



# Sacred Trust

Relational Boundaries

## SACRED TRUST RELATIONAL BOUNDARIES TRAINING

As a minister of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina who is due to take the required training by the Presbytery's Sexual Misconduct Policy in 2018, this communication will outline the next date and location for opportunities to attend.

On Saturday, November 3, 2018, we have scheduled a second date for this year. It will be held at the First Presbyterian Church, Morganton beginning at 9 a.m. Please contact the Presbytery office (828-438-4217) or rbuchanan@presbyterywnc.org to register.

The "four-year cycle" of training for clergy and volunteers will focus on the theological and biblical basis for healthy boundaries, as well as the challenges we face with social media and boundaries. Resources for child and youth protection policies will be available as well. This type of training is essential for us as we seek to make our congregations and ministries safe places for all of God's children!

**Saturday, November 3, 2018**

First Presbyterian Church, Morganton  
100 Silver Creek Road, Morganton, NC  
9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Leaders: Rev. Michael Poulos, Rev. Dr. Cam Murchison, and  
Rev. Carol Steele

**Topic Coverage:**

Bible and Theology and Issues Regarding Social Media

**Are you signed-up?** Please contact the Presbytery office and advise that you will attend.

# MEET VASCO KACHIPAPA BANDA



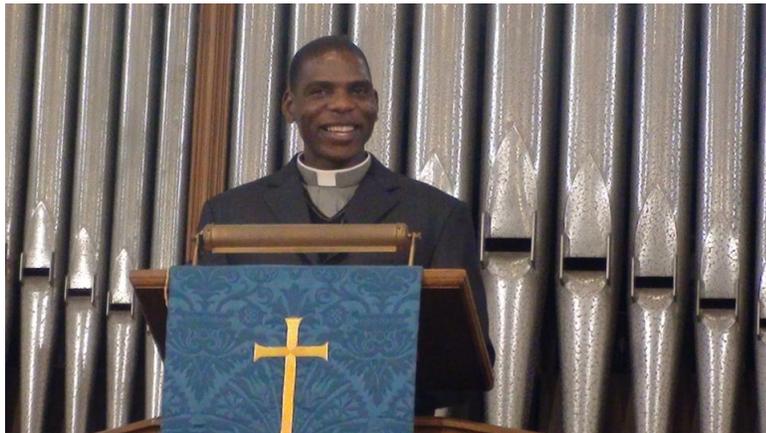
## ABOUT VASCO

Rev. Vasco Kachipapa Banda is the General Secretary (CEO) of the Synod of Nkhoma. Vasco is responsible for the churches, preaching points, pastors, and the more than one million members. He is also responsible for the Nkhoma 220 bed hospital, the seminary, several schools including Ebenezer (the school PWNC supports), the university, and many areas of Synod work, including evangelism, Christian formation, health care, education, development and disaster relief.

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## MEET & GREET

- Tuesday, August 14, 2018
  - 6:00 p.m.
  - Bobbi's Home  
109 Woodsway Lane  
Morganton, NC
  - RSVP by calling the  
Presbytery Office at  
828/438-4217
-



*Welcome*  
*Reverend Vasco Kachipapa Banda!*

We are excited to welcome Rev. Vasco Kachipapa Banda, the General Secretary (CEO) of the Synod of Nkhoma from August 13-15. Vasco is responsible for the churches, preaching points, pastors, and all the more than one million members. He is also responsible for the Nkhoma 220 bed hospital, the seminary, several schools including Ebenezer (the school PWNC supports), the university, and many areas of Synod work, including evangelism, Christian formation, health care, education, development and disaster relief. It is a very big job.

PWNC's partnership with the hospital and Ebenezer School in Malawi is part of the work of the Synod of Nkhoma. The Nkhoma Synod is part of the Churches of Central Africa Presbyterians (CCAP), the largest Protestant denomination in Malawi, where about 70% of the population claim membership in a Christian church.

