Building the Church THE VERY STYLE OF FAITH:

HOW READING THE BIBLE AS LITERATURE CAN HELP US EXPERIENCE THE MYSTERY OF GOD

JULY 27 - 31, 2022

A RETREAT FOR ALL AGES SET ON THE BEAUTIFUL CAMPUS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF PORTLAND











www.summerconferenceportland.org

2022 KEYNOTE AND CONFERENCE THEME

"Religions start, as Frost said poems do, with a lump in the throat, to put it mildly." -Frederick Buechner, The Alphabet of Grace.

This week we will take a few simple ideas from the world of literature and use them to read the scriptures with more freedom and joy. To read the Bible "as literature" is not to read it as fiction or to think of style as something separate from content. It's to understand these marvelous forms as ways of entering more deeply into the mystery, and of the mystery entering more deeply into us.

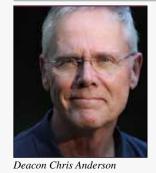
God communicates in all kinds of ways in our lives — and almost always subtly — and this is how he communicates in the Bible, too. The Bible is full of different forms and kinds of language, and it, too, rarely spells things out. We are always in the act of interpreting. It's not just the content of the Bible that matters. It's the form. Reading the Bible trains us to read our lives.

SESSION 1: How to go to Heaven: An introduction to the idea of "Genre" in the scriptures — focusing on Genesis — and how understanding genre can free us to read the Bible with confidence and faith.

SESSION 2: Wrestling with Language: An introduction to the idea of "Showing versus Telling" in the scriptures — again, focusing on Genesis and how this idea can help us understand the shape of our own lives. **SESSION 3: The Community of Truth:** A discussion of genre in the Gospels, and how understanding the unique form of the Gospels can help us get unstuck in our thinking about what the Gospels mean for us now.

SESSION 4: Calming the Storm: A discussion of the idea of "Showing versus Telling" in the Gospel of Mark and what this means for understanding the very nature of our experience of the Resurrected Christ.

2022 KEYNOTE SPEAKER: DEACON CHRIS ANDERSON



Chris Anderson is a deacon at St. Mary's in Corvallis and a professor emeritus of English at Oregon State University. He is a poet and essayist, author of 14 books, most recently, Light When It Comes: Trusting Joy, Facing Darkness, and Seeing God in Everything (Eerdmans, 2016). He has a BA from Gonzaga, a Master's and Ph.D. in English from the University of Washington, and a Masters in Theology from Mount Angel Seminary. His keynote this summer will be adapted from the Bible as Literature course he taught for over 30

years at Oregon State. Chris was our 2017 Summer Conference keynoter as well. For more about Chris, go to www.deaconchrisanderson.com.



The Summer Conference Icon written by Brother Claude Lane, O.S.B.

WHAT IS SUMMER CONFERENCE?

Since 1983, the Summer Conference has provided participants with time for reflection and renewal. We come together each year to explore ways to live out the Gospel in our families and our communities. A keynote speaker and a theme are chosen to help us ponder how we can make holy our chosen roles as parents, teachers, students, community volunteers, business owners and employees. We delve into study and discussion of deep theology presented by outstanding theologians from near and far. We are inspired by ideas presented in a variety of classes. We have fun, enjoying recreation and conversation with other participants, new and old, throughout the days of the conference.

HISTORY OF SUMMER CONFERENCE

The Summer Conference, originally known as the Mount Angel Summer Conference, was hosted by Mount Angel Abbey for its first 25 years.

In 2007, after 25 years of vision and leadership, the founders of the Conference handed the reins to long-time Conference participants and staff who formed Engelberg Conference. In 2008, the nonprofit organization re-initiated the Summer Conference in its new location at the University of Portland. The Conference continues to maintain ties to Mount Angel Abbey, and the Benedictine philosophy of integrating work and prayer permeates our activities at Summer Conference.

SUMMER CONFERENCE GOALS

- Provide clergy, religious and lay people of all ages an opportunity to deepen their faith through study, prayer, art and play in a communal setting.
- Expose participants to outstanding theologians and inspiring people of faith.
- Model a Catholic faith-based community.
- Seek to understand the mystery of God and the mystery of person within the community of Catholic faith and the world.

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Conference begins on Wednesday with afternoon registration and concludes with a midday Mass on Sunday. The days are filled with a variety of study, prayer and play for all ages.

Residence facilities are available with three meals a day provided by the University of Portland. Day-use facilities are available for commuters.

