

SEMINARS AT A GLANCE

TUESDAY, JUNE 11

2:30PM

SPEAKER	SEMINAR	ROOM	TIME
Corey Pelton and Will Davis , Tennessee Valley Presbytery - Rural Church Development	Gone Country: Can, how, and should the PCA go Rural?	Room B11	2:30pm
Dr. K.J. Drake , Indianapolis Theological Seminary	Knit Together by the Sacraments: Cultivating Reformed Sacramental Piety	Room B12	2:30pm
David Gentino , Columbia Presbyterian Church	Fruitful Evangelism: Learning from Each Other	Room B13	2:30pm
Michael Scott Gembola , Blue Ridge Christian Counseling	A Vision for Presbytery-Based Counseling Centers	Room B14	2:30pm
Bryan Chapell , Presbyterian Church in America	GA for Rookies	Room B15C	2:30pm
Bill Davis , Covenant College & Lookout Mountain Presbyterian Church	Care for Families Struggling with Infertility	Room B16	2:30pm
James Bruce , Covenant Church/John Brown University	Christianity, Justice, and Equality	Room B17	2:30pm
Daniel Jung , Home of Christ in Cupertino	“Fearfully and Wonderfully Made” The Spiritual Geography of Korean American Ministry	Room B18	2:30pm
Jonathan Stoddard , Jordan Valley Church	How To Train Elders and Deacons	Room B19	2:30pm
Stephen Estock, Katie Flores and Laney Stayton , PCA Discipleship Ministries (CDM)	Knit Together Across the Generations	Room E10A	2:30pm
Osman Jama and Hamid Hatami , MNA - Refugee and Immigrant Ministry	From Islam to Christian Ministries: Journeys of Two PCA Men	Room E10C	2:30pm
TE Phil DeHart , MTW Enterprise	Church Partnerships in Missions	Room E10D	2:30pm
Dr. Nathan T. Parker , Faith Presbyterian Church	Middling in the PCA: How to Navigate Theological Homelessness	Room E11A	2:30pm
Dr. Elissa Yukiko Weichbrodt , Covenant College	The Art of Attentiveness: Cultivating Close Looking in a World of Infinite Scrolling	Room E11B	2:30pm
Russell St. John , Twin Oaks Presbyterian Church	Preach like Perkins: How to Apply the Word of God like a Puritan	Room E11C	2:30pm

TUESDAY, JUNE 11

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SPEAKER	SEMINAR	ROOM	TIME
Dr. Bruce T Sidebotham and Theresa Sidebotham , Telios Law PLLC	Handling Misconduct Allegations – Threat and Knitting Opportunity	Room B11	3:35pm
TE Jacob D. Gerber , Harvest Community Church (PCA)	Parliamentary Procedures for Presbyters: An Introduction	Room B12	3:35pm
James C. Petty, Jr. , Christ the King PCA, Wilmington, NC - retired	Where’s The Beef: How Churches Can Excel in Giving Beyond Our Current 4% of Household Income	Room B14	3:35pm
Otis W. Pickett, Malcolm Foley, Ansley Quiros and Patrick Connelly , Clemson University/Clemson Presbyterian Church	Using Practices of Lament in Contexts of Injustice	Room B15A	3:35pm
Kevin Twit and J. Marty Cope , RUF Belmont/ Park Cities Pres Dallas TX	More in Common—Toward a Common Theology of Worship	Room B15C	3:35pm
Allen Taha , Trinity Presbyterian Church (PCA)	Moving On Up: Leading a Church Into a Permanent Facility Without Burning Out	Room B16	3:35pm
Dwight Horn , Presbyterian Reformed Commission on Chaplains and Military Personnel	Reuniting the Church and State for Righteous Conflict	Room B17	3:35pm
Matt Moble and Rachel Coffman , Valley Springs Presbyterian Church	Children’s Safety in the Church	Room B18	3:35pm
Rev. Dave Anderegg , Geneva Benefits Group	Social Security and Medicare for Pastors	Room B19	3:35pm
Dr. Dean Faulkner for Christianity Explored from South CLT Presbyterian/ RTS Charlotte	Building Cultures of Evangelism and Making Disciples for a Stronger PCA	Room E10A	3:35pm
Leslie P Johnson and Nancy Booher , MNA Refugee and Immigrant Ministry	Hidden in Plain Sight: New Neighbors Eager for the Hope of the Gospel	Room E10C	3:35pm
TE Jason Helopoulos, Kevin Phipps, Nate Groelsema and Chip Cogan , University Reformed Church PCA	Raising Up Workers	Room E10D	3:35pm
Hans Madueme , Covenant College	Defending Sin: Theological Reflections on Theistic Evolution	Room E11A	3:35pm
Ellen Mary Dykas , Harvest USA	Betrayal Trauma: Understanding the Impact of Marital Sexual Infidelity	Room E11B	3:35pm
Joshua Suh and Kenny Foster , Grace Dover	Unity In Diversity: Multi-Ethnic Ministry In the PCA	Room E11C	3:35pm

