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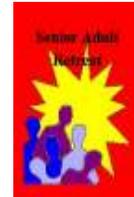
Sr. Adult Retreat for Central Region Life and other publications

Handshakes, Hugs & Hallelujahs

April 27-28, 2022

Keynote Speaker: Rev. Joel Grizzle

Location: First Baptist Church, McPherson, KS



Highlighted Interest Groups:

Voices in Praise...Hallelujah!

Join others in forming the Retreat Choir by sharing your vocal talent. Bob Artz, director and Janet Cowl, pianist will lead.

Remembering Hugs & Hallelujahs – Mary Hemphill

Make a simple folded mini-book with embellishments. This book will be ready to fill with remembrances – like fishing with a grandchild, a birthday party, ball game, holiday trip, Bible verses, etc. Possibilities are endless!

Elderlaw Matters – Walter Schoemaker

Discuss issues encountered by senior adults in retirement and transition planning.

Christian Hospitality – The Forgotten Grace - Mang Sonna

Rev. Mang Sonna, Executive Director of Bethel Neighborhood Center will share his insights and reflections on the power of Christian hospitality to impact and influence lives in a real-time demonstration of the “good news” we seek to proclaim.

The Bells are Ringing...Hallelujah!

Join Jan Smith in a fun time of ringing bells to music.

Handshakes, Hugs and Hallelujah Bingo --- Lois Chiles

Have fun and learn the way of expressions of handshakes, hugs and Hallelujahs as we fill our Bingo card/s for prizes.

A Peculiar People --- John Williams

What do church folk look like? Join Dr. Williams as he reflects on 45+ years of ministry with those strange creatures we call Baptists. In a humorist reflection, John will share excerpts from his Pastor Bart stories as well as some Biblical reflections that highlight some of the peculiar joys and curiosities that come with a life-time of service in our American Baptist family.

Registration forms can be found at www.abccr.org or through your local church office. Deadline for

ABCCR SENIOR ADULT RETREAT

April 27-28, 2022

First Baptist Church, McPherson

600 E Marlin St

McPherson, KS 67460

"Handshakes, Hugs and Hallelujahs"

Psalm 107:1-3, 43 (CEV)

Registration Deadline - April 11, 2022

***** \$10 Late Fee Assessed if Postmarked After April 11, 2022**

Cancellation Policy: A full refund will be given if cancelled by April 20, 2022

\$25 non-refundable cancellation fee per individual after April 20, 2022

Name: _____ Phone: _____
(If registering as a couple, please write spouse's name below)

Spouse: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____ Home Church: _____

& City _____

City / State / Zip: _____

	<u># of Guests</u>	<u>Total \$\$</u>
• Full Retreat (includes program and meals) per person	_____ @ \$85.00 per person	_____
• One Day only (Wednesday or Thursday) per person	_____ @ \$60.00 per person	_____
	Total Amount Due	_____

Please make checks payable to **Senior Adult Retreat** and mail payment and completed registration form to:
Senior Adult Retreat
John Williams, Registrar
PO Box 5803
Topeka, KS 66605

Housing is NOT provided. Those attending the Senior Adult Retreat will need to make their own housing arrangements. Suggested area motels include: Holiday Inn Express, Fairfield Inn, Hampton Inn and Best Western Plus.

Dietary Requirements: Sugar Free Gluten Free

First Time to Attend the ABCCR Senior Adult Retreat? Yes _____ No _____

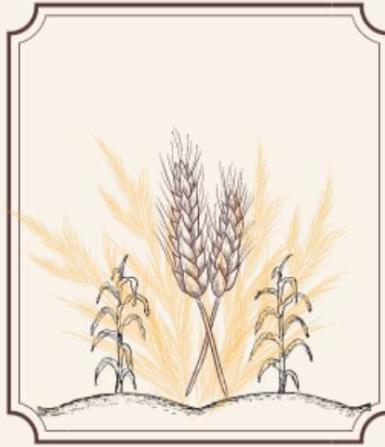
Registration Begins Wednesday at 11:00 am **Retreat Begins with Lunch at 12:00 noon**

(Cut here and retain this stub for your records and information.)

ABCCR Senior Adult Retreat – First Baptist Church, 600 E. Marlin St., McPherson, KS – **April 27-28, 2022**
Registration begins at 11:00 am on Wednesday the 27th. Retreat begins with lunch at 12:00 noon.

The Sr. Adult Retreat will end mid-afternoon on Thursday, the 28th.