Guests may also choose to come to the Keynote Lecture Series only. (See costs on page 2).

To register for the Conference or Lecture Series go to www.summerconferenceportland.org.

-PARTICIPANT FEES—

COMBINED COST OF TUITION/ ROOM/BOARD

Adult (Single Occupancy): \$475 Adult Couple (Double Occupancy): \$900 Young Adult (22-26): \$295 Child (6-21): \$230 Child (3-5): \$200

Child (2 and under): no charge

SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS*: For interested adults, newer apartment-style housing (with A/C, linens and a semi-private bath) is available in Tyson/Haggarty for an additional \$100/person. * These rooms are on the opposite end of campus from Shipstad Hall, where most participants will be staying.

COST FOR COMMUTERS WITH MEALS

(Wednesday dinner through Sunday lunch) Adult: \$350 Child (6-21): \$175 Child (3-5): \$150

ADDITIONAL CLASS FEES

Some classes have fees -see the descriptions below.

*All**Shipstad** residents, remember to bring your own

KEYNOTE

SERIES ONLY

Adult: \$150

for the Keynote

Address Only

<u>Wednesday</u>

6:15-7 p.m.

and

Thurs-Sun_

8:40 -10 a.m.

linens!



"Being able to hear from quality speakers and interact with other people who are seeking a closer relationship with God makes this gathering truly church." -a past participant

Online registration and information on how to pay electronically are available at www.summerconferenceportland.org

Financial assistance is available for up to 50% of costs as funds allow. Forms are available online.

CLASS DESCRIPTIONS

Adult Classes

PERIOD A

1) KEYNOTE

Deacon Chris Anderson

See front page for more information.

PERIOD B

2) DIALOGUE WITH KEYNOTER

Deacon Chris Anderson

An opportunity for additional exploration of the specific topics presented in the keynote talk through discussion in a small group setting.

3) PART I: TBD (Thursday and Friday)

PART II: CHRIST IN THE PSALMS (Saturday and Sunday) Abbot Jeremy Driscoll, O.S.B.

A look at why we as Christians still pray the psalms of the Old Testament, many of which have violent imagery in them. We will see how Christians understand the psalms as the very prayer of Jesus himself and that when they pray them, he prays in them. Their violence is about Jesus' opposition to sin and death.

4) BREATHE, CREATE & PRAY

Val Hornburg

Is it hard for you to pray without your "monkey mind" taking over? Might you pray more easily with visual images? Drawing upon the book, Breath Prayer, an Ancient Practice for the Everyday Sacred, we will begin our times together with a quiet breathing practice followed by the creation of no-fail SoulCollage® Prayer Cards. Afterward, we will explore how these icon-like images can deepen our experience of prayer. No artistic experience is necessary for this quiet, contemplative and creative prayer-time together. All materials provided. \$10 fee.

5) BE STILL AND KNOW THROUGH WRITING

Jen Furl

Take some time to write and reflect on your Summer Conference insights and how they may guide you in navigating the joys and sorrows in your current life. Using the keynote address, excerpts from spiritual memoirs, and poetry as inspiration, we will write and share together as a way to be still and know God's presence. Be sure to bring a journal and pen.

6) OBSERVE, JUDGE, ACT: DISCERNING THE SPIRIT ON THE DIVISIVE ISSUE OF RACISM

Jay Conroy & Bruce Weber

We are called in faith to respond to many social issues. In this class we'll explore together the complex, personally challenging and painfully divisive issue of race and racism. Using the process of "Observe, Judge, Act," participants will have a chance to reflect on their experience of racial differences, examine briefly the history of race relations, explore different perspectives on racism, and discuss possible faith-based responses to racial issues in our own daily walk.

7) SYNODALITY: THE SPIRIT OF HOW WE JOURNEY TOGETHER AS CHURCH

Beth Barsotti

Pope Francis believes, "It is precisely this path of synodality which God expects of the Church of the third millennium." What is synodality? And, how does this impact my life in the Church? The word synod means to "walk with" or "journey together." This class will explore and reflect upon the scriptural and theological foundations of synodality and the current two-year process the church is engaging in called "For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation, Mission."

Intergenerational Classes

PERIOD B

8) THE DAILY BLUFFER

Peter Weber and Jim Schaller

Come help us chronicle Summer Conference! We'll find and tell the stories of Conference and publish a daily companion to our shared life for these five days. Bring your whimsy, your sense of humor, your curiosity, your storytelling, your artistic talents and, if you want, your camera. All skill levels welcome. Gr. 5 and up.

