

## February 17<sup>th</sup> Leadership Day Susquehanna Convocation.

### **Workshop offerings:**

**Spiritual Direction Session I Morning workshop: "Moving with God in Spiritual Direction"** Commencing with a contemplative entry into the presence of God we will talk about the holy work of engaging in Spiritual Direction. What is it? What is not? What really counts as training? What is the commitment of the Director, the Directee? How does one notice and respond more fully to the presence and activity of God in one's life?

**Spiritual Direction Session II Afternoon workshop: "Enlivening God's Presence"** Engaging through prayer, and with God as the Director, we will explore the experience of group spiritual direction. In listening with the ears of our hearts to one and other's noticing the presence of God, we will assist one and other bring to usable light fuller and freer responses to it.

### **Led by Jeanine Goodwin**

*Jeanine Goodwin has her BA in Religion from Dickinson College, is a Certified Validation Worker, has a certificate of completion of the Kairos School for Spiritual Formation's Two Year Spiritual Direction Training Program, and is a part time Chaplain Intern in the Penn State Milton S. Hershey Medical Center Clinical Pastoral Education Program. At her home parish of St. Andrew's in Shippensburg, Jeanine is a Healing Minister, Lay Eucharistic Minister, creates welcome bags for first-time visitors, participant in spiritual formation programs, and currently serves on the Vestry. Jeanine also helps to create and facilitate spiritual retreats, looks for ways to enliven the Liturgy. She lives in Carlisle with her Siamese cat, Tobi. "As my practice of offering Spiritual Direction has grown, it has grown me. One to one, with each encounter with anyone, whether we're in the Direction Room or it's a patient, or coworker at Hershey, or when I'm with friends, and even those I don't know, my SD toolkit is always with me, open, plucking at the sleeve, saying "Are you hearing it? Hearing that movement?" And then gently venturing to help what I'm hearing be opened up. It's become part of how my heart beats."*

### **Story Telling session I Morning My Story - Our Story - God's Story**

Everyone loves stories, and so it is important that we know our own story and can tell it when it's important to do so. We will practice telling each other stories of our own personal giftedness. Then we will relate times when those gifts were used and appreciated within a group. Finally we will begin to search the scriptures and church tradition to find clues as to how others have used similar gifts to help bring a clearer focus to the coming of God's kingdom.

### **Story Telling session II Afternoon workshop: The Mind of Christ - The Heart of Christ - The Hands of Christ**

#### *Knowing the Story and Getting the Message Out*

We will further examine the avenues available to us in the church for strengthening our lives in faith and spreading that faith to others.

To know Christ's mind we need to do some studying and reflecting on the Scriptures, tradition, and reason. Together we will give examples of many of the ways today's evolving technology can help us tell God's story to young and old. To know Christ's heart we must do more than read and reflect; we need to

experience community. We will share our own stories of meaningful worship and prayer, and hear about some new models. Finally, our study and our community worship are meant to take us into the world. The Holy Spirit is at work in some exciting ways. We will tell each other our hopes and dreams for being the hands of Christ in the world.

*Led by The Rev. Mary Kisner. Mary has served as a parish priest for over 20 years in both the Dioceses of Bethlehem and Central Pennsylvania. As a member of the Network of Biblical Storytellers she learns and tells Biblical stories and teaches others a variety of ways to do the same.*

*Using elements of story telling, Appreciative Inquiry and coaching, she seeks to impact the lives of individuals and groups so they can discover avenues of grace that God is opening to them.*

### **Workshop III Scripture as a Spiritual Resource**

#### **Session I Scripture as a Spiritual Resource**

Consider the ways we can use the Scriptures as a fountain of spiritual inspiration. This workshop will We offer a brief lesson on the history of reading Scripture as a spiritual practice, followed by three spiritual exercises using a passage from the Bible:

- African Bible Study as a group process
- The Religious Imagination as a personal practice
- The Bible Challenge as a practice of deepening discernment

