

2023 ELCA SOUTHEASTERN SYNOD ASSEMBLY
June 2 - June 4, 2023
Chattanooga Convention Center
Chattanooga, TN

WORKSHOPS

PRE-ASSEMBLY WORKSHOPS

Friday, June 2, 9:00-11:00 AM

Care and Wellness for Rostered Ministers
Meeting Room 9

Want to know how to care for your Pastor or Deacon or what resources are available to care for yourself as a Pastor or Deacon? Join Pr. Justin Eller and Deacon Intern D'Etta Broam to learn about way to support and be supported. Topics will include: respite and renewal grants, gift of time, self-care, yoga, among other things.



Led by the Rev. Justin Eller, Assistant to the Bishop for Care and Community, and Mrs. D'Etta Broam, Deacon Intern

Living a Baptized Life - Caring for People on the Margins
Meeting Room 12

This conversation would explore the connection between our baptism and our call to care for people on the margins. We will talk about the promises made at baptism and how they are reminders from God to challenge, encourage and convict us when we aren't certain we want to care for others. We will also explore the lifelong path from baptism at any age to growing in our

understanding of Christian discipleship and how we might set intentions to remember our baptism as a guide for life.



Led by the Rev. Kimberly A. Vaughn, Senior Director of Christian Community and Leadership Mission, Chicago

OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

PRAYER ROOM/LABYRINTH

Friday, June 2, 9:00 AM - Saturday, June 3, 6:30 PM

Meeting Room H

The room will be set up with chairs for praying, an altar space with a bowl for prayer requests, the Labyrinth with a basket for socks, and assorted battery-operated candles around the room. The room will remain open any time the agenda is going from Friday morning until Saturday night. Assembly Chaplains can use it to meet people for prayer.

There will not be anyone specific in the room leading but it will remain open for private prayer.

YOGA

Friday, June 2, 7:30-8:00 AM, Saturday, June 3, 7:30-8:00 AM, and Sunday, June 4, 7:30-8:00 AM

Meeting Room H

Need a quality start to your Assembly Day? Try Yoga Stretch and Pray! We will breathe and balance, s-t-r-e-t-c-h and strengthen as we anchor our hope in the love and light of God.

Yoga and prayer are spiritual practices benefiting your mind, body and spirit. What have you got to lose except maybe a bit of stress? *(Please bring your own towel or mat.)*

WORKSHOP SESSION
Friday, June 2, 4:45-6:00 PM

Journeying with the Spirit
Meeting Room 3

Spiritual Direction is for EVERYONE! This is an interactive workshop; our focus will be to introduce you to the practices of Spiritual Direction and how that can enhance your Faith Journey at any age.



Led by the Rev. Patti Axel, ELCA Coach, Southeastern Synod, Certified Spiritual Director; and Ms. Sue Tyler, Executive Assistant to the Bishop, Certified Spiritual Director

Suicide Prevention 101
Meeting Room 2

Come learn about the warning signs of suicide and how you can help save lives!



Led by Mr. Adam Renner, APC, member St. John's Lutheran Church, Atlanta, Georgia

Accompaniment is Formation: Glocal Discipleship
Meeting Room 9

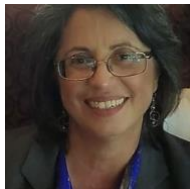
Journeying alongside our neighbors, especially those in need, is a key piece of our discipleship and the Jesus movement. Join Pastor Justin Eller, former ELCA missionary, to explore how you too can live out the ELCA Accompaniment Model in your glocal (local + global) context, from congregation to community.



Led by the Rev. Justin Eller, Assistant to the Bishop for Care and Community

What to do 101 **Meeting Room 10**

This workshop will discuss the dos and don'ts of entering into legal agreements to protect the congregation. In addition, we will examine congregational responsibilities regarding benefit packages and Portico resources to support the administration of the congregation. Come also to learn how the ELCA Foundation can support your financial stewardship strategy through immediate gifts and planned/legacy gifts to ensure your ability to support your ministries in your community long into the future. Last, we will review the importance of updating your constitution and why that is also a way to protect and support your ministry.



Led by the Rev. Jill Henning, Assistant to the Bishop for Leadership and Administration; the Rev. Cathy Schibler, Regional Representative, Portico Services; and the Rev. Ana Lugo, Regional Gift Planner, ELCA Foundation

SESLYO - What is AGAPE? **Meeting Room 12**

Through various hands-on activities, the Southeastern Synod Lutheran Youth Organization will explore the question, "What is AGAPE (love)?" Come and join them for a youthful perspective on this age-old faith formation question.



Led by Southeastern Synod Lutheran Youth Organization (SESLYO)

Telling and Living the Story **Meeting Room 11**

An interactive workshop for equipping participants with practical tools and strategies for sharing their faith with others. The workshop will engage the biblical basis for evangelism and discipleship. The key theme of the workshop is the exploration of the challenges and opportunities of evangelism and Christian formation in a diverse and rapidly changing world. Overall, the workshop aims to empower participants to share the gospel confidently and effectively with others and grow in their own faith.



