

2009 Minnesota Conference Annual Meeting Workshop Schedule

1:30-3:00pm Saturday

1. The Turkish Scarf Project

How did it originate and what's happening now. Information about other UCC ministries in Turkey.

Diana Hanke

Room: Benedicta Arts Center 106

2. Policies that Protect

In addition to being a spiritual community, the local church is also a not-for-profit organization, which must establish policies to protect: financial, legal, personnel and more. Sit in on a mythical meeting of "First Holy Pilgrim Reformed UCC" as they navigate the many policy issues facing a congregation.

Mary Seymour, UCC Cornerstone Fund

Room: BAC 107

(offered twice)

3. Call to Renewal – Journeying toward Antiracism Transformation

Our Christian call is to be in sacred relationship. Racism is a violation of relationship; yet racism continues coming to us as an unwanted legacy, a wounding legacy. In this workshop we shall share lessons learned about the transformative power of dialogues – reflection, study, storytelling, practice – to understand, own, and be accountable for our legacy and to identify ways to build new relationships and responsible, just social patterns. Together as the church and together with others, we can empower ourselves and build beloved community. Includes description of the ASDIC Antiracism Study-Dialogue Circles Program, the ASDIC Theory of Change, and antiracism tools and resources.

Margery Otto and Herb Perkins

Room: Henrita Acad. Building 2

4. Resolution regarding Establishing Ongoing Relationships with MN Native American Communities

Participate in a discussion and feedback on this resolution. Calling the Minnesota Conference UCC to live out its commitment to ongoing relationships with Native American communities of Minnesota.

MN Conf. Justice & Witness Team, MN

Conf. Emmaus Anti-Racism Team, Rev. John Guttermann and Patsy Parker

Room: HAB 3

5. Best Practices in local church stewardship

A panel of church leaders share their perspectives on strengthening congregations in the practices of giving and generosity, even in these difficult financial times.

Rev. Jane McBride, MN Conf. OCWM

Room: HAB 9

(offered twice)

6. Practical Spirituality

This workshop will invite you to make better connections to God's presence and guidance and instruct you how to do so based on your personal learning style.

Rev. Greg Kappahn

Room: HAB 15

7. A Faithful Response to Immigration in Minnesota

The workshop will explore the following issues and topics: What is happening in Minnesota regarding immigration? What are local groups doing to secure justice for immigrants? What should a new and humane federal immigration policy look like?

MN Conf. Immigration Task Force

Rev. Don Christensen, Rev. Paula Bidle

Room: HAB 106

8. Creating a Culture of Call in your Congregation

Drawing on several resources, this workshop will address ways congregations can nurture potential leaders of any age so the seminaries can help provide the next generation of ministers.

Rev. Glen Herrington-Hall

Room: HAB 107

9. Journey to Sudan

A look inside a weary and war torn country trying to find a normalcy that has been noticeably absent for over twenty years. The hope of the black African Christians (in southern Sudan) lies in the Lord, Jesus Christ and in churches filled with joy, music, and praise each and every week. It is hard to understand how the people can rejoice and dance and give thanks to God when they are barely surviving, but it is wonderful to experience. Come and see what is happening in the southern region of Sudan as the Arab Muslims in the north continue to make life nearly impossible for their fellow citizens in the south and in the Darfur area. Look into the eyes of Sudan and see the Christ in their midst.

Rev. Lynn Borgeson

Room: HAB 115

10. Understanding our 21st Century Communities and Culture

Participants in this workshop will learn about the current cultural context and its impact on our churches and communities. Participants will review resources from MissionInsite Demographics for use in knowing their community context.

Rev. David Schoen

Room: HAB 117

11. Bylaw Amendments

The Board of Directors is recommending changes to the bylaws. Attend this workshop if you have questions.

MN Conf. Board of Directors

Room: HAB 118

12. Anti-Racism: Language of Inclusion

Reaching out to young adults with music. Explore music and how music can be a tool to deal with racism in young adult circles. Come prepared to listen.

Enzie Tanner

Room: HAB 119

13. Overcoming the Silence: "Listening" to those who are unable to speak

Learn practical ways to provide spiritual and emotional support when visiting someone who has had a stroke, is in a coma, has dementia or cannot communicate for other reasons.

Rev. Jane Millikan

Room: HAB 121

14. Pilgrim Point Camp discussion

Room: HAB 128

(offered twice)

15. Designing Real Worship for Your Real Community

Rev. Paul Nixon

Room: HAB 120

16. Finding God in Church: The Way to Renewal (Part I)

Rev. Susan K. Smith

Room: HAB 101

17. Creating Dance for Worship

Creating vital worship means engaging the whole person. What better way than through dance, whether performed by a few or participated in by a whole congregation. Beth will teach a short dance adaptable for your use, and teach some "how to" for creating your own. All abilities are welcome!

