

On March 3, 2018 the CMA District Congregational Development Team will be sponsoring the Annual Church Leadership Event. We are inviting *you* and members of your congregation to join us in experiencing a world-changing journey.

This year, we will focus on the rebirth of the church. It is obvious that the church in the United States of America is in decline. We are closing more churches every year than we are starting new ones. It is a defining moment which we should not face with our eyes closed or with our fingers crossed. We must make a decision about our present and about our future.

To paraphrase Mike Regele, author of *Death of the church* "we have built structures which continue to thwart growth and frustrate change...into which we have poured our resources. Yet these are failing us. With everything changing around us, what are our options? We can simply die because of our hidebound resistance to change, or we can die in order to live."

As a district team, we hope that your choice will be "to die in order to live." Jesus said *"Listen carefully: Unless a grain of wheat is buried in the ground, dead to the world, it is never any more than a grain of wheat. But if it is buried, it sprouts and reproduces itself many times over. In the same way, anyone who holds on to life just as it is destroys that life. But if you let it go, reckless in your love, you'll have it forever, real and eternal."* John 12:24-25 (MSG)

CENTRAL MASSACHUSETTS DISTRICT  
THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

The Rev. Rene A. Perez, District Superintendent

53 Birchwood Drive  
Holden, MA 01520  
Phone: 508-853-1895  
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## 2018 Leadership Workshops

**"UMCs on the Hill"**  
**20 Hoppin Hill Avenue**  
**North Attleboro, MA**  
**.5 C.E.U.s**

THE DEATH OF  
THE CHURCH:  
ITS REBIRTH!

**MARCH 3, 2018**

**8:30AM– 3:30PM**

**\$15 EARLY REGISTRATION,**  
**(NO LATER THAN JANUARY 8, 2018)**  
**\$20 REGISTRATION– AFTER 1.8.18**

**\$12 PP FOR TEAMS OF 5 OR MORE**  
**(NO MATTER THE DATE)**

### GUEST SPEAKERS/WORKSHOP LEADERS:



Shane's books include *Jesus for President*, *Red Letter Revolution*, *Common Prayer*, *Follow Me to Freedom*, *Jesus, Bombs and Ice Cream*, *Becoming the Answer to Our Prayers*, his classic *The Irresistible Revolution* and his newest book, *Executing Grace*. He has been featured in a number of films including "Another World Is Possible" and "Ordinary Radicals." His books have been

translated into more than a dozen languages. Shane speaks over one hundred times a year, nationally and internationally. His work has appeared in *Esquire*, *SPIN*, *Christianity Today*, and *The Wall Street Journal*, and he has been on everything from *Fox News* and *Al Jazeera* to *CNN* and *NPR*. He's given academic lectures at *Harvard*, *Princeton*, *Liberty*, *Duke*, and *Notre Dame*.

**Worship: Taize Style** — Taize music is very contemplative in nature. It usually involves a simple one or two line refrain that is repeated multiple times. As the refrain is repeated over and over, different instrumental and vocal harmonies are brought in. The purpose of this repetitive singing is to help us focus and contemplate on a single aspect of God for an extended period of time.



### MORNING WORKSHOPS Please choose One workshop for the 11:00 am session

- MESSY CHURCH
- LIVING "COMMUNITY"
- FROM DEN OF THIEVES TO SANCTUARIES
- STAFF-PARISH RELATIONS
- LISTENING TO CRITICISM
- FINANCE CHAIRS & TREASURERS
- WHOLENESS & HOLINESS
- BIBLICAL INTERPRETATION IN AN AGE OF PLURALISM

### AFTERNOON WORKSHOPS Please choose One workshop for the 1:15 pm session

- FINANCE CHAIRS & TREASURERS
- PREACHING FROM THE CORE
- REACHING THE NONES
- LAITY LEAD AND SERVE
- TRUSTEES
- RESHAPING THE CHURCH INSIDE OUT
- CHURCH COUNCIL
- BE THE SOLUTION, NOT THE PROBLEM
- TENT MAKING MINISTERS

### COMING UP

**MAY 5TH, 2018- "Roadmap to Renewal" WORKSHOP** with Rev. Dr. Douglas Ruffle. Dr. Ruffle is Associate Executive Director/Editor for Wesleyan Resources for the United Methodist Discipleship Ministries. He is also author of the books *"Mission Minded"* and *"Roadmap to Renewal: Rediscovering the church's mission."*  
~Registration by church teams only~



March 3, 2018  
**"Death of the church: Its rebirth"**  
**REGISTRATION FORM**

Morning workshop selection

11:00AM \_\_\_\_\_

Afternoon workshops selection

1:15PM \_\_\_\_\_

*If registering as a group, please submit your registrations and payment together*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Phone or email \_\_\_\_\_

Church \_\_\_\_\_

# attending from church \_\_\_\_\_

Total payment enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to **CMA DISTRICT** and mail registration with payment to

