



Sparking Imagination in the Mountains

September 30 - October 3, 2015

YMCA of the Rockies - Estes Park, Colorado

Creating Worship with “Deep Soul” Plenary sessions and worship with Marcia McFee, Ph.D.

When worship moves beyond “going through the motions” to experiences of “deep soul,” congregations are transformed. Dr. McFee’s interactive plenary sessions will include:

Creating Worship with Deep Soul

Marcia will introduce what she means by “M-M-Good” worship and why this is the most exciting time in worship history to be planning worship - no matter the “style!”

Think Like a Filmmaker

What can we learn from filmmakers that can inform our work in offering the greatest story ever told in sensory-rich ways? Why do we need sensory-rich worship and how can we do it in large and small churches with small budgets and volunteers?

The Rhythms of Liturgy and Life

With lots of interactive music we will explore the various rhythms of worship vocabularies and why we benefit from utilizing a diversity of rhythms (AND why we get into “worship wars” and how to avoid it).

“O Lord, is it Sunday Already?!”

Worship planning can be relentless with Sunday coming EVERY week! We’ll talk about planning substantive and vital worship without getting burned out, drawing on the model offered in Marcia’s Worship Design Studio.

Dr. Marcia McFee is a professor, worship designer, author, preacher, and ritual artist. Drawing on a first career in professional dance and musical theater and equipped with a Master’s in Theology and a PhD in Liturgical Studies, she understands the role of any worship artist in the church as that of creating extraordinary portals through which communities journey with the Spirit. Connecting worship professionals and volunteers to their passion and depth of spiritual leadership is her aim in teaching and consulting as well as equipping them with skills to carry this out. Dr. McFee has designed and led worship for regional, national, and international gatherings of several denominations for the last twenty years. She is the creator and visionary of the Worship Design Studio (www.worshipdesignstudio.com), an online experience of coaching, education, inspiration, and a design application.



General Information

To Register - Complete the registration form, include a check payable to the **Synod of the Rocky Mountains**, to cover all costs and mail to - WNLT - c/o Presbytery of Plains and Peaks - 7257 W. 4th St., Unit 4 - Greeley, CO 80634. You may also register on-line at www.synodrm.org. Additional brochures may also be found on the Synod website. A confirmation will be mailed to you after your registration is processed. Please notify Bobbi Hoffman (WNLT registrar) of any error in your registration at officeadmin@synodrm.org or 970-352-6496.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE - Early Bird - **June 30, 2015**

Final Deadline - **July 22, 2015**

Please register early for guaranteed lodging at the YMCA. For registrations received after July 22, we will make an effort to secure your lodging at the YMCA, but it may **NOT** be guaranteed and the rate may be a bit higher.

Registration Fees -

Single Occupancy - \$615.00

Single Occupancy - \$635.00

Double Occupancy - \$385.00

Double Occupancy - \$405.00

(includes breakfast, lunch, and dinner on Thursday; breakfast and lunch on Friday, and breakfast on Saturday and lodging Wednesday night - Saturday morning)

Wednesday Day pass - \$25.00

Wednesday Day pass - \$35.00

Thursday Day pass - \$50.00

Thursday Day pass - \$60.00

Friday Day pass - \$40.00

Friday Day pass - \$50.00

(Wednesday pass does not include meals; Thursday pass includes lunch and dinner; Friday pass includes lunch)

Cancellation Fees -

If cancelled before **July 22, 2015** - \$25.00

If cancelled before **August 31, 2015** - \$100.00

No refund if cancelled after **August 31, 2015**

Childcare - is available through the YMCA for a fee. Please contact the YMCA directly.

Altitude - YMCA of the Rockies is more than 8,000 feet above sea level. Remember to drink plenty of water, wear sun block, and give your body time to adjust by limiting physical activity for the first 24 hours.

Wristbands - When you're a guest at YMCA of the Rockies you will be asked to wear a *Stay Pass wristband* while on the campus so that you can be easily identified and granted access to all of their free and affordable activities.

