

527. A Practical Guide to the Enneagram for Ministry

Beth Mueller

This workshop presents a guide to using the Enneagram to enhance your ministry! Come explore practical applications of the Enneagram for church workers of every kind!

Beth Mueller serves Shepherd of the Hills Presbyterian Church in Austin, Texas, as the Senior Director of Worship Arts and the resident Enneagram Instructor. Beth is the author of The Practical Guide to the Enneagram.

- Leadership

528. Adolescent Mental Health and Youth Ministry

Brian Kuhn

There is a mental health crisis among adolescents, and our churches and youth groups are not immune. How, as adults in the lives of young people, do we better understand those mental health needs, have resources to offer support, and meet young people where they are when they enter our spaces? We'll examine all those questions in order to better prepare for what young people are carrying with them. Offered in partnership with PYWA.

Brian Kuhn has worked with adolescents, young adults, parents, and others for over twenty years in a number of different settings (youth ministry, clinical work, suicide awareness education) and prides himself on understanding the unique aspects of life that can lead to struggles, pain, joys, and celebrations. He has discovered that, although the stigma around mental health has decreased, it has not disappeared, and the need to educate and reach out to young people and families is crucial. Brian is a former youth minister and the former Executive Director of the Presbyterian Youth Workers Association. Currently, Brian is the Director of the Student Wellness Program at Care and Counseling in St. Louis, Missouri, and continues to work with adolescents in the clinical setting.

- Faith Formation/Discipleship
- Leadership

529. At the River

Carolyn Crowder

At the River: Grace and Struggle in the Segregated South is a documentary film about the bravery of some Presbyterian ministers during the civil rights era and the price they paid for taking stands during this dangerous time in the South. For more information and to view the trailer go to: attheriverfilm.com. This workshop includes a screening of the film followed by discussion with the creator of the documentary.

*Carolyn Crowder is a retired psychologist who received her Ph.D. at the University of Arizona. She moved back to the South and began working on her film, *At the River*, about Presbyterian ministers who took stands during the civil rights era.*

- Bible and Theology
- Mission and Social Justice
- Leadership

530. Bible Journaling as Spiritual Practice

M-J Junkin

Bible journaling is a fun hobby in which folks use a variety of art mediums to create pictures in their Bibles (or journals) to represent a story or passage. This workshop will introduce Bible journaling, show how it can be a spiritual practice, and offer a hands-on sample to get started.

M-J Junkin, Certified Christian Educator and Spiritual Director, has served the Church for more than thirty years. She completed her certification as a Spiritual Director in 2018. M-J lives in Plano, Texas where she serves on the Spiritual Ministries Institute Board.

- Spirituality
- Creative Arts

531. Birmingham Civil Rights Institute and 16th Street Baptist Church Tour

The Birmingham Civil Rights Institute, part of the Birmingham Civil Rights National Monument and an affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution, is a cultural and educational research center that promotes a comprehensive understanding for the significance of civil rights developments in Birmingham.

Sunday, September 15, 1963, at 10:22 a.m., 16th Street Baptist Church became known around the world when a bomb exploded, killing four young girls attending Sunday school and injuring more than twenty other members of the congregation. Tour includes both of these historic and significant sites and transportation. **Fee \$30.**

- Mission and Social Justice

532. Birmingham Museum of Art Tour

Founded in 1951, the Birmingham Museum of Art, one of the finest regional museums in the United States, houses a diverse collection of more than 27,000 paintings, sculpture, prints, drawings, and decorative arts dating from ancient to modern times. The collection presents a rich panorama of cultures, featuring the museum's extensive holdings of Asian, European, American, African, Pre-Columbian, and Native American art. This is a self-guided tour; the museum is within walking distance of the Birmingham Jefferson Convention Center (BJCC).

- Creative Arts

533. Crowded Tables: Building Ministries of Belonging

Sarah Leer

Do you want to create spaces of belonging? Do you want to go beyond inclusion to radically transform the places and people you serve? Sarah will share practical ways to break open your ministry context and model solidarity with and for LBGTQIA+ youth and young adults.

Sarah Leer (she/her) is a practical theologian, youth worker, and leader who is living into her call to deconstruct systems and disrupt the status quo in order to seek liberation, justice, and belonging in solidarity with those living on the margins.

- Bible and Theology,
- Faith Formation/Discipleship

534. Psalms for the Journey -- A Mini-Retreat

Roberta Dodds-Ingersoll

Using resources from the Psalter, Frederick Buechner, Walter Brueggemann, and Ann Weems, participants will travel over a variety of paths as our memory of past experiences and our hope for new ones guide us. This is a retreat for you, but will also be one that you can take home to share with others.

Rev. Roberta Dodds-Ingersoll is a retired PC(USA) teaching elder and Certified Christian Educator having served on APCE's Annual Events Ministry Team from 2015 - 2022.

- Bible and Theology
- Spirituality

535. Teaching for Understanding and Engagement

Rebecca Davis

Teaching in the church has changed little in the last seventy years. This hands-on practicum explores a new approach that shapes identity, nurtures meaning-making, and engenders faithful living in the world through transformative pedagogy and propositional curriculum so that our lives embody our faith.

Rev. Rebecca Davis is a professor of Christian Education at Union Presbyterian Seminary, Charlotte, North Carolina. She is a teaching elder and certified Christian Educator who intentionally bridges the false divide between theory/theology and the practices of ministry.

- Faith Formation/Discipleship