

SAVANNAH PRESBYTERY'S 43RD ANNUAL

# FAITH ENRICHMENT CONFERENCE

*with* **REV. CECE ARMSTRONG**

*fertile faith*

**growing through discomfort**



**february 3 & 4 | 2023**

EPWORTH BY THE SEA  
ST. SIMONS ISLAND, GA

**Registration opens December 1, 2022!**

Early Bird Registration Ends: January 2, 2023

Final Deadline for Cancellation: January 13, 2023

## MEET THE KEYNOTE SPEAKER – Rev. Cecelia D. Armstrong



Reverend Cecelia D. Armstrong (Pastor CeCe) is a cradle Presbyterian who held membership at Calvary, New Life, and Belle-Terrace Presbyterian churches in Detroit, Atlanta, and Augusta respectively. She was educated at Spelman College, the University of Southern Mississippi, and the Interdenominational Theological Center where she attended Johnson C. Smith Theological Seminary. She is currently enrolled at the University of Dubuque Theological Seminary pursuing a Doctor of Ministry degree. She was ordained as a Deacon, and then an Elder, before she accepted the call on her life into pastoral ministry. Pastor CeCe served Grady Memorial Hospital as a chaplain and Beth Salem PCUSA as supply pastor. As an ordained Minister of the Word and Sacrament, Rev. Armstrong served as Solo Pastor of Grace PCUSA in Lantana, Florida and now is the very proud Associate Pastor of St. James PCUSA in Charleston, South Carolina, on the lovely James Island.

### ***Fertile Faith: Growing through Discomfort***

*During our time of worship and keynote we will explore the three-fold process required to encounter change. Whenever things are adjusted or whenever there is a modification to the norm, growth is required through the discomfort of change whether we want growth or not. Together we will be accountable to our fertile faith and grow through the discomfort of change.*

#### **NEW for 2023!**

**While we would love for each of you to join us *in person* at Epworth by the Sea, we know that is not feasible for everyone. To be inclusive, we are offering an *ONLINE* option. Online participants will have access to the Keynote sessions and will have the opportunity to choose from two preassigned workshop Zoom links at each of Saturday's sessions via Zoom.**

#### DIRECTIONS TO EPWORTH BY THE SEA

Epworth by the Sea is located at 100 Arthur J. Moore Drive, St. Simons Island, GA 31522.

From US-17 in Brunswick, take the F.J. Torras Causeway to St. Simons Island. Once you reach St. Simons Island, follow the new round-about left towards Sea Island Road. Go straight through the light. Take first left at Hamilton Road, then right on Arthur J. Moore Drive. Go through the Entrance Gate, and the Front Desk/ Pitts Building will be on your left. Registration will occur near the front desk until 6:30 p.m. Late registration will be available in Brown Auditorium.

## CONFERENCE FEES

The **in-person Conference Room Rates** listed include the cost of the conference, room charges, and three meals, beginning with dinner Friday night. The **Commuter Fee** includes dinner Friday night, breakfast and lunch on Saturday, and the conference. **Kids Camp fee** covers meals and activities at Epworth. The **Youth Connect fee** covers meals and activities at St. Simons Presbyterian Church.

**In order to receive the Early Bird discount, registrations with FULL payment must be postmarked by January 2.** There are no exceptions. After January 2 all registrations must include full payment of the regular fee. After January 13 registration may be limited to commuters and housing cannot be guaranteed.

<b>Registration Fees &amp; Deadlines</b>	<b>Early Bird by Jan. 2</b>	<b>Jan. 3-Jan 13</b>	<b>After Jan. 13</b>
Commuter Fee (includes 3 meals)	\$90.00	\$110.00	\$130.00
Double Room Rate (two adults)	\$135.00/per person	\$160.00	\$180; <b>May Not Be Available</b>
Single Room Rate	\$185.00	\$210.00	\$230; <b>May Not Be Available</b>
Youth Connect Fee / Kids Camp Fee	\$40.00	\$45.00	\$50.00
ONLINE ONLY FEE	\$50.00	\$75.00	\$75.00
Robertson Inn Upgrade*	\$20/room	Not Available	Not Available

**\*Robertson Rooms are limited in number and available on a first come first served basis.**

**Registration deadlines are met ONLY  
when completed registration forms AND payment are received.**

### REGISTRATION PROCESS

- Step 1** Each participant must clearly and completely fill out both sides of the registration form which is on a separate sheet included in this brochure. Extra registration forms may be copied or can be downloaded from the presbytery website: [www.savannahpresbytery.org](http://www.savannahpresbytery.org).
- Step 2** **Each** participant must turn in their completed registration form and payment **to his or her church or send directly to presbytery by the deadline.**
- Step 3** **If the church is managing registration,** please review all forms, and send in one package, along with a single check from the church covering payment *IN FULL* for all participants **by the registration deadline.**

**Please Note:** There are no exceptions to the registration deadlines. Registrations with full payment must be postmarked on or before the deadlines to receive the fees listed on the next page.