Travel Information - Denver International Airport is the closet large airport. Estes Park Shuttle (970-586-5151) provides transportation to the YMCA of the Rockies.

Lodging/Meals - Your registration fee includes lodging for Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday night (except the day passes). It also includes breakfast, lunch, and dinner on Thursday (day pass is lunch and dinner); breakfast and lunch on Friday (day pass - lunch); and breakfast on Saturday.

Program location - YMCA of the Rockies - 2515 Tunnel Road - Estes Park, Colorado - www.ymcarockies.org



WNLT Schedule

Wednesday, September 30

- 3:00—6:00 p.m. Check-in/Registration
6:30—8:30 p.m. Gathering Worship
8:30—9:30 p.m. Ice Cream Social

Thursday, October 1

- 7:00—8:30 a.m. Breakfast
8:30—9:15 a.m. Bible Study
9:15—9:45 a.m. Break
9:45—11:45 a.m. Worship and Presentation
11:45—1:00 p.m. Lunch
1:00—2:45 p.m. Workshops
2:45—3:15 p.m. Break
3:15—5:00 p.m. Workshops
5:00—6:30 p.m. Dinner
6:30—7:30 p.m. Fidelity Workshop
Finding Poetry in Prayer - Gary Weaver
7:30—8:30 p.m. Conversation time with Heath Rada

Friday, October 2

- 7:00—8:30 a.m. Breakfast
8:30—9:15 a.m. Bible Study
9:15—9:45 a.m. Break
9:45—11:45 a.m. Worship and Presentation
11:45—1:00 p.m. Lunch
1:00—2:45 p.m. Workshops
2:45—3:15 p.m. Break
3:15—5:00 p.m. Workshops
5:00—6:00 p.m. Closing Worship
7:30—8:30 p.m. Conversation time with Heath Rada

Saturday, October 3

- 7:00—9:00 a.m. Breakfast
10:00 a.m. Check-out

Book Store

The book store at this event will be operated by - **The Thoughtful Christian**. Books will be available for purchase and will include a selection of titles written by the presenters along with other resources. For more information please visit -

www.thethoughtfulchristian.com.

Fidelity - BOP Savings Plan

The Board of Pensions offers a tax-deferred savings plan for any of the employees of your church. Fidelity, one of the world's largest managers of investment funds, has been retained to manage these individual accounts. A Fidelity representative will be on hand to explain the program and answer questions.

Presenters and authors will gladly sign copies of their books that participants have brought or purchased at the book store.

Finding Poetry in Prayer

Gary Weaver

Thursday - 6:30-7:30 p.m.

How do we connect the human heart with the Holy Other? How do we express our deepest yearnings in public prayer? It must have something to do with being honest to God, risking vulnerability, speaking the hopes and fears, the joy and the tears of our human condition. Prayer is an act of faith, of intimacy, of love. In this workshop we will find ways of hearing the prayers deep within us and the courage to express them in living color, context, and community. I invite you to bring your favorite prayer with you to share with the group.

Leaders' Bios

Whit Bodman is a 1977 MDiv graduate of Duke Divinity School. Dr. Bodman was ordained in the United Church of Christ. He pastored churches in Massachusetts for twelve years before returning to graduate school. During his ministry and schooling he has been involved in various interfaith organizations including the Interfaith Relations Commission of the National Council of Churches and the Massachusetts Conference of Churches' Jewish-Christian and Muslim-Christian dialogues. His current research focuses on the Qur'an, modern Islam in the Middle East, and political theology.

The Reverend Dr. **Elizabeth Caldwell** retired from the faculty of McCormick Theological Seminary in 2014, where she was the Harold Blake Walker Professor Pastoral Theology. She lives in Nashville where she is an Adjunct Faculty Member of Vanderbilt Divinity School. She is the author of *God's Big Table, Nurturing Children in a Diverse World*, and *I Wonder, Reading the Bible with Children*, Abingdon, 2016.

