



2024 Tools for Ministry Workshops Brochure South-East Region

March 2nd, 2024

9:00 AM -12:30 PM

Palmer Theological Seminary at Eastern University
1300 Eagle Rd Wayne, PA 19087

Full Workshop

Note: This workshop runs across both sessions of the Tools for Ministry event. This means that signing up for the course will place in Identifying Resources for both Sessions 1 & 2, as they cannot be taken separately.

1. Identifying Resources for Ministry Part 1 & 2

Pathways Categories: (Sustainability) Categories for Christ Servant Credited Topics:*Leading

Bio. for Presenter: During the last thirty-one years, Lenora has been the primary architect in providing customized client-centered training, facilitating, coaching, and evaluating services to a vast array of clients across the country through her company, The Thompson Group. Lenora continues to provide services in the areas of organizational development, strategic planning, governance, leadership development, mentoring and sustainability. She has a plethora of experiences in services to youth and former adult offenders (returning citizens) with a focus on re-connecting youth and adults to education, work, family, and the community. While maintaining her love for reading and recognizing the importance of reading to the successful transformation into adulthood within our society, eleven years ago in her community she formed a reading group with ten inner-city African American males who are especially vulnerable to school failure and potential drop-out status. Today, the “boys-young men” remain in the Book Club. Five are first-generation college students in Pennsylvania. In February 2015, they were recognized by CBS 3- KYW and received the Game Changer Award.

Description of Workshop: A highly interactive workshop. Learn what to do and not do in proposal writing. Learn to identify resources within the UMC and secular society. *Persons attending this session "must" stay for the entire time Persons attending this session "must" stay for the entire time.*

Both Sessions

The following courses can be selected for either Sessions A or Session B and will present the same content for both sessions.

2. "Calling All Lay Leaders"

Pathways Categories: (Vital Congregation) Categories for Christ Servant Credited Topics: *Leading

Bio. for Presenter: Jennifer and Frances are Co Lay Leaders for the Super South District. Jennifer has served as South District Lay Leader since 2016, Frances as of July 2022.

Jennifer Lafferty has been a member of the United Methodist Church for over 40 years. She is a Certified Lay Minister. She is also a Health Minister, certified by Wesley Theological, and the owner of a Health and Wellness business. Jennifer is the wife of a John Lafferty, the Pastor of Eddystone United Methodist Church. As South District Lay Leader, she has had the opportunity to serve on several Conference committees, District Council of Ministries (DCOM), Conference Leadership (Nominations) as well as representing her home church, Thorndale United Methodist Church, at Annual Conference as Lay Member. Jennifer has traveled to Liberia, West Africa to do missions work at SHALOCA Elementary School. She and her family established a non-profit (501c3) to enable them to receive donations in support of the school and several other projects to help marginalized children. She is a mother, a stepmother, and a grandmother.

Frances Whittington is a lifelong member of St. Daniel's United Methodist Church in Chester, PA. She is a Certified Lay Minister and Co-South District Lay Leader. As an active member of the St. Daniel's church family, Frances has served in many roles, including Trustee Board president, and United Women in Faith president. In 2013, Frances traveled to Haiti for a mission project with the United Methodist Volunteers in Mission. She currently serves on the EPA UMC Loan Fund Board, as president; the Laity Academy Planning Committee [member, and chaplain], and South District President, United Women in Faith

Description of Workshop: If you are a new Lay Leader or if you have served for many years in that capacity, no one needs to tell you, "the times they are changing!"

Serving as Lay Leader can be a thrilling opportunity to empower, encourage and support, the congregation and the Pastor. Or you can feel directionless, inadequate, and defeated, without training and the fellowship of other Lay Leaders. We are told to make Disciples of Jesus Christ for the Transformation of the World. That was challenging enough in the past but now, how do we make disciples powerful enough to transform this world. Where two or more are gathered, Jesus promised to be there. Come gather with us, Lay Leaders, (and those being called to be Lay Leaders!)

Let's help each other get ready "for such a time as this". The book "Conference and District Lay Leader Manual" (Discipleship Resources, Nashville) will be used in the workshop. The book can be purchased at Cokesbury.com Cost: \$10+shipping.

