

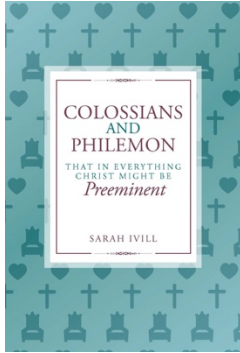
BIG PICTURE *Perspective*

UNDERSTANDING HOW GOD'S
GRAND STORY REFRAMES WOMEN'S
MINISTRY NARRATIVES

WOMEN'S MINISTRY LEADERSHIP TRAINING

FEBRUARY 20-22, 2025





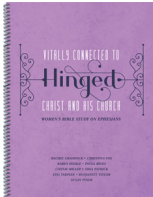

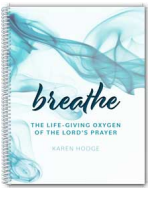
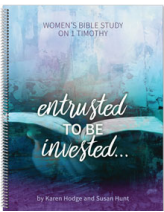


Join us for our 2025 Summer Study

Colossians and Philemon: ***That In Everything Christ Might Be Preeminent***

Sign up for weekly emails that will begin on June 6 (however, you can begin the study whenever it fits your schedule). Join us for the pre-summer webinar with author Sarah Ivill, highlighting the big themes of Colossians and Philemon as well as best practices to gather your group to grow together this summer. The free videos are available at

<https://women.pcacdm.org/colossians-and-philemon>.

Over the past several years, we have offered a summer study (that can be used any time during the year), with videos and podcasts at women.pcacdm.org/resources.

	<i>Hinged</i> by CDM Women's Ministry Team		<i>What's SHE Doing Here?</i> by Susan Tyner		<i>Breathe: The Life-giving Oxygen of the Lord's Prayer</i> by Karen Hodge
	<i>Entrusted to be Invested</i> By Karen Hodge and Susan Hunt		<i>No Empty Word: Relentless Pursuit</i> A Study of Hosea by Paula Miles		<i>Colossians & Philemon: That in Everything Christ Might Be Preeminent</i> by Sarah Ivill



We are thankful for the many blessings of the **Made for More Conferences** and the impact they have had on over 3,200 women to date. There's still time to register for the
Dallas (April 4-5, 2025) and
Chicago (May 2-3, 2025) locations!

If you would like to see resources from the conference, visit our webpage at:
women.pcacdm.org/made-for-more-follow-up-resources

Big Picture Perspective: Understanding How God's Grand Story Reframes Women's Ministry Narratives

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Big Picture Perspective

A letter from Karen Hodge

Welcome to our annual Women's Ministry Leadership Training. We would be delighted to serve you both this weekend and as you return home. Many of you arrive simultaneously excited to learn but overwhelmed and discouraged by ongoing ministry challenges. Let's face it: on any given week as women's ministry leaders, you are confronted with a myriad of issues such as:

- You get a text from a young single woman on the edge of burnout, wondering if her work as a doctor makes any difference.
- You take a walk alongside a baby stroller and a young mom struggling with postpartum depression.
- You sit across from a brand-new believer in a small group who comes each week with a tender and teachable heart, excited to study the Bible.
- You connect with a grieving widow in the hallway on a Sunday morning, who tearfully wonders how long grief will feel like a heavy winter coat.

What do you say? How can you help? You may feel out of your depth for a word of truth and encouragement. Both you and the women you encounter are sharing from a frame of reference for their joys or sorrows. Is it cultural norms, feelings, past church experience, or information from the internet? Women's Ministry is the gospel classroom where we help ourselves and women; we serve to reframe the narrative of their lives within the redemptive narrative of Scripture.

So, through the power of the Holy Spirit, you can remind your single friend that Creation tells us that work is sacred and fulfills the cultural mandate to spread His glory. You take one more step alongside your young mom, who feels bruised and broken by the Fall. You listen with delight as you see gospel transformation in the heart of a new disciple of Christ because of Redemption. And you extend a hug filled with hope, lifting her eyes to the Consummation of all things, remembering that death is an enemy, but there will be no more tears or sadness in Heaven.

Reframing the narrative brings hope, joy, and needed perspective. It is our prayer that you will leave with those gifts to share with others this weekend as we marinate in the Big Story of the Bible together!

Thinking BIG and LONG alongside you...

Karen Hodge

khodge@pcanet.org, 678-825-1146



Supporting Wives Serving the Church

COUNSELING + TRAINING + ENCOURAGEMENT



Learn more about the
2025 Women's Love Gift
pcacdm.org/lovegift



Schedule for Leadership Training

Thursday, February 20, 2025

11:00 am	Registration and bookstore open
2:00-3:15 pm	General Session #1 [Ballroom] <i>The Big Story of the Bible</i> (Tom Gibbs)
3:45-5:15 pm	Regional Gatherings #1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Florida - Rhododendron • Mid-America – Summit • Mid-Atlantic – Laurel • Mid-South – Balsam • Northeast – Cherry • Southeast – Woodland/Lake • West – Willow • West Coast – Barberry • International – Holly
5:45-8:00 pm	Dinner and General Session #2 [Ballroom] <i>Creation: The Big Story of the Bible Changes Everything</i> (Tara Gibbs)

Friday, February 21, 2025

9:00-10:15 am	Workshop Session #1 (Please attend the workshop indicated on your name tag) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Women's Ministry 101 (offered once) [Laurel] • Church: Living Out the Story Together [Cherry] • Compassionate Care: How God's Story Comforts Our Hard Ones [Summit] • Community: Not a One-Woman Script [Willow] • Communication: How Our Words Can Reflect His Story [Audubon] • Teaching the Bible with a Big Story Framework: Taking His Story to Theirs [Balsam] • Leadership: Fallen Leaders and Followers: How do we not lose heart in ministry? [Woodland/Lake]
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10:45-12:00 pm	<p>Workshop Session #2 (Please attend the workshop indicated on your name tag)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complicated Relationships: The Plot Thickens—A Leader, A Women’s Ministry, and a Happy Ending (offered once) [Laurel] • Church: Living Out the Story Together [Cherry] • Compassionate Care: How God’s Story Comforts Our Hard Ones [Summit] • Community: Not a One-Woman Script [Willow] • Communication: How Our Words Can Reflect His Story [Audubon] • Teaching the Bible with a Big Story Framework: Taking His Story to Theirs [Balsam] • Leadership: Fallen Leaders and Followers: How do we not lose heart in ministry? [Woodland/Lake]
12:15-2:30 pm	<p>Lunch & General Session #3 [Ballroom] <i>Fall: When the Fig Leaves Aren’t Enough</i> (Susan Tyner) <i>Redemption: Tailor-Made White Robes</i> (Cheryl Mullis)</p>
3:00-4:15 pm	<p>Regional Gatherings #2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Florida - Rhododendron • Mid-America – Summit • Mid-Atlantic – Laurel • Mid-South – Balsam • Northeast – Cherry • Southeast – Woodland/Lake • West – Willow • West Coast – Barberry

4:15-5:45 pm	<p>Connect Time</p> <p>WE Ministry—For wives of ruling and teaching elders [Summit] With Meaghan May Leadership Training is filled to the brim with good things, but we want to encourage you not to miss this opportunity to make a new friend and share a prayer request with women who get your context and want to encourage you. There will be some giveaways and an opportunity for artful rest, personal reflection, and connection.</p> <p>Women's Ministry International [Audubon] With Connie Miller Want to know more about this year's Love Gift recipient? Come meet our Women's Ministry International team! We're excited to host an informational gathering to share the vision, strategy and opportunities for discipling partnerships between US and international churches. We'll answer all your questions, provide you with helpful materials, and invite you to prayerfully consider whether the women in your church might partner with their sisters in some other part of the world!</p> <p>Writers [Rhododendron] With Christina Fox Calling all wordsmiths! Do you like to write? Whether it's journaling, fiction, non-fiction, studies/curriculum, poetry or more—join other writers to explore how to steward well the gifts God has given you. Author and editor Christina Fox will lead a discussion on the topic of writing and a time of Q&A.</p> <p>W4—Women Working With Women (Paid Church Staff) [Woodland/Lake] With Susan Tyner, Cheryl Mullis, Teresa Caldwell A church staff position is a challenging place to serve. The lines feel fuzzy some days between employee and church member. We understand and would love to connect with you as we meet to encourage one another in these unique roles. This gathering is designed specifically for paid (part or full time) women who serve and disciple other adult women in the church.</p>
5:45-8:00 pm	<p>Dinner and General Session #4 - Ballroom <i>Tool Talks</i></p>

Saturday, February 22, 2025

9:00-10:30 am	<p>General Session #5 [Ballroom] <i>Staying Thirsty: Leaning into the Hope-full Ending of God's Big Story</i> (Elizabeth Turnage)</p>
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PARTNERSHIPS • TRAINING • TRANSLATIONS

CDM's Women's Ministries International (WMI) facilitates partnerships with international pastors, church planters, and women's leaders to strengthen churches worldwide. Working with pastors in U.S. churches, WMI identifies qualified, trained women and connects them to international leaders and resources to deploy a cultural, contextualized pathway to train women's leaders in other countries in a reformed, biblical, and theological foundation for women's ministries.

We invite you to...

PARTNER & CONNECT: With the encouragement of pastors, we recruit and train women in U.S. PCA Churches to join teams of women in churches worldwide in a discipleship partnership.

WMI OUTREACHES:

- **PARTNERSHIP** - We connect U.S. Churches to international churches via mentoring partnerships to train international women's ministry leaders.
- **TRAINING** - WMI partnerships equip women's ministry leaders (U.S. and worldwide) with in-person and online training and other reformed resources (written, video, and audio).
- **TRANSLATIONS** - WMI seeks to translate reformed women's ministry resources into other languages.

For more information, contact:

Connie Miller, cmiller@pcanet.org, 704.747.9976

Advisor for Women's Ministry International

women.pcacdm.org/international

PCA CDM • 1700 N. Brown Road, Suite 102, Lawrenceville, GA 30043



Post-LT Webinars

Mark your calendar for these dates!

Bible Study Leadership

Tuesday, March 4 at 7pm Eastern

Marcie Tuten and Eden Flora

Thinking biblically and living covenantally is the heartbeat of women's ministry and Bible studies are some of the easiest ways to see this truth in action! Please join Eden Flora and Marcie Tuten as we discuss the joys and challenges of studying God's Word in the context of community. If you have specific questions or issues you would like to discuss, please let us know prior to the Zoom call so we can be ready with ideas and suggestions.

Men & Women Working Together

Thursday, March 20 at 7pm Eastern

Jamie Voss and Cheryl Mullis

From the very beginning, God made male and female in His image and created them to complement each other in fulfilling His mission. It is a beautiful thing to watch men and women partnering where each are using their unique gifts, but often in this fallen world, we lose sight of what genuine gospel collaboration looks like. Join Jamie Voss and Cheryl Mullis as we discuss what a true picture of gospel partnership can look like and what are ways that we, as women, can thrive as we work with our brothers.

Alongside Care

Tuesday, April 8 at 7pm Eastern

Christina Fox and Susan Shepherd

Do you have an Alongside Care ministry for women at your church? Or would you like to start one? Join Susan Shepherd and Christina Fox to dig into Alongside Care ministry for women in crisis. Please send us your questions in advance so we can prepare to answer them.

Presbytery Women's Ministry

Thursday, April 10 at 7pm Eastern

Creigh Brown and Kris Lollar

Whether you've been participating in Presbytery Women's Ministry for years, or you are longing for connection in an area without PWM, this webinar is for you! We will share ideas, talk about challenges, and offer support as we seek to answer your PWM questions.

2025 Regional Prayer Assignments

Region	2025 Committee / Agency
Florida	Covenant College President: Brad Voyles— www.covenant.edu
Mid-America	Covenant Theological Seminary President: Tom Gibbs— www.covenantseminary.edu
Mid-Atlantic	Mission to the World Coordinator: Lloyd Kim— www.mtw.org Ridge Haven Coordinator: Cameron Anderson— www.ridgehaven.org
Mid-South	PCA Foundation (PCAF) President: Tim Townsend— www.pcafoundation.com
Northeast	Committee on Discipleship Ministries (CDM) Coordinator: Stephen Estock— www.pcacdm.org
Southeast	Administrative Committee (AC) Coordinator: Bryan Chapell— www.pcaac.org
West	Reformed University Fellowship (RUF) Coordinator: Will Huss— www.ruf.org Mission to North America (MNA) Coordinator: Irwyn Ince— www.pcamna.org
West Coast	Geneva Benefits Coordinator: Ed Dunnington— www.genevabenefits.org

Please encourage your region to pray for this PCA Committee or Agency throughout 2025. You may want to send notes of encouragement or ask for specific requests.

CDM Staff

Stephen Estock, Coordinator | sestock@pcanet.org
Karen Hodge, Women's Ministry Coordinator | khodge@pcanet.org
Katie Flores, Children's Ministry Coordinator | kflores@pcanet.org
Kathy Wargo, Event Coordinator, Asst. to Karen Hodge | kwargo@pcanet.org | 678-825-1132
Tim Schirm, Bookstore Manager | tschirm@pcanet.org
Marlys Roos, Publications | mroos@pcanet.org

Women's Ministry Leadership Team

Regional Advisors & Advisors-at-Large:

The Women's Ministry Regional Advisors are a team of volunteer women approved by and under the oversight and authority of PCA Discipleship Ministries. Representing geographical regions of the PCA, they work with the national Women's Ministry Coordinator in planning and implementing training opportunities, materials, and programs for women.

REGIONAL ADVISORS:

West Coast – Allison Van Egmond
allison.v@newlifepca.com

West – Tatiana Anderson
tatianaa@gmail.com

Mid-America – Janet LaRocque
janetlarocque@npchurch.org

Mid-South – Eden Flora
edenwflora@gmail.com

Florida – Creigh Brown
creigh@ccpclakeland.org

Southeast – Jamie Voss
jamiev@perimeter.org

Mid-Atlantic – Courtney Denton
cdenton@wpcgo.com

Northeast – Cheryl Mullis
cmullis@epannapolis.org

ADVISORS:

Women's Ministry International
Connie Miller, cmiller@pcanet.org

Military & Chaplains' Wives
Chandra Oliver
Chandra.Oliver@me.com

Wives of Elders
Meaghan May, mmay@pcanet.org



Women's Ministry Trainers:

The Women's Ministry Trainers are volunteer women from across the PCA, approved by CDM and the Coordinator, to serve in an equipping role. They connect local women's ministries and presbyteries to available resources, and they teach training materials that help women better understand who God is and what He is calling them to be as women in the home, church, and workplace.

