

LAST ACTS OF LOVE 2012

Presenters

SESSION III

Barbara Bollier, MD

Kansas State Representative for the 25th District



Barbara is a graduate of the University of Kansas School of Medicine and worked as an anesthesiologist for 12 years before retiring to spend more time with her children and expand her volunteer commitments. She has served as President of the Missouri Society of Anesthesiologists and was on the Shawnee Mission Education Foundation for 3 years. She is currently and elder and trustee at Village Presbyterian Church.

In 2001 she was asked by the Center for Practical Bioethics to chair a steering committee directed toward improving pediatric palliative care in Kansas City. Since that time she has given a great deal of her time to working on Caring Conversations for Young Adults, which is an advance directive written for 16 to 25 year olds. She has taught two courses in the Bioethics Masters Program at KC University of Medicine and Biosciences. To learn more, be sure to check her website at www.barbarabollier.org.

SESSION IV

Jacqueline Cyphers, MSW

Director, The Caregiver Institute at Shepherd's Center Central



Jacqueline Cyphers has a master's degree in social work with a healthcare specialization, from the University of Kansas. Jacqueline worked in healthcare as a medical social worker and coordinator of geriatric services at the former Baptist-Lutheran Medical Center. She also worked at Midwest Bioethics Center (now the Center for Practical Bioethics), as director of the Rallying Points Program for the Midwest Region, an End-of-Life initiative funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

Jacqueline is currently working at Shepherd's Center Central, with their newly created Caregiver Institute, which will respond to the special concerns of caregivers for older adults through the Caregiver Supportline. The Caregiver Institute seeks to partner with faith communities, businesses and community organizations to provide resources, education and support for family caregivers. Jacqueline is a member of Village Presbyterian Church and has served as a Stephen Minister and Leader. Jacqueline also has a personal understanding of caregiving, experiencing both the rewards and challenges of family caregiving.



SESSION IV

Susan Vann, MSW

Susan grew up in Richmond, Virginia. She graduated from Virginia Union University in 1964 with a degree in sociology. She received a Master of Social Work degree (with a focus on health) from Virginia Commonwealth University in 1981. Both schools are in Richmond, Virginia. She is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker with 22 years of experience in medical social work. For seven years she has worked at Roper Hospital in Charleston, South Carolina, and following a move to Kansas City, continued her career at Truman Medical Center for another 15 years. In addition to assisting patients and their families with discharge planning, Susan provided support and counseling around issues of illness, education about advance directives, and connected them with appropriate community resources. Susan retired from her position at TMC in December of 2011.

Susan has been an elder and active member at Second Church since 1997, having served as Moderator of Deacons, and shared her gifts on various committees.



SESSION V

Larry Bingham, Attorney at Law

Larry received his undergraduate degree from K State and his law degree from the University of Michigan with distinction. His expertise is in estate planning and has practiced law in downtown KC for over 45 years. For nine of those years he was with the Dietrich Davis firm (former mayor Ilus Davis who was also a partner with Hubert Rowlands, a long-time member of Second). Larry started a new firm, Siegfried Bingham in 1974 with three other attorneys. Today, Seigfreid, Bingham, Levy, Selzer & Gee employs over 40 attorneys and approximately 50 staff members. Their primary focus has been with closely held businesses, including many family businesses, and estate planning.

Larry is actively involved at St. Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church. He has served on the national, diocesan and parish level. His primary ministry has been Education for Ministry (EFM) in which he has been engaged for over 24 years leading numerous small groups who are interested in learning more about the disciplines of biblical exegesis and interpretation, systematic theology, church history, ethics, etc. The primary focus of the program is on life as ministry and what that really means. Larry has served on the Board of Directors of Bishop Spencer Place; Board of Directors, the Kansas City Heart Foundation; The Missouri and Kansas Super Lawyers; and listed as one of the Best Lawyers in America, Health Care, and Trusts & Estates.

SESSION VI

Bill Tammeus



Bill is the former Faith section columnist for the Kansas City Star. He started in 1970 as a reporter, spent nearly 27 years on the paper's editorial page and then moved his column to the weekly Faith section in March of 2004. He took formal retirement in mid-2006 but continued as Faith section columnist on a freelance basis until mid-November 2008. In addition to his daily blog, Faith Matters, Bill writes a monthly column for The Presbyterian Outlook and a biweekly column for the online edition of the National Catholic Reporter.

Bill is a graduate of the University of Missouri School of Journalism. Bill has received numerous awards including several from the National Society of Newspaper Columnists, the American Academy of Religion, the David Steele Distinguished Writer Award from the Presbyterian Writers Guild in 2003, and is the author of *A Gift of Meaning*, published by the University of Missouri Press in 2001, and co-authored *They Were Just People: Stories of Rescue in Poland During the Holocaust*, published in September 2009 by the University of Missouri Press. He is also the author of *Visitation: Celebrating a Century of Faith*, published by a division of Kansas City Star books.

Bill has continued to be actively involved as an elder at Second Presbyterian Church, including the AIDS Ministry, the Pastor Nominating Committee, other church committees, and just completed chairing a strategic planning committee. He is past president of the National Society of Newspaper Columnists, serves on the board of directors of KC Hospice and Palliative Care and the MAX (MutualAid eXchange) Insurance Company.