Workshop Selections

Before registering for convention, please look through the workshop selections for both Tuesday, June 15, 2021, and Thursday, June 17, 2021. Pick out one for each day that you are interested in attending and make a note of it for your registration. All workshops are for 1.5 CEUs of general credit.

Select One Workshop for Tuesday, June 15

Conflict Resolution: An NVC Experience in Guided Conversation       Karen Starz

With the world at odds over facts and beliefs, the opportunity to hear each other in transformative ways is everywhere. This workshop is a brief exploration into the key differentiation between a shift and a compromise in conflict resolution. Compromise is something we think we must do to resolve conflict. Compromise has been taught to be a way to peace. What if you never had to compromise again? Learn how to shift your sails rather than try to change the wind and to do so with peaceful enjoyment.

Karen Starz, MA, CNVC certified trainer, will lead an experiential workshop that leaves you with a few simple tools to practice, as leaders, in difficult conversations. Karen will help guide you beyond the stories, in fact, resolving conflicts that may have been alive for years in a matter of minutes. Bring a willingness to learn and any conflicts that may be bogging you down.

Taking Your Youth and Family Ministry to the Next Level       Ellen Barron

Families today have extra challenges that they are facing due to the pandemic. There is more stress, and more demands are made on both children and parents, creating a need and an opportunity to revision our Youth and Family Ministry (YFM).

This workshop will offer strategies for implementing a multigenerational approach to YFM, that nourishes and provides spiritual growth for all involved. We will explore how to develop, administer, and evaluate the idea of a YFM program that includes the congregation and the family, partnering together, to meet the different challenges and issues that face today's families.

We will use PowerPoint, discussions, examples of programs, and resources. We will look at the impact that Conscious Parenting classes provide to equip parents with practical and spiritual tools they can use at home with their children. We will look at how to introduce small group gatherings for families dealing
with various life issues like illness, disability, or divorce. We will also discuss how to reach out into the community and connect with organizations that support families, creating community support and connection opportunities.

This workshop will excite, stimulate, and offer concrete plans on creating programs that engage families, congregations, and communities.

**Spiritual Activism and Unity Principles: Reaching Out from the Inner World of Spirit to the Outer World of Pain**

Richard Talley, Eileen Douglas

Unity has kept its focus on the inner world of prayer and meditation and on our foundational principles. We have begun to see ourselves as a real force for good in the outer world. As we extend our spiritual power through prayer and meditation, beyond the confines of the inner world into the outer world, we affirm all healing is spiritual.

Presenters Richard Talley and Eileen Douglas have developed a practical approach for ministries to align with Unity principles and each ministry’s vision and mission statements, to work in the world while maintaining spiritual integrity. This fits in with the 2021 Unity Convention theme of rising above and embodying spirit and principle.

The technique allows ministries to ensure they are in alignment by determining how each principle is expressed in a project ahead of implementation, so it is congruent with principle, mission, and vision statements. The goal in spiritual activism is to fuel projects with spiritual fire, not personal enthusiasm or interest. This prevents the politics of choosing projects via personalities rather than principles by using a clean, clear method of deciding what the church will and will not do.

**Rising Above: How to Grow Your Hybrid Congregation Using the Guest-to-Member Journey Map**

Cher & Bil Holton

The “Guest-to-Member Journey” of your church/spiritual community has changed dramatically over these past years. We believe the new normal of the future will be the “hybrid congregation.” Have you revised your journey map to address these changes, allowing you to remain vibrant, with an engaged, contributing, and loyal following? We’ve updated our guest-to-member journey map to include both virtual and hybrid components, to guide you in creating powerful virtual, hybrid, and live experiences that will ensure you continue to grow and prosper in the future. We’ll share the structure of a Journey Map, steps on how you and your leadership team can design the map unique for your experience, and share practical how-to’s you can put to work immediately to build your “hybrid congregation.”

**Spiritual Community as Laboratory - Discovering the Power of the Christ Within**

Anna Shouse
“We have come to a time when there must be less talking about Truth, ... there must be more living of Truth and teaching others to do so.” —H. Emilie Cady, Lessons in Truth, Lesson 11

Spiritual community is a laboratory for living our Unity principle of walking our talk. Engaging our Christ nature through the daily details and decisions that weave the tapestry of a congregation is a powerful demonstration—perhaps the most powerful. Serving in ministry puts our principles and aspirations right up next to the spots where it sure feels like God is not. As leaders, we do our best to bring spiritual consciousness to every situation, yet a lack of understanding of relationship systems dynamics can leave us wondering, “Where is Spirit in all this?” A realistic grasp of those dynamics coupled with the courage to lead from well-being and integrity fosters a vibrant spiritual community. In this laboratory of spiritual community, every participant experiences the practical power of the Christ within the individual and in the midst of community.