SEMINARS

Bios of all speakers can be found on the PCA app.

TUESDAY, JUNE 11

Gone Country: Can, how, and should the PCA go Rural?

SEMINAR SPEAKERS: **Corey Pelton and Will Davis**, Tennessee Valley Presbytery - Rural Church Development

Room B11

Small towns and rural places receive the least of resources . . . be it educational, health care, or Internet access. It is also true of theological resources. In this seminar we are going to explore the vast need and ability of the PCA to think wisely, biblically, and creatively about how to resource rural areas in robust theological and practical ways. It can be done!

Being “knit together” as a denomination means not overlooking the broad regions of the small places where people desperately need the fullness of the gospel that changes lives and communities from a shame culture to a hopeful kingdom-minded people. Presbyterians tend to be educationally rich and intellectual believers. Can we bridge the gap into church planting, bi-vocational, and revitalization efforts in rural areas?

Knit Together by the Sacraments: Cultivating Reformed Sacramental Piety

SEMINAR SPEAKER: **Dr. K.J. Drake**, Indianapolis Theological Seminary

Room B12

In American church life, revivalist individualism and modern disenchantment have diminished the importance of the sacraments. A reinvigorated Reformed spirituality today must ground the sacraments in the gospel of Christ, his exalted ministry, and the Holy Spirit's presence. The historical Reformed understanding of the Christian life as “improving on our Baptism” and the practice of preparing for the Supper as both communion with Christ and a foretaste of heavenly glory offer resources for retrieving Reformed sacramental piety.

This presentation aims to help pastors present the sacraments in a way that invites congregants to embrace these divine gifts more fully, enriching their spiritual lives and strengthening the church community.

Fruitful Evangelism: Learning from Each Other

SEMINAR SPEAKER: **David Gentino**, Columbia Presbyterian Church

Room B13

Five percent of PCA churches baptize five or more adults in a calendar year. One percent baptize five or more adults consistently year after year. These are sobering statistics but also hopeful. We long to be “obedient to the Great Commission” but we struggle to see conversions. Praise God, he is bearing good evangelistic fruit through a number of our congregations. As a denomination Knit Together, we have much to learn from each other. This seminar seeks to share the findings from a denomination-wide study on evangelism and explore some of the ways and means God is using in fellow PCA churches to draw new believers to himself.

A Vision for Presbytery-Based Counseling Centers

SEMINAR SPEAKER: **Michael Scott Gembola**, Blue Ridge Christian Counseling

Room B14

Many churches and local counseling centers struggle to collaborate effectively due to differences in theology and philosophy, as well as the practical constraints of time and confidentiality. Many cultural context challenges also complicate churches' efforts to wisely care for members amid complex life problems. Given these challenges, there are key advantages to working collectively as a presbytery to serve PCA churches and the wider community with strong Christian counseling centers.



2:30PM

This collective work can be accomplished by developing counselors solid in Christian character, counseling skill, and biblical fidelity. Presbytery-based centers will also serve churches by providing congregational care training for leaders, small groups, and lay counselors.

GA for Rookies

SEMINAR SPEAKER: **Bryan Chapell**,
Presbyterian Church in America

Room B15C

Come and learn how General Assembly functions. You will learn how we do our business, why we do it the way we do, and other items that will help you make the most of your General Assembly experience.

