

"Living Bread Living Stories" Workshops

Worship Environment

How can our worship environment (the altar, chancel, worship space) be enhanced for the experience of worship? How might we go about imaging and creating a worship environment for the seasons of the Christian year and for the particular themes of the worship service?

Facilitator: Kelley O'Connor (pastor of Oakhurst New Community UMC) will lead one 90-minute session on Friday.

Media in Worship

What are ways we might use media in our worship service? How can media enhance our worship services? In what ways are some (computer) programs better to use than others? What are the better ways to work with the media, our worship committee and our pastors? What are, and how might we use resources to help "tell the story" of the worship theme?

Facilitator: Lorrae Emory (laywoman and Fresno Wesley UMC Administrator) will lead one 90 minute session on Friday and one 90 minute session on Saturday.

"Speaking" in Worship

What are some ideas to help me become a better worship leader, scripture reader, announcement maker...? How can I become more effective in "speaking" or in offering devotions or sermons for worship services or meetings?

Facilitator: Mariellen Yoshino (from Fresno) and a local church lay person will lead one 3-hour experiential session on Friday and the same 3-hour session on Saturday.

Engaged and Engaging Worship with Young Adults

How can our church reach out in a faithful manner to young adults? How might our worship services become more (and more) relevant to the young adults of our community? What do we need to learn and what resources do we need to gain from in order to be a worship place and space for the gen-x-ers and beyond?

Facilitator: Matt Smith (pastor of "The Table" in Sacramento) will lead two 90-minute sessions on Friday.

Junior High-ers and Senior High-ers in Worship

How can our teens be more a part of the worship service in my church? What are ways teens can be active and motivated during the worship service?

Facilitator: Alan Cook (Director of Family Ministries at Stockton Central UMC) will lead one 90 minute session on Friday and one 90 minute session on Saturday.

Children's Moments in Worship

How can the "children's moments" be strengthened in our worship service? What are resources I might tap into to gain great ideas? How can we better capture the attention and interest of our children during this important time in our service?

Music in Worship

How might we strengthen our planning for music for our worship service? What are some resources for choirs, worship teams, worship committees, music directors? How can our church incorporate different styles/cultures/traditions in our worship service?

Facilitator: Dirk Damonte (Minister Los Altos UMC) will lead 90 minute sessions on Friday that will include his sharing of expertise and his sharing of worship music.

Choral Music in Worship

How might our choir become an even more vital part of our worship service? How can our anthems enhance the worship theme? Are there resources of which we should be aware? Are there some new(er) anthems that we might listen to/and experience?

Facilitator: Forrest Madewell (fantastic school and community choir director and the choir director of Bakersfield Wesley UMC). This workshop session will take place on Saturday afternoon, only.