

FESTIVAL SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

THURSDAY

2PM—5PM

Master Class: Economics & Faith [Dining Hall]

As people of faith, what are our expectations, responsibilities, and aspirations for how we work together in our local and global community?

Dr. Gil Waldkoenig is the Paulssen-Hale-Maurer Chair, Professor of Church in Society, and Director of Town & Country Church Institute at United Lutheran Seminary.

FRIDAY

9:30–10:30AM

Kids and the Garden [Nature Pavilion]

Hands on learning for our next generation of growers and tenders. This session is especially geared for youth.

Annie Baltzer is the Camp Naturalist and instructor at the Waldorf School, Pittsburgh, PA.

Basket Weaving [Arts & Crafts Cabin & Tent]

Connect the ordinary with the sacred as you notice the parallels with weaving and our life's journey. Learn more about yourself and experience your story in a profound way. Take home a beautiful basket, woven by you, to remind you of this step on your journey. (No weaving experience is needed, just willing hands and heart.)

Kaila Russell, of Carnation, WA, has been weaving baskets and teaching for over 30 years.

Sacred Yes, Sacred No: Responding to God's Call as God's Beloved Child [Bowersox Center]

This workshop will explore the distinction between identity and vocation, as well as introduction tools to help you respond faithfully to the calls in your life.

Rev. Drew Tucker, former Campus Chaplain at Capital University is beginning a new call at the HopeWood Outdoors ministry of Ohio.

Do They Know Us By Our Love? [Dining Hall]

How do we witness in our public life to the love of God in Christ? Join Lutheran Advocacy Ministry in Pennsylvania as we explore how to be public church for the sake of the world God loves. We'll brainstorm some ideas for God's work. Our hands. Sunday.

Tracey DePasquale is the Director of Lutheran Advocacy Ministry in Pennsylvania (LAMPa). LAMPa is the state public policy office of the ELCA in PA, a partnership of Pennsylvania's seven synods, seminaries, social ministry organizations, and congregations.

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11:00AM—12:00PM

Accessible Parish Art [Arts & Crafts Cabin & Tent]

How can we integrate artistic expressions in our worship and learning in the congregation in ways that all can participate? We will begin a hands-on project that this community will use together in Sunday worship.

Rev. Jessica Felici has served in parish ministry for over a decade and currently puts her BA in Fine Art to use as Senior Pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church in Latrobe, PA.

Digital Media & Church—Nerds at Church [Bowersox Center]

Join Pastor Emily and Pastor Kay to talk about how their podcast began and how technology helps nurture faith and deepen our relationship with Scripture. (Remote presentation via Zoom.)

Rev. Emily E. Ewing (they/them) and Rev. Kay Rohloff (she/her) host the podcast *Nerds At Church*, which discusses the weekly Revised Common Lectionary readings.

Taking the Mystery Out of Planned Giving [Dining Hall]

Planned Giving: Everyone talks about it; few understand it. This workshop will remove the mystery! We will illustrate some of the ways you can include the ministries you love in your estate plan while benefiting the people you also love.

Sister Marianne Brock is a member of the ELCA Deaconess Community and serves as Gift Planner for the ELCA Foundation for Central and Eastern Pennsylvania and Virginia.

2:00PM—3:00PM

Forest Bathing: A Guided Immersive Experience in Nature [Nature Pavilion]

Forest bathing is the practice of immersing yourself in nature in a mindful way, using your senses. Forest bathing differs from hiking in that it focuses on the "here" not the "there." The pace is slow, not fast. Join us on this guided nature experience where you will receive gentle invitations for connection as we walk together through the forest. Discover the physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual health benefits of sensory immersion in the ambience of the forest.

Annie Baltzer is the Camp Naturalist and instructor at the Waldorf School, Pittsburgh, PA.

Lectio Divina [Dining Hall]

Come learn about the contemplative prayer practice of Lectio Divina as we engage with scripture by reading through a text multiple times, each time with a different focus and intention.

Rev. Jen Soltis is a graduate of Bloomsbury University and the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia and now serves as pastor of Nativity Lutheran Church in Allison Park, PA.

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Cormorant's Fancy [Basketball Court Tent]

Enjoy a musical performance by Cormorant's Fancy.

3:30PM—4:30PM

Yoga [Nature Pavilion]

Practice centering mind, body, and spirit with gentle yoga. Mats are provided if you don't have your own.

Rev. Lisa Buchanan is pastor of Bethany Lutheran Church in Deer River, MN and a certified yoga instructor with several years experience teaching her community.

Basket Weaving [Arts & Crafts Cabin & Tent]

Connect the ordinary with the sacred as you notice the parallels with weaving and our life's journey. Learn more about yourself and experience your story in a profound way. Take home a beautiful basket, woven by you, to remind you of this step on your journey. (No weaving experience is needed, just willing hands and heart.)

Kaila Russell, of Carnation, WA, has been weaving baskets and teaching for over 30 years.

Kids, Faith & Sound [Basketball Court Tent]

Learn about how we hear and interpret sounds in our daily life, how to listen more faithfully, and even create your own sounds for a time of devotion. Get your hands on some sound tools and synthesizers and more. We will play, listen, and pray! This session is especially geared for youth.

Ryan Custead shares his talents in youth ministry and music as the Director of Faith Formation & Outreach at Zion Lutheran Church in Hollidaysburg, PA.

