



**Southern New England Conference**

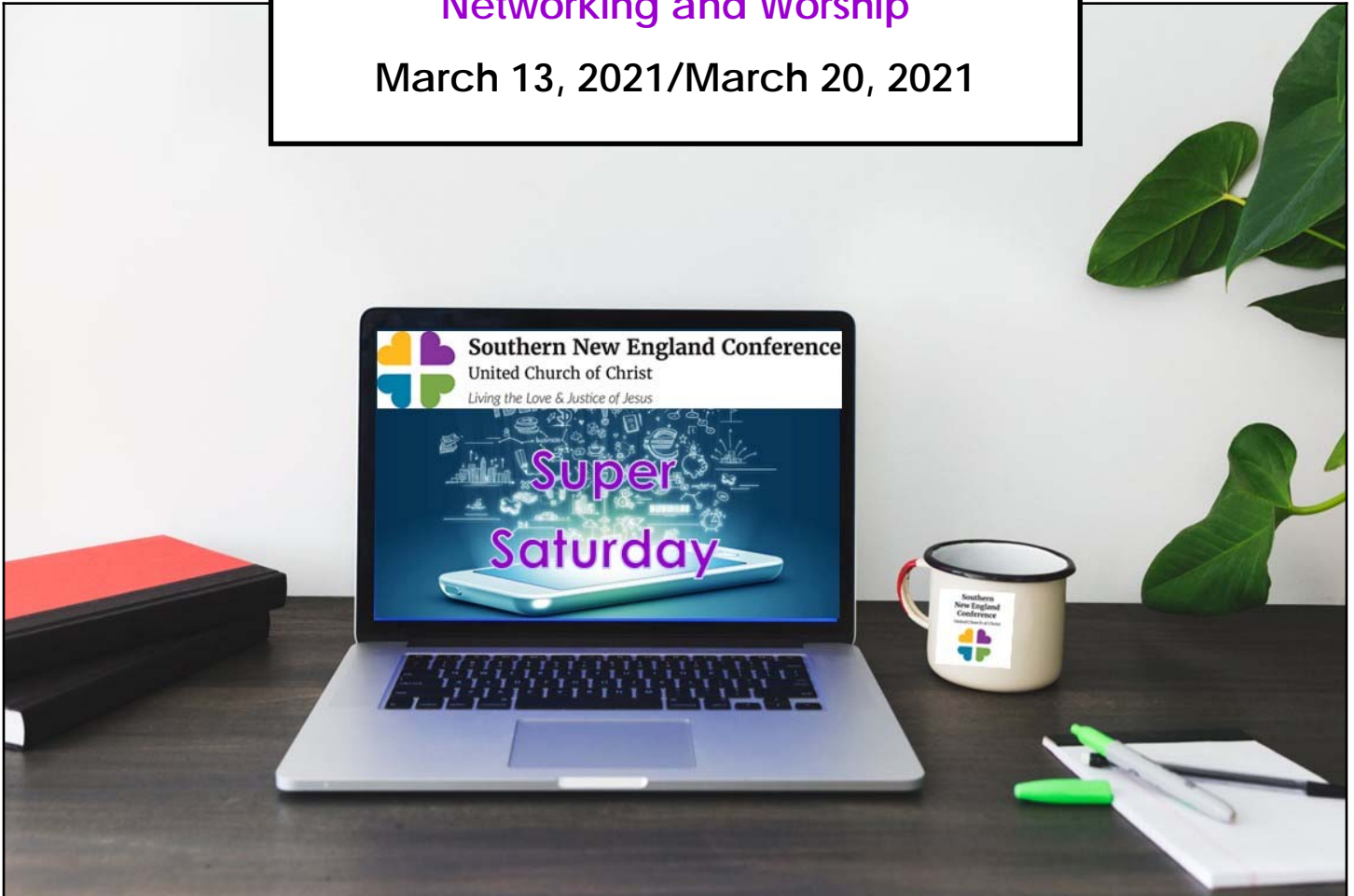
United Church of Christ

*Living the Love & Justice of Jesus*

# Super Saturday

Two Great Days of Virtual Workshops,  
Networking and Worship

March 13, 2021/March 20, 2021



**Special Guest**

**Rabbi Elan Babchuck**

*Entrepreneur, Ritual Designer, and Founder  
of Glean Network*

THE BTS  
CENTER



School of Theology





## Meet our New Senior Leaders

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**Rev. Darrell Goodwin**  
*Executive Conference Minister*

As the chief vision-keeper, communicator and strategist, Rev. Goodwin is responsible for guiding the conference in its positive and transformative impact in our world. He also represents the conference in ecumenical, interfaith and public gatherings and events. He is a member of the Executive Leadership Team, along with the Executive Minister for Strategic Operations, The Rev. Dr. Audrey Price, and Executive Minister for Finance and Policy, Ms. Dawn Hammond.



**Rev. Dr. Audrey C. Price**  
*Executive Minister for Strategic Operations*

Rev. Dr. Price is responsible for operational oversight of the Conference, providing leadership for the program staff and the area conference ministers, overseeing daily operations, facilities, outdoor ministries—camps and retreat centers, and program budgets. She is a member of the Executive Leadership Team, along with Executive Conference Minister, The Rev. Darrell Goodwin and Executive for Finance and Policy, Ms. Dawn Hammond.

## Our Sponsors

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### Program Sponsor

**Boston University School of Theology**

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### Friend Sponsor

**Yale Youth Ministry Institute at Yale Divinity School**

# Super Saturday - March 13, 2021/March 20, 2021

Registration Deadline: March 4, 2021

Tell me more...

Please join us for our March Virtual Super Saturday; two days of worship, workshops and networking - March 13, 2021 and March 20, 2021. Sign up for one day or two, two workshops or four. It's up to you!

All are welcome! REGISTER EARLY TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT!