Teri Anderson
Cathe Cleveland

Melanie Cogdill
Paula Miles

Connie Miller
Chandra Oliver

Marcie Tuten

If you would like to bring one of these trainers to your church or presbytery, please contact Karen Hodge at khodge@pcanet.org. **Here are the upcoming scheduled trainings:**

Date	Location, Contact, and Trainer
June 20-21, 2025	Westminster PC, Huntsville, AL Jennifer Murphree, jennnifer.murphree@westminster-pc.org Trainer: Paula Miles
September 26-27, 2025	Christ Church, Grand Rapids, MI Eva Marie Gugino, owlandpussycat@aol.com Trainer: Chandra Oliver
September 27, 2025	Grace Church, North Florida Presbytery Jenn Bradsher, gourmetgal.jenn@gmail.com Trainer: Melanie Cogdill
November 7-8, 2025	Jacob's Well Green Bay Presbytery Molly Thomas, women@jacobsowellgb.org Trainer: Teri Anderson

Check the website for additional Training dates and locations.

<https://women.pcacdm.org/training>

- Our **[Women's Ministry Training FAQs Brochure](#)** gives information about hosting a women's ministry training at your presbytery or church.
- If you would like to have a trainer come to your church or presbytery, please contact Karen Hodge at khodge@pcanet.org.
- For more information about the topics covered at a training event, see the nine sessions of the **[Grid series](#)** of the enCourage podcast.

Regional Gatherings – Regions by Presbytery

Thursday, February 20, 3:45-5:15 pm and Friday, February 21, 3:00-4:15 pm

Mid-America:

Janet LaRocque

Central Indiana
Chicago Metro
Columbus Metro
Great Lakes
Illiana
Korean Central
Missouri
Nashville
Northern Illinois
Ohio
Ohio Valley
Siouxlands
Tennessee Valley
Wisconsin

Mid-Atlantic:

Courtney Denton

Blue Ridge
Calvary
Catawba Valley
Central Carolina
Eastern Carolina
Fellowship
Highlands
James River
Korean Southeastern
Lowcountry
New River
Palmetto
Pee Dee
Piedmont Triad
Tidewater
Westminster

Northeast: Cheryl Mullis

Ascension
Chesapeake
Eastern Canada
Eastern Pennsylvania
Heritage
Korean Capital
Korean Northeastern
Metro New York
New Jersey
New York State
Northern New England
Philadelphia
Philadelphia Metro West
Pittsburgh
Potomac
Southern New England
Susquehanna Valley
West Hudson

Mid-South: Eden Flora

Covenant
Grace
Mississippi Valley
Southern Louisiana

Florida: Creigh Brown

Central Florida
Gulfstream
North Florida
South Florida
Southwest Florida
Suncoast Florida

Southeast: Jamie Voss

Central Georgia
Evangel
Georgia Foothills
Gulf Coast
Metro Atlanta
Northwest Georgia
Providence
Savannah River
Southeast Alabama
Warrior

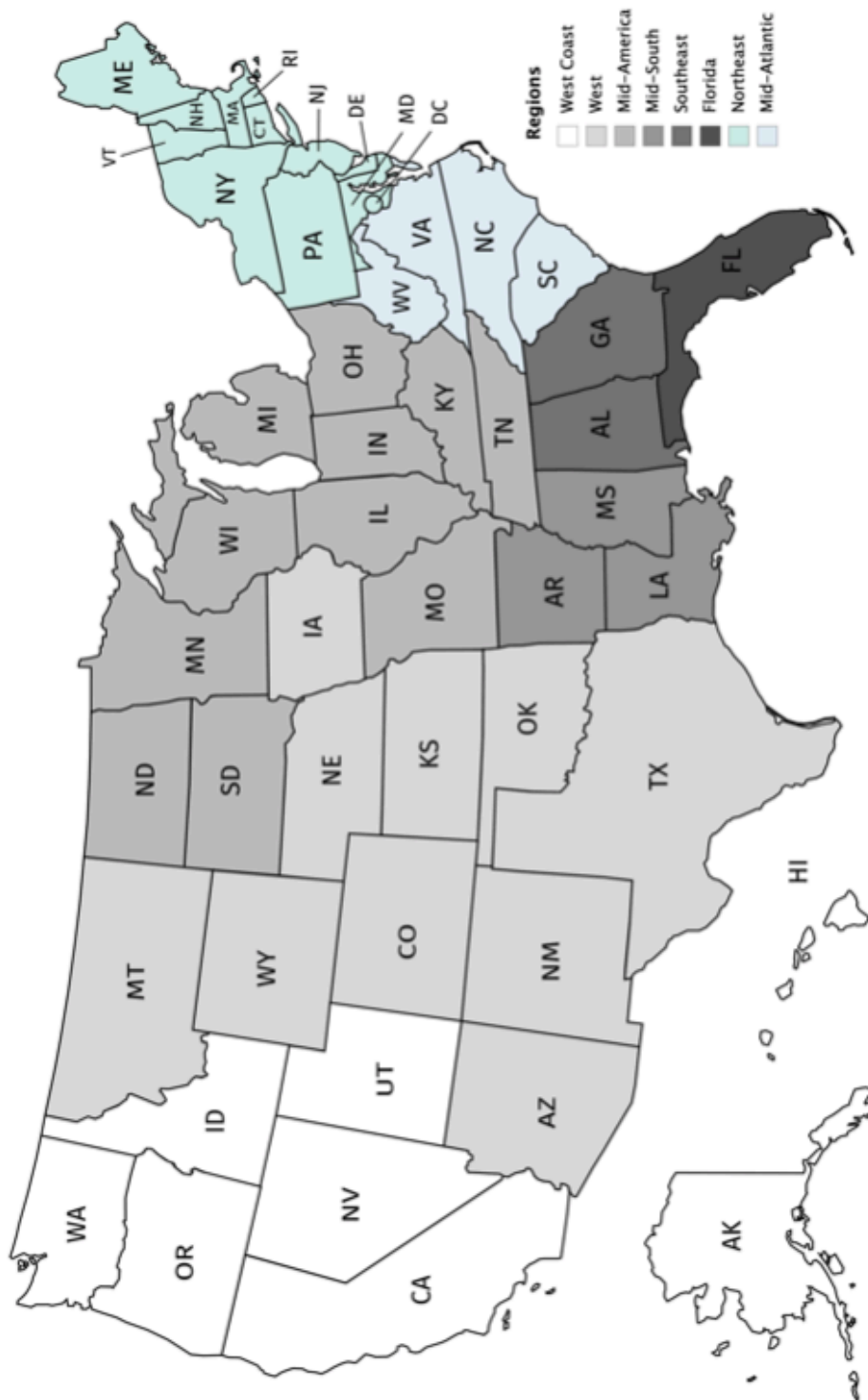
West: Tatiana Anderson

Arizona
Heartland
Hills & Plains
Houston Metro
Iowa
Korean Southern
North Texas
Platte Valley
Rio Grande
Rocky Mountain
South Texas

West Coast:

Allison Van Egmond

Canada West
Korean Northwest
Korean Southwest
Korean SW Orange County
Northern California
Pacific
Pacific Northwest
South Coast



These are the general boundaries for the Regions.

Women's Ministry PRESBYTERY CONTACTS

Presbytery Women's Ministry is the presbytery level of Women's Ministry, where women connect for encouragement and equipping.

FLORIDA

Gulfstream

Michelle Strassel
Palm Beach, FL
mstrassel@cccpalmbeach.com

Southwest Florida

Creigh Brown
Lakeland, FL
creigh@ccpclakeland.org

Suncoast Florida

Sharon Poole
Naples, FL
sharontpoole@gmail.com

MID-AMERICA

Chicago Metro

Abby Borhauer
Frankfort, IL
aborhauer@gmail.com

Pey Chu
Naperville, IL
peychu@gmail.com

Great Lakes

Lesley Graham
Grosse Pointe Woods, MI
lesleygraham@gmail.com

Eva Marie Gugino
Holland, MI
Owlandpussycat@aol.com

Illiana

Kris Lollar
Edwardsville, IL
4lollars@gmail.com

Beth Metcalf
bemetcalf@gmail.com

Missouri

Allie Vining
Chesterfield, MO
alliev@chespres.org

Nashville

Jennifer Smithfield
Springfield, TN
atxhalt@gmail.com

Northern Illinois

Pamela Winterroth
Hanna City, IL
pwinterroth@sbcglobal.net

Ohio

Stacy Howell
Vincent, OH
stacyhowell@roadrunner.com

Melissa Wilson
Hudson, OH
mgewilson@gmail.com

Ohio Valley

Kelly-Anne Bradley
Lexington, KY
kellybradley001@gmail.com

Siouxlands

Janice Haan
Pollock, SD
janicehaan@gmail.com

Kristin Conrad
Bloomington, MN
djkmconrad@gmail.com

Tennessee Valley

Sandy Hartley
Chattanooga, TN
lorshartley@comcast.net

Wisconsin

Christie Iler
Sussex, WI
ilersc.wi@gmail.com

MID-ATLANTIC

Fellowship

Jane Wilson
Rock Hill, SC
janemcwilson@gmail.com

Mindy Robinson
Clover, SC
Mindymouse126@gmail.com

Highlands

Maria Bernard
Mills River, NC
mbernard325@gmail.com

Lowcountry

Lisa McCutchen
Hilton Head, SC
mccutchen.lisa@gmail.com

Palmetto

Kelly Lewis
Lexington, SC
klewis003@sc.rr.com

Pee Dee

Alice Tomlinson
Kingstree, SC
jetant@ftc.net

Tidewater

Megan Cartwright
Onancock, VA
Megan.cartwright1@gmail.com

Westminster

Rachel Jenkins
Coeburn, VA
raachelkathleen_j@yahoo.com

MID-SOUTH**Mississippi Valley**

Kristi McCown
Philadelphia, MS
kristi.mccown@gmail.com

NORTHEAST**Chesapeake**

Breanna Shumpert
Sykesville, MD
breanna.shumpert@gmail.com

Eastern Canada

Miriam Verburg
St. Catharines, ON
7alberta@gmail.com

Eastern Pennsylvania

Shannon Fodale
Bethlehem, PA
fodales@dm.org

Heritage

Sue Capelli
Middletown, DE
s_capelli@icloud.com

New Jersey

Allie Pacek
Mullica Hill, NJ
ampacek24@gmail.com

Philadelphia

Vicky Maienshein
Philadelphia, PA
vmaienshein@msn.com

Pittsburgh

Miriam Mead
East Liverpool, OH
gmmead82@gmail.com

Southern New England

Dianne Mancini
West Hartford, CT
dmancini1018@gmail.com

Susquehanna Valley

Susan Wagner
Middletown, PA
swagner@trinityhbg.com

SOUTHEAST**Central Georgia**

Denice Austell
Byron, GA
dlaustell@gmail.com

Georgia Foothills

Beth Martin
Auburn, GA
bethmartin@solarnet-rd.com

WEST**Hills and Plains**

Esther Averill
Minco, OK
estheraverill@gmail.com

Rachel Carl
Fayetteville, AR
Rachel.carl@yahoo.com

North Texas

Linda Clark
McKinney, TX
mcgregor_clark@hotmail.com

Presbytery Contact/Local Church Contact Changes

For changes to Presbytery or Local Church contacts, please email Kathy Wargo, kwargo@pcanet.org, with the following information:

- Is this a Presbytery or Local Church change?
- Name of Outgoing Contact
- Name of Incoming Contact
- Address of Incoming Contact
- Email
- Cell Phone
- Church Name
- Presbytery

Speakers and Musician for LT

Tara Gibbs is a wife, mother, writer, and speaker. She spent 19 years in San Antonio, TX, ministering alongside her husband, Tom, to the city of San Antonio at Redeemer Presbyterian Church and now lives in St. Louis, MO, where she serves as Event Coordinator and First Lady of Covenant Theological Seminary. Tara has authored Bible studies, taught internationally on women's ministry, and served as a women's ministry director. She has parented four children, practiced hospitality, worked with San Antonio area public schools, worked in water conservation, worked with church planting couples, and served as Director of Redeemer's women's ministry. Tara loves running, reading, everything outdoors, Tex-Mex food, and spring and fall in St. Louis.

Tom Gibbs is the President of Covenant Theological Seminary in St. Louis, Missouri. Prior to this role, he served as the Senior Pastor of Redeemer Presbyterian Church in San Antonio, Texas, which he planted and pastored for 19 years. He has also served as a campus minister with Reformed University Fellowship (RUF) at Baylor University. He and his wife, Tara, have four adult children.

Cheryl Mullis is learning to celebrate the precious moments of life. Sunrises, colorful flowers, beautiful faces, and sweet conversations make Cheryl smile. Marinating on the truths of the gospel reminds her of the faithful sufficiency of Jesus. She loves walking alongside others encouraging and equipping them as they live out their faith. After raising five amazing kids, Cheryl and her husband Don are enjoying life in this new season of life. Cheryl is the Director of Adult Ministries at her church in Annapolis, Maryland. She serves as Northeast Regional Advisor on PCA's Women's Ministry Team.

Caroline Royal - Music has been a part of Caroline's life from her earliest memories. As a toddler she'd come home from church to pick out the notes of that morning's hymns before she could climb up onto the bench. Music has been an instrument of God's sustaining grace in her life, and it is a true joy and deep privilege to lead women in worship. Caroline is currently serving at Covenant Presbyterian Church in Birmingham, AL. Since leaving her roots in Georgia in 2011 after graduating from the University of Georgia, God has led her on an unexpected journey through roles in New York City, Oklahoma, and with Reformed University Fellowship (RUF) in Kentucky. She has had the privilege of serving homeless women, middle and high school students, community group leaders, and women of all ages. When she's not at church, Caroline enjoys spending time in her garden, floral design, and cooking while listening to the music of Melanie Penn or Keith and Kristyn Getty on repeat.

Elizabeth Reynolds Turnage is a gospel life and legacy coach, author, and speaker. She helps people live, prepare, and share their legacy to bring hope to future generations. Elizabeth co-founded the [Numbering Your Days Network](#) to share gospel encouragement for aging, caregiving, legacy, grief, and end-of-life, and she wrote [Preparing for Glory: Biblical Answers to 40 Questions about Living and Dying in the Hope of Heaven](#). Elizabeth and her husband, Kip, enjoy feasting and sharing good stories with their large family of four adult children, three children-in-law, and five young grandchildren. www.elizabethturnage.com

Susan Tyner serves as Women's Ministry Coordinator at Trinity Presbyterian Church in Fort Worth, Texas. She is author of [What a Royal Mess: A Study of 1 and 2 Kings](#) as well as [What's SHE Doing Here?](#) and a regular contributor for the PCA's enCourage blog. Susan enjoys speaking at conferences and retreats, but she also enjoys a lazy Saturday cooking a big pot a gumbo. Susan and her husband, Lee, have five children, and an almost empty nest. You can reach her at susantyners.com.



CAMP AND RETREAT WITH US!

