Guide to seminars

128th Annual Convention
of the
Episcopal Church in Colorado

October 1-3, 2015
Hotel Elegante,
Colorado Springs
Seminar Schedule

Friday, Oct. 2, 11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

Seminar Session 1

Technology in the Kingdom of God .................................................................The Rev. Peter Floyd
7 Ways to Talk About Racism and Racial Justice in your Church ......................Lelanda Lee
Doing Asset Based Community Development in Your Church Community .............The Rev. Linda Brown
Lauri Briscoe, the Rev. Jan Pearson
Roots of Injustice, Seeds of Change: Toward Right Relationship with Native People .........................................Ann Cairns
Connecting Soul and Role: Forming Effective Church Leaders for the 21st Century...Marilyn Stranske, Paul Michalec
Starting and Sustaining Campus Outreach: A Roundtable Discussion .............. The Rev. Dr. Gary Brower, Daniel Coffey
This Fragile Earth, Our Island Home: Engaging Pope Francis’ Encyclical Laudato Si’ ........................................Dr. Greg Robbins,
Anita Sanborn, The Rev. Peter Sawtell, Joseph Wolyniak

Friday, Oct. 2, 3:45 - 4:30 p.m.

Seminar Session 2

From Generation to Generation..............................................................The Rev. Brooks Keith, Peter Kellogg, Marne Kellogg, Mary K. Schaefer
Congregational Discernment for Same-Gender Blessings and Marriages................The Rev. Bonnie Spencer
Health Ministries: Choosing to Live as a Healthy Church Family ................................AliceMarie Slaven-Emond
Church Development Institute Presents: Living Your Strengths.........................The Rev. Canon Jadon Hartsuff
The Good News About Disaster Preparedness..................................................Hill Grimmett
Spiritual Discernment in Congregational Life OR God’s Calling: Are You Listening? The Rev. Sandy Body,
the Rev. Catherine Tran
E-Vangelism: Sharing the Story Via Social Media (in a World that Hates Evangelism)  The Rev. Ken Malcolm,
Joseph Wolyniak, Dr. Lisa Kimball, the Rev. Kyle Oliver

Saturday, Oct. 3, 8:45 - 10 a.m.

Seminar Session 3

Technology in the Kingdom of God .................................................................The Rev. Peter Floyd
7 Ways to Talk About Racism and Racial Justice in your Church ......................Lelanda Lee
Doing Asset Based Community Development in Your Church Community .............The Rev. Linda Brown
Lauri Briscoe, the Rev. Jan Pearson
Mental Illness and the 21st Century Church: What Difference Can We Make? ....................Sheila Brockmeier,
the Rev. Mark Meyer
Bridging the Chaos with Contemplative Living: Making Space to Hear the Voice of God...The Rev. Andrew Cooley
Our Faith is Not Dying: Faith Formation in the 21st Century.......................Dr. Greg Garrett, the Rev. Canon Ken Malcolm,
Joseph Wolyniak, Lara Beckwith
A Guide to the workshops and presenters

This Fragile Earth, Our Island Home: Engaging Pope Francis’ Encyclical Laudato Si

Our church may not be dying, but it occupies a planet that is sick unto death. That is the reality with which Pope Francis calls us to reckon in his recent encyclical, Laudato Si (“Praise to You, My Lord”). The document provides the church an ecumenical opportunity to exhibit its true vitality. Join us for a lively discussion of the resources our shared theological tradition possesses, to which the Pope’s reflections calls our attention, and the concrete means of redress it envisions. Topics will include practices of holistic stewardship, setting free the generosity of spirit that exists within each person, and how parishes can make the connection between spiritual practices and sharing financial and material blessings.

Dr. Greg Robbins is chair of the Department Religious Studies at the University of Denver, associate professor of the history of Christianity and its scriptures, director of the Anglican Studies Program at the Iliff School of Theology, and canon theologian at Saint John’s Cathedral.

Anita Sanborn became the third President of the Colorado Episcopal Foundation in January, 2004. She has overseen several Foundation strategic initiatives including Legacy Giving Re-imagined. Her work at the Foundation focuses on broad-based stewardship training and resource development and financial management.

