

February 20-22, 2025
Alexandria, VA

BUILDING FOR
Hope

**GATHERING 1:
DISCOVERY**

buildingforhope.org

Thursday, February 20

Noon: Lunch Available

OTCC Blue Room

1:00 pm: Welcome and Introductions

OTCC Sanctuary

2:00 pm: Worship

2:45 pm: Break

3:15 pm: First Plenary Session

OTCC Sanctuary

Two Images—Phillip Faig

Leadership in a Time of Change—Margaret Grun Kibben

4:30 pm: Break

**6:00 pm: Dinner & Good Futures Accelerator
Connection**

OTCC Blue Room

7:30 pm: Optional Excursions: D.C. or Old Town

B4H

Day 1 Speakers



PHILLIP FAIG

**Program Director,
Building for Hope**

Dr. Phillip Faig has led Old Town Community Church since 2015 and prior to that served congregations in Richmond, Minnesota, and Arlington, Virginia. During his time at OTCC, the building has gone from being primarily empty during the week to being a place where people in the community finds healing and purpose every day of the week, regardless of whether they are part of the Sunday morning worshipping community.

Dr. Faig earned a Doctor of Ministry in Semiotics, Church and Culture from Portland Seminary, a Master of Divinity from Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond, and a Bachelor of Science from James Madison University.



MARGARET GRUN KIBBEN

**Chaplain, U.S. House of Representatives
Read Admiral, U.S. Navy (Retired)**

Chaplain Margaret Grun Kibben was elected by the House and sworn in as the 62nd Chaplain of the United States House of Representatives on January 3, 2021. Chaplain Kibben is an ordained Presbyterian Minister (PCUSA) and served more than thirty years as a chaplain in the U.S. Navy, completing her career as the U.S. Navy's 26th Chief of Chaplains, and previously the 18th Chaplain of the Marine Corps. Her military service comprises a variety of both Navy and Marine Corps assignments where she served ashore, at sea, and abroad, to include a combat tour in Afghanistan.

Dr. Kibben is a graduate of Goucher College in Towson, Maryland. She received both her Master of Divinity and her Doctor of Ministry from Princeton Theological Seminary in Princeton, New Jersey. She served as a Fellow at the United States Institute of Peace and holds a master's degree in National Security and Strategic Studies from the Naval War College in Washington, DC.

Friday, February 21

8:00-8:45 am: Breakfast Available

OTCC Blue Room

9:00 am: Worship & Team Connection

OTCC Sanctuary

10:15 am: Break

10:30 am: Second Plenary Session

OTCC Sanctuary

Coaching Connections—Matt Cook

Build It & They Will (not always) Come—Justine Post

Noon: Lunch Available

OTCC Blue Room

**1:00 pm: Depart OTCC for Field Experience at
Arlington Presbyterian Church**

4:30 pm: Return to the Heron

6:00-7:30: Dinner and Networking

OTCC Blue Room

**7:30-9:00: Optional Excursion to Port City Brewing
Company**

Discovery

Day 2 Speakers



MATT COOK

**Director,
Center for Healthy Churches**

Dr. Matt Cook serves as the Director of the Center for Healthy Churches, bringing over thirty years of experience from his tenure in local congregations, with two decades spent as a Senior Pastor in churches spanning Texas, Arkansas, and North Carolina.

Widely recognized as a sought-after preacher, teacher, and workshop leader, Matt extends his expertise across the country and in various denominational settings. Beyond his role at the Center, he has served as an interim pastor in numerous congregations nationwide.

Matt's academic journey includes earning a bachelor's degree from Samford University and completing both his M.Div. and Ph.D. in Church History at Baylor University. He has shared his knowledge on the undergraduate, master's, and doctoral levels at institutions such as Belmont University, Baylor University's Truett Seminary, and Central Baptist Theological Seminary.



JUSTINE POST

**Program Director,
Rural Advancement Foundation International's
Come to the Table Program**

Justine has worked at the intersection of social justice, food ministries, and local agriculture since 2016. She seeks to serve faith communities and non-profits throughout rural North Carolina by providing resources, tools, and peer connections to increase their capacity. Justine holds a Master of Social Work from UNC-Chapel Hill and a Master of Divinity from Duke Divinity School.

Saturday, February 22

8:00-8:45 am: Breakfast Available

OTCC Blue Room

9:00-9:30 am: Worship and Team Connection

OTCC Blue Room

9:30-10:00 am: Third Plenary Session

OTCC Blue Room

Good Futures Accelerator—Brian Hoysa

Together We Bake—Colida Johnson

10:00-11:15 am: Team Reporting

11:15-11:45 am: Holy Communion

11:45 am: Benediction

Noon: Box Lunch Available

Next Gathering Dates

May 15-17, 2025

Day 3 Speakers



BRIAN HOYSA

***Program Convener,
Building for Hope***

Rev. Brian Hoysa has hope for the future of the church based on his experiences in ministry and he believes there are many stories of promise that we'll uncover through Building for Hope. Serving as associate pastor of Old Town Community Church since 2016, he has focused on bridging the church with the community by collaborating with nonprofits and others in the faith community. In his role, he helps channel congregational energy to discern and serve the needs of the community.

Rev. Hoysa earned a Master of Divinity from Duke Divinity School and a Bachelor of Arts in religious studies and classics from William and Mary.



COLIDA JOHNSON

***Director of Program and Production,
Together We Bake***

Colida works for Together We Bake, a non-profit that provides a comprehensive workforce training and personal development program to help women facing barriers to employment gain self-confidence, transferable workforce skills, and invaluable hands-on experience, which allows them to find sustainable employment and move toward self-sufficiency.

Together We Bake and Old Town Community Church have worked under the same roof since Together We Bake started 12 years ago. Colida's work has made a profound impact on the lives of countless women in Alexandria.

Worship Leader



ERIC SCHNEIDERHAN

Worship Arts and Engagement Pastor
Old Town Community Church

Rev. Eric Schneiderhan has been serving as the Pastor for Worship and Engagement at Old Town Community church since August 2023. Eric pursues a vision of Church that expands beyond the boundaries of a building, bridges divides, and actively participates in the restoration of God's kingdom. Before becoming OTCC's Pastor for Worship and Engagement, Eric served as Student Pastor at First Baptist Church, Alexandria, VA; as Pastor of Discipleship and Youth at the Evangelical Baptist Church of Geneva in Geneva, Switzerland; and as Minister to Students, Director of Student Ministries, and preschool music teacher at Columbia Baptist Church in Falls Church, VA.

Eric earned his Master of Divinity from the John Leland Center for Theological Studies and a Bachelor's degree in music education from Penn State University.