

MONDAY



Steph Williams O'Brien

TUESDAY



Tammy Swanson-Draheim

WEDNESDAY



Harvey Carey

THURSDAY



Sophia Magallanes-Tsang

FRIDAY



Edwin Guzmán

THURSDAY



Max Lee

THURSDAY



Steve Carter

FRIDAY



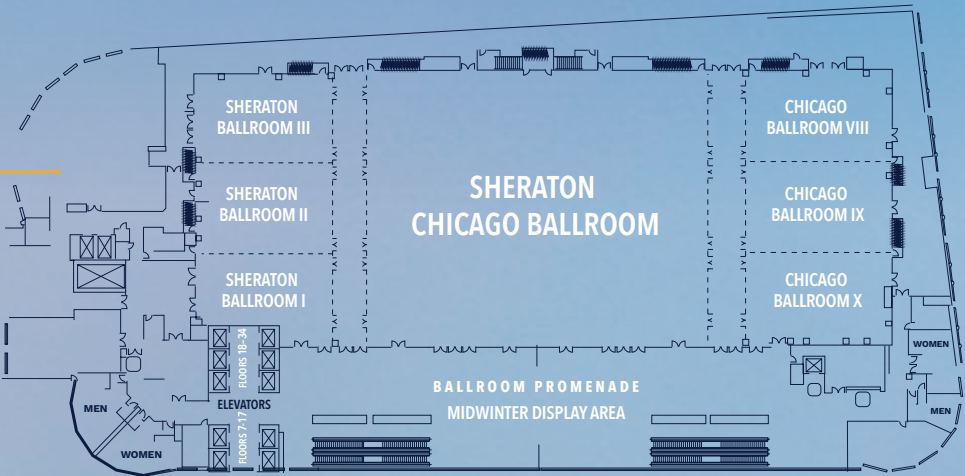
Amy Julia Becker



throughout the conference

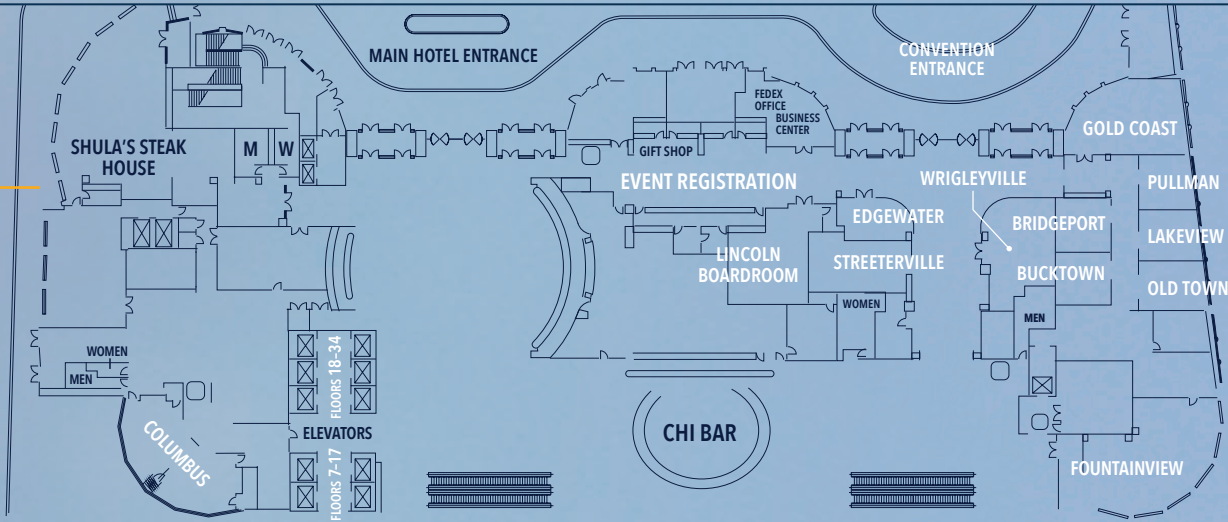
MIDWINTER CONFERENCE 2026 GUIDE

level 4  
BALLROOM

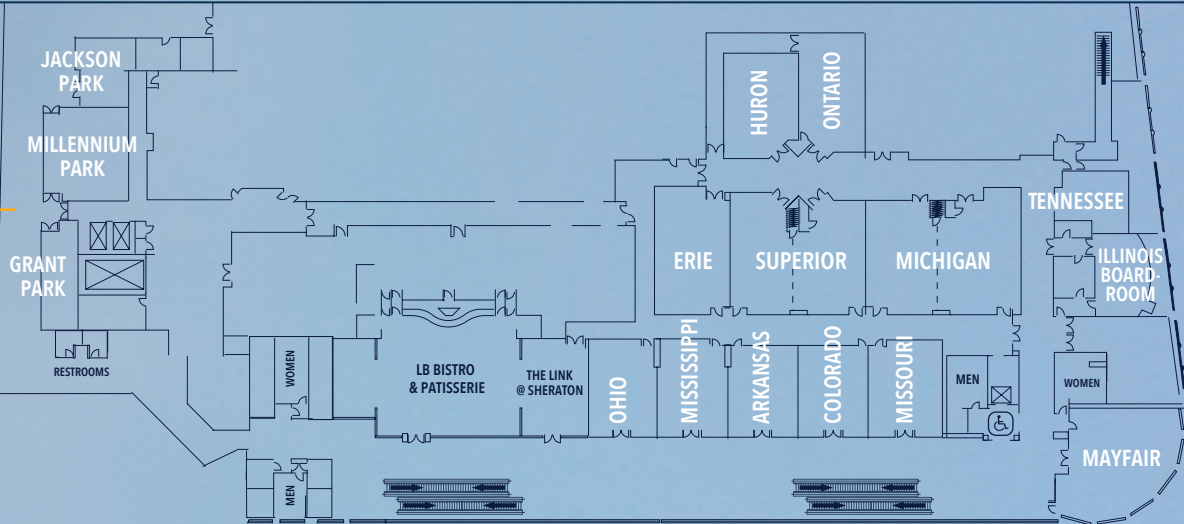


Watch daily emails for updates to room locations and other important information.  
If you have further questions, stop by registration.

level 3  
LOBBY



level 2  
MEETING ROOMS



FINANCIAL CONVERSATIONS

Come with financial questions, concerns, and goals. Bring any statements or documents pertinent to this confidential conversation with a financial professional from Covenant Trust Company. You will receive tools and ideas to move forward with confidence and a clearer vision for the future. Stop by the Covenant Trust Company display to see if any openings are available.

SPIRITUAL DIRECTION

Spiritual direction is a ministry of listening, discernment, and prayer in a confidential setting of encouragement and compassion. Trained spiritual directors are available at Midwinter for a 50-minute session. Stop by registration to see if any openings are available.

CONVERSATION HOUR WITH  
PRESIDENT TAMMY SWANSON-DRAHEIM

An opportunity to meet, ask questions, and have casual conversations with President Tammy Swanson-Draheim in a small group setting. Stop by registration to see if any openings are available.

MIDWINTER 2026 SPONSORS

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National Covenant Properties  
North Park University

COVBOOKS

Stop by the Covenant Bookstore to browse the books and resources on display. Purchases made during the Midwinter Conference on covbooks.com with coupon code MW26CHI will receive free shipping on top of the already discounted prices.

