

DISTRICT RESOURCE DAY WORKSHOPS 2016

Sunday, January 31st 2 to 4:45 p.m. @ Westport UMC

Saturday, February 6th 9 to 11:45 a.m. @ Woodbury UMC



Trustees A basic overview of the role of the Trustees in the local church, with a discussion on best practices. *Led by CT District Superintendent, Rev. Ken Kieffer.*



SPR 101 A basic overview of the role of the Staff-Parish Relations Committee in the local church, along with an update on the Bishop's procedures on appointment-making. *Led by CT District Superintendent, Rev. Ken Kieffer.*



About Our Father's Business This workshop will cover the "who, what, when, where, and how" of prayer as it relates to our faith and spiritual growth. Prayer will be discussed as a prioritized personal decision that we make in order to stay balanced and productive in our lives. *Led by Rev. Dr. Peola Hicks, Naugatuck UMC.*



Disaster Preparedness & HUB Ministries Are you being called to be a Mission Central HUB? Do you like hands-on mission service? Are you willing to explore how God can use you to be a blessing to others? Would you like to be the hands and feet of God in serving others? This workshop will provide more information about HUB ministries and how your church can participate. *Led by Rev. Joseph Ewoodzie, NYAC Mission/Outreach Coordinator.* (Offered at Westport only.)



Facebook in Ministry Facebook is not a fad or a craze. Over 1.2 billion folks jump on Facebook every month. It has become a near-essential tool, even for churches. In this class we will look at Facebook as a ministry tool, suggesting a few ways in which it can help your church and also reviewing things to keep away from. Come join us! *Led by Rev. John Parille, Gaylordsville UMC.* (Offered at Woodbury only.)



Church Finances A discussion on Church Finances including the most frequently asked questions of the Conference Center office. Topics will include taxes, budgeting, auditing, apportionments and clergy benefits, along with others. *Led by Geof Fowler, President of the Conference General Committee on Finance and Administration.*



Telling Our Stories 2016 is the 250th year of United Methodism in the New York area. This is a great opportunity to celebrate our Methodist heritage, its diversity, and its great blessings and challenges. In this workshop we'll be introduced to luminaries and milestones from our collective story. Come learn how we can celebrate our church history through "Telling Our Stories" of faith, grace and gratitude. *Led by Jerry Eyster, Vice Chairman of the NYAC Commission on Archives and History.*



Worship Design A basic introduction to enhancing Sunday morning services through worship design. In our time together we'll discuss what it is, how it works, and why you might want to try it. We'll see examples of what it looks like in practice, and offer resources for those who may want to begin. *Led by Rev. Carol Downs, Grace UMC, Southington.*



Recognizing and Meeting the Spiritual Needs of Older Adults (Older Adult Ministries) This workshop will explore definitions of "spiritual" needs and ways pastors and congregations can effectively meet them. As part of the discussion, we will emphasize "ministry with", as opposed to "ministry to", this age group. *Led by Rev. Jim Stinson. Conference Consultant on Older Adult Ministries.*

Workshop listings continue on the other side of this page.



Conversations With Your Muslim Neighbor How do we build community and share our faith journeys with our Muslim neighbors? Join us to learn how to begin with conversations that will transform our lives and our communities. *Led by Aida Mansoor, President, Muslim Coalition of Connecticut. (Offered at Woodbury only.)*



Technology in Worship During the last fifty years, technology has dramatically changed the way that we communicate and reach out. People rarely write letters anymore. Instead, we text. Talks are now routinely enhanced with computer-generated visual aids, and anyone can reach instantaneously to hundreds of people in the middle of the night via social media. This workshop will review and explain in simple terms how to effectively incorporate technology into our church life, as well as how it can help us to communicate God's word to newer generations. *Led by Jorge Varas, Saint Andrew's UMC, New Haven.*



Godly Play Godly Play is a Montessori-based, imaginative approach to guiding children on their spiritual journey, using the discovery method of learning. We will experience Godly Play, hearing a story from Scripture told by heart and using tangible, visual materials. Then we will wonder about the story together. Before leaving we will consider: What was this like for me? How did this differ from other programs? Is Godly Play something I need to know more about, or have in my life? Information on how to find out more will be available. *Led by Linda Clapp, Teacher Trainer, Godly Play Foundation.*



Immigration Join T.J. Mills, managing attorney for the New York Annual Conference-Justice For Our Neighbors program (NYAC-JFON) and Steven Lee, its executive director, for an introduction to immigration law and a discussion of how church members can welcome immigrants into our communities