

# **BPG 2026 Workshop List**

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## **A01 Thriving through Collaborative Partnerships**

The Church Buildings for Collaborative Partnerships program (CBCP) empowers Indiana Episcopal congregations of all sizes to thrive as centers of ministry, community and faith through collaborative uses of their property.

This Workshop will:

- Provide an overview of CBCP “Tool Kits” designed to inspire and equip congregations to search for and create community partnerships with those who align with the church’s mission and values. Practical tips and practices will be shared.
- Share success stories from Indiana Episcopal churches and invite Workshop participants to share their property stewardship experiences.
- Lead Workshop participants in exploring the spiritual vocation of their buildings and grounds, highlighting how their property is called to support the people of the church (such as: worship, Christian formation, fellowship) and their neighbors (such as: service, fellowship, sharing the love and message of Christ).

Participants will begin to draft a “property mission statement” for their church.

### *Presenters*

Linda Buskirk, *Church Buildings for Collaborative Partnerships Director, Indianapolis and Northern Indiana*

Michelle Walker, *Episcopal Diocese of Northern Indiana*

Emily Sajdak, *Partners for Sacred Places*

## **A02 Creation Conversations: Companions on the Way**

Come share ideas with creation care leaders from across Province V about how we can support our parishes and worshipping communities as they integrate creation care and environmental justice into their worship practices, community outreach, and public witness.

Together we will pray and reflect how the spirit is already moving in our local contexts, and talk with leaders in the Dioceses of Chicago, Great Lakes, and Michigan about new and growing programs in each diocese to support local faith communities.

Creation care, like all justice work, is rooted in community. As we reflect on opportunities in our individual parishes, we will build connections with one another based upon our shared concerns, so that we come away with an understanding of how we can work together between parishes and across dioceses.

### *Presenters*

David Laurance, *Diocese of Michigan*

Dean Aponte-Safe, *Diocese of Michigan*

Jess Kidder, *Diocese of the Great Lakes*

Jan Strait, *Diocese of the Great Lakes*

Richard Benson, *Diocese of Chicago*

## **A03 Aging and Spirituality: A Free Program for Seniors in Your Parish**

The Church Home of the Diocese of Chicago has developed a six session program that facilitates reflection and acknowledgement of the gifts of life through simply living your life. This program invites participants to reflect on their own experiences of the aging process and to seek and acknowledge the presence of God in this time of their lives. The sessions encourage self-reflection through group reading of scripture, poetry, and essays, along with the opportunity to share thoughts and stories. The topics are Identity, Connection, Purpose, Loss, Change, and Joy. Each session builds upon the previous and at the end of the sessions, the formation of a community of friends has begun.

*Presenter*

Peggy Taylor

## **A04 Small Church Mission: Collaboration for Big Impact**

Micro congregations might feel limited in their efforts to engage in Mission, but there are strategies that can help you to make a big impact on your community. With stories of tiny congregations that have done this, we will discuss how to go where people are, how to invite others to leadership, and how to find organizations to collaborate with for mission. We will include practice in how to engage your neighbors. Youth interested in how to make more connections outside the church are encouraged to join us.

### *Presenter*

Elizabeth Mae Magill, *Coordinator for Community Life, Episcopal Divinity School*

Elizabeth Mae Magill (Liz) is Coordinator for Community Life at Episcopal Divinity School and the author of *Five Loaves, Two Fish, Twelve Volunteers: Growing a Relational Food Ministry* (Upper Room 2020) and *When Did We See You? A seven week exploration of Poverty & Wealth* (Upper Room 2026). She also writes a free Newsletter for churches to take a stand in our times: *Act! Be Church Now*. Subscribe at [ElizabethMaeMagill.com](http://ElizabethMaeMagill.com)

## **A05 Come and See: Invitational Evangelism**

Many Episcopalians feel resistance to evangelism—often because we’ve seen it weaponized in other forms of Christianity. But we don’t get off the hook simply because others have done it poorly: sharing the Good News is an essential part of faithful discipleship, not an optional sales pitch or a church-growth strategy.

This workshop reframes evangelism as a spiritual practice: prayerful, relational, and rooted in love of neighbor. Following the Gospel’s simple invitation—“come and see”—we’ll explore incarnational, invitational evangelism that avoids coercion, argument, and “bullhorn guy” tactics, and instead invites people, through word and deed, into the abundant life we’ve found in Christ.

You’ll leave with a clear Episcopal “why” for evangelism, plus a few quick, practical ways to begin—reflection on your story in God’s story, honest language, better questions, simple invitations, and small habits you can start this week.

*Presenter*

Chris Corbin, *Trinity Episcopal Church, Oshkosh, WI*

## **A06 Native Boarding Schools in the U.S. and The Episcopal Church**

Pt. 1 Native Boarding Schools in the U.S. and The Episcopal Church: an update on the work of the Truth, Justice, and Healing Commission on Native Boarding Schools

A panel consisting of members of the Commission, whose work was mandated in 2022 by the Executive Council and by resolution of General Convention, will present their findings to date. The Commission and its consultants have documented ways in which The Episcopal Church played a key role in the development and running of Native Boarding Schools at many levels including diocesan clergy and lay leadership, influential members, its auxiliary organizations, and its partnership with the federal government.