All purchases made onsite at the Midwinter bookstore come with a complimentary bookmark. If you place an order online, bring your order number to the onsite bookstore to receive your bookmark.

BOOKSTORE HOURS

Mon: 4:00pm-6:00pm  
Tues/Thurs: 8:30am-9:00pm  
Wed: 8:30am-7:00pm  
Fri: 8:30am-9:45am



The Evangelical Covenant Church

covchurch.org/midwinter

Love  
one another.  
forgive  
one another.  
encourage  
one another.  
pray for  
one another.

one another

Two simple words.

Fifty-plus appearances in the New Testament. Infinite implications for how we do life and ministry together.

covchurch.org/midwinter



monday

7:00 AM – 10:00 PM Registration Open

SPECIALIZED TRAININGS (Morning)

Pre-registration required for all

8:00 AM North Park Theological Seminary Classes: Covenant Orientation, Ignite, and Equip

- FLDC 5300: Vocational Excellence/FLDC 7315 Intercultural Development Module —GRANT PARK > LEVEL 2
- MNST 5108: Ministry Identity and Practice —COLORADO > LEVEL 2
- ECCO 5020/HSTY6300: History of the Evangelical Covenant Church —TENNESSEE > LEVEL 2
- ECCO 5030: Theology of the Evangelical Covenant Church —ARKANSAS > LEVEL 2

1:00 PM ECCO 5040: Mission and Ministry of the Evangelical Covenant Church —MISSOURI > LEVEL 2

8:00 AM – 5:00 PM Safe Sanctuaries Training Ramelia Williams and Eliza Stiles —HURON > LEVEL 2

8:00 AM – 5:00 PM Capacitación en Santuarios Seguros Alma Zamudio and Oscar Cortez —ONTARIO > LEVEL 2

8:00 AM – 5:00 PM Ascent to Jerusalem: Pilgrimage, Politics, and Peacemaking in the Holy Land Hannah Baker and Beth Seversen —JACKSON PARK > LEVEL 2

9:45 AM – 11:00 AM COVENANT WOMEN OF COLOR GATHERING (Women Only) —SUPERIOR > LEVEL 2 Stephanie Ahn Mathis

11:45 AM – 12:45 PM ADVOCATES FOR COVENANT CLERGY WOMEN (ACCW) LUNCH —MICHIGAN > LEVEL 2

1:00 PM – 4:00 PM ASSOCIATION COVENANT CAMPS AND CONFERENCE CENTERS ANNUAL MEETING (ACCCC) —MILLENNIUM PARK > LEVEL 2

SPECIALIZED TRAININGS (Afternoon)

Pre-registration required for all.

