

**“Traditional Worship for Contemporary People”
Workshop Descriptions
St. Paul’s UMC, Houston, TX – November 11-13, 2008**

“Creating a Music and Arts Program in the Church” by Will Address

There was a time when few churches ventured past music for Sunday worship. In this day and age we recognize the need to develop the whole person and reach to those with artistic and creative talents, and they are numerous. It is not only an important ministry for the church membership but also a great portal of entry for the community to the church. This session is designed to lay out a program of music and arts in the church, covering all aspects from the incubation process to building a team, choice of materials, finances, publicity, schedule, and follow-up.

“Lectionary Preaching and Spiritual Formation” by Jim Bankston

In a world of ever decreasing understanding of deeper Christian values, consistent observation of the Sunday Lectionary readings, seasonal observances and adherence to special days can form a basic framework for the understanding of Christian living in a secular world.

“A Real Commitment to Lectionary Preaching” by Mouzon Biggs

Lectionary preaching reminds the preacher and the congregation that proper worship is about God. What is God doing in this text, this story, this periscope? Am I faithfully helping God tell the whole story from Genesis to Revelation?

“Traditional Worship in a Multi-cultural Setting” by Justin Coleman

This workshop will be led by Rev. Justin Coleman, of St. Luke's and Gethsemane UMC in Houston, and Rev. Kevin Baker of Reconciliation UMC in Durham, NC. Rev. Baker will respond to Rev. Coleman's plenary lecture and then they will discuss the practical and philosophical ideas that drive their worship planning. There will also be ample time given for Q&A during the course of their session.

“When In Our Music God is Glorified” by Mark Edenfield

One church's look at the role the musical component plays in invigorating traditional worship.

“The Downtown Worship Experience: Traditional, Relevant, Inclusive”

by John Fiedler

This session will “walk through” the rationale, planning, logistics, staff relationships and setting of a downtown Traditional Worship experience. While “traditional” will not be posited as a universal prescription, this mode of worship will be presented as a viable (often appropriate) and potentially compelling venue.

“Singing at Table: Hymns for the Eucharist Old and New” by Michael Hawn

This session will examine theological themes found in Eucharistic hymns during the last 400 years with a view toward revitalizing Eucharistic practice. How can the Eucharist reflect the various seasons of the Christian year? How can congregational singing enhance the liturgy of the Great Thanksgiving? How can this central sacrament of the church be practiced more faithfully and more meaningfully?

“Traditional Worship for Contemporary People” Workshop Descriptions – continued (pg. 2)

“Traditional & Contemporary Worship in Maintaining the Church” by Daryl Higgins

Daryl will provide insight in how to do both types of worship each Sunday in an effective way. He is senior pastor of First Protestant Church in New Braunfels, TX, an Evangelical Reformed & Congregation Church. The class will unpack all the strengths and problems of having two styles of worship in a church. The principles, goals, and standards of powerful worship will also be reviewed.

“Preaching Without Screens: Giving Shape to Your Sermon” by Kent Ingram

With all of the emphasis on technology, is there any way to keep people interested in your sermons without the use of film clips, sound bites, or other electronic means? We will look at ways to shape your sermons so that the spoken word captures the congregation and allows God's word to be heard!

“Real Growth in Traditional Worship” by Bob Pierson

This workshop is being offered by Dr. Pierson, author of *Needs-Based Evangelism*. He will help us review basic, effective techniques for building attendance and promoting evangelism through meeting the real needs of the community in Traditional Worship.

“Traditional and Relational Worship” by Bob Pierson

Pastors and worship leaders can develop Traditional Worship services with characteristics of relational worship. Relational techniques and approaches to liturgy, music and preaching will be dealt with in this workshop. Creativity, hospitality, warmth, excitement and excellence all become ways to develop powerful Traditional Worship!

“Building an Effective Worship Team” by Delia Pierson

As the former worship director of Christ United Methodist Church in Tulsa, Delia will discuss the need for creating and managing a worship team of lay volunteers & staff. This class will deal with practical how-to techniques and principles for creating and managing a worship team in the local church.

“Getting Youth Involved, Acolyting” by Michael Pirics

This workshop will focus on how to get youth more involved in overall ministry through their service as acolytes.

“Do This? Practices for Renewing the Eucharist” by Mark Stamm

How may a local church follow John Wesley's teaching on constant communion while also keeping their practice fresh? We will discuss various ways to do so.

“Initiated into Christ's Church: Practices for Renewing the Baptismal Covenant”

by Mark Stamm

How may a local church practice the Baptismal Covenant in a manner that deepens a congregation's common life? We will discuss various ways to do so.

“Traditional Worship for Contemporary People” Workshop Descriptions – continued (pg. 3)

“High Church in the Suburbs” by Kelly Sullivan

What is High Church in the Suburbs? Is it different from the urban setting? Does context make a difference in how you worship? Does church architecture? What difference does church mission and identity make when leading and creating weekly experiences? How do you reach laity the importance of spiritual formation that comes from meaningful liturgy and use of the Revised Common Lectionary? Can you be creative with liturgy, lectionary and music and still be High Church?

Kelly Sullivan believes we learn best through conversation. Her own practical experiences and reflections will serve as a starting point for an interactive discussion about “High Church in the Suburbs.”

“One Among Many, Worship Variety” by Steve Wende

Romans 12:1-2 defines worship as the presentation of the whole self to God, which results in the transformation of the worshipper. The strength of Traditional Worship is that, building upon the great liturgies and theological insight of the past, it brings depth and thoughtfulness to the adoration of God. Its vulnerability is that, with that thoughtfulness, it can leave the emotional part of the “self” unmoved and therefore not presented to God. We will look at worship in terms of the movement of the soul.

“Altars, Paraments and Banners” by Shelli Williams & Sari Frey

Often we overlook the importance of the tangible aspects of worship and how the visual aspects of our worship space can not only enhance our worship experience but can oftentimes lead one to a new and renewed sense of the holy mystery of God. This workshop will explore the visual aspects of Traditional Worship—altars, paraments, and banners—and look at ways that they can be not only a valuable but an integral part of Traditional Worship.

“Traditional Worship Excellence in a Rural Setting” by Tommy Williams

This workshop will examine ways Rev. Tommy Williams and staff of Woodville United Methodist Church have designed and carried out excellent Traditional Worship service in a rural setting and watched the service grow in spirit and number. This workshop would be inspiring for anyone who is seeking to do excellent Traditional Worship with seemingly limited resources. It is possible, with the grace of God, to commit to top notch sacred music, inspiring liturgy and holy day observances throughout the liturgical year, in any cultural setting.

“The Labyrinth” by Gail Williford

The labyrinth is a centuries old Christian path of pilgrimage. This workshop will teach about this medieval tool for contemplation and meditation and allow you to walk one.