3. The Work of the Staff/Pastor Parish Committee

Pathways Categories: (Conflict Resolution) Categories for Christ Servant Credited Topics: *Leading

Bio. for Presenter: Rev. Dr. Bronwyn Yocum is an Adjunct Faculty member in Christian Ministries and Director of UM Student Advising and Ethos at Palmer Seminary. Bronwyn is a retired Elder and former district superintendent.

Description of Workshop: This workshop will cover the Disciplinary requirements and work of the Staff/Pastor Parish Relations Committee (SPPRC), including annual task timelines, pastoral

evaluation, covenants, and Disciplinary expectations. A good introduction for new members or a review for chairpersons and long-time members.

4. **Simplified Accountability Structure**

Pathways Categories: (Sustainability) Categories for Christ Servant Credited Topics: *Leading

Bio. for Presenter: Rev. Dr. Lloyd Speer is the pastor at Christ UMC in Fairless Hills. He has served on the Board of Ordained Ministry, as Conference Secretary, and now chairs the Congregational Development Team. He is also a certified consultant with a church growth/vitality organization named Church Answers.

Description of Workshop: The current church administrative structure specified by the Discipline was created over 50 years ago. At the time, it worked well. But now it sometimes gets in the way of sharing the love of Jesus quickly and easily. The Simplified Accountability Structure (sometimes called the "One Board Model") addresses this by folding the work of the Trustees, Finance Committee, and Staff-Parish Committee into the top leadership team (Ad. Board, Church Council, or whatever it is named). If you're curious if using a different administrative model (which is allowed by the Discipline!) would help your church do ministry more effectively, sign up to attend this workshop for a brief overview of the SAS.

5. **Building Vital Congregations**

Pathways Categories: (Vital Congregation) Categories for Christ Servant Credited Topics: *Leading

Bio. for Presenter: John is the pastor of Eddystone United Methodist Church. He also teaches college and high school finance and accounting courses in the Philadelphia area. He has taught past workshops in how to conduct effective church meetings and was a conference wide Safe Sanctuary Instructor for over 10 years. John is the chairperson for several nonprofit 501c3s in the Philadelphia area. John's BS Degree is in Business Administration from Drexel University and his MS Degree is in Organizational Leadership from Cabrini University. John is a Certified Lay Minister and will soon be a Licensed Local Pastor.

Rev. Ethel Guy is an ordained Elder of EPA and had been Pastor of Linwood Heights United Methodist Church for twelve years. She is certified as both a Fire and Police Chaplain and is a past board member of the Law Enforcement Chaplains of Delaware County. She has worked with the Heroin Task Force and the Bereavement Project of Chester in providing support to families in crisis. Her upcoming book, "Yes We Can" focuses on bringing the Good News to the everyday world the way Jesus did.

Description of Workshop: When we become members of the United Methodist congregation, we vow to.... Make new and deepen the faith of all disciples, to be loyal to Christ through our prayers, presence, and participation in the church, and to engage in ministries of witness, mercy, and justice in the world.

A vital congregation builds up the body of Christ to serve in the world.

Vitality measures how well you inspire and engage people in the ministry of growing faith, building up the congregation and engaging your surrounding community. In this workshop you will discuss the key measures of vitality. Vital mission congregations involve people that will grow and engage new disciples to build up the body of Christ. These vital ministries also meet the mind, body, and soul needs of all people. You will learn ways of implementing the five vital ministries by participating in exercises that will reveal the areas that your individual church can pursue to grow your church.

Focusing on the measures of a vitality deepens the faith of your existing members causing them to thrive and share their faith, engaging new disciples. There will be interaction and opportunity to ask questions.

6. Safe Sanctuaries Training

Pathways Categories: (Sustainability) Categories for Christ Servant Credited Topics: *Leading

Bio. for Presenter: Jack is currently the pastor (part time) of the UM Church of the Redeemer in Northeast Philadelphia. Previously, he served at Glen Moore UMC in Chester County and at Radnor UMC in Delaware County. During this time, and before he became a pastor, he was a caseworker and intake investigator with the Delaware County and Lehigh County Offices of Children and Youth Services. He is a member of the Conference Safe Sanctuaries Committee and is committed to assuring that all churches are safe places for God's children.