Vasco was born in 1974 and ordained as a Church Minister of the CCAP Nkhoma Synod in September, 2001. After serving a rural congregation for 22 months, he was appointed to head the Synod's Youth Department for five years. In 2009, he was called to serve a city congregation and in the same year was elected as Synod Moderator, a two-year term position. He was re-elected as Synod Moderator in 2011. At the Biannual Synod Assembly of 2013, Rev. Vasco Kachipapa was elected as General Secretary (CEO) of the CCAP Nkhoma Synod for a six-year term. He holds a Master's Degree in Transformational Leadership. Vasco has traveled and studied a number of times in the States. He has been very welcoming to the mission teams from our Presbytery. Vasco is married to Madalitso (Blessings) and together have three children: Miriam aged 18; Esther, aged 16 and Reuben, aged 15. Madalitso holds BA in Biblical Studies with a major in Education. She is a teacher by profession and is a civil servant, teaching at Nkhoma Community Day Secondary School.

A meet and greet with Vasco will be held at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 14<sup>th</sup> at Bobbi's home in Morganton. If you are interested in attending, please call the Presbytery office (828/438-4217) to RSVP. Arrangements are currently being made for other visits to Black Mountain, Hickory and Gastonia while he is in the Presbytery. We are eager to have Vasco with us here in Western North Carolina and look forward to his visit in our Presbytery. Watch for his schedule so you can meet him. He is a delightful person and an incredible leader and witness to Christ. We give thanks for his leadership and witness to Christ's love and grace.

# You Are Invited

Saturday August 11, 2018

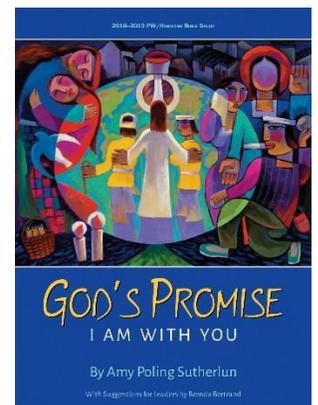
9:00am-12:00pm

Davidson College Presbyterian Church  
Congregation House  
218 Concord Road, Davidson



Rev. Mary Margaret Porter  
presenting the 2018-19 Presbyterian Women  
Horizons Bible Study,  
*God's Promise: I am with You*

This study takes readers on a journey through scripture to consider circumstances in which God articulated God's promise of presence. This study does not delve deeply into manifestations of God's presence but rather on God's actual articulation of God's promise. We will see anew that God offered these words of profound comfort and commitment to individuals and communities from the time of the patriarchs to that of the prophets; from the judges to the kings; before, during, and after the exile; into the New Testament and beyond, to the end of the age.



Please pre-register by August 7th  
704-896-5641 or [www.dcp.org](http://www.dcp.org)

\$5.00 suggested donation payable at the door  
*Child care available by pre-registration request*

# CROSSROADS

# ANTIRACISM TRAINING

August 17-19, 2018

**Looking for an opportunity to counter institutional racism in your church, community, or organization?**

Check out Crossroads Antiracism Training in Montreat. With workshops on preaching, church leadership, engaging youth and young adults, there's something for every church member and leader to learn at this weekend training.

*Scholarships Available!  
Contact Billy Robinson  
(828) 438-4217*

Commuter Fee: \$77

[www.montreat.org/crossroads](http://www.montreat.org/crossroads)

## WORKSHOPS



### With Youth and Young Adults

Engaging in the work of eradicating racism

### At Home and Church School

Anti-bias education for children & families

### In the Pulpit

Strategies for preaching

### In the Public Square

What does it look like to show up in town?

### As Church Leaders

How do we move the church beyond clubs & symbolism toward becoming antiracist, anti-oppressive institutions?



This event is sponsored by Montreat Conference Center in partnership with Crossroads Antiracism Organizing and Training.

## Preaching Cohort Opportunity

Led by Rev. Patrick W. T. Johnson, Ph.D.

### Purpose:

Working pastors need conversation, continued learning, and mentorship in the area of preaching. After strategic leadership, preaching has more impact than anything else a pastor does, yet preaching can also be the most lonely and intimidating work a pastor does.

The purpose of this 8-month preaching cohort is to provide preachers an opportunity to deepen their knowledge of the craft, learn innovative approaches and skills, connect with and learn from other colleagues, and renew their energy and confidence for preaching.

