



NEW! Ministry Groups Training

Thursday, April 25, 9:00 – 11:00 am

At Celebration 2019, Central Conference ministry groups will gather for training and a time of networking with each other. These are opportunities for specific ministries to come together to learn and share.

YOUTH WORKERS

Seek First the Kingdom of God...Navigating Youth Ministry Within Polarization – led by Bret Widman

We live in a time where students like/dislike, agree/disagree, trust/distrust. The pressure to CHOOSE a side is an ongoing stress for these students. This workshop will help you lead your students to reframe all their choices with a Kingdom paradigm and perspective. Rather than choose one side over another, the Kingdom is not “here” or “there”, but “among.” Please bring your bibles as we will be navigating many passages of Jesus’ teachings.

About Bret: As someone who has served for over 30 years in pastoral ministry (Youth and Lead Pastor), Bret is fully aware of how complex this particular time is for the church. Reaching back deep into a course in his D.Min with Dallas Willard, having a clear theology and practice of the Kingdom of God helps navigate these complex realities. As the Director of CRUX at NPU, he is helping first year students follow Jesus through this paradigm of the Kingdom.

Questions? Contact Bret at bmwidman@northpark.edu

WOMEN IN MINISTRY

Pastor to Pastor: What Women Want – led by Lisa Orris

As a woman in ministry, you may have a story, experience or an encounter that was less than appropriate or at least painful to navigate just because you’re a woman. At this workshop we will dialogue and empower one another to give voice to those stories. Our hope is that by hearing one another and networking together we can corporately communicate best practices for addressing those issues we uniquely face as women in ministry. Bring your voice to join a new, strategic conversation for women in leadership in the Central Conference and the ECC.

About Lisa: Lisa Orris has been at Hope Church in Crystal Lake, IL since 2012. She earned her BA in Criminology from Gannon University and a Master of Divinity from North Park Theological Seminary. After graduating from seminary, she accepted a call to be the Director of Evangelism for the national office of the Covenant Church where she served for five years. You will often find Lisa out on the lake soaking up the sun, walking around trying to get her 10,000 steps a day, and surrounded by all her candles and blankets in the winter because she hates to be cold!

Questions? Contact Lisa at orris.lisa@gmail.com

SPIRITUAL DIRECTORS (AND THOSE INTERESTED IN SPIRITUAL DIRECTION)

This Is Spiritual Direction – *led by Spiritual Directors' Network*

At this workshop the Central Conference Spiritual Directors Network (CCSDN) talks about Spiritual Direction. Perhaps you have heard about spiritual direction and wondered, “What is spiritual direction?” Maybe you have been in spiritual direction yourself or know someone else who is in direction and felt a tug to explore more deeply what it would mean to become a spiritual director. In this two-part workshop, experienced spiritual directors from the Central Conference Spiritual Directors Network will be sharing about what to expect in spiritual direction, how to find a spiritual director, and (part 2) how one would pursue becoming a spiritual director.

About CCSDN: The CCSDN provides free direction to pastors, their spouses, and missionaries free of charge for up to a year. With our commitment to confidentiality, one pastor/director has said it has been the one place he can ask the big questions of his faith, and share his true self in a non-judgmental, sacred space. It is our desire to give the ministry of spiritual direction more visibility and make it more available to the pastors in our conference.

Questions? Contact Deb Strahan at dstrahan@jpusa.org

CHAPLAINS

Chaplaincy Is Not for Cowards – *led by Adria Willet*

This gathering will be a place for connection and to learn from one another. It will be a space to share best practices as chaplains gather to discuss their experiences and what they have learned in their ministry settings.

About Adria: Adria Willet is the vice-chair of the ECC's Chaplain Association and a part-time chaplain at Swedish Covenant Hospital. She looks forward to this time to gather with other chaplains.

Questions? Contact Adria at pastor@immanuelcov.org

WORSHIP LEADERS

Establishing Mature And *Maturing* Worship Teams – led by Glen Kaiser and Josef Rasheed

Solid foundations and timely "tuck pointing" spiritually and practically are always needed for gathered people of God to move into greater intimacy with the Father, Son, and Spirit in corporate worship. It is our desire to encourage and uplift attendees with sharing and lively discussion during our time together!

About Glenn and Josef: Covenant Pastors and Worship Leaders Glenn Kaiser and Josef Rasheed bring many years of experience to the topic. They welcome all questions related to this central aspect of local and larger church ministry!

Questions? Contact Glenn at gkaiser@jpusa.org

INTERIM PASTORAL CALLING

Navigating the Neutral Zone – Cost \$20 (9:00 am – noon) – led by Peter Sjoblom

Thinking of interim ministry as a future calling? How is interim ministry changing as churches seek to understand their role in this day? What are congregations looking for in the interim? What is conference leadership looking for? How can we help a congregation increase awareness? Join other pastors investigating the art of transitional ministry. Interact with practitioners who have begun this journey. Learn important skills in helping congregations prepare for a preferred future.

About Peter: Peter Sjoblom is the Associate Superintendent of the Central Conference. He has experienced in revitalization of churches and placement of pastors in the area.

Questions? Contact Peter at psjoblom@centralconf.org