

Keynote Speaker:
John Roberto

John Roberto is a member of the Vibrant Faith Executive Team, and Project Coordinator for the Vibrant Faith Institute. He is the Founder and President of Lifelong Faith Associates, editor of the *Lifelong Faith Journal*, and coordinator for the Faith Formation 2020 Initiative. For over four decades John has provided consultation to churches, and authored books and manuals in youth ministry, family ministry, and intergenerational faith formation.



Through four plenary sessions, we will explore several timely questions for congregations.

1. What does research on congregations teach us about creating a culture of lifelong faith formation?
2. Which practices create and sustain a culture of lifelong faith formation?
3. What are the process and tools for building such a culture?
4. How can church leaders apply the practices, process, and tools in their congregations?

Whether you are a volunteer in your congregation, a full or part-time educator, or a pastor, the importance of creating a culture of lifelong faith formation affects the church of today and tomorrow.

Worship: Rev. Dr. Anna Pinckney Straight

Anna is pastor of the Old Stone Presbyterian Church in Lewisburg, West Virginia, a congregation founded in 1783 worshipping in a sanctuary built in 1796. A child of Second Presbyterian Church in Charleston, SC, she's a graduate of Agnes Scott College, Union Theological Seminary in New York City and Wesley Theological Seminary. The last 22 years of ministry have (joyfully) taken her full circle – from WV to PA to NC, and now back to WV.



Music: Anne Marie Juliano

Anne Marie was born to Christian Cuban missionaries in Tangier, Morocco, and grew up in Spain before her family moved to NJ where her father pastored a Hispanic Baptist church. From age 14, Anne Marie was the church pianist and director of music and choirs! Now retired after 35 years teaching music in public schools, she currently is the Director of Music at The Presbyterian Church of Upper Montclair.



Morning Workshops:
10:30 AM - 12:00 Noon

#1. Life-long Faith Formation: When Does it Begin?

Led by Lynne Pabst, CCE
This workshop explores the Biblical and Developmental beginnings of faith formation and the faith community's response to this understanding. Participants leave with a new way of thinking about how early life experiences lay the foundation for life-long faith and how in acting as a community of faith the church nurtures relationships in response to Baptismal vows.



#2. I Don't Care How Old You Are, We Need to Finish the Roof Before It Rains

Led by Rev. Derek Wadlington
Evangelism through service: how a motley group of college students and retirees learn from each other and form a community while performing disaster relief work. A collaboration between students from Wilson College and volunteers from Lend A Hand. Find inspiration for your own mission context from intergenerational mission.



#3. Connecting Bible Stories with Discipleship

Led by Carol Wehrheim, CCE
Using stories from *Growing in God's Love: A Story Bible*, we will read them with discipleship and how to live faithfully with differences (race, culture, abilities, etc.) in mind. This is the child's version of reading the Bible with the newspaper alongside it. Bring contemporary picture books you like to use with children.



Afternoon Workshops: 1:00-2:30 PM

#4. Lifelong Learning Toward Justice

Led by Rev. Jimmie Hawkins
Justice is integral to a life of faith. As Christians we embrace the Biblical command to "do justice, love kindness and walk humbly with our God." Our Lord and Savior Christ Jesus criticized the Pharisees for neglecting the "weightier matters of the law: justice, mercy and faithfulness." We teach children stories of Jesus' love for children as he blessed them. Teens learn that the church is called to engage in mission. As adults, we challenge systemic evils which prevent others from realizing their full humanity as self-sustaining children of God. We will engage in conversations about utilizing the gifts and resources God has placed before us to transform this world into the Beloved Community.



#5. Baptismal Water is Thicker Than Blood: Becoming a Church That Embraces Single People

Led by Stephanie Borger
Nearly half of American adults are unmarried, increasing numbers are remaining single their entire lives. Yet so much of congregational life centers around the nuclear family, often leaving adults without spouses and/or children feeling profoundly alienated by the church. Perhaps nowhere is this more evident than in our faith formation and educational ministries. We will reclaim a robust theology of singleness, consider practical ways to fully welcome unpartnered and/or childless adults into the household of faith, and discover how the singles in our congregations can help remind us all that our primary site of belonging is not to our biological family, but to the Body of Christ.



#6. When They Stop Coming to Sunday School – Creating Teaching Moments

Led by Rev. Katy Yates Brungraber, CCE
These days, many sessions have decided to let go of Sunday School because "nobody comes." We will explore ways for grandparents (and any adult who cares about lifelong learning and discipleship) to create and make the most of teaching moments. Nurturing spiritual growth can be as simple as anticipating and making theologically meaningful what already goes on around the church building – from unlocking doors, to collecting Communion cups, to setting up for a church supper. Let's connect life-in-the-church activities to scripture and discipleship.