He is married to the Rev. Nancy Haigh Ross, has two stepchildren and two grandsons. He enjoys cooking, reading, and spending time with his grandsons.

Description of Workshop: It is the policy of the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference that every church in the conference adopt a Safe Sanctuaries policy that conforms to the standards set forth in our EPA conference policy. In this workshop, we will review the EPA Safe Sanctuary Policy, including screening standards for staff & volunteers, the "two adult" rule for all children's programming & current PA reporting procedures.

7. Deacons, Deaconesses and Home Missioners, Oh My!

Pathways Categories: (Community Engagement) Categories for Christ Servant Credited Topics:

***Caring**

Bio. for Presenter: Joanne Miles is an ordained Deacon in the United Methodist church serving at Swarthmore since December of 2021. She also is a senior financial leader at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. Joanne, a lifetime Methodist, felt God's call to ministries of social justice and to bring her gifts of financial advisory to the church. She studied at Lutheran Seminary of Philadelphia (now called United Lutheran Seminary) and has an MBA in Healthcare Administration from St. Joseph's University. As a Deacon she sees the importance of connecting the hurts of the world to the church and the church to those needs. She serves on the South District Committee on Ordained Ministry as Registrar; lends her financial consultation services to local churches and social justice agencies to create future sustainability. At Swarthmore, she serves in the worship service and lends her gifts in creative ways to experience God into our worship, in social justice ministries, congregational care, and support of our growing Young Adult and Family Ministries.

Darlene DiDomineck is a Deaconess serving as the executive director of the Center-Philadelphia @ Arch Street United Methodist Church. The Center-Philadelphia is a church-based community center offering daytime services with its unhoused/unsheltered neighbors in Center-City Philadelphia. Arch Street UMC is a reconciling, justice-seeking and sanctuary congregation located in the heart of Center City Philadelphia and is committed to intersectional, faith-based movements for social change. Darlene also serves as the Vice-Chair of the National Association of Deaconesses and Home Missioners.

Description of Workshop: Who are they and what do they do? Did you know there are three orders of ministry in the United Methodist Church? Come and learn about the United Methodist Diaconate

and ministries of love, justice, and service. Have you ever wondered what a Deacon, Deaconess and Home Missioner does? Learn about our history of justice-seeking tracing our legacy back to Phoebe in the book of Romans. Are you feeling a call to a ministry of love, justice, and service? Join us for a time of education and discernment.

8. Let's Work Together: Creating Collaborative Youth Ministries

Pathways Categories: (Next Generation) Categories for Christ Servant Credited Topics: *Leading Bio. for Presenter: Mike Nelson was born in Philadelphia on February 14th, 1989, and gave his life to the Lord at the age of 17. Mike attended the University of Valley Forge where he received his B.A. in Pastoral Ministry and a minor in Business Administration. While attending the University of Valley Forge, Mike received his credentials to become a Licensed Minister. Mike when back to his home church, Mt. Calvary Family Worship Center in Philadelphia and has help lead several different ministries. Mike has help lead the Youth and Young Ministries and has held various leadership roles. Mike went back to school and received his M.A. in Urban Ministry in 2017 from Mission Seminary. Mike travels the country as a Motivational Speaker in schools with his Student Success Tour school assembly program. Mike is a published author, his book Yes, You Can: 7 Keys to Student Success has been used as curriculum and program for schools. In 2021, Mike accepted the position of Youth Pastor at Norwood United Methodist Church. Mike was tasked with the job of building a Youth Ministry from scratch. Today, Mike leads spirit filled, passionate students every Friday where youth learn about God. Mike is the founder of the SDF (Spiritual Development Family) an online community of believers who grow together in Christ. In November of 2021, Mike was ordained an Elder of his church, Mt. Calvary Family Worship Center in Philadelphia. Mike lives in Delaware County with his loving wife Adrian.

Description of Workshop: This workshop will investigate how to create collaborative youth ministry opportunities and partnerships for various churches no matter the size of the church. Come and explore how you can look at creating community, sectional or district youth ministries. Explore how you can get more youth involved in the local church and the community. This workshop will explore easing the burden of churches trying to reinvent the wheel for youth ministry and how to work doing collaborative efforts for youth ministry success.