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## OPENING

9:00 am

*Worship and Rabbi Elan Babchuck*

## WORKSHOPS

10:15 am—11:45 pm AM Workshops - 1.5 Hours

10:15 am—12:45 pm AM **Extended Workshops - 2.50 Hours**

12:00 pm—1:30 pm Networking Sessions, Coaching Sessions and Lunch Break

1:30 pm—3:00 pm PM Workshops - 1.5 Hours

## THE COST

ONLINE REGISTRATION ONLY: [WWW.SNEUCC/SUPERSATREG](http://WWW.SNEUCC/SUPERSATREG)

Cost: \$10 per workshop (excluding Boundary Training & Many Faces of Discipleship - Virtual Youth Retreat). Online payments only. Payments must be made at the time of registration. If payments are not made within an hour of registration, the registration will be canceled automatically.

**Individual registrations only.** Please note that all registrants will be required to use a **unique email address**. Please do not use the same email for multiple participants.

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## RABBI ELAN BABCHUCK

***Entrepreneur, Ritual Designer, and Founder of Glean Network***



Elan Babchuck is a rabbi and an entrepreneur, and spends much of his time exploring the rich intersections between these two traditions, and the abundant possibilities therein. He is committed to leaving behind a world that is more compassionate, connected, and just, than the one he found, and - in pursuit of that commitment - he is the Founding Director of GLEAN Network, an incubator and network for faith leaders who seek to reimagine the role of religion in an ever-changing world yearning for meaning, belonging, and justice. He also serves as the Director of Innovation at CLAL, a think-tank focused on the future of faith in America.

Rabbi Babchuck is blessed to live and learn with his wife and three children in Providence, Rhode Island. He reads broadly and voraciously, cooks adventurously, and finds sanctuary on the rock climbing walls of New England.

## March 13, 2021 Workshops

### Morning Workshops

- 1 The Simplicity of Mindfulness
- 2 Are you ready to CrossForm?
- 3 Bright Spots - Why Institutional Transformation Starts with Strengths
- 4 Simplifying Church Structure
- 5 An Overview of Church Collaboration and Merger Processes - Extended 2.5 hours
- 6 Discerning Your Church's Future Amidst the Challenge of Income and Membership Decline
- 7 Safe Church Policy 201 - Extended 2.5 hours
- 8 Boundary Awareness for Faith Formation and Youth Ministry Leaders - Extended 2.5 hours
- 9 Nurturing Faith in the Wilderness: For Intergenerational and Multi-age Ministries
- 10 The State of Creation and the Vocation of the Church
- 11 Engaging Congregations in Costly Acts of Solidarity: a Plumb Line for Advocating for a Just Peace Between Palestine and Israel.
- 12 Family Ministries Can Help You Grow
- 13 An Introduction to Hybrid Worship
- 14 Faith Formation at Home: Learnings from Silver Lake At Home

### Afternoon Workshops

- 15 Ministering in Anxious Times
- 16 Creating Connections for Support and Growth
- 17 How to Spiritually Support Divorcing Families
- 18 The Post Pandemic Church
- 19 Exploring Curriculum Resources for the Pandemic
- 20 How To Become A Just Peace Church
- 22 Stand With Us: Dismantle Ableism
- 23 Five Loaves, Two Fish, Twelve Volunteers
- 24 The Transformational Power of Generosity
- 25 Preaching as Sacred Storytelling
- 26 Youth at Synod

## March 20, 2021 Workshops

### Morning Workshops

- 27 Wellness: Key to Thriving in a Pandemic
- 28 It's All Fun & Games - Spice Up Your Zoom Presentations!
- 29 Retreats - Online or In-Person Opportunities for Reflection, Learning and Fellowship
- 30 Change Your Questions, Change Your Church
- 31 Tech Deacons' Roundtable Discussion
- 32 Ready for a Rebirth: Innovative Approaches to Church Revitalization
- 33 Many Faces of Discipleship-Virtual Youth Retreat - Extended 2 hours
- 34 A Case Study of the Impacts of Development on the Cultural Role of Land in Black Communities of the South Carolina Lowcountry
- 35 Ending Life Without Parole Sentences
- 36 Get Up and End Racism Now
- 37 Effective Climate Advocacy: What does it look like?
- 38 Spiritual Practices for Daily Life
- 39 Making a Digital Connection: Fundraising in 2021
- 40 The A, B, C's of Conflict Transformation

### Afternoon Workshops

- 21 Who will Speak for the Trees: Resolution on the Rights of Nature to General Synod 2021
- 41 Leading Communal Grief Rituals
- 42 Moderating in the Post Pandemic Church
- 43 Does God Ever Yearn for a Church to Close?
- 44 Alternatives to Violence Project
- 45 Hey Save the Earth. A play about ecology and faith
- 46 WISE (Welcoming, Inclusive, Supportive, and Engaged) Congregations for Mental Health
- 47 Ministry at the Margins
- 48 Ministry for Veterans
- 49 Eco-contemplation
- 50 Cultivating Hearts for Discernment
- 51 Contemporary Realities and Thinking In Stewardship
- 52 Preaching in a Pandemic: Where Are We Being Led?
- 53 More than Just Gospel Music and Spirituals: Moving from Diversity to Transformation in Liturgy Development
- 54 Hybrid Church in a Hybrid World: Creating Consistent and Engaging Church Experiences for Children and Youth

## 1 The Simplicity of Mindfulness

Learn three important meditation techniques, practice at your pace, and break the chains of stress, frustration and anger. The simplicity of mindfulness meditation can improve the quality of your life.

*Venson Jordan, Site Manager, Irons Homestead Camp & Retreat. Venson is an internationally known author of five books including **Let Meditation Be Your Medicine**, in 2015 he wrote an easy-to-follow book completely devoted to the art of meditation. He comes with a broad range of international teaching experience and over thirty years of practical application.*

## 16 Creating Connections for Support and Growth

Authorized ministers, are you looking for deeper colleague connections and a supportive community where you can discover new learnings and wrestle with the joys and struggles of ministry? Faith Formation leaders, are you yearning for a way to connect with other leaders serving in similar roles? Would you benefit from a supportive space where you can find, share and brainstorm resources with other lay leaders? Come learn about Communities of Practice and how joining one can help your ministry and/or congregation thrive. This workshop is offered by SNEUCC Innovation Team and Together We Thrive.

