

Regional Assembly Breakout Group List
Saturday, September 28, 2024

7:00 am—8:45 am Limit to First 6 Registrations



• **Hospitality to the Houseless**

Bruce Arnold, First Christian Church Home PDX Pastor

Early risers are welcome for a “coffee and pastry run” to interact with our friends outdoors as FCC Home PDX does on Saturday mornings. Our time is from 7:00 a.m. to 8:15.

Morning Breakout Groups 10:00 am—11:15 am

- **Assembly Mission Project**
Tracia Deal, Red Rock Christian Church Pastor
This time is dedicated to creating hygiene kits with donations from across the Region. These kits are for unhoused adults and students as well as congregational food pantries. Open to any and all on Saturday morning.
- **Building Blocks of Church Growth, Part 1**
Kikuo Yerem, Pacific Island Family Church Pastor
Sharing the Good News is an opportunity to bring hope and healing beyond our congregations. Come learn and discuss innovative practical ideas to build momentum that can lead to church growth.
- **The Saint John’s Bible: Its Origin, Creation and Spiritual Basis**
Elaine Petersen, Portland First Christian Church Historian & Archivist
Description: Come explore the first handwritten and illustrated Bible since Gutenberg. Discover the six core values that apply to everyday life: igniting spiritual imagination, glorifying God’s word, reviving tradition, discovering history through manuscript exploration, fostering the arts and giving a voice to the underprivileged.
- **Telling the Whole Story: Disciples History, Then and Now**
Joel Brown, Disciples of Christ Historical Society President
Description: There are “holes” in Disciples history. Why have certain groups, individuals, and churches been underrepresented and overlooked in our historical narratives? This historical injustice prevents us from being God’s Beloved Community. You’re invited to help fill these holes.
- **Mental Health Partnerships for Youth**
Anselmo Garcia, Peniel Ministries Pastor
Description: Youth today face unprecedented mental health challenges. Come learn how churches can partner with the National Benevolent Association to address those challenges so that our youth can flourish.
- **Children & Church...Growing their Faith**
Matthew Harris-Gloyer, Salem First Christian Church Co-Pastor
Zane Ridings, Eugene First Christian Church Co-Pastor
Training up a child in the way they should go is our responsibility. Whether you’ve done so for years or are just starting out, you’ll be provided insights about child/youth spiritual development. Come away with tangible ways to foster that development.



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Afternoon Breakout Groups 1:15 pm—2:30 pm

- **Building Blocks of Church Growth, Part 2**
Barry Lind, Northwood Christian Church Senior Pastor
Sharing the good news is an opportunity to bring hope and healing beyond our congregations. Come learn and discuss additional practical ideas to build momentum that can lead to church growth.
- **Vulnerable Populations and Church**
David Brown, ODHS Social Services Specialist
Judy Noyes, Aging and People with Disabilities Supervisor
Protecting children, older adults, and other vulnerable populations is a moral duty and legal obligation of congregations. Our presenters are experts in child and older adult protection and also understand congregational life. They will discuss best practices congregations can follow to prevent and identify abuse and neglect, and also what to do if abuse or neglect is suspected and what programs may be available to support individuals and families. This session is for new and established congregations to create a welcoming, safe, and protected space.
- **Born, filled, and sent to love our neighbors and creation.**
Scott Hardin-Nieri, Green Chalice Co-Minister
How can you and your congregation listen to how the Spirit of God is already nurturing your next steps toward creation care and faithful climate action? Join this conversation as we explore ways to be more resilient in heart and community.
- **The Pandemic is Over, Now What?**
Rosario Ibarra, Disciples Church Extension Fund
The pandemic changed church life: how can we redefine ministry, repurpose buildings, and learn from other congregations who are creatively engaging the challenges? Come be inspired to continue sharing God's love through our resources and spaces with the community!

