

Worship Workshop – November 6, 2017

In conjunction with The Convergence (Conference hosted by Asbury Theological Seminary,
Wilmore KY)

Monday, November 6

9:00-9:30 Gathering and Introductions– Dr. Chris Alford.

9:30-10:30 Session 1 – Dr. Chris Alford. “What Makes Us Ancient-Future?” Five Principal Points of Ancient-Future Faith”

Has anyone ever asked you, “Just what is Ancient-Future Faith”? Dr. Alford gives us a helpful introduction and some easy take-away points for explaining the theology of Ancient-Future Faith.

10:30-10:45 Break

10:45-11:45 Session 2 – Dr. Carl Peters “Why Is Ancient-Future Renewal Important to My Church?”

In this session, we will explore the weakening of the church through pragmatic consumerism and the impact of Ancient-Future principles on renewing the church.

Noon-12:45 Lunch

1:00-2:00 Session 3 – Dr. Teresa Gardner. “What Does Praise Look Like? A Biblical Look at Expression of Worship in the Psalms”

There are many Hebrew words that are translated as “praise,” and each has a unique, outer, physical expression. This session explores the psalmists’ intentions for our expressions of praise to the Lord in the various contexts of life and, especially, in our gathered expressions of worship as we respond to the liturgical invitation, ‘Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give Him thanks and praise!’

2:00-2:15 Break

2:15-3:15 Session 4 – Dr. Ellen Koehler. “Liturgy as Story and Spiritual Formation”

We often say that worship ‘sings, prays, tells, and enacts the whole story of God.’ In this hands-on session, we will explore how – and why it is so important – that each weekly and seasonal liturgy reveals and expresses a chapter of God’s whole, cosmic narrative.

3:15-3:30 Break

3:30-4:30 Session 5 – Dr. Jennifer Harris Clayton. “Worship and Trauma: The Intersection of Story”

In this session, Dr. Clayton reminds us that the stories of each one of us are held within the bigger truth of God’s story, and explores the ways in which, in response to His invitation, we ultimately find our true story in His cosmic narrative.

4:30-5:15 Conclusion, prayer and ministry.

Biographies of Speakers:

Dr. Chris Alford

A long-time worship pastor and now lead pastor of the first evangelical church start built intentionally on Ancient-Future principles, Chris Alford is the founder and Board Chair of the Ancient-Future Faith Network. A native of East Tennessee, Chris came to church-based ministry after several years in the symphony orchestra business where he used his musicology background to plan repertoire, write program notes, and serve as staff musicologist.

Chris left his Baptist roots in Tennessee when he was called to a large evangelical Presbyterian church in the Sacramento area, and he now serves in what he calls a “pre-denominational” community of believers, Epiclesis. A ministry veteran with 25 years of service, Chris is a graduate of the first, “Alpha” class of the Institute for Worship Studies, a tireless advocate of all things Ancient-Future, and is a frequent speaker and workshop leader. Chris and wife Sheila have two children, Noah and Anna, and a wonderfully useless but beloved *bichon frisé* named Pepi. Chris is a husband, a father, a pastor, a musician, and a hoot.

Dr. Carl Peters

Carl Peters is married to Reneé and has three sons: Daulton, Kendall, and Hayden. Having served churches in Michigan, Kentucky, Florida, and California, Carl is pastor at the Anchor Baptist Church in Lexington, Kentucky (since 2006). As a proponent of the Ancient-Future principles so brilliantly articulated by Dr. Robert Webber, Carl has given special attention in His church settings to the central place of covenant renewal as a defining factor in scripturally -informed worship.

Believing that the covenantal components of Word and Sign are meant to be twin peaks within the biblically prescribed “four-fold pattern” of worship (Gathering, Word, Table and Sending Forth), Carl has spent the last twelve years pursuing renewal in the vital nature of the Table in the Christian sacred assembly. Further, Carl has worked to implement a catechetical structure within a traditional Baptist setting. Utilizing Webber’s “Journey to Jesus” as a model, progress is being made in the initiation of this four-stage discipleship strategy, derived from the early church, as a normative facet of church membership at Anchor.

Along with teaching worship and choral seminars in several states across the country, Carl also has several published articles on worship, including a *Creator Magazine* piece on returning the Table to its proper place (“Real Presence: Renewal at the Lord’s Table”). Carl writes a blog dealing with many of the issues that animate his work.

Dr. Teresa Gardner

Teresa Gardner has long held a vision for seeing the arts restored for the glory of God and is the Director of *Zion Center for Worship and the Arts (ZCWA)*—a center for worship training through biblical study and technical artistic development based in Charlotte, North Carolina. Teresa has also directed the *Resurrection Dance Ministry* (of Resurrection Lutheran Church) for over thirty years—training worship dancers of all ages, assisting other churches in establishing dance ministries, and presenting God’s Story through movement in local, national and international venues.

As a Conference Teacher and Clinician, Teresa has taught in many nations on Biblical Worship and Worship Expression. Teresa teaches on both the personal and corporate expressions of offering our worship to God through movement— from the simplest gestural expressions to the more developed movement language of the trained dancer. Whether in the “free praise” church environment or the higher liturgical church setting, Teresa’s experiences in multi-denominational, international and multi-cultural worship settings provide rich resources for understanding the appropriate development and application of worship movement expression for individual ministry and church settings.

Teresa received her Doctorate of Worship Studies from The Robert E. Webber Institute for Worship Studies. Her doctoral project on *The Biblical and Theological Foundations of Dance Ministry* has provided the basis for ZCWA’s newest venue of biblical worship arts education and training through online courses. Teresa resides in Charlotte, North Carolina, where for 35 years she has been surrounded and supported by wonderful communities of faith. Israel also plays an important role

in Teresa's life and ZCWA's ministry. From 1999-2010 Teresa served with the International Christian Embassy in Jerusalem as Dance Company Manager for the annual Christian Celebration of the Feast of Tabernacles. Ongoing trips to Israel provide worship and educational opportunities for others to learn with ZCWA of our Ancient-Future connection with this land.

Dr. Ellen Koehler

Ellen Koehler, a Resource Partner of the AFFN, has been director of music and liturgy at Epiclesis since the community's first meetings in 2009. She studied musicology and piano performance at Oregon State University before moving to the Sacramento area in 1988. As a church musician for some 25 years, she has served as sanctuary pianist, organist and choral accompanist in diverse styles— from classic and traditional to contemporary. She has also played in chamber music and orchestral settings and worked in instrumental and choral composition and arranging. Her great joy these days is in composing and arranging music for Ancient-Future worship.

Ellen holds a Ph.D. in Intellectual and Cultural History from the University of California, Davis, with specialties in religious history and nineteenth-century France, and has held lectureships at UCLA and UCD. She and her husband, Loren, enjoy travel, hiking and photography. They are blessed with three grown children and five grandchildren.

Dr. Jennifer Harris-Clayton

Jennifer writes "I am a currently unemployed church leader and music minister. I am a third-generation church leader and have served as everything from piano player, furniture mover and wallpaper hanger to music and worship director, women's ministry, Bible study facilitator and creator of a children's curriculum on worship. I have a bachelor and master's degree in music from the University of Michigan and a DWS (Beta II class) from the Robert E. Webber Institute for Worship Studies.

"The Wounded Worshiper Refuge is a newly-forming retreat ministry birthed by the Spirit out of my seemingly unrelated life and work experiences. I am humbled and excited by the evidence of God's favor and grace as this project gets underway."