#### **Session II Scripture as a Spiritual Resource (repeated)**

*Led by The Reverend Amy D. Welin, Acting Dean,*

*Prior to her priestly ordination, Amy worked as an instructor of medieval and world history, an insurance claims processor, and a pastoral associate in a large mid-western church. Before accepting the call of St. Stephen's in Harrisburg, she served a variety of parishes in the Episcopal Church in Connecticut, as a member of the Standing Committee and the Chapter of Christ Church Cathedral.*

*One of the founding members of the Episcopal Clergy Association in Connecticut (ConnECA), and a prior board member of the Network of Episcopal Clergy Associations (NECA), Amy devotes her energy to issues of clergy and parish wellness.*

*Amy is currently enrolled as a doctoral student at Virginia Theological Seminary, Amy anticipates finishing her thesis on the impact of worship on spiritual formation in 2018. Married to Greg Welin, who is also an Episcopal priest, and mother of four young adults, Amy likes to garden and practice yoga in her free time.*

### **Workshop IV Missional Experimentation and taking risks for the Gospel**

*Led by The Reverend Jim Strader- Sasser, Priest-in-Charge Christ Memorial Church – Danville & Clerical Member of Diocesan Design Team*

## Session I and II Description

The Church is undergoing its most recent [rummage sale](#). This reformation invites congregations as well as their lay persons and clerics exercising leadership to discern, debate, and deploy technical and adaptive solutions. The foundation for such work challenges personal, communal, and existing assumptions, competing priorities, while identifying measurable and creative means for success.

Vital congregations emphasize proclaiming Jesus the Christ's Gospel rather than maintaining their existence. God beckons Christian communities to participate in the Triune God's mission while cultivating a mission-centeredness corresponding to this century ultimate Christian calling. Missional experimentation defines what it means to be friends and followers of Jesus who calls us to participate in the in-breaking of God's reign in our context. (Craig Van Gelder and Dwight J. Zscheile, 2018)

Participants will:

1. Learn more about the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Anglican Mission as it relates to their contexts.
2. Share best practices as well as experiences highlighting failures and lessons learned.
3. Consider their own as well as offered case studies provoking missional curiosity and creativity.
4. Develop their own personal and congregational X-Rays of Immunity to Change.
5. Construct a model for Mission-Centeredness based upon Items #1, 2, 3, and 4.

*Bio: Jim is now serving in his second year and second congregation in the Susquehanna Convocation. His ministry emphasizes Adaptive Leadership, Organizational Transformation and Christ-Centered Congregational Purpose. Jim's professional background includes service as an Air Force Officer and Aviator, Governmental and Corporate Organizational Development Consultant, Program Assistant at the Southern Arizona Veterans Hospital, and Episcopal Cleric. Jim currently serves at Christ Memorial Episcopal Church in Danville, PA. He is a member of Bishop Scanlan's Diocesan Design Team and is the Vice-Chairperson of the Diocese of Central Pennsylvania's Standing Committee. Jim has a BA in Communications from the University of Arizona, an MA in Educational and Human Development from The George Washington University and an M.Div in Pastoral Theology from the Episcopal Divinity School formerly in Cambridge, MA. He is a HUGE Arizona Wildcat Basketball fan. Jim enjoys reading about a variety of topics including Celtic Christianity, Pluralistic spirituality, Traveling throughout the world, and spending as much time as possible with his spouse Howie and their three cats (Bono, Cato, and Dylan).*

## Reflections on Prayer and Silence

Rev. Dr. Brian Kirby

Reverend Doctor Brian Kirby holds a Doctor of Ministry degree in arts and theology from the Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, D.C. Kirby also holds a Master of Divinity degree from the Baptist Theological Seminary of Richmond, Virginia. His undergraduate degrees in

music and French are from Appalachian State University, Boone, North Carolina. He has pastored in Europe, Asia and America. Additionally, he is a vocalist, choral conductor and music teacher and has performed in Bangkok, Paris, Rome and Washington, DC. He has just joined the staff of Community Church in Ashburn, VA where he is the Connect Groups Director. Dr. Kirby lives with his wife, Denise, and daughter, Analisse, in McLean, VA

