

# PRE- CONFERENCE WORKSHOP 1 | 9:00 AM

|                     | Title   | Description  | Repeat?           |
|---------------------|---|--|-------------------|
| ADULT DISCIPLESHIP  | <b>Copying after God: The Posture and Practice of Love</b><br>Speaker: Paul Chilcote, Wesley House  | One of Methodism's most beloved teachers offers a model for teaching, preaching, and understanding life in the Wesleyan way, highlighting distinctive characteristics of Methodist theology and practices for daily life. With the help of original material from John and Charles Wesley, you'll gain clarity and learn to reclaim a Wesleyan way of life, correct misconceptions about Wesleyan theology, and share the essentials of Methodism with others. | Yes, in Session 3 |
|                     | <b>Empowering Women: How to Create a Thriving Women's Ministry</b><br>Speaker: Lauren Cook, Resurrection Entry Points Director  | Is your church looking to build a supportive community for women of all ages and stages of life? We'll focus on how to identify needs and interests of women in your congregation, craft a clear vision, develop targeted ministry groups, and foster a welcoming and inclusive atmosphere. We want to help you feel confident in creating a space where women can grow in faith, connect with others, and discover their purpose.                             |                   |
|                     | <b>Prayer Lab: Re-Think, Re-Imagine, Re-Experience</b><br>Speakers: Matt Bisel, Resurrection Adult Discipleship Location Pastor; Anne Williams, Resurrection Downtown Location Pastor | Sometimes our preconceived notions about prayer keep us from fully experiencing the connection God intends. Prayer doesn't have to be an on-your-knees devotion; it doesn't have to feel like an awkward, one-way conversation. For those who struggle to make prayer work in traditional ways, or who are just longing for something more, this immersive experience will help in re-thinking, re-imagining, and re-experiencing the practice of prayer.      |                   |
| CARE                | <b>Empowering You: Navigating Mental Health Challenges Together</b><br>Speaker: Rebeca Chow, Resurrection Clinical Counseling & Mental Health Director                                | Change is a constant in life. Through practical strategies and shared experiences, you'll learn how to embrace change as an opportunity for personal growth and transformation. This is designed to equip you with the mindset and mental health tools needed to navigate transitions with grace and resilience.   |                   |
| CHILDREN / STUDENTS | <b>Engaging Volunteers In Kid's Ministry</b><br>Speaker: Nick Ransom, Resurrection Kids Director - Leawood  | Volunteers make kid's ministry run! Hear how Resurrection Kid's recruits, trains, and appreciates volunteers, as well as best practices from a variety of ministries for engaging volunteers well!   |                   |
|                     | <b>Student Ministry: Curriculum Review</b><br>Speakers: Steve Schneeberger, Resurrection Students Lead Director; Mikiala Tennie, Resurrection Student Discipleship Director           | This fall, Resurrection will release (free on ShareChurch.com) the first year of four two-year curriculums for students at every age and stage of life. Each will include content for middle school, confirmation, high school, and 11th and 12th grade students. Learn the thought process behind the curriculum, as well as the hope for what students will accomplish in their discipleship journey   |                   |

