

Wednesday		April 11
7 p.m.	Practicing What We Preach as Faith Communities: Inclusive Ministries as Expressions of Our Core Vision and Mission	Alford Centrum
Thursday		April 12
8 a.m.	Welcome, registration and coffee	Gallery
8:45 a.m.	Opening remarks and introduction	Alford Centrum
9 a.m.	State of the State: Department of Developmental Disabilities <i>Address by John L. Martin</i>	Alford Centrum
	Practicing What We Preach as Service Providers and Advocates <i>Lecture by William Gaventa</i>	
	Q&A with John L. Martin and William Gaventa	
11 a.m.	Panel: Self-advocates and family members speak on spiritual supports as a gateway to community inclusion and flourishing lives <i>Panelists: Ronald Cohen, Tamara Dershem, Kati Glover, Zach Holler, Tracey Lehman, Aaron Luebbers and Noah Mitchell</i>	Alford Centrum
Noon	Networking lunch	Dunn Dining Hall
1:15 p.m.	Breakout Session 1	
	Pastoral Care and Persons with Disability <i>William Gaventa</i>	Gault Hall 133
	But First Do No Harm – The Nitty-Gritty of Real Inclusion <i>Joanie Calem</i>	Gault Hall 145
	Home but Not Healed: Disability in Prophetic Utopian Visions <i>Kirsty Jones</i>	Gault Hall 150

Thursday

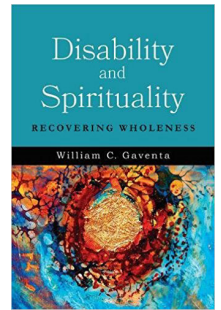
April 12

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| 2:30 p.m. | Breakout Session 2 | |
| | Three Problematic Texts: Scripture and Disability
<i>Alex Sider</i> | Gault Hall 133 |
| | Community Partners in Inclusion
<i>Thomas Fish</i> | Gault Hall 145 |
| | So All May Worship: Best Practices
for an Inclusive Worshipping Community
<i>Zach Holler</i> | Gault Hall 150 |
| 3:45 p.m. | Closing | Alford Centrum |
| 4:30 p.m. | Dismissal | |



WILLIAM GAVENTA

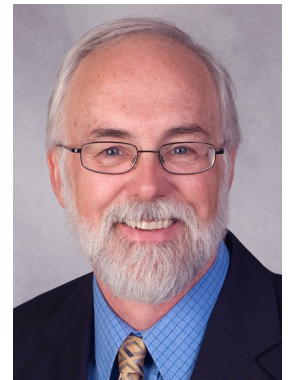
William Gaventa is chair of the National Collaborative on Faith and Disability and director of the Summer Institute on Theology and Disability. He is past editor of the *Journal of Disability & Religion* and served as president of the American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. Gaventa works as a consultant and trainer with congregations, faith networks, seminaries, service-provider networks and advocacy groups in the area of inclusive spiritual support for people with disabilities and their families.



Gaventa's book, *Disability and Spirituality: Recovering Wholeness*, is available at a discounted price in the Gallery.

JOHN L. MARTIN

John L. Martin has served as director of the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities since 2007. He has emphasized leadership transformation in several areas for the department, including increased collaboration with stakeholders, upgrading technology infrastructure, and making data-driven decisions to help better align resources and programs for long-term sustainability. The father of a young adult son with disabilities, Martin is the former executive director of Sunshine Inc. of Northwest Ohio, a nonprofit organization serving people with developmental disabilities and their families.



But First Do No Harm – The Nitty-Gritty of Real Inclusion

LED BY JOANIE CALEM

Are our community settings actually welcoming to those who are different? Through song and stories, she leads her audience through an exploration of the meaning of inclusion.

Joanie Calem is a songwriter, teacher and disability awareness advocate. She is both the parent of a son with autism and a teacher of diverse learners. Joanie leads workshops (“concert-conversations”) on strategies to support individuals with sensory processing disorder (SPD), autism and other learning differences for parents, teachers, community building, disability awareness and inclusion. Her articles include “Creating Safe Musical Spaces,” “SPD: The Invisible Mystery Monster” and “The ABCs of SPD.” Calem has presented for Aspirations, SIBS, Head Start, AAUW, the JCC, Friendship Circle, OCALICON, churches, synagogues, preschools, related conferences and parent groups.