### *Presenters*

Leora Tadjerson, *Director of Reparations and Justice, Northern Michigan*

Veronica Pasfield

Brian Wilbert

## **A07 Five Hallmarks of Intergenerational Worship**

Roots & Wings is a grant focused on the Episcopal expression of intergenerational worship. Our team conducted a literature review identified five core characteristics, or “hallmarks,” of intergenerational worship. In this workshop, we will explore each of the five hallmarks: intentionality, relationality, dignified reciprocity, flexibility, and empowerment. After offering an overview of each hallmark, participants will be invited to brainstorm practical ideas for increasing that hallmark in intergenerational worship. This workshop would welcome middle and high school youth!

### *Presenters*

Grant Team Member, *Roots & Wings: Intergenerational Formation Collaborative Lifelong Learning at Virginia Theological Seminary*

## **Ao8 Leading With Clarity and Calm**

Need a way to think clearly and calmly about leadership and congregational life? This workshop will present a brief overview of the eight concepts of Bowen Family Systems Theory with an opportunity to think through three scenarios from work and life using the concepts. Participants will join with others for a snapshot in time to consider the application of systems thinking in family, work or ministry environments and begin to imagine how they can work on their own maturity as well as the maturity of the organizations in which they are involved. A brief introduction to the family diagram will also be included. This workshop is but a taste of other resources available through Healthy Congregations, Inc. Clergy and lay persons are encouraged to attend.

### *Presenter*

Elizabeth Hoster, *Healthy Congregations, Inc.*

## **A09 Collaborating Province-wide to Help Migrants**

## *How Dioceses Across Province V Collaborate to Help Vulnerable Immigrant Neighbors*

Province V immigrant justice advocates are joining forces across diocesan boundaries to provide real help to our migrant neighbors, who are under siege during the government's current push for mass deportation.

The panel will focus on the ongoing collaboration among the Great Lakes, Michigan and Chicago dioceses to provide spiritual, legal and financial help to Province V immigrants. We will invite you, your church and your diocese to get involved in helping those who are unjustly threatened and attacked, including thousands incarcerated in the many ICE detention facilities located throughout our Province.

### *Presenters*

Jack Lloyd, *Province V Migration Ministry Network*

Sandra Castillo, *Chair of the Sanctuary Committee, Chicago*

Bob Alltop, *Vicar, Nativity Episcopal Church, Diocese of Michigan*

Allison Duvall, *The Episcopal Church, Public Witness/Episcopal Migration Ministries*

Silvia Huth, *Province V Migration Ministry Network*

Nurya Love Parish, *Director for Mission and Community Engagement, Great Lakes*

## **A10 Countering White Christian Nationalism: In Our Pews & On Our Streets**

Local congregations have key role to play in countering the impact of White Christian Nationalism on the ground—from how we preach, to how we pastor, to how we show up in the public square.

Join this workshop to learn how we can leverage every part of our faith communities for the inclusion and dignity of all God's children, both within and beyond our churches. We will share resources, exercises, and analysis that local congregations and ministries can put to work on the ground wherever they are.

### *Presenters*

Aaron Scott, *Episcopal Church*

Rosalind Hughes, *Canon for Beloved Community, Ohio*

## **A11 Calm in the Chaos**

What do you do on the days when life is too much? Too overwhelming, too depressing, too chaotic. In this workshop, we'll combine neuroscience, spiritual practices, and a dash of fun to help find moments of calm in the chaos of life.

*Intergenerational: Yes*

*Presenter*

Jo Nygard Owens, *Trinity Cathedral, Cleveland*

The Rev. Jo Nygard Owens is a pastor, speaker, teacher and coach based in Cleveland, OH. Her ministry focuses on Christian formation, community building, and digital ministry. You can learn more about Jo at [jonygardowens.com](http://jonygardowens.com).

## **A12 Hosting a Storytelling/Faith Sharing Retreat**

Dove Faith Cafe is a ministry founded in 2017 that helps people to find and shape their faith stories. These events have taken place on stage, in groups small and large, and in retreat settings. They can be customized to focus on racial reconciliation, song, and congregational development, among others. During this workshop, participants young and old will have an opportunity to meet others and to discover one of their own faith stories as well as to learn how to create and manage their own storytelling event. Check out our website: [www.DoveFaithCafe.org](http://www.DoveFaithCafe.org) or find us on Facebook @dovefaithcafe or Instagram #dovefaithcafe. You can also tune in to our podcast Dove Faith Cafe on Apple Music and Spotify.

This workshop is designed for high-school aged and older.

### *Presenter*

Marie Gambetta, *Co-Founder, Dove Faith Cafe*

## **A13 Gathering Around the Fire: Indigenous Wisdom for the Future of the Church**

As the church continues to confront the painful legacy of colonization and boarding schools, Indigenous Christian leaders are helping guide the church forward—offering theological wisdom, community leadership, and new models of formation rooted in Indigenous contexts and traditions.

