

FRIDAY 4:30-5:15 Workshop One

1. "Health Care Today - Taking ownership of your health care! Room: 206

Led by Rita Clemente and Other CCRC Leaders

- *A look at health care 10 years ago, health care today, who's in control, today's patient, regionalization of services, your options as an individual, and the role of continuing care retirement communities in health care today.*

2. "UCC White Privilege Curriculum" Room: 319

Led by Rebecca Hickok, Liddy Barlow, and Joseph Hedden

- *White Privilege: Let's Talk – A Resource for Transformational Dialogue is an adult curriculum from the United Church of Christ that's designed to invite church members to engage in safe, meaningful, substantive, and bold conversations on race.*

3. "Mission Grants Training" Room: 207

Led by Diane Fox

- *It is hard to believe that some churches are not aware that the Penn West Conference has a Mission Grants program. The goal of the committee is to support churches through both granting limited financial assistance for specific items, but also training churches on how to apply for grants in general. Come join us to learn about the program and how to apply for grants for your church.*

4. "A.L.I.C.E." Room: Vulcan Theater

Led by Melissa McLean

- *Recent events have made us painfully aware that Houses of Worship can become vulnerable targets for a variety of emergencies from an active intruder situation, to a large-scale fire. Our faith calls us to welcome the least and lost; however, it also calls us to protect one another. This workshop will engage participants in a research-based and historical discussion of church incidents and emergencies, while keeping our faith at the forefront. Participants can expect to leave with concrete strategies and information to share with their congregations and communities.*

5. "Youth" Room: The Energy Zone

Led by Laurel Custer, Sara Galko, and Matthew Fox

6. "Chatting with David" Room: Performance Center

Led by David Ackerman

- *This will be an informal time of conversation with David for anyone who wants to talk to him.*

7. "Christian Hospitality and Extravagant Welcome" Room: 311

Led by Julia DeFiore & the PWC ONA Team

- *What is C.E.L.A.H. you ask? It stands for Christ's Extravagant Love and Hospitality!*
- *Have you ever wondered, what does it mean for a church to be an expression of Christ's Extravagant Love and Hospitality? How do we function as a body of Christ to express Love and Hospitality to all people? How do we know if we are lacking in hospitality? How do we transform into a more welcoming environment? Is starting from within really a vital step before going out living the great commission as a church? Why does our church feel hospitable, but we are not*

growing? If I don't want to love EVERYONE, is that ok? How can I grow love for people who make me uncomfortable?

- *If you can relate to any of these questions, you are not alone. Many churches, church leaders and even pastors struggle with these questions. YOU are NOT alone! We are all in this together! Come and join the conversation on how to deal with these and other questions on the journey of growing into a church that expresses Christ's Extravagant Love and Hospitality.*

8. "General Synod 32"

Room: 313

Led by Jill Marie and Joy Johnson

- *"Some of our Penn West Conference delegates to General Synod 32 will be on hand to talk about General Synod and answer any questions that anyone may have about it. This is a great opportunity to connect with our delegates!"*

9. "Sacrificial Decisions: Bible Study"

Room: 321

Led by Cathy Bowser

- *A person's previous history, relationships with others, and their rearing have rippling effects on their decisions and actions in the future. The Book of Judges shows an example of a mighty warrior, Jephthah, who is overcome by past issues and makes a devastating rash decision. The desired result of this study is a personal understanding of another's motives to help us act on what is required of us by God, "to do justice, to love mercy and to walk humbly with our God."*

SATURDAY 11:00-11:45 Workshop Two

10. "Who do you say that I am?"

Room: 311

What will others say about me in years to come?

Estate planning for the church. "

Led by Linda Miller-Pretz

- *This workshop will give you information on what to do today that will preserve and confirm a lasting legacy for your church.*

11. "Church Growth & Technology"

Room: 319

Led by the Transformation & Renewal Team

- *How can technology make your church more visible in the community? A good website is essential. See some excellent websites from our own Penn West Conference Churches and get some ideas and resources on how to create a website. There will also be a panel discussion by members of the Transformation and Renewal team to spark some conversations.*

12. "Five 'easy' steps to Listening"

Room: Vulcan Theater

Led by Joseph Hedden

- *This workshop will present you with five 'easy' steps to listening to God, to children, to each other, to your family, to your congregation. Since part of the Penn West Academy's Mission is to listen to God (theology), listen to our history (Church history and Polity/Covenant), to listen to our Scripture (Old and New Testament), to listen to our hymns and prayers (worship & preaching), this workshop will help you to 'fine tune' your ears.*

13. “Philippines Mission Trip 2020”

Room: 206

Led by Ryan Lucas

- *In April of 2020, folks from the Penn West Conference will be traveling to the Philippines to build on our relationship with the Northern Luzon Conference of the UCCP. This workshop will cover our itinerary and the reason for our trip, which is to grow in our relationship. Highlights from our last trip to the Philippines and the recent visit from our partners. While some may see this as a mission trip, in reality this trip is not about building homes and churches but it is about building a better working relationship with our global partners so that we might share and participate in the work that God is doing around the world.*

14. “Youth”

Room: The Energy Zone

Led by Laurel Custer, Sara Galko, and Matthew Fox

15. “The New Manual on Ministry”

Room: 313

Led by June Boutwell

- *This workshop will review the newly published Manual on Ministry. Suggested attendees are members of committees on ministry and pastors. Participants are encouraged to read the Manual and bring their own copies with them.*

16. “Mobilizing for Environmental Stewardship”

Room: 207

Led by Dave Smith

- *Southwest Pennsylvania is at the epicenter of the world’s major sources of pollution and environmental disaster. Please join us as we assist you, your congregation and communities in organizing to protect the resources so vital to the existence of all of life. We will provide you with resources and tools to address environment impacts and to lead others in learning and taking action steps.*

17. “Holy Rest”

Room: 331

Led by TJ Lucas

- *This is a workshop for people of all ages to rest your spirit and mind. This is not a lecture or academic conversation. We will be creating space to recharge, center, and reflect. Our time together will involve checking in with everyone and introducing one another to each other followed by relaxing music, breathing, gentle chair yoga techniques, and prayer. I am not a certified yoga instructor, spiritual director, or fanciful expert of any kind. I am just a pastor, mother, and student who enjoys resting in the presence of God and some-times I find events like these lack space to find quiet and holy rest. So if you need rest today and would like to do so in community, come join us!*

18. “Teaching Adult Bible Study in the Church”

Room: 321

Led by Cathy Bowser

- *Whether a pastor or lay leader, you can lead a meaningful Bible Study in your home, church or Sunday School class. Learn how to address people’s learning styles, engage new ways of presenting topics, and how to use various biblical resources for understanding words, translations and culture. Lead a class by engaging the participants with hands-on experiences that create a lasting impression. Using information acquired from the Pittsburgh Theological Seminary class, “Teaching Bible Study in the Church,” join me in experiencing effective ways to generate interest and developing a deeper understanding of our Holy Scriptures.*