*Rev. Heather Ramsey Mabrouk serves on the SNEUCC Innovation Team as the Program Director for Together We Thrive. Karen Ziel serves the SNEUCC Innovation Team as the Minister of Leadership Development and the SNEUCC*

## 40 Leading Communal Grief Rituals

As we approach the 1 year anniversary of the pandemic, we need to attend to our communal grief. The church can be the perfect facilitator of the healing our communities need. In this practical and conversational workshop, you'll learn some simple and powerful rituals to use in your community.

*Rev. Liz Garrigan-Byerly, Area Conference Minister, North Central Region, SNEUCC*

## 17 How to Spiritually Support Divorcing Families

Church communities often do a wonderful job of supporting members who are grieving the death of a spouse but many church members suffer a very different kind of loss... the loss of their marriage and their intact families due to divorce. This workshop will explore ways to offer spiritual support and pastoral care to couples and families who are going through the very painful and often traumatic process of divorce.

*Rev. Diane Anderson, Pilgrim Church of Sherborn. Youth Pastor, certified spiritual director, Director of Wellness for Jane Does Well (a non-profit divorce support group for women)*

## 27 Wellness: Key to Thriving in a Pandemic

A Wellness Ministry in ordinary times builds on a faith community's strengths of accompanying, connecting, praying, blessing, and forgiving. Yet, in a pandemic, its capacity to adjust and adapt to change, respond to needs and losses becomes front and center. This workshop explores how a Wellness Framework builds community and individual capacity for transcending, connecting, giving life, and self-determination as we begin to envision the work of recovery. The workshop will include simple techniques to regain balance and wellness that can be used anywhere.

*Deborah Ringen MSN RN-BC Faith Community Nurse, SNEUCC Minister of Health and Wellness. Faith Community Nurse since 2003. Kathleen Zagata RN, MSN Health and Wellness Minister, First Congregational Church in Winchester, MA for more than 20 years. Rev. Saramaria Allenby, Chaplain Falmouth Hospital,*

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# Church & the Pandemic

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## 15 Ministering in Anxious Times

Anxiety is on the rise among all ages of our population. We will discuss causes, share perspectives, and offer practical resources and approaches to use in our ministries with children, youth, and adults.

*Danielle Morisse-Corsetti, LCSW. Founder of Intentional Living, an empowerment practice offering psychotherapy and community education services. Member of Kensington Congregational Church, CT Georgette Huie, M.Div., Minister for Children and Youth at Rocky Hill Congregational Church, CT. Faith formation volunteer and professional for over 40 years.*

## 18 The Post Pandemic Church

Explore how church leaders have dealt with the pandemic...what worked, what didn't and what opened creative new doors? Also, how the pandemic solidified, modified or transformed our view of the way we do church.

*Rev. Dr. Susan Cartmell, Pilgrim Ch of Harwich Port. Pastor, author, and leader of Preaching Workshops. Rev. Peggy O'Connor, Pilgrim Ch of Harwich Port, Interim minister, Spiritual Director, and Church Conflict Management Consultant.*

## 19 Exploring Curriculum Resources for the Pandemic and Beyond

Do the curriculum materials you use in your congregation tend to fall short of your expectations? That is because the creators do not know your congregants like you do. This workshop will provide guidance in evaluating, selecting, and adapting curriculum materials to meet your congregation's needs both during and after the pandemic.

*Debbie Gline Allen, Minister of Faith Formation, SNEUCC*

## 42 Moderating in the Post Pandemic Church

Practices of the highly effective moderator. Preparing for the post-pandemic church. Includes round-table discussion, so come with your concerns.

*Bill Peltz, United Church of Rowayton (CT). Former church and association moderator and current Communications Director. Michael Ciba, Team Leader and Southwest Area Conference Minister, SNEUCC*

# Church & the Pandemic

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## **28 It's All Fun & Games - Spice Up Your Zoom Presentations!**

Whether you are a church moderator, team leader, or a faith formation leader, this workshop will help you add some zest to your Zoom. You will experience first-hand how interactive games like those featured on Kahoot and Flippity as well as exercises like zoom polling, breakout rooms and white board can sprinkle in the fun and boost engagement in your online gatherings. Time will be included for Q & A and networking with colleagues on how you can use fun technology to energize your ministry.

*Debby Kirk, Faith Formation Team Leader; Emily McKenna, Program Support Assoc., Discipleship/Justice & Witness Teams; Kate Ostertag Exec. for Camps & Retreats, Edwards House & Irons Homestead, SNEUCC Staff*

## **29 Retreats - Online or In-Person Opportunities for Reflection, Learning and Fellowship**

Explore creative ways to design retreats that can be used online during pandemic times and adapted to in-person gatherings later on. Perhaps even hybrid models! Retreats offer an invaluable opportunities for learning, worship, and in-depth conversations - let's discover new ways to gather together.

*Sue Foster is the pastor of the East Woodstock Cong. Church and author of Retreats to Go: Twelve Creative Programs that Renew and Refresh. Her reflections can be found at [www.fosteringyourfaith.com](http://www.fosteringyourfaith.com)*

## **41 Leading Communal Grief Rituals**

As we approach the 1 year anniversary of the pandemic, we need to attend to our communal grief. The church can be the perfect facilitator of the healing our communities need. In this practical and conversational workshop, you'll learn some simple and powerful rituals to use in your community.

*Rev. Liz Garrigan-Byerly, Area Conference Minister, North Central Region, SNEUCC*

## **52 Preaching in a Pandemic: Where Are We Being Led?**

The pandemic has transformed the way we preach, in terms of medium and message. Some of these changes may be temporary adjustments but others might be lasting ones. Let's look at what we've learned about our potential audience post-pandemic, and the way we deliver the good news of faith.