This workshop introduces the Indigenous Theological Circle (ITC), an ecumenical hub that brings together Indigenous scholars, ministers, elders, and theological educators committed to the flourishing of Indigenous congregations and to the indigenizing of theological study. Supported through a Lilly Endowment grant and developed in collaboration with the North American Institute for Indigenous Theological Studies (NAIITS), also known as NAIITS: An Indigenous Learning community the Circle cultivates relationships of trust, mentorship, and collaboration across denominations as Indigenous leaders shape the future of theological education in their own communities and traditions.

Led by the Rev. Canon Bradley Hauff, participants will explore how Indigenous approaches to mentorship, formation, and community learning can renew theological education and congregational life. The session will also highlight how this work has grown out of Bexley Seabury Seminary's commitment to contextual, mentor-assessed, and distributed theological education, including pathways that allow Indigenous students to adapt formation for their own ministry contexts.

### *Presenter*

*Bradley Hauff, Endowed Professor of Indigenous Congregational Studies  
Indigenous Theological Circle & Bexley Seabury Seminary*

The Rev. Canon Canon Hauff previously served eight years as Missioner for Indigenous Ministries for Presiding Bishop Michael Curry and spent twenty-seven years in parish ministry. Enrolled in the Oglala Sioux Tribe, he focuses on Indigenous theology, pastoral care, and preaching in Indigenous contexts. He is a Seabury-Western Seminary alumnus (Class of 1990).

## **A14 The Continuing Conversion of the Church: Why Parish Life & Campus Ministry are more alike than you think!**

The realities of our current moment are forcing many of us to rethink our conception of the church's mission in the world. A broad sketch of what's happening in Episcopal Campus Ministry offers a compelling case study for how TEC's core values and commitments are being lived out in deeply serious and beautiful ways. What can parishes learn from the world of campus ministry and what do they tacitly know without realizing it?

### *Presenters*

Eric Richey, *Campus Ministry Developer, Province V*

Stacy Alan, *Brent House, Chicago*

## **A15 Church World Service — Partnerships for Change**

We are seeing global hunger on the rise, displacement happening at an alarming rate, disasters striking across the world and neighbors near and far facing the complex issues of poverty. Together, we will learn about programs focused on hunger and health, disaster and emergency response, displacement and protection, and advocacy and justice. We invite you to join us for a time of learning, partnership opportunities, and hands-on action as we work together to fight period poverty. Together, we will explore how we can help fill these gaps and be the hands and feet serving millions of neighbors in need around the world and in our own communities.

This workshop includes assembling “period packs” and is appropriate for all ages.

### *Presenter*

Rachel Kessel, *Community Engagement Specialist, Church World Service, Grand Rapids, MI*

## **A16 A look at the ministry of the vergger**

Join Albie Bell, Vice President of the Vergers Guild of the Episcopal Church, for an engaging exploration of one of the Church's most quietly powerful ministries.

What exactly is a vergger? The answer may surprise you.

This workshop traces the rich history of the vergger, from its roots in medieval England to its vital presence in today's Episcopal parishes. Along the way, we will explore how the role has evolved, what it looks like in modern congregations, and why it remains essential to the life, order, and beauty of our worship.

Most importantly, this session will lift up and empower those who are already serving in vergger-like ways without carrying the title. If you coordinate worship, prepare sacred spaces, escort processions, solve last-minute liturgical puzzles, support clergy behind the scenes, or help ensure that "all things are done decently and in order," you may already be living this ministry.

Through storytelling, practical examples, and shared conversation, participants will gain clarity about the vocation of the vergger and leave encouraged, affirmed, and equipped to embrace or deepen this ministry in their own parish contexts.

### *Presenter*

Albie Bell, *Christ Church Cranbrook, Michigan*

Thom Johnstone, *St. John's, Grand Haven, Great Lakes*

## **B01 Solar Power for your Parish or Faith-Based Nonprofit**

Are you considering (or dreaming of) solar power for your church or faith-based nonprofit? Solar Faithful is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) that brings technical expertise and client-friendly financing to faith-based organizations. You can make your solar dream a reality and rise to meet the challenge of the climate crisis while saving money on your utility bills. Learn how you can join dozens of congregations that have taken the solar leap. We will share our experiences with these congregations and answer your questions.

*Presenter*

Jennifer Young, *Outreach and Operations Manager, Solar Faithful*

## **Bo2 Neighbor to Neighbor: a kindness initiative**

Neighbor to Neighbor started in 2024 as a pre-election peace initiative. We wanted to respond as a church community to the anxiety and incivility around us, and realized that we stand for kindness and being a good neighbor. We developed programming around that including a city-wide dance party, featured speaker David Brooks, and developing Intentional Acts of Kindness Week, as well as signs with our logo and an inspirational website. The response was overwhelming, positive and Spirit-filled. We are continuing the work at the request of the community in 2026, with big plans for encouraging kindness. We would love to share our story. Get a preview on [neighbortoneighbortoledo.com](http://neighbortoneighbortoledo.com)!

### *Presenter*

Gayle Catinella, *Rector, St. Michael's in the Hills*

Carol Nichols, *St. Michael's in the Hills*

Sarah Schendel, *St. Michael's in the Hills*

## **B03 Addressing Congregational Conflict**

Few of us actually enjoy conflict. That being said, attending to congregational conflict appropriately can not only lower congregational stress but also strengthen trust among members of a congregation. This workshop will consider ways in which faithful intervention can help congregational leaders address (and often resolve) conflict before it rises to a level that requires formal disciplinary processes.

