

The Main Event 2010 Registration Packet

Come one, come all to a wonderful, once-a-year, learning experience for all the churches of our Presbytery!!!

The theme and breakout topics offer a fascinating opportunity for anyone and everyone. Also included, of course, will be leadership training for officers, church leaders, pastors, and teachers.

"Aging as a Spiritual Journey"

Saturday, March 13, 2010

8:30 a.m. Registration

9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

(with lunch included)

Over 15 awesome workshops, morning and afternoon, on topics ranging from Key Spiritual Practices to End of Life Issues.

Faith Presbyterian Church, Cape Coral

Cost: \$15 per person

KEYNOTE SPEAKER:
The Rev. Dr. Henry Simmons

Morning Keynote:
"Mapping Aging"

Henry will show us there are four transitions and three stable periods in the last third of life. They make up the predictable pathways, contours and terrain of the journey called aging.

Afternoon Keynote:
"Getting There from Here"

Henry will recount stories of individual and congregational best practices, and demonstrate the value of outcomes-based planning and evaluation for older adult ministries.

Mail this form and registration fee of \$15 to:

Peace River Presbytery, 5600 Peace River Road, North Port, FL 34287 **BEFORE FRIDAY, MARCH 5, 2009.**

Name: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Church and City: _____

MORNING WORKSHOP (Number): First choice: _____ Second choice: _____

AFTERNOON WORKSHOP (Letter): First choice: _____ Second choice: _____

CHILDCARE REGISTRATION- Due before Friday, March 5, 2010 (Please provide your child's lunch)

Children's names: _____ Ages: _____

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: HENRY C. SIMMONS, PhD



Dr. Simmons is an ordained minister, recently retired from Union Seminary after 38 years of teaching. Simmons' major interests include the spiritual growth of older adults, ethics and aging, congregational studies, and ecology and religion. He is active on the boards of several community service organizations. He served as president of the Religious Education Association and on the boards of directors of the National Council on Aging and the National Interfaith Coalition on Aging.

Recent publications include: *Soulful Aging: Ministry Through the Stages of Adulthood* (2001), *Thriving Beyond Midlife* (2006), *A Journey Called Aging: Challenges and Opportunities in Older Adulthood*, and *Ecotheology and the Practice of Hope* (SUNY, forthcoming). Simmons is editor of Religion, Aging, and Spirituality, a 3000+ item online annotated bibliography.

Directions to Faith Presbyterian Church, Cape Coral

DIRECTIONS:

I-75 from North to Exit 158. (Tuckers Grade.) Travel West one mile to US 41. Turn left on US 41 and travel South to Del Prado Blvd. Turn right and travel approximately eight miles to Coronado Parkway. Turn right and travel one mile to the church on your right.

I-75 from South to Exit 131 (Daniels Parkway). Travel West on Daniels Parkway (road becomes Cypress Lake Dr. after crossing US 41). Turn right on Summerlin Rd. Turn left on College Parkway and go across the Caloosahatchee River. (Road then becomes Cape Coral Parkway.) Turn right on Coronado Parkway; the church will be on your left.

This event is sponsored by the Leadership and Congregational Development Committee of Peace River Presbytery.

If you have any questions, please call Joan at the Presbytery Office, 941-426-8421.

AWESOME ONE HOUR MORNING WORKSHOPS (Select by number)

1. SPIRITUAL PRACTICE FOR TIMES OF TRANSITION – This workshop will highlight ways of being Christian that revolve around good news, witness, ritual, and service.

Presenter: Dr. Henry Simmons, Keynote Speaker

2. "TRANSITIONS": A GRIEF AND LOSS PROGRAM FOR YOUR CHURCH – The presenters will address the phases of grief and help those experiencing loss to work through the stigma of alienation in grieving. Through this program, healing and growth can occur and some find a deeper sense of peace in their lives. The curriculum is spiritually based on the mystery and complete comfort of God.

Co-Presenter: Judy Cross wrote the curriculum for "Transitions", for Venice Church.

Co-Presenter: Pat O'Gorman, a Stephen Minister and member of Venice Church, has been a team leader in this program for 14 years.

3. EQUIPPING LAY PEOPLE TO CARE – Stephen Ministers, Elders, Deacons, hospital visitors, homebound communion servers – we all need tools for our caregiving tool box. Join Rev. Ben Keller as he shares his experience in developing and equipping care ministries within our congregations and helps move you from *pastoral care* to *congregational based support*.

Presenter: Rev. Ben Keller is a Chaplain for Lee Memorial Health System overseeing Lee Memorial Hospital and HealthPark Care Center.

4. END OF LIFE ISSUES – While so much emphasis is placed on the beginning and middle of our lives, the end of life is probably the most neglected or misunderstood. This presentation will explore the opportunities and the rewards which can be discovered at the end of life.

Co-Presenter: Rev. Jon Nyberg, MDiv, BCC, CT, Staff Chaplain, Tidewell Hospice.

Co-Presenter: Dr. Max Heeb, MD, FACS, General Surgeon, Retired.

5. "FAITH AND FITNESS" – Join author, chaplain, physical therapist, Tom Hafer as he teaches about the importance of spiritual, emotional and physical fitness.

Presenter: Rev. Tom Hafer, MAR, ACT, PT, is a Physical Therapist, a certified Athletic Trainer, and holds a Master's degree in Religion. He is the

chaplain at Gulf Coast Village, is a national presenter on the issues of faith and fitness, and is the founder of the popular Wellplanet.org website which teaches us to care for ourselves as we care for others.

