

# 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Tri-Conference Disability Ministry Conference

“Yes WE Can”

Saturday, March 28, 2015



Co-Hosted by Disability Committees of Peninsula-Delaware, Eastern Pennsylvania, & Greater New Jersey  
Conferences of the United Methodist Church

At Cornerstone UMC, Bear, DE

9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Updated information will be available at [www.pen-del.org](http://www.pen-del.org)  
(Under “Ministries” tab, select Disability Ministries)

**Keynote speaker:** *Travis Freeman* - author of the book “*Lights Out*” and movie “*23Blast*”; Bachelor’s degree in Business Administration from the University of Kentucky, M. Div. and Ph.D from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

**EARN  
C.E.U. ‘S**

## **Workshops include:**

- *The ABC’s of Bringing Out the Best in Children with ADHD*
- *People with Disabilities in Mission and Ministry with People with Disabilities – Internationally*
- *Worship Related Inclusion*
- *Camping with Individuals with Special Needs*
- *Dispelling the Last Taboo: Involving Persons Living with Mental Illness in the Life and Ministry of the Church*
- *Heart to Heart with Travis Freeman: Lights Out*
- *Disability Ministry 101: What it is and What it isn’t (includes panel of disability Connection Award winners)*
- *Caring Hearts: An outreach using the Arts*

**Cost: \$20 before 3/10/15**

**\$30 after 3/10/15**

**(registration includes lunch)**

For more information,  
contact Rev. Rebecca Collison at [pastorbecky@gmail.com](mailto:pastorbecky@gmail.com)

### Schedule:

8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. Registration

9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Worship/Keynote

10:45a.m. – 11:45 a.m. Session 1

12 noon – 1 p.m. Lunch & networking

1:15 p.m. – 2:15 p.m. Session 2

2:30 – 3:00 Closing Worship

**REGISTRATION FORM**

**For MAIL IN REGISTRATION,**

please fill in the information below and mail this form and your payment to

**Rev. Rebecca Collison, c/o Wesley UMC, 102 E. Laurel St., Georgetown, DE 19947.**

Be sure to make checks payable to Pen Del Conference , and in memo, disability 2015.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Church \_\_\_\_\_ Conference \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Best Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Check if CEU'S REQUESTED \_\_\_\_\_  
*(must attend all day)*

Accommodations needed (select one) Yes/ No If yes, please specify on line below :

\_\_\_\_\_

Dietary concerns/restrictions \_\_\_\_\_

**WORKSHOP REGISTRATION.**

**WRITE THE NUMBER OF YOUR WORKSHOP CHOICE IN SPACE PROVIDED BELOW**

Choose one AM Workshop Workshop choice \_\_\_\_\_

Workshop #1. Caring Hearts: Outreach through the Arts

Workshop #2. The ABC's of Bringing Out the Best in Children with ADHD

Workshop #3: Dispelling the Last Taboo: Involving Persons Living with Mental  
Illness in the Life and Ministry of the Church

Workshop#4 : Disability Ministry 101: What it is and how it can work

Chose one PM Workshop Workshop choice \_\_\_\_\_

Workshop #5. Worship-Related Inclusion

Workshop #6. From Special Needs to Summer Respite: Meeting needs of all through Camping

Workshop #7: People with Disabilities in Mission and Ministry with People with Disabilities – Internationally

Workshop #8. Heart to Heart with Travis Freeman – "Lights Out"

## Keynote Speaker

Travis Freeman ([www.travisfreeman.org](http://www.travisfreeman.org)) says, ““Disability does not equal inability,” Travis says. Disabled people can do anything they want to in life.” When illness completely stole Travis Freeman’s sight at 12 years old – a year after accepting Christ in his life - his passion and desire to play football seemed to fall dead. However, the unshakable kid found a way to overcome the impossible and not only play football, but become a champion. In October 2014 , Travis tells his own life story in the book *LIGHTS OUT* (BelieversPress) releasing alongside the major motion picture 23 BLAST.

## Break out sessions

### **Workshop #1. Caring hearts: Outreach through the Arts**

The Salvation Army's Developmental Disabilities Program (DDP) has been supporting people with disabilities since 1980. Today, DDP provides residential supports to nearly 100 people in eastern Pennsylvania and the State of Delaware and has assisted hundreds to find meaningful work and/or participate in community life. The residents of The Salvation Army Developmental Disabilities Community Options Program create beautiful art! Our program is dedicated to helping individuals with developmental disabilities become an integral part of their community.

