

**Breakout Sessions Summary**  
*Connecting Mission Leaders, Oct 2019*

**1. Title:** God is on the Move in Iran

**Presenter:** Shadi Fatehi (PARS Theological Centre, London)

**Description:** Shadi and her colleagues at PARS help scattered Iranians receive training and discipleship to reach their Iranian family and friends with the Gospel. They also train Iranian believers through digital education. The church in Iran is one of the fastest growing churches in the world. This growth happens despite persecution as God's Spirit speaks through dreams and the Scriptures and personal witness. Come and hear what God is doing among Persian peoples.

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**2. Title:** The Great Commission in Reverse: Diaspora Peoples

**Presenters:** John Mayer (CityVision, Minneapolis)

**Description:** Many unreached people groups from around the world that have been out of reach and difficult to engage are now very much in-reach and very accessible to the Gospel. God has moved the peoples of the world to the doorsteps of every Christian and every church in North America. Learn about how to find out who's living in your city, often hidden in plain sight, and how to cross the street to reach out to them.

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**3. Title:** Partnering as Part of a Global Church

**Presenter:** Juan Sarmiento (Associate Director for Mission, The Outreach Foundation) and Global Leaders

**Description:** Join Juan and some of our global guests to explore how to build healthy, reciprocal relationships with global church partners across distances of culture and context. Given our Lord's prayer for unity, there may be no more important and yet more challenging goal before the church today.

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**4. Title:** Mapping Church Missions: A Compass for Strategy

**Presenter:** Sharon Hoover (Director of Missions, Centreville Presbyterian Church in Centreville, Virginia)

**Description:** The terrain of church missions is often bewildering. Should we prioritize evangelism or works of service? Local ministries or overseas missions? What's more important: giving our money or giving our time? And what about the often-debated pros and cons of short-term missions trips? Sharon Hoover brings her years of experience in local church missions to bear on these and other thorny questions. This session walks through seven key issues to guide individuals and churches toward an effective and sustainable missions strategy.

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**5. Title:** Innovation in mission – Why it's not happening and what can be done about it?

**Presenter:** Ted Esler (President, Missio Nexus)

**Description:** There is a rising sense that missionary efforts are not keeping up with either the need, or the changes, we are facing in the world today. In this session we will look at a few misconceptions about innovation, how innovation is difficult for missionary efforts and how we might think about innovating.

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**6. Title:** Business as Mission: How God is using Business to Expand God's Global Kingdom

**Presenter:** Tim Dunn (BAM Coordinator, The Antioch Partners)

**Description:** God is using the Business as Mission (BAM) movement to advance God's Kingdom in amazing ways around the world. Join us as we explore the theory and the theology of the BAM movement, hear about companies that are transforming individuals and societies for God's glory, and learn how to advance our personal participation in the BAM movement.

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**7. Title:** Mission in the Presbyterian Church of East Africa (PCEA)

**Presenters:** Reverend Peter Kaniah (General Secretary of the PCEA), Rev Robert Waihenya (PCEA Director of Mission), and Lauren Scharstein (TAP Partner serving with the PCEA).

**Description:** This is an exciting time in the PCEA, as mission and evangelism are expanding, there is more ownership in the local church, and that means more opportunities to walk together with global partners. Come learn how you could partner with the PCEA!

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**8. Title:** Relationship-driven Short-term Mission: Growing and Making Disciples

**Presenters:** Kristy LaBarge (Director of Impact) and Jen Haddox (Director of ECO Global Engagement)

**Description:** How do we design and lead short-term trips that help people grow as disciples and make disciples, not just do mission trips? We feel sure it's possible and super important as our churches lean into engaging our diversifying contexts at home. With years of experience leading short-term teams, Kristy and Jen will share insights and lead a discussion that will help us strengthen our short-term mission engagement.

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**9. Title:** Reaching the Global Youth Culture

**Presenters:** Aaron Pierce (Executive Director, Steiger International)

**Description:** The emerging Global Youth Culture forms the largest global culture ever to exist. It spans the globe, embracing the same values, listening to the same music, subscribing to the same YouTube channels, and following the same influencers on social media. This global culture is largely influenced by one predominant worldview – Secular Humanism – which affirms that God is irrelevant and man is at the center. In this relativistic culture, we are god and consumerism is our religion.

This demographic is not limited to post-Christian regions like Europe or the USA, and the secular humanistic worldview and lifestyle is prevalent even among those who identify as a particular religious group (i.e. Muslim, Hindu, Christian, etc.).

This workshop introduces the key influences, voices and worldview of the Global Youth Culture and the implications of global secularization to world missions. Additionally, the workshop will provide a framework for how can we engage this globally connected generation, especially those who are increasingly apathetic, cynical, and even opposed to Christianity.