9. Community Outreach Training

Pathways Categories: (Community Engagement) Categories for Christ Servant Credited Topics:

***Caring**

Bio of Presenter: Rev. Dr. Brawner was born at Howard University Hospital on October 10,1979. At the tender age of 18-months, William was the victim of child abuse. At the hands of his abuser, he incurred severe burns of his lower extremities that resulted in him being hospitalized and receiving a blood transfusion that led to him being HIV-positive.

At that time, there were no medicines, little to no life expectancy and little hope for anything...but God! And with God, family and faith, William grew, survived, and thrived.

After turning trials and fear into faith, William pressed and attained a bachelor's from Howard University, two master's Degrees, one in Social Justice, and one in Divinity and his Doctorate in Divinity. He holds memberships to many organizations but is most proud of being a member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated.

William is currently a husband and proud father of four and the Pastor of the first United Methodist Church for black people, Mother African Zoar. He is not only Pastor of the church but a community leader who has fed over 200 people hot Sunday breakfasts, worked to get over 100 people records expunged, baptized 25-people, and ushered over 30-souls to Christ. Through the strength and salvation of Christ, Dr. Brawner works to bridge church and community through the Word and deeds.

Description of Workshop:

Questions for consideration when engaging community:

- Are you looking to engage your surrounding community?
- Do you have more ministry than money?
- Is Dismantling Racism a priority to your congregation?
- Is your church experiencing more funerals than baptisms?
- Is worship attendance consistently decreasing?

Christ calls us to comfort the sick, feed the hungry and welcome the stranger. During this time, we will develop innovative strategies to reach the people outside our sanctuary walls. Please join us in our Tools for Ministry Workshop which will help to assist in:

- Developing new ministries
- Maintenance of existing ministries
- Provide information on available resources.

10. Organizing the Local Church for Mission. (In Spanish)

Pathways Categories: (Journey of Hope) Categories for Christ Servant Credited Topics: *Caring

Bio. for Presenters: Facilitadores: Rev Dr Bruny Martínez, holds a master's degree in human services from Lincoln University, PA, and a doctoral degree in Administration and Leadership from Indiana University of PA. She has been very involved in her community and EPA Conference, serving in several committees: Camping Board, Urban Commission, Rapid Response Team on Immigration, Cross Cultural and Cross Racial Ministries ICARE - Sexual Misconduct Intervention Team, and Commission on Latino/Hispanic Ministries. She currently serves at St Luke UMC & Ebenezer UMC in West Lebanon.

Rev Alicia Juliá-Stanley, holds a MDiv from EBTS (now Palmer Seminary), and completed the required coursework for a DMin in Leadership in Community Organizing at Garrett Theological Seminary, but life happened, and she hasn't been able to complete all the necessary steps- who knows? She is very involved in her local communities and EPA Conference, serving as Co-Chair for CORR, Co-Chair Commission on Latino/Hispanic Ministries, Urban Commission, CRCC Ministries Trainer, HTW Core Team, and many other committees and teams throughout her many years of ministry with EPA. She currently serves at First UMC and St John's UMC, (Shamokin Area), Northwest corner of the North District- think Knoebels.

Description of Workshop: Descripción

Organizando la Iglesia para la misión – reflexiones en alcanzar vitalidad, los pasos consistentes hacia la vitalidad, el lograr sostener la misión (fuera y dentro del edificio), un activo involucramiento con la comunidad, y ampliando nuestros horizontes misionales (¿A dónde nos envía Dios ahora?)

Description

Organizing the church for mission- reflections on reaching vitality, the consistent steps towards vitality, sustaining the mission (within the building and outside the building), active involvement with the community, and broadening our mission horizon (Where is God leading us now?)

Organizing the leadership for the mission

Serving in committees according to the Book of Discipline:

Essential Committees, Practical Committees, Simplified Accountability,
Single Board Structure, Leadership Team/Committee

Organizing the church for the mission-

Consistent steps towards vitality

Achieving vitality

Sustaining the mission (inside and outside of the building)

Connecting with the community (active involvement)

Broadening our mission horizons- Where is God sending us now?