SATURDAY

9:30AM—10:30AM

All Manner of Creeping Things: PA Reptiles [Nature Pavilion]

Learn about turtles and snakes native to our region. (This session is especially geared for youth.)

H. Jean Sinal continues to teach STEM summer programs following her retirement from the Science Department of Hollidaysburg Area Junior High School.

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The Journal You'll Actually Use [Arts & Crafts Cabin & Tent]

Try some simple ways to use a journal for reflection, prayer, spiritual wellness, and fun! All materials will be provided, and people of all ages and abilities can participate in this creative journaling for yourself and your faith.

Dr. Anne Whitney is a Professor of Education at Penn State University. Her research addresses writing and how writing works in school and life.

Intuitive Eating & Your Body's Goodness [Bowersox Center]

Have you ever wanted to leave diet culture behind and just trust your body and its goodness? This workshop will help you begin to see diet culture for what it is (harmful) and see your body for what it is (beautiful).

Valerie Bojarski is a LPC and Certified Intuitive Eating Counselor who works with youth and adults encouraging body positivity and breaking free from diet culture and the diet mentality.

Creating Authentic & Inclusive Welcoming Communities [Dining Hall]

What is the difference between welcoming and authentic, inclusive, and invitational? Receive practical steps and support to adapt them to your context for active allyship that truly widens God's welcome.

Carla Christopher-Wilson is a Pastor and Assistant to the Bishop in the Lower Susquehanna Synod, working with Global Mission, Toward Racial Justice, LGBTQIA+ Affirming Ministries, AMMPARO/Immigration, Housing Equity, Disability Inclusion, and Synod Worship.

11:00AM–12:00PM

Technology in Nature: A Hike [Nature Pavilion]

This hike will be a simple exploration of easy-to-use smartphone apps that can help with bird and plant identification. A great hike for all ages.

Rev. Nathan Pile is the Executive Director of Sequanota and enjoys engaging the community in faith conversation in the great outdoors.

Abstract Water Painting [Arts & Crafts Cabin & Tent]

Create a painting based on the story of the woman at the well in the Gospel of John with guidance from one of our local artists.

Beth Thomas shares her artistic and culinary talents at Sequanota in the summers in between academic years teaching at Conemaugh Valley.

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Lutheran Campus Ministry: The Spark of Reformation [Bowersox Center]

The Reformation began at the intersection of the monastery and the university, where Luther's campus ministry changed the church and the world. Join in conversation on the powerful witness of young adults as leaders in the church today and how we might support them with environments to grow in their faith—building on the traditions of the last Reformation and welcoming how the Holy Spirit is reforming us today, especially in Lutheran Campus Ministry.

Rev. Courtney Erzkus participated as a Young Adult in Global Mission in the Holy Land and serves as Chaplain of Lutheran Campus Ministry at West Virginia University.

Faith & Sound [Basketball Court Tent]

Have you ever stopped to really listen to the world of sound around you at any given moment? The sounds around us can prove to be opportunities to experience God and our faith. Sounds help us think intentionally about our faith and life of prayer. From silence to the sound of wind in the trees to a string quartet; all sounds have a purpose and place. Learn about how we hear and interpret sounds in our daily life, how to listen more faithfully, and even create your own sounds for a time of devotion. Get your hands on some sound tools and synthesizers and more. We will play, listen, and pray!

Ryan Custead shares his talents in youth ministry and music as the Director of Faith Formation & Outreach at Zion Lutheran Church in Hollidaysburg, PA.

2:00PM–3:00PM

Bats Incredible! [Nature Pavilion]

Learn about our incredible nocturnal mammal friends! This session is especially geared for youth.

H. Jean Sinal continues to teach STEM summer programs following her retirement from the Science Department of Hollidaysburg Area Junior High School.

Basket Weaving [Arts & Crafts Cabin & Tent]

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Welcoming The Stranger: Then & Now [Dining Hall]

Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service organized when one in six Lutherans was displaced following WWII. What does it mean to welcome refugees now? Who is coming and how? What does that mean where you live?

Rev. Linda Theophilus has been a volunteer with Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service for 20+ years, telling the stories of refugees, asylum seekers and vulnerable immigrants. She has led her congregation, Emmanuel -Eastmont, Pittsburgh, into sponsoring asylum seekers.

Song of Zion [Basketball Court Tent]

Enjoy a musical performance by the Song of Zion praise band from Zion Lutheran Church, Hollidaysburg, PA.

3:30–4:30PM

Sequanota's Sustainable Forestry Practices: A Driving Tour [Nature Pavilion]

See how Sequanota is working to protect, preserve, and manage natural resources on this driving tour of Camp.

Rev. Nathan Pile is the Executive Director of Sequanota and enjoys engaging the community in faith conversation in the great outdoors.

The Book: A Home-Grown Devotional Resource [Dining Hall]

Have you ever picked up a devotional book and just felt discouraged, like there's one more thing you're not getting done? Let us introduce you to a scripture-based resource that combats the "never-enoughness" that creeps from our culture into our theology.

Dr. Anne Whitney is a Professor of Education at Penn State University. Rev. Traci Marriott is Pastor of St. Matthew Lutheran Church in Martinsburg, PA. Anne and Traci are both former high school English teachers and helped to author and edit *The Book* with other members of the Allegheny Synod's Faith Formation Team.