

Bishop's Day Workshops 2012

1.

Raw Materials 101 (Morning & Afternoon Sessions)

MissionInsite Demographics study, how to maximize its potential to grow your church.

Presenter, Jim Noggle

Do you know what type of clay you have to work with? When Jesus was asked, "who is my neighbor?" He answered with the parable of the Good Samaritan, a story of neighbors, do you know who your neighbor is?

Jim Noggle is the pastor of Northlawn UMC (1157 Northlawn NE, GR, 49505) and WMC contact for MissionInsite Demographics. Email: therev@northlawnumc.org.

Booklist:

- Dying for Change by Leith Anderson
- Advanced Strategic Planning by Aubrey Maslphurs
- Viral Churches by Ed Stetzer and Warren Bird

2.

The Wired Church Workshops

Technology is never obsolete! Don't miss the boat and drown in the new cultural tide.

The Wired Church: Basic Hardware and Software (Morning Session Only)

Presenter, Ed Mohr

This workshop will explore the basic hardware and software components needed to run an office, including cost effective places to purchase items.

The Wired Church: Your Church and the Web (Afternoon Session Only)

Presenter, Ed Mohr

This workshop will explore why you need to be on the web, how to get there, the cost, and a discussion about social media sites like Facebook.

Ed Mohr is the pastor of Gobles and Kendall UMCs (210 E. Exchange St., Gobles, 49055) and a former network administrator, computer programmer and computer store owner. Email: pastored@goblesumc.org or pastormohr@gmail.com.

Booklist:

- The Wired Church 2.0 by Len Wilson with Jason Moore

3.

Five-Ten Hospitality (Morning & Afternoon Sessions)

Five minutes and Ten feet to outrageous hospitality! Presenters, Matt Bistayi and Darin VanderMolen

Hospitality is about how we treat people through the love of Jesus! That means it is not something that is passive and silent (especially on Sunday mornings!) In this high energy and experiential workshop you'll learn how to help your church create a culture of outrageous hospitality.

Matt Bistayi is the pastor of Valley Church in Allendale and **Darin VanderMolen** is the Worship Leader and together they'll bring amped up energy, contagious enthusiasm and practical nuts and bolts to this workshop.

Email: mbistayi@yahoo.com, (Valley Church, 5980 Lake Michigan Drive, Allendale, 49401)

4.

Yoga Workshops* (Morning & Afternoon Sessions)

Yoga is an ancient, yet progressive physical activity that challenges and nurtures students on many levels.

Some people come to yoga for relief of pain, some as a form of exercise and some as a way of life. Yoga encompasses all of these, but ultimately the main intention of yoga is to liberate the human being. The word yoga means to unite or draw together all aspects of the person into harmony. Yoga is a tool used to reconnect the mental, emotional, physical and spiritual aspects with an inner wisdom in which there is no doubt as to the connection of all things.

Yoga instructors: Cathy McKenzie and Evy Hazenberg are both graduates of Prairie Yoga School.

Email: bettina.cousineau@nara.gov with Cascade Yoga Studio.

*Participants need to bring a yoga mat and dress in stretchy clothing.

5.

Holy Conversations: Issues pertaining to General Conference 2012

(Morning & Afternoon Sessions)

Presenter, Nichea Ver Veer Guy

Every four years we have the amazing opportunity to be in dialogue with UM's from around the world in shaping the profound way our faith tradition can engage one another in Christ. We will prayerfully make decisions that will guide the profound work we do as a faith driven body of Christ.

Nichea Ver Veer Guy is the Director of Children and Family Ministries at Trinity UMC.

Email: orangeclt00@aol.com

Booklist:

- Radical Welcome; Embracing God, the Other, and the Spirit of Transformation by Stephanie Spellers
- Five Practices of a Fruitful Congregation by Bishop Schnase
- The Gospel According to Starbucks by Leonard Sweet

6.

Intentional Faith Formation (Morning Session Only)

Now that they are here, what do we do with them?! Presenter, Kim DeLong

Chaos Theory might work in developing faithful disciples of Jesus, but it isn't recommended. Growing into mature and committed Christians takes intention on everyone's part. Come learn how to create a plan for spiritual formation that has balance and allows for a variety of entry points.

Rev. Kim DeLong is a Deacon and Director of Education at Grand Rapids First UMC.

Email: kimd@grandrapidsfumc.org

7.

Reshape Your Children's Ministry (Afternoon Session Only)

A discussion around K-5th grade Christian Education in GR District churches.

Presenter/Moderator, Glenys Nellist

Take part in a sharing of what's working in our churches for K-5th grade programs with examples from the perspective of a small, medium and large church.

Our discussion will center on curriculum; outreach events; recruiting, training and retaining volunteers, and connecting with parents.

Glenys Nellist is the wife of Trinity UMC pastor David Nellist and the WMC Christian Education chair.

