



Presbyterian Mission
**Compassion,
Peace & Justice**

2018 CPJ Training Day

April 20, 2018



A WORLD UPROOTED

RESPONDING TO
MIGRANTS, REFUGEES
AND DISPLACED
PEOPLE

Workshops

GOT LAND? IMMIGRANTS AND REFUGEES FARMING FAITH COMMUNITY LAND

Many immigrants and refugees come with skills and experience growing food; some are currently harvesting other growers' crops. Having land to grow food for one's family and for sale may seem a distant dream, but it doesn't need to be. Often the missing piece is the right piece of land — meaning farmable and affordable. This is where faith-tended land comes in. Some faith communities are closing their doors, some have unused land, and others have parishioners wishing to pass on farmland to another farmer. Immigrants, refugees, and faith communities are making this happen in several places around the country. Religious groups are leasing, selling, and giving land to refugees and immigrants to cultivate, and the potential to increase this is huge as the U.S. faces the biggest generational transfer of farmland in its history.

In this workshop, we'll hear from a farmworker growing food on land in Bridgeton, NJ, and from a religious group that is leasing to a market farmer. We'll also learn how to make the magic of getting available land into the hands of a beginning farmer. We'll provide an overview of the process and resources for where to go for practical help with legal and financial questions, as well as support for a new farmer.

Workshop Leader:

Andrew Kang Bartlett, *Associate for National Hunger Concerns, Presbyterian Hunger Program, Presbyterian Mission Agency*

BECOME A GRASSROOTS ADVOCACY COORDINATOR: CPJ DAY SKILL-BUILDING WORKSHOP

In many of your congregations, you may already have a social witness ministry, a social justice committee, or a collection of people dedicated to justice work. The Office of Public Witness invites you to organize and formalize a Grassroots Advocacy Team to engage your congregants and community members in the creation of public policy and the advancement of a justice agenda in 2018 and beyond.

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As a member of an Advocacy Team, you commit to having a relationship with your team, your members of Congress, and The Office of Public Witness over a period of at least a year. We support your team with action alerts, team building and organizing resources, and issue briefs throughout the year. This workshop will teach the basics of building a team and provide concrete tools to move your team to action.

Workshop Leader: Nora Leccese, *Associate for Domestic Poverty & Environmental Issues, Presbyterian Office of Public Witness, Presbyterian Mission Agency*

NO LONGER EXILED: BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN CHURCH AND MASS INCARCERATION

Today's criminal justice system focus is on isolating and dividing community and separating certain groups from others, such as minorities, the disenfranchised, poor, and people of color. Even those who re-enter society are often marked and distanced from access to basic rights and services. This is a global trend, and the prison industrial complex continues to strengthen this process. In a time when we witness a "war on drugs" ideology and all-time high mass incarceration numbers, there is a great need for the church to bridge the gap between community and local jails and prisons with a community-based justice system that focuses on the healing of broken relationships, instead of today's outdated, punitive model.

Through the exploration of restorative justice motifs, this workshop will offer analysis of the intersection of economics, race, class and power and how they are operative in the current mass incarceration system. In this model, each jail and prison becomes a place for churches and ministries to engage in community outreach, healing and reintegration. With its biblical basis in Matthew:25, this workshop will provide and explore examples of rehabilitation programs (artistic, academic, spiritual, etc.) that exemplify recidivism and cost-to-society reductions. It will also provide film, stories, and activities designed to help participants better understand and find opportunities within the church to engage restorative justice.

Workshop Leaders:

Dr. Hans Hallundbaek, *Criminal Justice Coordinator, Hudson River Presbytery, NY and Founding Member, Board of Trustees Rehabilitation Through Arts program at Sing Sing Correctional facility. Adjunct teaching on criminal justice and prison issues at John Jay College of Criminal Justice and Marist College in NY. NGO representative to United Nations for the International Prison Chaplain's Association and CURE International.*

Rev. Alonzo T. Johnson, *Coordinator of the Self-Development of People, Compassion, Peace & Justice, Presbyterian Mission Agency. Alonzo has experience in urban, social justice ministries and was a volunteer prison Chaplain at Luther Luckett Correctional Facility, LaGrange, KY.*

ENDING THE INHUMANITY OF IMMIGRATION DETENTION

Many people who come to the U.S. are fleeing violence, poverty, discrimination and marginalization. They are powerless when they arrive at the U.S. border or airport, and are in search of safety and compassion. This workshop will lift up the disconnect between our image as a country of compassion and place of refuge, and the harsh and inhumane way people are treated in the U.S. immigration detention system. People in detention/prisons suffer isolation and despair, and often have no real understanding of U.S. immigration laws and how or where to seek help. LGBTQ detainees risk further violence and discrimination.