The Rev. Peter Sawtell is ordained in the United Church of Christ and is the founder and Executive Director of Eco-Justice Ministries, an independent, ecumenical agency that helps churches answer the call to care for all of God’s creation, and to develop faithful, relevant and effective ministries that work toward social justice and environmental sustainability.

Joseph Wolyniak is Missioner for Discipleship & Theological Education for the Episcopal Diocese of Colorado. A DPhil candidate in theology at the University of Oxford and visiting scholar in the Department of Religious Studies at the University of Denver, Joseph serves as Theologian-in-Residence at the Church of the Ascension, Denver.

Our Faith is Not Dying: Faith Formation in the 21st Century

Greg Garrett’s latest book, “My Church is Not Dead Yet,” gives us reason to think we are not just deluding ourselves en route to the dustbin of history. Our church faces definite challenges, but they are challenges we can and will face with creativity and confidence. How do we continue to develop disciples capable of meeting those challenges? How do we nurture leaders who are formed and informed by a faith that is not a destination but a daily journey? After engaging in moderated conversation, with questions culled from social media, attendees will may ask their own questions. The session will conclude with an overview of what our diocesan Faith Formation team will be offering in the months ahead.

Dr. Greg Robbins teaches in the English Department at Baylor University. With a Master of Divinity from the Seminary of the Southwest and a doctorate from Oklahoma State University, he has written numerous award-winning books and critically-acclaimed novels. His book, “My Church is Not Dying,” is the focus of this diocesan convention.

The Rev. Ken Malcolm, Canon for Leadership Development & Faith Formation, previously served at St. Mark’s (Durango) and St. David’s (Austin, Texas) after years in outdoor education/formation in the Diocese of Virginia. A graduate of the Seminary of the Southwest, he heads up the Colorado Youth Leadership Institute and teaches for Colorado Church Development Institute.
**Doing Asset-Based Community Development in Your Church Community**

Gain a sense of whether Asset-Based Community Development might work for your ministry. In ABCD, the community is invited to identify the assets or gifts present in the neighborhood, and ways to harness those assets to work toward the community’s hopes and dreams. Seminar participants will engage in small-group conversations to explore issues, ask questions and investigate ways to apply the ABCD process in their own parish or ministry context. There will be opportunities to connect with the ABCD team for further conversation after Convention.

**The Rev. Deacon Linda Brown** served as the project director for the Asset-Based Community Development pilot project conducted in the Denver Northside neighborhood by the 32nd Avenue Jubilee Center, Denver. She is the deacon at Holy Comforter Episcopal Church, Broomfield. Linda and her husband, Jesse, reside in Arvada.

**Lauri Briscoe** serves as co-general manager of the 32nd Avenue Jubilee Center and on the bishop’s committee of Our Merciful Savior Episcopal Church. A resident of northwest Denver, she has been an educator specializing in mentoring young people aspiring to higher education from low income families.

**The Rev. Deacon Jan Pearson** serves as co-general manager of the 32nd Avenue Jubilee Center. She manages the Youth Enrichment Educational Program for at-risk youth (grades 4-8) after school during the academic year and in a nine-week summer camp. She is the deacon at St. John Chrysostom, Golden.

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**Roots of Injustice, Seeds of Change: Toward Right Relationship with Native People**

In 2009, the Episcopal Church repudiated the Doctrine of Discovery, the 15th century justification for European subjugation of non-Christian peoples. Each diocese was asked to reflect on its own history and seek greater understanding of indigenous peoples within its boundaries. The goal of this seminar is to raise our level of knowledge and concern about the Doctrine of Discovery and its impacts, recognize them in ourselves and our institutions, and explore how we can begin to take actions toward “right relationship.”