Discussion participants include the following Christian Education Directors:

Kate Robbins, Lakeside UMC

Liz Bode, Wesley Park UMC

Bethann Fernandez, Cornerstone UMC

8. **VCI-Three Letters that Can Help Us Grow (Morning & Afternoon Sessions)**

Presenter, Benton Heisler

The Vital Church Initiative (VCI) is a three year process, of monthly intentional learning communities for lay and clergy, combined with supportive accountability through coaching, which is intended to help congregations and pastors discover the gifts they can best put to use in today's ministry contexts. You will be introduced to the topics and concepts that have made this an effective process in other UM Conferences across the country. You will better understand how you and your congregation can be equipped for essential change, the amount of time and money that you will be asked to invest and the potential results that are anticipated.

Rev. Benton R. Heisler, Director of Connectional Ministries. Benton has served congregations of various sizes, was the Lansing District Supt. for 6 ½ years and is now in his 4th year in this position. He brings to this workshop his past experiences and his passion to help congregations grow.

Booklist:

- Re-Creating the Church: Leadership for the Postmodern Age by Richard Hamm
- Direct Hit by Paul Borden
- The Externally Focused Church by Rick Ruckshaw & Eric Swanson
- The Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations by Bishop Robert Schnase

9. **Live Life: *That you may have life and have it more abundantly* (John 10:10)**
(Morning & Afternoon Sessions)

Presenter, Wendy Clark, R.N., P.N

By caring for our wholistic needs we can embrace the aging process. Our congregations need to be intentional in understanding and developing wholistic ministries for the Senior Adult or we will miss reaching a generation of over 78 million adults. By caring for our wholistic needs we can embrace the aging process and be faithful stewards of God's Gift - our bodies. "Live Life" will reflect upon the wholistic needs of the Senior Adult; define wholistic health; what a wholistic ministry for Seniors may look like in your congregation and its development. Jesus' ministry was one of health and wholeness for all ages. How can your congregation strengthen and support wholistic health of Senior Adults?

Wendy Clark, R.N., P.N. is a retired Parish Nurse and a member of GR Aldersgate. Current conference activities include: Conference Board of Global Ministries, Conference Board of Pension/Health Benefits and Health Care Committee, and Staff Coordinator for Christian Athletic Camp.

Email: gracewac@gmail.com

Booklist:

- Aging-the Fulfillment of Life by Henri Nowuen
- Understanding the Senior Adult-a Tool for Wholistic Ministry by Lois Knutson
- Full Circle-Spiritual Therapy for the Elderly by Kevin Kirkland and Howard Ilveen
- Building A Ministry for Homebound and Nursing Home Residents by Marie White Webb
- Graying of the Church by Richard Gentzler, Jr.
- Senior Adult Ministry in the 21st Century by Dr. David Gallagher; Designing an Older Adult Ministry by Richard Gentzler
- God's Challenge to Church & Synagogue by Richard Gentzler, Jr & Donald Clingan

10. **A Mindfulness Based Approach (Morning & Afternoon Sessions)**

Presenter, Tim Tuthill

Decreased membership, decreasing revenue, old ways and new ways-It takes your breath away to look at the rate of change and reactivity in the church today. What does a new approach to issues, challenges, and opportunities look like? It might be as simple as learning how to breathe in fully and manage the winds of

change differently. Join Tim Tuthill for a session on learning new practices for being present in the moment learning how to step back and be still. The class will focus on learning ways to be less reactive and more thoughtful by incorporating aspects of meditation, systems theory and spirituality.

Rev. Tim Tuthill is the Director of Pastoral Care Clark Retirement Community. He is an ordained UMC minister and clinical social worker. Tim has trained with Jon Kabot-Zinn in Mindfulness Based Stress Reduction. Tim is interested in creating connectedness and finding ways to help individuals, families, and organizations address anxiety.

Email: timt@clarkretirement.org

11.

A Mission Trip to Your Own Zip Code (Morning & Afternoon Sessions)

Presenters, Rick Blunt and members of Lowell UMC

What if over 70% of your congregation got involved in a single, weeklong project that deeply impacted your local community? Would it reshape the community more or the congregation more? Learn how a small congregation (summer worship attendance of 144) got over 105 people involved in volunteering over 1,700 hours over 7 days to accomplish 106 tasks in 36 area homes with an estimated value of over \$75,000 and paired it with taking their nightly VBS to the front lawn of the mobile home park. Learn how the greatest impact wasn't for the folks helped, but by the people helping and church community strengthened. It was so powerful Lowell First wants to help other congregations do similar things in your setting. Nuts and bolts details, do's and don'ts.

Pastor Rick Blunt, Tim Dimmick and laity from Lowell First UMC. Email: rickblunt@hotmail.com

12.

Relational Student Ministry: Fad or Future? (Morning & Afternoon Sessions)

Presenters, Chris McKenna & Betsy Marvin

Relationships are messy. Relationships with teenagers can be downright dirty. Is the time we invest worth the effort? What if we said that developing relationships with teenagers isn't about making them better Christians? But instead, helping them embrace an identity in Christ (Galatians). This original identity is under constant attack from a world bent against that which is good, that which is created in His likeness. Youth pastors and adults leading in student ministry are in a unique position to enter into their suffering, rejoice at their progress, and point them towards the incarnate Christ.