*Rev. Dr. Susan Cartmell, Pilgrim Church, Harwich Port, MA, Author: UnCommon Preacher, Leader of workshops in Northeast and Mid-West since 2015. Rev. Scott Spencer, Woodside UCC Cranston*

# Church Leadership

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## **2 Are you ready to CrossForm?**

CrossForm is a unique way of equipping congregations for 21st century ministry. Our focus is threefold: strengthen core, build flexibility and deepen impact. Clarity of vision and identity provides the basis for a strong core. Likewise, the intentional development of relationship and community partnerships deepens flexibility. Taken together, a strong core with increased flexibility lays the foundation for impactful ministry as salt and light for the transformation of our communities. Without a strong core, even vibrant outreach is not sustainable. Likewise, a strong core with no flexibility results in the spiritual journey being disconnected from the flourishing of community.

*Dr. Deborah Rundlett, The Meetinghouse | Ridgebury Congregational Church of Ridgefield. Pastor, coach, and professor, she has served in business, taught a doctoral track in leadership, and coaches prosocial leaders globally.*

## **3 Bright Spots - Why Institutional Transformation Starts with Strengths**

The path to the most dynamic version of your church is already paved...you just might not know it yet. By learning how to search for "bright spot" programs, staff, and congregants, participants in this workshop will bring home with them all the innovation tools necessary to transform their institutions by focusing on what's already working well. Our facilitator - Rabbi Elan Babchuck - brings experience in transforming organizations, non-profits, and startups, and will share stories, insights, tips, and tricks to help you do the same.

*Rabbi Elan Babchuck, Founding Director, Glean Network. Rabbi, entrepreneur, and network-weaver committed to leaving behind a world that is more compassionate, connected, and just than the one I found.*

## **4 Simplifying Church Structure**

This workshop is for clergy and church leaders who want to simplify their church systems and to streamline decision making. It is for anyone who thinks their church has too many meetings and not enough ministry going on. It is for leaders who believe that there are too many positions for your nominating committee to fill.

*Doug Bixby is an author of three books and a church consultant. He is also the senior pastor of the Covenant Church in Attleboro, MA.*

## **18 The Post Pandemic Church**

Explore how church leaders have dealt with the pandemic...what worked, what didn't and what opened creative new doors? Also, how the pandemic solidified, modified or transformed our view of the way we do church.

*Rev. Dr. Susan Cartmell, Pilgrim Ch of Harwich Port. Pastor, author, and leader of Preaching Workshops. Rev. Peggy O'Connor, Pilgrim Ch of Harwich Port, Interim minister, Spiritual Director, and Church Conflict Management Consultant.*

## **40 The A, B, C's of Conflict Transformation**

This workshop will explore tools for congregations and leaders to use to in their settings to transform conflict, have challenging conversations, and create a safe and trusting church culture.

*Rev. Dr. Patty Kogut, Area Conference Minister for the SNEUCC. Patty has over 30 years experience in pastoral ministry, vitality coaching, and conflict transformation.*

## **42 Moderating in the Post Pandemic Church**

Practices of the highly effective moderator. Preparing for the post-pandemic church. Includes round-table discussion, so come with your concerns.

*Bill Peltz, United Church of Rowayton (CT). Former church and association moderator and current Communications Director. Michael Ciba, Team Leader and Southwest Area Conference Minister,*

## 5 An Overview of Church Collaboration and Merger Processes

This workshop is designed to assist congregations in responding to the changing religious landscape through the consideration of a multi-congregation collaboration process, focusing primarily on church merger. The presentation includes reviewing historical and current context, the effect of congregational polity on collaboration decisions, highlights potential challenges, and delineates a 5-stage process addressing both the relational and transactional issues involved in an effective church collaboration/merger. Participants will leave with a broad overview of the topic, and a 5 stage process outline.

*Rev. Dr. Sandra L. Fischer is an ordained UCC minister and former attorney and administrative adjudicator. She is currently a parish minister in rural Connecticut and a congregation collaboration/merger consultant at [www.congregationcollaboration.com](http://www.congregationcollaboration.com)*

## 6 Discerning Your Church's Future Amidst the Challenge of Income and Membership Decline

Many churches are contemplating their future viability. This workshop will help you discern whether your church is poised for a rebirth or is approaching the end of its mission and the steps you might take to align your vision with God's plan.

*Bridget Johnson is Innovation Team Leader for Vision and Adaptive Leadership for SNEUCC. Charlie Kuchenbrod currently serves on the Innovation Team as Minister to Threshold & Legacy Churches. He was called to Conference work in 2002 and has served in a number of roles.*

## 30 Change Your Questions, Change Your Church

What if the church was better at developing and asking powerful quest launching questions that lead to creativity and inspiration? The church has a history of asking the same tired limiting questions that lead to tired limiting answers. In this experiential workshop, we will draw from the fields of coaching, spiritual direction, design thinking, and question research to help you and your congregation develop new inspiring questions that will lead you and your church on your next quest of the Spirit. Participants will leave the workshop with the skills of Question Storming, the ability to ask open beautiful questions, and deep appreciation for the generative power of a well thought out big life question.

*Rev. Sean Dunker Bendigo Parish minister for 25 Years, Certified Professional Co-Active Coach, Coach with Heartwood Coaching for Clergy, and life long questionologist. Jessica Curtis, MEd in counseling, Certified Professional Co-Active Coach, Coach with Heartwood Coaching for Clergy and a propagator and purveyor of powerful questions.*

## 31 Tech Deacons' Roundtable Discussion

In support of our churches' growing digital presence, individuals or small groups within our worshipping communities have stepped up to offer their knowledge and skills in the audio-visual and information technology fields. We are calling these saints "tech deacons." These individuals, along with other congregational leaders, together bring new life as agents of change in challenging times. This workshop, an extension of our bi-weekly Tech Deacon Roundtable Discussions, is a great opportunity to network with others throughout our conference and with our siblings in Christ in other denominations. During this gathering, we will provide an arena for churches to support one another by sharing ideas, bringing questions, and identifying new trends and opportunities in digital ministry. *Rev. Eric Elley, Dcn. Eric is the Digital Minister of the Southern New England Conference.*

## 32 Ready for a Rebirth: Innovative Approaches to Church Revitalization

This past year has forced us to do and be church in exciting new ways. Many churches have seen this as an opportunity and invitation from God for a rebirth. This workshop will look at what innovative churches in America are doing to create a new vision of church and explore how they might apply in response to God's call for the future of your own church.