9) MOSAICS

Bill Zuelke

Come learn the art of mosaics, from design to production to presentation. All supplies provided. Gr. 5 and up. Priority will be given to first-time class participants. Gr. 5 and up. \$10 fee.

10) FUN WITH FIMO

Toni Cooper

Using polymer clay, we can play with different techniques to make one-of-a-kind beads or objects. We will have supplies to make magnets, bracelets, necklaces, earrings, rosaries and more! Gr. 5 and up. \$10 fee.

11) CENTERING THE BODY AND MIND

Christy & Ryan Kohler

Come learn the basics of Aikido along with practicing core engagement! Aikido is a Japanese martial art often translated as "the way of unifying life energy" or "the way of the harmonious spirit." Join the class to learn this active and artistic discipline. Gr. 5 and up

PERIOD C

12) TENNIS ANYONE?

Susie Campbell

For anyone who wants to try tennis for the first time or wants to improve their tennis skills. This will be a class that involves all participants. Come join us!

Bring a racquet if you have one! Gr. 2 and up.

13) ORIGAMI

Monica DeBruyn

Come learn to fold classic origami designs you can use for gifts, greeting cards, parties, and holiday decorations. We will start with the top 10 designs you can use all year long and there will be a variety of books you can browse to choose your own favorites.

Gr. 5 and up. \$5 fee.

14) M & M: MASSAGE AND MEDITATION Chris Hughes

Come to experience and learn several massage techniques. You will get to practice giving and receiving. Come as an individual or with a partner. We will end each session with a guided meditation.

Gr. 8 and up.

Children's Classes

15) KEYNOTE INFANT CARE Rachel Klinger and Kelly Vanderwal

16) PROMISE A (*Pre K-Gr 1*)

Ruth Hambley

17) KARING KIDS A (Gr 2-4)

Sadie Hjorth **18) HORIZONS** (*Gr 5-7*)

TBD

19) CHOICES (Gr 8-9) Kim Bastable

20) YOUTH AND THE CHURCH (Gr 10-12)

TBD

21) PROMISE B (*Pre K-Gr 1*)

Caitlin Breitenstein

22) KARING KIDS B (*Gr* 2-4)

Tara Barsotti

23) LET'S FIND SOME FUN

Jakub Langer

Come join in a variety of outdoor games! Having fun is the only rule and success is measured on communication, attitude and perseverance.

Gr. 5 and up.

PERIOD C 24) COZY CORNER

Bobbie Weber

Bring your little—and big ones—to a warm and relatively quiet space toward the end of a busy day to share stories and activities. Bring your favorite books, poems or joke books to share—and of course your pillows and blankets!

All ages welcome—including teens!

Children under 2 are welcome with a parent.

25) GOOD KRAFTERNOON

Beth Schaller

Supplies, supplies everywhere! Join the fun! Come cut, build, glue, tape, color, create and play! There will be a wealth of supplies to create whatever your heart desires with a class of friends. Ages 4 and up. \$5 fee.

26) KIDS-R-COOKIN'

Peggy Thompson

So many choices! Come learn basic cooking skills such as measuring, cutting and mixing as we explore the kitchen and express our individuality. Kids will enjoy their unique kitchen creations from fresh fruit smoothies to tortilla inventions and more. *Please note if you have gluten intolerance or other dietary restrictions/allergies on the registration form so Peggy can make accommodations in advance. Bring an apron and a smile. Gr. 2 and up. \$5 fee.

27) MECHANICAL WONDERS

David and Catherine Otto

Experiment and practice with machines such as levers, pulleys, screws, ramps, pendulums and more to make them work for you. Create ways to complete projects that you can't do with just your muscles.

Gr. 2 and up. \$5 fee.

SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE CHOOSE ONE CLASS FOR EACH PERIOD							
	Adults	Intergenerational	Children				
PERIOD A 8:40-10:00 Thurs-Sun	1) KEYNOTE ADDRESS by Deacon Chris Anderson		15) Keynote Infant Care 16) Promise A (Pre K-Gr. 1) 17) Karing Kids A (Gr. 2-4) 18) Horizons (Gr. 5-7) 19) Choices (Gr. 8-9) 20) Youth and the Church (Gr. 10-12)				
PERIOD B 10:30-11:45 Thurs-Sun	 2) Dialogue with Keynoter 3) Pt. I - TBD (Thursday and Friday) Pt. II - Christ in the Psalms (Saturday and Sunday) 4) Breathe, Create & Pray \$10 fee. 	8) The Daily Bluffer Gr. 5 and up 9) Mosaics Gr. 5 and up. \$10 fee. 10) Fun with Fimo Gr. 5 and up. \$10 fee. 11) Centering the Body and Mind Gr. 5 and up	21) Promise B (Pre K-Gr. 1) 22) Karing Kids B (Gr. 2-4) 23) Let's Find Some Fun Gr. 5 and up.				
PERIOD C 3:30-5:00 Thurs-Sat	 5) Be Still and Know Through Writing 6) Observe, Judge, Act: Discerning the Spirit on the Divisive Issue of Racism 7) Synodality: The Spirit of How We Journey Together as Church 	12) Tennis Anyone? Gr. 2 and up 13) Origami Gr. 5 and up. \$5 fee. 14) M & M: Massage and Mediation Gr. 8 and up	 24) Cozy Corner All ages! Children under 2 welcome with a parent. 25) Good Krafternoon Ages 4 and up. \$5 fee. 26) Kids-R-Cookin' Gr. 2 and up. \$5 fee. 27) Mechanical Wonders Gr. 2 and up. \$5 fee. 				



Electronic

Invoicing





REGISTRATION FORM

Go to summerconferenceportland.org to register online. Within 48 hours, Engelberg Conference will invoice you via QuickBooks for your deposit (\$250 for singles or \$400 for families). QuickBooks will prompt you to pay by bank transfer or credit card.

Or if you prefer you can mail registration form and check payable to Engelberg Conference to: Summer Conference c/o Jakub & Ellen Langer, 2626 NE 18th Ave., Portland, Oregon 97212. REGISTRATION AND DEPOSIT DEADLINE: June 1, 2022.

FAMILY NAME(S)						
ADDRESS	_OK TO PUBLISH IN DIRECTORY-YES?_NO?_					
CITY, STATE, ZIP						
FAMILY E-MAIL ADDRESS						
			_OK TO PUBLISH IN DI	RECTORY-YES?NO?		
PHONE NUMBER(S)			OK TO PUBLISH IN D	DIRECTORY-YES?NO?_		
<u>CLASS CHOICES</u> USE NUMBERS FROM CLASS DESCRIPTIONS ON PAGE 2 OF BROCHURE OR THE WEBSITE REGISTRATION PAGE						
		PERIOD A	PERIOD B	PERIOD C		

USE NUMBERS FROM CLAS	SS DESCR		SS CHOICES PAGE 2 OF BROCHURE OF	R THE WE	BSITE REGIST	RATION	PAGE	
NAME	AGE	GRADE	PERIOD A CLASS CHOICES	PERIOD B CLASS CHOICES		PERIOD C CLASS CHOICES		
Adults								
		n/a	Keynote (all adults)	1st:	2nd:	1st:	2nd:	
		n/a	Keynote (all adults)	1st:	2nd:	1st:	2nd:	
Children -Gr. 5 and up (Indicate grad	de level fa	or the next sch	ool year)					
			Age-Level Class	1st:	2nd:	1st:	2nd:	
			Age-Level Class	1st:	2nd:	1st:	2nd:	
			Age-Level Class	1st:	2nd:	1st:	2nd:	
			Age-Level Class	1st:	2nd:	1st:	2nd:	
Children -Gr. 4 and younger (Indicat	te grade le	evel for the ne.	xt school year if applicab	ole)	<u>'</u>		•	
			Age-Level Class (Infant-4th Gr.)			1st:	2nd:	
			Age-Level Class (Infant-4th Gr.)			1st:	2nd:	
			Age-Level Class (Infant-4th Gr.)			1st:	2nd:	
			Age-Level Class (Infant-4th Gr.)			1st:	2nd:	

Any Gifts to Share? Are you a Doctor? Nurse? Musician?: _ Could you help monitor free-time activities?: Y/N PREFERRED DAY OR TIME? Special Needs or Dietary Restrictions? _

Contact Registrars, Jakub and Ellen Langer, with any needs or questions: (314) 223-1809

summerconferenceportland@gmail.com

RESIDENTS:

ADULT SINGLE: ___x \$475 =\$ *ADULT COUPLE:* ___x \$900 =\$_

YOUNG ADULT: ___x \$295 =\$_ CHILD (AGE 6-21): ___x \$230 =\$_

CHILD (AGE 3-5): ___x \$200 =\$_

TYSON/HAGGARTY HALL EXTRA

(Additional Per Person):