In addition to week-long Summer Camps, Ridge Haven offers retreats for groups of any size year-round. We are also currently hiring high school and college students for Summer Staff 2025!

Reach out today for more information.

828.862.3916

RIDGEHAVEN@RIDGEHAVEN.ORG



Music

[CCLI #79205]

Thursday – 2:00-3:15 pm

All Hail the Power

All hail the pow'r of Jesus' name,
Let angels prostrate fall;
Bring forth the royal diadem,
And crown him Lord of all;
Bring forth the royal diadem,
And crown Him Lord of all.

Ye chosen seed of Israel's race,
Ye ransomed from the fall;
Hail Him who saves you by His grace,
And crown Him Lord of all;
Hail Him who saves you by His grace,
And crown Him Lord of all.

Let ev'ry kindred, ev'ry tribe,
On this terrestrial ball.
To Him all majesty ascribe,
And crown Him Lord of all;
To Him all majesty ascribe,
And crown Him Lord of all.

O that with yonder sacred throng,
We at His feet may fall;
We'll join the everlasting song,
And crown Him Lord of all;
We'll join the everlasting song,
And crown Him Lord of all.

We'll join the everlasting song,
And crown Him Lord of all.

There is a Redeemer

There is a Redeemer,
Jesus God's own Son,
Precious Lamb of God,
Messiah, Holy One.

Thank You, O my Father
For giving us Your Son,
And leaving Your Spirit 'til
Your work on earth is done.

Jesus my Redeemer,
Name above all names,
Precious Lamb of God,
Messiah, O for sinners slain.

Thank You, O my Father
For giving us Your Son,
And leaving Your Spirit 'til
Your work on earth is done.

When I stand in glory
I will see His face,
And there I'll serve
My King forever,
In that holy place.

Thank You, O my Father
For giving us Your Son,
And leaving Your Spirit 'til
Your work on earth is done.

Known and Loved – City Alight

God, You were there from my beginning
For I was crafted by Your hands
You see my hopes and hesitations
My days are written in Your plan

If You have seen my weakest moments
And still You love me even then
I need no greater confirmation
That God, Your goodness has no end

I come to Jesus, lay down my weakness
No need for hiding, here in His light
This truth I treasure, my peace forever
Is being known and loved by Him

I trust with Jesus, it is finished
For He has paid my every debt
No need to pull it all together
For what is broken He will mend

I come to Jesus, lay down my weakness
No need for hiding, here in His light
This truth I treasure, my peace forever
Is being known and loved by Him

Though I can't see the path before me
I know the One who knows the way
And as I walk, His hand will guide me
Until I see Him face to face

I come to Jesus, lay down my weakness
No need for hiding, here in His light
This truth I treasure, my peace forever
Is being known and loved by Him
Is being known and loved by Him

Thursday – 5:45-8:00 pm

Christ Our Hope in Life and Death – Getty's

What is our hope in life and death?
Christ alone, Christ alone
What is our only confidence?
That our souls to Him belong

Who holds our days within His hand?
What comes, apart from His command
And what will keep us to the end?
The love of Christ in which we stand

Oh, sing hallelujah
Our hope springs eternal
Oh, sing hallelujah
Now and ever we confess
Christ, our hope in life and death

What truth can calm the troubled soul?
God is good, God is good
Where is His grace and goodness known?
In our great Redeemer's blood

Who holds our faith when fears arise?
Who stands above the stormy trial?
Who sends the waves that bring us nigh
Unto the shore? The rock of Christ

Oh, sing hallelujah
Our hope springs eternal
Oh, sing hallelujah
Now and ever we confess
Christ, our hope in life and death

Unto the grave, what will we sing?
"Christ, He lives, Christ, He lives!"
And what reward will Heaven bring?
Everlasting life with Him

There we will rise to meet the Lord
Then sin and death will be destroyed
And we will feast in endless joy
When Christ is ours forevermore (forevermore)

Oh, sing hallelujah
Our hope springs eternal
Oh, sing hallelujah
Now and ever we confess
Christ, our hope in life and death (oh, sing)

Oh, sing hallelujah
Our hope springs eternal
Oh, sing hallelujah
Now and ever we confess
Christ, our hope in life and death
Now and ever we confess
Christ, our hope in life and death

I Am Not My Own – Skye Peterson

The One who made the heavens, made my heart
and soul
Before I drew a breath, I was loved and known
I am His creation, the Maker's masterpiece
And all that He designs will be done in me

My body is a temple of the living God
I'll worship in this house that His blood has bought
As I bear His image, oh, may I not profane
The holiness I hold in this earthly frame

I belong to the Lord, oh, I am not my own
I belong to the Lord, I am not my own
I will honor Him for this I know
I belong to the Lord, I am not my own

And if He has redeemed me, I am not my own
The measure of my worth is His love alone
He declares my standing, and He declares my state
So I will know myself by the name He gave

I belong to the Lord, oh, I am not my own
I belong to the Lord, I am not my own
I will honor Him for this I know
I belong to the Lord, I am not my own

I am not my own and now my heart is free
O Maker, come and make what You will of me
There is nothing broken that You cannot repair
So Lord, I leave my life in Your loving care (I know that)

I belong to the Lord, oh, I am not my own
I belong to the Lord, I am not my own
I will honor Him for this I know
I belong to the Lord, I am not my own (oh, I am not my own)

I will honor Him for this I know
I belong to the Lord, I am not my own

Sing – Ellie Holcomb

Who sang the first song? Who hummed the first
tune? Was it the wind blowing past the moon?
Were the stars making noise as they sparkled at
night?
Did the sun sing a song as it colored the sky?

Oh, sing, sing, sing
Sing, sing, sing

Did the waves make a song as they crashed to the
shore? Or was it the whales, or the lions' first roar?
Did the first flowers hum as they burst into bloom?
Or was the first song when the thunder went boom?

Sing, sing, sing, Sing, sing, sing
Sing, sing, sing, Sing, sing, sing

Maybe elephants running loud over the ground
Or maybe the birds made the first singing sound
All these guesses we've made are quite good, but
they're wrong
It was God our Maker who sang the first song

When God made the earth, He decided to sing
And He wrote His song into everything
God's song says, "You're good, you are wonderfully
made
And I'll never stop loving you all of your days"

So sing, sing, sing, Sing, sing, sing
Sing, sing, sing, Sing, sing, sing

Now we all know who sang the first song
God our Maker knew all along
That every heart and every thing
Was born with a song it was made to

Sing, sing, sing, Sing, sing, sing
Sing, sing, sing, Sing, sing, sing
Sing, sing, sing, Sing, sing, sing
Sing, sing, sing, Sing, sing, sing

When God made the earth, He decided to sing
And He wrote His song into everything
When God made the earth, He decided to sing
And He wrote His song into everything

You Are With Me – Sandra McCracken

My heart is heavy and tired in this valley
Mountains grow higher and higher,
but I can't find You
I'll keep lifting my eyes, I know You're with me

I hear Your voice when You cry comfort,
comfort
Sorrow may last for a night, but in the morning
Your joy breaks in with the light, I know You're
with me

*I know You're with me, and You are for me
You've been behind me, You go before
You walk beside me, through darkest valleys
I know You are with me*

You led me here where it's dry,
out in the desert
You bring these bones back to life,
You put together
You sing a song of delight,
I know You're with me

*I know You're with me, and You are for me
You've been behind me, You go before
You walk beside me, through darkest valleys
I know You are with me,*

Bridge:
You will be praised
I will, oh, I will wait
You will be praised
I will, oh, I will wait

I know You're with me, and You are for me
You've been behind me, You go before
You walk beside me, through darkest valleys
I know You are with me
I know You are with me
You are with me

Friday – 12:15-2:30 pm

Come Ye Souls By Sin Afflicted – Indelible Grace

Come ye souls by, sin afflicted,
Bowed with fruitless, sorrow down;
By the broken, law convicted,
Through the cross, behold the crown;
Look to Jesus; Look to Jesus; Look to Jesus;
Mercy flows through Him alone.

Take His easy, yoke and wear it;
Love will make your, obedience sweet;
Christ will give you, strength to bear it,
While His grace, shall guide your feet
Safe to glory, Safe to glory, Safe to glory,
Where His ransomed captives meet.

Blessed are the, eyes that see Him,
Blest the ears that, hear His voice;
Blessed are the, souls that trust Him,
And in Him, alone rejoice;
His commandments, His commandments,
His commandments
Then become their happy choice.

Sweet as home to, pilgrims weary,
Light to newly, opened eyes,
Like full springs in, deserts dreary,
Is the rest, the cross supplies;
All who taste it, All who taste it, All who taste it
Shall to rest immortal rise.

My Worth Is Not in What I Own

My worth is not in what I own
Not in the strength of flesh and bone
But in the costly wounds of love
At the cross

My worth is not in skill or name
In win or lose, in pride or shame
But in the blood of Christ that flowed
At the cross

I rejoice in my Redeemer
Greatest Treasure,
Wellspring of my soul
I will trust in Him, no other.
My soul is satisfied in Him alone.

As summer flowers we fade and die
Fame, youth and beauty hurry by
But life eternal calls to us
At the cross

I will not boast in wealth or might
Or human wisdom's fleeting light
But I will boast in knowing Christ
At the cross

I rejoice in my Redeemer
Greatest Treasure,
Wellspring of my soul
I will trust in Him, no other.
My soul is satisfied in Him alone.

Two wonders here that I confess
My worth and my unworthiness
My value fixed – my ransom paid
At the cross

I rejoice in my Redeemer
Greatest Treasure,
Wellspring of my soul
I will trust in Him, no other.
My soul is satisfied in Him alone.

Known and Loved – City Alight

God, You were there from my beginning
For I was crafted by Your hands
You see my hopes and hesitations
My days are written in Your plan

If You have seen my weakest moments
And still You love me even then
I need no greater confirmation
That God, Your goodness has no end

I come to Jesus, lay down my weakness
No need for hiding, here in His light
This truth I treasure, my peace forever
Is being known and loved by Him

I trust with Jesus, it is finished
For He has paid my every debt
No need to pull it all together
For what is broken He will mend

I come to Jesus, lay down my weakness
No need for hiding, here in His light
This truth I treasure, my peace forever
Is being known and loved by Him

Though I can't see the path before me
I know the One who knows the way
And as I walk, His hand will guide me
Until I see Him face to face

I come to Jesus, lay down my weakness
No need for hiding, here in His light
This truth I treasure, my peace forever
Is being known and loved by Him
Is being known and loved by Him

Take My Life and Let it Be – Traditional

Take my life, and let it be
Consecrated, Lord, to Thee;
Take my moments and my days,
Let them flow in ceaseless praise,
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands, and let them move
At the impulse of Thy love;
Take my feet and let them be
Swift and beautiful for Thee,
Swift and beautiful for Thee.

Take my voice, and let me sing
Always, only, for my King;
Take my lips, and let them be
Filled with messages from Thee,
Filled with messages from Thee.

Take my silver and my gold;
Not a mite would I withhold;
Take my intellect, and use
Every power as Thou shalt choose,
Every power as Thou shalt choose.

Take my will, and make it Thine;
It shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart; it is Thine own;
It shall be Thy royal throne,
It shall be Thy royal throne.

Take my love; my Lord, I pour
At Thy feet its treasure-store.
Take myself, and I will be
Ever, only, all for Thee,
Ever, only, all for Thee.

Yet Not I, But Through Christ in Me – City Alight

What gift of grace is Jesus my redeemer
There is no more for heaven now to give
He is my joy, my righteousness, and freedom
My steadfast love, my deep and boundless peace

To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus
For my life is wholly bound to His
Oh how strange and divine, I can sing, "All is mine"
Yet not I, but through Christ in me

The night is dark but I am not forsaken
For by my side, the Saviour He will stay
I labour on in weakness and rejoicing
For in my need, His power is displayed

To this I hold, my Shepherd will defend me
Through the deepest valley He will lead
Oh the night has been won, and I shall overcome
Yet not I, but through Christ in me

No fate I dread, I know I am forgiven
The future sure, the price it has been paid
For Jesus bled and suffered for my pardon
And He was raised to overthrow the grave

To this I hold, my sin has been defeated
Jesus now and ever is my plea
Oh the chains are released, I can sing, "I am free"
Yet not I, but through Christ in me

With every breath I long to follow Jesus
For He has said that He will bring me home
And day by day I know He will renew me
Until I stand with joy before the throne

To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus
All the glory evermore to Him
When the race is complete, still my lips shall repeat
Yet not I, but through Christ in me

To this I hold, my hope is only Jesus
All the glory evermore to Him
When the race is complete, still my lips shall repeat
Yet not I, but through Christ in me

When the race is complete, still my lips shall repeat
Yet not I, but through Christ in me
Yet not I, but through Christ in me
Yet not I, but through Christ in me

On Christ the Solid Rock I Stand

My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness
I dare not trust the sweetest frame
But wholly lean on Jesus' name

On Christ the solid rock I stand
All other ground is sinking sand
All other ground is sinking sand

When darkness veils His lovely face
I'll rest on His unchanging grace
In every high and stormy day
My anchor holds within the veil

On Christ the solid rock I stand
All other ground is sinking sand
All other ground is sinking sand

His oath, His covenant, His blood
Support me in the whelming flood
When all around my soul gives way
He then is all my hope and stay

On Christ the solid rock I stand
All other ground is sinking sand
All other ground is sinking sand

When He shall come with trumpet sound
Oh, may I then in Him be found
Dressed in His righteousness alone
Faultless to stand before the throne

On Christ the solid rock I stand
All other ground is sinking sand
All other ground is sinking sand



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GOD'S STORY OF REDEMPTION

Write words in each column that characterize what God has told us about each part of His Story.

Reflect on these questions:

Where have you been in the story? Where are you now in the story? Where will you one day be in the story?

CREATION

when everything
was as God meant it
to be

FALL

the tragic intrusion of
sin and death
(brokenness)

REDEMPTION

God's promise to redeem
his fallen image-bearers
and creation through his
Son, Jesus Christ

CONSUMMATION

the fulfillment of God's
plan to gather and
cherish a people
forever, and to live with
them in "the new
heaven and new earth."

GOD'S STORY OF REDEMPTION IN MY LIFE

Reflect on these questions:

Where have you been in the story? Where are you now in the story? Where will you one day be in the story?

CREATION

What do I want?
How is this desire
connected to a good
creation longing?

FALL

How am I experiencing
loss, pain, brokenness,
sin, evil? Where am I
looking for rescue apart
from Jesus? Do I need
to repent?

REDEMPTION

How might Jesus be
rescuing? What difference
does it make to believe Jesus
is with me?

CONSUMMATION

What do I have to look
forward to in the end? If
nothing changes, what
hope can I hold onto?

