SESSION #2 (5:15-6:15pm)

When Sexual Violence Happens in the Church: A Guide to Ethical Responses
What do churches do when a survivor reveals they have been sexually abused or assaulted by a member or leader of the congregation? How would a survivor know how to make the report in the first place? Who processes the report? What does that process entail? At what point is information about the process shared with the rest of the congregation? What kind of responsibility does the congregation have to hold a perpetrator accountable? And, what actually counts as accountability in such a case? This break-out session will offer a basic structure for developing practical, survivor-centered processes for receiving and responding to reports of sexual violence in the church, and it will suggest resources for continuing to develop such processes in participants’ home churches.

Facilitator:
Hilary J. Scarsella: Director of Theological Integrity of Into Account; PhD student in Theological Studies at Vanderbilt University (Pronouns: she/her/hers)

(Re)Claiming the Bible to Fuel Our Liberation
This workshop will empower and equip participants with the creative imagination to use the Bible, our lived experience, and our personal faith as tools for fueling radical love and liberation. Inspired by Queer, Womanist, Black Feminist, and Liberation theologies, we will center the needs of the most marginalized and utilize the expertise of our personal and communal experiences. This workshop will explore practical resources, build our confidence, and (re)claim faithful frameworks and biblical stories, for ourselves, our communities, and our work.

Facilitator:
Lyndsey Goodwin: Assistant Director of the Carpenter Program in Religion, Gender, and Sexuality--Vanderbilt Divinity School (Pronouns: she/her/hers)

Reproductive Justice and Faith: An Introduction
Faithful folks have been working for sexual and reproductive freedom since humanity’s inception, but often we’re taught to believe that Christianity and reproductive freedom don’t mix. While we are all impacted by reproductive oppression, folks of color disproportionately bear the impact of these injustices. Out of this reality has come the framework of Reproductive Justice. First defined by black women and developed by indigenous women and women of color, RJ is distinct from reproductive rights and health. This interactive workshop will help participants connect the Reproductive Justice framework to faithfulness, scripture, and pastoral care and together we’ll explore tools and resources for pastorally and prophetically supporting the work of reproductive rights, health, and justice.

Facilitator:
Latishia James: Assistant Director for Prevention and Response at Spelman College; Owner of Empathic Solutions, a consulting practice for supporting the recovery of survivors of spiritual abuse and power-based violence (Pronouns: she/her/hers)