

On behalf of the nearly 200 parish, cathedral, and institutional members of the CEEP Network, greetings! I am pleased to reach out and introduce myself as we prepare to bring the CEEP Network's Annual Gathering to the Diocese of Kentucky and Louisville next February 19-22, 2020.

Started in 1985 as the Consortium of Endowed Episcopal Parishes, the CEEP Network has evolved into the largest and deepest group of resourced, pacesetter, and impactful parishes, cathedrals, and institutions in the Episcopal Church from across the country. Each year, the network gathers in the winter for the Annual Gathering - the largest annual conference in the church with an anticipated 800 members and guests.

We are thrilled that the ***Leading Beyond the Walls*** Annual Gathering will take place next February at the Omni Hotel in downtown Louisville. This year, the gathering is hosted by CEEP Network member Calvary Church Louisville and we are pleased that our opening dinner reception is planned for Christ Church Cathedral. It has been terrific working with Lee at Calvary and Dean Joan at Christ Church - and we are very excited to highlight these institutions to the broader church. General information about the gathering may be found at: <https://www.ceepnetwork.org/2020-louisville/>

Besides exceptional networking opportunities, the Annual Gathering in Louisville will feature over 50 separate pre-conferences, workshops, and keynote sessions. There will be sessions on topics ranging from communications to stewardship to strategic planning - among others. There will be gatherings for Vestry and Wardens to learn about their roles. We will also build on our heritage around finance with sessions for those in charge of endowments. CEEP Network Rectors and Deans will have private time together, while curates and senior associates will join together for a pre-conference designed to help them develop their leadership skills. In addition to the education content, there will be an estimated 70 Ministry Partner Sponsors in the Exhibit Hall sharing solutions and tools to help strengthen lay and clergy ministries. To review the various sessions and sponsors, please go to: <http://www.cvent.com/events/2020-ceep-network-annual-gathering-leading-beyond-the-walls/custom-35-ba0e0d1e51e745a4a1fa3f14e9038205.aspx>

The keynote will be delivered by the Rev. Adam Hamilton of the Church of the Resurrection in Leawood, Kansas. Adam will share about his work of building community by reaching out to the unchurched and the 'spiritual but not religious.' I hope you had a chance to hear Adam at the last House of Bishops meeting - based on his time with the House of Bishops, there is great excitement from bishops about Adam's presence with the CEEP Network and the potential for him to ignite fresh thinking among attendees.

Our opening worship, which we hope you will be part of and Lee will be in touch about, will be held at Calvary. The service will be preached by the Rev. Winnie

Varghese of Trinity Church Wall Street. On Saturday morning, attendees will hear from Fortune 100 CEO Bob Chapman about leading through empathetic listening. Closing the gathering will be the Rev. Dr. Michael Battle of General Seminary who will share about Archbishop Desmond Tutu's leading beyond the walls throughout his ministry.

CEEP Network gatherings are always hopeful and joyful times in the church's life and it is wonderful to welcome guests to be with the network at the Annual Gathering. As visitors in the Diocese of Kentucky, the CEEP Network would like to invite non-member parishes to join us at the gathering. We are pleased to offer a discount on registration fees for non-member parishes in the Diocese. If your team would identify rectors, vicars or diocesan staff and send them to us that would permit us to send relevant information and the information to them.

Last year, the CEEP Network Board of Directors committed itself to the work of strengthening leaders for a changed and changing church through connecting, equipping, and diversifying. The ***Leading Beyond the Walls*** Annual Gathering in Louisville next February is a tangible and helpful way of furthering this work. We look forward to being with you and your team next year and hope that we can assist in strengthen leaders in the Diocese of Kentucky.

Joseph R. Swimmer
Executive Director
The CEEP Network