

Saturday: Energizers Session “A”

ENERGIZER NAME	DESCRIPTION	PRESENTER
<p>A-1</p> <p><i>“A Sure Foundation”</i></p>	<p>Do you want some theologically grounded, practical resources that can help improve the mutual ministry of pastors and congregations? <i>A Sure Foundation</i> helps congregations serve God and their communities more effectively, through such resources as behavior covenants, ministry assessment, church social media guidelines, and more. This workshop, led by MESA’s Minister for Ministerial Support and Accountability, will provide a broad overview of this national setting resource and dive into one of the sections for a deeper look.</p>	<p>Rev. Elizabeth Dilley, Minister for Ministerial Support and Accountability for MESA, National UCC</p>
<p>A-2</p> <p><i>“Psychological First Aid”</i></p>	<p>How can we best care for our congregations and communities when tragedies such as gun violence happen? This workshop will teach the basic techniques of Psychological First Aid. Psychological First Aid (PFA) is an evidence-informed approach to providing children, adolescents, adults and families in the immediate aftermath of disaster, terrorism, tragedy, trauma or other upsetting events. In light of continuing violence worldwide, including the February tragedy in Aurora, IL, PFA is now, more than ever, a key resource for providing help to anyone affected by tragedy and traumatic events.</p>	<p>Rev. Kevin Massey, Advocate Health Care System</p>
<p>A-3</p> <p><i>“Agreeing to Disagree Agreeably: Celebrating our Political and Social Diversity in an Era of Division and Discord”</i></p>	<p>Our country is very divided – both politically and socially. These divisions are present in our families, our communities, our local churches – and even in the Illinois Conference. This energizer session will explore ways for us to embrace and celebrate our differences – instead of attacking and dismissing each other over them. Can the “Extravagant Welcome” be expanded to include those persons with whom we disagree politically and socially?</p>	<p>Rev. Laurie Hill, Designated Pastor at St. John UCC, Lincoln, IL and Rev. Jon Prain, Pastor of The Federated Church, Avon, IL</p>
<p>A-4</p> <p><i>“Love in Action – Life Together: Serving in Mission with World Partners”</i></p>	<p>Before the Angolan Civil War began in 1975, the educational and social mission of the church was based in “mission stations,” especially the Dondi Mission Station in the central highlands of Angola. At this site generations of Angolans were educated for life, faith, work and citizenship. Now IECA (The Evangelical Congregational Church in Angola) is working to build on the legacy of Dondi and open its own university in 2020. Hear more from our own Illinois Conference Ambassadors to Angola.</p>	<p>Members of the Illinois Conference Angola Partnership Team</p>

<p style="text-align: center;">A-5</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>“Illinois Conference 101”</i></p>	<p>Whether you've been to the Conference Annual Celebration a million times or not, the Alphabet Soup of acronyms and shortcuts and committee nomenclature can be more difficult to interpret than Paul's Letter to the Corinthians. So come and join our Conference President, Kim Wood, for an overview of the Illinois Conference, its structure and who's who and what's where. Play to win amazing Conference bling in a rousing game of Illinois Conference Bingo; use your knowledge of arcane Conference history to Stump the Chump; and, best of all, get acquainted with others who - like you - want to learn a little more about who and what the Illinois Conference is. As they say down at the Men's Wearhouse, you will <u>not</u> be disappointed.</p>	<p>Rev. Kim Wood, Acting Associate Conference Minister serving Eastern and Western Associations and Rev. Kathy Lawes, Associate Conference Minister serving Prairie and Western Associations</p>
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