



Brethren in Christ U.S.

Breakout Sessions

We are excited to offer several different breakout sessions over the course of General Assembly. They will be held Saturday and Monday mornings and afternoons. Here is a sneak peek at some of the sessions being offered!

Identifying Funding Streams for Community Engagement Projects

Led by Jennifer Lancaster & Mark Templeton

As we lean into the Project 250 priorities and congregations engage their communities, the ability to identify additional financial sources is beneficial. Come join the discussion around launching a successful capital fundraising campaign and pursuing available grant opportunities. See how these tools can build a strong foundation for increased community ministry.

Making Sense of MDG Amendments

Led by Adam Forry

If your response to the proposed changes to the Manual of Doctrine and Government is to glaze over, feel confused, or bog down in the details, you're invited to this breakout. Likewise, if you are concerned that our documents reflect what we actually believe and how we function, this breakout is for you. An overview of the amendments will be presented, along with an opportunity to ask big-picture or deep-dive questions about them, in preparation for our consideration of them on the General Assembly floor.

On Mission Together (Offered both Saturday and Monday)

Led by Jonathan Lloyd

Risk and reward, joys and challenges, victory and heartache are all part of pursuing God's mission. Come and hear inspiring stories of God at work around the world. There will also be opportunities for pastors and delegates to share about their own ministry context. Missionaries will pray for you, and you will have opportunities to pray for them. We expect that God will use this session to bring renewed strength to all participants for their part in God's great mission!

Caminando-Walking (Offered in Spanish)

Led by Oscar & Rosa Gomez

Marriage and ministry were both created by God. The world views them as two separate entities, but the Bible teaches us, that we can walk together, husbands and wives, and utilize our marriages as a blessed base for ministry. In this teaching session, Pastor Oscar Gomez and his wife Rosa will share some practical biblical principles, that will help any couple in ministry to walk together and fulfill God's divine purpose for their calling! The workshop will be presented in English and Spanish!



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Women in Ministry Leadership Updates

Panel

Project 250 has emerged from Leadership Council engagement with the entire BIC U.S. beginning in 2018. One of five priorities that we have affirmed as a Church country-wide is: "... we want to increase the number of qualified women and people of color serving in BIC U.S. assigned ministry roles and governing boards. We are committed to providing resources, encouragement, and accountability as we grow in this area."

Join the conversation updating our progress re. resources, encouragement, and accountability.

The Roadmap: Growing New Guests into Committed Leaders

Led by Jeff Piepho

Learn about the Church Roadmap that Revolution Church developed and implemented during a time of significant growth in attendance. The Church Roadmap lays out the details needed to help an uncommitted guest stay in the Church, grow in their faith, and become deeply committed to Christ.

One Generation to Another

Led by Christina Embree

Psalm 145:4 declares that God's praises will be shared from one generation to the next. This "passing on" of the faith is the primary way that our faith gets passed through the years. However, over time, society as a whole has become a lot more age segregated; we tend to hang out with people that are roughly the same age or generation as us. What impact has this had on the church, especially in the area of making lifelong disciples? And how can we begin to build bridges between generations that lead to ongoing faith formation for all generations?

Thriving as a Bi-vocational Pastor (offered in Spanish)

Led by Jose Acosta

Due to economic changes in recent years, more pastors and clergymen have been forced to get a second job to make ends meet. It's important for anyone who wants to serve the Lord through pastoral ministries, they understand the joys and challenges of being a bi-vocational pastor. Some questions we will address in this breakout session:

- Where is my family in all of this?
- What kind of job is ideal while working in pastoral ministries?
- What should your priorities be when dealing with a tight schedule?
- How to avoid burnout?



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Using Community Demographics to Discover Ministry Opportunities

Led by Jennifer Lancaster

Is your congregation relevant in the community you serve? Do you know who the people are in your mission field? Come explore the ways community demographics can help congregations meet their neighbors as we pursue Project 250 priority #5, “growing to reflect the demographic realities of our communities.”

Leading Through the Pain

Led by Ryan & Jen Showalter

Pain is a reminder that something is wrong, and grief is our natural response to loss. We all face these on a daily basis, but there are some seasons of life where the dark night of the soul is especially intense. How do we respond to God and lead others while we are in the midst of the storm? Join us as we share a glimpse of our story and what has been helpful for us.

Understanding Minister's Taxes

Led by Mitch Martin

Taxes are complicated. Ministers' tax rules are even more unique. During this session, Mitch Martin will explain the various tax rules that uniquely impact ministers and congregations. Topics will include housing allowance, SECA vs. FICA taxes, retirement contributions, estimated tax payments or voluntary federal withholding.