Select One Workshop for Thursday, June 17th

Welcome to the Fault Free Zone: Transforming Blame into Shared Responsibility
Gregory Rouillard

Consider for a moment the challenging times we are in. What is the one thing you have experienced that upsets you the most? Are you tempted to find someone to blame for this experience, someone whose fault this is? What judgments do you have about this person/these people/“them”? What do you feel in your body when your mind is filled with blame?

Now consider this: What if you are seen as one of “them” by people who believe differently than you? How do you feel when you are the target of blame and judgment?

Left unchecked, this “blame game” just goes on and on without end. It deepens divisions and disagreements until connection and communication are impossible, even in our Unity faith communities! Now is the time to find an alternative to this pattern of judgment and blame. Join facilitator Gregory Rouillard for a transformative, engaging, and experiential journey into the Fault Free Zone.

In this session we apply the principles of Embodied Learning to discover our own wisdom. First, we learn to recognize our habitual patterns of blame, judgment, and reactivity, and then we learn to transform them into understanding and a desire for connection with self and others. This session is perfect for anyone who would like to step out of the blame game and discover something new and life-serving in the Fault Free Zone.
Reimagining Community Engagement: Stories of Sacred Service  Kathy Harwood Long

The Unity EarthCare Ministry team brings together the voices of ministers, laypeople, NGU (Next Generation Unity), and children, who have, each in their own unique way, adapted to and risen above these challenging times.

Inspired by real-life stories of navigating change in ministries and communities, each story presented by panelists reveals spiritual principles in action.

The wisdom shared by Rev. Gregory Guice and his Youth and Family Ministry assistant Carmen Collier, of Detroit Unity Temple, Michigan; Rev. Sharon Ketchum of Unity of Lansing, Michigan; Rev Kathy Harwood Long of Friends of Unity, Plymouth, Michigan; and other panelists, combine to form a rich tapestry of out-of-the-box ideas and inspiration.

Welcome It All: Healing Limiting Beliefs with Integrative Affirmative Prayer  DeeAnn Morency

Integrative Affirmative Prayer is a unique form of affirmative prayer that blends the healing power of inner dialogue with the transformational practice of affirmative prayer. The process supports deep listening to our inner voices, inner arguments, and entrenched limiting beliefs, and is a powerful practice for navigating spiritual bypass. Acknowledging and listening to what is actually operating in our understanding, and dialoguing/meeting it with Truth, results in an empowered, authentic, embodied integration of Truth principles.

Healing from Loss and Grief  Suzanne Carter

One unavoidable aspect of our human experience is dealing with loss. Grief, the mass of human emotions that follows loss, is the most misunderstood aspect of our lives. Though we all experience loss, it is the rarest person that knows how to deal with and heal from loss. Most people shove loss and grief into the shadow of their consciousness and falsely believe that they must simply endure these painful feelings.

This workshop will present tools that will enable the courageous participant to deal with loss and will debunk common myths and misconceptions.

Here is one example: “Don’t feel bad.” The truth is that when we go through a tragedy, we are immersed in our emotions and it feels bad. It would be like telling our children to not get wet when they go swimming. Being immersed in our emotions and feeling bad are natural reactions to loss. Our society needs to be educated on how to “be present” to emotions.

Based on the *Grief Recovery Handbook* by John James and Russell Friedman.
Divine Order: Finding Comfort in Chaos  Leona Evans & Matthew Evans

Embracing the principle of divine order can be of immeasurable comfort as we move through times of crisis and uncertainty. However, if we assume that by affirming divine order things will always go our way, we overlook the reality that divine order is always present in every aspect of our lives. For most of us it is easy recognize divine order when our lives are running smoothly, but how do we affirm divine order in the chaos?

In this workshop, Leona and Matthew will share an in-depth look at the principle of divine order from our Unity perspective and discuss ways to broaden our current perceptions to include an integration of opposites. Our goal is to understand that divine order is a principle, which is ever-present, regardless of time, place, or circumstance.

To illustrate the inclusive nature of divine order, we will explore the archetypes in the Hegelian dialectic (thesis, antithesis, synthesis) and the hero’s journey (Joseph Campbell’s monomyth) to discover how our challenges and apparent setbacks can be perceived as aspects of divine order rather than separate from it. We will also discuss methods for embracing the presence of divine order even in our most challenging moments.