**CMA DISTRICT**  
**53 Birchwood Drive, Holden, MA 01520**  
 Earmarked: resource day

For questions call or email: 1-508-853-1895  
 cmadistrict@charter.net

## THE SCHEDULE

- 8:30 a.m. Registration & Fellowship  
(continental breakfast)
- 9:00 a.m. Worship  
Plenary Session with Shane Claiborne
- 11:00 a.m. AM Workshops
- 12:15pm Lunch
- 1:15 p.m. PM Workshops
- 3:30 p.m. Conclusion

## WORKSHOPS DETAILS

**STAFF-PARISH RELATIONS-** Don't know what you are supposed to do? Come and hear what is most important in your role and how to have a healthy relationship with your pastor (and paid staff) in order to facilitate ministry. **Seok Hwan Hong**

**TRUSTEES-** Are you a new local church trustee? This is definitely the workshop you want to attend. It will answer questions such as, how do we manage church owned buildings and assets, what to do with bequests, and more. Please bring your questions about property management, selling and buying, and how to best care for parsonages. **Caryl Walsh**

**FINANCE CHAIRS AND TREASURERS—** Know your role from head to toe and what it takes to lead your committee to more prosperous and positive grounds. Learn practical hands-on methods and systems to manage your treasury and budget. Be the finance team you wish you were! **Ralph Howe**

**CHURCH COUNCIL-** Experience a new way of doing Church Council work in an enjoyable, forward -moving and relaxed way. Not business as usual, not merely reading reports but engaged in God's vision for your church and community. **Bonnie Jean Rowe**

**LAITY LEAD AND SERVE** - unleash the power of lay leaders and servants, working side by side especially with part time pastors. Discern, strengthen, and use all your church family's gifts for ministry. **Beth Ferguson & Robert Hout**

**PREACHING FROM THE CORE—** Putting your congregation to sleep with you preaching? Frustrated about not feeling you are preaching something meaningful or making any difference? Have you heard people tell you, we are not getting fed? Come and learn! Transformational Preachers, preach with conviction because they preach from the core. Find yours here! **John Taylor**

**MESSY CHURCH—**Is it Sunday sports or is it irrelevant church? Where are the youth and young adults? This workshop will help you understand and help you know what to do about it to reenergize the church by offering creative approaches to mission, learning and worship, and by becoming a church that is meaningful enough to be relevant again. **Geisa Matos-Machuca, Jim Young, Karen Cassidy**

**REACHING THE NONES—**According to the Pew Research, more than 23% of US adults say they don't believe in God, question God's existence or have no interest in religion. Should be care? If so, what can we do about it? Learn to understand and respond to those who identify as NONES that they may experience the life-hanging power of Jesus Christ. **LyAnna Johnson**

**LIVING "COMMUNITY"** - Don't let your church be an island in the midst of your mission field! Learn practical techniques to get out of the pews, and fulfill our mission to "GO" and make new disciples. **Jung Sun Oh**

**FROM DEN OF THIEVES TO SANCTUARIES—**Jesus cleared the temple of money changers and merchants. It is time to clear our churches from being museums and money-eating structures, back to sanctuaries where everyone is welcomed. Are you ready to turn over a few tables? **David Arruda**

**LISTENING TO CRITICISM—**Don't take it personally! It isn't always about you! Learn how to receive and constructively use criticism to build stronger and healthier relationships

within your church family and with your community. When you listen to understand, you learn to understand. **Barbara Lemmel**

**BE THE SOLUTION NOT THE PROBLEM—** When one becomes the problem, one creates chaos, stagnation, division and even death. Becoming the solution creates healing, unity, newness, growth and hope. It is God's desire for us to be the light and peacemakers to help advance His kingdom. Which will you choose? **Yoo-Yun Cho-Chang**

**WHOLENESS AND HOLINESS—** Why are these so important to our spirituality? Seeking wholeness and holiness through the means of grace offers us spiritual vitality and longevity. Both of these are nurtured through a deep relationship with Jesus Christ, through the Holy Spirit. Come! Be whole and healed! **Steve Garnaa-Holmes**

**TENT MAKING MINISTERS—**Jesus was a carpenter. Paul made tents. There were lots of people in the Bible who were of great use to God and had another job. In today's era of church decline, bi-vocational ministers CAN lead a church from death to life. It is an open door to develop new leaders, interact with non-church people, and not break the church's budget. **Scott Masters**

**BIBLICAL INTERPRETATION IN AN AGE OF PLURALISM—** Is Jesus the only Savior? The Bible says He is, but... is the Bible, which was written thousands of years ago, still relevant? With so many accepted religions and denominations, what should Christians believe today? - **Rev. Dr. Carl Schultz**

**RESHAPING THE CHURCH INSIDE OUT—** On the day of Pentecost, Peter went out of the closed room to the waiting crowds and led 3,000 people to baptism. We sit in our churches for the 3,000 to come in. Step out from "bring the numbers into the church" to reaching the masses outside the church. **Shane Claiborne**