Herramientas para el Ministerio

Organizando al liderazgo para la misión-

Sirviendo en comités designados por el Libro de la Disciplina

Comités Esenciales

Comités Prácticos

Estructuras/de Responsabilidad Mutua

Junta Unida o Simple, Equipo/Comité de Liderazgo

Organizando la iglesia para la misión –

reflexionando en alcanzar vitalidad, los pasos consistentes hacia la efectividad, lograr sostener la misión (fuera y dentro del edificio), un activo involucramiento con la comunidad, y ampliando horizontes (¿A dónde nos envía Dios ahora?)

11. Connecting with Our Missionaries.

Pathways Categories: (Journey of Hope) Categories for Christ Servant Credited Topics: *Caring

Bio. for Presenter: Deaconess Barbara Drake is Conference Secretary of Global Ministries, Lay Leader, and Parish Nurse at Havertown UMC.

Missionary Presenters: Rev. Mutwale Ntambo Wa Mushidi and his wife Kabaka Ndala Alphonsine, are missionaries serving in Tanzania.

Description of Workshop: Learn the various ways that missionaries are supported financially and how your church can develop a covenant relationship with a missionary. Meet two missionaries serving in Tanzania, hear their story of God's call to mission work, and see pictures of their work in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

12. Workshop Title: Self-Care & Mental Health - Suffering in Silence

Pathways Categories:(Vital Congregation) Categories for Christ Servant Credited Topics: *Caring

Bio. for Presenter: Tia is a minister, an advocate and philanthropist for victims and survivors of domestic violence. She is the author of *Suffering In Silence*, her personal story of surviving domestic violence. She is also the host of the "Suffering In Silence With Evangelist Tia" radio program. Tia is a part of the Delaware County's Domestic Violence Prevention Task Force under Dr. Monica Taylor, President of Delaware County City Council.

Description of Workshop: If you, a family member, or friend are dealing with domestic violence this workshop will help in several ways. Tia will share her own personal story of surviving domestic violence. Her mission is to bring domestic violence to the forefront and give it the attention that it is

demanding. You will learn the best approach to ministering to victims and survivors and give support to families who often suffer in silence and shame.

13. Created & Connected Worship Design

Pathways Categories: (Vital Congregation) Categories for Christ Servant Credited Topics:

***Preaching**

Bio. for Presenter: Rev. DeLeo is honored and delighted to serve as lead pastor at Swarthmore UMC. Ordained in the Baltimore-Washington Conference, Pastor Ali previously served under appointment at National United Methodist Church (3-campus church) and Community-Faith Cooperative Parish (2-point charge.) Pastor Ali also served in mission & ministry in Durham NC, Indianapolis IN, Kwa-Zulu Natal South Africa, and San Isidro Costa Rica. She was raised up in ministry at Capitol Hill UMC (Washington DC) and earned her MDiv. at Duke Divinity School. At Swarthmore UMC, Pastor Ali and the Worship & Arts Team have been expanding their worship experiences and embedding musical theater, Godly Play, visual arts, and ancient-future elements within SUMC's longstanding tradition following the liturgical year pattern.

Description of Workshop: We believe in a God who has created and is creating (UMH #883). This workshop will explore three main questions:

1. How can our worship be both embodied and reflective of this truth about God – in ways that value tradition and inspire new ways of being?
2. How can our worship design assist the whole gathered body to participate in the ongoing movement of the Holy Spirit, during worship and throughout the week?
3. How can worship design invigorate the connection between worship and mission for the transformation of lives, communities, and the world?

Through this workshop, participants will receive the tools they need to engage their congregations with all their senses, including such aspects as altar design, connective liturgical moments, experiential prayer stations, special music, and more. Participants will also receive a worship design template and other resources through which they can design meaningful worship experiences in their local church/mission field.

14. William Penn's "Holy Experiment"—Did it work as he intended?

Pathways Categories: (Journey of Hope) Categories for Christ Servant Credited Topics: *Leading

Bio. for Presenter: Verna Colliver serves as Secretary for the Eastern PA Annual Conference Committee on Native American Ministries (CoNAM) and is active with other groups supporting Native Americans. She is a retired educator and long-time member of Lansdale First United Methodist Church.

