

**Synod of the Trinity's Second Annual**

# **Regional Connection for Partnership and Networking**

Regionals are May 11-19 at four sites.

**We gather** to bring together the people, presbyteries and congregations of our region in an effort to spark exploration and new ministry around and among us.

**We gather** to deepen our shared faith and to grow from the connections and partnerships that develop between us.

**We gather** to wonder together at where God is calling us, and to listen as we go forward to develop and resource common ministry.

*This is an opportunity for all of God's People!*

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS MONDAY, MAY 8, AT 5 P.M. Register [here](#) or at [SynTrinity.org](http://SynTrinity.org).**

#### **Daily Schedule**

9:30 a.m.	Registration and Fellowship
10:00 a.m.	Welcome and Morning Prayers
10:45 a.m.	<b>Targeted Conversation Groups*</b>
12:30 p.m.	Lunch
1:15 p.m.	Regional Updates Presbyterian Foundation: Financial Health Assessment
1:45 p.m.	<b>Worship/Conversation</b> <i>Remembering What Will Come: Embracing Our Identity as God's People in an Uncertain Age</i>
3:15 p.m.	Closing and Evaluation

**\*Targeted Conversation Groups:** Gather to ask questions, interact, test skills and envision faith and ministry around a particular topic. Conversations revolve around our need for and capacity to live as people for whom the final word is "resurrection." (See next page for conversation group and worship descriptions.)

#### **Regional Connection Dates and Sites**

(Presbytery designations are only suggestions; you may attend any site you wish. All are welcome!)

##### **SOUTHWEST REGION – Morgantown, WV**

**Thursday, May 11** – First Presbyterian Church of Morgantown

Presbyteries: Pittsburgh, Redstone, Upper Ohio Valley, Washington, West Virginia

##### **NORTHWEST REGION – Slippery Rock, PA**

**Friday, May 12** – Crestfield Camp & Conference Center

Presbyteries: Beaver-Butler, Kiskiminetas, Lake Erie, Shenango

##### **CENTRAL REGION – State College Area, PA**

**Thursday, May 18** – Krislund Camp & Conference Center, Madisonburg, PA

Presbyteries: Carlisle, Huntingdon and Northumberland

##### **EAST REGION – Allentown, PA**

**Friday, May 19** – First Presbyterian Church of Allentown

Presbyteries: Donegal, Lackawanna, Lehigh and Philadelphia



*Revealing Hope*

## Targeted Conversation Groups ([Click here for list of leadership by site](#))

**Please note:** Not all targeted conversation groups will be offered in every region. The minimum for a group will be six (6) participants.

### 1. Story Weaving: Learning to Let Your Part of the Gospel Story Arise

Wherever people gather, stories are being woven that bring to light our values and give meaning to life. As people of faith, we have a sacred call to tell our stories in a way that transforms, lifts hearts and gives witness to the resurrection. How can we tell our story in a way that informs our self-understanding, reveals our faith and guides our presence in the world? Come learn to tell the Gospel woven in your story so others may hear and see God's action in their own.

### 2. Cultivating Wonder, Curiosity and Awe (Not available at Krislund Camp location)

How do we access the part of ourselves that may best reflect the image of God? What gives us joy? When are we the most carefree? Do we move through life in response to a dirge or an Easter hymn? God desires that we claim a portion of our days for things that feed our sense of wonder and curiosity. What does that mean as we read scripture and encounter others? Let us explore together!

### 3. Into the Light: Joining the Conversation About Addiction (Available only in Northwest and Southwest Regions)

You are not alone. Our communities have discovered themselves in the grips of serious alcohol and other drug problems. Heroin, alcohol, cocaine and a host of other drugs are destroying families, homes, children, parents, grandparents, neighborhoods, communities and individuals. God does not wish us to be silent. Our call is not to speak harshly but lovingly of the hope and grace that comes by facing our sin. Join us in conversation as we hear about and consider concrete ways in which our congregations can make a difference and respond faithfully as partners toward healing and renewal.

### 4. Connecting with the Community: With Others, For Youth

Missional ministry calls us to take stock of congregation and community to see where we might join gifts and passions with needs and possibilities! Where "out there" are partners who share some of our values with whom we might move forward to bring hope and light? Sometimes congregations don't know where to start. The Search Institute's 40 Developmental Assets provide a framework through which faith community, family, community and school might connect with and for young people. Together, let's consider the opportunities.

### 5. Holy Advocacy: A Time for Mutual Understanding

In John's Gospel, Jesus promises that he will send the hope of an Advocate, a Comforter – The Holy Spirit. In a broken world, how do we as Christians experience in our lives the hope of advocacy for ourselves, our neighbors and even those with whom we disagree? How do we as Christians plead and act for the circumstances of others, focusing on their needs, not ours? Come join Christian friends in exploring this essential calling as followers of Jesus.

### 6. Presbyterian Foundation: Exploring Resources

Is your church living in a state of scarcity and longing for abundance? Are you stuck in a rut with stewardship? Do you talk with your members about composing their faith legacy? Is it easy to contribute to your church? Are you looking for investment options with partners that share your faith? The Rev. Ellie Johns-Kelley, Ministry Relations Officer for the Presbyterian Foundation, is pleased to share the resources available to you and your congregation for nurturing a culture of generosity, composing a legacy and investments.

## Worship/Conversation

### Remembering What Will Come: Embracing Our Identity as God's People in an Uncertain Age

In an increasingly polarized and turbulent age, how can the family of God so center itself as to limit being swept up in the fray? And what resources does our Christian faith offer in order that we might be a gift to the world in times such as these? Focusing on right remembrance, prophetic imagination and the peculiar act of Christian worship, we'll seek insight into becoming those who understand the times and know what should be done.