

“ONE THING” WORKSHOPS
FRIDAY AND SATURDAY, JANUARY 25 AND 26

FRIDAY MORNING, 10:30 AM – NOON

Appreciative Inquiry – Building on Excellence (Philippians 4:8)

Elizabeth Varin, Varin & Co. Consulting; member, Christ Community Church, Carmichael, California

Appreciative Inquiry creates a foundation for congregational revitalization and church planting that generates excitement for accelerated, positive change. This workshop will give participants a basic understanding of Appreciative Inquiry and its applications as well as practical hands-on experience.

Dynamic Ministry in Diverse Communities

Gregg Mast, president, New Brunswick Theological Seminary

This workshop will help participants prepare to more fully participate in God’s reign by embracing a multiracial future, confronting racism, and learning to love the city more deeply. New Brunswick Theological Seminary serves a student body with wide racial diversity drawn from 20 denominations and prepares them for ministry in diverse settings—mostly in cities. You are invited to explore how what New Brunswick is learning can help your congregation faithfully participate in God’s mission in your context.

Experiencing Leadershift

Bruce Bugbee, executive, Synod of the Far West; founder, Network Ministries International

We cannot do God’s church in our human way. In this workshop we will look at two critical factors that create divine alignment and releasing power: 1) you will explore your Servant Profile (spiritual gifts, ministry passions, personal style) and the importance of your unique contribution in the body of Christ; 2) you will discover the practical differences between equippers and servers, identifying your role and the role of leadership to build effective ministry teams that are truly missional. We have to experience a “leadershift” if we are going to be faithful, fruitful, and fulfilled in ministry.

Foundational Theology for Church Development

Ruben Armendariz, Mission Presbytery Staff, Church Development and Transformation, PCUSA, San Antonio, Texas (*NOTE: This workshop will be presented in a bilingual [Spanish and English] format.*)

“Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?” (Isaiah 43:19, ESV). New congregations in the church of Jesus Christ can materialize, through the guidance of the Holy Spirit, in a number of ways and in places we don’t expect, which empowers us and encourages us to grow. Come, discuss and learn what God can do.

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Four Critical Challenges for Mission in the 21st Century: Mission in a Rapidly Changing World and Church

RCA Global Mission staff

The church faces four critical mission challenges in the 21st century both in North America and around the world. Come hear how the RCA is addressing these mission challenges and what that means for our local congregations.

Leadership from Inside Out

Wesley Granberg-Michaelson, general secretary, Reformed Church in America

Leadership at any level and in any setting requires people of character who are capable of creating trust, identifying values, and sustaining vision. This is true in congregations, classes, boards, and agencies. Join RCA general secretary Wes Granberg-Michaelson in exploring congregational leadership that is built on and extends from the inner spiritual lives of leaders, and explore how this relates to the dynamics of organizational change. Wes will draw from his book *Leadership from Inside Out* for this interactive time together.

Mission Trips: Connecting with the Kingdom

Jay Harsevoort, coordinator for volunteers, Reformed Church in America

Are you considering a mission trip or do you want to find out more about the RCA Mission Volunteer Program? Come explore the current buzz around short-term mission trips. Are there ways to do better mission trips? How can you or your church connect with mission through volunteering? How do mission trips contribute to discipleship and leadership development? This workshop will address these questions as well as issues of transformation, service, non-maleficence, relationship building, and motivations for mission.

One Congregation, Multiple Locations

Irving Rivera, pastor, Fordham Manor Reformed Church, Bronx, New York

Peter Semeyn, senior pastor, Faith Reformed Church, Traverse City, Michigan

Tony Vis, senior pastor, Meredith Drive Reformed Church, Des Moines, Iowa

Congregations throughout the RCA are discovering new ways to multiply their ministry through a commitment to be one congregation in multiple locations. Their approaches are as varied as their contexts. Hear the stories of three congregations that are accepting this challenge, and learn how this approach to ministry might fit your situation.

