



# CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS AND SESSIONS

## FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6

All times Mountain Standard Time

Workshop 1 .....	<a href="#">Asylum Accompaniment</a> .....	12:00–1:00pm
Workshop 2 .....	<a href="#">Self-Care and Resilience</a> .....	1:30–3:00pm
Workshop 3 .....	<a href="#">Building Resilience</a> .....	1:30–3:00pm
Workshop 4 .....	<a href="#">What’s the Next Step? To Love Your Neighbor</a> .....	3:30–4:30pm
Welcome & Session 1 .....	<a href="#">From the Hostility of the Reign of this World</a> .....	5:00–6:30pm
	to the Hospitality of the Reign of God	
Evening Worship .....	Pasos de Fe y Esperanza, Ciudad Juárez.....	6:45pm
	Pbro. Juan Antonio García Alvarado, preaching	

## SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7

Morning Worship .....	at Grand Candela Memorial, El Paso .....	8:00am
	The Revs. Holly and Kaci Clark-Porter	
Session 2.....	<a href="#">Status of Human Rights and Migrant Deaths</a> .....	8:45–10:00am
	in South Texas	
Session 3.....	<a href="#">The Transfigurations of Exile and Migrants:</a> .....	10:15–11:30am
	León Felipe, Juan Gelman, and Angelina Muniz	
Workshop 5 .....	<a href="#">The Voice of the Migrant</a> .....	12:00–1:00pm
Workshop 6 .....	<a href="#">Border Connections</a> .....	12:00–1:00pm
Session 4.....	<a href="#">Caring for the Sacred Other:</a> .....	2:00–3:30pm
	A Conversation on Migration, Faith, and the Borderlands	
Session 5.....	<a href="#">Arte de Lagrimas: Refugee Artwork Project</a> .....	3:45–5:00pm
Evening Concert .....	Douglas Oviedo.....	6:00–7:30pm
	Q&A follows concert	

## SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8

Closing Worship .....	Worship and Communion .....	9:00am
	at the U.S./Mexico Border Wall	
	Pbro. Eliseo Pérez Álvarez, preaching	

## FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6

### Workshop 1 Asylum Accompaniment 12:00–1:00pm



Even as the majority of asylum seekers at the U.S. border are being held in Mexico, there are still some who are taken into the U.S. immigration detention system and eventually released while they continue the immigration court process. This workshop will focus on the work of U.S. congregations and other faith communities that receive asylum seekers who hope to settle in their communities. We will begin with some general discussion about the movement of people, types of forced migration and current challenges for asylum seekers in the U.S. The second half hour will focus on the ministry of accompaniment in this context.

*Offered in English with simultaneous interpretation into Spanish.*

**Presenter:** Susan Krehbiel, Associate for Refugees and Asylum, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, PC(USA)

## Workshop 2

## Self-Care and Resilience

1:30–3:00pm

This workshop will have a panel of presenters who will share information about in-the-moment tools to engage the relaxation response in body and mind. Those attending will build on their experience while practicing new tools that have been shown to be effective in sustaining our capacity to serve in the midst of challenging circumstances. Participants will have a chance to ask questions and interact with the panelists.



*Offered in English only. For Spanish, please enroll in the concurrent PDA workshop “Resilience” with Edwin González-Castillo*

**Presenters:** Rev. John Cheek & Rev. Suzanne Malloy, *Members of the National Response Team, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, PC(USA)*

## Workshop 3

## Building Resilience

1:30–3:00pm



This program is designed to increase participants’ understanding of their own signs of stress and to teach in-the-moment tools to engage the relaxation response in body and mind. This webinar will engage participants in responding to questions and prompts to help create a personalized self-care and resilience-building plan. Those attending will build on their experience while practicing new tools that have been shown to be effective in sustaining our capacity to serve in the midst of challenging circumstances. There will be time for questions and answers following the presentation.

*Offered in Spanish only. For English, please enroll in the concurrent PDA workshop “Self-Care and Resilience” with John Cheek and Suzanne Malloy*

**Presenter:** **Rev. Edwin González-Castillo**, *Associate for Disaster Response—Latin America and the Caribbean, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, PC(USA)*

## Workshop 4

## What’s the Next Step? To Love Your Neighbor.

3:30–4:30pm

As we move past the election season and equip ourselves for the next four years, what will immigration advocacy look like? This workshop will be a time of discussion, discipleship, and preparation: what do we lament; what values and principles do we bring to the table; and how do we sustain efforts for the long term? We will ponder how advocacy is a faithful engagement of God’s mercy, love, and justice. You will walk away with a guide to help you maintain efforts for immigrant rights as a reflection of loving your neighbor.



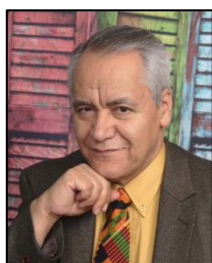
*Offered in English with simultaneous interpretation into Spanish.*

**Presenter:** **Amanda Craft**, *Manager of Advocacy, Office of Immigration Issues in the Office of the General Assembly, PC(USA)*

## Welcome & Session 1

## From the Hostility of the Reign of this World to the Hospitality of the Reign of God

5:00–6:30pm



The centrality of the Reign of God and its justice in the preaching and pastoral ministry of Jesus is the vital breath which empowers his movement in front of the hostility of the empires of this world. The oldest Christian baptismal formula (Ga 3.26-28) stated boldly: in the Reign of God there are not any kind of discriminatory walls. The shared table, on the other hand, is Jesus’s major legacy and a permanent reminder that another way of being church, society, and world is possible.

