

# Breakout Descriptions and Leaders

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## **“One Church, One Book Initiative: A Conversation about Neighborhood Church.” Led by Vilmarie Cintron-Olivieri**

*Join in a guided conversation and activities around the scriptural basis, main themes and resources for “Neighborhood Church; Transforming Your Congregation into a Powerhouse for Mission”, the book 223rd GA Co-moderators Vilmarie and Cindy are recommending for study this year. Among the topics of discussion: Being church incarnate in the world, listening, transforming partnerships, integrating our spaces and sustaining the vision and mission to which God has called us where we are planted.*

**Vilmarie Cintron-Olivieri** is an ESL teacher and a Presbyterian elder. A life-long Presbyterian, Vilmarie was ordained in San Juan, Puerto Rico, 25 years ago. She has served the PC(USA) at the session, synod and General Assembly levels including as a member of the General Assembly Committee on Theological Education and as Moderator of the Presbytery of Tropical Florida (2017). Vilmarie holds a B.A. in Education (English as a Second Language) and a Master’s in Education (Curriculum and Teaching). Dedicating most of her adult life to education, teaching high schoolers and adults from all over the world, her first classroom was a Sunday School one. She currently serves as part of a CREDO faculty team. Vilmarie lives in Miami, FL, with her husband, the Rev. José Manuel CapellaPratts, pastor of La Primera Iglesia Presbiteriana Hispana en Miami. An organizer at heart, Vilmarie loves arts & crafts and decorating as well as relaxing over a good cup of Puerto Rican coffee. Along with the Rev. Cindy Kohlmann, Resource Presbyter of the Presbyteries of Boston and Northern New England, Vilmarie serves as Co-Moderator of the 223rd General Assembly (2018) of the Presbyterian Church (USA).

## **"Moving into the Neighborhood! Practicing Incarnational Ministry." Led by Jeff Eddings**

*Who is my neighbor anyways? And how do I reach out to them in genuine and inviting ways? In this workshop we will explore the theology of what it means to incarnate God’s love in your neighborhood context. And we will share in practical tools around how to engage in such incarnational ministry.*

**Jeff Eddings** helped plant Hot Metal Bridge Faith Community in Pittsburgh where he has been pastor since 2004. He also works as the coaching associate for 1001 New Worshiping Communities movement of the PC(USA). This month he is finishing the ‘Transforming Communities’ program with the Shalem Institute focused on leading

contemplative prayer groups and retreats. He seeks to practice incarnational ministry on the South Side of Pittsburgh with his wife and two college aged boys.

### **"Working Backwards...Ministry from Vision to Day by Day Decisions" Led by Rev. Dr. Paul Hayden**

In this breakout session we will discuss how to establish a vision, develop a vision, and implement a vision. We will look at several examples, from various size churches, who have become Vision focused and Mission driven as they look Upward, Inward, and Outward as God's People.

**Paul Hayden** was the founding pastor for the Presbyterian Church of Jackson Hole starting in 1994. He served in Jackson for 20 years and is currently the Interim Pastor at First Presbyterian Church of Sheridan, Wyoming.

### **"Being the Whole Church - Understanding Youth & Young Adults" Led by Liz Collins**

*We often wonder where are youth and young adults are, and why they aren't inside our doors! Join us for a guided discussion as we share our successes and obstacles to reaching the next generation for Christ. Where are our young people? What do they believe? What's important to them? And most importantly, how to we effectively live out being a community of Christ in today's world.*

Born in Jefferson City, Missouri, **Liz Collins** grew up as a Presbyterian and as a college student, spent summers working in Montreat, North Carolina, a conference center of PCUSA. Liz is a lover of science, teaching and the outdoors. After stints as an environmental educator and Wilderness ranger, she felt called to work in ministry and serves as the Youth and Young Adult Coordinator for the Presbyterian Church of Jackson Hole. When not working you can find Liz farming, exploring trails, fly fishing, wildlife watching, pressing wildflowers or eating ice cream