BIG PICTURE PERSPECTIVE

LT 25

His Story in My Life

His Story at My Church

Implications for Personal Growth

Implications for Ministry



Things I want to Remember



Ideas to Think About



Questions I would like to have answered while I'm here



Resources to Consider

The Big Story of the Bible: Psalm 2

Tom Gibbs

The Four Movements in the Storyline of the Bible

A. Creation and Dignity (Genesis 1-2)



B. Sin and Sorrow (Genesis 3)



C. Redemption and Hope (John 1:1-14)



D. The New Heavens and New Earth (Rev. 21:1-5)



Recommended Resources:

- *Christ of the Covenants*, O. Palmer Roberson
- *Far As the Curse is Found*, Michael Williams
- *The Unfolding Mystery: Discovering Christ in the Old Testament*, Edmund Clowney
- *The Mission of God's People*, Christopher Wright

Covenant.

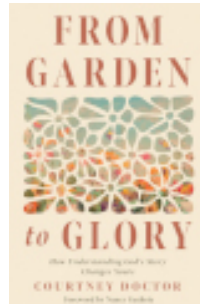
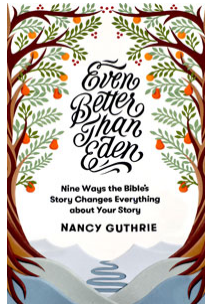
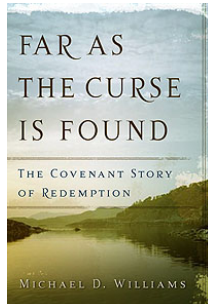


At The Center
of A Life of Purpose.

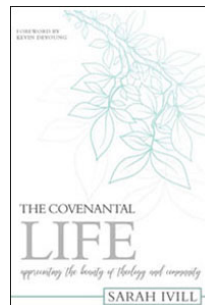
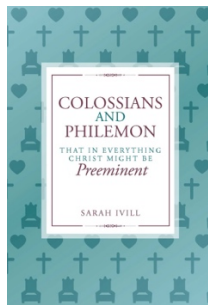


Books Highlighted at Keynote Sessions

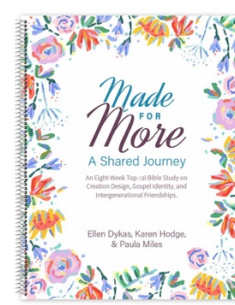
Keynote 1:



Keynote 2:



Keynotes 3 & 4:



Keynote 5:



Some forty years ago two friends began learning a covenantal perspective of Scripture. It seemed God's Word was unlocked and the glory of His redemption story was revealed to them. In 2003, they shared what they had learned in *The Legacy of Biblical Womanhood*. So, why update such a well-loved book?

Susan Hunt and Barbara Thompson explain: "We have grown in our understanding and experience of God's covenant love and our adoption into His family. . . .This sacred stewardship of Word-based content has been refined and validated in the context of community. . . .The time is ripe to entrust it to another generation of readers."

To help with this task they called on their spiritual daughter, Karen Hodge. It is the covenant way. In *Daughters of the Covenant* these three combine their experience to teach new generations how God's covenant promises and principles inform and influence every role and relationship, how they change attitudes, ambitions, and actions, and how they shape and sustain.

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Creation: The Big Story of the Bible Changes Everything

Tara Gibbs

1. God's Word

2. God's Creation

3. God's Purpose

Recommended Resources:

- *Covenants Made Simple*, Jonty Rhodes
- *Word-filled Women's Ministry*, Gloria Furman/Kathleen Nielson
- *Love Thy Body*, Nancy Pearcey
- *Words of Life*, Timothy Ward



Fall: When the Fig Leaves Aren't Enough

Susan Tyner

A. From Fairytale to Fig Leaves

B. Why, Eve?

C. When Fig Leaves Aren't Enough

Recommended Resources:

- *Envy of Eve* by Melissa Kruger
- *Life Giving Leadership* by Karen Hodge and Susan Hunt
- *Covenant Timeline*



Redemption: Tailored-Made White Robes

Cheryl Mullis

When the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman. Galatians 4:4

For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross Colossians 1:19-20

Clothed in Love	Clothed in Forgiveness	Clothed in Love

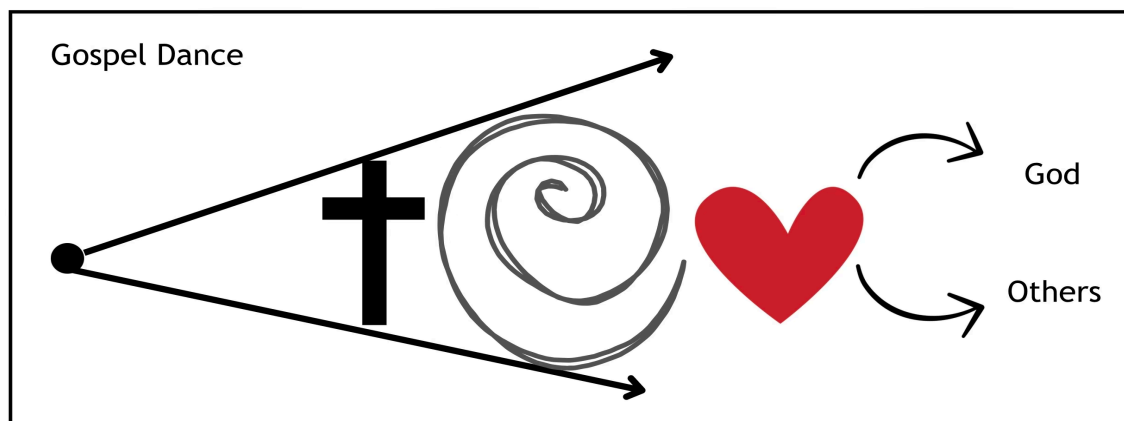
To learn more about rehearsing the gospel, check out:

- *The Gospel Waltz*, Bob Flayhart and Holly Mackle
- Parakelo (<https://www.parakaleo.us/>)
- Serge (<https://serge.org>) – *Gospel Identity, Gospel Growth, Gospel Love*
- *The Gospel Centered Life* by Robert H. Thune and Will Walker

Recommended Resources:

- *The Drama of Scripture*, Bartholomew and Goheen





As leaders clothed in the white robes of Jesus's righteousness, we are made new. The truth, beauty and goodness of the gospel frees us to live grace-filled and humble lives, ready to repent and believe the truth of the gospel, moving out in love as we love God and love others.

If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.



Colossians 3:1-4; 12-7

Redeemed by Christ and dressed in our new clothing, we can now put on

- Compassionate hearts
- Kindness
- Humility

- Patience
- Forgiveness
- Love

Replacing Fig Leaves with Robes of Righteousness

 <p>List some of your fig leaves that need to be replaced.</p>	 <p>What gospel truth do you need to believe as one dressed in new clothes?</p>
---	---

- What lies are you tempted to believe that undermine the truth of the gospel?
- How does knowing that you are clothed in grace, forgiveness, and love give you the freedom to lead others from a posture of humility and compassion?
- What would it look like for you to be the chief repenter as you engage with your ministry team?
- When you are discouraged in ministry, where do you run?
- Name some truths about God and yourself that would be practical to chew on as you deal with the insecurities, self-doubt and pride that come with being ministry leader.

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Keynote Session 5

Saturday, Feb. 24, 9:00 a.m.

Staying Thirsty: Leaning into the Hope-full Ending of God's Big Story

Elizabeth Turnage

- A. Staying thirsty for the riches of the river of the water of life
- B. Drinking from the living water in the already and not-yet
- C. Offering a cup of cold water to thirsty souls

Recommended Resources:

- *Preparing for Glory*, Elizabeth Turnage
- *The Saints Everlasting Rest*, Richard Baxter





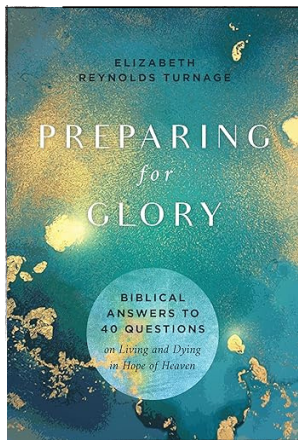
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Workshops

Organizing Your Life and Legacy, Your Living Story Legacy in-person and online



Writing

Monthly Numbering Your Days column, newsletter, and books



Coaching

Individual and group coaching to help you live, prepare, and share your legacy



Speaking

Gospel-centered talks, retreats, and events about aging, caregiving, legacy, and end-of-life

Friday, Feb. 21, 9:00 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.

Workshops

Women's Ministry 101 — Susan Hunt and Marcie Tuten

Do you want a Word-based, relationally-driven women's ministry that disciples women to think biblically and live covenantally? Do you want to be a life-giving leader who builds a unified team? Do you want the characteristics of covenant life to characterize your women's ministry? Too often we start in the wrong place when we think about women's ministry. We must begin with the foundational truths of covenant (how we are bound to the Father), church (how we are bound to each other as believers), and our creation as women. As these transforming truths renew our minds, they inform and impact what we do, why we do it, and how we do it. By God's grace we will live covenantally, ministry will flourish, and our churches will be healthier.

Church: Living Out the Story Together — Courtney Denton, Tatiana Anderson

Do you ever think of your church as God's gift to you and do you think of His people as conduits of His divine grace, love, and mercy? It can be tempting to overlook the importance of the Church as a body of believers saved by grace through faith and focus mostly on what we "do" on Sundays. Rather, church is who we are and how we live in relationship with God and each other. Our perspective on church shapes and informs how we equip, encourage and care for our women. Join us as we explore the covenantal blessing of being united to each other through One Big Story of Redemption and the implications for how serve in our women's ministries.

Compassionate Care: How God's Story Comforts Our Hard Ones — Elizabeth Turnage, Allison Van Egmond

In every part of God's Story of Grace, we find truth and hope to comfort hurting women. The shalom we were meant for was shattered, but through Christ it is also being restored. Join us as we trace the story of creation, fall, redemption, and consummation and see how this story of redemption applies to our hard stories in the here and now. Through teaching and case studies, you will learn how to apply the hope of God's story to your women's broken stories.

Community: Not a One-Woman Script — Chandra Oliver, Meaghan May

Then the Lord God said, "It is not good that the man [mankind] should be alone..." Genesis 2:18a

Sisters we are made for true Gospel Community – regardless in which part of the story we find ourselves [creation, fall, redemption, or consummation] community is imbedded in our creation design. During our time together we will discuss the *script* 'Gospel-Grounded Community.' Our script has four 'acts.'

Act 1: How our design reflects the God-head

Act 2: How the Fall fractured community

Act 3: How the Cross provides access to adoption into God's Covenant family

Act 4: How one day we will be together, gathered in a great family reunion

Understanding Gospel Community informs and impacts how we lead others in women's ministry. Together we will press into practical implications of a "we vs. me - interdependence vs. independence" approach to leading and living as Sisters in Christ's Church.

Communication: How Our Words Can Reflect His Story — Susan Tyner, Eden Flora

God spoke. Beautiful things happened. What happens when I speak? From an awkward text thread to a heated conversation in the church parking lot, our communication can be either life-taking or life-giving. And, just as God made the world in six days by His spoken word, He uses our words today to move His redemption story forward. But gospel communication doesn't consist merely of us rattling off Bible verses or saying the right thing. He also wants us to use listening, body language, and courage in scary circumstances to push back evil using our redeemed conversations. What does this look like in your context of women's leadership? Let's explore how we encourage and equip our women towards pushing back evil one gospel conversation at a time.

Teaching the Bible with a Big Story Framework: Taking His Story to Theirs

Creigh Brown, Teri Anderson

God is working in history to redeem a people for Himself. Both the Bible and history reveal God's Covenant work. This meta-narrative is the story of the Bible from Genesis to Revelation, but that does not mean it is "fiction!" This Covenant Theology occurs in stages that we can call "redemptive history:"

- CREATION
- FALL
- REDEMPTION
- CONSUMMATION

This grid is the way we approach Scripture, how we think Biblically to understand the "big picture" for all of life. When His story becomes ours, this privilege carries the responsibility to share our gifts & graces for the mutual good. As Bible teachers or small group leaders, how can we flesh out a passage's place in redemptive history, its application for our transformation and its eternal implications? This workshop will review this grid through which we teach and lead others as well as to provide a simple approach to gospel application.

Leadership: Fallen Leaders and Followers: How do we not lose heart in ministry?

Jamie Voss, Janet LaRocque

God created each of us with a purpose and a mission: to spread His name and help His Kingdom flourish. However, as we minister to others, we often encounter the painful effects of the Fall. Sometimes, those we love and lead are the ones who hurt us or complain, and life and ministry can feel hard and lonely. So, how do we lean into the gospel and find renewed hope for ministry in our daily lives?

The Apostle Paul faced every imaginable trial as he followed Christ and shared Him with others. Yet, even amid the hardships, God's grace was not only sufficient—Paul also experienced God's power working through him in profound ways. This talk will delve into how Jesus' example and Paul's reliance on God's strength, especially in his moments of weakness, offer hope for leading when ministry is difficult. We'll explore how to lead with humility, embrace our weaknesses, and find renewed hope in the gospel. Join us to be refreshed and reminded that you do not walk this path alone—the Lord is with you every step of the way.

Complicated Relationships—The Plot Thickens: A Leader, A Women's Ministry, and a Happy Ending

Connie Miller, Melanie Cogdill

The Fall has corrupted everything and everyone; however, one of the vital roles for every Christian leader is to live out the gospel even when there is conflict. What does it mean to be the chief repentor and promotor of peace when relationships are complicated or often go awry? As leaders, how can we demonstrate what it means to think biblically and live covenantally when it comes to encouraging and promoting peace and reconciliation? This workshop will deliver a compassionate message for those who have a desire to glorify God in the way conflict is managed and stewarded. Perhaps our time together can help better challenge and equip you to address conflict in a biblical manner that will help foster a culture of peace in your sphere of influence, whether in the home, the church or marketplace.

Women's Ministry 101 **A Covenantal Philosophy of Women's Ministry in the Church**

Susan Hunt, Marcie Tuten

Glorify the Lord with me; let us exalt His name together. Ps. 34:3

1. **A covenantal philosophy of discipleship in the church is Word-based and relationally driven, so it disciples God's people to think biblically and live covenantally.**

Questions

- Why does a church need a women's ministry?
- Are there biblical foundations for a women's ministry?
- How does the women's ministry relate to the pulpit ministry?
- How does the women's ministry relate to other ministries?

Make me to know your ways, O LORD; teach me your paths.

Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation;

for you I wait all the day long . . .

The friendship of the LORD is for those who fear him, and he makes known to them his covenant (Psalm 25:4-5, 14)

2. **Titus 2:1, 3-5: Foundational verse for Women's Ministry in the church**

Titus 2:1, 3-5—But as for you teach what accords with sound doctrine . . . Older women likewise are to be reverent in behavior, not slanderers or slaves to much wine. They are to teach what is good, and so train the young women to love their husbands and children, to be self-controlled, pure, working at home, kind, and submissive to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be reviled.

