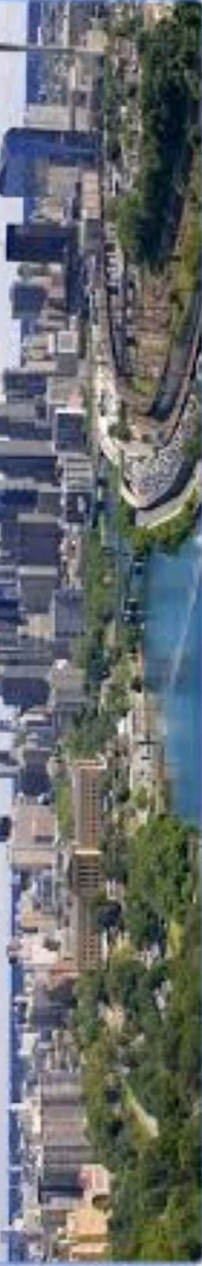


Philadelphia



FEDERATION OF CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES

CELEBRATING

1968
♦
2018
50 YEARS

2018 Assembly Honorees



Federation of Christian Ministries

Newsletter

September/October 2018

VOL. 52 - Number 5

IN THIS ISSUE

September

by Theodora Onken

*Bedraggled scarecrows cry in the wind
 While Blackbirds caw to the trees
 As if, voices from the once green wood
 While the dead leaves blow' free:*

*Rustles of burnished remnants dance
 In visions the gold dying leaf
 A pause and wait but never late
 As Fall carries in her grief:*

*Relentless winds of change court September
 Descending now—a lifetime of Fall
 Season's change make no excuses
 For September has, indeed, come to call:*



Circle Completes Diverse Agenda
 Tom Stricker, FCM Chairperson.....Pages 2

Moving to the Light
 Tom Cusack, FCM President.....Page 3

**2018 50th Anniversary Assembly
 We Celebrated!**
 Michaelita Quinn, FCM Assembly Chair.....Page 4

**2018 Assembly Opening on Facebook Live
 Comments from Assembly Attendees**
 Antoinette Marold, FCM Communications.....Page 5-6

Assembly Photos.....Pages 7-8
2018 Soto Award.....Page 9

1972 Diaspora - Women's Lib and SPFM
 Vicki DiBenedetto & Romeo DiBenedetto.....Page 10

21 Century Living and Earth Justice
 Maureen Mancuso, FCMPage 11

Being the Church We Envision
 Jane Via, FCM Faith Community.....Page 12

Committee Offers Fund Details
 John Jeffery, FCM Endowment ChairPage 13

Regional News

Northeast...FCM Northeast Region Update
 Carl Yusavitz, Northeast V.P.....Page 14

Great Lakes...Members Bring New Energy
 Ron Davis, Great Lakes V.P.....Pages 15-16

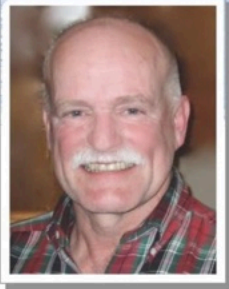
Southern...2018 National Assembly
 Diane Dougherty, Southern V.P.....Page 17

Mountains & Plains...Region Celebrates New Members
 Richard James, Mts. & Plains V.P.....Pages 18-19

Pacific..Remote Gatherings, New Members Enliven Region
 Donna Schreiber, Pacific V.P.....Page 20

Statement PA Grand Jury
 FCM Executive Committee.....Page 21

FCM Directory.....Page 22



TOM STRICKER

CHAIRPERSON

September/October 2018
VOL. 52 NO. 5

Circle Completes Diverse Agenda

Personnel Changes Announced... Now that things have begun to calm down from the excitement of our 50th year celebration, I want to take some time to bring you up to date on some of the proceedings at our July Circle meeting. For starters I want you to join me in welcoming our new members. Our newly-appointed Secretary **Kathy Bean** and **Jeanne Hale**, our Specialized Ministry Co-chair have assumed their responsibilities along with **Carl Yusavitz** who was elected Vice President of the North East Region. In addition **Donna Schreiber** has been appointed to be the FCM liaison to Global Ministries University. Thanks to all for their commitment and generosity!