The Power of Coaching

Elizabeth Potter, pastor, Sanctuary, Grand Haven, Michigan

Gary Jarvis, associate pastor, New Hope Community Church, Gilbert, Arizona

Coaching is the process of coming alongside people to help them discover God's agenda for their lives and ministry, while also seeking the Holy Spirit's guidance in making that agenda a reality. A coach helps draw out what God, through the Holy Spirit, is saying to someone, and then supports that person as, together, they help a God-shaped future emerge. This workshop will help you understand coaching more fully as you hear stories about the power of coaching in people's lives.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON, 3:30 TO 5:00 PM

Birth to Grow

Jeff Porte, lead pastor, Third Reformed Church, Kalamazoo, Michigan

Find out why this pastor and congregation believe that daughtering a new congregation is one of the most effective ways to renew your congregation. Third Reformed Church has birthed three daughters in three years with a combined attendance of 1,300. Learn strategies on how to move from conception to birth.

Congregational Leadership That Builds the Kingdom

Dr. Dennis Voskuil, president of Western Theological Seminary

This workshop will focus on assisting leaders in leading congregations in mission, from biblical and theological perspectives. Practical examples of contexts where faithful models of ministry are being lived out across the RCA will be explored and shared.

Empowering Prayer for Multiplication and Revitalization

Barb Schutt, J.R. Henderson, Jonathan Brownson, and Sherwin Weener

Members of the RCA Houses of Prayer Equipping (HOPE) team will share how prayer has impacted new church plants and revitalized congregations. They will give practical ideas regarding taking prayer to a deeper level and will teach a process for church “prayer assessment.”

Healthy Congregations, Fruitful Ministry

Vicky Menning, coordinator of church health and coaching, Reformed Church in America

Congregational health and fruitful participation in God’s mission in the world go hand in hand. As congregations improve their health they increase their capacity for fruitful ministry. In this workshop you will learn about the Natural Church Development process and hear stories of congregations that have seen their improved congregational health result in fruitful ministry.

How to Prevent a Disaster: Paying Attention to the Planter, the Model, and the Landmines in a New Church Start

Ben Ingebretson, regional consultant for church multiplication, Synod of the Great Lakes
Randy Bremer, church planter, ARK, Zeeland, Michigan

Before you design the way your new “baby” looks, consider the range of models, the tripwires, and the likely impact the planter will have on the plant. This workshop looks at planting from the perspective of a planter—what threatens them and what can empower them.

Jesus’ Method of Disciple-Making

Kirsty De Pree, coordinator for discipleship, Reformed Church in America

You hear the doorbell; someone is at your door and says, “Come and follow me.” You respond with, “I need to pack a bag, call my friends, go to the ATM, charge my cell phone, and then maybe I can think about it.” When Jesus called his disciples, he led them on a three-year journey of mission, ministry, and learning. The three years were a time for transformation, education, mission, and relationship. The disciples were committed and ready to follow at all cost. This workshop explores what it means to raise up that kind of disciple today, with discipleship that is so internalized within

the DNA and character of his or her life that it leads to active and direct disciple-making in the context of mission.

Leading Congregations with Vision and Accountability

Ken Bradsell, director of Operations and Support, Reformed Church in America

You may have heard about the practice of “policy governance” or “accountable leadership” in the governance of congregations and in the General Synod Council. What is policy governance? How does it work? Can it help give direction to your congregation? How does it improve accountability? Does policy governance conflict with RCA order, polity, and ecclesiology?

Purposeful Living: Turning Members into Missionaries

Aaron Anderson, pastor, Grace Community Church, Holland, Michigan

Imagine a church where people are discovering and living out God’s unique calling on their lives. Imagine a church where people feel like they are making a difference for God’s kingdom. This workshop will introduce you to Purposeful Living, a personal renewal process designed to help people discern God’s unique call and purpose for their lives and how to live out that purpose in their everyday lives. Purposeful Living can help a church shift from program development to people development, where people are empowered and released for kingdom-centered impact.

Re-Storying a Multiracial Future: Living into the Vision of Revelation 7:9

RCA Multiracial Congregational Team

Earl James, coordinator for multiracial initiatives and social justice, Reformed Church in America

Revelation 7:9 describes the wonderfully rich, diverse future God is bringing to us. The Reformed Church has the opportunity to prepare for and embrace that future. Learn how your congregation can help the Revelation 7:9 vision become a reality in your context.

