

Winter Theological Conference

Words of Wonder:

Using Writing to Nurture our Relationships with the Bible, our Congregations, and God.

SESSION ONE: Questions, Doubts, Dreams and Epiphanies: Writing Our Way into Deeper Understanding of Our Faith Journeys.

This session will give us time to take stock of where there we are right now in terms of our own relationship to God. Pastors are sometimes not permitted the space or grace for their own doubts or fears; similarly, we might feel awkward about admitting a new closeness to God or an epiphany moment.

SESSION TWO: The Voice of "We" in Liturgy

In this session we'll explore ways to use the voices of congregants within liturgy. Participants will get the chance to practice a congregational writing exercise for use in Advent or Lent and will have the chance to develop their own writing prompt or exercise for use in their home church.

SESSION THREE: Who Do You Say That I Am?: Using Writing to Imagine our Way into the Bible

One way to deepen our relationship with scripture is to truly imagine our way into it. In this session, we'll look at a few examples of writers who have imagined their way into Biblical moments and characters.

In addition to worship and sessions with Kaethe, you will have time for relaxing by the fire, x-country skiing or snowshoeing, hiking, warming up in the new FLBC sauna, and great food! Come join us for a wonderful educational get-away!

January 29-31, 2024

- Registration from 2-3 pm on Monday, January 29.
- First session starts at 3pm on Jan 29
- Concludes Wednesday, January 31st with an early continental breakfast

Cost: \$265

*Sorry no partial rates for partial attendance

Registration Deadline: January 15, 2024

Register through NRIT on the Montana Synod website:

www.montanasynod.org/nrit.html



Kaethe Schwehn is the author of the post-apocalyptic novel *The Rending and the Nest*, the poetry collection *Tanka & Me*, and a memoir, *Tailings*.

Her poems and prose can be found in journals such as *Crazyhorse*, *Pleiades*, *jubilat*, *Witness*, *Minnesota Review*, and the anthology *Fiction on a Stick*. She has been the recipient of a Minnesota Book Award for Creative Nonfiction, a Minnesota State Arts Board Grant, a Loft Mentor Series Award, the Donald Justice Poetry Prize, and a Best of the Net Anthology award. Schwehn studied creative writing at the Iowa Writers' Workshop and the University of Montana and earned a B.A. from Gustavus Adolphus College.

She currently teaches composition and creative writing at St. Olaf College.