*Bridget S. Johnson, Innovation Team Leader for Vision and Adaptive Leadership, SNEUCC.*

## 43 Does God Ever Yearn for a Church to Close?

God yearns for what is best for each and all of us, including congregations. Can closing ever be pleasing to God? Are there alternatives that are also pleasing to God? Come for a discussion about closing and alternatives for churches that can no longer sustain the traditional model for being a congregation. *Charlie Kuchenbrod currently serves on the Innovation Team as Minister to Threshold & Legacy Churches. He was called to Conference work in 2002 and has served in a number of roles.*



# Faith Formation

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## 7 Safe Church Policy 201

Does your church have a Safe Church Policy but it hasn't been updated in years? Does your Safe Church Policy include language around digital church and online communication? Do you have questions about creating a sexual harassment policy or how to start a safe church team? Has your church written a covenant for how the church will welcome individuals who have been accused or convicted of sexually based offenses? Do you know who the mandated reporters are in your community and when you are required to file with the Department of Children and Families? In addition to the basics of writing a Safe Church Policy, this workshop will include more advanced conversation about these topics and the evolution of the Safe Church Policy for the modern church. If your church already has a Safe Church Policy, please have it available during this workshop. *Rev. Jenn Macy, Designated Term Associate Pastor for First Church Somerville in Somerville Massachusetts*

## 8 Boundary Awareness for Faith Formation and Youth Ministry

**Leaders** This workshop will provide the information needed to build understanding around appropriate relational boundaries that are encountered in ministry, between staff members and among congregants, children, and youth. Please note that this workshop does not fulfill the Boundary Awareness requirement for clergy.

*Rev. Gregory Morisse Senior Pastor of The Plymouth Church in Framingham, Massachusetts. Greg is one of several Boundary Awareness Trainers for the historic Massachusetts Council and is part of the working group to develop a unified curriculum for our new Conference. and Debbie Gline Allen, Minister of Faith Formation, Southern New England Conference*

## 9 Nurturing Faith in the Wilderness: For Intergenerational and Multi-age Ministries

This workshop will include new ways to cultivate and embody story, place, and faith through natural world elements and spiritual practices that go beyond the traditional Sunday School settings. Let's be in a sense of wonder together, get rooted and explore the connections between religious education, ecology, and God's creation.

*Patricia Berry (MDIV Jan 2021), United Congregational Church, Middletown RI, Coordinator of Children and Youth Ministries, mother of three, lover of nature and community cultivator. Kristin Putney, SNEUCC, Minister of Faith Formation, Children and Families, Mural Artists*

## 19 Exploring Curriculum Resources for the Pandemic and Beyond

Do the curriculum materials you use in your congregation tend to fall short of your expectations? That is because the creators do not know your congregants like you do. This workshop will provide guidance in evaluating, selecting, and adapting curriculum materials to meet your congregation's needs both during and after the pandemic.

*Debbie Gline Allen, Minister of Faith Formation, SNEUCC*

## 33 Many Faces of Discipleship-Virtual Youth Retreat

Many Faces of Discipleship-Widening Your Walk with God. This retreat is the third in our series of four virtual youth retreats in the Nurturing Faith Series. Designed especially for youth on the Confirmation journey and their leaders, this retreat will include young adult panel members who will share their witness of faith and discipleship through the power of story-telling and a ministry of presence.

*Ryan Gackenhaimer, Kristen Putney and Karen Ziel and panel of young adults.*

# Justice & Witness

(includes Racial Justice and Environmental)

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## 10 The State of Creation and the Vocation of the Church

We will first review the state of God's creation - our common home - with particular emphasis on the ruinous consequences of the climate crisis and the role humans have played in creating, denying, and accelerating the emergency. Then we will focus on the role the church can (and must) play in restoring creation as we witness to the intersectionality of racial, economic and climate justice. Our primary focus: In our worship, preaching and witness to the world, how can the church best engage the most consequential moral issue humanity has ever faced?

*Rev. Jim Antal, Special Advisor on Climate Justice to the General Minister and President of the UCC. In 2018, he retired from his position as Conference Minister of the Historic Massachusetts Conference. Author of Climate Church, Climate World.*

## 11 Engaging Congregations in Costly Acts of Solidarity: a Plumb Line for Advocating for a Just Peace Between Palestine and Israel.

This workshop will engage The United Church of Christ Declaration for a Just Peace Between Israel and Palestine, a resolution submitted to the 2021 General Synod, inspired by the Barmen Declaration & designed to offer a plumb line for witness and action in response to Kairos Palestine's 2020 Cry for Hope. Explore strategies & resources for engaging congregations in study and action.

*Rev. Allie Perry, worship leader of Shalom Community Church, New Haven, CT & Chair of UCC Palestine Israel Network, Gay Harter, member of First Church, Guilford, CT & co-founder of UCC Palestine Israel Network and other leaders of endorsing churches.*



# Justice & Witness

(includes Racial Justice and Environmental)

## 20 How To Become A Just Peace Church

Learn the process for your local congregation to become a Just Peace Church and to join the UCC Just Peace Network. We will review the steps and resources that are available on the UCC.org website under the Justice and Witness link.

*Robert Loesch- retired UCC pastor, active in peace and justice issues from high school to the present, serving UCC churches in SNEUCC and NY. Michael Neuroth- Policy Advocate for international Issues, UCC Washington DC office of Justice and Local Church Ministries.*

## 21 Who will Speak for the Trees: Resolution on the Rights of Nature to General Synod 2021

The workshop will explain the background, and process of the resolution, and why the UCC should consider supporting the resolution.