Chris McKenna, Director of Middle School Ministry at Cornerstone UMC.

Email: chrism@cornerstonemi.org

Betsy Marvin, Director of High School and Young Adult Ministry at Cornerstone UMC.

Email: betsym@cornerstonemi.org

Booklist:

- Hurt by Chap Clark
- Revisiting Relational Youth Ministry by Andrew Root
- Sticky Faith by Kara Powell and Chap Clark

13.

Drop the I-word “~~illegals~~” (Morning Session Only)

Presenters:

JFON Regional Coordinator –Laura L. Rampersad

JFON Regional Attorney – Elizabeth Balck

Explore how the use of the term “illegals” alienates and excites fear in our communities preventing constructive dialogue of the real issues. GCORR is supporting the “Drop the I-word” campaign which raises

awareness about the words we use. Using the term “illegal,” as in illegal immigrants casts people as adverse or strange. The term “illegal” is inaccurate. It fails to capture the complexities and varied stories of people involved in the immigration process. Use of the i-word targets people of color and immigrants and leads to racial profiling and scapegoating rather than addressing the larger issues at hand. This workshop will provide tools to change the conversation on immigration in our congregations and communities.

Laura Rampersad is a member of GR First United Methodist Church and an original member of the JFON start-up task force. She has been operating as Clinic Coordinator for Grand Rapids in a volunteer capacity since opening in February 2004.

Liz Balck is a native of Grand Rapids, Michigan. She graduated from St. Mary’s College of Indiana and Thomas M Cooley Law School in Auburn Hills, Michigan. She has worked with immigrants since 1999. Ms. Balck became the Regional Attorney at Justice for Our Neighbors in April 2009.

Booklist:

- Series of articles and postings available on GCORR website:
http://www.gcorr.org/site/c.mwKWJ9NTJtF/b.6633165/k.D7F3/Drop_the_IWord_Campaign_News.htm

JFON Contact Information:

Laura L. Rampersad, Regional Coordinator (616) 481-8145
Liz F. Balck, Regional Attorney (616) 350-4510 (cell)
Lauren Carlson, Legal Assistant (616) 301-7461 (office) – Hrs: Mon & Wed
JFON Address: 207 Fulton E, Grand Rapids, MI 49506

14.

Communities of Shalom: Saying Yes to the Gospel, Whatever It Takes (Morning Session Only)

Presenter, Julie Liske

An introduction to the challenging work of fostering relationships between congregations and neighborhoods that promote the health, wholeness and strength of the entire community. The mission, principles and strategies of the Shalom Initiative mirror the call of Christ’s Gospel: to put faith into action, bring systemic change, share spiritual growth, strengthen multi-cultural relationships, and be part of the healing and wholeness of the whole community. Congregations serious about working with their communities to respond to complex and deep-rooted ills will discover in the Shalom framework methods and skills to become one of the strengths of the community itself. While full of hope and joy, seeking God’s shalom is a life-long effort that is not for the faint of heart. Those seeking the easy street to following Jesus will not find it in this workshop, or in the work of Shalom; those willing to do whatever it takes to say yes to the Gospel in healing the world will be right at home.

Rev. Julie Liske serves as Executive Director of UM Metro Ministry of Greater Grand Rapids and as clergy associate at Trinity UMC in Grand Rapids. Julie believes that living God’s shalom is not only possible, but is the defining characteristic of every true disciple of Jesus Christ. Contact Julie at

jliske@grmetroministry.org.

Booklist:

- 50 Ways to Pray: Practices from Many Traditions and Times by Teresa A. Blythe
- Not Just a One Night Stand: Ministry With the Homeless by John Flowers and Karen Vannoy
- Practicing the Sacred Art of Listening: A Guide to Enrich Your Relationships and Kindle Your Spiritual Life by Kay Lindahl
- Change the World: Recovering the Message and Mission of Jesus by Mike Slaughter
- Radical Welcome: Embracing God, The Other, and the Spirit of Transformation by Stephanie Spellers

15.

No Matter How Hard You Try, You Will Never Be Fired! (Morning & Afternoon Sessions)

Presenter, Shelly Virva, LMSW

Overuse of our Emergency Departments is one of major factors in the overall rise of healthcare costs in the US. This workshop will explore the reasons for this and a local program whose goal is to change how we deal with this issue. As healthcare costs continue to rise in the US, it affects all of us but has a greater impact on the poor. It is the poor and disenfranchised who use our emergency departments in excess often get labeled as addicts, some are but many are not. All, however, have been written off by our current healthcare system as difficult, unmotivated or chronic.

Shelly is a licensed clinical social worker and addiction specialist. She is a member at Marne United Methodist Church and married to the pastor, Tommy Boutell. She works for Network 180 at the Spectrum Health Medical Group Center for Integrated Medicine. Her focus is brief crisis intervention, assessment and counseling. Contact Shelly at mvirva@yahoo.com.