Faith at Home—Wendy Claire Barrie  
author of *Faith at Home: A Handbook for Cautiously Christian Parents*  
Learn how to support parents as their children’s primary pastors, giving particular attention to how to talk about God with kids, ways of reading and responding to scripture at home, creating small sacred moments in everyday life and where to find God in difficult times.

Give Us this Day Our Daily Bread—The Rev. Kyle Stillings  
rector at St. Elisabeth’s in Bartlett, TN  
Bread is both a source of nourishment and a symbol of sustenance and hospitality in many cultures. It is connected to several stories in scripture, including the Passover in Exodus and the last supper in the Gospels. We break bread together at communion, but many people today are disconnected from the process of making bread and miss out on an opportunity to immerse themselves in the physical symbol of Christ broken for us.

Simply Sacred Gatherings—Jerusalem Greer  
author of two books, a writer, speaker, and the Parish Life and Family Minister at St. Peter’s Episcopal Church in Conway, AR  
Creating intergenerational liturgically-focused experiences for your parish and families using the simple Gather Listen Do Go pattern, Jerusalem will help attendees plan one upcoming parish or family-focused event. The workshop will include takeaways and print-ables. A tie-in free time activity will also be offered during which Jerusalem will lead a Simply Sacred Crafting session based on her book *A Homemade Year: The Blessings of Cooking, Crafting, and Coming Together.*

Finding God in the Digital Space:  
Practical Guide for e-Formation and Social Media Ministry—Lisa Brown  
director of digital ministry, membership vision  
Almost every aspect of our lives today has an online component, whether learning, working, shopping, flirting or playing. How can we meet people and help them meet God in the digital space? How can every one of our ministries be extended into the digital space? In this hands-on session, learn how to enrich your existing ministries and relationships through the use of social media and other digital platforms.
Wasted Time or Useful Space? Making the Most of a Meeting—Allison Askins
associate for communication and adult program at St. Martin’s in the Fields, Columbia, SC
The workshop will talk about ways to make the most of meeting times, including creative introductions, creating an agenda and sticking to it, and when a meeting is really needed. We may even discover a whole new way of looking at the dreaded meeting—as a way of building community rather than the boring expectation of droning on about piddly details.

Contemplative Vision: Photography as Spiritual Practice—Dirk deVries
The digital revolution has put affordable, high-quality photography in the hands of just about everyone. From smart phones to cameras to tablets...from software to apps to social media...we’ve all become photographers, documenting our daily lives (and those of friends, families and pets) with unprecedented ease and versatility. But for how many of us do these same tools also serve as tools for meditation, awareness and insight, a lens through which we more deeply encounter the world, ourselves and the sacred? Photography is all about seeing, and in Contemplative Vision we experience photography as the practice of mindfulness, slowing down, observing, connecting, being and making space for God.

Photography Walk: Observing the World Immersed in God—Dirk deVries
Putting into practice the principles explored in his workshop on Contemplative Vision, Dirk will lead participants in a photographic “wonder walk.” Through meditation and several simple activities, we will slow down, observe and use our cameras as portals for increased mindfulness. You + your camera + silence = a renewed appreciation of God’s creation and your part in it.

Talking God and Bodies at Church—Jenny Beaumont
author of These are Our Bodies, and adult formation director at Christ Church, Charlotte, NC
Connecting faith and sexuality can be a challenge for both parents and church leaders. Are you looking for ways to start the discussion in your church? How can we introduce a complex view of sexuality to middle-schoolers and parents? Where to begin? We will focus on the nuts and bolts of how to start a program, discuss different models, and answer your questions about introducing a sexuality program that includes parents, children and teens. We will also take a look at the new program, These are Our Bodies, from Church Publishing. Come with your questions and wonders.

Comics and Photography: Projects for Youth Groups—Heather Annis
author of Book of Comic Prayer and director of children and youth at St. John’s Episcopal Church in Barrington RI.
When Gene Kelly danced on stage with Jerry the Mouse in 1945, the world was dazzled by this new combination of live action and animation. Today, we take pictures of Pokémon with our own backyards as backdrops, and draw googly eyes and mustaches on our Snapchat photos. Reality and fantasy meet to create imaginative relationships using old and new
technology and techniques. It can be hard to keep up with the graphic novels our youth are reading and the apps they have on their phones. In this workshop, we’ll take a look at how photography and comics can be used together to learn about scripture, prayer, and faith within the context of contemporary life. No artistic experience necessary!

