



January 2024 Newsletter

Build up Your Social Justice Ministry

The Center for Lived Faith and Organizing teaches people from congregations and communities to engage deeply in building power and transforming the world by rooting social justice action in Christian theology and faith.



“The Lord said to me, ‘you are in community, but are you impacting the community?’”

- Bishop Jerel Davis, CLFO Certificate Holder

The Center for Lived Faith and Organizing, students, instructors, and administrators are constantly looking for ways to live our faith. One way that undoubtedly deepens our faith and brings more justice into the world is by engaging in our communities in ways that are personal and meaningful to us. **CLFO strives to provide real and actionable guidance as we take this journey together.**

[Learn More](#)

Register for Our February 2 Workshop

Building Local Power

This module is an opportunity to take a deep dive into the foundations of faith-based community organizing. You will learn about an interfaith organizing model that prioritizes the grass-roots in decision making, approaches community problems from a local perspective, builds relational power with diverse groups of people through one-one meetings at the kitchen table, and brings together 1,000-2,000 people for direct action public assemblies. We invite you to engage in meaningful conversations about our spiritual traditions' deep roots in justice theologies and practice. We aspire for you to walk away with the practical skills you need to engage your own local community in a fight for justice.

We hope you can join us on February 2!



[Learn More & Register](#)

Upcoming Workshops

Organizing Eco-Justice Transformations

Sat. March 2, 2024, 8:00-1:00PM (CT)

Instructors:

- Leah Clyburn
- Avery Davis Lamb

[Register](#)

Disrupting White Christian Nationalism: Cultural Roots to Election Outcomes

May 3, 2024, Friday, 12-5 PM (CT)

Instructors:

- Rev. Tracy Howe
- Rev. Dr. Marilyn Pagán Banks

[Register](#)

Instructor Spotlight: Shanae' Calhoun



Shanae' Calhoun- Elder, Physician; Associate Community Organizer at FAITH in Daytona Beach, FL

Shanae' Calhoun is a community organizer, elder of her local church, wife to Michael Calhoun, and mother to their three teenage and young adult girls. She started her career as a congregation-based community organizer with four years as an Associate community organizer at FAITH in Daytona Beach, FL where they challenged the local hospital to hire a full time physician for indigent care patients. Then she spent almost 10 years (from 2013 to 2022) as the Executive Director and Lead community organizer of

Topeka JUMP in Topeka, KS where they challenged the city council and county commission by regularly turning out roughly 1000 people to direct actions to shift the public agenda and prioritize affordable housing, mental health, and rides to work. Today she is a consultant and coach to organizers on the ground fighting for justice. Shanae' remains committed to local communities building power for justice because it is her deepest expression for living the gospel out loud.

The Center for Lived and Organizing is a partnership between Eden Theological Seminary **and the** United Church of Christ Justice & Local Church Ministries **with a generous grant from the** Fetzer Institute.



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