

COMMUNITY DAY at the SUMMER INSTITUTE

June 11, 2018

Edenton Street United Methodist Church, Raleigh, North Carolina

Program

8:00 AM

Registration Open Edenton St.
United Methodist, 2nd Floor
Exhibits & Coffee

9:00 AM

Welcome Kerr Hall

Disability, Theology, and Ministry: Emerging Questions and Themes Erik Carter, John Swinton, Hans Reinders, Julia Watts Belser, Faiz Fareed, Benjamin Conner, Neil Cudney. Moderated by Bill Gaventa

10:30 AM

Break & Exhibits Hallway outside Kerr Hall

11:00 AM

Keynote Address "The Inclusion Revolution"

Timothy Shriver, CEO, Special Olympics International

12:15 PM

Lunch Kerr Hall

1:30 PM

Workshops and Discussions (Academy Classrooms, 1st Floor)

Led by Summer Institute Faculty and other Speakers at the Summer Institute. (See listing on the right)

2:45 PM

Break & Exhibits

3:00 PM

General Session

Ministry and Disability in North Carolina: Panel Discussion

Moderated by Susan McSwain, Reality Ministries, Durham

- Elaine Marcus, The Levin Jewish Community Center, Durham
- Rev. Melissa Guthrie Loy, Salvage Garden, Greensboro
- Matt Frazier, Ruth Sheets Adult Day Center, Edenton St. United Methodist Church, Raleigh
- Jesse Huddleston and Suvya Carroll, CityWell Church

4:15 PM **Closing Meditation & Reflection** Kerr Hall

4:30 PM **Adjourn. Bookstore & Exhibits open until Opening Dinner at 6 pm.** (The dinner is for those registered for the whole Institute. Tickets are available for others interested)

Monday Afternoon Workshops: 1:30 – 2:45

Being Present: Toward a Faithful Understanding of Mental Illness and Mental Health Care

Warren Kinghorn and John Swinton

From System to Story – Changing Conceptions of Professional Supports and Quality of Care

Hans Reinders

Disability-Informed Jewish Spiritual Leadership

Rabbi Ruti Regan

Ways We Witness: Disability and the Mission of the Church

Benjamin Conner

Islam and Disability

Suheil Laher and Dilshad Ali

From Barriers to Belonging: Hearing What People with Disabilities and their Families Tell Us About Welcome and Inclusion.

Erik Carter

Recognizing and Supporting Grief and Loss in People with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities and their Caregivers (Families, staff, friends)

Bill Gaventa

For more information on the Summer Institute program, go to <http://faithanddisability.org/2018-institute/>

To register for Community Day and/or other parts of the Institute, go to www.sitd2018.org.

Registration: \$50.00.

Questions: Contact bill.gaventa@gmail.com

Summer Institute on Theology and Disability, Community Day, Monday, June 11. Afternoon Workshop Descriptions

1. Disability-Informed Jewish Spiritual Leadership

Rabbi Ruti Regan

This skill-building workshop is intended for rabbis and cantors. We will discuss the spiritual context Jews with disabilities live in, clergy roles in responding to this context, and ways in which engaging with disability can inform your spiritual leadership more broadly.

2. Islam and Disability: Theory and Practice

Suheil Laher and Dilshad Ali

We begin with a summary of what Islamic theology and law tell us about people with disabilities. Thereafter, we present a brief overview of the current state of disability awareness and accommodation within American Muslim communities, including pictures and video clips. We will also have time for questions and discussion.

3. Being Present: Toward a Faithful Understanding of Mental Illness and Mental Health Care

Warren Kinghorn and John Swinton

The idea of “being present” pops up repeatedly in the pastoral literature, but what does it mean? It is surely more than “being there;” in order to be present to someone you need to know who they are, to look at them properly, and to pay attention to the right things. In this session, a psychiatrist and a pastoral theologian will explore ways to be present to persons with serious mental illness, starting not with psychiatry and its diagnostic assumptions but with a set of narratives drawn from the Christian tradition that point toward a richly theological understanding of humanness.

4. From Barriers to Belonging: The Church and People with Disabilities

Erik Carter

What does it really mean for people with disabilities and their families (or anyone) to truly belong within their faith community? This workshop addresses ten dimensions of belonging and their salience to the inclusion of people with intellectual disability, autism, and other developmental disabilities. The workshop will spur deeper reflection about the ways in which churches might welcome and weave people with disabilities more fully into the relationships and activities that make up congregational life.

5. Ways We Witness: Disability and the Mission of the Church

Benjamin Conner

With the statement “You shall be my witnesses” Jesus set the trajectory for the book of Acts and established the vocation of the church today. What does it mean to be witnesses to the kingdom of God as part of a church that includes in its body people with disabilities and in a world where disabling conditions are an unsurprisingly normal aspect of human existence? What are some ways that the experience of disability can critique, shape, and enrich practices of Christian witness?

6. From System to Story – Changing Conceptions of Professional Supports and Quality of Care.

Hans Reinders

Just consider this one question: could anything worse happen to you than becoming the client of a service organization operating under the constraints of a public healthcare system? This workshop wonders whether this is a universal experience, and if so, why. It will reflect on alternative ways of supporting persons rather than clients, particularly looking at how Person-Centered Planning ended up being the next professional tool in a systems driven environment.

7. Recognizing and Supporting Grief and Loss in People with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities and their Caregivers (Families, staff, friends)

Bill Gaventa

Sometimes people assume that people with intellectual and developmental disabilities do not “understand” death or know how to cope with grief and loss in “typical” ways. Both service systems and faith communities may be unsure how to best support individuals and their friends facing death, or dealing with the death of a family member or loved one. The question may be different: What can we learn about dealing with grief and loss by paying close and careful attention to it in the lives of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families? Strategies, stories, resources.