Our goal is that attendees will take with them a heightened awareness of the broad scope of poverty, the beginning steps of how they may take action in their own lives, and how to build relationships and share God’s love with people who live with poverty.

**Our Goal**

- The cost is $10.00
- To register, go to: [wpaumc.org/register](http://wpaumc.org/register)
- Please indicate if childcare is needed.
- Lunch will be provided

Contact: Glenna Wilson, glennapw@gmail.com

**Teams from local churches are encouraged to attend.**

**Registration**

Through our Regional Mission Agencies, Western PA United Methodist Churches combine time, skills, funds, and a common vision to combat issues of poverty in our region.

**Affiliated Mission Agencies:**
wpaumc.org/MissionAgencies

- United Methodist Church Union, Pittsburgh
  umchurchunionpgh.org
- Connellsville Area Community Ministries
  connmin.org
- Erie United Methodist Alliance
  euma-erie.org
- United Methodist Human Services, Johnstown
  umhumanservices.org
- Western PA Prison Outreach Ministry
  wpapom.org
- Ruth M. Smith Home --
  A National Mission of United Methodist Women
  ruthsmithcenter.org
- Ministry With –Board of Global Ministries
  ministrywith.org/index2.html
- Circles Initiative
  circlesusa.org
  Connellsville Community, Sharpsburg, Westmoreland County, some sites in Pittsburgh
- Bridges Out of Poverty
  ahaprocess.com/solutions/community
  Johnstown UMHS has this program
- Community Action Association of PA
  heccaap.org

**THE many faces OF POVERTY**

Saturday, April 21, 2018
9:00 AM – 4:00 PM
Kittanning First UMC
Covenant Center
332 North Water Street
Kittanning PA 16201

**Sponsored by:**
The Poverty and Outreach Teams
Western PA United Methodist Conference
The morning will begin with Brian and Mary Ellen looking at the theology that grounds our ministries and the way poverty intersects all of the disenfranchised in society.

In the afternoon panelists will share stories of how poverty has impacted folks in a variety of ways, how we can become involved and begin to make a difference.

There will be worship times both in the morning and the afternoon as well as Question and Answer opportunities. A multitude of resources will be provided to attendees.

Our Keynote Speakers

**Rev. Brian Combs** of Haywood Street Congregation in Asheville, NC, a United Methodist mission church where those living in poverty are part of the worshiping congregation and considered friends, rather than clients or recipients of charity.

Converted by an in-the-gutter low Christology, Rev. Brian Combs was confronted by the incarnate Jesus on the homeless streets where pauper, prostitute and pusher loiter about. Convicted by John Wesley's social holiness and the Gospel's parabolic precedent, he founded the Haywood Street Congregation in Asheville, NC. An unapologetically Christian communion of sober and intoxicated, homeless and housed, sane and unstable, derelict and disciple. A kingdom of God glance that subverts paternalistic evangelism and poverty tourism, while prioritizing the most marginalized, assuming the disinherited are Immanuel.

Following a 20+ year career in law and public service, Mary Ellen earned a Master of Divinity degree with a focus on poverty and justice from Union Theological Seminary in New York City.

She is a member of United Methodist Women, the mission church and society committee, and the board of trustees of St. Paul and St. Andrew United Methodist Church in Manhattan. Kriss has chaired the New York Annual Conference Board of Church and Society, served as a member of the conference disaster response committee, and director of the United Methodist City Society.

Our Purpose

The purpose of “The Many Faces of Poverty” is to help break stereotypes of who “the poor” are. They are not only homeless and hungry, but also the working poor, people with disabilities, members of the LGBTQ community, people of color, veterans, immigrants, individuals released from incarceration, and others.

**Our Keynote Speakers**

**Mary Ellen Kris** was commissioned a deaconess in 2014 and is a consultant with the UMC Board of Global Ministries providing leadership, coordination and promotion of Ministry with the Poor.

Schedule

- 9:00–9:30 Registration and Fellowship
- 9:30–12:30 Opening/Session I
- 12:30–1:15 Lunch
- 1:15–3:15 Session II
- 3:15–4:00 Closing/Worship

- The morning will begin with Brian and Mary Ellen looking at the theology that grounds our ministries and the way poverty intersects all of the disenfranchised in society.
- In the afternoon panelists will share stories of how poverty has impacted folks in a variety of ways, how we can become involved and begin to make a difference.
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