



# PATHWAYS

**Saturday, August 24, 2019**

## Trinity United Methodist Church

129 S Houston Rd | Warner Robins, GA

### Come join us!

Churches looking for new ideas, networking opportunities and practical quality training for their pastors, members, staff and leaders need look no further than this year's Pathways. Participants will choose three workshops: one each from Pathways A, B, & C.

### Registration/Lunch

Register online at [www.sgaumc.org/pathways2019](http://www.sgaumc.org/pathways2019). Deadline to register is August 19. The registration fee is \$25. A boxed lunch from Chick-fil-A is included in the registration fee. For special needs, email [allison@sgaumc.com](mailto:allison@sgaumc.com).

### Childcare

Safe Sanctuaries compliant childcare for infant - fifth grade is \$10 per child, which includes lunch. Please indicate your childcare needs when registering. **Pre-registration is required.**

### Questions

Please contact Allison Lindsey at [allison@sgaumc.com](mailto:allison@sgaumc.com).



## Can I Get A Witness?

Rev Matt Hearn, senior pastor at Gateway Pooler and the featured speaker at this year's opening gathering of the 2019 Pathways event, has always been passionate about winning souls for Christ.

In 2018, Hearn received a life-changing diagnosis of synovial sarcoma - a rare form of cancer. Through his faith, hope, and love for the Lord and others, he has become an inspiration, encouragement and witness to the grace of God with a passion to share his testimony and miracle all the more.

You will be inspired by his witness and encouraged to share your life with others as we seek to be "Alive Together In Witness."

### Schedule for the Day

9:30 - 10:00	Registration
10:00 - 11:15	Worship & Gathering in the Sanctuary
11:15 - 11:30	Move to Pathway A
11:30 - 12:30	Pathway A Workshop
12:30 - 1:30	Lunch & Move to Pathway B
1:30 - 2:30	Pathway B Workshop
2:30 - 2:45	Move to Pathway C
2:45 - 3:45	Pathway C Workshop
3:45 - 4:00	Pick up CEU Certificates

## Pathway A 11:30 am - 12:30 pm | Choose one workshop from Pathway A

**A1. Through The Eyes of a Visitor:** When you take time to visit different churches each Sunday for worship you learn a great deal about best practices for genuine hospitality. Come gain practical tools for welcoming and engaging with visitors to your church. You might be surprised to learn that hospitality in our culture often begins with our online presence before someone even walks through our doors. Led by Alesha & Andy Mathis.

**A2. Asset Based Community Development:** Many churches approach ministry from the lens of scarcity rather than abundance. This workshop will share tools to help you shift your mindset and begin to see the abundance of resources around you - within your church, your community, the connection and beyond. Led by Nita Crump.

**A3. Toybox Leadership:** Reach back into your childhood and recapture the leadership and life lessons learned from our favorite toys. These principles will give you insight to effective leadership in your ministry area and local church while having fun in the process. Led by Allison Lindsey.

**A4. Get Out of That Box (Fostering a Culture of Creativity):** Are you ready to embrace creativity and innovation so you can go where God is calling you? Do you want to think differently so you can solve old problems in new ways? In this workshop we'll talk about how to shift your church culture so you can Get Out of That Box! Led by Anne Bosarge.

**A5. Introduction to Disaster Response - Relief Phase:** This workshop is designed for those interested in becoming involved in relief and recovery work within your community and beyond. Learn about resources available to find projects and opportunities as well as the rewards from working within this ministry from two seasoned responders and Early Response Team (ERT) trainers. Led by Chris & Susan Hughes.

**A6. Digital Storytelling:** Storytelling is an art. Wondering how to share your church or mission's story more effectively? Learn tips and tricks for creating engaging photo and video stories for your church, website, and social media accounts. This class will provide practical and technical instructions for making your next project a success. Led by Julie Rogers (Wesley Glen Ministries).

**A7. Age Level Ministries:** Jesus challenged His culture to shift the way they thought about children. What if we started acting like what we do for children and youth is more important than anything else we do? Come learn how to implement long term missional strategies for all ages, gaining tools to strengthen your ministry. Led by Nicole Lawson.

**A8. Multiculturalism - Getting the Conversation Started:** The Conference Multiculturalism Taskforce will share a guide local churches can use to encourage conversations around issues of diversity and how your faith community can seek ways to include all those who need the mercy, grace, and love of God. Led by Earnestine Campbell & Pat Burns.

**A9. Increase Your Discipleship:** Start and grow Wesleyan-style Class Meetings (spiritual formation small groups) within your small group ministries and even church-wide. Rediscover a tested model for relational and formational spiritual growth. You will be equipped and given practical resources through Kevin M. Watson's book, *The Class Meeting*. Led by Kevin & Laurie Clotfelter.

