2021 Congregational Learning Day

Saturday March 6, 2021

9:30 - 11:30 a.m.

Seminars are OFFERED SIMULTANEOUSLY in separate

Zoom rooms—the link, meeting ID, and password will be sent to registrants by March 4, 2021.



Seminars: choose one

Called and Equipped: Training for New and Returning Elders & Deacons

- o Presenters: **Rev. Laura Fry**, pastor, Perinton Presbyterian Church, Perinton, N.Y. and **Rev. Michael Fry**, ministry coach, International Coach Federation
- o In this interactive seminar you will gain practical leadership tools, hone your skills for ministry, and discover how discernment lies at the heart of Presbyterian leadership.

Finance Forum - (formerly Church Treasurer Forum)

- o Presenters: Cheryl Battaglia, Presbytery financial administrator and Peter Judd, Presbytery treasurer
- Calling all church treasurers, bookkeepers, financial secretaries. Bring your experiences for sharing in a round table discussion. Some of the topics include: Driving contributions in the right direction—what worked, what didn't in 2020; Qualified Charitable Deduction vs. RMD; In-house vs. payroll processor—who's the best?; NYS paid sick leave 2021; When is rent taxable?; Trends in Church Management Software—online giving; Review of Presbytery's "Guide for Church Treasurers."

Essentials for Trustees, Finance and Property Elders

- o Presenters: **Barb James**, chair of Presbytery trustees
- This user- friendly seminar discusses building, finance, legal, and insurance issues—useful for first-time trustees as well as those with experience. It includes a time for you to share your top choices of contractors that you have successfully worked with for your building's needs (e.g. roofing, plumbing, etc.). Additionally, this seminar introduces you to the wealth of information available on the trustee's page of the Presbytery of Genesee Valley website so you can access the forms and information you need to better serve your congregation.

Rethinking Stewardship - New Strategies for Changing Times

- Presenters: Rev. Dr. Roula Alkhouri, pastor, First Presbyterian Church, Batavia, N.Y. and Rachel Norton, director of stewardship, development, and communications at Third Presbyterian Church, Rochester, N.Y., an experienced professional fundraiser for nonprofit organizations; both attended the 2019 Stewardship Kaleidoscope Conference
- How do we instill and grow a strong spirit of giving in our hearts and in our congregations? This workshop
 offers new strategies to lay the foundation of successful stewardship campaigns and practical tools for
 cultivating generosity in congregations.

The Cross and the Lynching Tree

- Presenter: Rev. Deb Grohman, pastor, First Presbyterian Church of Ontario Center, Ontario, N.Y.
- The cross and the lynching tree are the two most emotionally charged symbols in the history of the African American community—join the conversation about race and religion in America based on James H. Cone's book of the same title, c. 2013, Orbis Books.

Teaching Without Preaching

- Presenter: Rev. Colin Pritchard, former moderator of the Presbytery of Genesee Valley, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, Geneva, N.Y. and a singer/songwriter who supports discipleship exploration and worship expressions through music
- Telling the story might be more effective than preaching the message. Singing the song might say it better than 1000 words. Silent observation of a beautiful creation might just be prayer in a pure form. Discover the gifts you have and ways you can consider using them to help others attend to the sacred.