Cut and Paste: Collage for Formation Leaders—Heather Annis
As educators and spiritual leaders, we are in the constant process of editing. What worked in 1957 may not work in 2017, and what seems like a great idea today may need re-thinking as soon as September. The ways in which we gather and share information are changing every minute. We integrate new technology into our formation toolboxes and seek ways to tweak our teaching. The art of collage is by nature a process of assemblage, of taking a variety of elements and combining them into a new product. To be successful, one must be flexible, creative and open to the unexpected. In this practical, hands-on workshop, explore how to use this art form to look at old lessons from a new perspective, to enhance both personal and group devotion, and to mix images in interesting ways. No artistic experience necessary!

GPS: A Collaborative Arts Project—Heather Annis and Lisa Brown
This series of gatherings will focus on finding God where tradition meets technology. The project will seek the contributions of all conference participants and will culminate with an art installation created by our young attendees.

LGBT Striving for Inclusivity Within, Among, and Beyond—Alex Karydi, MSW
Many people in congregations want to be supportive of LGBT families but aren’t sure how. This section builds on your journey of transforming your personal selves, your congregation and your world. This session includes concrete steps that individuals and congregations can take to become true allies of LGBT families within ourselves, among the community of your congregation and beyond the walls of your church. These suggestions probably include many of the ways to work for change that your group already identified, and perhaps includes some that didn’t come up.

Suicide Prevention among LGBT Youth—Alex Karydi, MSW
The goal of this workshop is to build the capacity of schools, youth-serving organizations and suicide prevention programs with the larger goal of reducing suicidal behavior among LGBT youth. At the end of this workshop, participants will be able to do the following: describe research related to suicidal behavior among LGBT youth; discuss risk and protective factors for suicidal behavior in LGBT youth—those that pertain only to LGBT youth, those more prevalent in LGBT youth and those for youth generally; assess the cultural competence of their schools and agencies in relation to LGBT.

The Mission of The World Peace Village— Catherine Drewry, St. Gregory’s Athens, GA
Gather and honor the many pathways of spiritual wisdom of the human family, and in these truths, find our common connectedness of wholeness and goodness as expressed in the Golden Rule. Provide prayers and spiritual practices that unite the hand, heart and
head in understanding and respecting all traditions. Encourage and support an awakened commitment to live daily life as an Ambassador of Peace. At St. Gregory the Great in Athens, Georgia, we have used this in an intergenerational setting several times over the years, and have had added games, art, music and food components. We’ve brought together local Christians, Muslims, Buddhists, Jews, Hindus, Unitarians, Native Americans and people with no faith affiliation and have made lasting friendships.

**Giving Voice & Words to Worship God in the Wobbly World of Today**  
—The Rev. Marilyn Sanders

The word, “worship,” actually means “to ascribe ultimate worth or value.” Yet in these days of economic crisis of every description, how do we really, consciously “ascribe ultimate worth or value” to God? Our society seems to “ultimately value” so many things, it can be difficult to tell of what value God really is to us by simply watching what we do, in or out of church. And those coming to church for the first time or for “one more try,” can be totally lost even about what they see us doing, much less about the worth or value of God in our lives! Our words and even our grammar help us make sense of our experience as well as creating our attention to our experience. Do we have a worship vocabulary? Can we describe what we are doing in formal church worship, and/or recognize when we are doing something worshipful in our everyday, ordinary lives? Might “church attendance” grow if we did? Might our “ultimate valuing” of God grow too if we were well-focused on God and not all the other things we “worship” these days? Let us see if increasing our vocabularies might make not only our worship but also our very lives with one another and with God more relevant and meaningful and en-JOY-able!

**Youth Confirmation: Faith Intensification With A Purpose—Lisa Kimball, Ph.D.**

*associate dean for Lifelong Learning, director of the Center for Ministry of Teaching; professor of Christian Formation and Congregational Leadership at Virginia Theological Seminary*

Confirmation is not dead! It is not a sacrament in search of a meaning. The results of a three-year, five-denomination study of youth confirmation are in. There is good news to share! Come hear stories from 30 site visits, and explore survey data (including 1139 Episcopal responses) that describe our current practices, clarify the challenges and identify how congregations succeed in creating confirmation programs that inspire young people to want to make mature affirmations of faith.