Afternoon Workshop: 2:30-4:00 PM

#7. Art for Everyone

Led by Barbara Chalfant
How do you make traditional art forms accessible to everyone, even those who "don't do crafts?" Come join us, try out "Suminagashi" an early form of paper marbling, and other crafts. We will discuss how they are made fail proof so that people of all skill sets and ages can enjoy working together. Busy hands help open hearts in conversation and allow deep fellowship to form.



Spirituality Center

The 2020 EAPCE Event Spirituality Center will be constructed as an example where children and youth can learn, appreciate, and enjoy some of the Spiritual Disciplines of the church.

Stations and activities will be created highlighting a specific Bible story, each one concerning a child or youth. Instructions and handouts will be available to enable each participant to create as they need.
Created by Carolyn Leah, CCE, EAPCE's 2020 Educator of the Year



EAPCE SPRING EVENT 2020

REGISTRATION FORM

Name (as desired on your nametag)

Address/City/State/Zip

Phone

Cell

Email

Church/Position

APCE Member? Yes _____ No _____

First time attendee? Yes _____

Are there any dietary or special needs? _____

WORKSHOP CHOICES: (circle one for each time slot)

10:30 AM #1 / #2 / #3 1:00 PM #4 / #5 / #6

2:30 PM #7 (optional)

Conference Fees:

(Includes Conference, Keynotes, Workshops,
2 nights lodging and 5 meals and snacks):

Double Room(\$380) _____

Single Room(\$430) _____

Commuter.....\$150 3 day (meals included) _____

.....\$115 1 day (meals included) _____

Add \$40 for non-APCE members _____

Conference Fee Total _____

Roommate Preference _____

Scholarships Available for Spring 2020 Event

For first-time conference attendees, EAPCE will provide partial scholarships on a first-come first-served basis, as funds allow. Share the good news with your church friends! Email Cheryl Betts EAPCE Treasurer/Registrar, cheryl.betts52@gmail.com to receive a Scholarship Application Form.

Cancellation Policy: Cancellations can be honored only if made ten days or more before the event.

Please complete and mail registration with check payable to APCE Eastern Region to:

Cheryl Betts EAPCE Treasurer/Registrar,
Gettysburg Presbyterian Church,
208 Baltimore Street,
Gettysburg, PA 17325

Deadline to Register: Wed, April 1, 2020

Questions: Treasurer/Registrar Cheryl Betts (717.334.1235/church)

Hearts and Minds Bookstore

Byron Borger will be back with the newest resources edited with his experienced and trustworthy eye. Remember to save luggage space for your purchases.

Book Exchange

If you need to make space for new books and want to share your resources, there will be a book exchange. Bring some, take some, and make sure you take back what is not snapped up by other conference goers.



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Monday April 27

1:00 Registration and Check-In
3:00 Welcome and Community Building
4:00 Opening Worship with
Rev. Dr. Anna Pinckney Straight and Anne Marie Juliano
5:00 Dinner
6:30 Plenary #1
8:00 Vespers
8:30 Hospitality Hymn Sing

Tuesday April 28

7:30 Morning Prayer
8:00 Breakfast
9:00 Plenary #2
10:30 Morning Workshops
#1 Lifelong Faith Formation
#2 Finish the Roof
#3 Connecting Bible Stories
12:00 Lunch
1:00 Afternoon Workshops
#4 Lifelong Learning Toward Justice
#5 Baptismal Water is Thicker Than Blood
#6 When They Stop Coming to Sunday School
2:30 Free Time – Spirituality Center, Movie, or joining Workshop #7 Art for Everyone
4:00 The Best from Hearts and Minds Bookstore
5:00 Dinner
6:30 Plenary #3
8:00 Evening Worship
8:45 Educator of the Year Celebration

Wednesday April 29

7:30 Morning Prayer
8:00 Breakfast (reminder: check out is at 11 AM)
8:45 EAPCE meeting
9:30 Plenary #4
11:15 Closing Worship with Communion

EAPCE EVENT

Eastern Association of Presbyterian Church Educators



April 27-29, 2020

Rhodes Grove Conference Center
7693 Browns Mill Road
Chambersburg, PA

Keynote:

John Roberto

**Creating a Culture
of Lifelong Faith Formation**

Worship Leader:

Rev. Dr. Anna Pinckney Straight

Music:

Anne Marie Juliano

