

Workshops
2015 Henderson Summer Leadership Conference

Session A: Tuesday, June 9 1:30-3:30 pm

- A1: Structuring Food and Faith Initiatives; Noah Campbell, Memphis Center for Food and Faith
- A2: Being Earthlings: Preaching As Though the Planet Mattered: Steven Tuell, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary
- A3: There's Room at the Table: Leslie Thyberg, 412 Food Revolution, Pittsburgh, Pa
- A4: Constrained by Hope: Art, Poetry and Resilient Community: Tim Van Meter, Methodist Theological School (Ohio)

Session B: Wednesday, June 10, 9:00-11:00 am

- B1: Structuring Food and Faith Initiatives; Noah Campbell, Memphis Center for Food and Faith
- B2: Being Earthlings: Preaching As Though the Planet Mattered: Steven Tuell, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary
- B3: Symbiosis or Sin-biosis?: Vince Kolb, Pastor, Sixth Presbyterian Church, Pittsburgh, Pa
- B4: Christian Ethical Witness in Church and World: Jeff Morris, Yale University
- B5: Constrained by Hope: Art, Poetry and Resilient Community: Tim Van Meter, Methodist Theological School (Ohio)

A1 (TUESDAY) AND B1 (WEDNESDAY): Structuring Food and Faith Initiatives

D. Noah Campbell, Memphis Center for Food and Faith

How can faith commitments and food justice intersect? How can congregations and communities respond to the call to "feed my sheep?" Education and outreach ministry Memphis Center for Food and Faith discovered that many energized and interested congregations lacked capacity to procure, aggregate and distribute locally grown and ethically raised food. In January 2014, the MCFE formally launched Bring It Food Hub, created to strengthen farmer livelihoods, improve good-food access for all Memphians, and provide a way for churches to engage locally with regenerative agriculture. Learn about the success, failures, and lessons learned as MCFE has engaged its work in concert with local farms, Memphis area churches, and other community partners and imagine how your own community might respond to needs in your area.

A2 (TUESDAY) AND B2 (WEDNESDAY): Being Earthlings: Preaching As Though the Planet Mattered

Steven Tuell, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary

Much Christian preaching has been, quite literally, otherworldly: focused on a world of the Spirit removed from physical reality, or on the world to come, whether in the afterlife of the individual believer or in the future age, rather than in the world where we live. We will examine five texts for preaching that understand this world as God's good creation, and as the primary stage for God's gracious activity.

A3 (TUESDAY): **There's Room at the Table**

Leslie F. Thyberg, 412 Food Revolution

Food is a fundamental human need. Eating can reveal the social and economic inequalities between where and how people dine...and it can also be a powerful way to heal and improve communities. The Food Revolution Pittsburgh, a weekly cooking club at a public high school, is the result of a partnership between a

missional church plant and a dynamic new restaurant. Its goal is to teach and empower students to be community leaders through culinary arts. This workshop will share stories from the field and teach how church-community collaboration can provide a means to develop regional, sustainable solutions to food injustice and inequality.

A4 (TUESDAY) AND B5 (WEDNESDAY): Constrained by Hope: Art, Poetry, and Resilient Community

Tim Van Meter, Methodist Theological School (Ohio)

How do we articulate hope or sustain a vision for a future in which all creatures can thrive on our abundant earth? This workshop introduces the creative work of poets and artists as resources for constructing resilient communities in the midst of ecological, economic, political, and cultural challenges.

B3 (WEDNESDAY): Symbiosis or Sin-biosis?

Rev. Dr. Vincent Kolb, Sixth Presbyterian Church, Pittsburgh, PA

The work of community organizing can provide a means by which neighborhoods and communities of faith can act with justice and protect people and creation. And at this time, Allegheny County is about to begin the largest EPA mandated capital infrastructure project in the history of western Pennsylvania. Learn the basics of community organizing and see how local groups are banding together to ensure that the project will incorporate green infrastructure and protect the most vulnerable from having their water shut off.

B4 (WEDNESDAY): Christian Ethical Witness in Church and World

Jeff Morris, Yale University

To live and proclaim the gospel faithfully, churches are called to exemplify and witness to the ethics of the Kingdom of God in the midst of a broken and unjust world. This workshop is designed to (re)acquaint pastors and lay leaders with basic resources in theological ethics that enable Christian congregations and communities to address and witness to integral Christian convictions in practical, concrete, and contemporary social and ecclesial contexts.