

FLORIDA DISCIPLES REGIONAL CHURCH



VITALITY AND GROWTH IN
A "FUN SIZE" CHURCH

MEET YOUR PRESENTERS



Rev. Dr. Olivia Updegrave

Olivia is an ordained minister in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), with seminary training from Lexington Theological Seminary and a doctorate in preaching from Claremont School of Theology. She has authored three children's books, written articles and curricula, and brings her passion for biblical education to various age groups. Currently, she serves as a part-time pastor at Independence Christian Church in Kentucky and recently launched her business, Faith Tutors (www.progressivefaithathome.org). Faith Tutors provides valuable resources for busy families seeking practical ways to engage in Christian faith at home, while also supporting churches. Olivia resides on the Ohio side of the Cincinnati area with her husband, two children, and dog. She spends much of her time as a mom, chauffeur, dog walker, and queso enthusiast.

As your keynote speaker we will be Celebrating the small church and its big faithful ministry impacts! Discuss the ability for small churches to live into intergenerational realities give young people the best chance of being faithful adults!

MEET YOUR PRESENTERS

Rev. Michael Junkroski



The pastor of The Current Online Spiritual Community, a space for postmodern Christian experimentation. An author, musician, tech guru, history, and quantum physics freak, pastor Michael writes and creates services for the postmodern, deconstructing/reconstructing 21st-century spiritual sojourner.

Technology on a Shoestring:

The "Tech on a Shoestring" forum invites everyone gathered to share their experiences with and questions about technology, from church management software to streaming services, royalty-free music, lighting, marketing, and anything the gathered group is curious about. We'll explore some different types of technology available and when, where, and why we might use them. Throughout our discussion, we will consider how the tech we use serves God's love and our particular ministry setting.

According to Carl F. George, "The typical church in North America is small. Half of this continent's approximately 320,000 Protestant churches run about 80 in weekly attendance."

[Warren Bird and Carl F. George, *How to Break Growth Barriers: Revise Your Role, Release Your People, and Capture Overlooked Opportunities for Your Church* (Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2017), 150.]

MEET YOUR PRESENTERS

Rev. Sandy Messick



The Regional Minister for the Florida Disciples Regional Church. She has led numerous conversations and workshops on visioning and identifying unique congregational gifts. She has completed Interim Ministry training through both the Interim Ministry Network and the Disciples Interims as well as earned a certificate in Church Leadership and Management from Whitworth University, in Spokane, WA.

Identifying Our Passions and Resources:

Every congregation has gifts and passions and operates out of a sense of core values. This session will introduce tools for identifying those gifts and naming the core values that make your congregation unique.

More information can be found in the workshop toolbox .
Scan the QR Code for more event resources.



MEET YOUR PRESENTERS



Rev. Dr. Jose Martinez

Rev. Dr. Jose Martinez serves as the Minister for New Church Strategies and founded StoryWagen through the National Benevolent Association's Incubate program. He co-planted Multi Nation Christian Church, the largest Haitian ministry for Disciples of Christ in the Midwest, and MissioKC Church. He is also an endorsed Protestant Chaplain with the 139th Airlift Wing in St. Joseph, MO, and Truman Medical Center in Kansas City, MO. He has served in various ministry roles, from regional to local, bringing innovative and entrepreneurial ideas about the shifting paradigm of church. His talent, tenacity, and experience were recognized in 2016 when the Air National Guard awarded him the Samuel Stone Award.

Getting to Know Our Neighbors:

This workshop explores cultural micro-trends shaping spirituality in the U.S. today. Participants will learn practical approaches to engaging their neighbors and communities where they are spiritually, creating deeper connections and fostering understanding in a rapidly changing world. This session will equip you with insights and strategies to meet people where they are on their spiritual journey.

MEET YOUR PRESENTERS



Rev. Dr. Patreza Newton

Rev. Dr. Patreza Newton has operated in many capacities within the church and community. Her talents have been organizing outreach and evangelistic events that cross denominational lines to meet the needs of communities. Rev. Dr. Newton has worked in both small and large church settings. Some of her most notable achievements include providing scholarships to graduates in need whose parents were incarcerated, helping single mothers obtain school supplies and Christmas toys, assisting single mothers in securing transportation for work through sponsorship, and helping families during hurricane season get necessary supplies. She has also organized and assisted churches with global and local outreaches and collaborated with politicians to bring about community change. Additionally, Rev. Newton has worked with media outlets such as radio and television to highlight the needs of small churches and their communities. As a church administrator, she organized various events to meet the needs of the larger community.

Putting It Together: Evangelism and Outreach:

This class will explore different forms of evangelism and outreach strategies that can assist small churches in reaching those within their communities.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

October 11-13th - Hispanic Women's Event

November 8-10th Fl. Disciples Women's Retreat

December 6-7th Holiday Arts and Craft Sale

- If you are a vendor and would like to register please let us know!

January 17-19th Winter Family Camp

Thank you for attending this workshop your feedback is greatly appreciated. Please Scan the QR Code below to complete a survey.



Director: Rev Mary Beth Harper

6455 East Silver Springs Blvd
Silver Springs Fl, 34488

352-236-2302

www.theretreatatsilversprings.com

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

FRIDAY- OCTOBER 4TH

- 6:45pm - Check in and gathering
- 7:15pm - Opening Worship
- 7:45pm - Session 1: Technology on a Shoe String
- 8:45pm - Campfire- Join us for Smores by the picnic tables.



SATURDAY- OCTOBER 5TH

- 8:00am - Breakfast
- 9:00am - Gathering and opening devotion
- 9:30am - Session 2: Identifying our Passions and Resources
- 10:30am - Break
- 11:00am - Getting to Know our Neighbors
- Noon - Lunch
- 1:00pm - Putting it Together: Evangelism and Outreach
- 2:00pm - Panel Discussion
- 2:30pm - Closing worship