

Friday Afternoon Workshops

3:45 – 5:45 p.m.

A. Creating the Beloved Community – A Vision for Campus Ministries

On college campuses around the nation, there is an upsurge in interest in spirituality and a profound desire for connections. Campus ministries are serving these needs through the building of progressive faith communities; places of welcome, refuge and hope. Come learn about this vital extension ministry of the church.

Rev. Paul Cullity, Chaplain and Executive Director, Keene State United Campus Ministry and Pastor, Westmoreland United Church and Rev. Larry Brickner-Wood, Chaplain and Executive Director, The United Campus Ministry, UNH

B. Welcoming GLBT People into Our Churches and Our Hearts

How do we encourage GLBT (gay, lesbian, bisexual & transgender) people and their loved ones to attend our churches and feel welcomed? This workshop will explore the lives of GLBT people and their supporters. We will explore the questions GLBT people face in their own lives as well as the questions members of our congregations may have when someone new starts attending services. We will be discussing ways in which we can create a welcoming sanctuary for people that have spiritual needs to be filled.

Gerri Cannon and Gordon Sherman, members of the Committee for GLBT Concerns, NH Conference, UCC

C. Earth as Sanctuary

Seeing the earth as a natural sacrament helps create a new spirituality - that is a new experience of the spirit acting within everything.

Rev. Roger Burkhart, member of the Spirituality and Earth Stewardship Committee, NH Conference, UCC

D. Music - Zimbabwe Style!

Come to sing and dance with us into the image of God. We'll teach you a few hymns from Zimbabwe that you can take back to your local church. We'll drum, too, and maybe even dance! Come to share a bit of music Zimbabwe style! Bring a drum if you like.

Rev. Kim McKerley, Local Church Coordinator, Ukama/Partnership and members of the Ukama Advisory Board, NH Conference, UCC

E. Congregations: What Makes Them Tick?

This workshop will introduce laity and clergy who are new to "systems thinking" to take a look at congregations as systems. Through the systems lens, we will identify some of the major factors that influence the dynamics in congregations. Our intent will be to have a better understanding of the role of such factors in minimizing conflict and maximizing effectiveness.

Rev. Dr. Cyndi Morse, Transition Ministry Specialist

F. Creating Sanctuary Globally: It's Not All About the Money!

The Global Ministries Story – prayer, education, justice, receiving, giving, and sharing. Come hear how your church can strengthen its' commitment to global mission by becoming a "Global Mission Church." Rebecca will share some stories from her experiences and how she became connected with CGM. If time permits, "Connecting Threads" a DVD about global mission will be shown.

Rebecca Herr, Ministry & Mission Interpreter for Global Ministries and NH Conference, UCC

G. Christian Hospitality, Infusing New Attitudes of Fellowship

Scriptures teach that hospitality to strangers is part of God's call to every disciple. Learn how a mission opportunity to visitors from afar can build habits of outreach that will open new possibilities of friendship to your neighbors.

Rev. J. Loring Carpenter, Executive Director, Seafarer's Friend

H. Sanctuary – The Sounds of Celebration

Come and experience the sounds of sanctuary, discovering the power of music to touch our souls at deeper levels. We will explore sounds for prayer, meditation and worship. Participants will share songs, hymns, speaking words, resources and sound ideas to bring to your congregations. Let's create some new possibilities for the music of our churches. Happy New Ears!

Rev. Kent Schneider, member of Gorham Congregational Church, UCC

I. Granite State Fair Tax Coalition Roundtable

People from across NH have been expressing a desire for change. Review a new thought-provoking 25-minute DVD focusing on NH's current tax structure followed by a discussion with Granite State Fair Tax Coalition members. NH's property tax structure has been addressed several times in the past by resolutions at the NH Conference's Annual Meeting. The work of the Granite State Fair Tax Coalition is supported by the Commission for Witness and Action and the Economic Justice Task Force, NH Conference.

Mark Fernald, Esq., Fernald, Taft, Falby & Little and Rod Wendt, member of Meriden Congregational Church

J. Pastoral Life Coaching: A Resource for Living Well

We are called to live well and to live abundantly into the Image of God. The resources of *Pastoral Life Coaching* help the individual grow and live into that call to abundant life. *PLC* can help faith communities be more intentional about how we love, give, and help each other live into God's call. Participants will learn about *PLC* and experience the amazing, transformative energy *PLC* offers. Discover how this model for effective interactions can vastly improve the quality of your faith community.

Rev. Dr. William (Billy) Cardwell Brown, member of South Congregational Church, Concord

K. Help Stop Torture

Torture violates our most fundamental moral code and distorts the image of God within us. The goal of this workshop is to inform participants of the facts and myths associated with U.S. torture, explore our collective complicity with torture, create open space for dialogue, and share with participants what we can do, especially in conjunction with the National Religious Campaign Against Torture, to stop U.S. torture.

Rev. Gordon Crouch, Chair, Peace with Justice Task Force, NH Conference, UCC

L. Small Church Vitality: Tools You Can Use

The Small Church Vitality Project has enrolled small UCC churches in a group process of learning, reflecting and identity-building so that they can be vital parts of community life. This workshop will share some of the tools these churches are using.

Rev. Gregory Marshall, Temporary Pastor, South Newbury Union Church

M. Images of God's Stewardship & Our Own

What does God do with what God gives? God's gifting? Offering a can do attitude, plan and program for increased, generous giving in your next pledge program.

Rev. Fred Atwood-Lyon, Chair, Stewardship Development Committee, NH Conference, UCC

N. Sanctuary: A Just Peace Church

We will discuss the marks of a Just Peace Church and how they may help a church to be a sanctuary of God's peace with justice.

Rev. Ellen W. Lankhorst, member of Union Congregational Church, Madbury

O. Intimacy with Jesus

After the bible, the book "*The Imitation of Christ*" is probably the best known and best loved book in Christendom. The author, Thomas A. Kempis, sought to lead his readers into a deeper intimacy with Jesus. Participants will be introduced to his writings and to an approach to deepening their relationship with Jesus.

Rev. Dr. John Betournay, Interim Minister, Smith Memorial Church, Hillsboro