

CONSCIENCE AND
COMMUNITY:
HOW TO ENGAGE
MINISTRY
CONTEXTS IN
RACIAL
RECONCILIATION



A Training Program sponsored by the Seminary Ridge Museum, the United Lutheran Seminary Continuing Education Program, and the International Coalition of Sites of Conscience.

To register, please email: mzimmann@uls.edu no later than April 15th

June 5, 6 pm –
June 7, 3 pm

ULS Gettysburg
Campus

Cost: \$50, (most expenses, including housing and meals are provided by a grant from the In Trust Center for Theological Schools)

A WORKSHOP FOR CHURCH LEADERS

The International Coalition of Sites of Conscience, an organization that “connects past struggles to today’s movements for human rights,” together with faculty at the United Lutheran Seminary and staff of the Seminary Ridge Museum and Education Center will be providing a workshop for select representatives who minister in the Northeast. This three-day event is designed to acquaint and to equip church leaders to gain awareness and skills in interpreting the region’s history of reckoning with race and slavery from the time of the abolition to the present cultural context.

The grant-funded program includes the unique resource of Seminary Ridge Museum and Education Center in Gettysburg, which is housed in the oldest Lutheran seminary building in North America. In the seminary classroom, students grappled with the issue of slavery as contrary to God’s design, but soon the war over slavery came to the campus. After the battle, injured soldiers from North and South received care in the same building, forever changing the spiritual and physical landscape of the campus. These traumas and the larger cause of antislavery are commemorated at the museum, a member of the International Coalition of Sites of Conscience. At the workshop, participants will experience three days of fellowship and engagement with museum and seminary faculty, and especially with Braden Paynter from the International Coalition of Sites of Conscience. Paynter will share skills and approaches necessary in the local and global effort to reflect on the long struggles for justice, to apply them to human movements for justice today. Workshop participants will share what is actual in their own context, gain partnership, and learn how they can broaden their work for justice.

The needs of ministry contexts will be a special focus of this workshop. Pastors and church leaders will gain proficiency in recognizing and addressing how unacknowledged histories of racist events in their communities or neighborhoods affect the prospects of congregations. Rostered leaders, in learning how to address these realities, will be better equipped to accompany their communities in repairing and restoring trust and confidence. Practical knowledge regarding lament, prayer, and song, will be discussed in cohort groups to build a toolkit for ministry. Participants in this immersion experience will be guided in developing discernment for the work of freedom, contextual formation, and embodied memory.

Facilitators

Rev. Dr. Maria Erling, Professor of Modern Church History and Global Mission

Mr. Peter Miele, Director, Seminary Ridge Museum and Education Center

Rev. Dr. Martin Otto-Zimmann, Sr. Director of Continuing Education and Adjunct Faculty of Church in Society

Mr. Braden Paynter, Director for Methodology and Practice at the International Coalition of Sites of Conscience

Rev. Dr. Teresa Smallwood, The James Franklin Kelly and Hope Eyster Kelly Associate Professor of Public Theology