Amount paid to Registrar: _____ Check number: _____ Date paid: _____



PRAIRIE PASTORS

CONFERENCE

When: March 28-30, 2022

Where: Sunset Hills Baptist Church
9416 Pacific St. Omaha, NE 68114

Speakers:

Dr. Lyn Cohick will share insights from her deep well of study on the New Testament letters of Ephesians and Philippians. She will share important biblical study, historical context, and New Testament scholarship to help pastors preach through these New Testament letters. She will also discuss how Paul understood his own calling to assist pastors in navigating their callings to ministry.

Rev. Dr. Denise Muir Kjesbo serves as Professor and Program Director at Bethel Seminary in the Master of Arts in Children's and Family Ministry. She also serves as the Director of The Cory Center for Children's Ministry, an endowed program affiliated with Bethel Seminary. Denise is committed to equipping leaders to serve in ministries with children and youth as the crucial mission field of our time - both in the States and around the world.

Schedule

Monday: March 28 2022,

1:30 pm Pre-Conference Orientation to ABC Life

3:30 pm Registration

5:15 pm Welcome

5:30 pm Dinner – Provided by MMBB

6:45 pm Worship

7:00 pm Presentation by Lyn Cohick

Fellowship time

Tuesday: March 29, 2022

9:30 am Worship

10:00 am Session #1 Denise Kjesbo/MMBB

10:50 am Break

11:00 am Session #2 Denise Kjesbo/MMBB

11:50 am Lunch

1:30 pm Free Time/MMBB 1:1 conferences/speakers available for discussion

Dinner on your own

6:45 pm Worship

7:00 pm Presentation by Lyn Cohick

8:30 pm Group Photo and Fellowship Time

Wednesday: March 30, 2022

9:15 am Worship

9:30 am Presentation by Lyn Cohick

10:30 am Break

10:45 am Closing Worship and Communion

You will need to arrange your own accommodations. There is no conference hotel.

Sharing Rides & Expenses — One way to reduce the costs is to share rides with others who are going. If you would like to share expenses, please email Gregg Hemmen with your info and we'll add you to the list.



- ❖ FOCUS is a newsletter published for professional church leaders in the Central Region, and it is distributed monthly. It is on the Region website, <https://abccr.org/>.
- ❖ The deadline for FOCUS is the first of the month of publication.
- ❖ A variation in content and format is required for copy to be printed in two or more successive issues.

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Topeka, KS 66614-5505
katherine.cunningham@abccr.org
785/272-7622
<https://abccr.org/>



Follow your Region staff on the ABC Central Region Facebook page as they provide information on resources and services, as well as events and happenings across our Region — <https://www.facebook.com/ABC-CRegion/>

Check our ABC Central Region Twitter link — <https://twitter.com/ABCCRegion>

Please like and share the posts made on these Central Region social media accounts to help us spread the news!

Kansas Baptist Convention Foundation

Planned Giving

A Ministry of American Baptist Churches of the Central Region

January Is a Time of New Beginnings!

Many make New Year's resolutions only to forget about them within a few weeks (or days). For me, it's just better to ask God every morning what He has planned for me to do. That way I don't have to try to remember what "I" decided that I should do in the new year.

For the last eleven years I have tried to remind all of us that God didn't create us to be secure self-protective hoarders, but to become the conduit through which his generosity flows! I know that many plan on how much they can leave their children and grandchildren, but if we are being truly good stewards of all that God has given us to manage for Him, shouldn't we consider leaving something to many people so they can pass it on to others rather than just to our family? As Christians, we want to give with a greater impact, because God's world is bigger than just our family.

However, you can do both with a Charitable Gift Annuity. You can make the donation to the Kansas Baptist Convention Foundation, Inc. and they will give a designated amount to your child or grandchild or great grandchild each year during his/her lifetime (amount is determined by age) and then the gift will be distributed to the ABC ministries that you have designated. It's a win-win situation!

Rev. Tim Schwartz will be the Director of Planned Giving now, so please contact him about how you can best use the financial blessings that God has given you to manage. I am still available for any help that I might be able to give you, but Tim will be the official representative of the Foundation.

Thank you for all your support for all these years. I have greatly appreciated your encouraging words and your investments in our ministries.

Remember, if your church has some extra funds, they can be invested with the Foundation. We now manage over \$7,000,000 and have a good rate of return – much, much better than the less than 1% that are paid by banks. (Sorry, no personal investments allowed)

Rev. Wilma E. Engle, retiring Director of Planned Giving
Cell 316-644-2069
E-mail: wilmaengle10@gmail.com
6745 Interurban, Wichita, KS 67204-1323



Rev. Tim Schwartz, Director of Planned Giving
Cell: 913-424-9939
E-mail: timmans39@gmail.com
2921 Minnesota Ave, Kansas City, KS 66102-3911



Save the date!