Selección de Talleres

Antes de registrarte, por favor ver la selección de talleres del martes 15 de junio y del jueves 17 de junio. Selecciona uno en el que te interesaría participar cada día y toma nota para tu registro. Todos los talleres cuentan como 1.5 créditos generales o como crédito de diversidad según se indique.

Español - Martes 15 de junio

Perseverancia, la Gran Maestra de Principios Espirituales  Carmen-Venus Baerga

Este taller presenta la perseverancia como el esfuerzo continuo y necesario para mantener el equilibrio mental y emocional al liderar nuestra vida espiritual. Se trata de desarrollar una perseverancia nutrida con los recursos internos de flexibilidad (Paz) y redención (Amor) momento a momento en nuestros diversos roles que desempeñamos. Incluye un mini test privado, conferencia, presentación gráfica y dinámica grupal. El Taller está basado en la sección I-C del Código de Ética: “Yo, según mi mejor entendimiento y habilidad, demostraré la Verdad en mi vida personal y profesional”
Liderazgo Etico Con Corazon

Elizabeth Longo

En este taller exploraremos por qué es de suma importancia que un líder guíe con una conducta ética y un corazón amoroso. Exploraremos lo que significa liderar con compasión, intención y tener límites claros y responsabilidad. Un líder ético, modela el comportamiento y marca el tono de la comunidad espiritual. El comportamiento poco ético, puede perturbar y causar gran daño a una organización. Cuando un líder está dispuesto a liderar con autenticidad, compasión y vulnerabilidad, pueden ocurrir grandes cosas. Un líder ético empodera a otros hacia su grandeza mientras modela madurez emocional y espiritual.

En este taller aprenderás a profundizar tus habilidades de comunicación, de escuchar y la práctica de mantener el espacio y la presencia.

En el corazon de la Diversidad y la Inclusividad

Luzette Rivera-Diez

En este taller tendremos la oportunidad de participar en una exploración profunda de nuestro entendimiento personal de la diversidad y la inclusividad, con la intención de desarrollar una consciencia personal de nuestros propios prejuicios inconscientes, de manera que podamos crecer personalmente y como Lideres de Unity, personificando más apertura, entendimiento, compasión e inclusividad.

Tendremos mayor conciencia de lo que está en el corazón de la diversidad e inclusividad. Una actitud de esperanza para apoyar la sanación necesaria con respecto a la inclusividad. Un deseo de de hacer una diferencia en la manera que servimos nuestras diversas comunidades.

Español - Jueves 17 de junio

Despertar espiritual para líderes

Johannys Jiménez-Hartog

¡Despierta el poder del Espíritu en ti y en los líderes de tu ministerio! Este taller ayudará a desplegar el poder del Espíritu dentro del liderazgo del ministerio y hará crecer tu ministerio. A medida que el (la) ministro(a), o líder espiritual, crece espiritualmente, es necesario que el liderazgo también lo haga. A medida que el liderazgo crece, espiritualmente hablando, el ministerio continuará prosperando. El taller incluirá ejercicios para despertar el poder del Espíritu dentro de ti los cuales podrás usar en tu ministerio.

En este taller aprenderás a acceder los lugares más profundos de tu conciencia donde mora lo Divino, tu relación con Dios se volverá más clara y más práctica.
Unidad y Diversidad

Elizabeth Longo

El universo es una manifestación generosa y creativa de diversidad. Nosotros somos parte de esta creación con poderes innatos para crear el tipo de mundo en el que queremos vivir y tener un impacto en la consciencia del mundo. Solo hay una presencia y un poder y más de siete mil millones de expresiones del Uno. La vida es diversidad. Cuando honramos nuestras diferencias y estamos dispuestos a aprender unos de otros, hacemos de este, un mundo mejor para todos. Cuando estamos abiertos a aprender de otras culturas, crecemos y expandemos nuestra consciencia. En este taller, nos sumergiremos profundamente en el corazón de una comunidad diversa y acogedora en la que todos se sienten bienvenidos. Al comprender la perspectiva y los miedos de otras personas, podemos empezar a encontrar un terreno común. Construyamos puentes de sanación, prácticamente intencionalmente abrir el corazón a todas las polaridades. Aprovecharemos la inteligencia más alta del grupo y captaremos la visión divina de los que se está desarrollando y las acciones que debemos tomar para hacer cambios radicales en nuestras comunidades.