# PRE- CONFERENCE WORKSHOP 1 | 9:00 AM

|                         | Title  | Description   | Repeat? |
|-------------------------|--|---|---------|
| LEADERSHIP & OPERATIONS | <b>Igniting the Essential Assistant</b><br>Speaker: Stephanie Hubers, Resurrection Executive Assistant to Senior Pastor  | Assistants are the backbone of every church! Resurrection assistants, including Senior Pastor Adam Hamilton's Executive Assistant, will discuss ways to ignite these essential personnel. Designed to be a time of learning, conversation, and fellowship.  |         |
|                         | <b>Roadmap for Employee Coaching, Counseling, and Corrective Action</b><br>Speaker: Resources Lead Director; Missy Montana, Resurrection Human Resources Specialist  | Employee performance highly impacts ministry effectiveness, and knowing what to do when there are bumps in the road can be challenging. Interactively examine how to set and coach towards expectations, as well as how to course-correct when expectations are not met.  |         |
|                         | <b>The Art of Hospitality</b><br>Speakers: Yvonne Gentile, Church of the Resurrection; Debi Nixon, Resurrection Executive Director of Donor Development  | Engaging worship and intentional follow-up are important, but what compels guests to return to our churches is the warmth of our welcome and hospitality that goes beyond their expectations. Learn time-tested methods for creating a culture that delivers exceptional guest experiences and leave with practical, effective tips and tools that can be used in churches of any size.   |         |
| MISSION                 | <b>Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging (DEIB): What's Love Got To Do With It?!</b><br>Speaker: Cheryl Bell, Resurrection Community Justice Pastor  | Learn the basics of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging initiatives, as well as how they can apply to the church, and leave with practical ideas for implementing change at your church.  |         |
|                         | <b>Short Term Mission Trips: Breaking Bad</b><br>Speakers: Alec Fox, Resurrection Latin America & Disaster Response Director; Hugo Ngwira, Resurrection Global Partner; Sheree Reece, Resurrection Global Missions Director - Africa, Asia & Haiti | Short-term mission trips have gotten a bad rap, but are they all damaging? Personal transformation can only happen through relational investment, and we all need to be transformed. Plus, God calls us to go out into the world, not only to serve in our own neighborhoods around the U.S. But, how do we ensure we do it well? This interactive conversation with Resurrection staff and partners, along with other participants, will focus on best practices for serving globally. |         |
| WORSHIP & COMMUNICATION | <b>Online Care, Connection, and Community Building</b><br>Speaker: Ashley Morgan Kirk, Resurrection Online Connection & Care Pastor  | Discover the core values and practices of care, connection, and community building for those who worship online at Resurrection. Come away with insight into the strategy, workflow, volunteer structure, and heart for showing up for people and equipping them to show up for others. Also gain practical ideas, tools, and guidance on adapting concepts for your context. Witness passion and excitement for online ministry, while you learn from our wins and our losses.         |         |

# PRE- CONFERENCE WORKSHOP 2 | 10:45AM

|                    | Title   | Description  | Repeat?           |
|--------------------|---|--|-------------------|
| ADULT DISCIPLESHIP | <b>A Tool to Help New Readers "Meet" Their Bible</b><br>Speakers: Melanie Hill, Resurrection Director of Operations & Community Life - West; Darrell Holtz, Resurrection Curriculum & Content Specialist; Mindi McKenna, Resurrection Volunteer | Too often people new to Bible reading get bogged down in details and mistaken assumptions about what the Bible is intended to do. Over the last ten years, through both in-person and online sessions, Resurrection has refined a 6-week class called "Meet Your Bible" focused on the Bible's epic story of God's redemptive purposes. This gives participants the "big picture" before they start trying to figure out where all the more detailed, individual pieces fit. You'll get an overview and introduction to the class, which can then be downloaded for free   |                   |
|                    | <b>Leader Recharge</b><br>Speaker: David Andersen, Resurrection Leadership Development & Mentoring Ministry   | "Are you tired? Worn out? Come to me, all you who are struggling hard and carrying heavy loads, and I will give you rest" Matthew 11:28. Come take some time to embrace these words from Jesus in a space where you can take a breath and just receive. Spiritual exercises will be included to help with this time of reflection, and you'll be sent out with a blessing. No demands. No rigorous program. Just a time of renewal and blessing for any and all ministry leaders.  | Yes, in Session 4 |
|                    | <b>Small Groups: Why Is This So Hard?</b><br>Speaker: Justin Schoolcraft, Resurrection Small Groups Pastor - Leawood  | With so many ministry leaders admitting they struggle when it comes to building small groups, there must be larger cultural and societal forces at play. If so, how do we move forward with the hard work of building small groups? And, most importantly, why should we even do it at all? This discussion of the realities of building small groups will include success stories and key mistakes from Resurrection's reinvestment in small group ministry.  |                   |
| CARE               | <b>Ministry with the Elderly: The Gift of Presence</b><br>Speakers: Madison Brown, Resurrection Silver Link Coordination Director; Emily Stirewalt, Resurrection Silver Link Pastor   | Showing up. Staying. Being present in the moment. When it comes to the frail and elderly among us, presence is your ministry. Designed for volunteers and leaders who want to connect with the oldest saints among us and make sure they feel a part of the church community, even if they are unable to be physically present.  |                   |
|                    | <b>Suicide Intervention</b><br>Speaker: Anne Gatobu, Resurrection Executive Director of Care & Mental Wellness  | We normally use the term "intervention" when responding to a situation that is already taking place. Here we will demonstrate that true intervention in the case of suicide includes prevention, which should begin long before any signs are exhibited by creating opportunities in the faith context where it is okay to discuss suicide. Creating such safe spaces includes learning to listen in non-threatening ways. "Post-vention" includes engaging survivors and offering rituals that move people toward healing. This will be both an introduction and an invitation to learn more about suicide intervention as a crucial role of our faith communities. |                   |

