

Break-Out Sessions Information Sheet for 2016 Missions Conference



Choose two sessions from the list below.

The following sessions will be offered twice.

→ **“Bridging the Gap with the ‘Bridge Generation’”**

Immigrants have moved into your community and you and your congregation are wondering how you can connect with them. “We don’t speak Spanish,” we say. “We don’t speak Chinese or Tigrinya or Hindi or Amharic,” we lament. What can be done to bridge the gap? Have you considered connecting with the 1.5/2nd generation immigrants in your midst? Don’t know what that means and who those people are? Come and join LINC Bay Area missionary **Dawit Bokre** to learn how we can empower these natural bridge people for gospel impact in our communities.

→ **Connect with LINC Bay Area**

LINC Bay Area seeks to restore the people of the Bay Area to God and each other through Christ. We empower local leaders to start new ministries that impact the communities of the Bay Area. What does that involve exactly? How can you be involved exactly? Come and hear from LINC City Director **Aaron Putnam** to find out.

→ **Resurrecting the Priesthood of all Believers in the LCMS**

There was a time when the Priesthood of all Believers was as dear to the Lutheran identity as the sure knowledge that we are saved by grace through faith. Today, few LCMS church members consider “the royal priesthood” as essential to the *Missio Dei*, and most have never even heard of it. Together we’ll look at the main cause of the death of the Priesthood of All Believers (POAB) in our churches, then resurrect this key doctrine. We will also tie the POAB to our individual “priestly” calls, in the case of the speaker, as a writer, creative director, and mission worker in the fields of L.A. May all return home empowered to “declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness and into his marvelous light” (1 Peter 2: 9). This session is led by **Heather Davis**.

→ **The Church With the Community**

What would “abundant life” look like in your community? Restored relationships with God, the self, others and the rest of Creation are the very definition of abundance. The Hebrews called it Shalom. Jesus came to give shalom, a fullness of peace to all our relationships - here and now and into eternity. A church with the community recognizes the gifts God has already placed in the hearts and hands of the local population. A church with the community listens, immerses, neighbors and collaborates toward a truly abundant life together in Christ - toward shalom! **Rev. Dominic J. Rivkin**, Executive Director of LINC Los Angeles, will explore with you the Scriptural and practical basics of asset-based community development to guide us into taking those first steps in being church with the community.

These sessions are offered as a two-part, and are suggested to be taken together.

→ **How to Not Be the Expert (Session 1)**

When you set out to reach a new group of people, it’s impossible to be an expert about them because... well... they’re new to you and you’re new to them. In this breakout session, Next Generation Director **Ashley Paavola** will discuss the tension of leading as a learner in order to build the trust needed for gospel-centered conversations.

→ **Youth In Prayer (Session 2)**

What does it look like when we take Scripture’s urging to “train up a child in the way they should go” to include a lifestyle of prayer? In this breakout session, Next Generation Director **Ashley Paavola** will explore youth discipleship and leadership-building opportunities through interactive and engaging prayer models.

The following sessions will be offered once.

→ **Developing a Congregational Mission Strategy**

It is easy to talk missions, but what do you actually do? This seminar addresses developing a multi-faceted, yet realistic action plan for any size church. It addresses five aspects of a congregational mission plan: Developing a mission mindset, training the body to talk about Jesus, the development of mission-focused activities and relationships, knowing and serving the community, and engaging away-from-home missions. Presenters: **Pastor Zelt, Erin Mansfield, Pastor Johnson, and others from Prince of Peace Church.**

→ **Praying For the City, From the City**

What if, instead of praying for your city from your home or your church, you began to pray for the city, from the city? How would it change your prayers? In this breakout session, Church Planter **Chris Paavola** will walk you through fun (yes, fun) and interactive ways you and your church can pray for your city. From prayer-walking, to bus prayers, to landmark prayers- you’ll be given new tools to advance with prayer in mission!

→ **The Core Matter of Jesus’ Mission**

What is multiplicative discipleship? What does it mean to make disciples who will make disciples? This session, led by **Mike Lange**, is an introductory piece to this concept and will also include practical steps towards making a personal beginning on your own journey as a disciple and disciple maker. (It also includes practical personal and congregational activities, addressing the issue of broken-ness in the calling to be everyday missionaries.)

→ **Why Missions? Inadequate Reasons. One Promise.**

Why are you going on a mission trip this summer? “I want to be a world changer!” “I want to grow deeper spiritually!” “I want to do more for Jesus!” “I want to be productive this summer!” Do these reasons sound right? Are these adequate reasons for our young people to go on a mission trip? Biblically? If we are not careful, how easy it is for us to go on a mission trip and take no account of Christ! And worse, we may turn our mission trips to become “incubators of apathy.” In this session, we’ll explore biblical and practical implications on identifying the purpose and motivation of mission trips. We will also be reminded of Jesus’ promise through Lazarus’ death and resurrection as the ultimate reason why we do missions. (Led by **DCE Allan Tong & DCE Ashley Wong**.)

Cost: \$35 per person | **Time:** 10am—3:30pm (Check-In and Continental Breakfast from 9:00—9:45am)
Questions? Contact Glenna Sanlis at 925-245-4000, ext. 4035 or glenna@cnhcef.org.