*Rev. Dr. Robert Shore-Goss, The Federated Church, NH, UCC Environmental Justice, professor, and author of God is Green and The Insurgency of the Spirit.*

## 22 Stand With Us: Dismantle Ableism

Ableism is society's discrimination against people with disabilities. Everyone is invited to connect and begin a deeper conversation on the topic of ableism and how privilege, intentional or unintentional, impacts programs, spaces and interactions to create barriers to safer, accessible and equitable communities of belonging. Learn tools, resources and ways to begin dismantling the pervasive daily exclusion that people with disabilities experience in faith communities and elsewhere.

*Candace Low, M.Ed. - Member of the Disabilities Ministries Team of the SNEUCC and Asylum Hill Congregational Church, Hartford CT. Consultant, activist and trainer in disability issues for 50 years. Hartford Seminary "18, Certification in Worship and Spirituality.*

## 34 A Case Study of the Impacts of Development on the Cultural Role of Land in Black Communities of the South Carolina Lowcountry

The urban footprint along the coast of South Carolina, or Lowcountry, is growing exponentially. Much of coastal South Carolina is heirs' property, land that was purchased by former slaves after emancipation and that has been inherited without a will, creating communal ownership of the land without documentation, which makes it vulnerable to predatory developers. Through exploration of photographs taken by residents in Wando-Huger, a historic Gullah community outside of Charleston, SC, this presentation will explore questions of how we define ourselves in relationship to land and what faithful responses might be to issues of gentrification and land loss in marginalized communities.

*Rev. Terry Yasuko Ogawa, M.S., M.Div, Area Conference Minister, Northwest Region, SNEUCC*

## 35 Ending Life Without Parole Sentences

There are more than 1,000 men and women in Massachusetts serving prison sentences that offer no possibility of parole. These sentences fail to recognize the human capacity for spiritual transformation. The workshop will examine the use and variety of these sentences, and the legislative campaign to eliminate them.

*Nathaniel Harrison is a retired journalist who visits and corresponds with incarcerated men. Lloyd Fillion is a civil libertarian and Vietnam War resistor. Rev. Jonathan Tetherly is a retired jail chaplain*

## 36 Get Up and End Racism Now - a Just Peace Player Play

See our new play calling our churches to GET UP and end racism now! Join the Players for a conversation following the play.

*Rev. Dr. Frances Bogle, Edwards Church Framingham, MA Community chaplain and coordinator of the Players, Rabbi Matia Angelou, Congregation B'Nai Or, Waltham, MA. hospice chaplain and spiritual director, Rev. Nancy Reed, Hancock UCC in Lexington, MA, Hospital Chaplain, Martha Crawford, United Parish of Westwood, Westwood, MA retired data base designer, William Ladd, First Church, Natick, Natick, MA, awaiting a call for ordination, actor and chaplain, Cindy Sweeney, Edwards Church, Framingham, MA, a long time Player, ivy Tillman, First Church, Amherst, MA long time ONA consultant and social justice activist, Molly Conole, UCC in West Tisbury, MA, Actor and newest Just Peace Player.*

## 37 Effective Climate Advocacy: What does it look like?

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.: We are confronted with the fierce urgency of now. In this unfolding conundrum of life and history, there is such a thing as being too late. -- With images and words, this workshop will present the urgency of the climate crisis and the need for environmental justice (EJ) protections for historically marginalized and impacted populations. We have opportunities and a need for critical advocacy and engagement at the local, state and federal levels. The workshop will involve group discussion of practical and effective actions you and your church community can take in accord with the moral imperative to act.

*Paul Dale, Energy Committee Chair, Massachusetts Sierra Club. Member, Wellesley Village Church (MA). Member, SNEUCC Environmental Ministries Team Michele Mudrick, Legislative Advocate for SNEUCC working in all three states. Registered lobbyist with Connecticut Office of State Ethics. Director of Coalition Against Casino Expansion (CT). Member of First Church of Christ Congregational, Glastonbury (CT)*

# Justice & Witness

(includes Racial Justice and Environmental)

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## 44 Alternatives to Violence Project

The Alternatives to Violence Project (AVP) is for anyone seeking a peaceful, nonviolent existence and those who want to build healthy communication skills for healthy relationship building. Above all else, it fosters compassion and understanding for all. It is a great community building tool that offers lifelong skills and support. AVP is a volunteer run program, used worldwide in prisons, communities, shelters, youth organizations, schools and workplaces. Come learn from Jill Fagerberg and Jo-Ann Della Giustina about AVP and their experience facilitating workshops at Old Colony Correctional Center in Bridgewater where participants learn and use the AVP skills inside the prison and outside when they are released. *Jill Fagerberg has been a tireless force for restorative and transformative justice as a student and adjunct professor of restorative justice at Bridgewater State University and at Old Colony Correctional Center. Jo-Ann Della Giustina, Ph.D., Attorney and Professor of Criminal Justice at Bridgewater State University, has been facilitating Alternatives to Violence Project workshops at Old Colony Correctional Center for 15 years with many inside participants who are serving sentences of life without parole. She teaches Restorative Justice, Behind the Walls (a class within the prison) and Wrongful Convictions.*

## 45 Hey Save the Earth. A Play About Ecology and Faith

Enjoy our revised play about ecology and our call to do justice for all of creation. Stay after for a talk back and learn how we can share our play with your congregation.

*Rev. Dr. Frances Bogle, Edwards Church Framingham, MA Community chaplain and coordinator of the Players, Rabbi Matia Angelou, Congregation B'Nai Or, Waltham, MA. hospice chaplain and spiritual director, Rev. Nancy Reed, Hancock UCC in Lexington, MA, Hospital Chaplain, Martha Crawford, United Parish of Westwood, Westwood, MA retired data base designer, William Ladd, First Church, Natick, Natick, MA, awaiting a call for ordination, actor and chaplain, Cindy Sweeney, Edwards Church, Framingham, MA, a long time Player, ivy Tillman, First Church, Amherst, MA long time ONA consultant and social justice activist, Molly Conole, UCC in West Tisbury, MA, Actor and newest Just Peace Player.*

## 46 WISE (Welcoming, Inclusive, Supportive, and Engaged) Congregations for Mental Health

An introduction to the UCC's WISE (Welcoming, Inclusive, Supportive, and Engaged) designation process and purpose. The workshop will review important practices with regards to mental health and the church. Learn more about the WISE program at UCC.org.