# PRE- CONFERENCE WORKSHOP 2 | 10:45AM

|                         | Title   | Description  | Repeat?           |
|-------------------------|---|--|-------------------|
| CHILDREN / STUDENTS     | <b>A Strategic Approach to Children and Family Ministry</b><br>Speaker: Jason Gant, Resurrection Kids Lead Director   | What are young families hoping for when it comes to their family's connection to faith and the church? How can we meet them where they are and engage them in a wholistic life of discipleship? This will focus on developing a vision and strategy for reaching and engaging young families in your community.  |                   |
|                         | <b>Student Ministry: Translating Resurrection for Your Context</b><br>Speakers: Megan DelGrosso, Resurrection Student Ministries Director - Leewood; Amy Fletcher, Resurrection Student Ministries Director - West; Leah Swank-Miller, Resurrection Students Director - Overland Park | Have you ever thought about something, "Yeah, that's fine for Resurrection (or another big church), but I can't do that at my church.?" We get it – it can be hard to translate activities, curriculum, and best practices. We have six different locations that span all sizes and configurations of youth group and Sunday School. Our smallest youth group averages 15-20 students, and it used to be smaller. So, come and find out how we translate the same activities, curriculum, and best practices to fit all the varying shapes and sizes of youth groups.  |                   |
| LEADERSHIP & OPERATIONS | <b>Church Culture Checkup</b><br>Speakers: Jim Ozier, Ozier Coaching; Yvette Thibodeaux, Impact Church  | It is often said that "culture – not vision or strategy – is the most powerful factor in any organization." So, how is your church's culture doing? Is it vibrant? Healthy? Stagnant? Struggling? Toxic? Coming back from COVID and leading in times of social unrest has challenged the culture of every organization, including the church. Add internal, denominational divisions and disruptions – such as United Methodist disaffiliations – and it is understandable why every church would benefit from a culture checkup, simply for the sake of its health. With an engaging, results-oriented approach, you will be introduced to a step-by-step process that can guide clergy and laity in assessing and reinvigorating church culture. Then, you'll come away equipped with tools and techniques to improve your church's culture – where needed – in positive ways that lead to renewed enthusiasm! | Yes, in Session 4 |
|                         | <b>Church Governance</b><br>Speaker: Dan Entwistle, Resurrection Senior Executive Director & COO  | Vital churches have healthy leadership structures wired to navigate the congregation in strategic directions. Yet many churches have become accustomed to "business as usual" with boards, committees, and councils that consume energy and diminish the potential of the local church. Learn how Resurrection is governed, how it selects lay people to serve in elected positions, as well as how it distinguishes between the important work of committees and the work of ministry teams and staff.  |                   |

