

WORSHIP & THE ARTS WITH



September 18-21, 2023, Kansas City, MO
hosted by the Omaha Presbyterian Seminary Foundation







Is this for me?

We are called to worship God with our whole, authentic selves, but our worship services don't always reflect all facets of our being. Are you a pastor looking to integrate the arts into church life?

Worship and the Arts will encourage us to break out of our worship boxes with sessions that span from big-picture planning to the smallest details, from simple changes to big projects, from theological foundations to practical tips. We'll claim our creativity which is our birthright as children of the Creator, whose image we bear, and use these gifts to craft services that invite all people to worship God with their whole being. Participants will leave with resources in hand to plan for the upcoming year.

In addition to having fantastic educational resources with ideas you can use in your own worship setting, this retreat provides opportunities for personal spiritual renewal and growth; (re-) connection to God, and other pastoral leaders.

What is included in the cost?

-  **Mindfulness, Prayer, Vespers, and Worship** - to mark your day
-  **Workshops** - We will delve into the contexts of our bible texts with Drs. Amy Robertson and Bobby Williamson to discern how God might be calling us and the church to be in the world.
-  **Lodging and Meals** - All lodging and meals minus one dinner are included in the cost. There is an option to eat one meal out in town.
-  **Free Time** - Participants will have time to do what helps them fill their souls: read, pray, nap, hike, play games, crafts, ride into town, etc.

How much does it cost?

- **Are you registered as a full participant in PLR?** This event was included in your PLR registration cost
- **Are you a PLR alumni?** The cost is \$100, double occupancy
- **Are you a registering as a regular participant?** The cost is \$200, double occupancy.
- **Add \$150 for single occupancy.** Limited spots available.

How do I register?

Register at <https://tinyurl.com/opsf-worship-and-arts>

Retreat Leader



Rev. Anna Strickland

Anna (she/her/hers) is Baptist to the bone. Born and raised in Austin, Texas

she grew up in the kind of Baptist church that's hard to find outside of Austin, the kind that has women and LGBTQ folks in the pulpit and still serves corn casserole at monthly potlucks. As a child, Anna always leaned toward messy activities. She still loves getting her hands dirty with paint, charcoal, gardening soil, flour, and sugar, watching the raw materials take on a new life which is greater than the sum of its parts. This draw toward creative mess took her all the way to seminary at Iliff School of Theology, where she graduated with her Master's of Divinity in June 2020. Anna feels called to creative ministry, both ministry involving the arts and ministry done in new ways, so she is excited to have joined the team at A Sanctified Art.

Anna is always seeking the Divine in the everyday like treasure in clay jars. Though raised in the Church, she first encountered the Living God in the integration of her spiritual self and artistic self at a worship service for college students and young adults. Every Thursday night, the holy entered in through spoken word and journaling, musicals and movie clips, Alanis and Sufjan, fine art and doodling.

These formative experiences led her to return to the space where she first felt the pieces of herself click into place. While working in college ministry, Anna was blessed to explore her love of planning meaningful worship services, preaching, facilitating opportunities for spiritual formation, and witnessing the profound transformations of her students. After giving birth to her first child on Easter Sunday of 2022, she felt called to be as present to her daughter as she had been with her students and passed the ministry she cultivated onto the next generation of ministers to lead.

What does the schedule look like?

The schedule below will give you an idea of what to expect. The schedule may change slightly. Participants may choose the components that best feed their souls.



Offered in partnership with OPSF's Pastoral Leadership Revitalization Program

Pastoral Leadership Revitalization (PLR) is a grant funded program in partnership with Omaha Presbyterian Seminary Foundation (OPSF). PLR's mission is to increase pastoral resilience and adaptive leadership by providing dynamic continuing education and creating a network of support for pastoral leaders.

Where is the Worship & the Arts Retreat?

The Heartland Retreat Center is located in Parkville, MO, eleven miles from Kansas City. Check it out at <https://www.heartlandretreatcenter.org> Transportation to and from the retreat center is up to individual participants to organize.

Monday, September 18

- 4-5:00 PM Check-In
- 6:00 PM Dinner
- 7:00 PM Welcome, Introductions, and Overview
- 7:30 PM Evening Vespers
- 8:00 PM Social Hour

Tuesday, September 19

- 8:00 PM Breakfast
- 9:00 PM Morning Prayer
- 10:00 PM Session 1: Worshipping with Our Whole Selves
- 10:30 PM Break
- 10:45 PM Session 2: Seasons and Series
- 12:00 PM Lunch
- 1:00 PM Session 3: Proclaiming the Word Without a Sermon
- 2:30 PM Break
- 2:45 PM Optional Advent Planning Session Using SA's Advent Bundle
- 4:00 PM Free Time
- 6:00 PM Dinner
- 7:30 PM Evening Vespers
- 8:00 PM Social Hour

Wednesday, September 20

- 8:00 AM Breakfast
- 9:00 AM Morning Prayer
- 9:45 AM Session 4: Whole-Bodied Worship
- 11:15 AM Free Time/Visit Prayer Stations
- 12:00 PM Lunch
- 1:00 PM Session 5: Creating Art in Community
- 2:45 PM Free Time/Visit Prayer Stations
- 6:00 PM Dinner
- 7:30 PM Evening Vespers
- 8:00 PM Social Hour

Thursday, September 21

- 8:00 AM Breakfast
- 9:00 AM Evaluations
- 9:30 AM Break - Check out of room
- 10:00 AM Worship with Communion



Questions?

Contact the Omaha Presbyterian Seminary Foundation's Director of Programs, Rev. Tricia Dillon Thomas, at programs@opsf-omaha.org