### CANCELLATION POLICY

Savannah Presbytery is required to finalize the number of rooms needed with Epworth by January 13<sup>th</sup>. Any cancellation that arrives after that date is charged to the Presbytery at the full room rate. To be good stewards of the Presbytery's money, the Ministry Team requests that the churches reimburse the Presbytery for any unused rooms reserved at Epworth for the Faith Enrichment Conference.

## SCHEDULE

### Friday, February 3

- 4:00 p.m. Conference Registration Begins in Epworth Lobby
- 5:30 p.m. Dinner
- 6:15 p.m. **Choir Practice- in Jones Auditorium**
- 6:30 p.m. Registration Ends at Front Desk
- 7:00 p.m. Opening Conference Worship – Rev. CeCe Armstrong preaching in Jones Auditorium**
- 8:00 p.m. Session A Workshops
- 9:00 p.m. **Conference Social Gathering-in Jones Auditorium**

### Saturday, February 4

- 7:00 a.m. Breakfast
- 8:15 a.m. Session B Workshops
- 9:30 a.m. Keynote Speaker – Rev. CeCe Armstrong**
- 10:45 a.m. Check out of rooms
- 11:00 a.m. Keynote Continues**
- 12:00 p.m. Lunch – Main Dining Room (dining room closes at 1:00 p.m.)
- 1:00 p.m. **NEW! Debrief & Dessert- Q&A in Jones Auditorium with Rev. CeCe Armstrong, our Mission Engagement Advisor, Sy Hughes and Samantha Davis from the Presbytery Mission Agency.**
- 1:45 p.m. Session C Workshops
- 2:45 p.m. Conference Ends



### KIDS CAMP

We are pleased to offer special activities for the children aged six months through fifth grade who accompany a registered adult. The sessions will coincide with the times of the adult sessions and workshops. **The children will eat with you during meals.** We will have crafts, games, Bible stories, and loads of fun!!

The Kids Camp Fee covers only the program and meals, and not accommodations. Children stay for free at the conference when they accompany a registered adult and pay fee for meals and programs. Room rates apply to the numbers of ADULTS in each room; the Kids Camp Fee is additional for each child participating.

**NEW! YOUTH CONNECT** at Faith Enrichment Conference. We are excited to offer our youth (6th-12th grade), who accompany a registered adult, an opportunity to gather for mixers, games, and service projects in the local community during our annual event. **Youth should be dropped off Friday, Feb 3rd, at St. Simons Presbyterian Church (205 Kings Way, St Simons, GA- where youth will spend entire conference time) before the registered adults check in at Epworth.** Youth should be picked up from SSPC shortly after the conference ends at 3 PM on Saturday, February 4th. Youth will need to bring air mattresses, sleeping bags, Bibles, and water bottles. **The Youth Connect Fee is per each youth participating and covers the program and meals at St. Simons Presbyterian Church.**

### SAVANNAH PRESBYTERY NEEDS YOUR HELP TO MAKE THIS EVENT A SUCCESS!

In giving to the Savannah Presbytery, member churches support each other in the opportunity to attend the Faith Enrichment Conference at an affordable rate. **The presbytery supplements a portion of the cost of the conference.** So that we can be good stewards of your money, we ask our churches to continue to do two very important things:

- 1) Adhere to the rules and deadlines on fees, hotel costs, and cancellation policies and
- 2) Give generously each year to the Budget of Savannah Presbytery

**Thank you for your support!**

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Session A: Fri. 8PM; Session B: Sat. 8:15 AM; Session C: Sat. 1:45 PM