*Rev. Megan Snell, Substance Use Disorder Chaplain. Member of the Executive Committee of the UCC Mental Health Network Board. UCC Pastor.*

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# Outreach & Community

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## 12 Family Ministries Can Help You Grow

Family Ministries can serve as an introduction for younger families. Hear how we at Wilbraham United Church use Family Ministries to grow our Church School as well as our Vacation Bible Camp; this helped to increase our membership as well. *Rev. Paul Nesbit serves as the Associate Pastor of Wilbraham United Church where he helped to boost membership of younger families. Paul is also the Social Emotional Specialist at Birchland Park Middle School in East Longmeadow, MA.*

## 23 Five Loaves, Two Fish, Twelve Volunteers

Evangelism and Mission are the same thing. Your church can create a sense of belonging by including people in your community as volunteers in your mission work. Explore how to build relationships, let others lead, and build church community through expanding your mission and outreach program. *Elizabeth Mae Magill (Liz), Ashburnham Community Church, Pastor, writer, evangelist.*

## 47 Ministry at the Margins

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because God has anointed me to bring good news to the poor." These are the Jesus' first public words in the gospel of Luke, his inaugural address. How does the Spirit help us create lifegiving ministries of welcome with neighbors who struggle with homelessness, food insecurity, trauma, and substance use and mental health disorders? How might we build bridges between our congregations and neighbors at the margins of our communities? We will share our varied experiences, address our anxieties, and talk about the deep joys as well as the challenges of this kind of work.

*Rev. Kate Layzer, Minister of Street Outreach at First Church in Cambridge, homeless minister since 2012.*

## 48 Ministry for Veterans

One day we will sing songs of reconciliation and there will be no more war. Until then help become a church that repairs the wounds of war. Learn how to help reintegrate veterans back into society in your community and your church.

*Thomas Burke, Associate Minister of Children, Youth, and Families at Norfield Congregational Church. Pastor and former infantry Marine and combat veteran of Iraq and Afghanistan*

# Spirituality

## 38 Spiritual Practices for Daily Life

Many spiritual practices are well-suited for the quiet moments of life; only our lives are not always quiet. Having spiritual resources for our daily lives can help us to stay connected to ourselves and to God even in times of busyness and disruption. This workshop will focus on three specific practices to help anchor us so that we can bring loving awareness to ourselves and each other in our everyday lives.

*The Rev. Henry Schoenfield is a trained spiritual director and certified professional coach (PCC) by the International Coaching Federation (ICF). He is passionate about cultivating wisdom through Christian contemplative practice and Insight Meditation. He is currently serving as Interim Senior Minister at Christ Church United in Lowell, MA.*



## 49 Eco-contemplation

Using Francis of Assisi as a guide, we will reflect on how contemplating the natural world can heal our soul and inform our efforts to build a more just and sustainable world. Our time together will include presentations and guided meditation, small group conversation, and an opportunity to head outdoors for a contemplative walk. (Should you not have access to the outdoors, a houseplant, shell, stone, or other object from nature can work very well for our time together.)

*Rev. Dr. Margaret Bullitt-Jonas, Missioner for Creation Care, SNEUCC. Retreat leader, climate activist, co-editor of Rooted & Rising: Voices of Courage in a Time of Climate Crisis.*

## 50 Cultivating Hearts for Discernment

In these times of great uncertainty, it's hard to know where to turn for guidance -- in our own lives as well as in the life of our congregations. The Christian tradition of discernment is made for times like these. This workshop will introduce foundations for discernment as well as three specific practices to help cultivate hearts that can sense how God is moving and calling us.

*The Rev. Henry Schoenfield is a trained spiritual director and certified professional coach (PCC) by the International Coaching Federation (ICF). He is passionate about cultivating wisdom through Christian contemplative practice and Insight Meditation. He is currently serving as Interim Senior Minister at Christ Church United in Lowell, MA.*

# Stewardship/Finance

## 24 The Transformational Power of Generosity

People, including clergy, are often hesitant or even apologetic about asking people to be generous. This workshop will provide a foundation for faithful, confident, and bold appeals to generosity. You have to know why you are asking before you ask.

*Charlie Kuchenbrod, Minister to Threshold and Legacy Churches, SNEUCC, evangelist for generosity*

## 39 Making a Digital Connection: Fundraising in 2021

When in-person fundraisers and friendraisers are not possible, creativity is key! We will discuss how to best use social media as a tool to connect with one another. In addition, there will be time to share our fundraising ideas and experiences over the past year.

*Lee Gagen, Donor Development Specialist, Southern New England Conference, UCC. Fundraiser and grant writer.*

## 51 Contemporary Realities and Thinking In Stewardship

This workshop will present the current landscape for religious fundraising, some of the newer thinking and concepts in the area of Stewardship, and ways to increase giving.

*Rev. Dr. David Cleaver-Bartholomew, Director of Stewardship and Donor Relations, SNEUCC.*



# Worship

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## 13 An Introduction to Hybrid Worship

As we transition to in-person worship, how can we include members who are local and returning as well as those members who will continue to worship digitally and may not live in our region? We will suggest technical options, that build upon what you already have in place for digital ministry. For those congregations just starting out in digital, best practices churches can use to establish their digital presence will be proposed.

