

Discipleship and Nurture Team cordially invites  
all church leaders and members to attend

# Presbytery Day 2013

Come join the Conversation

“The Church in the Space Between Chaos and Order”



Our Plenary Leader: Rev. Carol Howard Merritt

Award-winning author of *Reframing Hope* and *Tribal Church*, and she has contributed to numerous books, journals and magazines. Her blog, [TribalChurch.org](http://TribalChurch.org) is hosted by the *Christian Century* and she co-hosts God Complex Radio with Derrick Weston.

## Saturday, March 16, 2013

### North Presbyterian Church

300 North Forest Road, Williamsville, NY 14221

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## Schedule

9:30AM Registration and book table

10AM—11AM Plenary leader  
Rev. Carol Howard Merritt

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11AM—11:45AM Worship

11:45AM—12:15M Break for lunch

12:15PM—1:45PM Workshops

# Workshops 12:15PM—1:45PM

## 1. Reframing Hope

Leader: Rev. Carol Howard Merritt

We are called to lead churches and teach the faith from generation to generation. How are congregations effectively navigating generational shifts? In our time together, we will explore how generational dynamics, technological advancements, and evolving communication have changed our culture and how they affect our ministries. Whether you serve a traditional congregation or you're interested in new church movements, we will discern how God is working through and with our current landscape.

## 2. Creating a Welcoming Community

Leader: Rev. Dr. Cynthia Wickwire-Lindquist

The focus of this workshop will be how to strengthen your congregation as a community of faith, while remaining an open and welcoming church. Sometimes in the church our understanding of community is shaped more by the model of a social club than a faith gathering. We will explore the scriptural models of the church and the understanding of community in the early church. With this in mind we will consider simple ways of strengthening our own church's understanding of itself as a community of faith. We will explore worship, fellowship, education and mission. The model of missional church will also be brought into the discussion.

*Cynthia is a graduate of McCormick Theological Seminary and has served as an associate pastor of a church in New Jersey and as pastor of Fredonia Presbyterian Church since 1995. She earned a Doctor of Ministry degree in 2012.*

## 3. Hospitality:

Leader: Rev. Drew Ludwig

### **The easiest, most difficult thing your church doesn't do**

Why don't people come to our church? Why don't they stay? In Part I of this workshop, we will discover the messages of unwelcome, that we may be sending. In part II, we will explore the difficult issues we must face to make our people and spaces welcoming. Part III explores a "higher way," sending people into the neighborhood, rather than hoping people come and find us.

*Drew Ludwig is the pastor of Lafayette Ave., Presbyterian Church, Buffalo and is a favorite pastor of many people who swear they never go to church. Under his leadership, his congregation has played host to a soup kitchen, a thrift store, gay bingo, fashion shows, a Tea Party speaker, Ralph Nader, Yoga classes, a Nepali church, a Karin New Year Celebration and countless block meetings, classes and parties. His favorite places to share the gospel include his living room, his back yard, Buffalo ComedySportz, the bar and Sweetness\_7 Coffee Shop.*

## 4. Presbyterian Senior Care:

Leaders: Karin Ziegler and Kathie Macaluso

### **Embracing Aging and Replacing Worry with Freedom**

We will walk over to PVNC behind North Presbyterian Church and enjoy a short discussion regarding options in Independent Housing and Senior Care. We will answer the questions you may have regarding different options and who pays for what. Then you will enjoy a tour of our beautiful facilities, including several of our custom designed condo style apartments for seniors who enjoy the freedom of living at PVNC.

*Karin Ziegler, President and CEO, Presbyterian Senior Care of WNY and Kathie Macaluso, Administrator, Presbyterian Village at North Church*

## **5. Glory to God, the New Presbyterian Hymnal**

Leader: Diane Green

Our denomination's first new hymnal since 1990, "Glory to God" will features more than 850 songs; the old hymnal has about 600. But thanks to innovations in printing techniques, paper and ink, the new book will be about the same size and weight as the 1990 book. Come to this workshop and learn more about our new hymnal. Participants of this workshop are eligible to win one copy of an accompanists hymnal.

