



Announcing the 2023 Conference Hosted by Theology and Peace

at CASA ISKALLI

*Our Lady of Guadalupe Campus
Des Plaines (Greater Chicago), Illinois*

Registration information is below.

Here's the Good News: God's Love Overcomes Violence

Join us as we engage in theologically grounded conversations and discover creative and practical strategies for sharing this Good News.

We invite clergy, chaplains, teachers, theologians, community leaders, and anyone in Christian ministry who is passionate about sharing the story of God's unconditional love, and reaching a contemporary, and perhaps unconventional, audience.

We will explore these themes during our three-day gathering. Through plenary sessions and large and small group discussions participants will leave with new tools and a renewed passion for ministering to their own communities.

Meet Our Plenary Presenters:

DR. SHARON BAKER PUTT, Professor of Theology at Messiah University in Mechanicsburg, PA.

Moving Toward Nonviolent Reconciliation: Theories of Salvation and Atonement

Dr. Putt will talk about traditional Western theories of atonement, whether they adequately portray a loving God, and the violence that some of them can continue to promote. Putt will then offer alternative theories of atonement—some of them with a long history-- that don't require divine violence. Instead, they clearly show how atrocities arise from human ideas of "redemptive violence" and offer hopeful, healing views of ultimate salvation.

Dr. Putt has written and spoken extensively about nonviolent Atonement, and is the author of *Executing God: Rethinking Everything You've Been Taught About Salvation and the Cross*, and *Razing Hell: Rethinking Everything You've Ever Been Taught about God's Wrath and Judgment*. Her talk is based on Chapter 7 of her newest book, *A Nonviolent Theology of Love: Peacefully Confessing the Apostle's Creed* (Fortress Press, 2021).

PASTOR ADAM ERICKSEN, Clackamas United Church of Christ, Milwaukie, OR

Adam Ericksen will present tools he has used to communicate God's nonviolent love to an ever growing audience. While we often think of social media as a necessary evil, what if social media is a good way to spread the Gospel?

Like the Roman roads were primarily used for the military, the early Christians hijacked the roads to spread the Gospel.

What if God is calling us to do the same with social media?

Podcasts, newsletters, signs, blogs, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and TikTok are the Roman roads of today, providing the opportunity to spread the Gospel message throughout the world in ways Paul could never dream of. So like good disciples, strap on your sandals, pick up your staff, and learn how to travel today's Roman roads to share the good news. Adam will offer his experiences and examples as guides, hoping to leave you free to find the roads that reach your people best.

The world needs the Gospel now more than ever. Social media provides an important avenue to spread the message.

Adam Ericksen earned his Masters of Theological Studies from Garrett Evangelical Theological Seminary then joined the Raven Foundation as Education Director. There he created a wide range of content focused on connecting mimetic theory to the nonviolence and love of God. His work ranged from blogs, to videos, to a weekly radio interview program. Even while he developed this body of work, he was the youth pastor at First Congregational Church of Wilmette. Working with those youth he observed what was important to them and honed his communication style. With his move back to Oregon in 2018, Adam became the full time pastor of Clackamas Church of Christ. To build visibility, Adam encouraged his church to purchase a marquee letter sign where profoundly Christian yet witty sayings appear weekly, bringing him and his congregation attention from major publications like *Newsweek*, *USA Today*, *Sojourners*, and local television and radio stations. His children challenged him to create a TikTok channel where he now engages with individuals near and far. His visibility and messages have brought additional members to his church both in the pews and online which has encouraged the forming of unexpected partnerships designed to care for and support others in need.



SMALL GROUP BREAKOUT SESSION WITH ANDREW MCKENNA: He will share stories about the impact of his work in Stateville Correctional Center, Crest Hill, IL, including the award winning writing done by some of his students.

Continuing Education Units (CEUs) will be available to participants upon request.

Cost: Resident (lodging & meals) \$425
Commuter (meals) \$275, Zoom Access \$110



To Register:
Scan the QR Code or
click [HERE](#) to Register

