Break-Out Sessions

November Presbytery Meeting

At the November meeting, in order to equip our congregations to actively imagine and plan for their futures, a number of sessions will be offered. There may be church members or leaders who would be interested in participating beyond your Presbytery commissioners. Please let them know they are welcome. They will need to register for lunch if they plan on coming for the full program. Break out sessions will probably be at 11 and at 1:30. Times will be finalized in the docket which will be sent out later.

1. **Church Size Theory** - There are more variations between different size churches than simply the number of people on their membership rolls or their worship attendance. They have different leadership styles, different ways of dealing with conflict, and different relationships with pastors, with their communities, and with each other.

Being able to identify your which size category your church fits into (Family, Pastoral, Program, or Corporate) can be immensely helpful for any church leader, especially if people in your congregation are prone to comparing the church to others.

Come to this workshop to learn the basics of Church Size Theory. Jeanne Gay, TE, Collingwood/Toledo leading

2. **What’s Next for Worship**—*rethinking and reimagining worship in the 21st century as we move from pandemic toward endemic*

We’ll explore questions like:

     • How do we develop both our in-person and online presence so that more people can find places of welcome at the table?

     • How might we look to effective distance learning models in higher education for ways forward in the Church?

Julie Kling and Mary Beth McCandless will co-lead.  Join us as we discern what’s essential, explore questions and share ideas.

3. **Shared Ministries:**  Explore different models and possibilities for joining another congregation in work toward God's reign.  These include sharing a pastor or another staff member (faith formation, musician, custodian); sharing space- not necessarily worship space; working together on a mission project short term or long term; uniting with another congregation (within the presbytery or in another denomination). We will look at a few models as well as the questions to consider as you engage this conversation in your church. Ann Wasson and Tom James leading.

4. **Conflict 101 for Church Leaders** - Low-level conflict is crucial for creative decision making in churches. But conflict in churches often can devolve into higher levels of conflict which sap energy and our connection with God. At worst, conflict can break churches into factions and become directed against the pastor or other individuals. In this session, we will explore what conflict is, how to have healthy conflict, and how to not allow conflict to become destructive.  
Susan Rowland Miller will lead.

5. **Follow Me**is a brand-new congregational initiative from the PCUSA. This fall First Presbyterian Tecumseh has been piloting the program with all ages and we'd love to share how it's going and invite you to consider it for your church. From the authors:

*Following Jesus is a lifelong journey where we learn and do  
what Jesus said and did.  
It takes more than the head, checking off boxes of belief.  
It even takes more than the heart,  
feeling deeply about another person or a cause.  
Following Jesus is about these things and more. It is also about doing.  
It takes practice… putting faith and love into action.*

It's about education, worship, welcome, community engagement… its about building block practices of the church. Come and See!

6. **Matthew 25:** A time for Mt 25 churches and potential Mt 25 churches to resource each other.