

Leadership Development Conference – Workshop Descriptions

Workshop Group A – Friday Evening, 8:00 pm

1 Creative Worship Design – Part 1,

Mary Beene, Pastor, Faith PC (Part 2 required in Workshop Group D) - Worship leaders often find themselves simply running through a checklist of things they are supposed to do on Sunday morning. How can we instead intentionally create a space and a time for worshippers to experience God's presence in praise, Scripture and prayer? Join this workshop team and design the LDC worship experience, starting with Bible study and culminating in hands on leadership participation in our own creative worship service. Participants must be able to commit to both workshop slots and worship on Saturday afternoon.

2 What Young Adults Wish We

Knew, Lynette Hawkins, Awesome Insight - Is your congregation seeking to reach younger families and young adults? Discover 10 things young adults wish we understood about them as the church seeks to be even more faithful to the Great Commission.

3 Practical, Easy Use of Technology

for Ministry, Don Dilley, Pastor, Butler PC - Would your church like to use technology to enhance your ministry to your congregation and neighborhood? This class will demonstrate simple to use and inexpensive ways to add to your church's message. Items covered will include: Bulletin Preparation, Bible Classes, Multimedia Sermons, Open Source software, and Conference calls.

4 Engaging the New Normal, David

Loleng, Associate for Evangelism for the PC (USA) General Assembly Mission Council - "What is God up to?" How can we authentically share the Gospel, the good news about Jesus Christ, in an increasingly post-Christian and postmodern culture? We will learn how evangelism needs to shift from being like "telemarketers" to being like "good neighbors".

5 The High Calling of Ruling Elders,

Greg Gillispie, pastor, Richmond Hill PC — This leadership workshop is designed specifically for ruling elders, discussing their calling to leadership in the church, including practical "how to" information on the responsibilities of the session as well as leadership in typical and in unique situations.

6 It's Not About the "Stuff":

Designing your own VBS Curriculum,

Eric Beene and Cheryl Slusser, White Bluff PC - Packaged Vacation Bible School Curricula are so expensive, often theologically weak, and rarely meet your church's exact needs. White Bluff PC has been writing their own curriculum for three years, designing each year's theme and lessons around the resources and skills available at the church. Find out how you can save money AND provide a richer VBS experience for everyone.

7 Hymnology 8.6.8.6.: Breaking the Code for "Just Regular Folks," Julia

Pratt, Elder, Faith PC - You sing the hymns each week, but maybe you'd like to know what "all that stuff at the bottom of the hymnal page" signifies. (It's NOT rocket science, and it IS interesting!) After we experiment with a little metrical tune-swapping, we'll explore parts of the hymnal that many people overlook. The workshop will also cover a couple of tricky music symbols, and touch on the background stories of some favorite tunes and lyrics. We'll conclude the session by singing some favorites, because "when you sing, you pray twice."

8 What is the relationship between God's word in the Bible and the

Presbyterian Women? Janet Ward,

Moderator, Presbyterian Women, Savannah

Presbytery - God speaks to us in many different ways, we just have to listen and carry out his instructions. The Bible gives us directions to live our lives for God. As women, we stay so busy. We carry such a long list of duties in our everyday life, we put our spirituality on hold for so many reasons. God has spoken to Presbyterian Women. PW has been listening. We are responding to his commands. We are reaching out in every way possible to honor God. Every woman can engage in her spirituality and be the best Presbyterian woman possible. Come and expand your knowledge of God's instruction to Presbyterian Women and become a Disciple of God.

9 Planning and Organizing a Mission Trip for Your Church, members of the

Mission Ministry Team of Savannah Presbytery -

No two mission trips look alike. How will you decide the many details about what God is calling you to do? Consider these important issues of the who, what, where, when, and how. Each step in the planning process is vital to any successful trip.

Leadership Development Conference – Workshop Descriptions

Workshop Group B – Saturday Morning, 9:45 AM

10 O Come, Let Us Worship God! –

Part 1, Ed Ayers, Don Dilley, Greg Gillispie & Stephen Williams, pastors, Savannah Presbytery (Part 2 offered in Workshop Group C) - This two-part seminar will explore the elements of Presbyterian worship. Historic orders of worship by the Reformers John Calvin and Ulrich Zwingli will be contrasted with today's traditional and contemporary forms. Session one will discuss the role of sermon and sacraments; Session two will discuss prayer and music. Many practical suggestions will expand participant's understanding of worship. The course will be taught by a group of ministers who have been meeting monthly for the past year to study worship in the Reformed tradition.

11 Can We Talk at the Roundtable?

Lynette Hawkins, Awesome Insight - What challenges your congregation most when it comes to reaching out and welcoming the unchurched? Bring your questions on what your ministry may need to know to be more effective in communication and creating a welcoming place. This discussion provides opportunity to talk about real situations that may be a barrier to effectively reaching out, welcoming and keeping the community.