### *Presenters*

Terri Bays, *Missioner for the Ordinary, Northern Indiana*

Timothy Murray, *Barrington, IL*

## **Bo4 Faithful in the Feed: Navigating Social Media, AI, and Digital Life**

Social media and emerging technologies like artificial intelligence are reshaping how people form opinions, relate to one another, and experience community. While these tools can connect us and spread hope, they are also built around algorithms that amplify outrage, misinformation, addictive scrolling, and growing amounts of low-quality AI-generated content (“AI slop”). Many people—across all age groups—feel overwhelmed by their feeds but aren’t sure how to reset, disconnect, rebalance, or help others do the same. Most of us simply haven’t had the time or space to reflect on what it means to live faithfully inside our feeds.

This workshop begins with a brief grounding in Episcopal theology and the Baptismal Covenant as they relate to our digital lives—particularly our call to seek truth, respect the dignity of every human being, and build up community. From there, the session quickly shifts toward practical, real-world tools participants can use in their own lives and ministries.

Participants will explore how social media algorithms shape what we see and how they can draw us into spirals of negative or distorted information. We will also touch on the emerging challenges of AI-generated content and how it affects trust, truth, and discernment online.

Importantly, the workshop is designed not only for personal growth but also for ministry leadership. Participants will leave with ideas and frameworks they can bring back to their parishes, regions, and dioceses—whether through adult forums, youth conversations, clergy discussions, or digital ministry guidelines.

Accessible to people of all ages and levels of technological comfort, this session equips participants with both theological grounding and practical tools to navigate today’s digital environment faithfully—and help others in their communities do the same.

### **Youth-Friendly Workshop:**

This session is appropriate for **middle and high school participants** attending the Provincial Youth Event. Because young people are often navigating social media and algorithm-driven platforms most intensely, their perspective is especially valuable in this conversation.

#### *Presenters*

Bexs Nelson, *Director of Communications, Dioceses of Wisconsin*  
Sam Cripps, *Diocese of Wisconsin*

## **Bo5 We Sail Better Together: Working with Other Churches**

Ahoy there! Ever wondered what pirate ships and the future of The Episcopal Church have in common? You're one of many, and you've come to the right place—but you'll only know the answer after you complete this workshop! In this session, learn how to journey with our ecumenical partners, grasp what full communion means, and prepare for the General Convention 82 vote on full communion with the United Methodist Church. Ecu-what?! We'll start by exploring what that word means. We'll also practice dialogue, learn the nuts and bolts of how to work with other churches in mission and ministry, and test our knowledge to win fun prizes! Come with your questions, your enthusiasm, and your best piracy jokes; leave with new tips and tools to equip your parish.

### *Presenters*

Kirsten Guidero, *Ecumenical & Interreligious Relations, Episcopal Church*

Hank Jeannel, *Ecumenical & Interreligious Relations Associate*

## **Bo6 Public Witness: Should We? How Should We?**

In these times, in this place, we are called to proclaim good news outside our doors. But when, where? and how do we do this?

We will develop a strategy for discerning whether and when your congregation should speak out. And if you should, how do we do this?

This workshop will cover the expanse: social media, public conversations, stand-outs, boycotts, promotions and more. Youth with social media dexterity or impatiently wishing for more action are encouraged to join this discussion.

### *Presenter*

Elizabeth Mae Magill, *Coordinator for Community Life, Episcopal Divinity School*

Elizabeth Mae Magill (Liz) is Coordinator for Community Life at Episcopal Divinity School and the author of *Five Loaves, Two Fish, Twelve Volunteers: Growing a Relational Food Ministry* (Upper Room 2020) and *When Did We See You? A seven week exploration of Poverty & Wealth* (Upper Room 2026). She also writes a free Newsletter for churches to take a stand in our times: *Act! Be Church Now*. Subscribe at [ElizabethMaeMagill.com](http://ElizabethMaeMagill.com)

## **B07 Native Boarding Schools & Michigan History**

A Common History: Native American Boarding Schools & Their Foundational Place in Michigan Episcopal History.

The last war with the British. Unstable Tribal alliances. A pitched effort for spiritual predominance over Indigenous homelands on both sides of the new border. The weaponization of Tribal treaties A century of enacting religious conversation and assimilation. This is the origin story of the Episcopal Church in Michigan (and other denominations), including the earliest campaigns to convert, "educate," and assimilate Native peoples across this most strategic region. This panel gathers Michigan diocesan historians and the Truth, Justice & Healing Commission on Native Boarding Schools for the Episcopal Church. By answering the Episcopal Church's call for truth-telling and healing about Episcopal "Indian schools," these researchers offer a robust history of how Episcopal Indian missions and schools, and adjoining parishes, were bound up in an extractive political economy from the Revolutionary War through 1834. From the seeds of truth-telling, can Tribal right relationship and healing grow?