Care for Families Struggling with Infertility

SEMINAR SPEAKER: **Bill Davis**, Covenant College & Lookout Mountain Presbyterian Church

Room B16

It would be an unusual (and small) congregation that did not have at least one married couple trying unsuccessfully to conceive. Even when marriage is not delayed until later in life, one in five couples experience at least one period of twelve months trying to conceive a child without success (the technical definition of “infertile couple”). The desire for children is biblically praiseworthy, and typically the couple are not the only ones hoping for a child/grandchild. The frustrations are compounded, then, by news about medical interventions that might help (such as IUI, IVF, or surrogacy) but are biblically questionable. This seminar will consider the pastoral opportunities to care for families caught up in these challenges. Careful attention will be given to the spiritual complexity infertility, the biblical principles that must be taken into account when considering the array of solutions currently available, and the specific limits that can make some forms of medically assisted

conception—including IVF--biblically permissible. The seminar will be appropriate for all ages, but crucial parts of it might not make sense for children and may need parental explanation afterwards. This discussion will help the generations in the church talk about difficult things productively, thus helping to knit us together.

Christianity, Justice, and Equality

SEMINAR SPEAKER: **James Bruce**,
Covenant Church/John Brown University

Room B17

Christians often speak about justice without considering what Christian justice requires. Christian leaders should grow in their familiarity with competing theories of justice and reflect carefully about what biblical justice requires. Doing so will help them aid fellow Christians in navigating the questions about justice we all must face. This seminar explores four theories of justice, making the case that one is more biblical than the others and showing the ways other theories of justice can create problems for Christianity. The seminar will offer a systematic account of what the Bible says about justice, especially as it relates to equality.

Fearfully and Wonderfully Made— The Spiritual Geography of Korean American Ministry

SEMINAR SPEAKER: **Daniel Jung**, Home of Christ in Cupertino

Room B18

Eugene Peterson writes “all theology is rooted in geography...The gospel is emphatically geographical. Place names—Sinai, Hebron, Machpelah, Shiloh, Nazareth, Jezreel, Samaria, Bethlehem, Jerusalem, Bethsaida—these are embedded in the gospel.” This seminar will explore what it means to excel in gospel ministry rooted in the cultural-geography of being a Korean American.

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TUESDAY, JUNE 11

How To Train Elders and Deacons

SEMINAR SPEAKER: **Jonathan Stoddard**,
Jordan Valley Church

Room B19

Are your elders eager to share the work of shepherding the flock? Are your deacons proactive in taking things off your plate so you can focus on the ministry of word and prayer? Unfortunately, it's rare for church officers to feel like partners in ministry. One reason is officer training often neglects to spend adequate time training candidates for their calling. This seminar will give you a training program to help ensure the officers in your church are true partners in ministry. You'll leave with a training template for your next officer training, one that does a deep dive into the candidate's character and focuses on training them for ministry.

Knit Together Across the Generations

SEMINAR SPEAKERS: **Stephen Estock, Katie Flores,**
and Laney Stayton, PCA Discipleship Ministries (CDM)

Room E10A

"Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised!" The Psalmist says God makes His greatness known through stories of His mighty deeds (Psalm 145:1-9). The good news of salvation becomes real as we declare the things He has done. The message and method of sharing God's mighty deeds changes over time, though the privilege (and duty) remains. This seminar considers the opportunities and challenges of telling the next generation the great deeds of the Lord in the various chapters of our lives. The diverse threads, though sometimes frayed, become a beautiful tapestry held together by the steadfast love of the Lord.

From Islam to Christian Ministries: Journeys of Two PCA Men

SEMINAR SPEAKERS: **Osman Jama and Hamid Hatami**,
MNA - Refugee and Immigrant Ministry

Room E10C

Discover, through the remarkable testimonies of two PCA men, the potential for Christ's church of obeying God's command to develop caring, redemptive relationships with those different from us.

Follow Osman Jama's journey from Somalian refugee to Christian missionary. Osman found solace and purpose through a Christian neighbor's love. Rejected by his family when he converted, now he's helping others discover hope in Christ.

Having endured ostracism and persecution in Iran after becoming a Christ follower, Hamid Hatami is now the PCA's first ordained Iranian, and first ordained Muslim Background Believer. He is also President of Middle East Heritage Reformed Ministries.