**Ann Cairns** is the Faith Communities Outreach Director of the Toward Right Relationship Project and has been trained in Christian Responses to Repudiation of the Doctrine of Discovery. A member of St. Mary Magdalene Episcopal Church in Boulder, she volunteered with the Toward Right Relationship Project of the Boulder Friends Meeting (Quakers) since April, 2014. She has a long interest in Native American history, cultures, and contemporary issues. Ann is a communications, outreach, and marketing professional, and has additional training and experience in group facilitation and mediation, and has taught meditation classes for more than 20 years.

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**Health Ministries: Choosing to Live as a Healthy Church Family**

Since the 1960s, shorter hospital stays, changing family structure, an aging population, rising insurance costs and increasing chronic illnesses have had a definite impact on families and communities. But parish members can work together through a variety of ministries to make the church family healthier. Parish nursing and congregational health programs are increasing in number, and help people stay out of the hospital, teach new mothers to meet the needs of their newborns, care for the elderly, teach illness prevention and promote healthy behaviors. In this workshop, we’ll share information and ideas.

**AliceMarie Slaven-Emond** has been a Family Nurse Practitioner for 20-plus years, and earned a certificate in parish nursing from Concordia University Wisconsin. A member of St. Luke’s parish in Delta, she is a Denver native, and is the wife, mother and grandmother of several fine Coloradans. She has bachelor’s degrees from Colorado State University and Mesa State University, and a master’s degree from the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center. She is a novice cultural anthropologist and textile designer.
7 Ways to Talk About Racism and Racial Justice in Your Church

In light of the recent racial tensions, many congregational leaders are asking how to engage and sustain the “race conversation.” In this workshop, we will share materials for seven ways of doing this work in your congregation, and if there’s interest, longer participatory workshops can be scheduled later throughout the diocese. It’s a tough topic, but it’s not rocket science, and conversation subjects and techniques begin can be taught and learned. Both paper and electronic handouts will be made available.

Lelanda Lee has been leading workshops, adult forums, and church conversations about race, racism, and racial justice across the Episcopal Church since 2006. She also has been an Education for Ministry mentor, Confirmation Catechist, and Asset-Based Community Development trainer. She is gifted in her ability to talk about difficult subjects with compassion, theological understanding, clear language, examples, and stories. She is a member of St. Stephen’s, Longmont, and has on the Standing Committee (2007-2013) and on the Executive Council of the Episcopal Church (2009-2015). She is a former trust officer and commercial lender.

Connecting Soul and Role: Forming Effective Church Leaders for the 21st Century

Most church leaders – lay and ordained – serve their congregations out of a strong sense of personal and spiritual calling. They often begin with a commitment to lead from their hearts, passions and deep listening to God. But for many, the ideal relationship between the pragmatic realities of leadership and the inner core of self can break down. This workshop offers an invitation to rest and renew the soul in the midst of the necessary busy-ness of Convention, and offers concrete strategies for reconnecting and strengthening the soul/role relationship. Drawing from the work of Parker Palmer, we’ll create a space in which to remember and regain the energy to serve and be God’s voice, hands and heart in the world.

Dr. Paul Michalec is a Clinical Professor in Teaching and Learning Sciences at the University of Denver, Morgridge College of Education. In addition to his academic responsibilities he served for the past two years as the Moderator of Lakewood United Church of Christ. As the senior lay leader he co-led the congregation, along with the pastor, on a two-year cycle of spiritual formation and identity development. He has been teaching in formal and informal settings for over 30 years and was recently awarded the Distinguished Teacher of the Year for the University of Denver.

Marilyn Stranske has served as a consultant and administrator for Colorado Courage and Renewal. Earlier work includes organization of Together Colorado’s statewide clergy network and co-founding and co-directing Hope Communities, an affordable housing initiative. She is a member of St. John’s Cathedral.

Church Development Institute Presents: Living Your Strengths

The idea for this seminar emerged in conversation with the Rev. Lou Blanchard, Canon Missioner, and the Church Development Institute training team as we thought of ways to both engage CDI alumni with new material and also give potential future CDI participants a taste of the various modules presented in CDI training. We will introduce participants to the Gallup organization’s Strength Finder material, especially the “Living Your Strengths” material developed especially for churches. We’ll discuss how people can identify and affirm their talents, and use them for growth and service.