*Diane Green is the Director of Music Ministries at Kenmore Presbyterian Church.*

## **6. New Beginnings Leadership Conversation**

Leader: Rev. Bronwen Boswell

This workshop discussion is for persons in congregations that are already participating in *New Beginnings*. Be inspired by your fellow *NB* congregations! We'll share the latest helpful insights on making your decisions, let you know about new resources we have, and talk about next steps your congregation can take to move along its journey.

*Rev. Bronwen Boswell, Presbyter for Discipleship, Nurture, and Transformation and members of the Congregational Transformation Team*

## **7. Choosing New Life for the Church**

Leader: Rev. Leslie Latham

We can no longer do church the way we always have—it's not working. Younger generations don't respond to "if we build it, they will come." Author Paul Nixon's book, "I Refuse to Lead a Dying Church!", offers new choices for 21<sup>st</sup> century church; are we brave enough to choose fun over drudgery, bold over mild, and frontier over fortress mentality for our worship and discipleship? Come and explore the possibilities.

*Rev. Leslie Latham is the pastor of the United Presbyterian Church in Randolph, New York.*

## **8. 101 Clerks of Session**

Leader: Rev. Laura Norris-Buisch

Are you a new or seasoned clerk with questions? This is the workshop for you. The workshop will consist of thoughts of minute taking, recording all events of the church, annual meeting process and more.

*Rev. Laura Norris-Buisch is the Stated Clerk of our presbytery.*

## **9. Prayer Doodling**

Leader: Mary Mohlke

Using a variety of shapes and colors, we will experiment with doodling as prayer, praying for others, as a meditative practice and to open to God's creative spirit. Supplies will be provided.

*Mary Mohlke is the Resource Center director, Artist in Residence, North Church, Williamsville, Certified Christian Educator.*

## **10. The Once and Future Church**

Leader: Emily Morgan

A workshop and discussion of the present realities of the American church and how we as faithful communities can work and witness today while growing towards the future.

*Emily Hope Morgan is a Candidate for the ministry of Teaching Elder in the PC(USA), a writer & blogger, a co-facilitator of Dream PC(USA), a student at Princeton Seminary, and a former intern for our presbytery. She has lead several workshops on and regularly writes articles about millennials and Christianity.*

## **11. Living the Seasons in Ministry**

Leader: Rev. Brandi Wooten

Increasingly churches are discovering that the old ways of structuring church boards and ministry do not fit current resources. This workshop is an opportunity to share how new life, energy and vitality has been experienced by exchanging the traditional board structure for a Seasonal Model. Revolving around the liturgical seasons, beginning with bible study on the lectionary texts, and focused on ministry for a particular season, First Presbyterian Church in Chili, NY has experienced a transformation. The ministries and activities we choose to engage in grow specifically out of our reflection on the lectionary texts. Join this workshop to hear more about the Seasonal Model and how we moved into putting it in place.

*Brandi is the pastor at the First Presbyterian Church in Chili, NY. She particularly enjoys expressing her creativity through worship and the Seasonal Model has opened up many new opportunities to do so.*

## Register for Presbytery Day early:

Cost of registration received *before* March 1, 2013 is \$12.00. Registration afterwards is \$15.00. Childcare is available upon request.

Mail your fee and registration form to:

Presbytery of Western New York,  
2060 Union Road, West Seneca, NY 14224

For further information, please contact Jan Tyson at the Presbytery office 668-1995 or [jant@pbywny.org](mailto:jant@pbywny.org).

**North Presbyterian Church,**  
300 North Forest Rd, Williamsville

**Directions:** North Church is located on North Forest Road between Sheridan Drive and Main Street in Williamsville. Take 90 or 190 to the 290. Exit the 290 at Main Street E. Turn left at second right onto North Forest Road. The church is on the left just past the traffic light.

# Registration Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Church \_\_\_\_\_

**Saturday, March 16, 2013**

**9:30AM      Registration and Vendors**

**10AM—11AM Plenary leaders  
Rev. Carol Howard Merritt and Rev. Jud Hendrix**

**11AM—11:45AM Worship**

**11:45AM—12:15M Break with lunch**

**12:15PM—1:45PM Workshops**

**Workshop Choices**

*Circle one choice for your workshop*

**1   2   3   4   5   6   7   8   9   10   11   12**

## Childcare Request

Children's names and ages:

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