1:00 PM – 4:00 PM Committees on Ministerial Standing (COMS) Danielle Ng —LINCOLN BOARDROOM > LEVEL 3

1:00 PM – 4:30 PM Theology 101 Through an Indigenous Lens Tamara Fore-Ravelo, Terry Wildman, Darlene Wildman, Shari Russell, Corey Greaves —ERIE > LEVEL 2

1:00 PM – 4:00 PM PREACHING COHORTS

Cohort 1: The Interior Life of the Preacher Jake Bradley, Jessica Boggs —EDGEWATER > LEVEL 3

Cohort 2: Deeper Roots, Wider Reach: Building a Rhythm of Compelling Preaching Melissa Wall, Kyle Thomsen —BRIDGEPORT > LEVEL 3

6:00 PM Opening Dinner & Worship Speaker: Steph Williams O'Brien —BALLROOM > LEVEL 4

9:00 PM CONFERENCE GATHERINGS

- |                                 |                                 |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Alaska —STREETERVILLE > LEVEL 3 | Great Lakes —COLUMBUS > LEVEL 3 |
| Canada —WRIGLEYVILLE > LEVEL 3  | Midsouth —OHIO > LEVEL 2        |
| Central —MICHIGAN > LEVEL 2     | Midwest —ONTARIO > LEVEL 2      |
| East Coast —HURON > LEVEL 2     | Northwest —MAYFAIR > LEVEL 2    |

tuesday

7:30 AM – 9:00 AM HOSTED BREAKFAST: Pre-registration required. Crescendo —ERIE > LEVEL 2

9:30 AM Morning Worship Speaker: Tammy Swanson-Draheim PRESIDENT’S UPDATE —BALLROOM > LEVEL 4

11:15 AM – 1:30 PM LUNCH BREAK

HOSTED MEALS: Pre-registration required.

- Church Planters Lunch —CHICAGO VIII > LEVEL 4
- Covenant Chaplains Association (CCA) Annual Meeting Break for lunch after the meeting. —ERIE > LEVEL 2
- Serve Globally Lunch —CHICAGO X > LEVEL 4
- Spiritual Direction as a Practice for Resilience in Ministry (NPTS) —MICHIGAN > LEVEL 2

NOON – 4:00 PM ASSOCIATION OF COVENANT CAMPS AND CONFERENCE CENTERS ANNUAL MEETING (ACCCC) —MILLENNIUM PARK > LEVEL 2

2:00 – 4:00 PM All Midwinter Breakout Panel Discussion —BALLROOM > LEVEL 4

A reflective panel discussion commemorating 50 years of women’s ordination, featuring worship, historical dialogue, justice-focused conversation, and guided table discussions to celebrate legacy, engage current realities, and inspire continued commitment to women in ministry in the Evangelical Covenant Church.

5:00 PM – 6:30 PM DINNER BREAK (on your own)

7:00 PM Evening Worship Speaker: Harvey Carey —BALLROOM > LEVEL 4

9:00 PM ANTIRACISM DISCIPLESHIP PATHWAY (ADP) RECEPTION Pre-registration required. —CHICAGO X > LEVEL 4

Rev. David Swanson and Dr. Gabriel J. Catanus

9:00 PM HEALING AND PRAYER SERVICE (Open to all) —MAYFAIR > LEVEL 2 Sarah Hillabrant

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| Pacific Northwest —ERIE > LEVEL 2      |
| Pacific Southwest —SUPERIOR > LEVEL 2  |
| Southeast —MISSISSIPPI > LEVEL 2       |
| Serve Globally —FOUNTAINVIEW > LEVEL 3 |



wednesday

7:30 AM – 9:00 AM HOSTED BREAKFAST: Pre-registration required. Racial Righteousness —CHICAGO X > LEVEL 4

9:30 AM Morning Worship Speaker: Sophia Magallanes-Tsang —BALLROOM> LEVEL 4

11:15 AM – 12:45 PM LUNCH BREAK

HOSTED MEAL: Pre-registration required. Missional Vitality —CHICAGO VIII > LEVEL 4

EARLY START 11:15AM – 4:30PM PREACHING COHORTS

Cohort 1: The Interior Life of the Preacher —EDGEWATER > LEVEL 3

Cohort 2: Deeper Roots, Wider Reach: Building a Rhythm of Compelling Preaching —BRIDGEPORT > LEVEL 3