**Where is God in Harry Potter?—The Rev. Dr. Patricia Lyons**

*author of Teaching Faith with Harry Potter and The Soul of Adolescence; priest in the Diocese of Washington, DC*

One Harry Potter commentator has said that the JK Rowling’s series is the “greatest evangelistic opportunity the church has ever missed.” Only sacred texts like the Bible have outsold the Harry Potter series. If you can speak the language of Harry Potter in your congregations, camps and outreach programs, you will open doors, minds and souls to Christian formation. The Harry Potter series explores the universal struggle between good
and evil and the redemptive power of sacrificial love. In this workshop we will identify the finger prints of JK Rowling’s Anglican faith found in every chapter of the seven books. Come and hear exactly how Christian theology forms the soul of the Harry Potter saga and hear about ways to use Harry Potter in multi-generational, lifelong and life-wide evangelization and faith formation.

**Formation as Evangelism—Scott Gunn**


Sharing the Good News of God in Jesus Christ is just the first step of making disciples. For some people, as in the encounter between Philip and the Ethiopian eunuch, formation precedes conversion. For others, commitment is first, as with the disciples who were invited to “come and see.” Either way, formation and invitation are closely linked. In this workshop, Scott Gunn will explore a variety of formation offerings that help introduce people to the basics of the Christian faith, including Transforming Questions, a free course to introduce people to the Way of Jesus.

**Formation for Discipleship—Scott Gunn**

The church is a community of disciples, people who are committed to following Jesus in their daily lives. In order to prepare for the task of daily discipleship, we must be formed – steeped in the scriptures and in our traditions. In this workshop, Scott Gunn will talk about some free, downloadable offerings from Forward Movement in its Living Discipleship program. These are one-year courses for all ages, available in English or Spanish. Learn how your congregation can use Celebrating the Saints, Exploring the Bible, or Practicing Our Faith. The key to healthy congregations is healthy disciples, and that’s just what we’ll talk about!

**Making Space for all God’s People—The Rev. Jan M. Brown**

founding/executive director of SpiritWorks Foundation Center for the Soul, a community recovery organization located in Williamsburg, VA; ordained deacon in the Episcopal Church, presently serving at Bruton Parish Church in Williamsburg, VA

Churches are known for showing hospitality and God’s love to others when there is birth, death or illness in a family. We need to learn to do the same for those that are affected, either themselves or those they love, with the disease of addiction. How do we educate our parishioners about this disease and help our churches be better equipped to respond to those that need us the most?
Godly Play on a Budget—Christen Erskine

director for Children’s Formation at St. Bartholomew’s Episcopal Church in Atlanta, GA; Godly Play Foundation trainer

Creating a Godly Play environment requires careful planning and resources. Parishes can grow into Godly Play. We will discuss ways to begin a Godly Play program on a limited budget and plan for it to fully develop. Make a story to add to your Godly Play room.

Implementing the Full Godly Play Curriculum—Christen Erskine

As children grow in our parishes they want to be recognized as big kids. How does Godly Play honor children as who they are today? What are the advantages to implementing the full curriculum through grade six with children? Are there ways to incorporate “________” which we traditionally do with fourth, fifth or sixth graders? A discussion of real practice led by those who have incorporated Godly Play for children through upper elementary school.

Parenting (and Grandparenting) with God: What Does Formation Have to Do with Parenting?—Robbin Whittington

director of publications and new resource development at Living Compass; certified community wellness advocate

There can be an unsettling tendency to feel totally responsible for how well we are able to parent our children. If they do well, we thank God, and if they struggle or fail, we blame ourselves. How can we come together in community to more fully accept how little we are truly “in charge,” and to offer one another support as we let go and allow God to parent with us? How can we build a safe place where we feel free to honestly share what we are facing? How do we recognize and enjoy this sacred journey as an ever-evolving and unfolding process? One proven way is to create and host circles of support for your community.

This workshop will offer tools and resources created by Living Compass to equip you with all you need to create a Faith and Wellness Circle of support for parents and grandparents in your community. Living Compass is a faith-based wellness ministry that provides resources, coaching, education, training, and support to individuals, families, and congregations as they seek to live the abundant life God intends for them.

Making the Connection: The Church as a Safe Haven for Teens—Robbin Whittington

We have an amazing opportunity to be a faith-holding place for teens as they think and learn and make connections between their faith and the decisions they are making every day. To offer hospitality to teens where they are—not where we are, not where we think they should be, or even where they think they should be—but where they are, right here, right now.

