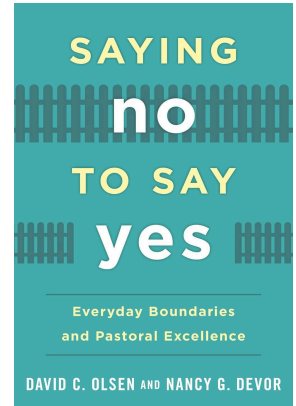




# Northern NY Presbytery Retreat & Stated Meeting

September 5-7, 2024 @ [Saranac Village](#) on Upper Saranac Lake

The Presbytery of Northern New York invites you all minister members, elder commissioners and committee members to participate in one of both of the following gatherings:



## [1] Pre-Retreat Workshop & Boundary Awareness Training for Pastors [Required], Church Leaders and COM/Council members

Thursday 9/5 [6pm dinner] to Friday 9/6 [mid afternoon].

During this portion, The Rev. Dr. Jim Fenimore from the Samaritan Counseling Center of the Capital Region will lead an **engaging workshop** on Leading Through Conflict and **Boundary Awareness Training** based on the book "Saying No to Say Yes: Everyday Boundaries and Pastoral Excellence." While required for all pastors/preachers, it is highly beneficial for church leaders as well, since boundary keeping requires mutual understanding to be most effective.



## [2] All Presbytery Retreat & Stated Meeting - Friday 9/6 [6pm dinner] to Saturday 9/7 [lunch]

The Friday evening program will include a workshop led by Rev. Rose Niles entitled "Creating a Culture of Generosity." She will also be preaching for our Stated Meeting and sharing about a variety of resources the Foundation has to support all churches.

**COST:** The cost for three meals and overnight accommodations [think "high end rustic"] lodges is **\$100 per day**. For those who may commute from home, the cost, including meals, is \$35 per day. Saturday only is \$15 [\$25 with breakfast]. Please do not let funding keep you from attending. Limited assistance has been made available by the Coordinating Council for any who may require it to attend.

**TO REGISTER:** please click [HERE](#) and fill out the Google Form to indicate your participation.

**Questions:** Contact Tara Atherton [[StatedClerkTara@gmail.com](mailto:StatedClerkTara@gmail.com)] or David Bennett [[PresbyDavid@gmail.com](mailto:PresbyDavid@gmail.com)].

### Pre-Retreat Schedule:

#### Thursday 9/8

- 6:00pm Registration & Dinner
- 7-8:30pm: "Leading Through Conflict" with Rev. Dr. Jim Fenimore

#### Friday 9/9

- 8:00am Breakfast
- 9:30-11:30am Boundary Training Pt 1
- 12-1pm Lunch
- 1-2pm Boundary Training Pt 2
- 2-6pm Free Time/Personal Retreat

### Retreat & Meeting Schedule:

#### Friday 9/9

- 6:00pm Dinner & Registration
- 7-8:30pm Opening Worship & "Creating a Culture of Generosity" Workshop with Rev. Dr. Rose Niles

#### Saturday 9/10

- 9am Breakfast
- 10am Worship & Stated Meeting
- 12:30-1:30pm Lunch and Departure

## Guest Presenters During the Retreat

### **Thursday Evening & Friday Morning:**

#### ***Effective Strategies for Leading through Conflict: A Case Study of the Power of a Small Group.***

This case study of a Presbyterian Church in NY illustrates from a systems perspective how a small group of individuals can undermine and the damage the ministry of an effective pastor. Through triangling and the building of alliances, false narratives dominate and influence congregational perspective. We will discuss the ways this operates in a system and more importantly what we can do to combat them.

#### ***Boundary Awareness Training***

This training relies heavily on the excellent book by David Olsen & Nancy Devor "Saying No to Say Yes: Everyday Boundaries and Pastoral Excellence." **For pastors and preachers, this training is REQUIRED.** Participants are asked to secure a copy and read the book ahead of time. Although required for pastors/preachers, it is also helpful for all church leaders to understand the concepts and application of this training as good boundary keeping requires leaders who support pastors in setting them. Pastors/preachers, please bring a key leader or two from your church!



**Rev. Dr. Jim Fenimore** is both a Marriage and Family Therapist and the Director of Clergy and Congregational Care at the Samaritan Counseling Center of the Capital Region. Jim works with individuals, couples and families and focuses both on the health of the individuals and the relationships that form us. His experience as a pastor provides a strong understanding of how spirituality is an essential part of who we are, however that spirituality is expressed.

He also works with churches and clergy by providing congregational assessments, interventions, process development, training and coaching for clergy and congregations. He works in situations of conflict, healthy congregations seeking to grow and everything in between.

Jim is an ordained Elder in The United Methodist Church and a member of The Upper New York Annual Conference. He is a graduate of The University of Vermont, Drew University, and Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute where he received a Ph.D. in Science and Technology studying congregations' adoption of visual technologies. Jim is also a graduate of Iona College with a MS in Marriage and Family Therapy. Jim has extensive training in Bowen Family Systems through the Lombard Mennonite Peace Center and the Bowen Center for the Study of the Family.

### **Friday Evening & Saturday Morning:**

#### ***Creating a Culture of Generosity***

This workshop is designed to help pastors and key leaders change the conversation about stewardship and create a year-round consciousness of the church's mission within the congregation. It explains how generosity is about mission-impact focused story-telling and letting congregations see how their giving can move the mission of Christ forward. Participants receive concrete examples of ways to stimulate both short-term and long-term giving; As well as key resources to build a robust generosity program.



**Rev. Dr. Rose Niles** is a Ministry Relations Officer for the Presbyterian Foundation serving the Northeast Region. She works with congregations to create a culture of generosity, offers seminars and workshops, develops gifts and fundraising plans for ministries, and provides coaching to finance, stewardship and endowment committees.

Prior to joining the Foundation, Rose served as Development Officer at Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary. She also served with the Committee of Theological Education for almost seven years as Associate for Theological Education and Seminary Relations. She served as pastor to congregations in the New York area and in Louisville. A life-long Presbyterian reared in the Bronx, Rose served as the Vice Moderator of the Synod of the Northeast at a young age. Later, as a young pastor, she served as the Moderator of the Synod. During her time at New York

Theological Seminary she taught in multiple programs, supervised DMin projects, and taught in their master's program in Sing-Sing maximum security prison.

A graduate of the Bronx High School of Science, Rose has degrees from Harvard University and New York Theological Seminary.