



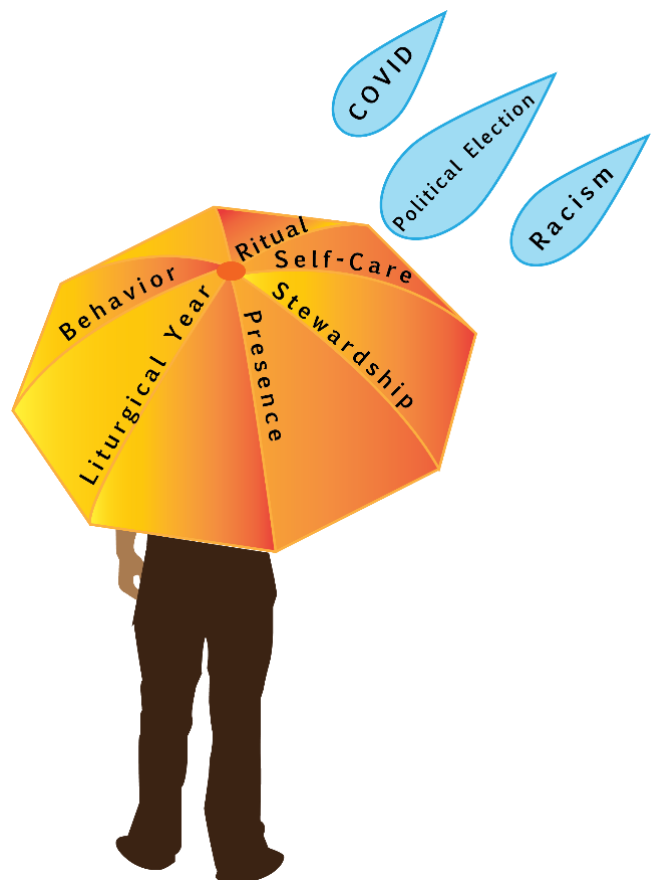
COVID Conversations for Faith Communities

Tuesday, September 29 10 a.m.

Presenters

Rev. Pam Holt
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Disrupted / Altered Systems

Altered Presence in the Life of the Church

Behavior/Leadership

Larry Rasmussen – “Governance is a crucial part of our life together for at least two reasons. One reason is simple: life is a mess. It is not *only* a mess, but it is a mess. Some of it is a mess all the time, all of it is a mess some of the time, and disordered houses do not stand. Just as our bodies do poorly without food, bodies politic do poorly without governance. Communities, in order to be communities, must be ordered, cared for, led. The other reason is equally noted: governance is necessary for the positive flourishing of life.”ⁱ

Resource:

<https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/spiritual-gifts-inventory/en>

Ritual

Liturgical Year

Stewardship

Resources:

Book – *Growing Through Disaster: Tools for Financial and Trauma Recovery in Your Faith Community* by Clayton Smith and Matt Schoenfeld.



Website – Center for Faith and Giving current year’s stewardship campaign by Bruce Barkhauer is available

<https://stewardshipresources.org/product-category/resources/faithful-hopeful-loving/>

<https://okdisciples.org/faithful-hopeful-loving-stewardship-campaign/>

Self Care

Peter Steinke – “In any emotional system, automatic forces will be strong. They are intended to be powerful. They provide safety and ensure survival. That’s precisely why are reactions to any kind of threat will be defensive. (John) Gottman has ... learned in his research that how a conversation begins can determine how it ends. If a conversation starts harshly, chances are high that reactivity will conclude it. The harsh startup sparks strong emotionality, which is often difficult to turn down or turn off. Leaders, of all people, need to see what part self plays in automatic reactions and control their part. It takes a disciplined effort to manage self: to step back for the moment, observe clearly, select a response, act on principle, and keep a course of direction.”ⁱⁱ

Future Hope

RESOURCES CONSULTED

Peter L. Steinke, *Congregational Leadership in Anxious Times: Being Calm and Courageous No Matter What*, 2006: The Alban Institute/Rowan & Littlefield.

Braden Kelley, *Stoking Your Innovation Bonfire: A Roadmap to a Sustainable Culture of Ingenuity and Promise*, 2010: Wiley.

ⁱ Steinke, pg. 93.

ⁱⁱ Steinke, pp. 41-2.