Westminster Larger Catechism A. 4: The scriptures manifest themselves to be the word of God, by their majesty and purity; by the consent of all the parts, and the scope of the whole, which is to give all glory to God . . .

3. **Characteristics of the covenant**

Westminster Confession of Faith, Ch. VII, Of God's Covenant with Man

The distance between God and the creature is so great, that although reasonable creatures do owe obedience unto Him as their Creator, yet they could never have any fruition of Him as their blessedness and reward, but by some voluntary condescension on God's part, which he hath been pleased to express by way of covenant.

- Covenant is the way God comes near to be with and to redeem His people.

Covenant is the promise that secures our relationship with the Triune God, so it helps us understand our place and purpose in redemptive history including our creation design and redemptive calling as men and women.

The covenant is sovereignly initiated and sustained. “For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people” (Jer. 31:33).

Covenant is relational. God designed and created us to live in relationship with Him. He redeems us to restore that relationship. He adopts us into His family so we are united to one another. It is not just an idea to understand; it is a way of life.

The covenant is transformative. The Holy Spirit transforms us from one degree of glory to another (2 Cor. 3:18) so we increasingly reflect His glory to each other.

Covenant is familial. From the beginning God worked through a family. The story begins with a garden wedding (Gen. 2:22-25) and a command to be fruitful and multiply (Gen. 1:28), and it will end with a marriage supper (Rev. 19:9).

Covenant is corporate. The family became a family of families, a nation of God’s covenant people who are to live in community with one another.

Covenant is generational. Throughout the Old Testament one generation is commanded to tell the next generation. Then, before His ascension, the resurrected, victorious Jesus expands the command and repeats the promise: “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations . . . And behold I am with you always” (Matt. 28:18-20).

Covenant is compassionate. God is a God of compassion and we are to be a people of compassion.

Covenant is integrative. It is the thread that holds Scripture together and shows its purpose, continuity and connections.

Covenant is the guarantee of our “inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who by God’s power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time” (1 Pet. 1:4-5), so it empowers us to live in the reality that we are “heirs according to promise” (Gal. 3:29).

As you pray and plan for life and ministry ask:

How can these characteristics be reflected in our Women’s Ministry?

How can they be reflected in my life?

4. Ephesians 1: THE COVENANT OF REDEMPTION

vv. 3-6: The Father chose us in Christ before creation . . . In love He predestined us for adoption . . . to the praise of His glorious grace

vv. 7-12: Christ redeemed us through His blood . . . that we might be to the praise of His glory

vv. 13-14: The Holy Spirit seals, applies and guarantees our redemption . . . to the praise of His glory.

WSC Q. 1. What is the chief end of man? A. Man’s chief end is to glorify God and to enjoy Him forever.

5. Genesis 1-3: Five Foundational Principles, Covenant of Works; Covenant of Grace

Genesis 1: Creation

#1: God is our reference point - v. 1 In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.

#2: God's Word is our authority - v. 3 And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light.

#3: God's glory is our purpose - v. 26 Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness."

#4: Gender distinctiveness is God's plan - v. 27-28. . . . male and female he created them.

- Equally in God's image – but different
- Cultural mandate: "And God blessed them. And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply . . . and have dominion"

Genesis 2:7-15: God's Male Design

Genesis 2:16: COVENANT OF WORKS

- Man's calling: headship, representative of mankind in covenant of works

Genesis 2:18: God's Female Design

Then the LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him."

The Hebrew word translated helper is ezer. In the OT it often refers to God as our Helper.

Helper/Life-Giver	Hinderer/Life-taker
Exodus 18:4 Defends	attacks
Psalms 10:14 Sees, cares for oppressed	indifferent, unconcerned for oppressed
Psalms 20:2 Supports	weakens
Psalms 33:20 Shields, protects	leaves unprotected
Psalms 70:5 Delivers from distress	causes distress
Psalms 72:12-14 Rescues poor, weak, needy	ignores poor, weak, needy
Psalms 86:17 Comforts	causes discomfort

- Woman's helper design and life-giving mission can be summarized as **community** and **compassion**, which are characteristics of covenant life. The life-taker is **divisive** and **destructive**.

Genesis 3:1-14 Fall

Genesis 3:15 COVENANT OF GRACE

And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel."

- Genesis 3:20 Adam named his wife Eve, because she would become the mother of all the living.
Eve: sounds like Hebrew word for life-giver.

1 John 5:12 Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

Woman's creation design: _____

Woman's redemptive calling: _____

Woman's helper design and life-giving mission can be summarized as **community** and **compassion**, which are characteristics of covenant life. The life-taker is **divisive** and **destructive**.

- How can such a reversal happen? The Covenant

Genesis 3:21 And the Lord God made for Adam and for his wife garments of skins and clothed them.

Foundational Principle #5: The covenant of grace is a promise of life, a promise of His presence, and His presence is the power that transforms us.

6. Genesis 4: Life outside Garden - Transformation

v. 1: "I have gotten a man with the help of the Lord."

v. 25: "God has appointed for me another offspring instead of Abel, for Cain killed him."

The Way of Cain

The Way Of Christ

⁹Then the LORD said to Cain, "Where is Abel your brother?"

He said, "I do not know; am I my brother's keeper?" . . .

¹⁶Then Cain went away from the presence of the LORD and settled in the land of Nod, east of Eden.

¹⁷Cain knew his wife, and she conceived and bore Enoch. When he built a city, he called the name of the city after the name of his son, Enoch . . .

- Cain shows our individualistic inclination
- Jesus restores and transforms us to His image

John 17:22-23 The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me.

2 Cor. 3:18. And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.

7. The Church

Ex. 40:34. Then the cloud covered the tent of meeting, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle.

Numbers 2:1-2 The LORD spoke to Moses and Aaron, saying, "The people of Israel shall camp each by his own standard, with the banners of their fathers' houses. They shall camp facing the tend of meeting on every side.

Matt. 16:18 "I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."

- 1 Thessalonians 2:7-8 We were gentle among you, like a nursing mother taking care of her own children. So, being affectionately desirous of you, we were ready to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you had become very dear to us.

Covenantal discipleship is informational, relational, transformational

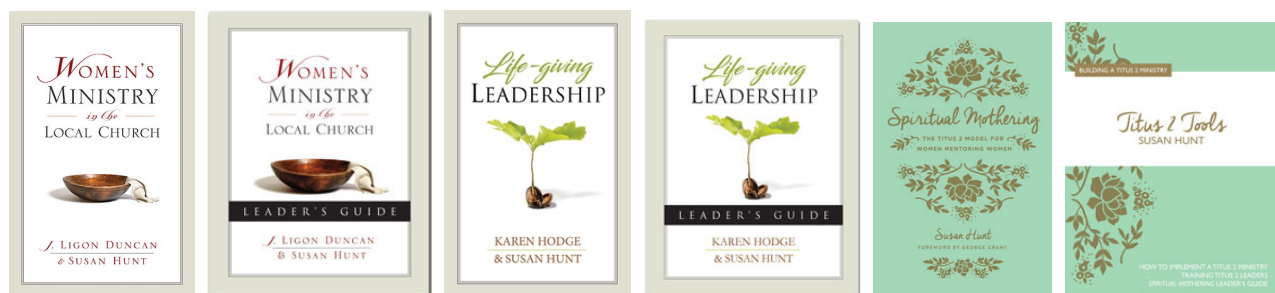
8. Biblical Principles for Women's Ministry in the Local Church

- (1) 1 Timothy 2:9-15 - Ecclesiastical headship/submission
- (2) 1 Timothy 3:11 - Covenant Compassion
- (3) 1 Timothy 5:1-16 - Covenant Community
- (4) Titus 2:3-5 - Gender-specific discipleship
- (5) 2 Timothy 3:1-9, 14-16 - Scripture

- Discipleship happens in the context of sound preaching.
- Teach the content of the gospel in the context of relationships that reflect God's glory.
- Some discipleship is to be gender-specific.

APPLICATION

1. Our women's ministry is event/project-driven (or personality-driven). How can we begin developing a covenantal approach that equips women to think biblically and live covenantally?
2. In conversations with women in my church, I realize that many do not think biblically about gender. How can we begin discipling them to understand, embrace and fulfill their helper design and life-giver calling?
3. There are not meaningful relationships between older and younger women in our church. What are some ways we can begin helping develop Titus 2 relationships?
4. There is very little connection between the Women's Ministry and other ministries in the church. How can a Women's Ministry team equip women to cultivate covenant life in the church family? What are some ways we can support/serve other ministries?





English as a Second Language (ESL) and Refugee & Immigrant Ministries:
Co-Sponsors of the CDM Women's Ministry Leadership Training

How will YOU someday answer the question from Jesus:
"I was a stranger in your land. Did you welcome me?"



MNA
**Refugee
& Immigrant
Ministry**

SCAN FOR MORE INFO!



pcamna.org/ministry/refugee-and-immigrant-ministry/
Contact: Angela Pacey | apacey@pcanet.org

PCA Mission to North America (MNA)
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- Encourages local PCA churches to **mobilize** the unique skills, interests, experiences, and passions of their **members to welcome**, serve, disciple and partner with refugees and immigrants
- **Collaborates with MNA ESL** (English as a Second Language) Ministry to provide comprehensive support to churches serving the sojourner in their midst.
- **Cross-cultural training**



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- Cross-cultural training

SCAN FOR MORE INFO!



pcamna.org/ministry/esl-ministries

Contact: Nancy Booher
nbooher@pcanet.org

Church: Living Out the Story Together Courtney Denton, Tatiana Anderson

1. It's not me and God. It's _____ and God. Genesis 17:7

Case Study Part One:

Beth and her family moved to a new city across the country in the fall before the global pandemic. The move was stressful for the family and Beth was overwhelmed with finding the right school for her three kids and getting plugged into the new community. While she wanted to find a church with solid biblical teaching, women's Bible study, engaging youth group and opportunities for her family to get connected, she struggled to navigate all the changes at once. She missed her old church and the friendships she's established over the years. The move left her disconnected and lonely, often wondering if she would find community and friendships again. She was floundering as she tried to care for her family and find meaningful connections. Deep down Beth wanted to find a place to belong and for her family to be known and welcomed. With her husband traveling for work most days during the week, the weekends became the only time for the family to be together. Both she and her husband exhausted, they didn't have much margin to look for a church and put that decision off for the following week. As the weeks went on, Beth felt more disconnected and lonely.

Discussion questions:

Have you ever felt like Beth? What has encouraged you to move towards community, instead of isolation?

2. God's _____ is His promise. Ephesians 5:25-27

Case Study: Part Two

One evening, when Beth's family was having dinner at home, a neighbor stopped by with a welcome basket to meet Beth's family. Julie, a recently widowed older woman, lived several houses down from Beth. Julie was kind and friendly, and she was the first person to welcome Beth in her new city. Julie spent focused time getting to know Beth and her family, and she became a regular visitor in their home. The holidays were approaching, and Julie knew that Beth missed her old church and friends, and she invited Beth to attend a women's Christmas gathering at her church. It had been several months since Beth and her family had been to church and she was nervous about going with Julie. She wondered, "How will I get plugged in? Will there be a way for me to serve? Will I be accepted there?"

Beth met many kind and welcoming women at the gathering and her family attended that church the following Sunday. She decided she wanted to get involved with the women's ministry there and reached out to Julie for help. Beth quickly discovered that there wasn't one person who coordinated women's ministry, but a team of women, with Julie being one of the co-leaders. Julie helped Beth navigate getting involved in serving the church and using her gifts to bless others.

Discussion questions:

What is one or two ways your church and your Women's Ministry provide access points for new people to be welcomed? How does a team-based model rather than a positional leadership model allow more opportunities for women to become engaged?

3. We have a _____ to play. Ephesians 4:11-13

Case Study: Part Three

As Beth continued to attend the church, worship, and grow in God's Word, she became more connected with Julie and other women, and got involved with serving in the Women's Ministry. Beth got to know the stories of the women she served alongside on a deeper level and learned about God's work in their lives through various challenging and joyful situations. Getting connected to a body of believers, remembering the value and the blessing of gospel-filled community, and finding ways to love and serve the church helped Beth to flourish in the place where God had her in that moment in her life's story.

God continued to work in Beth's heart by deepening her understanding of what the church is and renewing her love for God's people. She decided to invite a group of moms from her son's school over for coffee and get to know them. One of them was having a particularly challenging time with her daughter and felt discouraged and lost. Beth knew that her friend could use encouragement and support. She shared the hope of Christ with the mom and invited her to church.

Discussion questions:

- What is one take away principle you can use to encourage the women at your church to live intentionally as a light for the gospel in their homes and neighborhoods?

Questions to consider:

1. How has your view of the church expanded in light of God's presence in community?
2. How are the women in your church practicing sharing in one another's gifts and graces?
3. How is your women's ministry developing community with women in the church and how is it extending the borders of community to women outside of the church?

Recommended Resources:

- *A Place to Belong: Learning to Love the Local Church*, Megan Hill
- *The Covenantal Life: Appreciating the Beauty of Theology and Community*, Sarah Ivill
- *The Communion of Saints: Living in Fellowship with the People of God*, Philip Ryken
- *The Church: Living Faithfully as the People of God—Collected Insights from A. W. Tozer*

Workshop #3

Compassionate Care: How God's Story Comforts Our Hard Ones

Elizabeth Turnage, Allison Van Egmond

1. Creation reveals the design for compassionate care.
2. The Fall reveals the obstacles to compassionate care and the reasons compassionate care is essential.
3. Redemption reveals the compassionate care we have received and our calling and equipping for compassionate care.
4. Consummation reveals the hope we can offer as we care for others.

Recommended Resource:

- *From Recovery to Restoration*, Elizabeth Turnage
- *What Grieving People Wish You Knew*, Nancy Guthrie

Workshop #4

Community: Not a One-Woman Script

Chandra Oliver, Meaghan May

Gospel-Grounded Community

ACT 1: HOW OUR DESIGN REFLECTS THE GOD-HEAD

ACT 2: HOW THE FALL FRACTURED COMMUNITY

Independence or interdependence?

ACT 3: HOW THE CROSS PROVIDES ACCESS TO ADOPTION INTO
GOD'S COVENANT FAMILY

ACT 4: HOW WE WILL BE GATHERED TOGETHER ONE DAY IN A
GREAT FAMILY REUNION

a “me” or “we” approach to community

Recommended Resources:

- *The Covenantal Life*, Sarah Ivill
- *Perfect Unity*, Ralph Cunnington
- *The Gospel-Centered Community*, Robert Thune and Will Walker

Workshop #5

Communication: How Our Words Can Reflect His Story

Susan Tyner, Eden Flora

Proverbs 16:24: “Gracious words are like a honeycomb, sweetness to the soul and health to the body.”

