

2024 Leading with Grace Series

Workshop #1—Leading with Grace in Church Ministry—January 27 in Albany, GA, at St. Paul’s Episcopal Church

Facilitators: The Revs. Tar Drazdowski and June Johnson; Carey Wooten

Do you want to help lead your church, but don’t know where to begin? In this workshop, participants will (1) learn and use models for examining and enriching congregational development; (2) discover their different leadership styles and learn the value of sharing ministry leadership; (3) practice using facilitation skills in small groups; and (4) practice leading prayer practices and Bible studies.

Workshop #2—Congregational Vitality Workshop—April 20, Trinity Episcopal Church, Statesboro, GA

Facilitators: Revs. Melanie Lemburg and Becky Rowell

Ever since the celebration of Pentecost in the Acts of the Apostles, the Holy Spirit has been at work in the world through the Church. This is good news because we do not have to figure out the future of our churches on our own. Instead, we can ask, “What is the Holy Spirit already doing in this situation and how can we work to support what God is doing in and among us?” This Leading With Grace workshop will help parish teams enter into a practice of looking and listening to see where God is active in your church and then engaging in discernment in how you are called to support God’s work in your midst. This is done through a process of asking three questions: “Who are we?” “How are we doing?” and “Who are our neighbors?” In the place where those answers intersect, we can begin to see where God is inviting us to join our energy with the ongoing work of the Holy Spirit in our midst.

Workshop #3—Building Relationships Across Difference—August 24, St. Augustine of Canterbury, Augusta, GA

Facilitator: Rev. Guillermo Arboleda

Parishes and ministries rarely become diverse and inclusive accidentally. Inclusion requires a proactive approach to understanding and appreciating difference in all its forms. In this workshop, participants will (1) learn biblical and theological foundations for developing inclusive ministry across differences using the book of Acts; (2) identify and acknowledge the implicit biases we all carry around key areas of difference such as race, ethnicity, gender, sex, and sexuality; and (3) practice responding to case study scenarios about building relationships across difference.

Workshop #4—Conflict Transformation—October 19, St. Matthew’s, Savannah, GA

Facilitators: Revs. Becky Rowell and Melanie Lemburg

This workshop will focus on how to handle conflict between individuals. Participants will explore their preferred reactions to conflict and have the opportunity to learn about other methods of responding. Other topics will include managing your own anxiety, active listening skills, laundering language (getting rid of emotionally laden or explosive words), and how to avoid triangulation. Time for practice and group interaction is included.