

WORKSHOPS - DESCRIPTIONS

Times & Locations* for Workshops, Service Projects, and Fellowship

* Knight Center floor plans can be found on pages 4 and 5 of the pre-assembly packet.

Friday, June 14- Session I - 10:00 a.m.

A Language that Speaks Volumes (*Glocal*)

Goodyear A & B, level 2

Embrace and welcome all people through inclusive worship and music. Explore global and local context in our sacred speech and song. This workshop focuses on using creative liturgy and global music to communicate mission in the congregation. It is designed for pastors, musicians, and worship leaders.

I'd Love to Tell the Story... But (*The Rev. Julianne Smith, DEM*)

H. S. Firestone, level 1

We each have many stories to tell. The church calls us to share the story about the power of the Gospel. And sharing the story happens in a variety of ways; from telling our own faith story and how it impacts the way in which we live and give and serve as well as the ministry stories of the church. Attend this workshop whether you want to learn how to tell your individual story or the story of God's work through the church. Leaders: Rev. Jim Watson, Discipleship / Evangelism Table, Bryan Penvose, Mission Interpreter Coordinator, Richard Brenneman, Stewardship Table, Rev. Julianne Smith, Director for Evangelical Mission

Talking about Faith and Science in Congregations (*The. Rev. George Murphy*)

OMNOVA Solutions, level 1

Science and technology raise questions about the way we understand God's creation and our role in it. In this workshop we'll talk about things that pastors and teachers have found helpful for discussing these matters

They Are US! Extending Lutheran Welcome in Time of Great Challenges (*Folabi Olagbaju*)

BF Goodrich, level 1

In a time of heightened anti-refugee, anti-immigrant and anti-Muslim sentiments, it is more critical than ever that people of faith continue to speak out boldly for welcoming refugees, compassionate policy towards undocumented immigrants and religious tolerance. Through a highly informative and interactive presentation workshop participants will: 1) learn about Lutheran Immigration Refugee Service (LIRS) ministries offering welcome to migrants and refugees; 2) better understand the current situation with respect to immigration policies; get their questions and concerns about the administration's immigration policies answered; 3) discern what it is that the Bible and our Lutheran faith tradition call us to do with respect to welcoming vulnerable refugees and migrants; and 4) get a solid understanding of opportunities for engagement and to live out our faith by embracing and welcoming the strangers through the ministries of service and justice.

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Saturday, June 15 - 9:05 a.m.

Intergenerational Service Projects - Goodyear A & B (main assembly hall)

Service Project: Fear to Freedom bags for Cleveland Clinic Akron General Hospital

Service Project: Diaper Packets for Haven of Rest / Holy Trinity, Akron

OR

Fellowship Time - Exhibit Hall 1 (display hall)

Free time to socialize for attendees NOT participating in the service projects.

Saturday, June 15 - Session II - 10:55 a.m.

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Greening Congregational Life (*Alycia Ashburn & Marilyn Matevia*)

H. S. Firestone, level 1

As Lutherans, we understand *care for the earth* to be a sacred calling, a responsibility, and a “profoundly spiritual matter” (ELCA Social Statement, “Caring for Creation”). But the details often get bumped to the margins of our busy church lives. This workshop will explore ways to reinforce and live out our covenantal responsibility to God’s creation throughout the church year – in worship and education, daily community life, and outreach.

Advocacy For Change in Church and Community (*The Rev. Amy Reumann*)

OMNOVA Solutions, level 1

Advocacy is a mark of a vital congregation and helps to identify and develop leaders for church and community. Learn with Amy Reumann, ELCA Advocacy, and Nick Bates, Hunger Network Ohio, about best practices for initiating, engaging and sustaining work in public policy advocacy that helps Lutherans articulate their faith, create and implement strategies for greater justice and that nurtures congregations to be present and active in their communities.

The Church is the Hope in the Opioid Epidemic (*The Rev. Ralph Edwards*)

BF Goodrich, level 1

Is there an opioid problem? How did we get here? Who is affected by the opioids? Where does the church fit? Should the church be involved and how do we get involved? These are questions we are constantly hearing from the church. We know that faith based connections work to help those trapped in addiction. We are the bridge builder! We are all about relationships. We build bridges of hope and resiliency in with relationships in lives where most relationships have been destroyed. We do this by being informed. We do this as the Body of Christ, one relationship at a time.