Description of Workshop: How well do you know the history of PA? This workshop will examine the horrific Conestoga Massacre and the forced assimilation of children at the Carlisle Indian School to show how William Penn's friendly relationship with the Lenape gave way to hostility and brutal attempts to solve the "Indian problem."

In a time when efforts are being made to erase the brutal history of colonization in one state after another, it is crucial for us to remember that learning our history is one step in the journey toward healing and wholeness with our Native American brothers and sisters. By understanding the intergenerational impact of this brutal history on Native Americans, one can more effectively advocate for justice and fairness in issues facing Native Americans today.

15. Mosaic Ministries - Cultivating a Culture of 'Calling' in Our Churches

Pathways Categories: (Vital Congregation) Categories for Christ Servant Credited Topics: *Leading

Bio. for Presenter: Rev. Kate Monahan is an ordained elder in the United Methodist Church in the Greater NJ Annual Conference. She has served in three churches as lead pastor, as well as in children & youth ministry throughout her career. She also worked for four years as a chaplain at Trenton Psychiatric Hospital. Kate is currently on staff of the Greater NJ Annual Conference as the Associate Superintendent for the Coastal Plains Region & the Director of Mosaic Ministries, a program that works with high school, college, and theological school students across the state to explore their call to ministry and train them in leadership in local ministry settings. She is passionate about helping people find their purpose and live into it with joy! She also loves hanging out with her family & friends, baking, running, and a good practical joke every now and then!

Description of Workshop: Have you heard "Mosaic Ministries," and wondered, "What is that?" Have you been asking questions about how the Church can create a culture of "calling" and raise up new leaders in this challenging season? Mosaic Ministries is working across EPA & GNJ to create opportunities for churches to invest in high school, college, and seminary students as they find their purpose and the call God has on their lives. This workshop is an informational session where we will explore the work Mosaic has been doing. We also hope to think with you about how we are creating a culture in the United Methodist Church that empowers new generations answer God's call to transform the world.

16. Churches Walking with those coming home from Prison.

Pathways Categories: (Community Engagement) Categories for Christ Servant Credited Topics:

***Caring**

Bio for Presenter: David Garlock, Formerly Incarcerated National Public Speaker, TEDX Presenter, Prison Education Program Advisory Council and Teachers Assistant and Eastern University Grad

Workshop Description: See the Biblical Mandate to work with those who have backgrounds. Learn best methods to facilitate conversations and incorporate this population in your church. Not just inviting them to a service, but to use their gifts to minister to the Body.

17. Session A only- Session A: "Getting Your Church On The Web" Session B: "Making Your Website Work for Your Congregation" - (This workshop is a standalone session but can also complement session

Pathways Categories: (Next Generation) Categories for Christ Servant Credited Topics: *Leading

Bio. for Presenter: Harry Stymiest Jr. brings a rich blend of experience and passion to his role as a filmmaker, web designer, and media educator. Serving as the Media Director at Somerton United Methodist Church in Philadelphia, Harry collaborates closely with the worship team. His focus is on using media to enrich the worship experience, ensuring it is engaging for both the in-person congregation and those joining remotely via livestream. In addition to his church role, Harry is actively involved in education as a teaching assistant for media production at Pennsbury High School in Bucks County. Here, he plays a pivotal role in overseeing livestream and media production for the school district, nurturing the talents of young media enthusiasts.

Harry graduated with a degree in Broadcasting, Telecommunications, and Mass Media from Temple University. He recently founded HVS Media Studio LLC, a venture focused on assisting non-profits, small businesses, and individuals with web design and media production.

Description of Workshop A: Workshop A "Getting Your Church On The Web"- In today's digital age, the internet serves as the primary gateway for people to discover and engage with communities, including churches. Recognizing the importance of a strong online presence, our upcoming workshop is designed to empower religious organizations with the knowledge and tools necessary to establish a captivating and functional website for their church. This comprehensive session will guide participants through the essential steps of creating a digital home for their congregation, from selecting the perfect domain name to choosing the right platform that aligns with their needs and values. This workshop is tailored for church leaders, administrators, and volunteers keen on harnessing the power of the web to connect with existing members and welcome newcomers. Whether you're looking to launch a new website or enhance an existing one, this session will equip you with the knowledge and skills to effectively showcase your church's unique identity and mission online.