There are numerous non-profit organizations that provide services to detainees and those who have nowhere to go. In the past several years, people who were once detainees have formed new organizations, such as Casa Mariposa. Learn how you can connect to those who are ministering to detainees and how you can take action to help.

Workshop Leader:

Susan Krehbiel, *Catalyst for Refugees & Asylum, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Presbyterian Mission Agency*

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SOUTH SUDAN: THE CRISIS OF THE INTERNALLY DISPLACED

This is a rare opportunity to hear first-hand about what is going on in isolated locations where South Sudanese are living as internally displaced, or refugees, in neighboring countries. Participants will learn about the Presbyterian Church of South Sudan and its partnership with PC(USA). Rev. Choul will speak about the on-going conflict and challenges in South Sudan and the South Sudanese perspective on how to work toward lasting peace. He will also share his first-hand experience working with South Sudanese who are displaced within the country as well as refugees in Kenya, Uganda and the Sudan. This workshop will help you learn how your voice can ensure that critical U.S. emergency assistance is not cut off, and will address the important role that people of faith play as advocates and humanitarians.

Workshop Leaders:

Susan Krehbiel, *Catalyst for Refugees & Asylum, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Presbyterian Mission Agency*

Luke Asikoye, *Associate for International Disaster Response, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Presbyterian Mission Agency*

Dayna Oliver, *Mission Specialist, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Presbyterian Mission Agency*

BANNED WORDS AND FALSE IDOLS: HOW ABSOLUTISM HARMS CHRISTIAN WITNESS

What community and communication do we need in a time of fake news, fake governance, and even fake faith? In recent decades, non-mainline extremes have dominated the narrative when it comes to what Christianity is and what it means for U.S. culture. As a result, discussions of climate change and nationalism have become distorted in ways that hurt both U.S. politics and mainline Christianity. This workshop will lay out the stakes of Christian witness in this context, and equip participants to actively challenge narratives of climate change denial, "America First" hyper-nationalism, and white supremacy.

Workshop Leader:

Henry Stone, *Managing Editor, Unbound, Compassion, Peace & Justice, Presbyterian Mission Agency*

THE LEAST OF THESE: ENGAGING PRESBYTERIANS IN THE WORK OF PREVENTING AND ALLEVIATING POVERTY

How is the PC(USA) engaged in the work of preventing and alleviating poverty? How does poverty impact you?

With Matthew:26 as its backdrop, this workshop will examine poverty both nationally and globally and how it affects us all. Attention will be given to issues such as living wages, homelessness, education, healthcare, mass incarceration and how each intersects with race, class and gender. It will also equip participants with strategies to engage the issues in their local communities through direct action and advocacy. This workshop will include activities designed to better understand how the dynamics of poverty play out in communities. These activities are also designed to encourage relationship-building among participants so they may network and together address the issue of poverty in America.

Workshop Leaders:

Rev. Dr. Karen Brown, *National Committee Member of the Self-Development of People Ministries (SDOP)*

Rev. Alonzo Johnson, *Coordinator for The Self-Development of People, Compassion, Peace & Justice, Presbyterian Mission Agency*

Margaret Mwale, *Associate for Community Development and Constituency Relations, Self-Development of People, Presbyterian Mission Agency*

ROOTED IN FAITH: LIVING OUT THEMES OF THE BELHAR CONFESSION IN A TIME OF UPHEAVAL

In our increasingly complex socio-political climate, events like Charlottesville, Virginia illustrate the rise in racial tensions and xenophobia which have created feelings of uncertainty, uprootedness, and despair in our communities. These events have also caused people of faith to question both how and where Jesus stands with us in times such as this? Working within the Belhar Confession's themes of Unity, Reconciliation and Justice, this workshop will help individuals within the church engage in critical reflection in addressing issues connected to racial and cultural diversity. Participants will explore how

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diversity is both “a gift and obligation” to the church. Inspired by the biblical vision of “the Beloved Community,” by Martin Luther King Jr., this workshop will utilize antiracism and anti-oppression strategies with visuals and exercises such as racial bibliographies, photo language and group interaction to help participants examine how they can develop strategies that would assist them in facilitating conversations about the issues of diversity and the importance faith in their own contexts. The workshop will also explore how the church can be an anchor in these times.