The Rev. Canon Jadon Hartsuff serves as Canon for Worship, Prayer, and the Arts at Saint John’s Cathedral and is a member of our Colorado Church Development Institute training team.
Starting and Sustaining Campus Outreach: A Roundtable Discussion

Interested in starting – or sustaining – a campus ministry outreach from your parish? Join this roundtable discussion with chaplains and campus ministers from across the diocese, serving small liberal arts colleges and large research universities alike. Bring your insights, experiences and questions as we seek to make connections and learn from one another in this often neglected but hugely important work.

The Rev. Dr. Gary Brower has served as Chaplain at the University of Denver since 2007. With an M.Div. from Church Divinity School of the Pacific and a doctorate in religion from Duke University, he previously served as the Episcopal campus minister at Duke, The University of North Carolina – Charlotte and the University of California – Berkeley, where he was Chair of the University Religious Council.

Daniel Coffey is a Pastor for Youth & Young Adults at Calvary Church in Golden, where he leads an outreach team to the School of Mines. His ministry draws 200-plus students to a weekly lunch fellowship. Holding an M.Div. from Denver Seminary, he describes himself as a husband, baker, backpacker, snowboarder, musician, and Christ-follower.

Spiritual Discernment in Congregational Life OR God’s Calling: Are You Listening?

Do you wrestle with how to listen to the presence of the Spirit in your decision-making? Does your vestry struggle to know what God is calling the congregation to do and be? If so, the Spiritual Discovery Method may be what you’re looking for. This seminar introduces a method of decision-making that invites the presence of the Holy Spirit and creates an environment of focused listening and thoughtful exploration.

The Rev. Sandy Boyd is retired from interim ministry but continues as a supply priest in Colorado. She and Catherine Tran developed the prayer model-based congregational discernment program. They trained groups throughout Colorado, which led to the publication of their book “Spiritual Discovery: A Method for Discernment in Small Groups and Congregations.”

The Rev. Catherine Tran is co-pastor at Grace Church in Buena Vista. She also has a spiritual direction practice and leads Spiritual Discovery Groups in the Denver area. Her work in vocational discernment for the Commission on Ministry attracted the notice of the Alban Institute. A few years later, “Spiritual Discovery,” co-authored with Sandy Boyd, was published.

Spiritual *AND* Religious: A Summit on Faith Formation, the Anglican Way

The Episcopal Church in Colorado Faith Formation Team invites all Christian education and formation leaders to attend this summit aimed at making connections, building relationships, sharing resources, exploring best practices, and envisaging the future of education/formation in this diocese. To frame our conversation, we will pick up on a claim that Greg Garrett makes in “My Church is Not Dying”: that “the Anglican tradition stands in contrast to the purely personal spirituality practiced by many Americans,” being broad enough to encompass “many practices and beliefs,” yet maintaining that “the heart of human spirituality is not personal advancement but common praise.” The seminar will explore “the Anglican way” of education/formation as it exists in various manifestations across our parishes, yet all oriented toward our common worship of God. Our conversation will include opportunities to discuss what's going well and what could use some tweaking, what resources are readily accessible and what is inaccessible or hard to find, what connections already exist between parishes and what connections could be made.

The Rev. Ken Malcolm, Canon for Leadership Development & Faith Formation, previously served at St. Mark's (Durango) and St. David's (Austin, TX) after years in outdoor education/formation in the Diocese of Virginia. A graduate of the Seminary of the Southwest, he heads up the Colorado Youth Leadership Institute and teaches for Colorado Church Development Institute.

Lara Beckwith, Program Assistant for Children, Youth & Cathedral Ridge, holds a Masters of Divinity (Cert. in Anglican Studies) and a Masters of Pastoral and Spiritual Care (Cert. in Social Change) from Iliff School of Theology. She attends St. Thomas Episcopal Church (Denver) with her husband, Mark, and daughter, River.
Mental Illness and the Church:
What Difference Can We Make?