# PRE- CONFERENCE WORKSHOP 2 | 10:45AM

|                          | Title   | Description  | Repeat?           |
|--------------------------|---|--|-------------------|
| LEADERSHIP & OPERATIONS  | <b>Facilities Tour</b><br>Speaker: Matt Kelly, Resurrection Facilities & Construction Lead Director   | This walking tour will give you a firsthand look behind the scenes of Resurrection's Leawood location. You will see critical systems that make ministry possible and might even get a close-up view of the stained-glass window. There are LOTS of steps and stairs in the tour, so be prepared for some exercise.   |                   |
|                          | <b>Keeping it Simple in the Small Church: 8 Keys for Ministry Planning</b><br>Speaker: Blake Bradford, Pastor. Author.  | Planning ministry in a small congregation can be daunting – there are always more opportunities than resources and more heart than hands! Learn 8 keys to planning ministries that fit the capacity of small congregations – keys that provide a sustainable way for those churches to make a God-sized impact in their communities.   | Yes, in Session 4 |
| MISSION                  | <b>Encountering Christ on the Streets</b><br>Speaker: Jenifer Schultz, Resurrection Mission Engagement Pastor - Brookside   | On any given day, you will find many generous, well-meaning churches serving food to the homeless in large portions with big smiles. Yet the table where the food sits often serves as a visible reminder of the dividing line between these two communities – the haves and the have nots. Church patterns of mission engagement have typically developed over generations and are often reinforced by perceptions of “others” some may still refer to as “needy.” While transforming such longstanding patterns may not be possible overnight, you'll hear about simple, practical steps any church can take to transcend the relational divide and move people toward greater kinship with those in need. |                   |
| WORSHIP & COMMUNICATIONS | <b>Digital Ministry on a Budget: Websites, Social Media, and Newsletters Made Simple</b><br>Speaker: Matt Williams, Resurrection Digital Engagement Team Director                             | Digital media is the new front door for your church, and it's essential for effective ministry in today's world. But, how do you manage a website, multiple social media accounts, and email newsletters with a limited budget and no staff? Here you'll learn simple but effective strategies for your website, social media, and email newsletters that leverage the power of technology (including AI) but don't require technical expertise, a huge budget, or multiple staff.   |                   |
|                          | <b>Reboot Your Worship: Five Things to Do Right Now to Improve Your Worship Without a Big Budget</b><br>Speaker: Marcia McFee, Worship Design Studio  | Worship is one of the most important ways we offer the liberating Good News. But how do we go from “plug-and-play” planning to offering people a vital and engaging spiritual journey with each liturgical season? And how do we navigate this challenging time when worship attendance varies so widely from sanctuary worship to hybrid, recorded, or just every once-in-a-while? Learn 5 very doable and budget-friendly ways to rejuvenate your worship without “upsetting the apple cart.”  |                   |
|                          | <b>Sanctuary Back Stage Tour (with optional catwalk tour)</b><br>Speakers: James Holt, Resurrection Video & Lighting Technical Director; Layna Shrout, Resurrection Communications Specialist | A guided tour of all the back-of-house audio, video and lighting technology in the main sanctuary at Resurrection's Leawood location. Tour will end in the control room for more detailed discussion. Followed by an optional tour of the "Skybox," lighting catwalk, and perhaps even a close-up of the stained-glass window that will involve extensive walking and stairs – wear comfortable shoes!   |                   |

# PRE- CONFERENCE WORKSHOP 3 | 1:30PM

|                    | Title  | Description  | Repeat?           |
|--------------------|--|--|-------------------|
| ADULT DISCIPLESHIP | <b>Copying after God: The Posture and Practice of Love</b><br>Speaker: Paul Chilcote, Wesley House   | One of Methodism’s most beloved teachers offers a model for teaching, preaching, and understanding life in the Wesleyan way, highlighting distinctive characteristics of Methodist theology and practices for daily life. With the help of original material from John and Charles Wesley, you’ll gain clarity and learn to reclaim a Wesleyan way of life, correct misconceptions about Wesleyan theology, and share the essentials of Methodism with others.   | Yes, in Session 1 |
|                    | <b>Discipleship Pathway: Curating the Journey of Becoming Deeply Committed Christians</b><br>Speakers: Matt Bisel, Resurrection Adult Discipleship Lead Director; Lauren Cook, Resurrection Entry Points Director  | Imagine a discipleship gathering where 1/3 of the participants have never been to church? Does your small group journey point people toward leadership? What if disciples in the pews of your church are already equipped, empowered, and passionate about making new disciples? This interactive conversation on curating a journey from non-religious to deeply committed will explore a strategy for meeting people around shared interests, introducing them to Christian community, creating spaces of belonging, and developing disciples who disciple others. |                   |
|                    | <b>Evangelism in a Post-Christian Culture</b><br>Speaker: Chris Folmsbee, Executive Director of Resurrection Experience  | As more and more people describe their religious affiliation as “nothing in particular” and become increasingly skeptical about Christianity and its influence in the world, what can followers of Jesus do to remain faithful witnesses? Take home 10 proven and practical ideas for you and your church – for sharing the gospel, reaching new people, and making a lasting difference in your community.  |                   |
| CARE               | <b>Grief Support: How to Care for Those Who Are Grieving</b><br>Speakers: Dennis Apple, Resurrection Leawood Connection & Care Pastor;<br>Valerie Nagel, Resurrection Leawood Connection & Care Pastor   | Learn how your church can provide a safe, supportive, and intentional space for those who are grieving. You’ll hear from both pastors and lay volunteers who lead grief support groups and studies.  |                   |
| CHILDREN           | <b>Behind the Scenes of Children's Weekend Programming</b><br>Speakers: Emily Donigan, Resurrection Kids Nursery Director - Leawood; Amy Fulton, Resurrection Kids Early Childhood Director - Leawood; Lynnlea Nelson, Resurrection Kids Director - West | Explore Nursery and Early Childhood spaces at Resurrection’s Leawood location. Our leaders will offer an informative and engaging tour, while discussing how we do what we do with the littlest in our church.   |                   |