*Rev. Eric Elley, Dcn. Eric is the Digital Minister of the Southern New England Conference.*

## 25 Preaching as Sacred Storytelling

Need some fresh inspiration or looking to encourage some lay preachers in your midst? Storytelling is a powerful preaching model as well as a dynamic spiritual practice. AbbyLynn will share some sacred storytelling secrets that will energize and renew your love for sharing God's Word. To learn more: <https://broadreachministries.com/sacred-storytelling>

*Rev. AbbyLynn Haskell, Acton Cong Church UCC, ME, Pastor, Biblical Storytelling Instructor for the Maine School of Ministry of the Maine Conference UCC*

## 52 Preaching in a Pandemic: Where Are We Being Led?

The pandemic has transformed the way we preach, in terms of medium and message. Some of these changes may be temporary adjustments but others might be lasting ones. Let's look at what we've learned about our potential audience post-pandemic, and the way we deliver the good news of faith.

*Rev. Dr. Susan Cartmell, Pilgrim Church, Harwich Port, MA, Author: UnCommon Preacher, Leader of workshops in Northeast and Mid-West since 2015. Rev. Scott Spencer, Woodside UCC Cranston*

## 53 More than Just Gospel Music and Spirituals: Moving from Diversity to Transformation in Liturgy Development

Congregations seeking to create more racially inclusive worship practices often hope that changes in music or other performative elements will create a "less white" worship experience. These modifications can help us achieve more diverse worship, but alone, they seldom lead to worship that transforms, which requires that we begin by interrogating who we believe God to be; what we see as the potential and limitations of worship; and the value we place on "traditional" theologies, artistic production, and homiletical practices as opposed to those grounded in liberation and emerging from minoritized people. In the process, we will think deeply about why we desire diversity in worship and confront the racism and white privilege at the heart of much of our liturgy development.

*Rev. James Ross, Area Conference Minister, Northeast Region,*

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# Youth & Children

## 14 Faith Formation at Home: Learnings from Silver Lake At Home

Learn from Silver Lake about how to bring youth ministry into your families' homes. Ideas about activities in a box, live Zoom programming, prerecorded content, and how to get people to participate.

*Jennifer Kronholm Clark, Program Director, Silver Lake Conference Center. Camp person since 1988; professional since 2011. Rev. Ryan Gackenheimer, Executive for Camps & Retreats, Silver Lake Conference Center. Former local church pastor; camp executive since 2016.*

## 26 Youth at Synod

Our panel of SNEUCC youth will tell how their participation in UCC Synod programs in 2017 and 2019 has enriched faith, inspired action, and impacted leadership skills. We'll also share details for the virtual Youth at Synod program to be offered in July 2021. This workshop is for clergy, youth pastors, parents, and YOUTH!

*Debby Kirk, SNEUCC Faith Formation Team Leader, will facilitate the program. Panelists include Bethany Winters, Kendall Hayes, and other youth who have attended Youth At Synod.*

## 54 Hybrid Church in a Hybrid World: Creating Consistent and Engaging Church Experiences for Children and Youth

Let's gather together to unpack how we can be creating consistent and engaging experiences for children and youth that go beyond our Zoom screens. We'll discuss programs that have worked in our churches and we'll create a plan for an Easter outreach to the children and youth in our congregations. Come for VBS-in-a-Bag, stay for the companionship and creativity.

*Jennifer Murray, MDiv., South Church in Andover, Minister for Youth and Families Jenn has worked at South Church in various capacities for the last six years, with the past two spent as Minister for Youth and Families. She's passionate about children and youth ministry and believes strongly in the power of play, connection and community.*



# Lunch Activities

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## NETWORKING SESSIONS

During the lunch break, we will be offering several “drop-in” networking sessions. The networking sessions will be available on your Whova Super Saturday. We will also offer a “free space” networking room for folks who just want to meet up with some colleagues.

## COACHING SESSIONS

Are you or your church envisioning something new? Are you or your congregation feeling stuck or struggling with conflict? **Together We Thrive (TWT)** Coaches are trained to accompany ministers and leadership groups through a myriad of topics. The Clergy Coaches use Deep Listening and Powerful Questions to structure a process that helps draw out the wisdom within the individual or group with whom they are working. If you are interested in knowing more and trying out a session, sign up for a free 45 minute lunch session. Be sure to have in mind a question, goal or situation to work on with one of our TWT Clergy Coaches. Space is limited. One session per participant.

### Coaches Offering Sessions:

#### March 13, 2021

Rev. Timothy Sylvia  
Rev. Judith Cooke  
Rev. Rhonda Myers  
Rev. Stacy Swain  
Rev. Elisabeth Nees  
Rev. Sue Remick  
Rev. Dale Azevedo  
Rev. Jeff Goodrich  
Rev. Pam McGrath  
Rev. Heather Ramsey Mabrouk

#### March 20, 2021

Rev. Timothy Sylvia  
Rev. Judith Cooke  
Rev. Rhonda Myers  
Rev. Stacy Swain  
Rev. Elisabeth Nees  
Rev. Dave Woessner  
Rev. Sue Remick  
Rev. Dale Azevedo  
Rev. Laura Gronberg



Register Online Today!

[www.sneucc.org/supersatreg](http://www.sneucc.org/supersatreg)

Registration Deadline: March 4, 2021

## YOUTH PROGRAM

*Attention Pastors and Youth Ministry Leaders!*

It has been our goal at Super Saturday to offer programming for teens that helps them to connect to the part of the Body of Christ that is our Southern New England Conference. With this virtual event, we hope that our youth will seek out workshops to attend that speak to their specific passion(s) for the ministry of the Church.

**Please encourage your teens to sign up for workshops that interest them** in order to connect with the people, ideas, and ministries of our conference! Workshops of particular interest might be **#26 Youth @ Synod**, **#33 Many faces of Discipleship**, **#1 The Simplicity of Mindfulness** and **#14 Faith Formation at Home: Learnings from Silver Lake At Home** to name a few. This is a great opportunity for confirmation classes and youth groups.

“See” you at Super Saturday!

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## CHILDREN’S PROGRAM

**In our Virtual Super Saturday Children’s program, we will be offering something a little different.**



Our 45-minute Virtual Super Saturday Children's program will be available as a video — to be viewed by children as their parents attend a Virtual Super Saturday workshop, or at another more convenient time, or even in your congregation’s children’s programming.

Register for the children’s video program at no cost. Two videos will be available, one for each Saturday.