Rev. Beth Donaldson

Room: BAC Dance Studio

3:30-5:00pm Saturday

1. Prophetic Faith: Preparing your church to advocate social justice

Rev. Trish Greeves

Based on a seven-week congregational study that will be published by *Logos Productions* in July 2009, this workshop will introduce a model of holistic faith that will help local church leaders overcome resistance to congregational engagement in social justice ministry.

Room: BAC 106

2. Budgets that Inspire Giving

Mary Seymour, UCC Cornerstone Fund

We'll look at how to turn a "boring" line item budget into a more engaging, inspiring document that tells the congregation's story. Narrative budgets describe the various ministries of the church and reflect the cost of offering those ministries, communicating more effectively with the congregation. **Room: BAC 107**

(offered twice)

3. Call to Renewal – Journeying toward Antiracism Transformation

Margery Otto and Herb Perkins

Our Christian call is to be in sacred relationship. Racism is a violation of relationship; yet racism continues coming to us as an unwanted legacy, a wounding legacy. In this workshop we shall share lessons learned about the transformative power of dialogues – reflection, study, storytelling, practice – to understand, own, and be accountable for our legacy and to identify ways to build new relationships and responsible, just social patterns. Together as the church and together with others, we can empower ourselves and build beloved community. Includes description of the ASDIC Antiracism Study-Dialogue Circles Program, the ASDIC Theory of Change, and antiracism tools and resources.

Room: Henrita Acad. Building 2

4. Resolution regarding Active Nonviolence Training

**Robbinsdale UCC, Macalester-Plymouth
United Church PeaceMakers, Molly
Redmond, Rev. T. Michael Rock**

Participate in a discussion and feedback on this resolution. Calling the Minnesota Conference participate in the UN's Decade for a Culture of Peace and Nonviolence, to adopt "Creating a Culture of Peace" as a Congregational Training Program, and calling for personal commitments to nonviolence throughout the Minnesota Conference.

Room: HAB: 3

5. Hildegard of Bingen: Eco-Theologian of the 12th Century

Diane Gardner

Nun, herbalist, poet, composer, ecologist – this foremother of the church influenced Europe, stood up for women's rights and defied the church. What can she teach us today?

Room:HAB 9

(offered twice)

6. Practical Spirituality

Rev. Greg Kappahn

This workshop will invite you to make better connections to God's presence and guidance and instruct you how to do so based on your personal learning style.

Room: HAB 15

7. The UCC Environment and Energy Task Force

Phil Cook

Taking a look at the environment related UCC resolutions and actions from the past and at those going forward to this year's General Synod.

Room: HAB 106

8. Every Body

**Rev. Ruth Garwood, Lisa Larges UCC
Coalition for LGBT Concerns**

Once a church becomes Open and Affirming of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people, they often want to extend their welcome and advocacy further. Concerns of accessibility and disability grow naturally from other ONA commitments. At this workshop, through Bible study and discussion, we explore disability issues and how they are important in being fully welcoming. Lisa Larges is a Minnesota native now living in San Francisco. She is the Coordinator of That All May Freely Serve whose mission is to advocate for all who are disenfranchised in the Presbyterian Church, especially lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persons. Ruth Garwood is the Executive Director of the UCC Coalition for LGBT Concerns, the home of the Open and Affirming Program.

Room: HAB 107

9. Becoming Still Speaking Disciples: Sharing our Faith in the 21st Century

Rev. David Schoen

Participants in this workshop will practice sharing their still speaking faith and invitation to others. God is still speaking through you and me!

Room: HAB 117

10. Faith Formation Resources and Ideas

Wade Zick, Ashley Minister

Wade Zick and guest speakers will present new and useful ideas and resources to enhance your ministry with children and youth.

Room: HAB 118

11. Sacred Conversation on Race

**Patsy Parker, Pat Ekstrom, Emmaus
Antiracism Transformation Team**

How congregations have held Sacred Conversations on Race. What have we learned? Where can we go next?

Room: HAB 119

12. Introduction to the Enneagram as a Tool for Spiritual Growth

Rev. Jane McMahon

Each of us develops a personality as a child in order to be safe. In this essential process we forget that we are more than our personality – we are created in the divine image. The enneagram helps us become aware of the ways our own personality limits us. With increased awareness, we can rediscover how to be more fully present to the Holy and to one another and develop compassion for ourselves and others.

Room: HAB 121

13. Budget discussion

Room: HAB 128

(offered twice)

14. Designing Real Worship for Your Real Community

**Rev. Paul Nixon
Room: HAB 120**

16. Finding God in Church: The Way to Renewal (Part II)

**Rev. Susan K. Smith
Room: HAB 101**