

REGIONAL ASSEMBLY 2026

WORKSHOP TITLES AND DESCRIPTIONS

Dr. Lon Oliver *"Receive the Holy Spirit."* The Holy Spirit fills us with joy, thankfulness, wisdom, and peace. Throughout Scripture individuals in both the Hebrew and New Testaments were filled and guided by the God's Spirit. As disciples, Jesus' has breathed the Holy Spirit into our lives. Discover how our mentors, elders, and teachers help us receive and keep in step with the Holy Spirit.

Rev. Dr. Nathan Brown *"Creating a New Stream of Income for Your Ministry."* Congregations today are having to think creatively about how to fund their ministry. With aging facilities and rising costs, churches are struggling to meet their most basic demands, let alone try something new. What if your church had an additional stream of income to support ministries that were important to your congregation? What if this stream of income was the result of a meaningful program that congregants supported passionately and faithfully? Rev. Dr. Nathan Brown, VP of Development for the Southeast Zone of the Christian Church Foundation, will present a workshop on how legacy giving can provide a sustained revenue stream to support your congregation's ministry. He will share first hand experience, from 20 years of congregational ministry, offering examples of how legacy giving can not only help fund ministry for the future, but also transform the overall culture of generosity in your church.

<https://christianchurchfoundation.org/about-us/zone-officers/>

Rev. Josh Snyder

Workshop A - Your Ministry as an Elder

The Elder Workshop is designed to equip current and prospective elders with the knowledge, skills, and spiritual guidance needed to lead effectively within the church community. Participants will explore biblical foundations of being an elder, learn practical leadership strategies, and engage in discussions about pastoral care and church governance. In this workshop current, new, and prospective Elders will deepen their understanding of their roles and strengthen their ability to serve faithfully, fostering unity and growth within the congregation.

Workshop B - Your Ministry as a Deacon

The Deacon Workshop is crafted to empower both new and experienced deacons with the practical tools, biblical understanding, and compassionate heart required to serve effectively within the church family. This workshop delves into the scriptural roots of the deacon's ministry, explores day-to-day responsibilities, and addresses the importance of teamwork and servant leadership. In this workshop current, new, and prospective Deacons will grow in their capacity to provide meaningful support, promote harmony, and meet the spiritual and practical needs of the congregation.

Ms. Marsha Thornton, Jr *"Has women's ministry become a Pampered Chef Party?"* We will explore and evaluate the state of women's ministries in our individual churches and discuss ways

and goals to get back to our mission of fellowship, stewardship and justice (service). Also explore how we can help each other in achieving our goals.

Rev. Rose Guy-Chapmen & Elder Gary Barr *“Mental Health First Aid”* A discussion of mental illness types, symptoms and suicide prevention.

Rev. Dr. Erin Cash & Rev. Dr. Kory Wilcoxson *“Thriving to Serve: What Pastors and Lay Leaders can learn about wholeness and rest from Thriving Congregations”* For churches to be able to pour themselves out, they need to be mindful of how their connection to mission, community, and rest better equips them to serve. How do churches let God pour into them so they can pour out for others? This workshop will look at how thriving churches can balance the call to take care of themselves and serve others.

Trooper Bryan Washer *“Church Safety”* During this workshop we will focus overall on church safety. We will touch on best safety practices to use during worship and other church events, shooter incidents and church evacuation. Additionally, we will review best practices to prevent child and elder abuse in the church.