



Connections Newsletter

School & Church Partners, a Match Made in Heaven

The school is the hub of any community. As we approach Back to School season, many Minnesota **churches are partnering with local school districts** to meet the needs of their neighbors.

Read about the ways these churches and local organizations are showing the love of Jesus through **servicing their schools**.

And **find out ways your church** can experience the vibrant people and cultures of its community, by stepping inside of local schools.

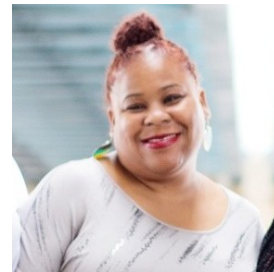


Pastor's Column Series: Learning from Chaplains

Rev. Nicole Smith, Level 1 Trauma Hospital

Rev. Nicole Smith serves as a Chaplain at Hennepin Healthcare – a level 1 trauma hospital.

She shares about the **powerful role of silence and listening** when visiting patients in the hospital. And in a **beautiful poem**, Rev. Smith writes about the healing power of tears.



Lt. Col. Philip Winn Jr., Minnesota Army National Guard

Lt. Col. Philip Winn Jr. serves as Chaplain for the Minnesota Army National Guard. He writes about the **unique places he has conducted worship services**, and the ways he takes God's presence with him when ministering to our armed forces.

Chaplain Winn **shares the importance** of caring for the religious, spiritual, ethical and moral needs of our country's Soldiers and families.



Welcoming the Stranger; a Biblical Perspective on Immigration

On August 2nd, more than 350 people heard a **message of compassion and justice** for immigrants and refugees shared by Matthew Soerens, co-author of "Welcoming the Stranger."

Arrive Ministries, the refugee resettlement affiliate of Transform Minnesota hosted the seminar. When Jesus was asked "**Who are my neighbors?**" Jesus tells the story of the Good Samaritan.

Read how Jesus' answer is still instructing the American Church on how we should respond to foreigners: refugees, immigrants and asylum seekers.





Skillful Hiring
August 28, 9-11am
Transform Minnesota

Hire smart. Hire well. Hire for the long haul.

Hiring well takes time, intentionality, and training. This training will teach how to best fill open positions with the right person for the job.



Boost Employee Retention
September 20, 9-11am
Transform Minnesota

Maintain an Engaged Workforce and Reduce Turn-Over.

Find out how to effectively retain employees by offering the right balance of competitive compensation, career advancement, and positive workplace relationships.



Transform Ideas ST. CLOUD
Sept. 25, 7-9pm
Calvary Community Church, St. Cloud

A Faith Filled Response to Mental Illness and Recovery.
Back by popular demand, Transform Ideas: Awakening the Church to Mental Health is coming to St. Cloud!



Transform Ideas: Holistic Pro-Life
October 4, 7-9pm
Bethlehem Baptist Church

Caring for the Beginning of Life & Abundant Life.

We believe Christians have a call to be against abortion and pro-life. This Transform Ideas forum will look beyond the picket lines, and into a holistic view point of what it means to live out a pro-life stance.



Slow Your Scroll
October 11, 9-11am
Transform Minnesota

Create Facebook Content that Makes People Stop and Share.

This training will offer practical strategies for maximizing the use of your organization's Facebook account. Get more likes, shares, and overall Facebook engagement by creating buzz-worthy content for your target audience.



Do Justice Conference with Bryan Stevenson
November 8, 1-5:30pm
Christ Presbyterian Church

An afternoon leadership conference.

Bryan Stevenson is one of America's leading champions for justice reform in our prison systems and best-selling author of "**Just Mercy**."

The **Do Justice Conference** afternoon session is your **ONLY** chance to see Bryan Stevenson, and *tickets are selling fast*.

Due to the overwhelming response to priority registration for the **Do Justice Conference**, all tickets for **An Evening with Bryan Stevenson** are **SOLD OUT**. We are unable to release tickets on September 4th.

The **Do Justice Conference** afternoon session offers a unique opportunity to hear original content from Bryan Stevenson crafted specifically for the faith community. Registration includes a workshop session and the chance to hear Dr. Ken Young share a Biblical mandate for justice.

Registration is required for the Do Justice Conference. Tickets are selling quickly.

Community Calendar

- **September 15 Minnesota Hope and Hearts Run/Walk**, Bunker Hills Regional Park, Coon Rapids
- **October 12 Soul Shop for Youth Workers**, Luther Seminary, St. Paul
- **November 17 Adoption and Beyond Conference**, City Hill Church, Eden Prairie

Does your church, ministry or organization have an upcoming event?
If so, submit your event [here](#).



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Transform Minnesota exists to connect Christian leaders, develop Biblical solutions and equip churches that transform communities.

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