Robert Hoch, Ph.D., is Associate Professor of Homiletics and worship at the University of Dubuque Theological Seminary. Ordained as a teaching elder in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), Robert lives in two intimately related worlds, the classroom and sanctuary. He is currently working on a book entitled, *Wisdom from the Footpath: a Pilgrim's Guide to Proclamation*. In this book, he aims to assist preachers who are just setting out as they find their footing in the preacher's vocation. Robert's most recent publication, *By the Rivers of Babylon: Blueprints for a Church in Exile* (Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2013) lifts up the stories and symbols of faith communities that have formed as deliberate and theologically coherent responses to exilic realities. Robert believes these communities point to the emerging shape of the church's worship and witness in the twenty-first century.

The Reverend **Kevin Keaton** joined the Board in January 2012 after serving more than 30 years as a pastor and Presbytery executive. Most recently, he was Executive Presbyter of the Presbytery of Missouri River Valley, in Omaha, Nebraska. He has served churches in Austin, Texas; Basking Ridge, New Jersey; Altoona, Pennsylvania; and Sugar Land, Texas. He has served extensively on the Committee on Ministry for the Presbytery of New Covenant, Houston. A native of Lake Charles, Louisiana, Kevin graduated from McNeese State University as well as Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary. His presbyteries are in Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Louisiana, Montana, Wyoming, Utah, Colorado, and Nebraska.

The Reverend Dr. **Gregory Love** is Associate Professor of Systematic Theology at San Francisco Theological Seminary. Also a Presbyterian pastor, Dr. Love brings together the best of contemporary Reformed theology with the issues of Christians in the pews. He specializes in questions of divine providence, and how God acts in the world. His most recent book, on the meaning of the cross, is *Love, Violence, and the Cross: How the Nonviolent God Saves us Through the Cross of Christ*. (www.wipfandstock.com).

Ruling Elder **Corey Schlosser-Hall** grew up in the Dakotas and graduated from the University of Oregon. He earned a Ph.D. in Organizational Communication from the University of Minnesota and is an ICF credentialed leadership coach. Prior to serving as Executive Presbyter for the Presbytery of the Northwest Coast, he served as Communications Director for the Presbytery of Seattle. His executive service is informed by his background as a university professor, wilderness guide, entrepreneur, food service manager, and consultant. He serves as faculty of the Presbytery Leader Formation Program of the PC(USA) where he teaches post-modern ecclesiology, visionary and financial leadership, and communications. Corey also serves on the board for the Presbytery Mission Agency.

Leaders' Bios . . . continued

Dr. Sarah Tanzer is Professor of New Testament and Early Judaism at McCormick Theological Seminary, where she has taught since 1986. She is a member of the International Dead Sea Scrolls Team and has edited and produced the first edition of certain Dead Sea Scrolls texts. Currently, she is writing about the historical Jesus for the 2nd edition of the Jewish Annotated New Testament. She is editing several volumes for the forthcoming "Wisdom" feminist commentary series on the entire Bible, which will be published by Liturgical Press beginning in 2015. She is currently writing a book exploring the biblical roots of Jewish and Christian difference. Dr. Tanzer resides in Evanston, Illinois with her family.

The Reverend **Gary R. Weaver** retired as presbytery executive after serving Pueblo Presbytery for 15 years. Ordained in 1972 with a Masters of Divinity from Louisville Presbyterian Seminary, he later earned a Masters of Counseling Psychology from the University of New Mexico serving as associate pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Albuquerque. It was there that he began composing many of the prayers that were first published in 1991 by CSS Publishing. He revised and added prayers to his book published in 2003 as *Gentle Words in a Raging Storm*.

Meet the PC(USA) Moderator

Heath K. Rada is the Moderator of the 221st General Assembly (2014) of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). He is a retired executive of the American Red Cross and a former president of the Presbyterian School of Christian Education (now Union Presbyterian Seminary) in Richmond. As an active church member, Dr. Rada has served in numerous capacities on the local, presbytery, and national levels of the PC(USA). Currently he serves on the boards of the Presbyterian Mission Agency, the Montreat Conference Center, and the Presbyterian Homes of North Carolina.