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<b>Workshop Leader</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>	<b>Workshop Title</b>
Rev. Bob Brearley	Interim Pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Sumter SC; Honorably Retired member of New Harmony Presbytery	<b>8B</b> Jesus' First Sermon <b>11C</b> Jesus' First Sermon
Rev. Herb Codington	Serving three Presbyterian churches (Bethany, Lydia and Todd Memorial) in South Carolina	<b>9B</b> Lessons We Can Learn from 1001 New Worshipping Communities
Rev. Herb Codington	Serving three Presbyterian churches (Bethany, Lydia and Todd Memorial) in South Carolina	<b>12C</b> Missional Hospitality
Rev. Doug Craven	Recent Stated Clerk and Director of Administration, Savannah Presbytery	<b>5A</b> Clerks' Round Table
Leslie McCracken Cathy Douylliez & Barbara Dickman	Clerk of Session, St. Simons PC Stephen Leaders from First Presbyterian Church, St. Marys, GA	<b>4A</b> Introducing Stephen Ministry
Hermina Glass-Hill	Founder and Executive Director of the Susie King Taylor Women's Institute and Ecology Center	<b>13C</b> Prathia's Prayer: The Dream of a King
Hermina Glass-Hill	Administrator, M. K. Pentecost Ecology Fund for Savannah Presbytery	<b>7B</b> Who is M.K. Pentecost and how did an Emory educated Atlanta lawyer become the founder of a Trust Fund focused on Environmental Justice?
Rev. Steve Goyer	Interim Pastor, Saint Simons Presbyterian Church	<b>1A</b> Holding On to Straws
Sy Hughes	Our Mission Engagement Advisor from the Presbytery Mission Agency	<b>6B Part 1:</b> Introduction to Matthew 25: Overview & Resources <b>14C Part II:</b> Talking Matthew 25: Justice
Samantha Davis	Associate for Gender & Racial Intercultural Justice, Presbyterian Mission Agency	<b>10B</b> Radical Welcome <b>15C</b> Radical Welcome
Nat Scott	Director of Congregational Life at Saint Simons Presbyterian	<b>3A</b> Of Dust and Breath
Heather DuCloux & Savannah Presbytery's Pilgrimage Participants	Program Director of The Nobis Project along with pilgrimage participants	<b>2A</b> Unpacking Our Pilgrimage to Montgomery, AL

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## 2023 Faith Enrichment Conference Workshop Information

Session A: Fri. 8 PM; Session B: Sat. 8:15 AM; Session C: Sat. 1:45 PM

### 1A

#### **Holding On to Straws**

Steve Goyer

Using the poem “The Well of Grief” By David Whyte as the jumping off point for our conversation, join Rev. Steve in exploring the topic of grief.

*Rev. Steve Goyer. is the Interim Pastor at St. Simons Presbyterian*

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### 2A

#### **Unpacking Our Savannah Presbytery Pilgrimage to Montgomery, AL**

After making a pilgrimage to Civil Rights stops in Montgomery, AL, members of the 2022 presbytery group reflect on why they, as followers of Jesus Christ, felt called to expand their understanding of history and social justice in this way. With the guidance of The Nobis Project, the educational organization that coordinated the trip, workshop participants will learn about Nobis’ *Five Big Ideas* which creates space for persons to process, connect, and become agents of change. ([www.nobisproject.org](http://www.nobisproject.org))

*Heather DuCloux, Program Director of The Nobis Project*

*Savannah Presbytery’s Pilgrimage Participants*

### 3A

#### **Of Dust and Breath**

Natt Scott

In Genesis, when God scooped the red clay out of the Earth and breathed life into it, mankind was created. From Genesis onward, God has used clay, potters and pottery as a medium to teach his people about his deep and abiding love. In this workshop, participants will learn of the many places in scripture that allow for both meaning making as well as how to bring to life an elemental understanding of both who we are and whose we are.

*Natt Scott, Director of Congregational Life at Saint Simons Presbyterian*

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### 4A

#### **Introducing Stephen Ministry**

Cathy Douylliez & Barbara Dickman

What is Stephen Ministry? Stephen Ministry offers a proven and effective way to organize, equip, and supervise a team of congregation members—called Stephen Ministers—to provide high-quality, one-to-one, Christ-centered care to people in our congregations and our community experiencing life difficulties. Come and join as the leaders share the many blessings of Stephen Ministry and see if it is something in which your congregation might like take part. Bear one another’s burdens, and in this way, you will fulfill the law of Christ (*Galatians 6:2, NRSV*)

*Barbara Dickman and Cathy Douylliez, Stephen Leaders from 1st Presbyterian, Saint Marys*

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### 5A

#### Clerks of Session Round Table

Doug Craven & Leslie McCracken

Clerks of Session will gather to discuss the things that are directly relevant and impactful to the day-to-day needs of the individual churches and the clerk's role therein and to gain some tools for their responsibilities to the greater church. This time together is also for clerks to meet and to share in an open forum any questions or concerns as well as to build relationships of support for one another.

*Leslie McCracken is Clerk of Session at Saint Simons Presbyterian Church*

*Rev. Doug Craven was a recent Stated Clerk and Director of Administration for Savannah Presbytery*

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### 6B

#### Part 1: Introduction to Matthew 25: Overview & Resources

Sy Hughes

As Christians, Matthew 25 calls all of us to actively engage in the world around us so our faith comes alive and we wake up to new possibilities. We welcome you to learn about the Matthew 25 invitation and explore the three focuses of dismantling structural racism, eradicating systemic poverty and exploring what it means to be a vital congregation. We will also review some of the resources available to you, your mission committee, and your congregation from the Presbyterian Mission Agency.

