

Staffers-in-Training *Virtual Event*

Hosted by Hinton Rural Life Center
Saturday, January 16, 2021

For High School Juniors and Seniors and College Freshmen and Sophomores

Join us for our third Staffers-in-Training (SIT) weekend – virtually!

We're looking for high school juniors/seniors and college freshmen/sophomores who are interested in serving others through missions or in leadership roles. Traditionally, students who participate in summer missions are encouraged to attend our SIT event, but this year we're being creative and trying something new! In fact, there is no requirement that a student have been to Hinton Center previously.

A promotional poster for the Virtual Staffers-in-Training (SIT) Event. The background is a scenic view of rolling mountains under a soft, hazy sky. The text is overlaid on a semi-transparent dark blue box. The title 'Virtual Staffers-in-Training (SIT) Event' is at the top. Below it, the date 'Saturday, January 16, 2021' is listed, followed by '(with optional activities Fri evening/Sat afternoon)'. The next line describes it as a 'Leadership development event for high school juniors & seniors and college freshmen & sophomores'. A paragraph follows: 'Includes breakout sessions, hands-on activities, interactive worship, and more! Participants will receive a "treasure box" full of goodies for the event.' Below that, it says 'Featuring keynote by Nora Stanger, author of *Diamonds in the Dew*'. At the bottom left is the website 'www.hintoncenter.org/training'. At the bottom right is the Hinton Center logo, which includes a small image of a chair and the text 'HINTON CENTER Cultivating Hope'.

We're extremely excited to announce that Nora Stanger, author of *Diamonds in the Dew*, will be our keynote speaker. "This book changed the way I approach ministry," Rev. Dawn Livingston, Director of Program Ministries, shared. "It's a powerful reflection of the struggle of poverty in Appalachia, but also the rich beauty."

We're carrying the theme from missions 2020 of "Treasured" to our SIT event. The theme came from another one of our staff

reading Stanger's book. With the pandemic and our new way of life, it's important for leaders to have good self-care practices. It's also important for each of us to remember the scripture from 2 Corinthians 4:6-9:

God said that light should shine out of the darkness. He is the same one who shone in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of God's glory in the face of Jesus Christ. But we have this treasure in clay pots so that the awesome power belongs to God and doesn't come from us. We are experiencing all kinds of trouble, but we aren't crushed. We are confused, but we aren't depressed. We are harassed, but we aren't abandoned. We are knocked down, but we aren't knocked out.

We know how much screen time all of us are experiencing right now... but we also know this event is important and we're finding innovative ways to keep it relevant and engaging. Each participant will receive a "treasure box" of goodies for the event.

More details, virtual event schedule, and registration info on next page!

Tentative schedule:

Friday, January 15 [OPTIONAL]

7-9 pm -- includes Appalachian Culture Night

Saturday, January 16

Sessions include a variety of activities and breaks, such as: breakout sessions, keynote by Nora Stanger, interactive worship, and more!

9 am - optional prayer

9:30am - 12:15 pm

1:30 - 4 pm

7 - 9 pm

Sunday, January 17 [OPTIONAL]

12 - 2 pm - includes creative worship experience and additional breakout session

Prior participants agree that the SIT event has been transformational for them. Jenny shared that she would attend virtually because, "every year I receive new messages and new inspiration to become a leader. The things you learn about yourself are life changing and create a lifetime of leadership in anything you do." Sydney reflected that participants should "keep an open mind; you have no idea what God has planned for you."

There is NO cost to this event, thanks to a grant through the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry Young Clergy Initiative of The United Methodist Church

We're encouraging adults to nominate students to participate. You may do so by visiting <https://forms.gle/LfGTBYoWQv1tCk368>.

If you're a student who would like to attend, you may "nominate" yourself by visiting <https://forms.gle/fkK8i16udCsewz1Y9>.

Student applications are due early December, but we encourage folks not to wait, as we have limited spaces available. Contact dawn@hintoncenter.org for more info!



Hinton Rural Life Center is an agency of the Southeastern Jurisdiction of The United Methodist Church.