# PRE- CONFERENCE WORKSHOP 3 | 1:30PM

|                         | Title   | Description   | Repeat? |
|-------------------------|---|---|---------|
| CHILDREN / STUDENTS     | <b>Special Needs Ministry Is Not Complicated</b><br>Speakers: Joan Baird, Resurrection Sonflower Bakery Director - Leawood; Ann Joyner, Resurrection Volunteer Ali Lamontagne, Resurrection Sonflower Adult Learning Director; Marna Terblanche, Resurrection Matthew's Ministry Director - Leawood | Keeping it simple is the key to building a firm foundation for special needs ministry. Hear from key ministry leaders, walk through Resurrection's special needs ministry space, and be inspired through simplicity.  |         |
|                         | <b>Confirmation: Creating the Best Journey for Your Context</b><br>Speaker: Mikiala Tennie, Resurrection Student Discipleship Director  | Confirmation is an important step for young people in many different denominations. At Resurrection, we are constantly workshopping and reworking our Confirmation course in an effort to make a student's time in this journey as meaningful as possible. Here, we'll discuss what we have done, are doing, and hope to do as it relates to confirmation class.                        |         |
|                         | <b>Student Ministry: Mission Trips That Matter</b><br>Speakers: Megan DelGrosso, Resurrection Student Ministries Director - Leawood; Steve Schneeberger, Resurrection Students Lead Director  | Ever had a hard time finding a mission trip destination that fits your church's theology? We have. We'll review important questions you should ask when considering a mission destination and share some organizations that fit Resurrection's requirements and strategy when it comes to "Serve Trips."  |         |
| LEADERSHIP & OPERATIONS | <b>Best Practices in Volunteer Management</b><br>Speakers: Yvonne Gentile, Church of the Resurrection; Melanie Hill, Resurrection Director of Operations & Community Life - West  | Struggling to find, motivate, or retain volunteers post-COVID? Here you'll gain a holistic framework for best practices in volunteer management that is adaptable to any context, along with four components of effectively leading volunteers. Will include a discussion of trends in volunteerism in today's environment.   |         |
|                         | <b>Inspiring Generosity: Donor Development and Giving Strategies</b><br>Speakers: Ashley Cheung, Resurrection Donor Relations Specialist; Debi Nixon, Resurrection Executive Director of Donor Development; Gwyn Thomas, Resurrection Donor Relations Specialist                                    | Resurrection's Donor Development Team will share practical strategies for annual stewardship campaigns, capital campaigns, planned giving, and special offerings - including Resurrection's strategy of giving away 100% of the Christmas Eve offering every year. Come away with actionable ideas for inspiring a culture of generosity and growing the Kingdom impact of your church. |         |
| MISSION                 | <b>Building a Partner School Ministry</b><br>Speaker: Cristen Summers, Resurrection Mission Engagement Director - Leawood   | A panel of educators and volunteers will share thoughts on what successful partnerships look like and suggest ways your church, no matter its size, can work with your local public school to engage volunteers in mutually life-changing service and building relationships of trust   |         |