Big Question: How does God ask me to use my words for good? How am I tempted to use my words for either my good or in sinful ways?

Case Study One: Gossip

Linda comes to Bible Study every week ready to learn and invest in the women she encounters. She makes sure everyone in small group is welcomed and included. But when it comes to prayer time at the close of small group, Linda uses her “prayer requests” to gossip about her community. Anya, the small group leader and new mom, is much younger than Linda, a retiree and grandmother. Anya is grateful for Linda’s inclusion of all members of the group but doesn’t know how to wisely encourage Linda to respect others.

Case Study Two: Criticism

Emma has recently become the Women's Ministry Coordinator at her church and is seeking to lead the women in her church in a godly way. She loves her job and caring for the women in her community. After prayerfully considering and discussing with her women's ministry team, Emma decided to change the long standing Women's Christmas Brunch to a multi-generational Christmas Craft Night. Emma and the team felt the new event was life giving and encouraging to women of the church. But a few days after the event, Sonia and Zuri confronted Emma after Sunday morning worship explaining they found the event to be frivolous. Sonia and Zuri said they appreciated Emma's hard work but wished they could have had an event that pushed the women to dwell on advent and God's word. Emma feels defeated, embarrassed and confused. She isn't sure what to do with this complaint.

Case Study Three: Conflict

Teresa is the Women's Ministry Coordinator at her church and has begun to dread her Women's Ministry Meetings. Her team is made up of mostly her best friends plus a few big characters. Teresa finds it very difficult to work in particular with Angelica, the event's coordinator on her team. Angelica is a really big personality. Teresa values her input, but she feels frustrated as Angelica dishes out advice endlessly and doesn't give everyone a chance to voice their thoughts. Teresa doesn't know how to lead Angelica well and feels stuck. Teresa just wants to avoid Angelica but that isn't working. And Teresa's best friends complain and ask her to fix Angelica talking too much in the meetings!

Case Study Four: The Words We Don't Say

Elizabeth is a member of the working moms' small group that meets once every two weeks over her lunch break. The group's purpose is to connect working moms, build community, and be a place to talk about success and struggle among God's people. Elizabeth loves this group and gravitates toward her close friends in the group. Elizabeth is so tired and worn out; she wants to come to the group and be poured into. She knows she needs to encourage and pour into others too, but she just doesn't have the energy! Elizabeth endlessly feels guilty about building up her own relationships in the group and her unconcern for those in the group without friends. She keeps telling her husband how she feels bad about it, but she has made no move to change.

Case:	Creation: <i>Everything was as God meant it to be! Genesis 1-2</i>	Fall: <i>Tragic intrusion of sin, death, & brokenness. Genesis 3</i>	Redemption: <i>God promises to redeem His fallen image bearers through Christ. Romans 6:23</i>	Consummation /Restoration: <i>Fulfillment of God's plan to live with us in a new and restored world. Rev 21:1-5</i>	Summary: <i>How does/can/ will God use words to accomplish redemption in this case? To push back sin?</i>

Gospel Lens for Life



God's Story (Art by David Arms)
Your Story, My Story
Living in the Now and Not Yet

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Workshop #6

Teaching the Bible with a Big Story Framework: Taking His Story to Theirs

Teri Anderson, Creigh Brown

1. **PRAYER – *Truth is revealed***...cannot be understood by man apart from God imparting understanding.
 - Ephesians 1:12
 - 1 Corinthians 2:12-13
2. **OBSERVATION – *What does this passage say? Read it all the way through first.***
 - **Ask WHO?** *Who was the author? Who was the original audience?*
 - **Ask WHEN & WHERE?** *When was this passage written? Where is the setting?*
 - Use a Biblical timeline to help answer these first facts.
 - **Ask HOW?** *How is this passage presented as genre (narrative, poetry, wisdom literature, letter, etc.)*
 - **Ask WHAT?** *What is the subject or theme of the passage?*
 - Identify and mark KEY WORDS that are repeated over two times.
 - Key words can lead to SUBJECTS, so take time to list facts concerning each Key Word and the SUBJECTS will “reveal themselves!”
 - Subjects can lead to the MAJOR THEMES.
 - **Ask WHY?** *Why is this passage possibly included in the Bible?*
3. **CONTEXT – *How does this passage fit into Scripture? Don’t isolate the passage. Why not?***
 - What is the **narrow** context? How does this passage fit into the paragraph or the chapter?
 - What is the **broader** context? How does this passage fit into the book?
 - What is the **big picture** context? How does this passage fit into all of Scripture?

SMALL GROUPS: Let’s practice together!

4a. FRAMEWORK defined – How does the passage fit in the big picture framework of redemptive history?

CREATION

FALL

REDEMPTION

- Genesis 3:15
- God _____ to call His _____ into His _____ for His _____ into the _____ where He dwells.

CONSUMMATION

- Revelation 21:2-4, 22
- New Heavens & New Earth
- GLORIFICATION

The CHURCH: God's Presence throughout the Redemption Timeline

- **Garden:**
- **Tabernacle:**
- **Temple:**
- **Jesus:** John 1:14
Sinless Life
Atoning Death – Romans 3:21-26
- **Bride of Christ:**
Galatians 3:7
1 Corinthians 3:16-17
- **New Heaven & New Earth:**

4b. **FRAMEWORK identified**

How does the passage fit into the framework of redemptive history? If Redemption, during which era of God's Presence with His People does it fall into or reference?

- ❖ CREATION
- ❖ FALL
- ❖ REDEMPTION
- ❖ CONSUMMATION

5. **INTERPRETATION – What does this passage mean?** What does **God** mean here?

- 2 Timothy 3:16
- Common interpretation errors:

6. **CORRELATION – How does this passage fit together with other parts of Scripture?** Because God's Word is inerrant, conclusions and application must not contradict other scripture.

- Is this passage Law or Gospel? (Imperative/command vs. declarative/promise)
- What is this passage's relationship to Jesus?

7. **APPLICATION – How is God asking me to respond? How does the passage apply to us?**

- **Individually:** When the redeemed study God's Word, we are re-created.
 - Romans 12:1-2
 - God is glorified in our transformation.
- **Corporately:** A biblical, redemptive perspective knows that our union with Christ unites us to one another.
 - This privilege carries the responsibility to share our gifts and graces for the mutual good.
 - 1 Peter 2:10
 - Thinking Biblically
 - Living Covenantally
 - Discipleship has eternal implications
 - Making disciples is our ultimate quest (Matthew 28)
 - 1. Kingdom-focused heart
 - 2. Biblically Reformed mind
 - 3. Service-driven life
- **Teacher Tip:** What discussion questions might be useful?

SMALL GROUPS: Let's practice together!

Recommended Resources: *Women of the Word*, Jen Wilkins; *Far As the Curse Is Found*, Michael Williams; *Big Picture of the Bible Timeline*, Susan Tyner; *Bible Studies*, Kathleen Nielson

Applying the Big Story Framework to Specific Scripture Case Study

Scripture Passage: _____

Observation (What does this passage say?):

- Ask who, what, when, where, why and how?
- Original audience? Author? Genre?
- Key words?

Context (How does this passage fit....?):

- Narrow context (...into the chapter)?
- Broader context (...into the book)?
- Big Picture context (...into all of Scripture)?

Framework (How does this passage fit into Redemptive History?):

- Creation, Fall, Redemption, Consummation (Restoration)

Interpretation (What does this passage mean?):

- Watch out for grammar/world-view errors!

Correlation (How does this passage fit with other passages of Scripture?):

Application (How does this apply to me/us to respond?):

- Individual response? Corporate response?
- What discussion questions might be useful?
- Head, Heart, Hands?

Studying Scripture together sanctifies us to glorify God as we live out our faith, investing in things that are eternal, taking His Story to theirs.

A woman with shoulder-length brown hair, seen from behind, is walking down a busy city street at night. She is wearing a brown sweater and a large maroon backpack. The street is filled with blurred lights from buildings, cars, and motorcycles, creating a bokeh effect. The overall mood is one of solitude amidst a bustling environment.

Will You Remind Her That She's Not Alone?

The life of an international missionary can feel daunting.

Far from home. In a land that doesn't speak your language. In spite of a clear calling, serving alongside family and embedded in a team, a missionary can experience isolation, a sense of overwhelm, and loneliness.

Mission to the World's Member Care Department was created to help provide missionaries with emotional support and encouragement. But, with almost 550 missionaries, we need support in the effort.

You can help. By praying, sending encouraging words, or giving a gift, you can provide an important connection to home, to the church, and to a loving community of co-missionaries.

Meet the need together with a community group, Bible study group, or on your own. Thank you for helping us care for those serving God's mission around the world. *Want more?* Sign up for a webinar to learn how to care for missionaries.

Learn more about our *How To Care For Missionaries* webinar



mtw
Mission to the World
mtw.org/events

Leadership: Fallen Leaders and Followers

How do we not lose heart in ministry?

Jamie Voss, Janet LaRocque

Scripture passage: 2 Corinthians 4:1, 5-18 ESV

Therefore, having this ministry by the mercy of God, we do not lose heart.

⁵For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. ⁶For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us. ⁸We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair;⁹ persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed;¹⁰ always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies. ¹¹For we who live are always being given over to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh. ¹²So death is at work in us, but life in you.

¹³Since we have the same spirit of faith according to what has been written, "I believed, and so I spoke," we also believe, and so we also speak, ¹⁴knowing that he who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus and bring us with you into his presence. ¹⁵For it is all for your sake, so that as grace extends to more and more people it may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.

¹⁶So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day. ¹⁷For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, ¹⁸as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.

How Do We Not Lose Heart in Ministry?

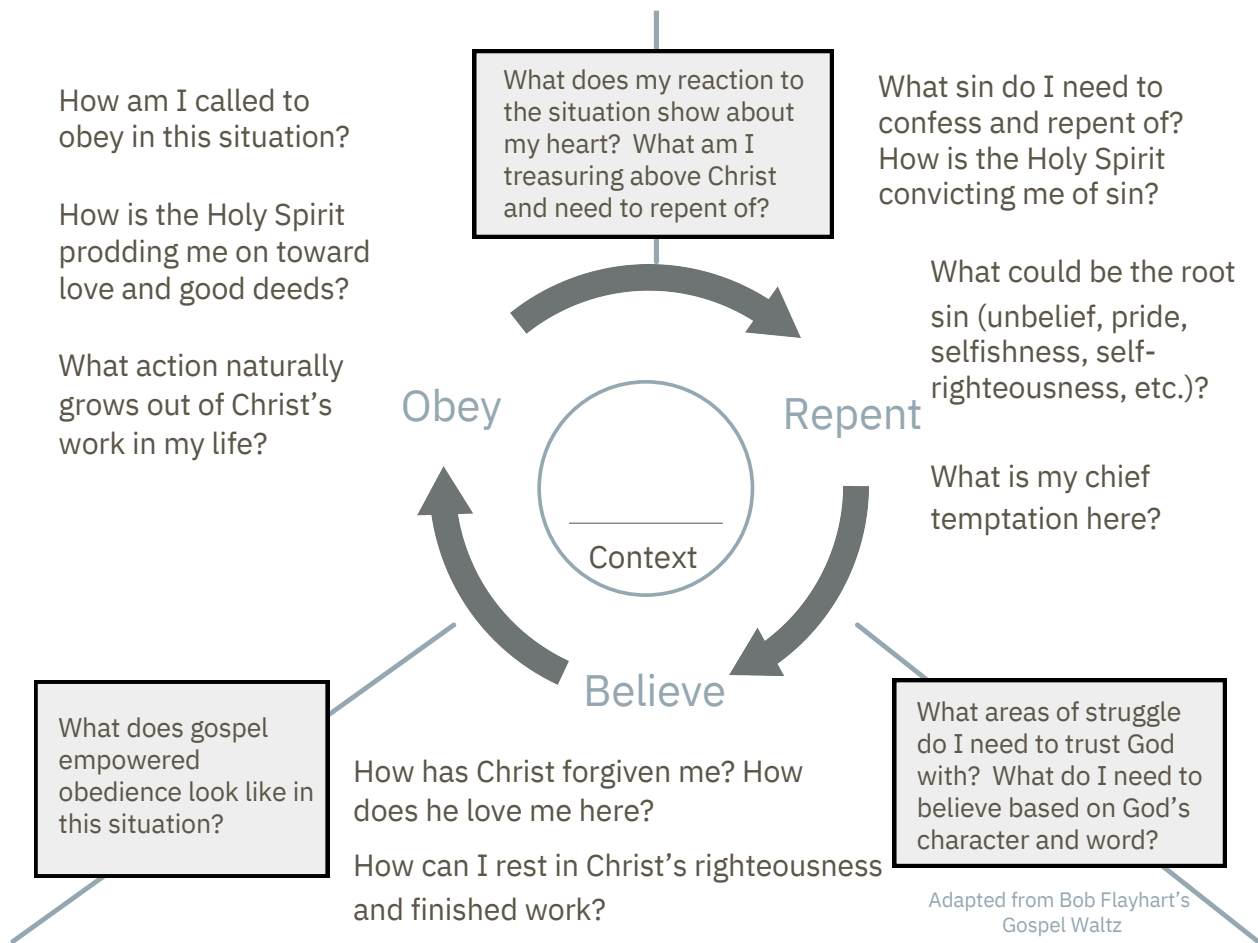
1. By Remembering That Our Ministry Is Ultimately About God, Not Ourselves

2. By Recognizing That Our Afflictions Shape Us to Be More Like Jesus

3. By Trusting that God is Working and will Redeem All Things

Recommended Resource:

- *J Curve*, Paul Miller
- *The Freedom of Self Forgetfulness*, Tim Keller
- *The Gospel Waltz*, Bob Flayhart and Holly Mackle



Workshop #8

Complicated Relationships: The Plot Thickens— A Leader, a Women's Ministry, and a Happy Ending

Connie Miller, Melanie Cogdill

1. The Portrait of a Peace-Maker
2. The Posture of a Peace-Maker
3. The Practice of a Peace-Maker
4. Conclusion: An Oxymoron — “Fight for Peace”

Recommended Resource:

- *The Peacemaker*, Ken Sande

Life-giving Leadership Chart

	Life-Giving Leadership	Life-Hindering Leadership
Ultimate Goal	God's glory	Man's or institution's glory
Posture	Humble Transparent & approachable	Ambitious & proud Hypocritical & unapproachable
Mission	To lay down life and serve To encourage and equip others to fulfill their God-given design	To take life and to be served To conform others to a self-interested agenda
Seeks	Approval of God God's will	Approval of man My will
Orientation	Covenantal: "It's God's ministry"	Autonomous: "It's my ministry"
Assurance	Christ-confident	Self-confident
Reference Point	God's Word	The world
First Response	Pray Faith and belief	Demand Fear and unbelief
Heart Condition	Chief repenter	Quick to shift blame
Conflict	Peace-making is pursued	Covered and unresolved
Cultivates	Safe & secure environment	Unsafe & insecure environment
Ministry Motivations	Covenant driven	Consumer driven
Bottom Line	Impossible without God's strength	Possible in man's strength and gifts

Case STUDY:

"Jane is coordinator of the women's ministry. She knows the team is frustrated because Christy failed to show up, again. She senses their resentment as they decide who will do the things Christy was supposed to do for the upcoming event. Finally, Megan says what everyone is thinking, 'Maybe we should ask Christy to resign so we can get someone else to take over her responsibilities.'"