### **"Spiritual Renewal for a Thirsty Soul" Led by Rev. Dr. George Goodrich**

*All of us experience wearying seasons on our spiritual journey. What is it that withers your soul? What have you found to be God's source of renewal for you? There is no "one size fits all" spirituality. What wearies or renews one person will be different for another according to our personalities, experiences, spiritual gifts and disciplines, and our personal narratives of God.*

*After a short presentation, we will be together in Christ for a mini, guided retreat, ending with a discussion of what practices and spiritual patterns may be helpful for the refreshment of your soul.*

**Rev. Dr. George Goodrich** is currently the Co-General Presbyter for Yellowstone Presbytery. He has a long history of being in the pastorate in Reading, PA and in Pittsburgh. He is a Certified Spiritual Director from Leadership Transformation. He is married to Kathy and has two children and two grandchildren.

### **“To Connect with Our Neighbors, What Does Leadership for the Church Look Like?” Led by Steve Shive**

*This workshop will explore what leadership for the church today needs to focus on and what are the characteristics of leaders- pastors, elders and committee participants that need to be developed in order to address the changing spiritual and religious landscape of our communities and the shifting nature and mission of the church for the 21<sup>st</sup> century. It will be instructive and exploratory!*

**Steve Shive** is a spiritual explorer who follows Jesus in some classically embraced and innovative practices. He doesn't fit in a peg and yet his heart is to exemplify the love, compassion and vitality of Christ. He is a PCUSA Minister of the Word and Sacrament and has served in the role of General Presbyter for the Presbytery of Wyoming for the past eight years. Previous to that Steve pastored churches from Missouri to North Carolina to Wisconsin to North Dakota, ranging in size from 150 to 900 members. He was born and raised in the southeast and is a graduate of Auburn University, Columbia Theological Seminary, and Union Theological Seminary (Virginia). In 2016, he was certified by CRR Global as a Team and Relationship Coach. His strengths are “Strategic, Positivity, Learning, Arranger, and WOO – Winning Others Over.” His purpose in life is “to coach and cook up (facilitate) divine adventures in collaboration and transformation.”

### **"Growing Young: Six Essential Strategies to Help Young People Discover and Love Your Church, and Jesus" Led by Rev. Kathy Goodrich**

*What's the secret of churches that are bucking the trend and engaging and growing young people well? Authentic, embodied love for and faith in Jesus, relationships and warm community, empathy, empowering and equipping youth & all ages, authentic, embodied love for and following Jesus locally and globally, and prioritizing young people and families inside AND outside the church.*

*Learn from and explore 4 years of research findings which can help transform you and your congregation. "What's irresistible about Growing Young is that it's not primarily about age--it's about hope. Through story after compelling story, [it] demonstrates how prioritizing the young is a church- changing strategy and how pursuing Jesus by 'growing young' fundamentally changes the ways congregations interact with their communities and their leaders, as well as with youth and adults...this...blows the sanctuary doors open ...This book is for the church. At last." Kenda Creasy Dean, Princeton Seminary, Professor, Pastor, Author Almost Christian: What the Faith of Our Teenagers is Telling the American Church; Practicing Passion...*

**Kathy Goodrich** serves with her husband, Rev. Dr. George Goodrich, Jr., as Co-General Presbyterian for our Yellowstone Presbytery, pastoring pastors/commissioned lay pastor and their families, and providing leadership, administration, visioning and equipping for leaders, college and seminary interns, congregations and ministry teams as we are sent to become more like Christ and join Christ's mission in our changing contexts. She loves work with youth, and young adults and families who keep teaching and stretching her, previously worked in youth ministry and Relationship education focusing on couples with the Conference of Churches in Reading, PA. She has served as a trustee for Whitworth University and enjoys God's creation and hiking. Kathy and George have 2 married children and 2 grandsons.

**"Growing Children's Ministry and Their Parents" Led by Dylan Wade**  
*We will engage with how and why involving parents have had a significant and powerful impact on the growth and development of children's ministry. Using the philosophy that when we combine the home with the church, we have a fabulous opportunity to reach the next generation for Christ. If kids matter, then this workshop is a must.*

**Dylan Wade** has a career in teaching for over 10 years in the Teton School District. He currently serves as the Children's Ministry Coordinator for the Presbyterian Church of Jackson Hole.