Workshop Leader: Christy Cugno, Program Director of Delaware’s Supported Employment/Community Options Program. She is a tireless advocate, dedicated and committed to the program, which has had a number of participants receive awards, including, most recently, the prestigious Governor’s Award for “Employee of the Year”, in both 2006 and 2007.

### **Workshop #2: The ABC’s of Bringing Out the Best in Children with ADHD**

How do you respond to the child whose attention span seems almost non-existent and who struggles to sit still for more than a few minutes at a time? How can you share Christ’s love when your patience is about exhausted? Come learn more about:

--How to help children struggling with ADHD.

--Fact from myth about ADHD.

--What children with ADHD need you to understand about their lives so you can better meet their needs.

--Practical tips for helping children with ADHD to learn and be successful in your ministry setting.

Workshop Leader: Tara Kelley - Handi\*Vangelism Ministries International.

### **Workshop #3. Dispelling the Last Taboo: Involving Persons Living with Mental Illness in the Life and Ministry of the Church.**

Stigma and lack of understanding can sometimes prevent congregations from recognizing, honoring and using the gifts and graces of persons living with mental illness. This workshop will share programs to promote understanding and to involve persons (and families) living with mental illnesses in the ministry of the church.

Workshop Leader: Rev. Dr. Colleen G. Kristula, DMIN BCC. Chaplain, Diakon Lutheran Social Services: The Lutheran Home at Topton

### **Workshop #4. Disability Ministry 101**

While many people believe they understand what a disability is, some misunderstand ministry with disabled people as “us” helping “those” poor people. This workshop will address the basics of what a disability is, and how ministry to and with people with disabilities is about education, engagement, equipping, and empowering. A panel of “what works” will be offered by past recipients of Peninsula Delaware’s disAbility Connection Award.

Workshop Leaders: Rev. Rebecca Collison, Rev. Ruthann Simpson, members of the Pen Del Disability Ministries Committee, and disAbility award winners.

### **Workshop #5. Worship-Related Inclusion – Where do People with Intellectual Disabilities fit in the Church?**

There are many benefits from the corporate worship experiences within the local church. But what about people with Intellectual and Developmental disabilities? Where do they fit in? In this workshop we will look at practical steps to help you think through the obstacles that prevent inclusive corporate worship and practical ways that churches can benefit from the gifts and participation of all people. You will learn about:

- Practical ways to include people with disabilities in worship experiences.
- How to deal with awkward situations, and
- The benefits and joys of full participation in the body of Christ.

Workshop Leader: Milt Stoltzfus – Milt presently serves as the Coordinator of Spiritual Nurture and Community Life for Friendship community, which is a Lancaster County based provider of residential and support services for people with developmental and intellectual disabilities Milt is the chair of the Lancaster Christian Council on Disabilities, and a board member of Anabaptist Disabilities Network.

### **Workshop #6 . From Special Needs to Summer Respite – how summer camp changes to serve people with disabilities.**

Pecometh Camp & Retreat Ministries partners with over 400 churches of the Peninsula Delaware Conference of the United Methodist Church to provide camps, retreats, and outdoor programs to persons of all ages and from all walks of life. Pecometh has operated continuously since 1946 on the Chester River near Centreville, MD. The camp has grown and changed over the years to include meeting the needs of campers with special needs through special sessions and accommodations.

Workshop Leader: Camp Pecometh staff and volunteers

### **Workshop #7. People with Disabilities in Mission and Ministry with People with disabilities --- internationally.**

Join us to learn about international missions trips involving PWD in mission with PWD in Kenya, Zimbabwe, and Jamaica. Are you being called to share your unique gifts in international mission? Come and learn how to lead a mission team

Workshop Leader: Carol Stevens – Carol has worked in the Deaf community for over 50 years as an interpreter, counselor, and director of the Deaf Shalom Zone of Christ Church of the Deaf in Baltimore, and currently as the Deaf Ministry Area Coordinator for the Peninsula-Delaware Conference U.M.C. She has led over 100 people on 17 International Deaf and Disability mission teams to Kenya, Zimbabwe and Jamaica.

### **Workshop #8. Heart to Heart with Travis Freeman : “Lights Out”**

This workshop will discuss ways that churches can assist people with disabilities without being offensive to them. It will focus both on life inside and outside the church. Also discussed will be many of the do’s and don’ts of engaging a person who has a disability.

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Workshop Leader: Dr. Travis Freeman. Travis’ life story of a blind football player caught the attention of the national media, spawning interviews with Dateline and TODAY. He went on to serve as the equipment manager for the University of Kentucky football team as he earned his bachelor’s degree and went on to earn his doctorate from The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. He is founder of the Freeman Foundation.