18. Session B only- Workshop B - Workshop Title: "Making Your Website Work for Your Congregation" - (This workshop is a standalone session but can also complement session A.)

Pathways Categories: (Next Generation) Categories for Christ Servant Credited Topics: *Leading

Description of Workshop B - Workshop Title: "Making Your Website Work for Your Congregation" - (This workshop is a standalone session but can also complement session A.) In the digital age, a church's website is often viewed as a gateway for attracting new members. However, its potential to serve the existing congregation is frequently overlooked. "Making Your Website Work for Your Congregation" is an insightful workshop designed to transform your church's website from a simple online presence into a dynamic and engaging community hub. Participants will learn how to seamlessly integrate their podcast into major platforms like Apple Podcasts and Spotify, making it accessible to a wider audience. By the end of this workshop, participants will be equipped with the skills and knowledge to transform their church's website into a vibrant, multifaceted platform that serves not just as a beacon for new members, but as a vital resource for their current congregation.

19. Session A only- General Conference Presentation

Pathways Categories: N/A Categories for Christ Servant Credited Topics: *Leading

Bio. for Presenter: Rev. Dawn Taylor-Storm currently serves as the co-chair for the EPA General Conference delegation as well as the Assistant to the Bishop for the Eastern PA and Greater New Jersey Conferences and as the Director of Connectional Ministry for EPA. Kristine Adams is a lay member of Berwyn UMC who helps oversee many sub committees which include, but not limited to: liturgists, special visual displays, flowers, music/choir, ushers, greeters, Lent and Advent readers.

Description of Workshop: Learn about key legislation coming before General Conference 2024. Rev. Dawn Taylor-Storm, co-chair of the EPA delegation will share a brief overview of legislation coming before General Conference 2024 and dialogue about topics such as regionalization, the Christmas covenant, budget recommendations and more. Come to learn and engage in dialogue on the future of the United Methodist Church. All welcome.

20. Session B only - Effective Cross Racial/ Cross Cultural Ministry

Pathways Categories: (Journey of Hope) Categories for Christ Servant Credited Topics: *Leading

Bio. for Presenter: Dennis L. Fisher, M.M., is a retired mental health professional. Dennis has held positions as music therapist, case management supervisor and training specialist in Philadelphia's behavioral health system for over 40 years. Prior to retirement he served as Director of the Behavioral Health Training & Education Network, Philadelphia, PA. BHTEN has been responsible for orienting and training Philadelphia's mental health and substance abuse staff. Dennis is a Cross-Racial / Cross-Cultural trainer and he serves as co-coordinator for the CR/CC Team of Trainers. Dennis is a member of the EPA Conference Commission on Religion and Race (CORR). He is a graduate of the Temple University Advanced Certificate Program in Culturally Competent Human Services. He is music director and worship leader at Somerton UMC in Philadelphia. He is a Lay member of Annual Conference and the chairperson of the Liberia Education Project, a non-profit "advanced special" recognized by the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference of the United Methodist Church

Description of Workshop: This training is designed to provide an overview of the tools available to clergy and congregations to help them stay focused on God's mission to minister effectively in our diverse cultural communities. Multiple "Meet & Greet" activities drawn from the cross racial/cross cultural (CR/CC) "Building Bridges" curriculum will be demonstrated as time permits. Participants will also examine the Biblical and theological foundations of serving in a CR/CC ministry context. Tools, common language, and resources will be offered to increase the effectiveness of our intercultural communication and improve our engagement throughout the diverse communities where we live and worship. Both challenges and opportunities of CR/CC ministry will be explored as we promote an expansion of the "kin-dom" of God. Technical assistance will be offered for additional training.

21. Available Both Sessions - Seminary: Callings and Realities at 20, 50, & Beyond

Bio. for Presenter: Rev. Christen Blore is an Alumni Chaplain and Director of the Center for Alumni Care and Seminary Engagement of Palmer

Description of Workshop: Come and listen to current seminarians and graduates share a realistic perspective of what seminary life is like--experienced in different ways and at different life stations. One size does not fit all; often a "yes!" to a call may mean trusting One for the how.