Workshop Descriptions

The Bible and the Qur'an: Scriptures Separated by a Common God - Whit Bodman - How are the Qur'an and the Bible similar and different, both in their structure as Scriptures and their contents? Much modern polemic believes that one can cite the scripture of another and prove points (positive and negative) but this approach is deeply flawed. We will examine how to read the Qur'an, do some reading, and draw from that some essential ideas of Islamic theology, history, and relations to Christianity. Included in that will be some attention to notorious passages, avoiding, as much as possible, distortive apologetics.

Developing Leadership in Unexpected Ways and Places - Corey Schlosser-Hall - God is always at work developing leaders and followers to carry out God's mission. Sometimes "development" happens like we expect, in ways we are prepared to notice. Sometimes it happens unexpectedly. In those moments, we have a choice to join God in what God is up to or hold on, hold up, or hold out. How does God raise up spiritual leaders? How does our customary approach to noticing where leadership comes from help and hinder the mission of God through our congregations, presbyteries, and synods? What can we do to train our souls and observations to notice and nurture spiritual leadership from unexpected places?

Evolutions and Revolutions in Modern Islam: What the H— is Going on? - Whit Bodman - A common question is whether Islam needs a Reformation. (Be careful what you ask for!) We will look broadly at unities and diversities in the Islamic world, including its most notorious elements. These include fundamentalism, militant movements, liberal Islam, pietist movements, and the general thrust of modern Islamic history. We also will raise the question of whether it makes any sense to speak of an "Islamic" history, or "Islamic modernity"?

God and Human Suffering - Gregory Love - If God is all-powerful and loves us like a parent loves her or his child, why do horrific things happen to us or those we love? Where is God when it hurts? This seminar will investigate four different Christian views of God's relationship to human suffering. First, we will look at two Biblical views which begin with the premise that God is Lord over all things. Next we will investigate a Biblical view which begins with the idea that God is never the source of evil. We will end with a contemporary position which incorporates aspects of both these Biblical beliefs, and see whether the view makes sense in light of both Scripture and our own experience of suffering.

Leveraging the Nominating Committee for Organizational Change - Kevin Keaton - The health of any organization is greatly affected by the strength of its leaders who are nominated by the Nominating Committee. This workshop will review essential (often overlooked) steps in the process and will offer a multitude of ideas (some from the not for profit sector) for organizations in the recruitment and training of new leaders.

Reformed Worship - Robert Hoch - This course in Reformed Worship introduces the participants to scriptural, historical, and theological principles of Christian worship, with special focus on the theology and practice of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Particular attention will be given to basic skills in worship planning for worship supplies the framework for the church's witness in time, space, and matter. This course is open to all - for those desiring to take this course as Commissioned Ruling Elder training, please contact Bobbi Hoffman (officeadmin@synodrm.org) so that she may let your presbytery know to give you the credit.

Rethinking the Parables - Elizabeth Caldwell/Sarah Tanzer - These teachings of Jesus are familiar, so much so that we hardly consider their meaning. In this workshop you will learn about new interpretations of the parables. How would the original audience have understood The Good Samaritan or the Lost Sheep and how might we rethink them today?

Teaching the Parables with Adults and Children - Elizabeth Caldwell/Sarah Tanzer - How might we teach parables in new ways with children, youth, and adults? This workshop will offer suggestions for teaching the parables with groups in the church. It will also examine how familiar parables like The Lost Sheep, The Lost Son, and The Good Samaritan are taught in children's Bible storybooks.