Church Partnerships in Missions

SEMINAR SPEAKER: **TE Phil DeHart**, MTW Enterprise

Room E10D

Partnerships are churches co-laboring toward a mission objective. This seminar will assume that to the "catholic visible church Christ hath given the ministry, oracles, and ordinances of God, for the gathering and perfecting of the saints." (WCF 25.3) The seminar will focus on the joyful Spirit-empowered fellowship that propels the church-catholic to accomplish Christ's commission. It compares various approaches and recommends a covenantal model based on Presbyterian polity that has proven effective. The seminar will conclude with a Q&A that includes a panel of representatives from a variety of PCA church partners.



2:30PM

Middling in the PCA: How to Navigate Theological Homelessness

SEMINAR SPEAKER: **Dr. Nathan T. Parker,**
Faith Presbyterian Church

Room E11A

Fifty years in, the PCA is a God-honoring, theologically conservative denomination. However, we are increasingly polarized into two camps. The extremes could be described as those who do not care what the world thinks about us and those who care a bit too much. Many in our denomination feel closer to one or the other camp, but do not feel at home in either.

This seminar will address the tension and propose a way forward for those “middlers” who feel theologically homeless within the PCA. This seminar will include a good-spirited “reconnaissance report” from the speaker’s visits to conferences hosted by both sides: Beautiful Orthodoxy and Gospel Reformation Network.

Preach like Perkins: How to Apply the Word of God like a Puritan

SEMINAR SPEAKER: **Russell St. John,**
Twin Oaks Presbyterian Church

Room E11C

Puritan preaching consistently offered searing, searching, detailed applications of God’s Word, the likes of which we rarely hear today. What made their applications so powerful? Looking to William Perkins’ *Art of Prophesying*, this seminar will equip preachers with practical tools by which to apply the Word of God to 1. the spiritual conditions of their hearers, 2. to the spiritually pregnant life circumstances of the men and women in the pews, and 3. to the renewed and renewing consciences of the sheep—in short, to craft applications that bring the Word of God to bear with Puritan-esque specificity and power.

The Art of Attentiveness: Cultivating Close Looking in a World of Infinite Scrolling

SEMINAR SPEAKER: **Dr. Elissa Yukiko Weichbrodt,**
Covenant College

Room E11B

In our contemporary algorithm-driven and largely digital reality, we are catechized to make snap judgments with barely a glance. Visual art, however, provides us with the opportunity to develop a countercultural practice of close and sustained looking. This, in turn, can help us engage more purposefully with our world and our neighbors in love. Building on our theological commitments to generative, redeeming vision, this seminar offers practical tools for looking not just at art, but our entire world.

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TUESDAY, JUNE 11

Handling Misconduct Allegations— Threat and Knitting Opportunity

SEMINAR SPEAKERS: **Dr. Bruce T Sidebotham and Theresa Sidebotham**, Telios Law PLLC

Room B11

While the love believers have for one another is our greatest testimony (John 13:35), sinful misconduct within is a church's greatest threat. If the Church is a tapestry of love that displays the beauty of Christ, outside attacks, like on religious freedom, tighten the weave as believers come together. But responding poorly to inside threats like misconduct allegations can tear the tapestry apart. The good news is that handling allegations well strengthens a congregation. This seminar will outline best practices to help your leaders respond to allegations well, care for all involved, and preserve the church's testimony.

Parliamentary Procedures for Presbyters: An Introduction

SEMINAR SPEAKER: **TE Jacob D. Gerber**, Harvest Community Church (PCA)

Room B12

Many elders in Christ's church want to grow in their skills for using parliamentary procedure at the meetings of General Assembly, Presbytery, and the Session. This seminar has two major goals: (1) to explore the biblical foundations of parliamentary procedure to explain why we use this process for decision-making in the first place, and (2) to equip you to understand the basic principles of parliamentary procedure. In this interactive seminar, you will have an opportunity to learn how to engage more confidently in the courts of Christ's church.

Where's The Beef: How Churches Can Excel in Giving Beyond Our Current 4% of Household Income

SEMINAR SPEAKER: **James C. Petty, Jr.**, Christ the King PCA, Wilmington, NC - retired

Room B14

*This seminar aims to equip elders to lead their congregations to excel in the grace of giving (2 Cor. 8:7). Officers and founders usually give 10%+ and most others give 1-2% of household income. This nets out to less than half our God-given given capacity. The seminar will seek to correct a major biblical misunderstanding of the purpose of money and chart a part to cheerful giving that comes closer to our true capacity. Special attention will be given to how elders can build spiritual vision into the fabric of the worship, budget process, and planning for the church's ministry.

