

2022 RE: FORMATION FALL LEADERSHIP GATHERING

Keynote Speakers

DR. COURTNEY WILDER



Dr. Courtney Wilder has taught at Midland University in Fremont, Nebraska for 15 years, and is active in Lutheran theological conversations. Her research focuses on Christianity and popular culture and theology of disability. She is a member of Augustana Lutheran Church in Omaha and lives in Omaha with her partner and children.

Keynote Summary: Dr. Wilder will discuss connecting our everyday experience with biblical narratives and the Christian theological tradition to think deeply about difficult transitions. The experience of birth and the challenge of rebirth (Deuteronomy 32:18 and John 3:1-10) and the metaphor of building a house (Matthew 7:24-27) provide us with language and images to reflect on and speak honestly about our struggle and God's presence.

BISHOP SCOTT ALAN JOHNSON



Bishop Scott Johnson describes himself as a farm boy at heart. Christian by baptism. Lutheran by conviction. Loving, if flawed, husband, father, son, and brother. Musician. Reader. He is a native of Wakefield, Nebraska and served as pastor at St. Petri Lutheran Church in Story City, Iowa for seven years before arriving at Midland in the fall of 2019. He earned his BA from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and completed his Master of Divinity Degree from Luther Seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota. He also served as a pastor at Peace Lutheran

Church in Barrett, Minnesota, and was pastor of Lutheran Campus Ministry at Iowa State University in Ames. His wife, Kristin, is a Deacon in the ELCA serving at First Lutheran Fremont. They have two daughters.

Keynote Summary:

Courage to Stand? Look to the Rock!

Time with the bishop is always an important part of the fall leadership gathering. Bishop Scott Johnson will be on day 54 when we gather in Kearney for RE:Formation 2022. He brings greetings, a reality check and message of hope as we find the courage to stand and look to the rock. (Isaiah 51:1-3)

DEACON PEGGY HAHN



Peggy Hahn serves as the Executive Director for LEAD, aligning passionate leaders, resources, and practices to grow Christian leaders who grow faith communities in our world. Peggy is a frequent speaker and author who is never without a pile of books to read and seeks coaches and mentors for herself in an ongoing quest to learn and grow. Peggy is committed to listening to pastors and leaders of all ages for insight into the ways they are growing in their own faith and how to support them in their development as leaders.

Keynote Summary:

RE-FORMATION: An invitation to catch up with yourself, and live with freedom from perfection, within a courageous community.



Monday: Catching Up with Yourself

Making meaning out of the last three years includes claiming the changes in ourselves. Our identities have been reformed. Ignoring ourselves can come out sideways. Our worldview has been shattered and healing takes time. Just when we feel out of breath and the pilgrimage feels overwhelming, our cries of blisters and exhaustion turn to curiosity and wonder.



Tuesday: Live with Freedom from Perfection

Breaking free of expectations includes these things:

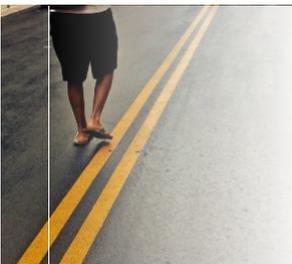
Relationships – create space for trusted conversations as we let go together

Resiliency – build sustainability, even with tired muscles, cultivating new capacity

Resistance – grow courage to overcome fear of making mistakes

Redundancy – shape habits in ourselves (and in the synod, congregation, and neighborhood, over time)

Relevance – experience a life of faith that sustains us in times of change



Tuesday: Courageous Community

Change is all around us. What is our part in stewarding the church for today and tomorrow? There are four leadership moves that will support your ministry as you leave this space:

1. Listen: Build wide bridges together
2. Focus: Commit to life-giving habits personally
3. Explore: Share the work
4. Connect: Stop worshiping a monument, start leading a movement