Registration

Name _____
Address _____
Day Phone _____ Cell Phone _____
Email _____
Church name _____ City/State _____
Presbytery _____ Synod _____

Workshops:

Thursday 1:00—2:45 p.m.:

_____ Rethinking the Parables - Elizabeth Caldwell/
Sarah Tanzer
_____ Developing Leadership in Unexpected
Ways and Places - Corey Schlosser-Hall
_____ The Bible & the Qur'an - Whit Bodman

Friday 1:00—2:45 p.m.:

_____ Leveraging the Nominating Committee for
Organizational Change - Kevin Keaton
_____ God and Human Suffering - Gregory Love
_____ Reformed Worship - Robert Hoch

Thursday 3:15—5:00 p.m.:

_____ Teaching the Parables w/Adults & Children -
Elizabeth Caldwell/Sarah Tanzer
_____ God and Human Suffering - Gregory Love
_____ Reformed Worship - Robert Hoch

Friday 3:15—5:00 p.m.:

_____ Developing Leadership in Unexpected
Ways and Places - Corey Schlosser-Hall
_____ Leveraging the Nominating Committee for
Organizational Change - Kevin Keaton
_____ Evolutions & Revolutions in Modern Islam -
Whit Bodman

Scholarship: (circle one) YES NO If YES - _____ First time attending

Registration Fees:

_____ \$615.00 Early Bird - Single Occupancy Room
_____ \$385.00 Early Bird - Double Occupancy Room (includes breakfast, lunch, dinner Thursday;
_____ \$635.00 Single Occupancy Room breakfast, lunch Friday; breakfast Saturday)
_____ \$405.00 Double Occupancy Room
_____ \$25.00 Early Bird - Wednesday day pass
_____ \$35.00 Wednesday day pass
_____ \$50.00 Early Bird - Thursday day pass (includes lunch and dinner)
_____ \$60.00 Thursday day pass
_____ \$40.00 Early Bird - Friday day pass (includes lunch)
_____ \$50.00 Friday day pass
_____ **Total Enclosed**

Do you need a roommate? _____ If no, who are you rooming with? _____

Are you sharing your room with a non-participating spouse/friend? (circle one) YES NO

When registering a spouse or as two persons sharing a room who will be participating, please fill out a form for each person

Food allergies? _____

Scholarship Information

The Synod of the Rocky Mountains has scholarship money available to person attending WNLT who serve churches in rural and/or remote locations. The award is for \$300 and has a few eligibility requirements:

- 1) The church is a member of a presbytery in the Synod of the Rocky Mountains.
- 2) The individual must serve or belong to a rural and/or remote congregation. A rural and/or remote congregation is defined by each individual presbytery; normally, it is one located outside of a population center of 50,000 people or more.
- 3) The congregation has less than 200 members.
- 4) The individual may not be the recipient of a scholarship from his or her own presbytery.
- 5) Only one Synod scholarship will be awarded per family.
- 6) Requests for scholarships will be considered when received. Preference will be given to first time attendees.
- 7) Recipients will be notified after July 22, 2015.
- 8) Awards will be mailed after the 2015 WNLT event concludes.



WNLT gratefully acknowledges its generous sponsors

- * The General Assembly - Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
- * Synod of the Rocky Mountains
 - Presbytery of Denver
 - Presbytery of Glacier
 - Presbytery of Plains and Peaks
 - Presbytery of Pueblo
 - Presbytery of Utah
 - Presbytery of Western Colorado
 - Presbytery of Wyoming
 - Presbytery of Yellowstone
- * Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary
- * McCormick Theological Seminary
- * San Francisco Theological Seminary
- * University of Dubuque Theological Seminary

WNLT 2015 Planning Team

- * Marsha Anson (Glacier Presbytery) - moderator
- * Anne Bond (Denver Presbytery)
- * Jodie Licht (Yellowstone Presbytery)
- * Jerrod Lowry (Utah Presbytery)
- * Suzy Meyer (Western Colorado Presbytery)
- * Steve Shive (Wyoming Presbytery)
- * Gary Weaver (Pueblo Presbytery)
- * Michelle Witherspoon (Plains and Peaks Presbytery)

Synod Resource Staff

- * David Ezekiel (Synod Interim Executive)
- * Bobbi Hoffman (Synod Bookkeeper/Support Staff)