2022 GIRL'S PRAISE WEEKEND!

July 15 - 17 Check in at 7:00 p.m.

Camp Webster

Salina, Ks

"You are the potter, and I am the clay".

Isaiah 64:8

AB Girls of the Central Region will be hosting their annual Praise Weekend at Camp Webster this year!

It's going to be a lot of fun so make sure you put this down on your calendars for July 15 - 17th!

More information will be sent out in April for registration fees.

Please invite your friends and join us for one AMAZING weekend!

*Sponsored by AB Women of the Central Region

The AB Girls of the Central Region are so excited to announce that we will be holding our annual Praise WEEKEND this summer! Please help us to get the word out to all the girls in 3rd - 12th grade to invite their friends and join us on July 15 - 17th! Our theme this year is from Isaiah 64:8 "Yet you, Lord, are our Father. We are the clay, you are the potter; we are all the work of your hand." More information about registration and details will be sent out in April. Please let one of our coordinators --know if you would like to be included in the mailing of information.

Cindy Fritz - cindyfritz26@gmail.com 785-820-1640

Jordan Fritz - jordyfritz5@gmail.com 785-342-0539

Rebecca Pushee - rebeccapushee@usd475.org 785-458-2520

MIDDLE SCHOOL WINTER WEEKEND

"CRAZY FRIENDS"

JANUARY 28-29, 2022
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
410 S HICKORY ST, OTTAWA, KS 66067

SPEAKER: ERIC MOSHER, LIVING A LEGACY CHURCH, NEWTON, KS

BAND: PORTER BAND, FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, GARDNER, KS

\$35 A STUDENT IF REGISTERED BY JANUARY 14TH
\$50 LATE REGISTRATION

REGISTRATION BEGINS AT 6:30PM ON FRIDAY.
DEPARTURE IS AT 5:30PM ON SATURDAY.



Rise Up

GROWING IN CHRIST THROUGH ALL GENERATIONS
2 Peter 3:18

ABCCR ANNUAL GATHERING 2022

Bacone College, Muskogee, OK
September 30- October 1, 2022





THRIVING CONGREGATIONS RESHAPING CHURCH

What is ReShaping Church?

ReShaping Church is a guided process for capturing and integrating the innovation and adaptation resulting from disruptive life experiences, transforming churches into greater expressions of the body of Christ.

Central Seminary's ReShaping Church: Thriving Congregations program is a partnership with **Pinnacle Leadership Associates** and generously funded by the Lilly Endowment.

Why Participate in ReShaping Church?

How has your church responded to the multiple crises and pandemics we have and continue to face? How will you decide which aspects of yesterday's "normal" are worth keeping and which ones to let go? What happens when pastoring during a pandemic, leading in a liminal season, or responding to a crisis lasts much longer than you expected? What will a "new normal" look like for your congregation as it seeks to be transformed and to transform?

If you are thinking about these topics, you are not alone. Faith leaders and communities all over the country are asking the same questions. **Central Seminary** invites you to join the dialogue with other pastors and churches for reflecting on unpredictable experiences, processing them in community, and using them to grow more fully into your unique expression of the Body of Christ.

Opportunities for Congregations and Individuals

RESHAPING CHURCH CONGREGATIONAL COHORT 2022	GROUP COACHING FOR CLERGY OF 2021 RESHAPING CHURCH CONGREGATIONS	RESHAPING CHURCH CONGREGATIONAL LEADERS COLLECTIVE	RESHAPING CHURCH CONVERSATIONS	RESHAPING CHURCH SMALL GROUP EXPERIENCE
Five congregations will make up a multicultural community of practice will engage the original design of RE SHAPING CHURCH in 2022	Clergy from the 2021 RESHAPING CHURCH congregations are invited to participate in ongoing group coaching	Monthly seminar and monthly group coaching Designed for congregational leaders who are ready to engage and prepare their congregations for adaptive change	Dialogues with scholar-practitioners on topics relevant to congregational ministry today Open to all	An opportunity for congregational leaders considering RESHAPING CHURCH 2023 to become more acquainted the content Will also benefit any congregations with leaders who participate in the small groups but do not engage in 2023
November 2021 – June 2022	January – June 2022	February – June 2022	Monthly June – November 2022	8 weekly sessions Late August – October 2022
Application period is closed	Registration closes January 7, 2022	Registration closes February 7, 2022	Registration opens May 2022 and is ongoing	Registration opens June 2022
	\$250/participant	\$250/church with unlimited number of participants from each church	Free	\$250/church with unlimited number of participants from each church

Our world is growing less stable with increasing volatility. Extreme economic disparity, racial injustice, political destabilization, distrust for institutions...we could go on. No wonder conversations, research, and exploration of volatile, uncertain, complex, and ambiguous (VUCA) conditions is ramping up. These are some of the large-scale shifts we are likely to see in the near future. All of this in a culture which was already undergoing major culture change, from the modern to postmodern era.