# PRE- CONFERENCE WORKSHOP 3 | 1:30PM

|                                     | Title   | Description   | Repeat? |
|-------------------------------------|---|---|---------|
| <b>MISSION</b>                      | <p><b>Empowering Tomorrow's Leaders: Strategies for Engaging Kids and Families in Mission Work</b><br/>                     Speaker: Katy Nall, Resurrection Local Missions Engagement Director - West</p>  | <p>Explore innovative approaches and the many benefits of engaging children and families in meaningful mission work. Discover creative activities to implement in your own congregation and impactful initiatives designed to cultivate a spirit of service. Learn how to empower parents and the next generation of leaders to make your community look more like the Kingdom of God!</p>  |         |
| <b>WORSHIP &amp; COMMUNICATIONS</b> | <p><b>Engaging Your Community in the Do Unto Others Campaign</b><br/>                     Speaker: Cathy Bien, Resurrection PR &amp; Special Projects Lead Director</p>   | <p>This fall, Resurrection is encouraging churches and organizations across the country to join in our bi-annual campaign for kindness: Do Unto Others. Check out the campaign information and resources at <a href="http://campaignforkindness.com">campaignforkindness.com</a>. Then, come to this interactive conversation to share what you are doing, learn from others, and celebrate how our churches are bringing people together and demonstrating Jesus' command to love one another.</p> |         |
|                                     | <p><b>Studio C Tour and Tech Talk</b><br/>                     Speakers: James Felver, Resurrection Online &amp; Broadcast Creative Production Director; Mike Lind, Resurrection Video Producer; Kersee Meyer, Resurrection Video Team Director; Sandy Thailing, Resurrection Video &amp; Tech Production Team Director</p> | <p>Explore Studio-C at Resurrection's Leawood location and learn how to effectively use green screen, how to light a simple interview, what tools to use for streaming, what multi-camera live switching is, and how to get better sound in a your productions. Includes a hands-on demonstration of Blackmagic's Ursa cameras and switcher.</p>  |         |



# PRE- CONFERENCE WORKSHOP 4 | 3:15PM

|                    | Title   | Description   | Repeat?           |
|--------------------|---|---|-------------------|
| ADULT DISCIPLESHIP | <b>Kingdom Moments and Movements</b><br>Speaker: Robert Johnson, Resurrection Leawood Location Pastor   | Learn a strategic and deeply spiritual way to move ministry, purpose, and life forward by mapping the moments in which we encounter extraordinary manifestations of divine grace and Kingdom life.  |                   |
|                    | <b>Leader Recharge</b><br>Speaker: David Andersen, Resurrection Leadership Development & Mentoring Ministry   | "Are you tired? Worn out? Come to me, all you who are struggling hard and carrying heavy loads, and I will give you rest" Matthew 11:28. Come take some time to embrace these words from Jesus in a space where you can take a breath and just receive. Spiritual exercises will be included to help with this time of reflection, and you'll be sent out with a blessing. No demands. No rigorous program. Just a time of renewal and blessing for any and all ministry leaders. | Yes, in Session 2 |
|                    | <b>Sustainable Young Adult Ministry</b><br>Speakers: Sierra Glaser, Resurrection Young Adult & College Ministries Director - Leawood; Justin Schoolcraft, Resurrection Small Groups Pastor - Leawood  | An honest discussion of the good, the bad, and the ugly when it comes to a young adult ministry that lasts. This will include leadership lessons and practical solutions for inspiring young adults to pursue their gifts and engage in their faith.  |                   |
| CARE               | <b>Finding Help and Support for Those Struggling with Addictions</b><br>Speakers: Bethany DePugh, Resurrection Recovery Ministries Coordination Director; Jenifer Schultz, Resurrection Mission Engagement Pastor - Brookside; Sandy Thailing, Resurrection Video & Tech Production Team Director | Learn basic information about addiction and how to care for people and family members struggling with addiction. You'll also receive tools and a 12-Step faith-based guide for beginning a recovery ministry at your church.  |                   |
|                    | <b>God's Open Table: Creating Space for All</b><br>Speakers: Nick Kaufmann-Mamisashvili, Resurrection Downtown Connection & Care Pastor; Derick McGhee, Resurrection Downtown Volunteer   | Why is the image of God enhanced by the LGBTQ+ community? We will explore an answer to that question collaboratively. So, pull up a chair and prepare to get experimental, as we dream about the impact of a genuinely inclusive Church here and now. Learn from Resurrection's experiments and share your own, as we seek to grow a vibrantly inclusive Church together.   |                   |