**A10. Sitting in Prayer:** So often we experience prayer as something the pastor does while wearing a clergy robe or that eloquent member of our Sunday School class who is always called on to pray. There is so much more to prayer that we discover when we SIT in prayer. As we sit with prayer as our focus, God reveals so much to us about ourselves, the church and the world. Together we will explore what it means to sit in prayer and connect with God through simple yet rich prayer practices that have guided the faithful since ancient times through today. In prayer we build our relationship with Christ, if we only take time to SIT a while. Led by Teresa Edwards.

## Pathway B 1:30 pm - 2:30 pm | Choose one workshop from Pathway B

**B1. This Is My Story:** Learn the theological significance of different pieces of your faith story and explore an expression of concisely writing your story to offer an easy way to share your unique journey with others and witness to God's work in your life. The focus will be on three highlights: 1) My life before (or apart) from Christ; 2) How I came to know Christ; and 3) The difference Christ has made in my life. Led by Steve Patton.

**B2. Grasshopper Myth:** Based on the book by Karl Vaters, this workshop will challenge the false impression we often have that "small church" ministry is less than what God says it is because we compare ourselves with others. Small size is not always a problem to be fixed but a strategic advantage God wants to use. Led by Mary Ann Braswell.

**B3. Creation Care:** Discover practical ways individuals and churches can strengthen initiatives and be equipped in addressing modes of living and working that impact climate change and environmental degradation. Learn about Earthkeepers and programs Global Ministries has in place to be good stewards of our environment. Led by Jenny Phillips (Global Ministries).

**B4. Ten Tools for Revitalization:** Using the right tool at the right time makes all the difference. In this workshop, we'll explore 10 new tools from Congregational Development that will help your congregation move to increased vitality, health, and growth. Led by Jay Hanson & Anne Bosarge.

**B5. Reaching our Undocumented Neighbors:** Undocumented Neighbors (UN) Taskforce presents the UN Resource Guide that offers printed materials, links to websites, videos, and ways to encourage conversations around issues of our Undocumented Neighbors. Led by Brett Maddocks, UN TF.

**B6. (Cancelled) Understanding and Responding to Human Trafficking:** Some things go on in our world that we would like to shy away from because they are too ugly to contemplate; human trafficking is one of them. This workshop will help you understand what human trafficking is, what is being done to stop it, and how you and your church can participate in those efforts to end it. Led by the United Methodist Women.

**B7. Cast Your Net:** Why do many of our churches not see people becoming part of faith communities by profession of faith? This workshop will explore this reality along with intentional ways to evangelize, inspire, challenge, and encourage others to follow, take up their cross, and commit their life to Christ. Led by Matt Hearn.

**B8. Preaching in New Ways in Old Places:** Preaching a message that is biblical, engaging and relevant to a variety of ages is a difficult task. Doing it in traditional and mostly "churched" settings can make it even more cumbersome if you want to reach newer and younger demographics. This workshop will explore ways to develop sermons that are relevant and engaging for a variety of listeners while retaining a faithful and biblical approach that will keep your more seasoned and churched listeners engaged as well. Led by Anthony McPhail.

**B10. Youth Ministry** - This workshop will be a time of networking, resourcing and inspiration for staff and volunteers working within youth ministry. Best practices will be shared and the challenges in today's culture explored in helping youth to navigate life, seek Jesus and live out their faith. Led by Suzanne Akins.

**B10. Sitting with the Word:** Learn to allow God's Word to read you. There is a difference in reading scripture for our formation instead of for information. Let God's Spirit guide you in your reading and give up trying to conquer or master the text. Learn a new approach of reading scripture for spiritual growth that is classically rooted in tradition. Led by Kevin Clotfelter.

**B11. Ministry to the Caregiver:** One of the more challenging issues facing so many is serving as a family caregiver for a chronically ill, disabled or elderly loved one. When a malady or condition extends into months, years and even decades, many clergy and laypersons alike find themselves at a loss on what "bearing one another's burdens" looks like and how to effectively minister during this time. Learn how churches can begin to extend care to those who sacrifice in extended care for a loved one. Led by John Walker & Steve Vinson (Magnolia Manor).

## Pathway C 2:45 pm - 3:45 pm | Choose one workshop from Pathway C

**C1. SPRC - A Connecting Link:** Helping the pastor and staff have an effective relationship to the congregation and the District Superintendent is the role of the Staff Parish Relations Committee. In the workshop, SPRC chairs and members will gain practical insight into how to fulfill their responsibilities as well as how to avoid being the “complaint department.” Led by Nita Crump.

**C2. Strong Small Membership Churches:** Have you ever said or thought any of the following: “we’re just a small church” | “we don’t have a big budget” | “children? we don’t have any children; we’re all old!” | “there are other churches that do that better...” | “what difference can we make?” Churches of all shapes and sizes can do ministry well, even “small churches.” Come and learn how you and your church can be effective right where you are. Led by Jonathan Fuller.

**C3. Creation Care:** Discover practical ways individuals and churches can strengthen initiatives and be equipped in addressing modes of living and working that impact climate change and environmental degradation. Learn about Earthkeepers and programs Global Ministries has in place to be good stewards of our environment. Led by Jenny Phillips (Global Ministries).