Workshop Leaders:

Dr. Matilde Moros, *Assistant Professor with the Department of Gender Sexuality and Women’s Studies at Virginia Commonwealth University. Dr. Moros was also Co-Moderator of the Special Committee on the Confession of Belhar.*

Rev. Mark Koenig, *Advocate for Justice Ministries in the Presbytery of New York City*

Rev. Alonzo Johnson, *Coordinator, Presbyterian Committee on the Self-Development of People, Presbyterian Mission Agency*

**JOIN THE RESISTANCE:
SANCTUARY, A FAITHFUL RESPONSE**

When neighbors in our communities begin to fear leaving their homes, disappear in the middle of the night, or are detained and quickly deported, we find ourselves seeking how to respond. In the face of a steep increase in the detaining and deporting of compliant populations and long-standing community members, the church congregation can become a foundation to build a movement. This workshop will listen to the voices of those who have chosen sanctuary, those who have provided sanctuary, and those who help congregations discern sanctuary. The act of entering sanctuary is one of resistance and agency. In this workshop, we will engage the questions about how we accompany communities at-risk of detention and deportation and join with their voices as we seek just change.

Workshop Leaders:

Nora Leccese, *Associate for Domestic Poverty and Environmental Issues, Presbyterian Office of Public Witness, Presbyterian Mission Agency*

Amanda Craft, *Manager of Advocacy, Office of Immigration Issues, Office of the General Assembly*

**PEOPLE ON THE MOVE:
THE INTERSECTIONALITY OF
HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND
MIGRATION IN LOCAL
AND GLOBAL COMMUNITIES**

Vulnerable populations are on the move, now more than ever before. We are facing an international crisis with an estimated 65 million people displaced, internally or internationally. This workshop will give a snapshot to what is happening in the global world that makes people vulnerable and insecure, and how human trafficking plays a key role in a person’s migration story. This phenomenon is our story of slavery in the 21st century — people moved, forced, coerced and exploited for another’s gain. Human trafficking is one of the top three criminal profiting enterprises in the world that becomes part of the push and pull factors for migrants. Come hear how the church is responding, including stories from victims. Engage with panelists and presenters about how your congregation and community can respond to issues of migration, advocate around legislation, and recognize human trafficking as it happens in your community.

Workshop Leaders:

Margaret Mwale, *Associate for Community Development and Constituent Relations, Self-Development of People, Presbyterian Mission Agency. Margaret grew up in Zambia.*

Amanda Craft, *Manager for Advocacy, Office of Immigration Issues, Office of the General Assembly. Amanda lived several years in Guatemala and the U.S./Mexico border.*

**GLOBAL MIGRATION FOR A
MORE SUSTAINABLE WORLD**

Organizers will lead a discussion to educate participants on the causes of refugee crisis and forced migration, to educate people on PC(USA) advocacy for fair migration policies at the UN and in the world, and provide useful resources so they can connect to those efforts and advocate in their own communities. We will discuss the evolving concept of migration at the United Nations specifically in relation to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) which aim to mitigate climate change and reduce societal inequalities. The SDGs call for “orderly, safe, and responsible migration and well-managed migration

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policies.” We will then discuss PC(USA) advocacy efforts at the UN and in the U.S. on migration issues, including the We Choose Welcome campaign. Participants will examine the application of Matthew 25:31–46 and what it means to help “the least of these” when applied to the issue of migration and refugees. In addition, we will present examples of ways that churches and cities can promote and implement welcoming and fair immigration policies, despite contrary national government policies and actions.

Workshop Leader:

Ryan Smith, Director, *Presbyterian Ministry at the United Nations, Presbyterian Mission Agency*

SPEAKING THE TRUTH IN LOVE: STAYING IN DIALOGUE IN DIVISIVE TIMES

It seems division and polarization are at work in all aspects of our world — in church and the broader society. This interactive workshop will provide an opportunity to consider the basic tools for navigating thorny conversations with people who have different points of view.