12 We Have a Story to Share, David

Loleng, Associate for Evangelism for the PC (USA) General Assembly Mission Council - Each one of us has a unique faith story that we can share with others. In this workshop we will learn how to articulate God's story to an increasingly changing culture and also how to become great storytellers when talking about our own faith journey.

13 Putting a New Face on Sunday

School, Marilyn Johns, Union Presbyterian Seminary - Every once in awhile we all need a make-over to feel more attractive and special, and give our self-image a boost. Sunday School is no exception! We will look at ways of promoting your church school for children and adults, and ways of making church education for all ages achieve the goals your congregation has set for it. Come and get started on your "extreme makeover!"

14 Only a Few Kids? No Choir Director? Let's Make Music Anyway!

Julia Pratt, Elder, Faith PC - Come for group discussion time to share ideas and experiences for promoting children's music when your church has a small population and limited choir-power. What's the purpose of incorporating children's music in church? Beyond choir, what are some meaningful reasons and ways for children to learn and share music with the rest of the congregation? We may even borrow the children from LDC Childcare and try out a few ideas during the workshop.

15 Being There, Craig Pope, Pastor,

Montgomery PC - Sometimes it is hard to know what to do, or say, to someone in our church who has just lost a loved one, or is in the midst of a terminal illness, or is just going through a difficult time. In this workshop we will discuss some ways that we can "be there" for people when they need us. Topics to be covered: hospital visits, home visits, funeral/visitation, how to be fully present ("listening"), and general day-to-day situations.

16 nFOG, A Reality Show, Russell

Gladding, Charles Webb and others, Savannah Presbytery - What do we do to fill in between the lines of our new Book of Order? This will be a practical class in what is required of our Sessions in preparing manuals and by-laws for your church that the PCUSA Constitution no longer includes. Clerks of Session, Pastors, and others tasked with developing these will find varied ways in which other churches are dealing with this foggy matter.

17 Book Discussion: Brian McLaren's

A New Kind of Christianity – Part 1, Dan Lewis, Pastor, First PC – Statesboro (Part 2 offered in Workshop Group C) - Friends, the world seems to be changing these days at a pace almost unthinkable a generation ago. If the church is to witness to the timeless love of God in these turbulent times, then it must find faithful ways of changing as well. Brian McLaren proposes questions - deep and faithful questions - as a starting point for the change God would make in the church. Come to discuss these questions and to offer some preliminary responses (rather than hard and fast answers), based on life in your own congregations. Please note: our discussion will be infinitely more rich and valuable if participants have read McLaren's book before we begin.

Leadership Development Conference – Workshop Descriptions

Workshop Group C – Saturday Morning, 11:00 AM

18 O Come, Let Us Worship God! – Part 2, Ed Ayers, Don Dilley, Greg Gillispie & Stephen Williams, pastors, Savannah Presbytery (Part 1 offered in Workshop Group B) - This two-part seminar will explore the elements of Presbyterian worship. Historic orders of worship by the Reformers John Calvin and Ulrich Zwingli will be contrasted with today's traditional and contemporary forms. Session one will discuss the role of sermon and sacraments; Session two will discuss prayer and music. Many practical suggestions will expand participant's understanding of worship. The course will be taught by a group of ministers who have been meeting monthly for the past year to study worship in the Reformed tradition.

19 Social Media NOW, Barbara Nixon, Southeastern University - Join Professor & Elder Barbara Nixon, self-professed social media maven, as she shares with you "7 Things Your Church Needs to Know About Social Media NOW." You will learn how and why to leverage the many social technologies available – including, but not limited to Facebook & Twitter -- to benefit you in reaching your congregation and beyond.

20 God's Call for Me In Retirement – Part 1, Don Dilley and Caroline Gilford, Butler PC (Part 2 offered in Workshop Group D) - As youth we listened for God's call for our vocation. Now we are sages, over sixty-five and have left our work to retire. What is our new calling for this stage of life? What Biblical, theological, and personal guidelines are there for a being a Christian servant when we are no longer working in a traditional job? Retirement can be thought of as a Sabbath or even a Sabbath of Sabbaths similar to the Jubilation year of the Old Testament. We will also look at the call of remaining healthy and active, identifying life styles that will keep us able to serve God and His community. This class is the first step in discerning God's call for your new life.

21 Becoming a Missional and Disciple-Making Church, David Loleng, Associate for Evangelism for the PC (USA) General Assembly Mission Council - How can our churches move from a membership model to a disciple-making and missional model of being church? We will look at the shifts that need to happen in our churches to truly respond to Christ's call to "go...and make disciples". We will look at how to use the new "Engage" resource

from the PC (USA) as a practical tool for discipleship, evangelism and missional ministry.

22 Small Congregations Roundtable – Marilyn Johns, Union Presbyterian Seminary - Small congregations are the backbone of the church, with about ¾ of PCUSA churches experiencing fewer than 100 in worship on an average Sunday. This workshop will be an opportunity for those from small congregations to share what works well for them, from creative ways to stretch a budget, to finding do-able opportunities for mission, to positive ways of visioning the future of the congregation, to appreciating the joys of ministry in the small church.

