

Savannah Presbytery's 44th Annual

FAITH ENRICHMENT *Conference*

WORTH THE RISK

SPEAKING WITH CONVICTION, TAKING RISKS, AND GETTING CREATIVE

with

REV. SARAH ARE SPEED

FEBRUARY 23 & 24 | 2024

Registration Opens November 1st

EPWORTH BY THE SEA

ST. SIMONS ISLAND, GA

FAITH ENRICHMENT CONFERENCE

MEET THE KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Rev. Sarah Are Speed

Rev. Sarah Are Speed (she/her/hers) is an ordained Presbyterian pastor in the PC(USA), a coffee-lover, and an optimist currently serving at Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church in New York City as the Associate Pastor for Young Adults and Membership. She also serves as one of the founding creators and contributors to A Sanctified Art.



When asked about keynoting the 2024 Faith Enrichment Conference, she shared "I cannot wait to gather with the faithful folks of Savannah Presbytery. We need more spaces to dream together, to hope together, to imagine the future of the church together. That is what this conference is offering, and I am thrilled to join in that good and faithful work. Counting down until next February. I look forward to meeting you all!"

FAITH ENRICHMENT CONFERENCE CONFERENCE THEME

Worth the Risk

In the last three years everything we have known about gathering has turned upside down. We went from a society that always met in person to a society familiar with terms like “lock-down,” “hybrid church,” and “social distancing.” The way that we understand being community, building relationships, and being the church has changed.

So what now?

Now it is time to come together and to ask ourselves- what have the last three years taught us about being the church? How can we recommit ourselves to the sacredness found in coming together? How can speak with conviction, take risks, and get creative?

There is deep wisdom in scripture, stories and in personal experience that we can draw from, so come. Say yes. Risk and dream together. We have work to do.

Friday Worship: Gather

It is not good for man to be alone.

Saturday Morning Keynote: Invitation

We know that gatherings are a large part of our church DNA. We know that we need each other! And yet, community is surprisingly hard to build! Where was the college class on how to make friends and how to be vulnerable?! Jesus builds his community with three simple words- “come and see.” What wisdom is there for us in this sacred invitation?

Saturday Evening Keynote: Conviction

One of the key rules for a successful gathering is to not play “the chill host.” When you’re hosting, you’re supposed to speak with conviction, to set the space, to make it clear why we’re gathering in the first place. This is easier said than done, but maybe there’s something that we can learn, as a church, from the “not chill hosts.” Maybe, like Peter, we can relearn how to take the faith we have, and speak it out loud.

FAITH ENRICHMENT CONFERENCE

CONFERENCE INFORMATION

DIRECTIONS TO EPWORTH BY THE SEA

Epworth by the Sea is located at 100 Arthur J. Moore Drive, St. Simons Island, GA 31522.

From US-17 in Brunswick, take the F.J. Torras Causeway to St. Simons Island. Once you reach St. Simons Island, follow the new round-about left towards Sea Island Road. Go straight through the light. Take first left at Hamilton Road, then right on Arthur J. Moore Drive. Go through the Entrance Gate, and the Front Desk/ Pitts Building will be on your left. Registration will occur near the front desk until 6:30 p.m. Late registration will be available in Brown Auditorium.

CONFERENCE FEES

The in-person Conference Room Rates listed include the cost of the conference, room charges, and three meals, beginning with dinner Friday night. The Commuter Fee includes dinner Friday night, breakfast and lunch on Saturday, and the conference. Kids Camp fee covers meals and activities at Epworth.

In order to receive the Early Bird discount, registrations with FULL payment must be postmarked by January 1. There are no exceptions. After January 1 all registrations must include full payment of the regular fee. After January 26th registration may be limited to commuters and housing cannot be guaranteed.

Registration Fees & Deadlines

	Early Bird by Jan. 1	Jan 15th	Jan. 26th
Commuter Fee (includes 3 meals)	\$100	\$130	\$150
Double Room Rate (two adults)	\$160/person	\$195	\$220
			May Not Be Available
Single Room Rate	\$210	\$245	\$270
			May Not Be Available
Kid Camp	\$40	\$40	\$40
Robertson Inn Upgrade*	\$30/room	Not Available	Not Available

Scholarships are available. Email Marty Susie to request a partial scholarship, msusie1@savannahpresbytery.org

FAITH ENRICHMENT CONFERENCE CONFERENCE INFORMATION

REGISTRATION PROCESS

Step 1

Each participant must clearly and completely fill out the registration form. There is an online registration form and a printable registration form that can be mailed in. Extra registration forms may be copied or can be downloaded from the presbytery website: www.savannahpresbytery.org.

Step 2

Each participant must turn in their completed registration form online and submit payment online or mail in their registration form and submit payment to his or her church or send directly to presbytery by the deadline to receive that rate.

Step 3

If the church is managing registration, please review all forms, and send in one package, along with a single check from the church covering payment **IN FULL** for all participants by the registration deadline.

Please Note: There are no exceptions to the registration deadlines. Registrations with full payment must be postmarked on or before the deadlines to receive the fees listed on the next page.