Workshop Leader:

Sara Lisherness, Director, *Compassion, Peace & Justice, Presbyterian Mission Agency*

SYRIA: RESPONDING TO THE HUMAN TRAGEDY

This workshop will build on sharing during the opening Plenary and go more in-depth into the Syrian conflict and the worldwide refugee crisis, with focus on U.S. refugee resettlement. At a time of the largest world refugee population, the U.S. government is closing its doors and cutting off international aid. Participants will learn how they can become involved in their own communities in hands-on ministry and as advocates for refugee welcome. Speakers will give an overview of the global crisis with displacement, host countries and the role of the U.S., and information on organizations and programs working with refugees in the U.S. Participants will learn diverse ways church members can volunteer as welcome teams and mentors, and how to support newly arrived refugees. Participants will also be invited to advocate for refugee assistance overseas and U.S. resettlement.

Workshop Leaders:

Maha Kolko, *Caseworker and Co-sponsorship Developer, Kentucky Refugee Ministries*

Susan Krehbiel, *Catalyst for Refugees & Asylum, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Presbyterian Mission Agency*

DREAMERS: WHAT NOW? WHAT CAN WE DO?

As DACA is ending and Dreamers’ future hangs in the hands of policy makers, come learn how Dreamers are mobilizing and organizing to urge legislators to find a solution to their liminal status as DACA recipients and for those without DACA and remain undocumented. We will explore the following questions: What does this community want? How are they organized to raise their voices? How we can join the fight? How is the Presbyterian Church (USA) supporting their efforts?

Workshop Leaders:

Jung Bin Cho, *Immigrant Rights Fellow at NAKASEC*

Amanda Craft, *Manager of Advocacy, Office of Immigration, Office of the General Assembly*

CAN WE EVER GO HOME AGAIN? THE ONGOING REALITY OF PALESTINIAN REFUGEES

There are an estimated 5–7.5 million Palestinian refugees in the world today. For more than 70 years Palestinians have resisted the Israeli Occupation through various means, including creative and bold nonviolent direct action and campaigns. The right of return for refugees is one of the central elements of Palestinians’ calls for peace with justice. This issue is often framed as one of the most intractable situations in the world, yet we are in a moment where change is possible. This workshop will look at the current reality of Palestinian refugees, both inside Israel/Palestine and around the world, and what people in the U.S. can do to support Palestinians. We will hear from someone who works for the UN Relief and Works Agency (established in 1949 to provide support to Palestinian refugees) and a Palestinian who has been involved in various movements for Palestinian liberation. This workshop will equip participants with the knowledge that peace with justice is possible and provide concrete ways that participants can advocate for peace in the Holy Land.

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Workshop Leaders:

Emily Brewer, *Director, Presbyterian Peace Fellowship*

Elizabeth Campbell, *Director, UNRWA Representative Office, Washington, DC*

**NO PLACE TO CALL HOME:
LGBTQ REFUGEES & ASYLUM SEEKERS**

In 72 countries, it is illegal to be gay; the death penalty is imposed in eight of those countries. LGBTQ people and their families face prejudice, discrimination and violence at alarming rates around the world, and hate crimes against LGBTQ people are on the rise in the United States. Oppressive conditions make it unsafe or impossible for LGBTQ persons to go to school, hold a job, rent an apartment or even take public transportation without fear of violence. LGBTQ people feel unsafe in their home countries of Uganda, Nigeria, Russia, etc. and the refugee camps they flee to are often unsafe for them.

This interactive workshop will include a Washington, D.C.-based panel of international LGBTQ asylum seekers and refugees sharing their stories of crisis, journey and resilience. It will explore the life-threatening challenges in simply being a refugee or asylee as well as the unique challenges that LGBTQ persons face in their process for a safe resettlement. Included will be a discussion of the new educational resource from the Presbyterian Mission Agency, "The Global Crisis for People Who Are LGBT and Their Families: A Presbyterian Church (USA) Response."

Workshop Leaders:

Dr. Michael J. Adey, *Director, Global Faith & Justice Project at the Center for Innovation in Ministry, San Francisco Theological Seminary*

A panel of international LGBTQ refugees and asylees

This is a preliminary list of workshops and is subject to change.

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Compassion, Peace & Justice Training Day
is made possible by your gifts and the gifts
of your congregation to the Presbyterian
Church (U.S.A.).