General Convention has called on Episcopalians to increase our “ministry of inclusion, support and spiritual care for persons with mental illness and their families.” Who are these persons, and why should the church be concerned? Participants will discuss the impact a caring presence can have in decreasing isolation, shame and stigma, and will explore what mental health services are available to assist individuals with mental illness and their family members. We'll also discuss how clergy and lay leaders can educate congregations and more effectively minister to this often-neglected group among us.

Sheila Brockmeier has a master’s in Speech Pathology and has spent more than 25 years working with students with communication and learning challenges. She has served as an instructor, facilitator and coordinator for FaithNet outreach to faith communities for the Arapahoe/Douglas affiliate of the National Alliance on Mental Illness. She recently became the Director of Education and Family Ministries at St. John the Baptist, Breckenridge.

Congregational Discernment for Same-Gender Blessings and Marriages

In light of the revision of the Marriage Canon (Resolution A036) at General Convention and the Supreme Court ruling that says that the constitution guarantees the right to same sex marriage, it is timely that we talk about how congregations can discern whether or not to bless same gender relationships and marriages. This workshop will be a panel discussion composed of laity and clergy who have gone through this discernment process. There will be brief presentations and then time for questions and discussions. What are the Diocesan requirements for this process? What might this process look like? What are the risks and opportunities? How do we make sure all voices are heard? Does each congregation have to go through discernment?

The Rev. Bonnie Spencer, panel moderator, is rector of St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, Fort Collins.

Parishes represented include St. Barnabas, Denver; Good Shepherd, Centennial; St. Brigit, Frederick; and St. Thomas, Denver.

Technology in the Kingdom of God

A recent Pew Research survey shows 85 percent of Americans regularly go online. In most churches, people well into their 90s have email accounts. The reality is that even when pumping gas or accessing ATMs, people interact with computers and technology everywhere. Join us as we learn to use technology to increase ministry by enhancing communication, marketing, volunteerism and more. We'll explore free or low-cost ways to create websites, email newsletters and parish kiosks, and develop social media and internet marketing strategies. All of these things can be done by people with basic computer skills. If you can attach a picture to an email, you can build a website and more.

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Generation to Generation Campaign Progress Update

Join the Rev. Brooks Keith, Co-Chair of the Generation to Generation Campaign for the Center at Cathedral Ridge; Peter Kellogg, Chairman and CEO of the Kellogg Organization campaign fundraising counsel; Mary Schaefer, Senior Executive Consultant of the Kellogg Organization; and various members of the G2G Steering Committee for an informative and interactive session. It will include updates on both the ministry of Cathedral Ridge and the Campaign progress to date, and plans to successfully conclude this Campaign. We also invite all those with capital fund-raising questions for congregations or more general stewardship questions to join us as we seek to partner and support you in your congregational ministries.

The Rev. Brooks Keith, rector of the Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration in Vail, is co-chair of the Cathedral Ridge Capital Campaign.

Peter Kellogg founded the Kellogg Organization in 1981 and has an extensive background in both the private and non-profit sectors. He is recognized as a national and international leader in strategic planning and transformational major gift development. He and his staff have researched, strategized, and managed more than 500 capital, endowment, program, and annual campaigns for a variety of non-profit organizations worldwide, resulting in more than $2 billion of contributions.

Mary K. Schaefer joined The Kellogg Organization in 1998 and provides strategy, direction, and organizational and management development expertise to clients. She has assisted with research, structure, and implementation for numerous Kellogg Organization clients. She currently manages the Generation to Generation Capital Campaign.

Bridging the Chaos with Contemplative Living: Making Space to Hear the Voice of God

Can you hear God’s call above the noise that surrounds you? Carving out the time and space for stillness and contemplation can be difficult, yet without it, how can we live the life that God has defined for us? This workshop offers a practical model for developing and sustaining a discipline for contemplative living. The Bridges program makes it possible for anyone to find contemplative practices that suit their circumstances. An experience of prayerfully sitting in silence for up to 20 minutes is part of the seminar.