### *Presenters*

Veronica Pasfield

Leora Tadgerson, *Director of Reparations and Justice, Northern Michigan*

Nurya Love Parish, *Director for Mission and Community Engagement, Episcopal Diocese of the Great Lakes*

## **Bo8 A Table for All: Worship for All Ages**

What does true welcome and accessibility look like for people of all ages and stages of life? How can we nurture and support faith formation for every member of our community, regardless of age?

In this workshop, we will explore the current barriers to worship that our youngest members may experience. Together, we will identify those barriers, discuss practical ways to address them, and develop tangible action steps to help foster a more accessible and welcoming worship environment for all.

This workshop is designed for all ages to attend.

*Presenter*

Carmen Piggins, *Canon for Ministry with Young People, Michigan*

## **B09 Coaching and Mentoring for Ministry Leaders**

Do you feel like you may be "walking the plank alone" in your ministry? This workshop and presentation offers solutions to the problem of isolation in leadership roles in the church. Peer Learning Groups and one on one coaching/mentoring offer ministry leaders -- volunteers, lay professionals, deacons, priests, and bishops -- the collective wisdom of a coach/mentor and team or group of others also engaged in ministry.

In this workshop, we'll learn about leadership styles, strengths and common pitfalls, and how sharing and learning in a peer group can help navigate tricky situations.

*Presenter*

Kimmy Meinecke, *Lifelong Learning at Virginia Theological Seminary*

## **B10 Retired/Retiring Clergy Cohort**

We are offering a cohort program for clergy that have retired or are approaching retirement. We are offering a structured 6 month program to support clergy in planning for their next call. The program includes some face to face, monthly Zoom meetings and one on one coaching sessions over 6 months. We encourage participants to discern with God and a partner (if applicable) what they want this next call to be.

### *Presenters*

Nancy Foster

Percy Grant

## **B11 SoulCollage® for Small Groups**

SoulCollage® is a creative and easy intuitive process that helps people connect images with deep personal insight and meaning for spiritual growth and reflection. It is a fun way to explore life's questions—and it may very well surprise you! Using found images from magazines and books, participants create collaged 5 x 8 cards, and afterward reflect on their meaning in a group process with guided prompts.

We will explore how SoulCollage® can be used in spiritual direction, small groups, and for Theological Reflection (TR) and Spiritual Autobiography activities used in Education for Ministry (EfM). It is appropriate for all ages who are able to use scissors and glue, whether in a group process or alone.

Come try out this popular method and discover ways it might deepen your formation offerings while building connections and community. No artistic skills are needed, and materials will be provided.

*Presenter*

*Cynthia Ries, Trinity Cathedral, Cleveland*

## **B12 Telling the Story That Only You Can Tell**

Research shows that sharing our faith stories isn't just evangelism, it's one of the most powerful practices of faith formation we have. TryTank's Lilly Endowment-funded storytelling project explores how ordinary people can articulate what God has done in their lives, with tools and practices designed for real congregations. Come ready to discover (and tell) your own story.

*Presenter*

Lorenzo Lebrija, *Executive Director, TryTank*

## **B13 TEC Gen Z in their Own Words: Moving Beyond Generational Stereotypes**

In 2024 a survey was commissioned to track young adult leadership in the Episcopal Church. There were three “waves” of research and Wave 3 was a survey of young adults currently involved in Episcopal ministries, including young adult and campus ministries. The results paint an interesting picture of who these young adults are, the experiences and gifts they are bringing into the ministry, and what they are longing for from the wider church. Come hear from a panel of young adults who can speak to these realities and bear witness to how the Holy Spirit is at work in the emerging generations.

### *Presenters*

Eric Richey, *Campus Ministry Developer, Province V*  
Stacy Alan, *Brent House, Chicago*

## **B14 Invite Welcome Connect**

This engaging, 90-minute workshop introduces participants to Invite Welcome Connect, a practical and spiritually grounded framework for strengthening evangelism, hospitality, and belonging in today's Episcopal congregations. Rooted in the conviction that church growth flows from authentic relationships and intentional practices, Invite Welcome Connect helps communities move from passive openness to active, life-giving invitation.

This ministry that former Presiding Bishop Michael Curry once said “calls us to be exactly who we are in Jesus Christ, and to invite, welcome, and connect others to that life-giving reality,” this workshop invites participants to reflect on how their own congregations embody this calling.

Participants will explore the three essential movements of the framework: Invite, Welcome, and Connect, along with core values, practical applications, and hands-on exercises such as mapping invitations and conducting a hospitality walkthrough to identify real-world opportunities for improvement. Through guided discussion and small-group work, attendees will develop concrete, realistic strategies they can begin testing in their congregations within the next 60 days.

This session is designed for both clergy and lay leaders who want to deepen their church's culture of welcome and engagement. Whether your congregation is seeking renewal, growth, or stronger connections with its surrounding community, this workshop offers tools, inspiration, and shared wisdom to help your ministry become a more visible sign of Christ's transforming love.

*Presenter*

Steve Welch, *Invite Welcome Connect*

## **B15 Strengthening Episcopal Chaplaincy- Armed Forces and Federal ministries of the Episcopal Church**

This workshop offers participants an inside look at how Episcopal chaplaincy serves within the Armed Forces and Federal Ministries. Drawing on real-world insights from active chaplains and institutional partners, the session highlights how spiritual care, ethical leadership, and pastoral presence support personnel across military and federal environments as well as non federal hospitals.