**C4. How to Create a Movement:** God is inviting us to join Him in the new things He is doing in the world and in our churches. Are you ready to get on board and lead your church to join Him? In this workshop we’ll talk about how to create a movement so your church can go where God is leading and join Him in this exciting work! Led by Jay Hanson.

**C5. Planning a Mission Experience:** In this workshop, participants will explore how United Methodist Volunteers in Mission works and learn practical tools in planning a mission experience either domestically or outside the United States. You will learn about the wealth of resources to assist you in discovering different opportunities and how to logistically and spiritually plan for a transforming experience for yourself and team members. Led by Gene Barber.

**C6. Alternative Forms of Church:** Would you like to reach new people in new ways with the gospel of Jesus Christ? Are you interested in creating new ministries for your community? Come discover how faith communities are creating fresh expressions for ministry and cultivating leaders to plow this mission field. Discover how God might be calling you to do church in new and creative ways. Led by Anthony McPhail.

**C7. Introduction to the Enneagram:** The Enneagram (*ennea* is Greek for nine) is an ancient map of process and self-discovery that is experiencing a burst of popularity in our culture and quickly becoming recognized as an effective tool for personal, professional and spiritual growth. Interestingly, the Enneagram system has some of its roots in the Christian desert tradition. This introduction to the Enneagram will explore this unique tool for growth and understanding one another. Led by Aaron Kight.

**C8. Congregational Evangelism:** Evangelism is about God working through you and your congregation to become vibrant witnesses for Jesus Christ. Come explore ways to encourage and equip your church to reach out through faith-sharing. Led by Carl Barnhardt.

**C9. What do we do with THAT kid?:** It seems that in every group of children there is THAT kid. Not a bad child, just a child who has more energy, needs more direction, and marches to the beat of a different drum. This workshop will explore how to deal with some of the difficulties that arise while communicating the love of Christ to children with special needs. This workshop includes helpful information for teachers and volunteers about Autism and ADHD. Led by Melissa Traver (pastor and parent of “that kid”).

**C10. Sitting with the Saints:** With two thousand years of tradition, Christianity is rich with teachers. When we sit with the saints, we may be surprised by how they can help us navigate our spiritual journey. In this session, we invite certain saints to be our teachers and will also offer a list of resources for further exploration. Led by Ann Smith.

# All Day Focus Groups: Pastoral Counseling & Ministerial Services

During the Pathways event, three all day focus groups will be offered by the Offices of Pastoral Counseling and Ministerial Service. Pastoral Counseling is sponsoring a day-long workshop for clergy that focused on the path to clergy excellence in pastoral counseling. Ministerial Services is sponsoring a Call and Discernment Orientation for two groups: those interested in Licensed or Ordained Ministry (Candidacy Orientation) and training for those serving in the Mentoring Program.

## Pastoral Counseling

### **AD1. The Path to Clergy Excellence in Pastoral Counseling**

For clergy only, this full-day workshop will explore methods and techniques that enhance a pastor's ability to counsel when appropriate, make accurate assessments and interventions, and refer to professionals when necessary. Come prepared to have fun and learn amongst colleagues. Bring real cases to share and prepare to role play some situations that you most often encounter. Facilitated by Deborah Wight-Knight, Conference Pastoral Counselor.

## Ministerial Services

To register for AD2 or AD3: <https://sgaumc-reg.brtapp.com/candidacyorientation2019>

For more information contact:

Jay Harris, Director of Ministerial Services: [jharris@sgaumc.com](mailto:jharris@sgaumc.com)

### **AD2. Candidacy Orientation**

Candidacy Orientation will begin with an exploration of God's call and the shapes that call may take, including ordained ministry, licensed ministry. Those who are discerning a call to licensed or ordained ministry must go through a process called Candidacy. The purpose of candidacy is to determine if a person is called to ministry as a full-time or part-time vocation and if a person is a good fit for that ministry. Candidacy involves reading, conversations with various leaders of the Church, background checks, and psychological testing. The goal at the candidacy process is to be approved by the District Committee on Ministry and become a "certified candidate." If you have already begun the candidacy process but have not attended a "Candidacy Orientation," then this orientation is for you. You can go to [www.sgaumc.org](http://www.sgaumc.org), click "Ordained Ministry" and click "The Candidacy Process" to learn more about the process and perhaps take your first steps.

### **AD3. Mentor Training:**

Mentors are a crucial part of our clergy development system. Those who are eligible to serve as mentors are clergy in full connection (elders and deacons, active and retired), associate members (active and retired), and licensed local pastors who have completed the Basic Course of Study or M.Div. We will conduct training for both candidacy mentoring and clergy mentoring. We need a large cadre of mentors who will be cross-trained so the mentors can be readily assigned by the districts as needed in a variety of situations. All who serve as mentors must receive training and receive refresher training. So much has changed since training was last offered. New developments include a new candidacy guidebook, with accompanying mentor session plans, new mentor reports, and a new DCOM Dashboard (Ministerial Questionnaire) used by candidates, licensed clergy, and District Committees.