How? First, let us not be yet another place with more work, more expectations and more pressure. Church doctrine is important, but to put that ahead of what is truly going on in the lives of our teens can push them away and leave them feeling isolated and alone. Instead, we can be a trusted place where teens can experience the caring support, compassionate listening and gentle encouragement of the adults leading the group, as well
as from the other teens who are reflecting on the same issues. We can offer a safe place for teens to have honest conversations about their lives and the decisions they face about many things: their choice of friends, intimate relationships, the way they care for their bodies, bullying, social media safety, suicide, depression, divorce, death and remarriage, to name a few. For example, why can it be hard to go to a party and not drink/get high?

**Designing Intergenerational Faith Formation—John Roberto**
People learn by participating in the life of a community. Practices of faith are taught through the interrelationships of worship, learning, service, ritual, prayer and more. A faith forming education that is centered in the life of the Christian community is intrinsically an intergenerational experience. Explore the theory, research, and principles of intergenerational faith formation and examples for becoming intentionally intergenerational in a congregation through caring relationships, celebrating worship and rituals, praying, learning and serving.

**Designing Family Faith Formation—John Roberto**
Parents and the family are the most powerful influence for virtually every child and youth outcome—personal, academic, social and spiritual-religious. Discover the transformations that need to happen to make families the center of faith formation and effectively promote parent and family growth in faith and discipleship. Learn about approaches and practices for faith formation with 21st-century families, including eight strategies: 1) discovering God in everyday life, 2) forming faith at home through the life cycle, 3) forming faith through milestones, 4) celebrating seasonal events through the year, 5) encountering God in the Bible through the year, 6) connecting families intergenerationally, 7) developing a strong family life, and 8) empowering parents and grandparents as faith formers.

**Designing Lifelong Faith Formation—John Roberto**
Explore how to develop lifelong faith formation that addresses the unique life tasks, needs, interests and spiritual journeys of age groups from childhood through adulthood in a seamless approach that provides continuity across the life cycle. Learn about effective practices and approaches for faith formation at each stage of life, and specific ways to utilize 21st-century methods for designing and delivering faith formation, including how to utilize multiple settings—self-directed, mentored, at home, in small groups, in large groups, church-wide, in the community and world—and how to utilize digital media and online platforms for faith formation.

**Designing Missional Faith Formation—John Roberto**
Discover how to expand and extend the church’s presence through outreach, connection, relationship building, and engagement with people who are uninvolved and unaffiliated. Learn how to design pathways for people to journey from discovery to exploration to commitment—to encounter Jesus and the Good News, and to live as disciples in a supportive faith community. Explore models, practices and approaches for missional faith formation.
and Response
Monday 9 – 12 noon Implementing the Full Curriculum: Engaging children from 3 to 12
1 – 3 p.m. Expand Your Collect: An opportunity to make your own Volume 6 or Enrichment Story

Other available opportunities:
Bible study, spiritual direction, massages, yoga, spiritual practices, intergenerational evening with Harry Potter, nightly socials, hiking, guided walks, make and take Simply Sacred crafting session, question and answer sessions with other colleagues, worship services, children’s program, bread baking, art activities, book signings with the many authors that will be with us and much more!

Pre-conference day—Sunday, June 11 and Monday morning, June 12
For the cost of the regular early-arrival day ($80.00), you may choose to explore Godly Play in depth. There will be a $15.00 materials fee, payable to the instructor.

Godly Play Workshop – Enriching Your Practice
Godly Play offers those who sit in the circle an opportunity to play, create and make meaning. Come early to play with the stories, respond and make meaning for yourself. Mentors in Godly Play that practice self-care are better equipped to implement the full curriculum with children of all ages.

Together we will participate in a full session of Godly Play, discuss how to encourage making meaning, explore which stories to present to which children, and leave a new story for your shelves. Come prepared to share and hear stories of Godly Play practice with children, story schedules and ways to grow in practice. A workshop for those currently using Godly Play; completion of Core Training and/or 2 years practicing with children helpful.

Sunday 4 – 6:00 p.m. Godly Play Session
7 – 8:00 p.m. Encouraging Meaning Making: Wonder and Response

Monday 9 – 12 noon Implementing the Full Curriculum: Engaging children from 3 to 12
1 – 3 p.m. Expand Your Collect: An opportunity to make your own Volume 6 or Enrichment Story