### **What the Presentation Covers**

- The role and identity of Episcopal chaplains in pluralistic settings
- How chaplains provide pastoral care, crisis support, and moral guidance
- Collaboration between chaplaincy offices, the Armed Forces, and Federal Ministries
- Challenges of ministry in highstress, highresponsibility contexts
- Maintaining sacramental and liturgical life for Episcopalians in government service
- Opportunities for clergy discerning a call to federal or military chaplaincy

### **Learning Goals**

By the end of the workshop, participants will be able to:

- Understand the unique mission of Episcopal chaplains in federal and military settings
- Recognize how chaplains uphold spiritual resilience and ethical decision-making
- Identify pathways for clergy and lay leaders to support chaplaincy initiatives

### **Who Should Attend**

- Clergy exploring chaplaincy vocations
- Lay leaders involved in pastoral care or outreach
- Veterans, service members, and federal employees
- Anyone interested in how faith communities serve the public sphere

### ***Presenter***

Maurice Dyer, *Armed Forces and Federal Ministries*

## **B16 Diving Deep and Speaking Out**

In a hurting world, Christians have a word of hope to bring that is desperately needed. But how do we know what to say? In this workshop, we'll use the tools of exegesis—diving deep into scripture—and proclamation—speaking out—in order to craft our own message of hope to share with the world.

**Intergenerational:** Yes

*Presenter*

Jo Nygard Owens, *Episcopal Preaching Foundation*

The Rev. Jo Nygard Owens is the National Program Director for the Episcopal Preaching Foundation. Through the Preaching Foundation, Jo connects with churches and dioceses to provide programs and training to raise the level of preaching in the Episcopal Church. Learn more at [preachingfoundation.org](http://preachingfoundation.org).

## **Co1 Holy Ground for Whole Communities**

Holy Ground for Whole Communities is a new program in the Episcopal Diocese of the Great Lakes helping congregations see and steward their land and buildings as sacred assets for the common good. The first cohort is underway and there are some lessons any church can learn from our experience. Come discover more about how one diocese is assisting churches on a journey of discovery and adaptation.

### *Presenters*

Jess Kidder

Emily Ulmer

Nurya Love Parish, *Director for Mission and Community Engagement, Episcopal Diocese of the Great Lakes*

## **Co2 Energy, Climate, and Faith**

Energy, Climate, and Faith: Building Shared Understanding for Wise Choices. In this workshop, we will explore energy and climate questions through the lens of our Christian faith and our call to seek the common good. Participants will build a practical understanding of how energy systems work and why energy policy choices inevitably involve trade-offs.

Together we will consider how people of faith can hold seemingly competing commitments in both head and heart, such as expanding access to affordable, reliable energy while also working to reduce emissions. Participants will be introduced to a framework for thinking about these tensions and for evaluating the many energy and climate proposals that shape public policy and public conversation.

The session concludes with a brief faith-rooted sending moment that gathers the learning together. Participants will leave with a clearer understanding of how energy shapes the lives of all people, a practical framework for thinking about energy and climate policy at local, state, and national levels, and concrete ideas for what to do next—whether that means learning more, sharing these insights with others, or helping shape thoughtful and compassionate public policy.

This session is appropriate for participants from middle school age and up.

### *Presenter*

Alan Medsker, *St. Simon's Episcopal Church, Arlington Heights, IL (Chicago)*

## **C03 Choir Rehearsal**

Westley will lead the volunteer choir in rehearsal before the eucharist. The choir will be the choir in the eucharist. All are welcome to participate!

*Leader*

Westley Art Hodges, *St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Evanston, IL, Director of Music Ministries*

## **Co4 Listening Before Launching: Building Ministry With (Not For) the Community**

Too often, churches respond to community needs by launching well-intentioned programs without deeply listening to the people they hope to serve—or to the voices within their own congregation. This workshop explores how Episcopal communities can shift from program only models to community-driven ministry rooted in shared listening, discernment, and leadership across ages. Through two case studies—one programmatic (a parishbased afterschool ministry) and one nonprogrammatic (the *Priesthood of All Queer Believers* podcast, born from listening to voices within and beyond a local congregation)—participants will explore how different forms of ministry can emerge from the same posture of attentiveness and shared discernment.

### Key Focus Areas:

- Practices of listening to both congregation and neighborhood.
- How youth and adults bring different (and equally valuable) perspectives to community engagement.
- Moving from “good ideas” to responsive, sustainable ministry.

### What Participants Will Gain:

- A framework for discerning community needs collaboratively.
- Tools for involving youth and adults together in ministry planning.
- Reflection questions to assess whether current ministries are truly community-driven.

### *Presenters*

Tym House, *Church of the Redeemer, Cincinnati, OH*

Anny Stevens-Gleason, *Church of the Redeemer, Cincinnati, OH*

## **C05 AI and the Waters We Love**

AI gets a lot of hype but what does it actually cost, and what can it genuinely do for the world we're called to care for? This session takes an honest look at AI's environmental footprint alongside its surprising role in protecting the Great Lakes and water systems worldwide. Beyond that, if stewarded correctly, it can also be an amazing tool in ministry. You'll leave with a practical framework for using these tools intentionally, as faithful stewards.