(*Life-giving Leadership*, p. 110)

Here are a few resources you will find there.

<https://pcacdm.org/ministries/older-adult-ministry/>

1

Aging Parents

Caring for an Aging Parent by Byron Peters (booklet for Kindle edition for purchase).

Making Good Return: Biblical Wisdom on Honoring Aging Parents by Kathleen Nielson (book, available for purchase).

2

Grief and End-of-Life

After the Loss: This PDF written by Briarwood pastors for care of families after the death of a loved one could serve as a template for your church or as a guide for people needing guidance after loss.

3

Older Adults Ministry Vision and Activities

Trailblazers ministry by and for older adults, vision and list of programs through 2016. (Scan QR Code below to find this handout.)

4

Caregiving

Scan the QR Code below to find multiple articles on caregiving and medicine at the end of life.

5

Preparing Your Legacy

Wills, passwords, advance directives, essential information. Scan the QR Code to find out what you need to gather and how to do it.

Scan the QR Code to find the resources mentioned above. Don't see a resource you need? Email etlivingstory@gmail.com, and we will try to find one for you!

<https://pcacdm.org/ministries/older-adult-ministry/>



Tool Talks

Event Planning – Kathy Wargo, kwargo@pcanet.org

Recommended Resource:

- <https://pcacdm.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Securing-Your-Next-Guest-Speaker.pdf>

Top Ten Things to Consider When Picking a Bible Study – Eden Flora, edenwflora@gmail.com

Recommended Resource:

- <https://women.pcacdm.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/Curriculum-Rubric-JAN15-Final.pdf>

Does Your Women's Ministry Need a Check-up? – Chandra Oliver, Chandra.oliver@me.com

Recommended Resource:

- <https://pcacdm.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Womens-Ministry-Diagnostic-Tool.pdf>

Running a Life-giving Team Meeting – Courtney Denton, cdenton@wpcgo.com

Recommended Resource:

- <https://pcacdm.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Pray-Play-Plan.pdf>

Visit our website where you will find valuable resources!

<https://women.pcacdm.org>

Women's Ministry Resources

- Resources for Your Bible Studies
- Summer Study Recommendations
- Leadership Training...Women's Ministry Helpful Resources
 - Leadership Development Resources – 3-Year Plan
 - Women's Ministry Leadership (Local Church)
 - Presbytery Women's Ministry
 - Women's Ministry Diagnostic Tools
 - Women's Ministry Bible Study and Small Groups
 - Life-giving Leadership
- Other Helpful Resources
 - *Titus 2 & Spiritual Mothering*; *My True Teen* Discipleship Materials; *Aging with Grace*; *Marriage*; *Motherhood*; Videos; Women's Conference Audio and Content
- Women's Ministry Training at Your Church by a Trainer



Securing Your Next Guest Speaker

Questions to consider: *Questions your team should know before you make the call.*

- What is the purpose of the event?
- Does the speaker have certain topics they have already developed or will you ask them to develop a topic?
- What do you hope will happen as a result of this event?
- How does this speaker's content help you advance the spiritual formation of your women? Will it complement the overall mission and vision of your church?
- What are the speaker's theological convictions?
- What is your budget for a speaker?
- Does this speaker have a set fee?
- What are your women currently studying? What is the current sermon series?
- What is your intended audience? (Christian/Non-Christian or mixed, young girls, older women, young moms)
- What is the schedule of your event? Are you open to the speaker's input on this?

Communication is key: *Hints towards building a relationship with a speaker.*

- Prayer is one of the most important aspects of communication. Ask early and often about how you can pray for the speaker.
- Assign one person to be the point person for all vital communication by writing, phone or email.
- Communicate in writing exactly what you are asking a speaker to do and any deadlines for publicity or travel arrangements that are needed.
- Discuss travel arrangements early: Will they travel by air? Do they have a frequent flier account? Will they make their own arrangements and be reimbursed or will the team make the arrangements? Will there be someone to pick them up from the airport and if so, how will they connect? Will they be driving and will you reimburse mileage? Make sure to give them detailed directions. Take into consideration whether the speaker is traveling between time zones.
- Setting an honorarium: Consider the number of times they will speak, preparation time, travel time, and any other costs that would be involved.
- Send the speaker all event publicity pieces.
- Will the speaker have handouts that need to be copied?
- Do they have any audio/visual, equipment or teaching tools needs?

Care for the speaker: *Caring for you speaker will yield big benefits*

- Assign a few women to care for the speaker prior to the event through prayer and sending notes of encouragement.
- While onsite, have those same women as liaisons to care for the immediate needs of the speaker: getting water, problem solving, etc.
- Does the speaker have a preference on where they will stay, in a home or hotel?
- What are some of the speaker's favorite things? Perhaps prepare a gift basket with favorite snack or drinks.
- Make sure to follow-up with thanksgiving and helpful feedback for the speaker.

- Karen Hodge

Women's Ministry Resource

Curriculum Evaluation Form

Date of Evaluation: _____

Overall Score: _____

Curriculum Evaluated: _____

Intended Participants: _____

Curriculum's Purpose: _____

	Weak (Rate: 0-3)	Average (Rate: 4-6)	Proficient (Rate: 7-10)
—Whole Person Learning— We desire for our curriculum to challenge each participant to learn & process Scripture in three main domains: intellectually, emotionally & with volition [with our Head, Heart & Hands].	Curriculum makes note of at least one domain, but does little to move the learner from head knowledge -to heart- to hands.	Curriculum notes two domains, but sharply ends. Leaves the learner confused & without posing the questions, "So What? Or What Next?"	Curriculum moves through all three domains, challenging head knowledge, heart recognition & need for implementing into real life experience. Encourages the questions, "So What?" Or "What Next?"
—Diverse Methodology— Does our curriculum seek to present more than one method to help increase learning? -Visuals/Charts -Brainstorming -Types of Questions -Reading aloud	Little to no diversity in methodology within the curriculum.	Two or more methodologies that engage different learners & seek to increase learning.	A wide variety of methodologies are utilized in this curriculum to seek to increase learning.
—Learner Motivation— Our curriculum should seek to engage different types of learners by enhancing motivation through story, illustration, practical helps, historical reference material, etc.	Curriculum offers little to no helps in learner motivation.	Curriculum offers two or more helps in learner motivation.	Curriculum offers a wide variety of helps in learner motivation.
—Theological Framework— What we believe & the way Scripture is presented in curriculum matters. Does the curriculum fit within our reformed theological framework? [One continuous covenantal story] Creation/Fall/Redemption/Glory	Curriculum is loose & disjointed. Not in alignment with PCA doctrinal & theological standards. Pulls Scripture from various places with no context or overarching thought to "one continuous covenantal story."	Curriculum makes reference to reformed doctrine & theology, but presents Scripture with little context or overarching thought to "one continuous covenantal story."	Theology is reformed in nature & would fall in alignment with main doctrines & theology of the PCA. Expands well "one continuous covenantal story."
—Gospel Application— Does this curriculum promote a Spirit-led & grace motivated obedience to law application or rather a works righteousness & duty-based obedience application?	Curriculum weakly applies material in a grace motivated obedience to law application. Continually informs learner of more to "do" rather than focusing on "being" & our identity in Christ.	Curriculum is moderate in a grace motivated obedience to law application. Does not fully challenge the learner to move toward holiness based on identity in Christ solely, but rather still emphasizes works righteousness & duty-based obedience.	Curriculum applies a very strong gospel-oriented application. Focusing learner on Spirit led & obedience to law out of a response to the grace of the gospel.

Using this Rubric: Things to Consider While Evaluating Curriculum

One of the reasons to evaluate curriculum is to see the strengths and weaknesses of each material. Curriculum is designed to act as a guide, tool and resource for navigating God's people through His Word. Keep in mind fallible human beings who all have various gifts and strengths in creating this material (i.e., theological, educational theory, ability to apply to everyday life) have produced what is to be evaluated.

These five categories in this rubric are to be used as a grid to aid in allowing God's leaders in His church to better evaluate what is needed for their particular church context, philosophy of ministry, and desire for the study of God's Word.

1. Whole Person Learning: God designed human beings as image bearers of Himself. Therefore, we learn intellectually, emotively, and by volition. God's people grow in spiritual maturity in each of these domains. This category allows us to see the curriculum's emphasis or lack thereof.
2. Diverse Methodology: Different methods offered in curriculum allow for learning to occur in a variety of ways. Depending on the purpose of the curriculum/study there may be a need for more or less methodology.
3. Learner Motivation: This category can aid in understanding how much additional encouragement may be needed for the learners to engage with the material.
4. Theological Framework: This category is designed to allow the leaders to determine how much emphasis and priority is given to theological instruction. An additional teacher and/or resources may be needed to adjust a theological perspective that may differ from the PCA, but the curriculum itself has great strengths in many other categories.
5. Gospel Application: The desire is to utilize curriculum that points the learner to a Spirit and grace-oriented life application. This category aids to measure how the leaders may additionally need to emphasize or challenge a particular curriculum.

Other questions to consider while evaluating:

1. What is the primary purpose of this curriculum?
 - a. To foster spiritual maturity/formation?
 - b. Relational and community building?
 - c. Theological training?
 - d. All of the above?
 - e. Other?
2. How will church leaders and participants view this curriculum? As a tool, guide or resource? All three? None?
3. Will supplemental teaching, information and/or materials be needed to strengthen this curriculum?
4. What relationships might be challenged from using this curriculum? [i.e., church leaders, participants, others in the community]
5. What relationships might be strengthened from using this curriculum? [i.e., church leaders, participants, others in the community]
6. How does this curriculum fit within the local church values and leadership? Does it promote the values and leadership? Could this curriculum bring discord among the leadership and participants?

Jen Stegmann, January 2015

Women's Ministry Diagnostic Tool

This is a tool to help you evaluate:

- The overall health of your Women's Ministry
- A specific event or activity






Diagnostic Questions:

1. Why are we doing this?
2. How will this glorify God by reflecting his character?
3. What is this teaching women about the Biblical perspective of womanhood?
4. What is this teaching women about living covenantally and reflecting grace to one another?
5. Does this activity or task flow from Scripture?
6. How will this activity build community among women?
7. How will it build community with other members, age groups, and ministries of the church, presbytery, and denomination?
8. How does this extend the boundaries of the community to enfold those outside the church?
9. How does this demonstrate the compassion of Jesus?
10. Will what we do and how we do it give life to our church or suck life from it?
11. How are we showing our answers to the above questions to participants in the ministry so they understand why we do what we do?

Every activity will not accomplish all of the above, but each should accomplish some of the above.



PRAY—PLAY—PLAN

	 PRAY Transformational Leadership	 PLAY Relational Leadership	 PLAN Organizational Leadership
IDEAS	Intentional about Spiritual Formation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Study Scripture • Pray for one another • Read books together • Listen to teaching & discuss • Serve together 	Intentional about Building Community <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fellowship together • Practice peacemaking • Share your stories • Celebrate together • Comfort one another 	Intentional about Purposeful Planning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide an agenda • Dream together • Communicate Expectations • Respect people's time • Align with the mission & vision of the church • Remember follow-up
QUESTIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are we more like Christ individually & corporately? • How are older & younger women teaching one another? • How does our team & its tasks orient around scripture? 	<i>As as we build community on our team how is it also building community:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With the other women in our church across generations? • With the other ministries in our church? • Outside the walls of our church? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How does this plan bring glory to God? • How does this plan align with the leadership's mission & vision? • Is this plan life-giving or life-taking from our church?
RESULTS	Word Based Ministry Thinking Biblically	 Relationally Driven Ministry Living Covenantally	 Yields: Faithful, Purposeful, & Fruitful Ministry



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Fast Facts

90+

AREAS OF
STUDY

12

STUDY ABROAD
OPPORTUNITIES

12:1

STUDENT-TO-FACULTY
RATIO

96%

STUDENTS ENROLLED IN GRAD
SCHOOL OR WITH A FULL-TIME
JOB <1 YR AFTER GRADUATION

100%

FACULTY ADHERE TO
THE WESTMINSTER
CONFESSION OF FAITH

99%

STUDENTS
RECEIVE
FINANCIAL AID

36

STUDENT-LED CLUBS
ORGANIZATIONS, AND
INTRAMURAL SPORTS

14

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ATHLETIC TEAMS

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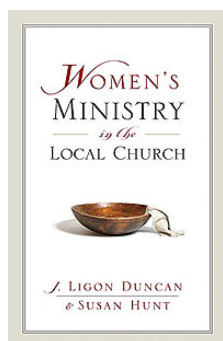
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Interested in building your Women's Ministry from the ground up?

1. Start with prayer.
2. Identify proven and potential leaders in your church and build a team.
3. Spend time aligning yourself with the vision and mission of your church's Session.
4. Make a strategic plan to invest in cultivating life-giving leaders with the suggested resources below.

Design your own reading plan. For example: One chapter a month to discuss at your team meeting, or you could plan a weekend leadership retreat to plan the year ahead. You don't have to reinvent the wheel as each book has its own leader's guide with discussion guides.

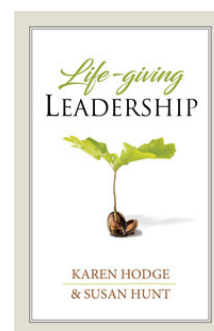


Year One:

Read and Discuss: [*Women's Ministry in the Local Church*](#) by Ligon Duncan and Susan Hunt. This is the "why" of complementarian leadership. Susan Hunt and Ligon Duncan walk women through the Scriptures to help them better understand what it means to have an effective, biblical women's ministry in the church.

Year Two:

Read and Discuss: [*Life-giving Leadership*](#) by Susan Hunt and Karen Hodge. This is the "how" of complementarian leadership. Life-giving leadership is grounded in God's Word, filled with the purpose of glorifying God, relationally driven and decidedly different than anything the world teaches us about leadership. Practical, inspiring, and filled with stories of women, like you, who want to know how to lead in a way that reflects Christ.