*This seminar is based on content from Jim Petty's recent book - Act of Grace. P&R.

Using Practices of Lament in Contexts of Injustice

SEMINAR SPEAKERS: **Otis W. Pickett, Malcolm Foley, Ansley Quiros, and Patrick Connelly**, Clemson University/Clemson Presbyterian Church

Room B15A

This seminar includes former pastors, current pastors, Ruling Elders, seminary administrators and professors who are in the PCA. Each panel member has published or presented significantly on Lament and how practices and pedagogical uses of Lament can "Knit Together" the body of Christ. Further, each panelist has contributed a chapter to a book entitled "Lament and Justice in African American History" through Lexington Press, which was published in 2023. Each has studied the history of Lament in the church and/or used practices of Lament in their teaching and preaching. The participants will hear about each panelist's research and work in



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using practices of Lament in ecclesiastical spaces, classroom spaces and how these practices helped forge stronger communities while also giving participants a lens through which to process suffering.

More in Common—Toward a Common Theology of Worship

SEMINAR SPEAKERS: **Kevin Twit and J. Marty Cope**, RUF Belmont/ Park Cities Pres Dallas TX

Room B15C

Presented by Kevin Twit (RUF Campus Minister at Belmont University and founder of Indelible Grace Music) and J. Marty Cope (Director of Music & Arts at Park Cities Presbyterian Church in Dallas, TX). While they may seem to come from different perspectives regarding worship, liturgy, music, and congregational song, Kevin and J. Marty have found that their perspectives and convictions have a large amount of overlap. Through conversations and joint musical endeavors, they have learned about each other and from each other and will, in this seminar, present a dialog considering a theology of worship that moves beyond preferences to seek wisdom regarding essential versus non-essential rubrics for worship.

Moving On Up: Leading a Church Into a Permanent Facility Without Burning Out

SEMINAR SPEAKER: **Allen Taha**, Trinity Presbyterian Church (PCA)

Room B16

Acquiring a church facility can be a fun and exciting time in ministry (or not!). What process should teaching and ruling elders pursue as the church seeks to become a permanent part of a community? The spiritual journey into a church facility involves members employing their gifts as they are knit together around the goal of glorifying God. From capital campaigns to

land acquisition to building programs to working with committees and managing conflict, we'll explore biblical ways to engage in this process as ministry leaders without losing our love for the church.

Reuniting the Church and State for Righteous Conflict

SEMINAR SPEAKER: **Dwight Horn**, Presbyterian Reformed Commission on Chaplains and Military Personnel

Room B17

America is involved in fifteen "shadow wars" and is on the verge of a World War, as far as the Military Service Chiefs are concerned. How is the church voicing its message on these matters, engaging leadership and training its people? When was the last training or sermon you heard on justice and war. Our congregants are involved in conflict today, killing the enemy, and when they cannot understand how their actions align to justice, they deeply struggle. Come to this training and be biblically challenged to see the vital need to proclaim God's truth about war.

Children's Safety in the Church

SEMINAR SPEAKERS: **Matt Mobley and Rachel Coffman**, Valley Springs Presbyterian Church

Room B18

The church is called to guard and nourish its children. In recent years, many instances of abuse in the church have come to light. Unfortunately, many of the victims have been children. In many cases, this could have been prevented by implementing easy, accessible steps in safety protocols. These steps need to be taken both to ensure the safety of children in the church and to protect volunteers who may be on the receiving end of a false accusation of abuse. In this seminar, we'll provide practical steps to improve safety for children and volunteers through best practices and policy updates.

SEMINARS

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TUESDAY, JUNE 11

Social Security and Medicare for Pastors

SEMINAR SPEAKER: **Rev. Dave Anderegg**,
Geneva Benefits Group

Room B19

A significant number of PCA ministers are approaching retirement age, and it's imperative they understand the role that the Social Security and Medicare systems play in retirement. This seminar will address key topics in the following areas:

1. The rules of receiving worker and spousal benefits,
2. Strategies for maximizing Social Security monthly income,
3. Understanding the four parts of Medicare, and
4. Options for reducing out-of-pocket expenses for medical care while in Medicare.