KATHY BEAM



JEANNE HALE



CARL YUSAVITZ



DONNA SCHREIBER

New Fiscal Year Policy... As you may know, our fiscal year has always followed the calendar (Jan 1-Dec 31). It has become increasingly difficult to develop and maintain a budget with this policy since we receive the majority of our operating funds from September through December. With this in mind, the Circle voted to amend our By-laws so that **our fiscal year will run from July 1 to June 30**. Although there will be little if any impact on the membership, it will allow greater efficiency and better fiscal management.

Next Phase for Endowment... You are well aware by now that the FCM Endowment is open and ready to receive donations. The Circle of Directors authorized the Executive Committee to open an account in the Vanguard family of funds, using a socially-conscious fund, to receive the money allocated to the Endowment. You will find more detailed information elsewhere in this issue.

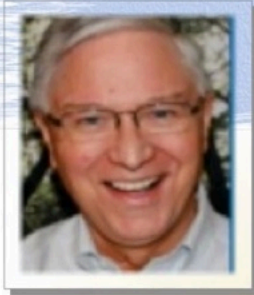
Faith Community Membership... Although we have always had Group Members in FCM, in recent years we have been more aware that these are actually Faith Communities. The Circle chose unanimously to have this reflected in our By-laws. If you belong to such a group, please encourage them to join the growing number of Faith Communities enjoying the benefits of membership in the Federation of Christian Ministries.

Shaping a New Statement of Our Identity... As we look to the future, the Circle of Directors has been reviewing our public expression of who we are and what we do. In the last two meetings we have discussed the importance of a Mission Statement that reflects this clearly. Among the ideas, values and services we have discussed are the following: We believe that FCM is inspired by Divine benevolent intent, empowers ministers and communities to serve. We envision a world that is intercultural and inclusive. We see ourselves as following the command of Jesus to "feed my lambs." We are Spiritual Seekers pursuing God in ways which we find meaningful. We are transforming lives in our many ministries. All are accepted and welcomed just as they are. We are re-imagining the Church and our individual spiritual journeys so we can move out in life. The challenge is to put it into a brief statement that says who we are and where we want to go. Watch for further developments!

Share Your Wisdom... Finally we are assembling a committee to tap our collective wisdom concerning the way we will shape our future. The group will be made up of members with varying amounts of time in the organization and will develop a questionnaire focused on how we will meet the challenges ahead of us. If you have interest in joining this committee, please send me a text or email. We have reflected on and honored the past, we have celebrated the present. How will you be part of shaping our future?



Federation of Christian Ministries



Moving to the Light

TOM CUSACK
PRESIDENT

The feelings of fulfillment, wonder, joy, and good feelings just continue every time I think of the 50th Anniversary Assembly in Philadelphia (07/20-22). There were so many members present and they were supplemented by a large crew of FCM supporters who are not members... It was a great mix of 162 people, and of course Jesus and his mother Mary, plus a good number of other supporters of FCM from the other side were present.

Friday evening we went into the program of remembering and recognizing pioneers, founders, and workers-over-decades who brought FCM to where it is today. There were recognition callouts for a lot of people. I asked my buddy, **Bill Manseau**, if his legs were starting to cramp up from having to rise to take applause so many times. He simply expressed appreciation for the experience. And that was the feeling felt by so many.

Our second keynote, **Simone Campbell, SSS**, provided an immediate view of social justice in action with the fact that *The Nuns on the Bus* will be rolling again. Our first keynote, **Rabbi Rami Shapiro**, offered a way of looking at the growth and deepening of consciousness of humanity as we try to grow over centuries. His comments especially helped me to describe to myself in a new way the position of FCM as a welcoming post-denominational community. The downside of our *six workshops* was that none of us could go to all six of them. If someone reading this, however, solved the problem of bi-location and was able to attend all six, please let me know. The two I attended were great.