***\*\*It is recommended that you also register for Part II: (14C)***

*Sy Hughes is our Mission Engagement Advisor with the Presbytery Mission Agency.*

### 7B

#### Who is MK Pentecost & How Did an Emory Educated Atlanta Lawyer Become the Founder of a Trust Fund Focused on Environmental Justice?

Hermina Glass-Hill

What are some of the "usual" projects funded by the MK Pentecost Ecology Fund and what are some of the more imaginative, unique programs? Through the use of imagination and history, participants will be invited to explore how their community might be served through such grants. A quick review of the process and timeline will also be presented

*Hermina Glass-Hill is the Administrator, M. K. Pentecost Ecology Fund*

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### 8B

#### Jesus' First Sermon

Bob Brearley

Jesus' first sermon in his hometown synagogue in Nazareth is a crisis moment for the gospel of Luke. We will watch Luke shape this early episode into a dramatic confrontation that foreshadows all that is to come in the ministry of Jesus.

What are we to learn from Luke 4:16-30 for our time and for our churches?

*Rev. Bob Brearley is an Honorably Retired member of New Harmony Presbytery currently serving as the Interim Pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Sumter, SC.*

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### 9B

#### Lessons We Can Learn from 1001 New Worshipping Communities

Herb Codington

1001 New Worshipping Communities will be explained and discussed through the experiences of three Communities in Trinity Presbytery. So much of what has been learned has relevance for existing congregations. Lessons learned will be shared and discussed.

*Rev. Herb Codington serves three Presbyterian churches—Bethany, Lydia and Todd Memorial—and also participates in a cluster of small PC(USA) churches in northwestern South Carolina.*

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### 10B

#### Radical Welcome

Samantha Davis

How do we create an environment that truly welcomes and affirms ALL people? Why is understanding, acknowledging, and addressing the harm the “church” has caused pivotal to our ability to do a “new thing”? How can we embody the love of Christ and their love for justice, to center the voices, concerns, and interests of those often left out of the narrative of welcome. In this workshop we will explore an in-depth look at how our churches, presbyteries, and gathering spaces can create safe, affirming, and welcoming environments for all God’s people and unpack some of the harm the church has caused to them.

*Deacon Samantha Paige Davis (she/they) serves as the Associate of Gender, Racial and Intercultural Justice for the Presbyterian Mission Agency.*

### 11C

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### 12C

#### Missional Hospitality

Herb Codington

Through handouts and examples, we will discuss how hospitality (loving the stranger) can become a powerful tool for the local church’s efforts in reaching out. A small booklet, Surprise the World! by Michael Frost, will be made available to assist in the discussions. In recent decades, the concept of hospitality is being rediscovered in helpful and powerful ways.

*Rev. Herb Codington serves three Presbyterian churches—Bethany, Lydia and Todd Memorial—and also participates in a cluster of small PC(USA) churches in northwestern South Carolina.*



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### 13C

#### **Prathia's Prayer: The Dream of a King**

Hermina Glass-Hill

Prayer is the key that opens the heart of God. In our Christian journey, prayer coupled with faith is an important part of overcoming the struggles that we experience in life and transforming us into useful vessels in the earthly kingdom of God. In 1962 at a prayer meeting in Albany, Georgia, the prayer of young Prathia Hall became the substance of things long hoped for as she repeated a prophetic vision "I have a dream." This session will provide an object lesson on the power of prayer, faith, and hope that spurred a movement for equality, justice, and transformation and guide us into genuine prayer for ourselves, our community, nation, and world.

*Hermina Glass-Hill is a historian and the founder and executive director of the Susie King Taylor Women's Institute and Ecology Center, a nonprofit organization that focuses on the life of Susie Baker King Taylor, a formerly en-slaved person and Presbyterian.*

### 14C

#### **Part II: Talking Matthew 25: Justice**

Sy Hughes

You already know about the Matthew 25 vision of the PC(USA). Now, we'll explore together practical ways your congregation can get involved justice efforts in the denomination. Join us to learn about pathways that Presbyterians engage in Justice efforts in local communities and around the world. Walk away with practical tools and ideas for next steps!

***\*\*It is recommended that you also register for Part I: (6B)***

*Sy Hughes is our Mission Engagement Advisor with the Presbytery Mission Agency.*

### 15C

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Samantha Davis

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