### Plan:

- The cohort will be limited to no more than 12 participants, and 5 minimum.
- The first meeting will be in September, and the group will meet through May – without a meeting in December. There will be 8 meetings total.
- Once the group is formed, a simple survey will be sent out to get a sense of where the interests and needs lie, which would then inform the curriculum.
- Each session will be a facilitated discussion of a short reading or book assigned for the month. In the session we will explore big topics of preaching, some basic and some more advanced, such as: creative strategies for exegesis, the structure and plot of the sermon, preaching and public issues, preaching as testimony, creating the sermon with the congregation, preaching that engages the audience (with or without a manuscript), preaching to a diverse congregation, etc.
- Each meeting will be in person as a group, for a two hour session.
- We will create a digital platform, such as a Facebook group, by which the group can communicate over the month about the readings, preaching challenges, questions, etc.
- Each preacher will also get a one-on-one meeting with the instructor over the course of the 8 months that will be tailored to the individual.

**Participants:** The ideal participant would be a pastor who preaches regularly, has been in ministry for five years or more, and desires help and conversation around preaching.

**Cost:** The participants will pay only the cost of travel and books.

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## Preaching Cohort Opportunity

If you would like to be considered for participation in this Preaching Cohort Group, please complete the following information and return it to the Presbytery office (114 Silver Creek Road, Morganton NC 28655 or fax 828/437-8655) by **August 10, 2018**:

Pastor's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Church: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Position Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Number: \_\_\_\_\_ # of Yrs. Served: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

(# of yrs in position/# of yrs ordained)



*Engaging young adults in transformative mission to inspire a lifetime of caring.*

## Springtime Reflections from 2017-2018 Volunteers



### **Cammie Coulter**

Prior to this year, hearing the word felon would have conjured up other words like 'criminal' or 'dangerous'. Through my work at Green Opportunities and the wise words of Michelle Alexander, my framework around incarceration has been reconstructed. Green Opportunities is an Asheville nonprofit striving to bring equity to workforce development through construction, culinary, and job skills training. In addition to training, we provide case management where we work to help break down employment barriers for our students. Our students often experience many systemic and personal barriers to employment such as poverty, homelessness and interactions with the law. I have always known that after being incarcerated it might be harder to find a job, but it wasn't until our community read Michelle Alexander's, *The New Jim Crow* that I better understood the scope of mass incarceration and the added barriers one has to overcome with the prison label. After learning more about what reentry is like for those leaving prison, it was shocking to me that anyone is able to gain employment and the high recidivism rates made more sense. One day shortly after finishing the book I was driving with a coworker to pick up some construction equipment. During our ride, he shared with me what it was like to reenter society with the felon label. He had no money, he wasn't able to live in public housing, he couldn't get food stamps, he couldn't vote and he couldn't find work. In this conversation, he thanked Green Opportunities for seeing him as a person and not just his past. At this moment I had never been more proud of the organization I have grown to love and I was ashamed that I too had only been able to see the stigmas and not the person. Because of my time at Green Opportunities and my new knowledge from Michelle Alexander I was able to have a beautiful and honest conversation about race and incarceration. While I cannot remember how the conversation started, it is one I will never forget. Now when I hear the word felon I am reminded of the hard working generous people I've met in Asheville and words like 'friend' and 'coworker' come to mind.

### **Lauren Rye**

I have spent my year of service working with elementary students who live in public housing. 85% are African- American and 100% live in poverty. The program is run by a woman who is African American; so are her supervisors and her predecessor. The two volunteers who preceded me are also African-American. Suffice it to say, I am in the minority for several reasons. Despite this, I have never once felt unwelcome. The hospitality which has been extended to me is overwhelming. As a white, college-educated woman, I am incredibly privileged. For generations, the narrative has told me to use my voice to enact change because white educated people supposedly know how to "fix" people of color or people who have less money or education. In recent years, however, I have heard a new narrative which encourages people of privilege to create space for the often unheard voices. This had seemed oddly daunting, because for years I never interacted with people who didn't look like me or who had



different life experiences. Recently, my boss, predecessor and I were having a conversation about our students. At one point, my predecessor said, “You know, the people of color in this community...” and in this moment, I realized that although they were not interested in my thoughts on the people of color in Asheville, I was nonetheless welcome to be there as these two people of color shared their thoughts on the matter. You see, these women have known for generations that having their voices heard is crucial. They have learned firsthand all of the ways that our society has tried and will continue to try to silence their voices. As I have grappled with the question of ‘how do I lift everyvoice?’, through my interactions this year, I have become acutely aware that often times it is only a matter of being present and willing to learn.