COMMUTERS:

ADULT COMM. w/MEALS: ___x \$350 =\$ CHILD COMM. w/MEALS AGE 3-5: ___x \$150 =\$_

KEYNOTE SERIES ONLY: ___*x* \$150 =\$_

TOTAL COST =\$_ DEPOSIT DUE WITH REGISTRATION

(\$250 for individuals /\$400 for families)=\$_

Optional tax-deductible financial assistance donation=\$

TOTAL DUE WITH REGISTRATION =\$_

BALANCE DUE (plus additional class fees) AT CONFERENCE =\$

Cancellation Policy

Due to the ongoing uncertainty of the COVID-19 pandemic, in the event of a cancellation due to COVID, all payments will be 100% refunded by Engelberg Conference up until the start of the conference. Our UP meal costs are finalized one week prior to the conference, so PLEASE let us know by July 19 if possible.

Afternoon Activities

To enhance your enjoyment of the week and renew your energy, afternoons include free time for reading, visiting, playing, exercise, spiritual direction (schedule when you arrive) ... or a well-deserved nap.

Evening Activities

Thursday: Evening age-group activities and adult social hour.

Friday: Reconciliation Service and root beer floats. **Saturday**: "Invite Your Guests to Dinner," dessert, music and games.

Bring your blankets & lawn chairs!



Conference Steering Committee

Molly Buccola, Toni Cooper, Abbot Jeremy Driscoll, OSB, Julie Ferrari, Ellen Langer, Jakub Langer, Kelly Vanderwal, Rachael Weber and Bill Zuelke



For more pictures from past Conferences, visit www.summerconferenceportland.org.

DAILY SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAY

2:00-4:30 **Registration**

4:15-4:45 Campus tours for new participants

5:00-6:00 **Dinner**

6:15-7:00 **Opening Prayer** /

Intro to Keynote /

Commissioning

7:00-8:15 Age-group gatherings

10:00 Night prayer

THURSDAY TO SATURDAY

7:00 Morning prayer

7:15-8:15 **Breakfast**

8:00 Conference Mass in UP Chapel (Thursday only)

8:40-10:00 **PERIOD A:** Keynote address for adults

& age-level classes: Pre-K - Gr. 12

10:00-10:20 Snack break

10:30-11:45 **PERIOD B:** Choice of class for Gr. 5-adult

& age-level classes: Pre-K - Gr. 4

Noon Mass (optional)

12:15-1:00 Lunch

1:00-3:00 Rest and Recreation 3:00-3:20 Snack break

3:30-5:00 **PERIOD C:** Choice of class for all

5:10 Rosary

5:40-6:00 Vespers

6:00-6:45 **Dinner**

7:00 Evening options

10:00 Night prayer

SUNDAY

7:00 Morning prayer

7:15-8:25 Breakfast and Photo

8:40-10:00 **PERIOD A:** Keynote address for

adults & all age-level classes.

10:00-10:20 Snack Break

10:30-11:45 **PERIOD B:** Choice of class for

Gr. 5-adult & Age-level

classes for Pre-K - Gr. 4

Noon-12:45 Lunch

12:50-2:15 Mass and Closing

FACULTY AND STAFF

Antonelli, CSC Fr. Bob: Retired Holy Cross priest; Volunteers in the Archives & Artifacts at the University of Portland; Ph.D. in biblical studies from the University of Strasbourg; Licentiate in Sacred Theology, Gregorian University; M.A., Johns Hopkins University; B.A. The University of Notre Dame.

Barsotti, Beth: Senior Specialist for Faculty and Staff Formation at Gonzaga University; M.Div. University of Notre Dame; B.A. Theology, Seattle University. Currently finishing her Ph.D. in Theology and Education at the School of Theology and Ministry at Boston College with a focus on faculty formation in Jesuit higher education.

Barsotti, Tara: Teacher at St. Paul Elementary School in Eugene; has worked with children for over 22 years; has three children and enjoys reading, playing and staying active; University of Portland graduate.

Bastable, Kim: Mom of three amazing kiddos, including one impacted by Angleman Syndrome; loves to travel, ride bikes and speak Spanish!

Breitenstein, Caitlin: Learning specialist at St. Paul Parish School in Eugene.

Buccola, Molly: Spent the first 25 summers of her life at Mount Angel Summer Conference where amongst the vibrant families, she found faith, inspiration, love, and life-long friendships. B.A. Religious Studies and Psychology, Santa Clara University; master's in Catholic Educational Leadership, University of San Francisco.