*Presenter*

Lorenzo Lebrija, *Executive Director, TryTank*

## **Co6 Go Where People Are: Evangelism Means Showing Up**

Evangelism is “sharing good news.” After a quick overview of what we know to be good news in our town, we will discuss strategies for showing up. What are ways to be more visible as a congregation and as a Christian? How much do people recognize your congregation as a resource, and how can you increase that?

This workshop will include a quick overview of marketing: product, placement, pricing, promotions, and publicity, as it applies to congregational programming.

### *Presenter*

Elizabeth Mae Magill, *Coordinator for Community Life, Episcopal Divinity School*

Elizabeth Mae Magill (Liz) is Coordinator for Community Life at Episcopal Divinity School and the author of *Five Loaves, Two Fish, Twelve Volunteers: Growing a Relational Food Ministry* (Upper Room 2020) and *When Did We See You? A seven week exploration of Poverty & Wealth* (Upper Room 2026). She also writes a free Newsletter for churches to take a stand in our times: *Act! Be Church Now*. Subscribe at [ElizabethMaeMagill.com](http://ElizabethMaeMagill.com)

## **C07 *Bodewadmi Ndaw* (I am Potawatomi)**

film by young Gun Lake Tribe member

Davis Henderson - Potawatomi Voice Actor, Filmmaker, Director, Storyteller, Gun Lake Tribe member and recent graduate of Kalamazoo College - will show his 20-minute documentary film ***Bodewadmi Ndaw*** about his family's story and the struggle to keep the Potawatomi language alive. Across the US, Indigenous families were required to send their children to Indian Boarding Schools--run by Episcopal and other churches for the US government--from 1884 till 1983 for the school in Harbor Springs, Michigan. All those years, the children were punished for speaking their own language.

Davis connects really well with participants. Since he graduated from Kalamazoo College just a year ago, and since his film is partly about children's experience in school, this is a good workshop for youth, as well as adults of all ages. His film and his presence offer others a pathway to nurture healing and support repair of past wrongs.

### *Presenters*

Davis Henderson, *Filmmaker, Potawatomi tribal member*

Hosts: Tobi Hanna-Davies and Linda MacDonald and other St. Luke's AntiRacism Team members

## **Co8 Processes for Peace: Holding Space for the Spirit**

This workshop will talk about practices that allow us to live into our baptismal vows, personally and communally. Connecting our personal beliefs with how we act on them in the world, we will talk about how group processes like world cafe, small group discussion, or larger mediation practices hold space for the Spirit to flow, rather than being regulated by rules and laws.

Sometimes the process is actually a theory we apply to behavior that we see around us, giving us understanding to guide our own response in community life. At LMPC, we ascribe to Bowen Family System Theory.

There will be opportunities to practice some techniques to illustrate these processes and theories as well!

*Presenter*

Dorren Gertsen-Briand, *Lombard Mennonite Peace Center*

## **C09 Migration Ministry in the Midst of Change**

For many years, the only constant in migration ministry has been change. Join Allison Duvall, Senior Manager for Church Relations and Engagement in The Episcopal Church's Public Witness team, to discuss how Episcopal Migration Ministries has weathered the past 18 months of massive change to U.S. refugee resettlement and immigration, and to explore how we are called at all levels of Church to engage in migration ministry today.

### *Presenter*

Allison Duvall, *The Episcopal Church, Public Witness/Episcopal Migration Ministries*

## **C10 Ending Gun Violence**

A panel of peacemakers from across the Province will share a variety of ways and opportunities to engage with ending gun violence. From spiritual and liturgical interventions, practical community events, to community organizing and advocacy within faith and civic communities alike, presenters span generations, community settings, and dioceses of the Province, making room for everyone to find their call to end gun violence.

### *Presenters*

Rosalind Hughes, *Canon for Beloved Community, Ohio*

Hope Christensen

Nancy Collins

Barry Randolph

## **C11 Awakening our hearts: Presence into Power**

We live in times of turbulence and chaos. We know holding ourself in center is critical to acting with Love. A clear, calm heart can transform the world.

This workshop helps us remember God is Love and how to listen to our inner voice. Learning how to hold steady and move within a situation, changes the game. We no longer use force or create equal and opposite reactions.

From a place of deep center, we can shine like the sun.

We will begin with an introduction and a series of micro-practices that helps increase our awareness of Presence and calm our running minds.

We will do small group exercises that increase our connection and then move deeper into Peace. From peace we call forth our inner Wisdom and listen. Having touched this deeper place, we move back into community sharing our insights. It is acting from these insights that allow us to show up in our power.

This workshop is designed for all ages to attend.

### *Presenter*

Jan Byars, *Good Samaritan Episcopal Church, Brownsburg, IN (Indianapolis)*

## **C12 Tell Me the Truth About Nature**

In this workshop you will gather with us around the sand to hear new stories about the natural environment showing God's dream of flowing love in Creation. We will also wonder how the clarity of God's Dream and the lies in the world that try to separate us from that dream, create openings for new stories we haven't considered yet. You'll get the chance as a group to play together, to create a vision for the future coming of God's dream, and maybe to become a kind of community yourselves.