### **Arthur Parks Smithey**

What I have learned through my service experience is that it takes longer than 1 week of volunteer work to engage with communities who are marginalized. I reflected on this while reading Jo Ann Van Engen’s “The Cost of Short Term Mission.” Throughout this year we have had the opportunity to engage in experiences, reflections, and learn action steps that a 1 week experience could never accomplish. We have built relationships that changed our perceptions on race, gender, and religion. I have lived with four different people who face discrimination and harassment on a daily basis based on their sex and have heard stories from brothers and sisters who are oppressed and sub casted in our community. I have stood in line at Homeward Bound’s day center with folks after a restless night on the streets and I have felt the joy from those moving into permanent housing. I have listened to the stories of men standing on the corner “flipping card” board because they have no way of securing a job. During 1 year of service my perception on reality and the “real world” has completely changed. And this program has offered strategies and space for reflection so that we can act! In his article, “What We Don’t Talk About When We Talk About Service,” Adam Davis writes that “by pretending service is simple, we risk turning service bad—bad for the served and for the server.” I have learned that service has several gray areas and that reflection provides the needed space for discussion, which gives way to better action. Being willing to put one’s self in an environment and listen to our brother’s and sister’s stories and struggles builds a bridge between middle/upper class reality and that of people living on the margins. We experience, we reflect, and we act, and lives are changed.

### **Willa Van Camp**

I’ve learned a lot this year in my work site placement about what it means to lean into inefficiency. My work site, 12 Baskets Café, counts on the idea that if we all simply show up and bring what we have then there will always be more than enough. I’ve also learned a lot from the books and articles we have read. We explored some of the important questions in our current societal climate that are too easy to shy away from. Namely, how does the racial history of our country continue to play out in modern systems? How do we participate in those systems? And what does our faith call us to do about it? While I have learned many things



this year about race, faith, food waste, de-escalation, and finding my place among the issues of the world, my greatest learning is not something I expected. Having heard transformational stories from past YAVs I kept waiting for that one book, discussion or conversation, that would put everything into perspective. Some singular moment in which all the challenges of the past months would suddenly seem small in comparison to some larger truth. What I never would have expected is that the truth I found wasn’t found in a singular moment, nor was it even found in growth. My truth was found in breaking. I came into the year with unprocessed relationship

trauma. I was so focused on surviving and graduating from college, that I never took time to heal. It was like a broken bone that healed without having been set or repaired. This year of service and community gave me a safe space to truly begin healing. The remarkable aspect of this program isn't found in a specific reading list or a programmatic outline, it's found in the environment that is cultivated. Our site coordinator doesn't just tell us what we should know, she encourages and inspires us to seek out our own learning and follow our questions, not always to answers, but to a deeper level of critical thinking and self-reflection.



### Savannah Fraser

I am a second year YAV serving here in Asheville. I served my first year in New Orleans and am lucky enough to be in the here in western North Carolina this year. I am working at Homeward, a nonprofit organization working to end homelessness through the "housing first" practice in Buncombe and Hendersonville Counties of North Carolina. Through the "housing first" practice, Homeward Bound's mission is to get people into housing, so they have a sense of security from which to grow. If you stop to think about it, how could anyone get their life in order if they are living on the streets or in a shelter without safety and security? I had a client recently tell me that being homeless is is like being in a fish bowl. It doesn't matter where you go, you are always being watched. Often people become homeless due to normal life crises that we all face. The difference is often in access to a support system that aids us during times of duress. I work at Homeward Bound's Day Center, AHOPE. AHOPE is the front door to accessing housing and other resources. We offer basic needs like showers, mail, storage, phone services, and coffee. I do a little of everything there. I try to be present and meet people where they are. It is not always easy and it has been worth it. I see people fight to survive everyday and I am moved by how they do it without breaking their spirits. I see their struggles and their triumphs and I carry their stories with me because they are now a part of mine. I have learned more than I ever could have imagined during these past two years with the YAV Program. My life has changed and I am grateful.



### End of Year Storytelling Event

Monday, July 23  
Habitat Tavern & Commons  
174 Broadway St.  
Asheville, NC 28801

Join us for an evening of stories from our 2017-2018 volunteers and hear updates from Hands and Feet of Asheville. We look forward to seeing you (*and a friend*) there!



### THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT

If you are invested in further supporting the amazing volunteers and non-profit organizations served by HFA, please visit our [website](#) for more information on how to donate your time, talent, or money.





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### Connect With Us

Hands and Feet of Asheville | 828-773-8880 | [E-mail](#) | [Website](#)

