

# WORKSHOP OPTIONS

## A – MORNING WORKSHOPS, 11 a.m. – 12 noon



### **A-1 The Tempest of Life: Job and the Comforting Chaos**

The book of Job recounts how God succeeds where his “friends” have failed in “comforting” Job. Explore how God empowers Job by putting Job “in his place” within the wildness of creation.

*William P. Brown, William Marcellus McPheeters Professor of Old Testament at Columbia Theological Seminary*

### **A-2 New Resources from the Board of Pensions to Support Pastors, Small Churches, and Other Church Workers**

The Board of Pensions, in its desire to “serve more and serve better,” has expanded eligibility for Assistance Grants, e.g., Sabbaticals, Adoption of a child, Emergencies, Debt Reduction, Retiree Support, and Transition-to-College grants. The way in which care is provided through the Medical Plan will be enhanced. An overview of expanded resources for those serving Part-time or as a Commissioned Pastor in small and large churches will be shared.

*Doug Portz, Senior Church Consultant, Board of Pensions*

### **A-3 Online Giving through the Presbyterian Foundation**

The Presbyterian Foundation’s Online Giving Program offers a simple and easy way to raise and manage funds for your mission or ministry. It provides congregations with flexible online giving solutions through a trusted partner able to professionally administer and safeguard the funds you raise.

*Ellie Johns-Kelley, Ministry Relations Officer, The Presbyterian Foundation*

### **A-4 Let’s Talk Incorporation**

Join this opportunity to talk with legal counsel from Spilman Thomas & Battle, and the Stated Clerk about the processes and reasons for churches to incorporate. This will be a chance to have your questions answered by legal counsel. Copies of the information from the mailing sent to pastoral leaders and Clerks of Session and the templates will be available.

*Maureen Wright, Stated Clerk, Presbytery of West Virginia; and Joe Unger, Attorney, Spilman Thomas & Battle*

### **A-5 Disaster Response Planning for Congregations**

Make sure you have a plan! Come join us for a fast, fun, easy romp through the Presbytery of West Virginia disaster response format for congregations.

*Barbara Chalfant, Associate for Mission, Presbytery of West Virginia, Ruling Elder, Bream Memorial Presbyterian Church, Charleston*

## **B WORKSHOPS - 1:15-2:15 p.m.**

### **B-1 Changes that Demand Quiet Courage**

Gil Rendle's book Quietly Courageous offers a helpful perspective on the past that provides a better understanding of where we are now, as well as a better sense of what we need to do differently. While there are no easy answers, challenging some of the common assumptions we make, and facing the easy temptations that we too often fall into, can help move the church forward.

*Ed Thompson, General Presbyter, Presbytery of West Virginia*

### **B-2 A Pilgrimage on the Appalachian Trail**

"Pilgrimage" is defined as a journey, especially a long one, made to some sacred place. I made a pilgrimage this summer, as part of a sabbatical – 400 miles on the Appalachian Trail. I'll share a few adventures and how the experience was sacred. We'll also consider how you can apply a pilgrim mentality to shorter walks and ordinary days.

*Todd Wright, Pastor, Village Chapel Presbyterian Church, Charleston*

### **B-3 Help! We're Without a Pastor**

As many of our congregations struggle with calling a full-time minister of Word and Sacrament, this workshop will outline leadership options for a congregation that may not be in a position to follow the traditional process for calling a pastor.

*Dawn Adamy, Chair of the Vocations Committee, Pastor, Bream Memorial Presbyterian Church; and Jim Musgrave, Ruling Elder, Highlawn Presbyterian Church, Huntington, retired Commissioned Pastor*

### **B-4 Worshipping through Media: How to Use Social Media and Websites for Church Services**

The pandemic has caused a lot of changes in how we worship. This workshop will detail how to utilize social media and websites to make it easier for your congregation to gather virtually.

*Brandi Hicks, member, Bream Memorial Presbyterian Church, works the social media for Bream, West Virginia Ministry of Advocacy and Workcamps and other groups in the state*

### **B-5 Learn about the New Life Congregational Grant Program**

We will walk through ways this grant might fund a new or expanded ministry for your congregation, review the grant process including the application form and required report, and attempt to answer all your questions in order to help ensure a successful application.

*Tina Vial, Chair of the New Life Grant Review Committee, Ruling Elder, Davis Memorial Presbyterian Church, Elkins*

## **C WORKSHOPS 2:25-3:25 p.m.**

### **C-1 The Tempest of Life: Job and the Comforting Chaos**

The book of Job recounts how God succeeds where his "friends" have failed in "comforting" Job. Explore how God empowers Job by putting Job "in his place" within the wildness of creation.

*William P. Brown, William Marcellus McPheeters Professor of Old Testament at Columbia Theological Seminary*

### **C-2 The Moral Lessons of *Star Trek*: Where It Has Boldly Gone**

Addressing racial hatred. Struggling with whether to interfere in other cultures. Asking whether artificial life is entitled to "human" rights. Pondering the implications of virtual existence, omnipotence, or resurrection. These are just a few of the topics tackled by Gene Roddenberry, creator of *Star Trek*. In this workshop, we will discuss the moral lessons of *Star Trek*, which are often more spiritual than many realize. Please "engage" in this discussion with us; make it so.

*Don Parker, Ruling Elder, Village Chapel Presbyterian Church, Charleston*

### **C-3 Festival of Faith Choir**

Sacred music and a positive atmosphere can bring balance to the chaos of our daily lives. Join in the Festival of Faith Choir that will rehearse Zebulon Highben's "The Spirit of the Lord," and present it during the Closing Gathering. No choir experience necessary, just a joy in singing.

*Michael Belt, Choir Director and Office Administrator, Bream Memorial Presbyterian Church, Charleston*

### **C-4 Overview of the Authorized Lay Preacher/Commissioned Pastor Preparation Program**

While the current Authorized Lay Preacher/Commissioned Pastor Preparation program is underway, it's not too late to begin. This workshop will provide an overview of the newly revised program, with testimonials from those who have recently completed the previous program and are serving as Commissioned Pastors.

*Susan Sharp Campbell, Associate for Educational Ministry, Presbytery of West Virginia; Pastor, Frankford Presbyterian Church*

## **D WORKSHOPS – 1:15-3:25 p.m.**

**Note: If you sign up for a D workshop, you will be unable to take a B or C workshop.**

### **D-1 The Role of Clerk of Session & 2021 Session Record Review**

This workshop will provide Clerks of Session with a fresh look at the responsibilities of clerks. This is also an opportunity for Clerks of Session to bring their Session records for annual review (Book of Order, G-3.0108a). This is the primary Records Review event for the Charleston area of Presbytery; however, Clerks of Session from throughout the presbytery are invited to participate. Join this time of learning, reflection, sharing, and fellowship. **Please note: records must be accompanied by the Clerk of Session, a Ruling Elder member of Session, or a pastoral leader in order to be reviewed.**

*Maureen Wright, Stated Clerk, Presbytery of West Virginia*

### **D-2 Church Treasurers' Workshop**

This workshop will provide an introduction to and a review of the responsibilities and duties of the church treasurer. We will discuss best practices; important duties; and interactions with the Session, minister, and congregation. We will also review important recording responsibilities to the Presbytery, Board of Pensions, IRS, etc.

*Rocky Poole, Financial Administrator/Treasurer, Presbytery of West Virginia*