CANCELLATION POLICY

Savannah Presbytery is required to finalize the number of rooms needed with Epworth by January 26th. Any cancellation that arrives after that date is charged to the Presbytery at the full room rate. To be good stewards of the Presbytery's money, the Ministry Team requests that the churches reimburse the Presbytery for any unused rooms reserved at Epworth for the Faith Enrichment Conference.

FAITH ENRICHMENT CONFERENCE CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Friday, February 23

- 4:00 pm Conference Registration Begins in Epworth Lobby
- 5:30 pm Dinner
- 6:15 pm Choir Practice** (Jones Auditorium) All are invited & encouraged to take part
- 6:30 pm Registration Ends at Front Desk
- 7:00 pm Opening Conference Worship – Rev. Sarah Are Speed preaching**
- 8:00 pm Session A Workshops
- 9:00 pm Conference Social Gathering** (Jones Auditorium)

Saturday, February 24

- 7:00 am Breakfast
- 8:15 am Session B Workshops
- 9:30 am Keynote Speaker – Rev. Sarah Are Speed**
- 10:45 am Check out of rooms
- 11:00 am Keynote Continues**
- 12:00 pm Lunch - Main Dining Room (dining room closes @ 1pm)
- 1:00 pm The Connected Church - A time for reflection and practice!**
- 2:15 pm Conference Ends

KIDS CAMP

We are pleased to offer special activities for the children aged six months through fifth grade who accompany a registered adult. The sessions will coincide with the times of the adult sessions and workshops. The children will eat with you during meals. We will have crafts, games, Bible stories, and loads of fun!!

The Kids Camp Fee covers only the program and meals, and not accommodations. Children stay for free at the conference when they accompany a registered adult and pay fee for meals and programs. Room rates apply to the numbers of ADULTS in each room; the Kids Camp Fee is additional for each child participating.

FAITH ENRICHMENT CONFERENCE WORKSHOP INFORMATION

8:00 pm **Session A Workshops**

1. Disaster Recovery in Puerto Rico through PDA

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) has been actively collaborating with local congregations, mid councils, and partner organizations in Puerto Rico since 2017. During this conversation, participants will hear a broader update about the recovery process and what are some key issues affecting the local communities.

Michelle Muniz, Disaster Recovery Coordinator in Puerto Rico for Presbyterian Disaster Assistance.

2. Getting Back to Purpose

If someone asked you what your purpose is, what would be your response? Better yet, what if you were asked about the purpose of your church, why it exists, and its role in the community? In this workshop, we will explore principles from N. Graham Standish's book "Becoming a Blessed Church: Forming a Church of Spiritual Purpose, Presence and Power."

Rev. Stephen Robertson, Pastor, Butler Memorial Presbyterian Church

3. Building Bridges: Faith and LGBTQIA+ Inclusivity

We will address the intersections of faith and LGBTQIA+ identities, fostering understanding, empathy, and acceptance through open dialogues and shared personal experiences. This workshop will offer resources and guidance on how to show support for LGBTQIA+ individuals while respecting religious beliefs.

Samantha Davis, Associate for Gender & Racial Intercultural Justice, Presbyterian Mission Agency

4. Finding Life; Lost in the Wilderness

We will explore together the 40-year wandering of the Israelites in tandem with the events leading up to, during, and immediately following Jesus' 40-day sojourn with a view towards Ash Wednesday and Lent

Rev. Rick Douylliez, Pastor, First Presbyterian Church, St. Marys, as well as Director of Pastoral and Ecclesial Care, Savannah Presbytery

5. Kairos: God's Special Time in Prison

Kairos is a lay led interdenominational Christian ministry where men and women volunteers bring Christ's love and forgiveness to prisoners and their families. It starts with an upbeat weekend experience that takes participants on a journey into Christian living. Through follow-up visits it promotes ongoing Cristian support and prayer groups among graduates of the weekend. Come and see how your congregation can get involved or support!

Rev. Bob Morgan, Honorably Retired Member at Large, Savannah Presbytery

6. Embodiment of Communal Change

Embodying what we believe as people of faith is central to our engagement in the world. A posture of curiosity, non-judgement, vulnerability, and wonder allows us, both individually and communally, to address the injustice in our midst. An antiracist, anti-oppression lens creates an honest assessment of the growth necessary to bring about holistic change and transformation.

Rev. Larissa Kwong Abazia, Designated Statagic Director, NEXT CHURCH

FAITH ENRICHMENT CONFERENCE WORKSHOP INFORMATION

8:15 am **Session B Workshops**

7. Matthew 25

This is an opportunity to deep-dive into the PCUSA's Matthew 25 Movement during Savannah Presbytery's year of "learning and discerning." Discover how we can be directed by its visionary themes to further the work of God's kingdom within our congregations and presbytery. Rev. Dr. Moffett is also our preacher at the Winter Stated Meeting which will be held at Altama Presbyterian Church prior to the start of the conference.

Rev. Dr. Diane Moffett, President and Executive Director of the Presbyterian Mission Agency, one of the six agencies of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A).