In addition to leading this breakout session, Calem will share music throughout the workshop.

Community Partners in Inclusion

LED BY THOMAS FISH

Fish will share his experiences developing community-based book clubs for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The Next Chapter Book Club is 15 years old, in 31 states, and the only program of its kind. The presentation will examine intentional strategies for forging inclusive community engagement.

Thomas Fish is the director of social work and family support services at the Nisonger Center at The Ohio State University. In addition to teaching in the College of Social Work at OSU, he developed one of the nation’s first social and vocational support programs for young adults with high functioning autism and Asperger’s syndrome. Dr. Fish has been a leader in the field of sibling support and advocacy for over 20 years.

Pastoral Care and Persons with Disability

LED BY WILLIAM GAVENTA

Pastoral care with people with disabilities and their families is just that: pastoral care. But as a focus on disability also does in so many other areas, it raises core dimensions of pastoral care that are in fact applicable to all of us. In the workshop, we will explore those dimensions, look at a life span perspective on pastoral issues and opportunities that arise from transitions by individuals and families, and have time to talk about your own pastoral experiences and questions arising from them.

So All May Worship: Best Practices for an Inclusive Worshipping Community

LED BY ZACH HOLLER

For decades, churches have explored ways to share the gospel with people affected by disability. This type of ministry has often been seen as a separate ministry apart from the mainstream activities of the church. In this workshop, we aim to establish a new understanding of ministry with people affected by disability, as one which views the church as an inclusive community in itself. In addition to exploring the biblical roots of what it means to be an inclusive community of worshippers, we will also examine models of inclusion and sensory stimulation that allow people to experience God in many ways. This workshop will include examples of tangible methods for worshippers to encounter all aspects of church life including participation in the sacraments.

Zach Holler completed an internship with the Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities in Washington, D.C., while an undergraduate student at Wright State University. His public policy recommendations in this role paved the way for his appointment by President Obama to the Committee for People with Intellectual Disabilities where he continues as a committee member. Holler is currently a candidate for ordained ministry in the United Methodist Church and serves at Sulphur Grove UMC in Huber Heights, Ohio, where he is developing an inclusive community of faith.

Home but Not Healed: Disability in Prophetic Utopian Visions

LED BY KIRSTY JONES

Why do some biblical texts proclaim healing for people with disabilities while some do not? What is the legacy of this for the contemporary church? Comparing two Old Testament visions (Jeremiah 31 and Isaiah 35), we'll consider why blindness and deafness are such major issues for Isaiah but not for Jeremiah and discuss the differences between physical disabilities and spiritual disabilities in the texts. We will explore contemporary practice by asking how texts about healing can be sensitively discussed and used in discussions on constructed "ideal" bodies.

Kirsty Jones completed her undergraduate and masters studies at the University of Cambridge and is currently a Ph.D. candidate at Georgetown University focusing on Biblical Studies and disability and the senses in the Old Testament. Her work synthesises her passion for enabling community with biblical studies, and aims to educate the academy and church about disability.

Three Problematic Texts: Scripture and Disability

LED BY ALEX SIDER

For many Christians, the Bible promotes the radical inclusion of marginalized people in community. Often, however, biblical texts were written in contexts - racism, ethnocentrism, classism and sexism-- that created and reinforced marginalization. Sider's workshop will examine another dimension of marginalization, ableism and discuss four biblical texts that pose problems for Christian interpreters who think of the Bible as straightforwardly "good news" for persons with disabilities. Our discussion will create careful theological reflection on the practice of biblical interpretation for Christians who want to use the resources of their faith to advocate for inclusion and social justice.

Alex Sider teaches religion and peace and conflict studies at Bluffton University. His research and teaching focus on the connections among medical ethics, disability studies and Christian theology in historic peace church traditions. Sider earned a Ph.D. in theology and ethics from Duke University.