

A prayer of sending

Lord, make us instruments of Your peace.
Where there is hatred, let us sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy.

O, Divine Master, grant that we may not so much
seek to be consoled as to console;
to be understood as to understand;
to be loved as to love;
For it is in giving that we receive;
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;
it is in dying that we are born again to eternal life.

- Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi

Cross-Expression
Development Day

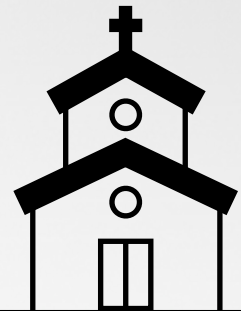
November 3, 2016
9:30-3:40

Sharing the Gospel with the 'Nones'

Sharing the Gospel with the Spiritual But Not Religious:

How will we continue to engage unbelievers in the message of Christ over the coming decades?

with Linda Mercadante



EVENT SCHEDULE

- 9:30 Welcome & Matt's Story
- 10:00 **SESSION 1**
Linda Mercadante
The **Spiritual But Not Religious** (SBNR) within the religious landscape of Canada and North America
- 11:00 Table Questions & Conversation
- 11:20 Open Q and A
- with Linda Mercadante
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- 11:40 - 12:25 *Lunch*
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- 12:30 **SESSION 2**
Linda Mercadante
What does the SBNR community believe?
- 1:30 Table Conversations – Does our Gospel connect?
- 1:50 **SESSION 3**
Linda Mercadante
How can we be Good News to the SBNR community?
- 3:05 Open Q and A with Linda Mercadante
– How do we engage the imaginations of this community?
- 3:30 At tables: Takeaway and Prayer
- 3:40 Dismissal

SESSION THREE

Linda Mercadante
How can we be Good News to the SBNR Community?

Notes.....

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TABLE CONVERSATION

- Does our Gospel connect?

We've just explored the social, political and theological beliefs of the SBNR community. Take a few minutes to process together the 'Gospel' we proclaim.

- List aspects of our Good News on paper at your tables. Compare and contrast our Good News to the social, political and theological values and beliefs of the SBNR Community.

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- What does our understanding of the Gospel affirm and what aspects of the Gospel challenge the beliefs of the SBNR Community?

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- What could we do differently? How could we nuance our message? Or what changes could we consider if we were to better contextualize the Gospel to this community?

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- What do you think church would need to look like, sound like, or organize like in order to better engage the SBNR community?

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SESSION ONE

Linda Mercadante

The Spiritual But Not Religious (SBNR) within the religious landscape of Canada and North America

Notes.....

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TABLE QUESTIONS & CONVERSATION

Do you know any self-identified SBNR? Why do they identify as that?

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Were there any surprises for you about the Canadian religious landscape?

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Which of the 5 types of SBNR do you find in your local community or in Canada at large?

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Why do you think the Church (in Canada) is not connecting with the SBNR community in terms of church attendance or engagement?

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SESSION TWO

Linda Mercadante

What does the SBNR community believe?

- Exploring the Social and Political values of the SBNR community.
- Exploring the Theological and Spiritual beliefs of the SBNR community.

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