Although targeted for those approaching retirement age, this information would be extremely useful to those of all ages.

Building Cultures of Evangelism and Making Disciples for a Stronger PCA

SEMINAR SPEAKER: **Dr. Dean Faulkner** for Christianity Explored from South CLT Presbyterian/ RTS Charlotte

Room E10A

Together, let's explore how PCA churches can strengthen their commitment to outreach, fostering growth, and impactful engagement both in and through our congregations. Join a transformative journey led by Dr. Dean Faulkner (Director/Guest Lecturer, Center for Church Planting RTS and Lead Pastor) and Christianity Explored as we discuss helping people meet Jesus in the pages of Scripture. Explore four scripture-centric models that empower PCA pastors and elders to strategically develop outreach initiatives, nurture newcomers, impact church culture, and facilitate one-on-one engagement.

In this dynamic panel discussion, discover practical models adaptable to any PCA context, inspiring leaders to confidently champion evangelism and discipleship within the denomination.

Hidden in Plain Sight: New Neighbors Eager for the Hope of the Gospel

SEMINAR SPEAKERS: **Leslie P Johnson and Nancy Booher**,
MNA Refugee and Immigrant Ministry

Room E10C

Have you heard repeatedly that your congregation should reflect the complexions of the nations? Did it make you feel guilty – but with no idea of how to start healthy changes?

Come discover people groups in your backyard, who are open to hearing the Gospel because every familiar landmark in their lives has been ripped away. Hear multiple strategies to reach them and welcome them into your church. Learn creative ways to engage lay volunteers and help them discover the JOY of engaging in ministry to people God has brought from the nations right to your neighborhood.

Raising Up Workers

SEMINAR SPEAKERS: **TE Jason Helopoulos, Kevin Phillips, Nate Groelsema and Chip Cogan**, University Reformed Church PCA

Room E10D

This seminar will present University Reformed Church's fellowship/resident/intern program for raising up pastors, missionaries, campus ministry workers and other vocational ministry leaders. Each church can help to create a pipeline for its region, state, and city. The program details including vision, philosophy, finances, etc. will be provided. Our Lord said, "The fields are white unto the harvest, but the workers are few."



3:35PM

Defending Sin: Theological Reflections on Theistic Evolution

SEMINAR SPEAKER: **Hans Madueme**, Covenant College

Room E11A

In this talk, Hans Madueme tackles the vexed conflict between the natural sciences and Christian theology. He examines theistic evolution in particular and how this approach affects our understanding of sin, salvation, and the shape of the gospel story. Christian evolutionists have tried to resolve the doctrinal tensions between science and faith, but Madueme contends that the majority of their proposals fall short of the biblical witness and core doctrines of historic Christianity. This talk is a teaser for Madueme's new book with Baker Academic: *Defending Sin: A Response to the Challenge of Evolution and the Natural Sciences*.

Unity In Diversity: Multi-Ethnic Ministry In the PCA

SEMINAR SPEAKERS: **Joshua Suh and Kenny Foster**, Grace Dover

Room E11C

The world is becoming more and more divisive and polarized every day. News, social media, podcasts, and other networks thrive off of the arguments and quarrels rooting from the differences of individuals and groups. Christians know that the solution to all of this disunity is Jesus. But does the Church actually look any different than the world right now? How can we, Christ's Church, bring people from diverse backgrounds, languages, and cultures together across the lines of race and class? How do we knit together the rips and tears of the fabric of the church to bring together all those who have been reconciled by God?

Betrayal Trauma: Understanding the Impact of Marital Sexual Infidelity

SEMINAR SPEAKER: **Ellen Mary Dykas**, Harvest USA

Room E11B

Marriages among believers are suffering the devastation of sexual betrayal in staggering numbers. Bombs explode when pornography addictions, adultery through affairs and/or prostitution, and technology mediated sexual sins come to light. Women and men are both susceptible to sexual unfaithfulness in marriage; it is vital to learn how to care for both wives and husbands who are on the receiving end of broken marriage vows. This workshop will give an overview of the impact of betrayal trauma and the vital first steps of care that ministry leaders and churches can offer to both spouses.