Thursday, October 22, 2015

8:30 am  Registration and Breakfast

9:30 am  Opening Worship
Rev. Emily McGinley, Urban Village Church

State of McCormick Address
Rev. Frank Tsakas, Ph.D., President, McCormick Theological Seminary

11:30 am  Alumni/ae Luncheon
Directorate Alumni/ae Pauline Coffman and Rev. Troy Hammond

Alumni/ae Association Meeting

1:00 pm  Opening Plenary: "Fire, ashes, bread, water and Spirit"
We are living weary days. So much around us are threatening our ways of living: economic insecurity, churches in viability, racial attacks, ecological disasters, violence, fears of all kinds and so on. We are becoming a country of fearful people. For this first lecture, we will hear about fire, ashes, bread, water and Spirit as symbols that can help keep us alive.
Rev. Claudia Cornwell, Ph.D.

2:00 pm  "We Didn’t Start the Fire"

An interfaith panel discussion about what the prophetic or prophesy mean in various traditions and where are the front lines of prophetic work occurring in our world today?
Jackie Marquez, Moderator
Rev. Michelle Day
Rev. Dirk Ficca
Hind Almasi

3:30 pm  "Faith, Art and Ash"
Rev. Julian "J. Kwest" DeShazier

4:30 pm  Sending

6:00 pm  All Alumni/ae Reception - McCormick Theological Seminary


Friday, October 23, 2015

8:00 am  Breakfast

8:30 am  Morning Meditation
Rev. Nanette Sawyer, Grace Commons

9:00 am  Workshops
"Signs of the Fire in Congregational Ministry"
Rev. Dr. Isaias Mercado - The Carpenters House
"Signs of the Fire in Youth Ministry"
Rev. Vanessa Monroe - Covenant United Church of Christ
"Signs of the Fire in Public Ministry"
Rev. Marilyn Pagan-Banks - A & J Harvest

10:15 am  Break

10:30 am  "Ripper: The Ripple Effect of Gun Violence."
Screening and Discussion
David Barnhart - Filmmaker, Producer and Director

12:15 pm  Lunch

1:30 pm  Koina Ensemble
Performing African Drumming and Dancing By Idy Ciss

2:00 pm  Closing Worship: "I will tell you a mystery: that which send us forth"
We will go back to our weary days. But now, we will go empowered by the heartbeat of the prophetic, the mystery of God through the voices of the Spirit in our hearts, minds, bodies and souls! We do mission that will prepare us for a new day! We will be the presence of a new day!
Rev. Claudia Cornwell, Ph.D.

3:00 pm  Thank you and Change
Geraldine Rodriguez is a self-taught photographer based in Chicago, IL. Her work has been described as conceptual, artistic, entrancing and provocative. Geraldine helps her models to redefine a life experience or story through visual expressions, and captures that expression on camera. Geraldine wants her photography to reveal we are universally connected through human emotion. Her work reflects what many choose not to expose themselves.

Rev. Nanette Sawyer (M.Div ’02) is the pastor of “Grace Common” (originally Wicker Park Grace), an artist, blogger and spiritual counselor who understands that hospitality has the power to heal. The author of Hospitality the Sacred Art, Nanette teaches about a soul-deep hospitality that is nothing short of transformative. Committed to mutually enriching interfaith relationships, she writes as a Christian who is committed to explaining the historically dynamic nature of Christianity, as well as to role in hospitality and generosity.


2015 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI/AE

Pauline Coffman, Ed.D (M.A. ’64) is a founding member of the LCCM (Little Lebanon Mission Network) and is currently Moderator of the Syria Lebanon Mission Network. She is one of the authors of “Zionism Unsettled: A Congregational Study Guide,” and “Zionism was the founding board president of the Albuquerque Opportunity Center, a program for men experiencing homelessness. The organization also coordinates a diakonia “Housing First” initiative called Albuquerque Reading Home. In 2008, he wrote a study guide for Cynthia Wright and Deborah Brown’s book “Phases of Promise, Finding Strength in Your Church’s Location” by Westminster/John Knox Press.

Rev. Trey Hammond (M.Div ’80) is the pastor of La Mesa Presbyterian Church in Albuquerque, New Mexico. He serves as a co-chair of Albuquerque Interfaith and is a founder of the La Mesa Arts Academy, an afterschool art program partnering with the neighboring elementary school. His work focuses on helping urban congregations in multicultural settings relate to their community around issues of hunger, homelessness, poverty, public education, affordable housing, and community organizing. Trey was the founding board president of the Albuquerque Opportunity Center, a program for men experiencing homelessness. The organization also coordinates a diakonia “Housing First” initiative called Albuquerque Reading Home. In 2008, he wrote a study guide for Cynthia Wright and Deborah Brown’s book “Phases of Promise, Finding Strength in Your Church’s Location” by Westminster/John Knox Press.