

Atlanta College Park Connectional Ministries Leadership Training
January 13, 2018

Who's On Your Team? – Rev. Hal Jones

The aim of this workshop is to help participants better understand and manage dynamics that are inherent in all teams, and that either contribute to or detract from team cohesiveness and effectiveness.

Mission Mindset – Rev. Scott Parrish

Don't think of "missions" as projects, but instead imagine being a congregational movement in your local community that defines your church and produces vitality. We'll examine current trends, best practices, and share what is working including practical resources. The session will help you create a plan of community outreach and engagement for your congregation that gets you beyond your current situation.

Discipleship with Intentionality – Ms. Debby Stikes

Meet people where they are in faith formation and have a plan to help deepen their spiritual development. From the minute someone walks in the door, have a plan! Great for small, mid, and large congregations! Let's work together to share the Good News!

Fresh Expressions of Worship – Rev. Blake Trent

Are you looking for a way to connect with people outside the walls of your church? Looking to start something new in your community? Fresh Expressions can help you.

Fresh Expressions is a movement cultivating new kinds of church alongside existing churches to more effectively engage people who are not Christians or not yet part of a congregation. In 2004, the Church of England and the British Methodist Church launched Fresh Expressions to connect the Church to new people, in new places, in new ways. Since then it has brought about growth and renewal to many established churches.

In this workshop, you will learn about the basics of Fresh Expressions and the process for starting a Fresh Expression through your church. You'll also learn about some of the successful Fresh Expressions that have been started in our conference during the last year.

Sharing Faith AKA: Evangelism – Ms. Carol Tucker-Burden

Theme: "The Isaiah Factor"

This workshop will address the spiritual influences of telling one's story, to contribute to a result or outcome when sharing the faith. We will engage in interactive and creative dialogue about prioritizing evangelism. In addition, assessments of proactive strategies for sharing Jesus' gospel.

Committee on Nominations – Ms. Dyanne Cunningham

This session provides an overview of the Committee on Nominations and Development, whose responsibilities include identifying, developing, evaluating, and monitoring Christian spiritual leadership of the local church congregation.

Stewardship – Mr. Charles Buffington

Stewardship is everything we do after we say “yes” to God. We are called and chosen to be managers of every good and perfect gift entrusted to us. Stewardship is not a short-term fundraiser but a way of life – the abundant life. Stewardship enhances our faith and releases our minds and our response to living a better life now.

Scouting – Mr. Jeff Carson & Mr. Ernest Perry

Chris Karabinos and Rebecca Harley will be present, but Jeff Carson and Ernest Perry will be the course leaders.

“Scouting in the Methodist Church” is a course created to help clergy, lay leaders and Scout leaders understand why and how the United Methodist Church partners with youth organizations like the Boys Scouts, Girl Scouts and Big Brothers Big Sisters. Topics that will be covered include how to start a Scout program, which program to start with, how a church can use it as a ministry and Conference Scout resources to help churches manage Scout programs.

Staff Pastor Parish Relations – Dr. Bernice Kirkland

The Pastor-Parish Relations committee meets the objectives of connecting pastor, staff and congregations! This team sees ALL the people in their ministry of cultivating a culture of calling, supporting the pastor(s), staff and church council. The chair of the team serves as a navigator in systematically deploying the team to expand effective throughout congregations. This team is blessed to be a blessing in making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Lay Leadership – Mr. Andy Pitman

Now that you’ve been elected Lay Leader in your local church, what is expected of you? What are your roles and responsibilities? Find out what the Book of Discipline has to say about being a local church Lay Leader and how you can use those guidelines as a basis to become a more effective leader in your church and better partner with your pastor. Even if you are not “the” elected Lay Leader, this class can provide you with valuable tips to improve your leadership skills in the ministry and mission to which you’ve been called. This class can also help the “seasoned” Lay Leader refresh her/his knowledge and develop new skills to ignite a spark in a stagnant congregation.

Board of Trustees: Maintaining the Training Center – Mr. Jim Thornton

The Board of Trustees work strategically to provide faithful stewardship of resources. It is through the proactive management of facilities and funds that trustees provide proper space and protection for congregational life. They also work alongside Finance and Staff Parish Committees with accountability to the Church Council. Local congregations thrive in faith while reaching others through the service provided by Trustees. This team sees and serves ALL the people.

Covenant Connection through Grace – Dr. Tonya Lawrence

With every baptism, we commit to “surround these persons with a community of love and forgiveness, that they may grow in their trust of God, and be found faithful in their service to others,” which involves more than the Sunday morning experience at the altar. In this workshop, participants will consider the biblical underpinnings of covenant, what covenant living means

among all ages and stages, and how this way of being in relationship impacts the ministry and witness of the congregation.

The Way Forward – Rev. Jasmine Smothers

As the United Methodist Church seeks to live out and maximize its mission to “Make Disciples of Jesus Christ for the Transformation of the World,” we must grapple with the hows, whats and whys of relevant ministry today. The Commission on a Way Forward was formed at General Conference 2016 to “design a way for being church that maximizes the presence of a United Methodist witness in as many places in the world as possible, that allows for as much contextual differentiation as possible, and that balances an approach to different theological understandings of human sexuality with a desire for as much unity as possible.” This workshop will explore the learnings and work of the Commission as we seek to #SeeThePeople. Learn more here: www.umc.org/WayForward

Leadership Direction from Moses – Rev. Olu Brown

This session answers the questions:

- How can I remain effective in answering my own call, when the people around me -- some of whom are trusted friends and colleagues -- will not (or cannot) stay on the journey we've set out to complete?
- How can I keep moving forward, when the path suddenly becomes so difficult?

Leadership Directions from Moses session will also take an enhanced look at leadership through the eyes of Moses, and it encourages pastors and lay people to have the necessary "Difficult Conversations" to move their ministries forward.