BREAKOUT SESSIONS (Session 1 repeated at Session 2)

SESSION ONE: 1:00 PM – 2:30 PM SESSION TWO: 3:00 PM – 4:30 PM

- Alignment and on Mission: How Good Governance Can Help Your Church Thrive (Mary Hendrickson; Dierdra Clark) —ERIE > LEVEL 2
- Reconciliation as Mission: Living as Reconcilers in a Divided World (Grace Shim; Julio Isaza) —MICHIGAN > LEVEL 2
- Unleash the Power of Hope: Transform Lives Through the Gospel (Ieisha Hawley) —MISSOURI > LEVEL 2
- Prayer: In It Together (Jon Ireland; Jono Shaffer) —MILLENNIUM PARK > LEVEL 2
- Welcoming the Stranger: Connecting with and Loving Your Immigrant Neighbors (Zach Szmara) —MISSISSIPPI > LEVEL 2
- Moral Injury: Caring for One Another’s Invisible Wounds (Jim Fisher) —ONTARIO > LEVEL 2
- Start and Strengthen...One Another (Glenn Peterson) —SUPERIOR > LEVEL 2
- Facility Facelifts: Affordable Upgrades with Big Ministry Impact (Rob Hall; Rollie Persson; Paul Kruit) —STREETERVILLE > LEVEL 3
- Building a Culture of Unity on Your Team (Alex DeJesus) —WRIGLEYVILLE > LEVEL 3
- Coming Alongside Families with Disability (Lisa Jamieson) —OHIO > LEVEL 2
- TENx10: Discipling the Next Generation (Raymond Chang) —HURON > LEVEL 2
- Grief Awareness: More Than Compassion: A Skill Every Pastor Needs (Lisa Orris) —GOLDCOAST > LEVEL 3



EN ESPAÑOL

1:00 PM – 2:30 PM ONLY Construyendo un Legado (Edwin Guzmán) —COLUMBUS > LEVEL 3

3:00 PM – 4:30 PM ONLY Las sombras del liderazgo—Patrones ocultos que sabotean tu llamado (Alejandro Carrizo) —COLUMBUS > LEVEL 3

wednesday continued

5:00 PM – 6:30 PM DINNER BREAK (on your own)

5:00 PM ETHNIC ASSOCIATIONS GATHERINGS

RSVP requested.

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|---|--|
| • African American Ministers Association (AAMA) —CHICAGO VIII > LEVEL 4             | • Covenant Asian Pastors Association (CAPA) —CHICAGO IX > LEVEL 4              |
| • Asociación Latina de la Iglesia Del Pacto Evangélico (ALIPE) —CHICAGO X > LEVEL 4 | • Indigenous Ministers Association (IMA) —OFF-SITE Meet in the lobby > LEVEL 3 |

7:00 PM Evening Worship (in Spanish) Hosted by ALIPE (OPEN TO ALL) Speaker: Edwin Guzmán —BALLROOM > LEVEL 4

thursday

7:30 AM Covenant Kids Congo Walk for Water Put on your t-shirt (and bundle up!) and join us at the CONVENTION CENTER DOORS > LEVEL 3

9:30 AM Morning Worship Speaker: Max Lee —BALLROOM > LEVEL 4

11:15 AM – 1:30 PM LUNCH BREAK

HOSTED MEALS: Pre-registration required.

- Vision for Renewal: Reimagining Ministry in a Changing World —CHICAGO X > LEVEL 4
- Paul Carlson Partnership: Water for the Least of These: Serving Congo with Christ’s Love — SUPERIOR > LEVEL 2
- Town & Country Commission —CHICAGO VIII > LEVEL 4
- Spiritual Directors, hosted by the ACSD —ERIE > LEVEL 2
- NPTS Panel Discussion: Resilience in Ministry: Lessons from Covenant Clergy women —MICHIGAN > LEVEL 2

2:00 – 4:00 PM All Midwinter Breakout Speaker: Wayne Park —BALLROOM > LEVEL 4

Five Ways to Activate Business People & Professionals into Mission (and Gain Ministry Partners Along the Way!): Often the laity are viewed as supporters of the work of "real" ministry. Learn how clergy can come alongside our parishioners on the real front lines of ministry—at work—to re-envision the priesthood of all believers.

5:00 PM – 6:30 PM DINNER BREAK (on your own)

7:00 PM Evening Worship Speaker: Steve Carter —BALLROOM > LEVEL 4

friday

9:30 AM – 11:30 AM Morning Session Speaker: Amy Julia Becker —BALLROOM > LEVEL 4

Reimagining the Good Life: Join us for our closing session exploring the theology of disability and the call to become a community of welcome—reshaping how we see flourishing, belonging, and one another.