**Presenter:** **Pbro. Eliseo Pérez Álvarez, Ph.D.**, *Professor of Theology and Philosophy, Presbyterian minister*

6:45pm

**Evening Worship  
Pasos de Fe y Esperanza  
Ciudad Juárez**

Pbro. Juan Antonio García Alvarado,  
preaching



**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7**



8:00am

**Morning Worship  
at the Grand Candela Memorial  
El Paso**

The Revs. Holly and Kaci Clark-Porter

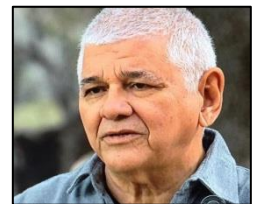
**Session 2**

**Status of Human Rights and Migrant Deaths  
in South Texas**

8:45–10:00 am

This session will include an update on water stations development; missing migrant hotline/cases called in and reports on the missing and rescues; mask distribution on the border; and the mapping and spotlight project.

**Presenter: Eduardo “Eddie” Canales**, *Director*, South Texas Human Rights Center



**Session 3**

**The transfigurations of exile and migrants:  
León Felipe, Juan Gelman, and Angelina Muniz**

10:15–11:30am



Exile and migrations have been constants in human history. The way in which they have been assimilated and processed at different times has, at times, passed through the religious and theological filter. In the three selected writers, this dimension is not absent and reflects much of the interaction of faith (even absent) and the ideological, political and social situations that come into play in the framework of the migratory problem.

**Presenter: Pbro. Leopoldo Cervantes-Ortiz**, Medical doctor, theologian, poet, and Presbyterian pastor.

## Workshop 5

## The Voice of the Migrant

12:00–1:00pm

During the fall of 2018, the northern hemisphere witnessed one of the most notorious migratory movements in recent decades: the Honduran caravan that, fleeing the adverse conditions in their country, headed from San Pedro Sula and crossed Central America and Mexico, together with six thousand other people of various nationalities who joined their journey, with the firm intention of reaching US soil.

Douglas Oviedo, a migrant and activist, presents us with the perspective of these walkers, from their departure from Honduras to their arrival in the city of Tijuana, privileging the lived experience of the protagonists over journalistic and academic views. His recently published book, *Caravaneros*, is a first-hand document of this key moment in the history of contemporary migrations. This testimonial work by Douglas is a dramatization that could only have been written by a caravanner.

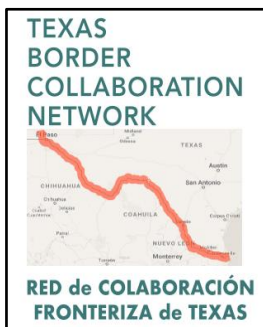


**Presenter: Douglas Oviedo**, Co-founder and Director, Casa Hogar El Puente, Tijuana, México; Honduran migrant in the October 2018 Caravan; Recipient of Asylum in the U.S. in 2019.

## Workshop 6

## Border Connections

12:00–1:00pm



The Texas Border Collaboration Network seeks to foster connection, coordination, and collaboration of various community organizations and faith networks responding to the issues of migration and the plight of asylum-seekers during this current age of pandemic and U.S. immigration policy realities.

During this workshop, the Texas Border Collaboration Network development team will share how connection, coordination, and collaboration is happening in the areas of direct services, sponsorship and hospitality, legal support, and advocacy and how you can be part of these efforts.

### Panelists:

- **Caly Fernandez** of Puentes de Cristo & Presbyterian Border Outreach Ministry
- **Terry Burton and Jo Pendleton** of the Interfaith Welcome Coalition
- **Allyson Pryor** of the Southwestern Texas Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America
- **Sarah Cruz and Rev. Krystal Leedy** of Texas Impact
- **Matt Lohmeier** of San Antonio Region Justice For Our Neighbors
- **Abel Vega** of the Rio Texas Conference of the United Methodist Church

## Session 4

## Caring for the Sacred Other: A Conversation on Migration, Faith, and the Borderlands

2:00–3:30pm

In this season of the U.S. Mexico borderlands, those bearing the brunt of elite power's othering assaults are migrant border crossers. Rather than allowing its bordering violence to dictate life on the borderlands, can a borderland hermeneutic of care and healing be offered instead? Such an approach would not only need to ascribe sacred value to migrant border crossers but more importantly to assemble into actual care practices of healing for them. By turning to care of migrant border crossers, the proposed borderland hermeneutic is concerned first and foremost with the region's most vulnerable Other.



**Presenter: Dr. Gregory L. Cuéllar**, Associate Professor of Old Testament, Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary

**Session 5**

**Arte de Lagrimas: Refugee Artwork Project**

**3:45–5:00pm**



This project is a mobile exhibit that uses original art to tell the lived experiences of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers crossing the US/Mexico border. This workshop seeks to share the history, strategies and results of this activist project in hopes of encouraging others to find meaningful efforts to further the Kingdom of God.

**Presenters: Rev. Dr. Gregory Cuéllar and Mrs. Nohemí Cuéllar**

**Evening Concert**

**Douglas Oviedo**

With Q&A

**6:00–7:30pm**

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8**

**Closing Worship**

**With Communion at the  
U.S./México Border Wall**  
Pbro. Eliseo Pérez Álvarez, preaching

**9:00am**

