

Break-Out Session Leaders:

Reverend Jennifer Goto - St Paul's Methodist Church and campus ministry at San Jose State University in San Jose, CA

Reverend Jennifer Goto of St. Paul's United Methodist Church is an ordained elder who helps her congregation and the students at San Jose State engage in grassroots community organizing (People Acting in Community Together, PACT, focuses especially on the relationship between police and diverse community). Lulu is both a student, an intern at Embrace Church—East Bay, and a candidate for ministry who is able to help bridge the university community and the church. They have found that students involved in justice work often burn out because of its demands, and they have taken on a role of spiritual care for social justice warriors.



Rev. Jeanelle Nicolas Ablola, Justice Advocate and Organizer

Jeanelle Nicolas Ablola is a gender non-conforming Filipino pastor serving an historically Japanese-American pan-Asian church in San Francisco, and engaging in education and justice work with the California-Nevada Philippine Solidarity Task Force. Their passion is in connecting the life of faith with a life of advocacy for justice, and helping communities learn from one another as they seek to resist evil, injustice, and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves.

The Very Rev. Dr. William Stomski, Trinity Episcopal Cathedral

Father William is Rector Dean of Trinity Cathedral in Reno, Nevada and an accomplished watercolorist who incorporates his art into community outreach and worship. He worked at the national level of the Lutheran Church in America (later the ELCA) in Philadelphia as the art director and design consultant for “Ecclesiastical Arts” Studio where custom art, liturgical vessels, furnishings, paraments, and interior renovations of worship space were designed and implemented. He will be leading a workshop on how art can provide language for spiritual expression inside and outside the walls of the church.



Christina Fegert



Christina Fegert is the Director of Community Relations at Northern Nevada HOPES. HOPES is a nonprofit community health center in downtown Reno that offers integrated medical care and wellness services. They welcome patients, wherever

they are in life, and provide them with compassionate, high-quality healthcare on a twelve point matrix, which includes physical health, mental health, emotional health, substance abuse counseling, and spiritual health. For medically underserved populations, this one-stop-shop healthcare model reduces barriers to care and increases the likelihood of maintaining long-term health.

Rev. Dr. Blake Busick, Great Northern District Superintendent for the United Methodist Church

The Reverend Blake Busick has been a Pastor in our Annual Conference since 1984 serving United Methodist Churches in Greenville and Taylorsville, Patterson, Fremont, Cupertino, and Santa Rosa. He recently accepted a position as District Superintendent to 100 churches in rural areas of Northern California and Northern Nevada. He is passionate about finding innovative solutions for rural ministry in changing times.



Nevadans for the Common Good

Nevadans for the Common Good is a broad-based coalition of institutions in the Las Vegas area with the goals to build relationships across community based on trust and a willingness to listen to each other; to equip people with leadership skills and practices to get results; to achieve change on concrete issues, as part of a common call to justice across the lines of race, religion, neighborhood and political affiliation. The model taking strong stands on issues affecting families and communities while remaining politically non-partisan.

Rev. Kim Montenegro, Building Multicultural Community

Kim Montenegro is a United Methodist Pastor, church planter, and trainer in cross-cultural relationship-building. Caring about cross-cultural community isn't just an academic pursuit for her, but a reflection of who she is. She grew up in a multicultural family in Stockton, California, studied cross-cultural sensitivity in seminary, and has led workshops for UMC LEAD, Youth 2019, and iRelate. She has helped every congregation she has served become more diverse through appreciative inquiry and graceful leadership.



Rev. Rob Rynders

As a consultant for churches and nonprofits Rob has a passion for being a connector who coaches professional and volunteer leaders and teams around innovative ideas, projects, events, and partnerships. Rob brings strategic planning, fundraising, networking, leadership, writing, and public speaking skills to organizations and movements focused on positively impacting individual lives and communities. He is the co-author of *The Sacred Secular*, the co-founder of City Square Church, and the co-founder of The Lead Conference. He will be sharing marketing research about how to engage spiritual seekers and explorers in faith community, and some of the ways church may need to evolve in the future.