6. CAMP IS NOT JUST FOR KIDS! RETREAT MINISTRY FOR SENIOR ADULTS – Whether through study, worship, or community building, retreats can be transforming for God's children of all ages. This workshop will examine the benefits of retreat events and explore creative retreat ideas for senior adults.

Presenter: Rev. John Reiter, Director of Cedarkirk

7. ELDER ABUSE – This workshop will include discussion of the signs and symptoms of elder abuse as well as "The Power Wheel of Abuse".

Presenter: Carol Roth is a volunteer with a shelter for women and children suffering abuse located in Collier County. She is also a leader of a support group for women suffering unique abuse problems and is a member of Vanderbilt Church.

8. UNDERSTANDING AND RESPONDING TO THE SPECIAL NEEDS OF INDIVIDUALS WITH ALZHEIMER'S – This workshop will cover a variety of topics related to Alzheimer's disease. Participants will learn about symptoms and progression, recommendations for decreasing disease risk, as well as caregiver support and resources. Special attention will be given to the role of faith throughout the disease process.

Presenter: Elise Eifert is a health educator for the Alvin A. Dubin Alzheimer's Resource Center. For several years, she has focused much of her attention on aging and older adults. She is an approved trainer for the State of Florida Department of Elder Affairs (DOEA), Alzheimer's and Related Disorders Training Provider, and Curriculum Approval Program.

9. NEVER TOO LATE: A.A. FOR THE OLDER ALCOHOLIC – An outline of the program of Alcoholics Anonymous, complete with stories and literature (in large print) that relate to life's later years, and a good perspective for concerned church members, families and friends.

Presenter: Pat V., Chairperson for the Public Information Committee of Alcoholics Anonymous for District 7 in SW Florida.

10. FACEBOOK: SOCIAL NETWORKING FOR SENIORS

– A senior citizen in a PRP congregation recently said, “I am so glad you talked me into Facebook. Every day I get to hear from my children and grandchildren, and even can talk to them in a way that doesn’t seem intrusive to either of us. Everybody should give this a try...” This workshop will introduce the basics of signing up for Facebook, and show you how it can be safe and user friendly. Come and give it a try. Chances are your friends and family are already there.

Presenter: Rev. Chris Adams, Associate Pastor of Westminster Church and Chair of Presbytery’s Leadership and Congregational Development Committee.

11. POLITY FOR THE LOCAL CHURCH: HOW TO SPEAK PRESBYTERIAN

– The workshop will cover all facets of the Book of Order and will familiarize the individual with how to use the Book

of Order. *All participants will need to bring a current copy (2009-2011).*

Presenter: Rev. Craig Countiss, Stated Clerk of Peace River Presbytery.

12. ELDERS AND DEACONS 201: THE NEXT LEVEL

– This class will explore the uniqueness of being a Presbyterian and Reformed Elder or Deacon, and ways that officers can help lead the congregations they serve in the mission of their church, as well as provide spiritual leadership to the congregation. We will look at several tools to help you, including localized demographic information for your church and areas of the presbytery.

Presenter: Rev. Graham Hart, General Presbyter.

AWESOME ONE HOUR AFTERNOON WORKSHOPS (Select by letter)

A. ONLINE RESOURCES – This workshop will point participants to some web-based opportunities for congregational best practices and offer evaluative criteria for choosing among them.

Presenter: Dr. Henry Simmons, Keynote Speaker

B. SECOND HALF OPPORTUNITIES – How can each person serve in meaningful and successful ways, in the second half of life, using the individual attributes and gifts God has provided? Dick Edmunds will highlight how a “Halftime” seminar allowed him to best assess and understand his skills, abilities, role, gifts and passions. He will review the “Halftime” process of Discovering Your Game Plan, so those attending can also consider how they can be active, motivated, involved and serve. “Outstanding Senior” nominees may be in attendance to share their own fulfilling involvements.

Presenter: Richard Edmunds is a member of Venice Church and associated with SCORE (Service Core of Retired Executives). He has used 40 years of experience to support small business over the last four years.

C. SPIRITUALITY CENTER – Take some time to experience spiritual practices and enjoy God. Come walk the Labyrinth, visit prayer stations and rest in the Lord. The hope is that during this time you will be re-energized in your faith walk and

come away with some new ideas for spiritual practices.

Presenter: Rev. Samantha Keller, Associate Pastor of Cypress Lake Church.

D. END OF LIFE ISSUES (see morning workshop description)

E. FAITH AND FITNESS (see morning workshop description)

F. CAMP IS NOT JUST FOR KIDS! RETREAT MINISTRY FOR SENIOR ADULTS (see morning workshop description)

G. ELDER ABUSE (see morning workshop description)

H. NEVER TOO LATE: A.A. FOR THE OLDER ALCOHOLIC (see morning workshop description)

I. FACEBOOK: SOCIAL NETWORKING FOR SENIORS (see morning workshop description)

J. DRY? BORING? NO WAY! BEING A DEACON OR ELDER CHANGES LIVES!! – How to be a Deacon or Elder in the PCUSA.

Presenter: Dr. Clint Cottrell, Pastor of Cypress Lake Church and Chair of Presbytery’s Evangelism and Church Development Committee.