Led by the Rev. Linda Manson, Assistant to the Bishop/Director for Evangelical Mission

WORKSHOP SESSION
Saturday, June 3, 11:00 AM-12:15 PM

“Devotions, Meeting Starters with Stories – Oh My”
Meeting Room 3

Learn how to use stories to start discussions, open meetings/gatherings, stories to ponder, and stories for devotions. This will be an interactive workshop.



Led by Ms. Charlotte Hickam, member of the Kentucky Storytelling Group

The Intersection of Faith and Mental Health
Meeting Room 2

More Americans experience anxiety, depression, and substance use disorders than any other mental health condition, and often in combination. People in our pews are suffering, but often in silence. How do we move out of our denial and respond with grace and love? When it comes to mental health, there are signs religion can do some good under the right circumstances, but it can also have unintended consequences. This presentation reviews high-level conceptual understandings of the three most common mental health conditions, negative and positive effects of religion, and suggestions for providing support.



Led by Mr. Adam Renner, APC, member St. John’s Lutheran Church, Atlanta, Georgia

Neurodiversity, Hospitality, and Widening Our Welcome **Meeting Room 9**

During our time together, we'll explore seven ways that churches can meet the needs of neurodiverse kids, youth, and families through listening, making adjustments, and welcoming their gifts.



Led by the Rev. Dr. Dawn Rundman, PhD. Dr. Rundman holds a PhD in Developmental Psychology from the University of Oregon and is Director of Development for Faith Formation Resources at Augsburg Fortress and Sparkhouse, both publishing imprints of 1517. She has developed over 20,000 pages of faith formation curriculum and five Bibles for kids. She's also written a parenting book titled, "Little Steps, Big Faith: How the Science of Early Childhood Can Help You Grow Your Child's Faith."

Youth and Young Adults - FORMATION from THEIR Perspective **Meeting Room 10**

Two core commitments of a thriving youth and young adult ministry are "empathy" and "centering young voices." How can we best express these commitments? By holding a listening post! We have youth and young adults willing and ready to THEIR perspective on FAITH FORMATION questions asked by our moderator, Pr. Michael Jannett. We listen to understand while our youth and young adults do the talking. (This workshop is based on research and activities shared by the Fuller Youth Institute as a part of their Growing Young resources - <https://www.fulleryouthinstitute.org/growingyoung>.)



Led by the Rev. Michael Jannett, Assistant to the Bishop for Formation and Communication

Growing and Connecting Latiné-Hispanic Ministry **Meeting Room 12**

Join practioners of Latiné-Hispanic Ministry in the Southeastern Synod to learn about ways to engage your Spanish-speaking neighbors, how to create an inviting, welcoming and safe space for new relationships to be built. Bring your questions, ideas, and dreams!



Led by the Rev. Rev. Julie Crosby, Mission Developer, Iglesia Luterana de Cristo, Oakwood, Georgia and Iglesia Luterana Amazing Grace, Lawrenceville, Georgia; and the Rev. Marie Kane, pastor, St. James Lutheran Church, Brunswick, Georgia.

Stories of Faith Formation in Times of Disaster Meeting Room 11

Hear how experiences in the midst of disaster have faith-forming impacts.

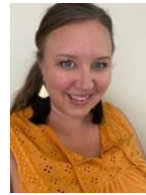


Led by Mr. John Boettner, past Chair, Disaster Ministry Committee; the Rev. Dr. Stacey Parvin, pastor of Bethel Lutheran in Louisville, MS; the Rev. Dr. Morgan Gordy, Assistant to the Bishop for Disaster Ministry; the Rev. Ingrid Schalk; the Rev. Lynne O'Shea, pastor, Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, Savannah, Georgia; and the Rev. Rick Roberts, pastor, St. John's Lutheran Church, Nashville, Tennessee

Lunch & Learning Saturday, June 3 12:30 PM–1:30 PM

From Surviving to Thriving – Making a Difference One Life at a Time Meeting Room 3

Inspiritus, formerly Lutheran Services of Georgia and Lutheran Services in Tennessee, partners with the ELCA Southeastern Synod to extend the reach of the church to vulnerable people, places and communities in need of particular life-giving services and supports. Together, we accompany those whose lives have been disrupted as they move from surviving to thriving. Join Inspiritus staff to hear about all of the ways that Inspiritus is providing transformational programming in communities across Alabama, Georgia, Tennessee and beyond, and how you can join us in this holy work of accompaniment. Grab your lunch and gather with us for this informal get-to-know-one-another conversation. We look forward to connecting with you!



Led by Deacon Michelle Angalet, Chief Operating Officer, Inspiritus; the Rev. Mary Armstrong-Reiner, Hunger Walk Coordinator, Inspiritus; Ms. Janet Arning, Executive Director of Empowerment Services, Inspiritus; Ms. Sarah Burke, Refugee & Immigrant Services Community Engagement Manager, Inspiritus.

Ministry with Our Unhoused Neighbors

Meeting Room 12

An interactive discussion about ministry with people experiencing homelessness. The discussion will touch on the knowledge and skills necessary to effectively engage with and serve the population that is experiencing homelessness in their community. The time may cover a range of topics, including: Understanding homelessness, building relationships, meeting basic needs, providing support and resources, advocacy, and community engagement.



Led by the Rev. Linda Manson, Assistant to the Bishop/Director for Evangelical Mission