Sacred Friendships, Sacred Workings, Sacred Spaces

Abstract

Young adults are confronting issues of wholeness related to gender and sexuality through investing in sacred friendships, practicing sacred workings, and creating and curating sacred spaces. In this collaborative session Moe, Mosby, and Robinson will present curated content through various media forms to highlight the ways that young adults are leading, thinking, creating, and caring for others as theological and spiritual practices to help value and build wholeness of persons.

Form of the session

The session will take place as a panel discussion with the three participants, all of whom are working on a book together comprised of their topics of interest. Each author will present their content for fifteen minutes and the remainder of time will be given to a question/questions for large group conversation, and a breakout into smaller groups (if desired) for further inquiry.

Presenter One: Dr. Jennifer Moe

Investing in Sacred Friendships

Dr. Jennifer Moe, Assistant Director of the Young Adult Initiative at Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary, will introduce the work of the Young Adult Initiative. This work includes holy listening with young adults, design thinking for innovation in congregations, and a focus on a specific congregation doing unique work around the theme of friendship.

Presenter Two: Rev. Dr. Karen E. Mosby

Practicing Sacred Workings

Rev. Dr. Karen Mosby, Pre-doctoral Research Fellow with the Young Adult Initiative will further elaborate on the work of the Initiative with a historically Black congregation who framed their project around the movie, The Wiz, in order to create artistic spaces for young adults to experience spiritual growth through courage, love, and belief in God and self
Presenter Three: Ms. Gina A.S. Robinson

Creating and Curating Sacred Spaces

Ms. Gina Robinson, Ph.D. Candidate, research assistant, and Young Adult Initiative congregation member will discuss how she moved from her work in a congregation with the Young Adult Initiative to her research project with young Black women for her chapter in our forthcoming book. She will pose some questions for further thought around the curation of sacred spaces outside of the traditional congregation and how young adults are creating and utilizing these spaces to nurture their own spiritual growth and the growth of others.