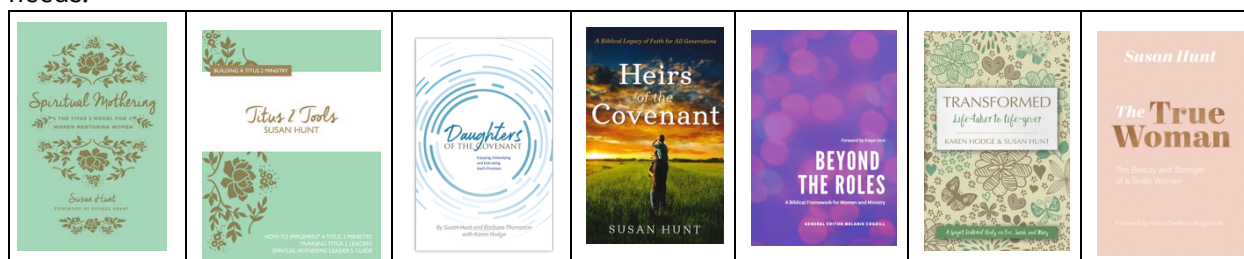


Between Year One & Two—Women’s Ministry Training:

We want to introduce your team to our Women’s Ministry Trainers in your region. That’s why we encourage you to bring one of our Women’s Ministry Trainers to your church. Let all of your church’s women hear about who God is and what He is calling them to be as women in the church, home, and workplace. The Regional Trainers can speak to the specific needs of your congregation and are a great way to connect your church to what the Lord is doing across the PCA and around the world. You can find out more information on CDM’s Women’s Ministry Page or go to: <https://women.pcacdm.org>

Year Three:

Read and discuss one of the following books. Pick a resource that reinforces your team’s specific needs.



- ***Spiritual Mothering*** and ***Titus 2 Tools***: To cultivate a Titus 2 Discipleship Culture in your church that equips older women to disciple younger women.
- ***Daughters of the Covenant***: Susan Hunt, Barbara Thompson and Karen Hodge combine their experience to teach new generations how God’s covenant promise and principles inform and influence every role and relationship, how they change attitudes, ambitions, and actions, and how they shape and sustain.
- ***Heirs of the Covenant***: Susan Hunt shares a covenantal understanding of education and discipleship to pass on to the next generation.
- ***Beyond the Roles***: Essays to reinforce how women apply biblical womanhood in the home, church, and workplace in the twenty-first century.
- ***Transformed***: A study of biblical women who were transformed from life-takers to life-givers.
- ***True Woman***: Written to reinforce the foundational principles of biblical womanhood.

We want the women in your church to understand the rich theology that flows from a biblical understanding of womanhood. As you equip your church’s women’s ministry for discipleship that is Word-based and relationally driven, these resources will help equip them to think biblically and covenantally about every aspect of their lives.

You can get all of these books plus their corresponding leader’s guides at the PCA Bookstore: www.pcabookstore.com.

You can also find more women’s ministry resources (including our Women’s Ministry Team members as well as written resources) on our website: women.pcacdm.org/resources.

LT NEXT STEPS



Name:

Email:

Church:

QUESTIONS

Interested in participating
in these webinars?

Bible Study
Leadership
Mar 4, 7pm

Men & Women
Working
Together
Mar 20, 7pm

Alongside
Care
Apr 8, 7pm

Presbytery
Women's
Ministry
Apr 10, 7pm

☐☐☐☐

Interested in learning more about bringing
a trainer to your church or presbytery?

☐

Interested in gathering a group for the 2025
Summer Study on *Colossians & Philemon*?

☐

GOSPEL PARTNERS

Interested in being a monthly prayer partner?

☐

Interested in giving monthly

\$25

\$50

\$100

Other:

☐☐☐

One Time Gift:

Give to the Love Gift Legacy Fund for WE & Geneva:

IT IS OUR JOY TO SERVE YOU &
YOUR CHURCH IN ANY WAY

Structure of the PCA

General Assembly: The body that oversees the work of all ministers and churches in the denomination. Currently, there are 5,247 Teaching Elders and 390,319 members in the PCA. The work of the General Assembly is accomplished through the agencies and committees.

5 Committees:

[Administrative Committee \(AC\)](#)

[Committee on Discipleship Ministries \(CDM\)](#)

[Mission to the World \(MTW\)](#)

[Mission to North America \(MNA\)](#)

[Reformed University Fellowship \(RUF\)](#)

5 Agencies:

[Covenant College \(CC\)](#)

[Covenant Theological Seminary \(CTS\)](#)

[PCA Foundation \(PCAF\)](#)

[Geneva Benefits](#)

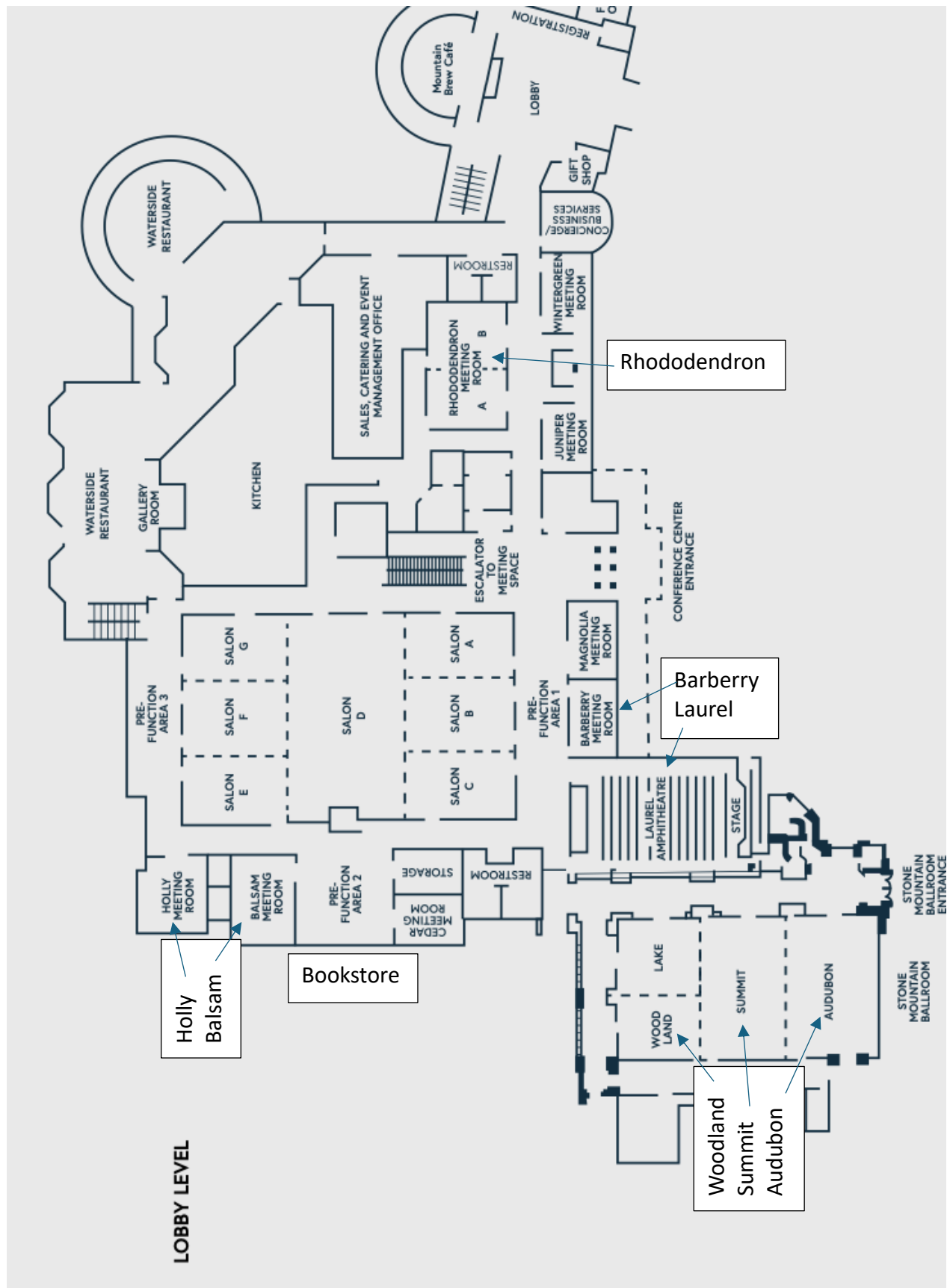
[Ridge Haven \(RH\)](#)

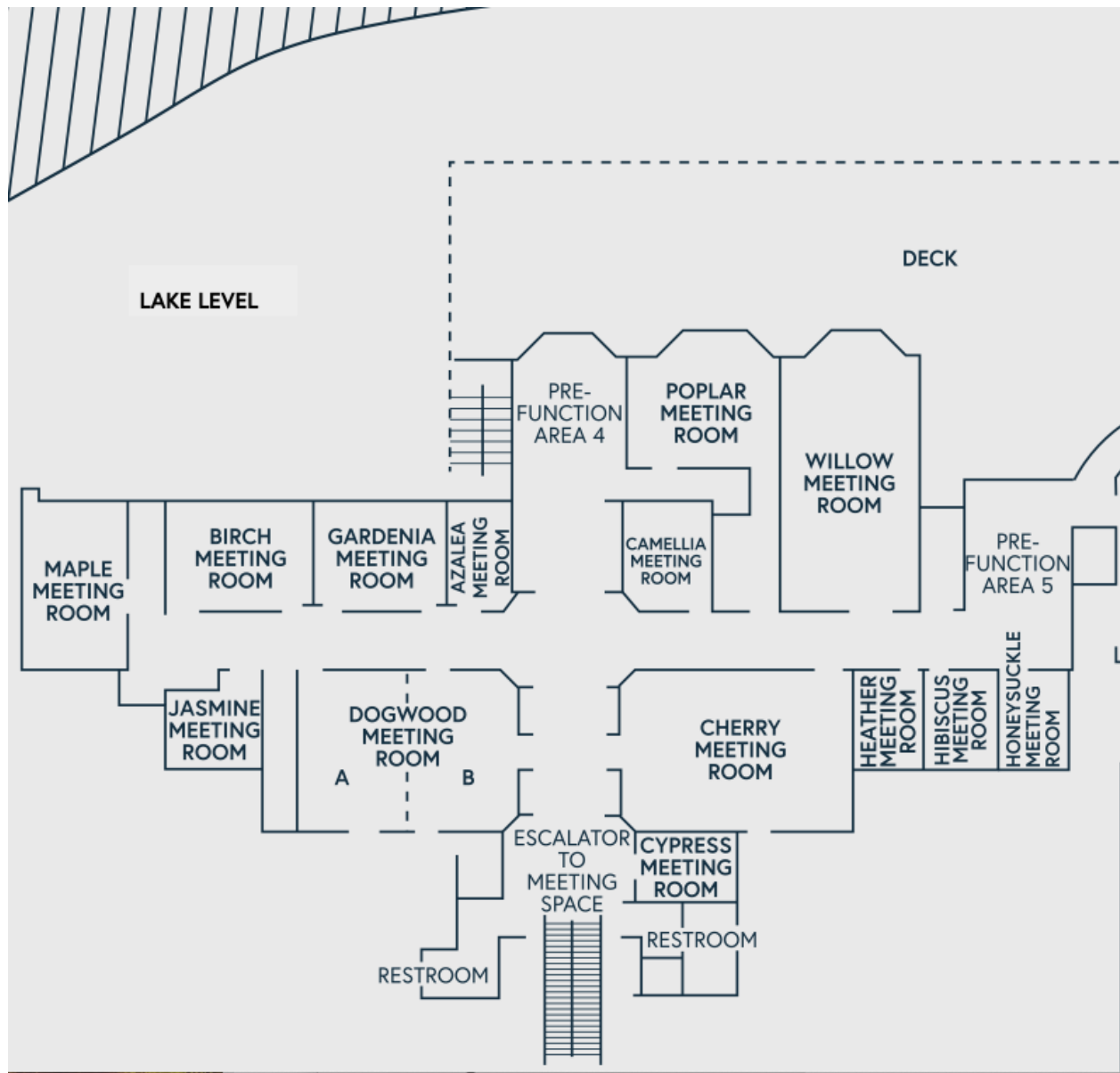


Presbytery: A regional body that oversees the work of ministers and churches in an area. There are 88 Presbyteries.

Local Church: A group of professing Christians gathered together for worship and godly living. A particular church is led by a Session, whose members are elected by the congregation. Currently there are 1,934 local churches in the PCA (1,645 particularized and 289 missions).

To see more stats from the Administrative Committee, go to <https://www.pcaac.org/resources/pca-statistics-five-year-summary/>





Lower Level:

- Cherry Meeting Room
- Willow Meeting Room

Exhibitor and Ministry Bingo Card

Return this to the box at the CDM Table or stage no later than Saturday morning at 8:30 am.

Name: _____

 <p>800.283.1357</p> <p>What year did Tim Schirm start to work in the PCA bookstore?</p>	 <p>Talk to someone on the WMI Team or attend the Connect Time with them on Friday afternoon.</p>	 <p>Read/listen to an enCourage blog or podcast. What is the current podcast series? Who do you contact if you want to write for the blog?</p>
 <p>Covenant College is 70 years old this year! Where was its first campus located?</p>	 <p>How many long-term and short-term MTW missionaries are there? How many countries around the world are served by MTW?</p>	 <p>Talk to someone at the Covenant Seminary booth and find out how you can access our "Communicating the Gospel" course lectures from Mary Beth McGreevy for free!</p>
 <p>Ask someone from Ridge Haven about their new Explorer's Project.</p>	 <p>How frequently does byFaith release new content?</p>	 <p>Ask a WE Connect Team member if they are a Ruling or Teaching Elder's Wife and where they live.</p>
 <p>What is the Organizing Your Life and Legacy Workshop and the Living Story Legacy Workshop?</p>		 <p>What is the name of one of the members on CDM's Older Adults Ministry Team?</p>
 <p>Who was the immigrant of all immigrants?</p>	 <p>What qualifications do you need to have to be an ESL (English as a Second Language) Ministry volunteer?</p>	 <p>Tell someone from a different church about a meaningful conversation you've had with a child or the name of a child you pray for.</p>



Coming Events

Children's Ministry Leadership Training Retreat – Ridge Haven, NC

March 17-20, 2025

Made for More Dallas

April 4-5, 2025

Made for More Chicago

May 2-3, 2025

General Assembly – Chattanooga, TN

June 23-27, 2025

Children's Ministry GROW Virtual Conference

August 8-9, 2025

PCA NextGen Conference – Baltimore, MD

October 20-22, 2025

W4—Women Working With Women (Paid Church Staff Women) Gathering – Charlotte, NC

October 27-29, 2025

Women's Ministry Leadership Training – Atlanta, GA

February 19-21, 2026



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