8. Decolonizing Volunteering

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance provides a guide to engage in healthy practices when participating in volunteer trips, while also providing resources that will help identify and avoid harmful actions that deeply affect the development of mutual relationships.

Michelle Muniz, Disaster Recovery Coordinator in Puerto Rico for Presbyterian Disaster Assistance.

9. The Elephant in the Room

Why do people resist change? Sometimes change can trigger our fight, flight, and freeze responses. However, it is not only individuals who have survival instincts, congregations do, too. Such responses are similar to an elephant and the rider – either the rider is at the mercy of the elephant or directing the elephant to make great things happen. In this workshop, we will journey through the N. Graham Standish's writing on "Leading a Church Through Transformation."

Rev. Stephen Robertson, Pastor, Butler Memorial Presbyterian Church

10. Embracing Diversity: Strengthening Faith Communities

Explore the value of diversity within religious groups and discuss ways to create inclusive spaces where people of different backgrounds can come together in worship and fellowship.

Samantha Davis, Associate for Gender & Racial Intercultural Justice, Presbyterian Mission Agency

11. What in the World is the Spirit Up To? Looking at the Landscape of Ministry and Discerning Faithful Ways Forward

Come & hear what The Ministry Collaborative, a Project of the Macedonian Ministry Foundation in Atlanta, is seeing across the ministry landscape nationwide and the implications for ministry leadership. Our network is 1500+ pastors from over 2 dozen denominations (and non-denominational folks), majority people of color, majority women. We spend a lot of time aligning national data/trends with what we're seeing on the ground and build content and programming around it. Come away from this workshop with foci for ministry leaders and congregations moving forward.

Adam S. Borneman, Program Director, The Ministry Collaborative

12. Thawing the Frozen Chosen; A Celebration of Most Things Presbyterian

Some are Presbyterian by birth, some by marriage, others by convenience, and many by choice. Whatever the case for you, come join us as we look at our Reformed/Presbyterian history and theology and explore how our beliefs have a direct impact on how we practice and live out our faith.

Rev. Andy Meeker, Pastor of Wilmington Island and Associate Stated Clerk, of Savannah Presbytery.

2024 FAITH ENRICHMENT CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM

PLEASE read the registration brochure before completing this form.

Each adult attending the conference should complete a separate registration form.

Complete both sides of this form and return to Savannah Presbytery c/o Wilmington Island Presbyterian Church, 450 N Cromwell Road, Savannah Ga 31410. For questions, call 1-800-616-3671.

Clearly PRINT your first and last name as you would like it to appear on your conference badge.

1) CONTACT INFORMATION (important, please fill out completely and legibly):

First Name *(as you would like it to appear on your badge)* Last Name

Mailing Address

City

State

Zip

Phone #

Email

Church Name

2) WORKSHOP REGISTRATION

Indicate your first and second choice for each session by writing the workshop number in the corresponding space. Choose from the workshop numbers listed in each group.

Workshop	1st Choice	2nd Choice	Will not attend
Workshop 1A – 6A Friday Evening – 8:00 - 9:00 p.m.	_____	_____	_____
Workshop 7B – 12B Saturday Morning – 8:15-9:15 a.m.	_____	_____	_____

3) HOUSING INFORMATION:

Roommate (If you are choosing a double, please arrange for your own roommate) (Full name, they must fill out a separate registration form) _____

Special Hotel Needs (Handicapped, etc.) _____
(please note, there are elevators in all motel buildings)

Don't forget that payment is required IN FULL with your
COMPLETED registration form to meet the registration deadlines!

Because payment must be received with registration, please do not fax or email registration forms.

2024 FAITH ENRICHMENT CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM

4) KIDS CAMP REGISTRATION:

Please complete the following information for each child attending between the ages of six months through 5th grade. **If you are coming with a second adult, do not duplicate this information on their registration form.**

Total No. of Children/Youth Attending_____

Child's Full Name	Birthdate	Grade/Age
Child's Full Name	Birthdate	Grade/Age
Child's Full Name	Birthdate	Grade/Age

5) CONFERENCE FEES

Please mark the fees according to the deadline met. Each adult in each room will pay the listed amount. For example, if two people are sharing a double, registering by January 2nd their combined cost will be \$390. Call if you have a question. 1-800-616-3671

Select Your Conference Accommodation	<u>Pay & Register</u> by Jan 1 st	<u>Pay & Register</u> between Jan 2 nd -15 th	<u>Between</u> <u>January</u> <u>16th &</u> <u>26th</u>	<u>Amount</u> <u>Paid</u>
Commuter Fee	\$100	\$130	\$150	\$
Double Rate per adult in room. You MUST specify a roommate on previous page.	\$160/person	\$195/person	\$220/person	\$
Single Room Rate (one adult)	\$210	\$245	\$270	\$
Kid's Camp (per child)	\$40	\$40	\$40	\$
I'd like to stay in Robertson Inn for an additional fee of:	\$30/room**	Not Available	Not Available	\$
Total Fee:				

** limited availability – first come, first served by registration date

Thanks for your registration! We look forward to seeing you at Epworth!