# PRE- CONFERENCE WORKSHOP 4 | 3:15PM

|                         | Title   | Description  | Repeat?           |
|-------------------------|---|--|-------------------|
| CHILDREN / STUDENTS     | <b>Caring for Kids, Teens, and Families in Crisis</b><br>Speaker: Jason Gant, Resurrection Kids Lead Director   | Anxiety and depression in kids and teens are at all-time highs. Learn ways your local church ministry can become a light of hope in the midst of such mental health challenges. Focused on practical steps any church can take to be a source of hope and healing for the surrounding community.   |                   |
|                         | <b>Student Ministry: Survey Says!</b><br>Speaker: Steve Schneeberger, Resurrection Students Lead Director   | We surveyed past participants to find out what they wanted to learn and/or discuss at Leadership Institute, and we discovered a lot of interesting topics. This panel and group discussion will address many of the things expressed in the survey results. And, if we miss anything on your list, we'll have time at the end to talk about that, too!   |                   |
| LEADERSHIP & OPERATIONS | <b>Church Culture Checkup</b><br>Speakers: Jim Ozier, Ozier Coaching;<br>Yvette Thibodeaux, Impact Church   | It is often said that "culture – not vision or strategy – is the most powerful factor in any organization." So, how is your church's culture doing? Is it vibrant? Healthy? Stagnant? Struggling? Toxic? Coming back from COVID and leading in times of social unrest has challenged the culture of every organization, including the church. Add internal, denominational divisions and disruptions – such as United Methodist disaffiliations – and it is understandable why every church would benefit from a culture checkup, simply for the sake of its health. With an engaging, results-oriented approach, you will be introduced to a step-by-step process that can guide clergy and laity in assessing and reinvigorating church culture. Then, you'll come away equipped with tools and techniques to improve your church's culture – where needed – in positive ways that lead to renewed enthusiasm! | Yes, in Session 2 |
|                         | <b>Financial Planning for Long-Term Building Improvements and Capital Expenditures</b><br>Speaker: Rachel Svaty, Resurrection Executive Director of Business Operations & CFO | Is your church prepared to pay for future building improvements and capital expenditures like a new roof, carpeting, HVAC unit, PA systems, LCD displays, or other equipment? Learn how to estimate future capital expenditures for facilities, IT and other equipment needs and how to estimate future cash flows to understand if you will have enough saved to pay for future needs. Templates will be provided. Techniques for beginning or growing your savings will be shared to help you get started.   |                   |
|                         | <b>Keeping it Simple in the Small Church: 8 Keys for Ministry Planning</b><br>Speaker: Blake Bradford, Pastor. Author.  | Planning ministry in a small congregation can be daunting – there are always more opportunities than resources and more heart than hands! Learn 8 keys to planning ministries that fit the capacity of small congregations – keys that provide a sustainable way for those churches to make a God-sized impact in their communities.   | Yes, in Session 2 |

# PRE- CONFERENCE WORKSHOP 4 | 3:15PM

|                         | Title  | Description  | Repeat? |
|-------------------------|--|--|---------|
| LEADERSHIP & OPERATIONS | <b>Leading Through Influence (When You're Not in Charge)</b><br>Speaker: Michelle Kirby, Resurrection Creative Content Development Lead Director | Great leaders find ways to lead even when they lack authority. Discover how to overcome challenges through crucial conversations with others up, down, and across your organization. Learn new methods for interacting with different behaviors, resulting in harmony and productivity for all.  |         |
|                         | <b>Women in Ministry</b><br>Speaker: Angie McCarty, Resurrection Spring Hill Location Pastor   | Women in ministry experience unique joys and challenges as they lead in local churches. The good news is: YOU ARE NOT ALONE! This conversation will be based on authenticity, transparency, and telling the truth about the unique experiences of clergy women. Be prepared to discuss, laugh, cry, and celebrate the goodness (and difficulty) of being called to ordained ministry as women. This conversation will also help with assessing the desire and content of a future clergy women's conference. Be on the ground floor of shaping a leadership opportunity designed just for you. |         |
| MISSION                 | <b>Teaching Cultural Competency</b><br>Speaker: James Abbott, Resurrection Global Engagement Director  | Cultural competency – who needs it? All of us. Perhaps the biggest issue today is the inability or even unwillingness to see each other, and changing that reality requires deliberate work. Whether you feel you're a pro or like you are just starting out, cultural competency is a journey of life-long learning. Learn here what cultural competency is, why it's so important (especially in the midst of political turmoil), and how to apply it wherever you are.  |         |
| WORSHIP & COMMUNICATION | <b>Sensory-Rich Worship for Unforgettable Messages</b><br>Speaker: Marcia McFee, Worship Design Studio   | Learn time-tested strategies for creating and sustaining sensory-rich worship that offers unforgettable messages each and every week for churches of any size, worship style or budget. Come away with theories and practices – shaped by insights from filmmakers: art directors, screenwriters, composers, cinematographers and directors – that attract and ignite volunteers as they gain skills for every worship art.  |         |