The Rev. Andrew Cooley has spent a lifetime in the Diocese of Colorado; four years ago he began a new career as an Interim Minister. He has introduced “Bridges to Contemplative Living with Thomas Merton” in five congregations in his peripatetic role. Based in his experience that we are always called to change, and that all ministry is transitional, he is constantly looking for practices of common prayer and silence together to help communities find ways to “Be Still and Know that I am God” and then empower them to embrace the new life that God is inviting us into.

The Good News About Disaster Preparedness

This workshop will present information and stories about the positive effects that engaging in resilience planning has had for several parishes. Panelists will share the experience in their congregations, discuss how the work was done and explain some of the outcomes of the planning process. In addition, we’ll provide guidance and instruction on how to develop a planning team for your congregation, and introduce you to available resources to help.

Hill Grimmett is the Diocesan Disaster Relief Coordinator. He is working on flood recovery from the 2013 floods, and on the Year of Resilience to help the diocese prepare for future disasters. He is a parishioner of St. Luke’s, Fort Collins.
**E-vangelism: Sharing the Story Via Social Media (in a World that Hates Evangelism)**

Whether you're still trying to wrap your mind around why you'd want to “hashtag” anything (Let alone “retweet”!) or you're a tweeting Vine and snapchatting Tumblr like there's no tomorrow, this seminar is for you. Together with Dr. Lisa Kimball and The Rev. Kyle Oliver of the Center for Ministry of Teaching at Virginia Theological Seminary (who will, fittingly, join us via Google Hangout!), we will explore how we can faithfully use social media to share the good news amidst a culture that increasingly assumes the church has little to share beyond the clamorous, contentious, and condemnatory. (For a sneak peak, see: https://youtu.be/4ese1Xre1Js and https://youtu.be/-PkPboh-jz8)

**Dr. Lisa Kimball** is the Director of the Center for Ministry of Teaching (CMT-VTS) and Professor of Christian Formation and Congregational Leadership at Virginia Theological Seminary. Prior to pursuing her MEd/PhD at the University of Minnesota, she served for two decades on parish and diocesan staffs in California and Minnesota.

**The Rev. Kyle Matthew Oliver** is a Digital Missioner for CMT-VTS, where he coordinates the e-Formation Learning Community (a network of lay/ordained leaders committed to learning-by-doing where digital media and ministry intersect). He lives in the Bronx with his wife, Kristin Saylor, who is an associate at St. Peter’s (Port Chester, NY).

**The Rev. Ken Malcolm,** Canon for Leadership Development & Faith Formation, previously served at St. Mark's (Durango) and St. David’s (Austin, TX) after years in outdoor education/formation in the Diocese of Virginia. A graduate of the Seminary of the Southwest, he heads up the Colorado Youth Leadership Institute and teaches for Colorado Church Development Institute.

**Is Godly Play Worth the Trouble? Children and the Parable of the Leaven**

Godly Play isn’t easy. It involves training, organization, warmth, commitment, consistency, a sense of humor and continuing education to master the many books and lessons. The Godly Play room needs care and intelligent planning. Two mentors are needed in each room, plus back-ups, and it requires the strong support of clergy and lay leadership. If this sounds like way too much time, money and commitment for a parish to take on, the question must be asked: “Is it worth the trouble?” This workshop will show what happens when Godly Play is done well. When done well, it works. When it works, it is worth the trouble.

**The Rev. Jerome W. Berryman** is a consultant in the areas of religious education, child development, and spiritual direction for children. He is the author of “Godly Play: An Imaginative Approach to Religious Education.” He is Director the Center for the Theology of Childhood, which is part of the Godly Play Foundation, established in late 2007. This is the research center for the Godly Play Foundation, located in Denver. Before being ordained as an Episcopal priest in 1984, he was a Presbyterian minister since 1962, serving in parishes and schools.

**Joseph Wolyniak,** Missioner for Discipleship & Theological Education, holds a Master of Theological Studies from Duke University and is completing a DPhil from Oxford University. An Episcopal Church Foundation Fellow, he serves as Theologian-in-Residence at Ascension (Denver) and is married to the Rev. Liz Costello (St. John's Cathedral, Denver).