In sand we create welcoming environments for people to explore challenging conversations through the lens of God's dream for all creation. Our unique storytelling approach creates a tactile and visual experience that makes complex historical realities accessible without sacrificing their depth. When you sink your hands into the cool sand, something shifts. The familiar sensation awakens curiosity. What once felt overwhelming becomes a journey you can navigate with others. The sand invites wonder rather than prescribe answers. The sand creates space for transformation through curiosity instead of confrontation.

### *Presenter*

Jen Enriquez, *Sowing Seeds In the Sand*

Will Bouvel, *Sowing Seeds In the Sand*

## **C13 Parish-Based Campus Ministry at Different Stages of Development**

There are dozens of parishes across the Province that are at various stages of building or launching a campus ministry at an Institution of Higher Learning in their ministry context. Learn what's inspiring them, the factors shaping their missional imagination, and how they're growing and being stretched as they encounter Jesus Christ in these new relationships they're forming with students and young adults.

### *Presenters*

Eric Richey, *Campus Ministry Developer, Province V*  
Campus Ministry Cohort Participants

## **C14 Code Switching with Morse Code Jewelry**

As LGBTQIA2S+ people, we have to walk multiple worlds. For some, with multiple identities (folks of Color, differently-abled, Youth, Immigrants, etc.), this journey is even more complicated. Code switching is the use of one dialect, accent, mannerism, or language over another, depending on the social or cultural context, to assist in the building of rapport or relationship with others of a particular group. In this workshop we will discuss code switching a bit. However, most of the time will be spent making a coded bracelet or necklace using beads and Morse code.

*Presenter*

Shaneequa Brokenleg

## C15 Environmental Stewardship In Tanzania

***“God created a beautiful garden and entrusted it to us.  
We must rise as faithful stewards of His creation.”***

*~ Bishop Daudi Ndahana*

The Avocado Fruit Seedling Distribution Initiative is a key component of the Anglican Diocese of Kibondo, Tanzania’s ongoing environmental conservation and creation-care campaign. We have successfully raised 9,644 high-quality avocado seedlings, which will be distributed to families and parishes with church farmlands. This initiative promotes environmental restoration, strengthens parish economies, and supports long-term diocesan sustainability. The Bishop highlights that fruit trees offer both ecological and economic benefits: improving soil health, restoring green cover, and providing food and income for families. He reminds us that as they plant and harvest these fruits, they’ll enjoy the blessing of their labor: eating from their own land, selling produce to support their households, and contributing to community well-being.

Bishop Daudi’s vision is that God’s original mandate for humanity in Genesis 2:15 is a divine instruction that still stands today. We are called to protect, preserve, and nurture the earth with faithfulness. Widespread deforestation, irresponsible land use, and environmental neglect have contributed to the climate challenges we now face and are a warning that creation is groaning under human carelessness. His vision is for us to take an active role in restoring God’s creation in Tanzania.

### *Presenters*

Joel Prather, *Rector, St. Bartholomew’s Episcopal Church, Pewaukee, Wisconsin*  
Daudi Ndahana, *Bishop, The Diocese of Kibondo, The Anglican Church of Tanzania*  
Jackson Ashery Maombi, *Community Development Office, The Diocese of Kibondo, The Anglican Church of Tanzania*

Fr. Joel is married to Tammy Prather, who lead a Congressional Development Workshop at BPG 2022, and they have one son who attends Illinois State University. He has served as a parish priest in Wisconsin since 2014 and prior to that he and Tammy planted a new congregation in the Diocese of Dallas. He is passionate about mobilizing congregations to serve the most vulnerable locally and worldwide.

Bishop Daudi was consecrated the second bishop of the Diocese of Kibondo on October 5, 2025. He and his wife Olivia have five children, the oldest of whom is married and has their three grandchildren and the youngest who is in elementary school. They are also raising their young niece and nephew. Bishop Daudi has served as a diocesan General Secretary (Canon to the Ordinary) and grew *Kasulu Bible College* from humble beginnings to become *Lake Tanganyika Theological College*. He and Olivia also founded *THESPO - Tanzanians Helping the Elderly and Single Parents Organization*.

Jackson and his wife Elizabeth have four school-aged children. Jackson oversees the diocese’s *Environmental Stewardship Initiative* which has purchased, distributed, and trained members in planting 9,644 avocado seedling and 38,791 pine and eucalyptus seedlings, *the Diocesan Health Center* which is poised to become one of the only full-service hospitals in the region, and the diocese’s *Savings and Credit / Self-Help Groups* which offer mentoring in economic resilience and entrepreneurship through the local parishes.

## **C16 Prayer As Spiritual Practice**

A workshop to enhance your prayer life by exploring personal prayer. This workshop will welcome all ages.

Interactive workshop provides experiences on:

Conversation with God

Silence as Prayer

Creating and using Prayer Intentions

Using the BCP Daily Office and Apps that Help

Learn more here: <https://prayerspiritualpractice.blog>

*Presenter*

Sarah Swart, *Monastic Solitary, St. Luke's, Kalamazoo*