Campbell, Susie: Retired 28-year women's head tennis coach at UP and currently the Director of Tennis at The Racquet Club in Portland, Oregon. Chaves OSF, Sr. Mary Jo: A Franciscan sister and a spiritual director and retreat leader at the Franciscan Spiritual Center in Milwaukie; M.A. in Applied Theology from the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley, CA; M.A. in Education from Lewis and Clark College in Portland.

Clarke, Don: Director of Campus Ministry at Jesuit High School in Portland and a student of all things Catholic; he loves his job, camping

Cooper, Toni: Journalism and photography teacher at Marist Catholic High School in Eugene; B.A. Art Education, UO.

DeBruyn, Monica: Multi-media artist and daycare provider at Our Lady of the Lake Parish in Lake Oswego. B.A, Fine Arts Graphic Design, University of Illinois.

Driscoll, Abbot Jeremy, OSB: The Abbot at Mount Angel Abbey since 2016 and a Benedictine monk and priest for 49 years; author of a number of books and articles on the liturgy, as well as literature and poetry.

Ferrari, Julie: Assistant Campus Minister, theology teacher and service director at Marist Catholic High School in Eugene.

Furl, Jen: An instructional designer based in Austin, Texas; has been a writing facilitator with Write Around Portland and Free Minds Austin and holds a master's in Folklore from the University of Oregon.

Hambley, Ruth: Transitional kindergarten teacher. Hjorth, Sadie: Kindergarten teacher in the Portland Public Schools; Bachelor of Ed. in Special Education from Gonzaga University; has taught elementary K-5 and special education K-8 grade since 1999.

Hornburg, Val: A trained SoulCollage® & Labyrinth facilitator and loves offering retreat and creative expression experiences for people of all faiths; in love with all things soul-filled and creative, Val is a spiritual director and

workshop facilitator accompanying people on their heart & soul journeys.

Hughes, Chris: Physical therapist for the last 38 years specializing in orthopedics and pelvic health. Klinger, Rachel: Rachel returns to Summer Conference ready to soothe, rock, change, and entertain your infant so that you can attend the Keynote Address; engineering degree from the University of Virginia; mother of one son.

Kohler, Christy: Physical therapist who grew up coming to Summer Conference and is happy to have the opportunity to return with her husband and two kids; lives in Colorado.

Kohler, Ryan: B.S. in exercise science; M.S. in sports nutrition and working on a B.S. in dietetics; is currently the Sports Performance Manager at CU Sports Medicine and Performance Center in Boulder, Colorado, and has been training in Aikido for the last five years.

Langer, Ellen: Cell biologist and cancer researcher at OHSU; mom of three; basketball coach.

Langer, Jakub: Hand surgeon, soccer dad, outdoor enthusiast, beer brewer.

Otto, Catherine: Retired school teacher; Mount Angel Abbey oblate.

Otto, David: Decades of joyful experience in fooling around and learning from failurewilling to lead others astray in the same process; B.A. Geography, Humboldt State University.

Schaller, Beth: Graduate student in Pastoral Studies at Loyola University Chicago, St. Ignatius parishioner and ministry assistant; mother of three and former high school theology teacher who still dabbles in crafts with kids.

Schaller, Jim: Business owner, who when he is not working, loves going on adventures with his family.

Thompson, Peggy: Retired physical therapist; enjoys working with youth; adult leader for her parish Edge youth program; merit badge counselor for her son's boy scout troop for five years; loves to cook and has taught her two children how to appreciate good homemade food.

Vanderwal, Kelly: Program Manager at Nike with a passion for finding the positive in every situation; loves spending time with family and friends and staying active.

Weber, Bobbie: Brings a lifetime of working with young children including her own grandchildren as well as having graduate degrees in child and human development.

Weber, Bruce: Retired after 42-years as an applied economics professor at Oregon State University; worked in Oregon's communities promoting civic dialogue on taxes and the social safety net and other public spending.

Weber, Peter: Writer and editor at The Week, an online, weekly news and entertainment magazine; has worked at a financial newswire, Facts on File, and The New York Times Magazine; longtime Conference participant.

Weber, Rachael: Has worked in the field of international education and intercultural training in U.S. higher education for more than 22 years; longtime Conference participant.

Zuelke, Bill: Glass artist working primarily in fused glass, but continues to explore mosaics; loves the interaction between learners and loves watching the creative process.