

## Topic Descriptions

### **Gospel & Culture – Larry Bergey**

Culture is the way we do things. In any group that has been transformed by Christ, our culture will be impacted by our faith. Larry will introduce the topics of gospel and culture and what happens when they clash. We will look at the question of how to define what is truth essential to the gospel and what is simply a different way of doing things or culture.

### **Developing a Healthy Church Culture – Bill Shiley**

In every culture there are elements that need to be transformed or replaced to become a Christ-centered culture. How do we lead someone or a group of people to the point of change? Sometimes a church has harshly “laid down the law” and driven someone away, or the person has simply complied to the requirements without a heart change. Other times the areas that need to change are simply ignored and the person sits on the pew for years and the change never happens. This topic will reflect on some “lessons learned” at Chambersburg Christian Fellowship.

### **Men’s Session Reaching Out Through Work**

#### **Randy Miller**

Most men spend around 40 hours a week at work providing for their families. What are some creative ways we can use this time for the enhancement of the Kingdom of God? Randy operates a plumbing business and will teach on some ways he provides for his family and builds the Kingdom of God on a daily basis.

### **Ladies’ Session Reaching Out Through Our Homes**

#### **Dorcas Miller**

Can a blue-berry patch be used for the kingdom of God? Dorcas will share some of the practical ways she has trained her children to reach their community and has mentored seekers and young believers in her home.

### **Biblical Hermeneutics – Dean Taylor**

Many times, Christians have questions on how to interpret the scriptures. Dean has been working on refining a Biblical interpretation hermeneutic using the acronym “SCAR” (S- Scripture, C- Christocentric, A- Antiquity, R- Real) to provide an interpretive principle using historic Christianity.

### **Practical, Modest Clothing Discussion**

#### **Lucinda Allgyer**

Many people are drawn to our modest clothes. When confronted with needing to sew a cape dress, modest clothes seem unattainable. Lucinda will lead a discussion on how to find modest, practical clothing when sewing is not practical.

### **Youth Session Where Do I Belong? “Navigating Life From a Third-Culture Perspective” – Jason Allgyer**

I don’t quite fit in my neighborhood and I don’t quite fit in the broader Mennonite Community. These “Third-

Culture” challenges are faced by most youth who grew up in a different culture than their parents. This session will examine how we can find a sense of place living in between two cultures.

### **Transforming Culture “Lessons from The Early Church” - Allen Roth**

As new people come into the church, it’s inevitable that there will be cultural clashes. How do we navigate merging multiple cultures into a working unit? The early church dealt with this challenge many times. This included a meeting of the Jerusalem council. What lessons can we learn from the early church in navigating cultural differences and calling people to change a part of their culture when it is in disobedience to Christ?

## Registration for this event is required!

### **Church Planters Forum & Retreat Pricing**

Adults & Children 11 and older = \$75

Children (4-10) = \$37.50

Price includes meals & lodging for 2 nights.

Campsites are available at a reduced rate.

### **One-Day Seminar Pricing**

(no lodging / 2 meals included)

Adults & Children 11 and older = \$15

Children (4-10) = \$7.50

### **Coordinator**

Larry Bergey | lbergeyfam@gmail.com

### **Assistant Coordinators**

Jason Allgyer, Ernest Eby, Ben Craig, Truman Eby

Kent Hawbaker, Andrew Kurtz, Wendell Martin

### **Constituency advisors/representatives**

Allen Roth, Alvin Stoltzfus, Curt Wagoner, Kevin Groff

**For questions about food & lodging or to register for this event, contact:**

Penn Valley Christian Retreat

717-899-5000 | [pennvalleycr@gmail.com](mailto:pennvalleycr@gmail.com)



“Strengthening the Vision for Worldwide Church Planting”

## 9th Annual Church Planters

## Forum and Retreat

## Developing a Christian Culture



**June 14-16, 2023**

**Penn Valley Christian Retreat**

**7980 Ferguson Valley Road**

**McVeytown, PA 17051**

## Forum & Retreat Schedule

### Wednesday, June 14

**4:30 – 5:45 PM Check-in**

- Find your room/campsite and settle in.
- No evening meal provided.

**6:00 PM Announcements & Introductions**

- Introduce yourself and your family
- Tell us about your church or your church's vision

**7:00 PM Gospel & Culture**

– Larry Bergey

**8:00 PM Snack (everyone brings something to share)**

### Thursday, June 15

**7:00 Prayer Meeting 1:** Please attend one of the prayer meetings. Topic: *Prayer for More Laborers*

**7:45 Breakfast**

**8:30 Prayer Meeting 2:** Please attend one of the prayer meetings. Topic: *Prayer for More Laborers*

**9:15 Song, Scripture Reading, Announcements**

**9:30 Developing a Healthy Church Culture**  
– Bill Shiley

**10:30 Snapshot Sessions**  
K-12 Christian Education  
Bible School Education  
Higher Education

**12:30 Lunch**

**2:00 Announcements & Prayer**

**2:15 Panel Discussion focused on the topic of Education**

**3:45 Break**

**4:00 Men's Session Reaching Out Through Our Work** - Randy Miller

**Ladies' Session Reaching Out Through Our Homes** - Dorcas Miller

**5:30 Supper**

**7:00 Biblical Hermeneutics Part 1**  
– Dean Taylor

### Friday, June 16

**7:00 Prayer Meeting 1:** Please attend one of the prayer meetings. Topic: *Prayer for More Churches*

**7:45 Breakfast**

**8:30 Prayer Meeting 2:** Please attend one of the prayer meetings. Topic: *Prayer for More Churches*

**9:00 Song, Scripture Reading, Announcements**

**9:15 Biblical Hermeneutics Part 2**  
– Dean Taylor

**10:00 Ladies' Session Practical, Modest Clothing Discussion**  
– Lucinda Allgyer

**Youth Session Where Do I Belong?**  
**"Navigating Life From a Third Culture Perspective"** – Jason Allgyer

**10:45 Break**

**11:00 Transforming Culture "Lessons From the Early Church"**  
– Allen Roth

**12:00 Closing Program**

**12:30 Lunch**

**You are welcome to visit and network in the afternoon.**

**Please vacate the buildings by 4:30.**

**Structured child care will be provided for children ages 3-12 during day-time sessions.**

## Purpose and Goals

*Church Planters Forum and Retreat*

- Provide a forum for two-kingdom Christians to strengthen a vision for indigenous church planting around the world, including church planting in or near North American cities.
- Provide a setting for church planters to learn from each other and avoid pitfalls common to this work in God's Kingdom.
- Nurture an atmosphere that will revive and bring fresh vision to church planters who are experiencing burnout or disappointment.
- Develop relationships among church planters that will discourage suspicion and competition.
- Provide a non-urban retreat for urban workers and families.

### **What kind of church planting is in focus?**

Establishing churches with the intention that numerical growth will come from evangelizing and discipling local people, particularly the unsaved and the unchurched.

### **Who is invited?**

We welcome anyone who is actively involved in church planting, those who are preparing for church planting, and any pastors and overseers.  
--Contact the coordinator if you have questions--

### **Request from the Planning Committee**

Those planning this *Church Planters Forum and Retreat* intend to promote an atmosphere that respects the roles of church authority, practical applications to Scripture, disciplined church life, and brotherhood accountability. We ask that attendees show deference to these persuasions.

An offering will be taken for  
***Penn Valley Christian Retreat.***

The ***Church Planters Forum*** relies on donations to cover speaker reimbursements.