23 Choir Practice, Lisa Godwin, Jessup PC - Lisa will lead a small choir for the afternoon worship service. This will be a wonderful chance to learn some new music that might be appropriate for use in your congregation. As the musician in a "smaller" church, Lisa can offer some ideas on working with whatever group gathers to praise God with song in your congregation.

24 Change Agents, Chris Thomas, Elder, White Bluff PC - Many churches minister to the hungry, homeless and poor but what do we offer the mentally challenged? Children and adults who are mentally challenged are often "hidden" in our congregations or are "unchurched" in our community. Come discuss how we can include them in the life of our churches, and discover what we can learn from each other. Program materials and ideas will be available! Chris Thomas is the mother of a 25 year old son with life challenges and "teacher" of the adult mentally challenged Just Friends Sunday School Class-- the BEST class at White Bluff PC.

25 Book Discussion: Brian McLaren's *A New Kind of Christianity* – Part 2, Dan Lewis, Pastor, First PC – Statesboro (Part 1 offered in Workshop Group B) - Friends, the world seems to be changing these days at a pace almost unthinkable a generation ago. If the church is to witness to the timeless love of God in these turbulent times, then it must find faithful ways of changing as well. Brian McLaren proposes questions - deep and faithful questions - as a starting point for the change God would make in the church. Come to discuss these questions and to offer some preliminary responses (rather than hard and fast answers), based on life in your own congregations. Please note: our discussion will be infinitely more rich and valuable if participants have read McLaren's book before we begin.

Leadership Development Conference – Workshop Descriptions

Workshop Group D – Saturday Afternoon 1:15 pm

26 Creative Worship Design – Part 2, Mary Beene, Pastor, Faith PC (Part 1 required in Workshop Group A) - Worship leaders often find themselves simply running through a checklist of things they are supposed to do on Sunday morning. How can we instead intentionally create a space and a time for worshippers to experience God's presence in praise, Scripture and prayer? Join this workshop team and design the LDC worship experience, starting with Bible study and culminating in hands on leadership participation in our own creative worship service. Participants must be able to commit to both workshop slots and worship on Saturday afternoon.

27 Open the Digital Door, Lynette Hawkins, *Awesome Insight* - Today...more people may visit your church's digital door (Website or social networking site) than will ever come to your church's doorsteps. Uncover how ministries are utilizing the church website and social networking sites like Facebook, Twitter and YouTube to reach out and welcome people in the community.

28 Beginning a *Book Of Confessions* study at your church, Ben Beasley, Pastor, *Allenhurst PC* - Second only to the Bible, our denomination's foundational witness to Jesus Christ is the *Book of Confessions*. This source of wisdom and faith is Part I of our Constitution, but it is often less well known than the second part, our *Book of Order*. The PCUSA does not have a single confession of faith, but rather we have ten, each written in a particular age to express the eternal faith of the church in a particular context. It has been said in the study of geology that the "present is the key to the past," but maybe in our denomination the opposite is true, that *the past is the key to our present*, and by better understanding our past, and the foundational documents that define us as members of the Presbyterian Church (USA), we can help forge our future together.

29 God's Call for Me In Retirement – Part 2, Don Dilley and Caroline Gilford, *Butler PC* (Part 1 offered in Workshop Group C) - As youth we listened for God's call for our vocation. Now we are sages, over sixty-five and have left our work to retire. What is our new calling for this

stage of life? What Biblical, theological, and personal guidelines are there for a being a Christian servant when we are no longer working in a traditional job? Retirement can be thought of as a Sabbath or even a Sabbath of Sabbaths similar to the Jubilation year of the Old Testament We will also look at the call of remaining healthy and active, identifying life styles that will keep us able to serve God and His community. This class is the first step in discerning God's call for your new life.

30 “The 1 Thing” That Can Enhance Your Church, Growth & Vitality Ministry Team, Savannah Presbytery - It sounds simple, but there is One Thing which can help your congregation to grow, get through current challenges, and build a brighter future. Based on a small little book of that name by Thom and Joani Schultz, this workshop will help you to evaluate how your church (be that growing, stumbling, or status quo) can move forward to reach new members, build cohesiveness and vitality, and direct your activities toward faithfulness and fruitfulness.

31 Appreciative Inquiry for Small Congregations, Marilyn Johns, *Union Presbyterian Seminary* - Looking for a way to envision the future of your small congregation that is uplifting, interactive, and inclusive? Appreciative Inquiry may be the answer. This positively-focused, relational process is helpful for churches of all sizes, but works especially well in small congregations. In this workshop we will try out this process; come prepared to appreciate your congregation!

32 What does Savannah Presbytery Have To Offer? Panel Facilitator - Russell Gladding, Acting General Presbyter, Savannah Presbytery - This will be a time to hear how and what a panel of Savannah Presbytery presbyters think about when this question is posed. Perspectives from members of ministry teams will speak to their specific mission context and answer your questions.