Though no one wants volatile events to come our way more frequently, we recognize that trend in our common experience. So what do followers of Jesus do when VUCA conditions arise? How do we respond? What's our spiritual perspective or posture toward these kinds of experiences? What does effective church leadership look like in this kind of world? This is the focus of the Reshaping Church Congregational Leadership Collective. Church leaders, ordained and lay, are invited to join the Collective, February – June, 2022.

Anticipated Outcomes:

- A greater and more accurate understanding of our VUCA context, along with the greater understanding of how churches are responding
- Increased confidence and competence for leading effectively during volatile times
- Learning emerging church leadership practices which help open the door for missional movement and reshaping the church for effective ministry during volatile times
- Collaborative learning with other congregational leaders

Activities and Format

Three primary activities are the heart of this Congregational Leadership Collective.

Monthly Online Seminar - Third Tuesdays, 1:00-2:15 p.m. (CST), February – June; Participants will engage in an online Seminar once a month (75 minutes), facilitated by Mark Tidsworth, author of ReShape: Emerging Church Practice In A Volatile World. Since March 2019, Mark has led numerous seminars for church leaders on emerging leadership practices which open the door to forward progress. Each participant receives a copy of the ReShape book as the text for this Seminar.

Coaching Group - Participants engage in an online coaching group each month (90 minutes) with other congregational leaders and a Coach. The primary activity in each coaching group is linking emerging church practices with one's church context and considering implementation opportunities

Basecamp Online Platform - Participants are invited to join us on Basecamp, an online place to collaboratively learn and share emerging church practices.

Participation Fee is \$250 per church. This fee includes an unlimited number of clergy or lay leaders from each congregation and a book for each participant. The participation fee is subsidized by the Thriving Congregations Initiative of the Lilly Endowment.

Registration has been extended and is now open until February 7, 2022.

<https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/6645360/Reshaping-Church-in-a-Volatile-World-Congregational-Leadership-Collective>

For more information:

Jessica C. Williams

Director of Alumni Engagement and Lifelong Learning

Program Director, Reshaping Church: Thriving Congregations

jwilliams@cbts.edu

(913) 667-5708



AB Women's Ministries

**National Theme:
Let the Walls Fall Down**



**Summer Conference – June 3-4, 2022
Theme: Reshaping in His Image**



As I think and pray about our ABW Ministries Summer Conference, I am filled with awe! God is so good!! Today I was thinking about whether or not I really understood the new slogan, "Let the Walls Fall Down." I remembered when I was compiling the Luther Rice Booklet that I sent emails to various leaders requesting more information be placed on the national website so it could be included in the directory. However, it wasn't there by publication time. So, today I am sitting and like a light bulb was turned on, I thought about the national website. Well, right there it was! Everything I had been wanting for the continued planning of our summer conference. I'm so excited to be with my friends once again on June 3 - 4. I am missing you!

The conference committee has met via Zoom and email since early September. The committee exists of Mona Huggins, Claire Bolton, Melissa Newberry, Alice Gruber, Rita Siglin, Danica Kitch, Lois Chiles, Lory Herrick, Linda Callaway, Jessica Henks, and Shirley Fair. Our keynote speaker will be Dr. Pam Durso, CBTS. Global servants presenting workshops and sharing their stories are Kyle and Katrina Williams, on home assignment from Thailand.

Here's a few things related to conference that you might like to know:

The theme will be "Reshaping in His Image"

It will be held in Salina at FBC

The committee is looking at motels in the area for a discounted rate

We need one more workshop related to Mission and Service. If you know of someone or would like to share a workshop, please get in contact with a committee member.

Please apply for a H.A.M. scholarship if you are a first time attendee. Applications may be found on the abwmc.org website.

Registration forms will be publicized by April 1.

Registration fee is \$90 for the full conference.

I truly pray you are making plans to attend the summer conference. At the time of writing, there are many people sick with flu and/or Covid, both in hospital and at home. The committee's prayer focus is that you will be protected against these viruses and that we all may join together in person on June 3 in Salina. Blessings to each person reading these words.

Mona Huggins
2022 Conference Associate
huggins.mona@gmail.com