The U-Turn Experience: Helping Your Church Move from Maintenance to Ministry

Bob Bouwer, senior pastor, Faith Church (RCA), Dyer, Indiana

Kevin Harney, teaching pastor, Faith Church (RCA), Dyer, Indiana

Are there biblical principles that will help your church make the shift from simply surviving to becoming a Spirit-filled force in your community? Can a good church become great? Is it really possible for your congregation to make a U-turn and begin a dramatically new season of ministry? Join Bob and Kevin as they tell the story of two RCA congregations that heard God declare a resounding “Yes!” to each of these questions. Come hear simple, transferable, biblical guidelines for leading your church through a U-turn experience.

SATURDAY MORNING, 9:00 TO 10:30 AM

Building for the Future

Paul Karszen, director of the RCA Church Growth Fund, Inc. (formerly RCA Building and Extension Fund)

Dick Welscott, director of development, Reformed Church in America

As the RCA focuses its efforts and resources on starting new congregations and revitalizing existing congregations, demand for resources provided by the RCA Church Growth Fund increases as well. During this informative session you will learn how the RCA is building for the future with resources provided by the fund, and how your church can literally build for the future by financing construction through the RCA Church Growth Fund.

Building Racial-Ethnic Leadership for the Church

Denise Kingdom-Grier, pastor of congregational care, outreach, and ministry development, Calvary Reformed Church, Holland, Michigan

Jeffrey Hough, pastor, Angel Community Church, Muskegon, Michigan

Eddy Aleman, pastor, Iglesia Emmanuel (RCA), Chowchilla, California

Steve and Hope Germoso, copastors, Living Stones Church, Tampa, Florida

Cynthia Holder Rich, associate professor of continuing education and director of certificate in urban pastoral ministry program, Western Theological Seminary

The panelists, with Cynthia Holder Rich moderating, will share from their own experience and offer suggestions on ways the RCA can constructively move forward to build God's reign on earth among the rainbow-colored people of God. If the church is to grow in an increasingly diverse North American society, we must find effective ways to identify, call out, and offer meaningful and relevant theological education to ministry candidates from diverse backgrounds.

Church Multiplication: A Movement for a New Millennium

Doug McClintic, pastor of mission and multiplication, Fair Haven Ministries, Hudsonville, Michigan

This workshop will provide an overview of how church multiplication movements are advancing the kingdom of God all over the globe. We will focus on the challenge of North America and the power of church multiplication as a strategy for the re-evangelization of our continent. This workshop will include an overview of RCA church multiplication as a church planting movement and will include a "state of the movement" progress report.

Everything You Always Wanted to Know About Who We Are: A Run through RCA History

Russ Gasero, archivist, Reformed Church in America

This workshop will offer an overview of RCA history from 1628 to the present with a focus on our mission and growth efforts and our traditional strengths of education, ecumenism, and mission. Attendees will receive an overview of the RCA and how we arrived at where we are today. The goal is to use our heritage to inspire and challenge us to grow into the future. Join us as we race through four years a minute!

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Leaders on the Horizon: Developing High School Students as Disciples and Leaders

Bob Cleveringa, director of youth ministry, Synod of the Heartland
Brooke Boersma, member, Leaders on the Horizon development team

This workshop will introduce you to a powerful resource called Leaders on the Horizon. Leaders on the Horizon is a program created for leadership development of high school students. The journey involves self discovery, scriptural study, spiritual growth, and character and skill development to equip students for Christian leadership.

So, Who's in Your Network? An Overview of Pastors' Coached Revitalizing Networks

Rodger Price, coordinator of leader renewal and networks, Reformed Church in America

Have you heard of coached revitalizing networks for RCA pastors? Are you curious about what they are, what they do, and who is taking part? Join us for a 90-minute exploration of these networks and the critical role they play in the revitalization movement across the RCA. Learn how networks have been the catalyst and the ongoing support needed for pastors to experience the personal renewal that often leads to congregational renewal.

Specialized Interim Ministries: A Resource for Church Revitalization and Leadership Development

Reformed Church in America Specialized Interim Ministers

Is your church a candidate for Specialized Interim Ministry? Is your church aware of the multiple tasks Specialized Interim Ministers offer? Does your church know the process by which you can secure the services of a Specialized Interim Minister? In what ways can Specialized Interim Ministers be utilized by your church as a catalyst for church renewal and revitalization and for leadership development? This workshop will answer these questions and others you may have about this emerging ministry within the RCA.