

**AMCL and ASC  
2015 ANNUAL MEETINGS AND  
CONTINUING EDUCATION EVENT**

**Schedule**

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2015**

3:00pm REGISTRATION OPENS

5:30pm DINNER

ASC, AMCL, GACOR, Moderator's Conference,  
& First-Year Clerks

7:00pm OPENING WORSHIP (All Groups)  
Reverend Veronica Goines, preaching

8:00pm RECEPTION AND DESSERT  
with cash bar

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2015**

7:30am ASC BREAKFAST

8:00am ASC ANNUAL MEETING

8:00am AMCL BREAKFAST & INTRODUCTIONS

8:30am AMCL MORNING PRAYER

8:45am ASC MORNING PRAYER

9:00am ASC-SPONSORED PLENARY #1

9:00am AMCL-SPONSORED PLENARY #1

10:30am BREAK

11:00am ASC-SPONSORED PLENARY #2

11:00am AMCL OPEN SPACE

12:00pm LUNCH

ASC, AMCL, GACOR, Moderator's Conference,  
& First-Year Clerks

1:30pm ASC-SPONSORED PLENARY #3

1:30pm AMCL-SPONSORED PLENARY #2

3:00pm BREAK

3:30pm ASC-SPONSORED PLENARY #4

3:30pm AMCL ANNUAL MEETING & WORSHIP

5:15pm ASC EVENING PRAYER

5:30pm FREE EVENING IN PORTLAND  
Several small group options will be available

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2015**

BREAKFAST ON YOUR OWN

8:30am AMCL/ASC Collaborative Conversation

10:00am BREAK

10:30am CLOSING WORSHIP  
ASC, AMCL, GACOR

Reverend Larissa Kwong Abazia, preaching

12:00pm Lunch on your own

**1:30PM POLITY CONFERENCE BEGINS**

The mission of the **Association of Mid Council Leaders (AMCL)** is to connect and help with networking and resource support for mid council leaders. Regardless of your position title, the Association of Mid Council Leaders (AMCL) is the learning community for staff who are expected to pay attention to the missional, strategic, comprehensive, adaptive, and innovative work of mid councils. Membership in AMCL is open to staff who are serving mid councils of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

The **Association of Stated Clerks (ASC)** supports the officers elected as stated clerk within the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). The ASC provides training, continuing education, mentoring, and support for stated clerks. In addition, the ASC provides support to the General Assembly with regular analysis of proposed amendments to the *Book of Order* and the *Guide for Judicial Process*. Membership is open to all stated clerks and assistant/associate stated clerks of mid councils and the General Assembly as well as those who have recently served in the office of stated clerk.

**PLENARY FACILITATORS**



**The Reverend Dr. David R. Sawyer** applies his passion and gifts to encourage congregations and church leaders to embrace change. After ten years teaching

leadership and administration and directing the doctor of ministry and lifelong learning programs at Louisville Seminary, he retired to his current vocation as writer and consultant with Flourishing Church Consulting and Coaching. Earlier he served congregations in Illinois, Ohio and Minnesota, and was on the staff of Giddings-Lovejoy Presbytery. Published works include *Work of the Church: Getting the Job Done in Boards and Committees* (Judson, 1987); *Hope in Conflict: Discovering Wisdom in Congregational Turmoil* (Pilgrim, 2007); and *Pathmarks to New Church: a Workbook for Leaders of Communities in Search of Innovation*. He earned his M. Div. from Louisville Seminary and the Ph.D. in organizational communication from Ohio University.



**The Reverend Dr. Laurie Ferguson** is a licensed clinical psychologist, certified coach, organizational consultant, and ordained minister.

Through her work, she has observed that when people engage in a change process, they often discover reserves of resilience and confidence that lead to a more engaged and meaningful life. For more than thirty years Laurie has encouraged, prodded, and supported individuals and communities who are taking risks to find and follow their particular path. She earned her M. Div. from Princeton Theological Seminary and her Ph. D. and M.S. are from Adephe University; she is a Professional Certified Coach with the International Coaching Federation.

## WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

The Reverend Veronica Goines will be preaching for the opening worship on Friday evening. Reverend Goines is pastor of St. Andrew Presbyterian Church, an historic multi-cultural congregation in Marin City, California. She has served as Adjunct Faculty for San Francisco Theological Seminary. She serves as Spiritual Faculty with the National CREDO Conference through the Board of Pensions of the Presbyterian Church (USA). She holds a Master of Divinity from San Francisco Theological Seminary and a Certificate in Pastoral Counseling from the Lloyd Center Pastoral Counseling Service on the SFTS campus. She is the mother of two adult daughters.



On Saturday, each organization will lead morning and evening prayer/worship. **Executive Session**, a musical combo featuring Sheldon Sorge and Wilson Gunn, will provide some of the music during the conferences.



The Reverend Larissa Kwong Abazia will be preaching during the closing worship service on Sunday. She holds the office of Vice Moderator of the 221st General Assembly and currently serves as the Director of Church Relations at Princeton Theological Seminary. She received her Master of Divinity from Princeton Theological Seminary, worked as a chaplain in Philadelphia, PA and served as a pastor in churches in Chicago, IL and Queens, NY. When she's not doing "church-y" things, Larissa enjoys cooking, travel, writing and exploring new places. Any adventure with her family is a day well spent.

Registration includes group meals for Friday dinner and Saturday breakfast and lunch. The Plenary tracks and schedule of events have been designed so that attendees can choose to attend the sessions that will be most helpful.

GA Meeting Service has opened Registration: <http://www.pcusa.org/events/34138/polity-conference-2015/>.

The registration cost is \$225 per person; the Association of Stated Clerks is subsidizing \$50 per stated clerk registrant, resulting in the following fee schedule:

**Registration for ASC will be \$175**

**Registration for AMCL is \$225.**

Continuing Education Credits are available through each cooperating organization.

Roundtrip airfare can be arranged through the General Assembly Meeting Service travel agent **only with** registration for the Stated Clerk's Polity Conference.

Each participant will be responsible for his/her own housing at the Portland Hilton at a rate of \$154 per night plus tax (just under \$180/night). Reservations for rooms, roommate selection, and roommate pairing will be done through the registration process at the GA Meeting Service.

Airport transportation is \$2.50 one way using the MAX red line light rail service, which takes about 38 minutes and operates from about 4:00am to 11:49pm.

### Design Team Leadership

Ruth E. Clendenin, ASC; Erin Cox-Holmes, AMCL; Lynn Hargrove, AMCL; Jeff Hutcheson, AMCL; Susan Krummel, OGA/PMA; Joyce Liebermann, OGA; Warren McNeill, ASC; Pamela Prouty, ASC; Kerry Rice, OGA; Kathy Runyeon, ASC; Reverend Kevin Yoho, AMCL

**THE ASSOCIATION OF  
MID COUNCIL LEADERS (AMCL)**

**AND**

**THE ASSOCIATION OF  
STATED CLERKS (ASC)**

**PRESENT**

**2015 ANNUAL MEETINGS**

**OCTOBER 9-11, 2015**

**PORTLAND HILTON**

**PORTLAND, OREGON**

**A New-Old Idea from Organizational  
Science: Shared Leadership  
Through Conversation**  
*Reverend Dr. David Sawyer*

**There's Bread in the Boat:  
Finding Resiliency in the Midst of  
Change and Challenging Contexts  
for Ministry**  
*Reverend Dr. Laurie Ferguson*

*Five groups meet concurrently before the Stated Clerk's Polity Conference: Association of Stated Clerks (ASC), Association of Mid Council Leaders (AMCL), General Assembly Committee on Representation (GACOR), Moderator's Conference (Mod-Con), and First-Year Stated Clerks Training (First-Year Clerks). The schedule represents a concerted effort to streamline personnel and financial resources and to strengthen network ties across the denomination. Plenary presentations and events have been scheduled with the intention that attendees may attend the sessions that will provide the most help in particular contexts.*