# FEATURED SESSION 1

| Title  | Description  |
|--|--|
| <p><b>AI For Church Leaders 101</b><br/>           Speaker: Kenny Jahng, ChurchTechToday</p>   | <p>In an era where technology pervades every aspect of life, understanding and leveraging Artificial Intelligence (AI) can significantly enhance the effectiveness of ministry work. This session demystifies AI and will explore practical AI applications that can radically improve how ministries engage with their communities, produce content, develop discipleship resources, and streamline administrative processes. This session is designed specifically for ministry leaders eager to navigate the basics of AI, discerning its potential benefits and limitations within their respective contexts.</p>  |
| <p><b>Growing Young: Essential Strategies to Help Young People Discover and Love Your Church</b><br/>           Speaker: Kara Powell, Fuller Theological Seminary</p>                | <p>In the midst of discouraging reports about the aging and decline of churches today, how can you help young people discover and embrace your church? Fueled by a landmark investigation of more than 250 diverse congregations effectively loving and serving teenagers and young adults, this session explores stories and shared characteristics of real-life churches that are thriving. As a leader, you'll leave with a host of doable ideas to help your church change young people, and help young people change your church.</p>   |
| <p><b>Small Church/Big Impact: Simplifying Leadership, Structure, and Ministries in Small Congregations</b><br/>           Speaker: Blake Bradford, Pastor. Author.</p>              | <p>Since most congregations have a weekly worship attendance under 75, this session will assist you with applying the BIG experience of Resurrection and Leadership Institute in your smaller context. Dr. Blake Bradford, co-author of Mission Possible for the Small Church and IMPACT!, will offer tips for rethinking and right-sizing your small church ministry to make a God-sized impact in your community. Included will be practical steps for related to community engagement, simplified decision-making and governance, empowering laity, and strategically planning ministries that fit small churches.</p>  |
| <p><b>Your Church's Culture: Making Your Best Asset Your Highest Priority</b><br/>           Speakers: Jim Ozier, Ozier Coaching<br/>           Yvette Thibodeaux, Impact Church</p> | <p>A new coach almost always opens their press conference to anxious fans with, "The first thing we have to do is change the culture." Newly hired school superintendents typically begin their tenure proclaiming, "The first thing we have to do is change the culture." We know how important culture is to any organization – including our congregations. However, we often lose track of how to create and maintain the kind of healthy, vibrant culture God desires. Jesus said, "Seek ye first..." This is not to equate the Kingdom of God with church culture, but Jesus did teach the importance of prioritizing. In a fast-paced, interactive style you will learn why, what, when, where and how to prioritize the kind of culture in your church that will make a difference in your ministry and in your community. Whether your culture needs a major upgrade or is already healthy, you will learn a systematic and uplifting process for clarifying and unifying buy-in to producing lasting change and more fruitful results in your church for the Kingdom of God!</p> |

# FEATURED SESSION 2

| Title   | Description   |
|---|---|
| <p><b>Pastoring Your Congregation for Team Earth</b><br/>Speaker: Brian McLaren, Author. Speaker. Activist.</p>   | <p>We are often preoccupied with our congregations, denominations, and religions ... and we forget that these communities will never be healthy without a healthy planet. Going forward, Brian McLaren believes that wise and healthy congregations will reprioritize caring for the Earth as holy work, an essential part of our worship, identity, and mission. In this session, participants will imagine what their congregation and ministry would look and feel like if we wholeheartedly joined Team Earth.</p>  |
| <p><b>Peace Makers: Practical Tools for Identifying and Engaging the Work of Injustice in Your Community as Faithful Methodists</b><br/>Speaker: Candace Lewis, Gammon Theological Seminary</p> | <p>Injustice looks different in every community. Still, the church can engage this work in faithful ways. This session will explore practical tools for mapping the assets of the community surrounding your church, in order to understand the work Christ is calling for in your community through engaging injustice as faithful Methodists.</p>   |
| <p><b>The Fullest Possible Love</b><br/>Speaker: Paul Chilcote, Wesley House</p>  | <p>Paul Chilcote lives a most remarkable life as both United Methodist elder/professor and Benedictine oblate. In this session, he will help illuminate connections between Benedictine and Wesleyan theology and practices. What does Benedictine theology and practice look like? Paul will catch you up and teach how to tap into the Benedictine-Wesleyan way in your own spiritual practice. You'll also learn how this approach can be used for spiritual formation in your church and shared with people in your community. This is an extraordinary opportunity for leaders who are spiritually exhausted or anyone seeking to more deeply connect with the fullness of God's love.</p> |