We completed our time together on Sunday morning with breakfast, our FCM membership meeting and then a service to conclude. **It was a weekend filled with light.**

Fast forward to now, to press time for the Newsletter. The Pennsylvania grand jury report has just documented decades of destruction-of-the-least-among-us by Catholic clergy in Pennsylvania. **The ugly face of evil glowers in its dark way through so many of those pages.** In response to this the FCM Executive Committee has issued a statement as of August 22, calling for reform and renewal. Specific aspects of this call include that our FCM members who are Roman Catholic Women Priests and members of Association of Roman Catholic Women Priests should be immediately welcomed into the Catholic Church as priests and bishops with their disrespectful and debilitating excommunications lifted. In addition, we called for the immediate cessation of the ongoing destructive attacks on members of the LGBTQI community. Catholic clergy members of that community should be able to carry out their ministry without fear of being outed and without fear of being blamed for horrors that have nothing to do with a person's sexual orientation. If you have not read our FCM statement, it was published through our constant contact email program on August 22 at 3 PM Eastern time.

As Christian leaders we continue to have a *responsibility to move our own spirituality ahead*, especially in the face of the darkness that we see in many quarters. As you know, I regularly request of you **2 x 2 4 FCM** on a daily basis. The first 2 refers to two minutes of prayer. As Christians were pretty good at prayer. No problem there. The second two refers to *two minutes of meditation*. Here's what I'd like you to do in that regard. Sit with your right hand on your right knee. Have your eyes half closed and half open. For two minutes simply understand you are taking a walk, in person with Jesus, and he is holding your right hand. Do not lose focus on your right hand. Let him communicate into you whatever it is he wants to communicate. Just tell your thoughts not to bother you just now. Just let them know that you're spending these two minutes with him on behalf of FCM. After a while, even intrusive thoughts will respect you and let you be silent because you're not paying attention to them. Meanwhile, Jesus will like what you're doing and will certainly provide you some inner benefit and some benefit to FCM. Moving deeper spiritually is the ultimate antidote to the darkness. *Let's execute.*





MICHAELITA QUINN
ASSEMBLY
CHAIRPERSON



We came! We saw old friends! We made new ones! **We celebrated!** The energy burst forth in the hotel lobby, spilled out at the registration area, and simply couldn't be contained in the ballroom.

This **largest Assembly ever** had 161 excited attendees who traveled by car, by plane, by train from 32 states across all five FCM regions to meet in Philadelphia to reminisce and to share. We were a cross-section of age and experience, including 43 non-FCM members who wanted to be with us.

After a wonderful dinner in an elegantly decorated ballroom, the **Program opened with recognizing FCM members** who held positions on the Board/Circle of Directors over the 50 years and who were present with us. Who knew that 38 of them who collectively held 26 positions, some more than one, were sitting among us. One by one, each stood as his or her headshot flashed on the 10-foot screen and applause filled the room.

On Saturday, two Keynote Speakers totally captivated the audience. In the morning, **Rabbi Rami Shapiro** assured us that our God is for all of us. And **Simone Campbell, SSS** guided us in the afternoon on how to keep our faith and witness in today's world. Both of these exceptional Keynoters walked the stage, used no notes, and invited conversation and questions.

How do you attend **six fascinating workshops** involving 19 different presenters! Three concurrent sessions in the morning and three in the afternoon, each led by an FCM member, covered a range of current and interesting topics.

If you were approved for **FCM Commissioning and/or FCM Endorsement**, a special Service on Saturday evening was planned just for you. But all of us were also present to witness these two special ceremonies and participate in a communal blessing of the candidates.

What is an Assembly without the **FCM Membership Meeting** on Sunday morning to which all are invited. Conducted by our FCM President and FCM Chairperson, reports were also given by key members of the Circle of Directors and the Realm Coordinator. They made us proud to be members of such an inspiring and forward-moving ministerial organization.

How else do you end this 50th Assembly Celebration but with a high-energy, music-led, **community liturgy**. We still carry with us the sounds and songs that burst forth in thanksgiving and joy as we really did **"reflect on the past, celebrate the present, and look toward shaping the future."**

And who made all this happen? The **National Planning Team**, of course. A very special Thank You to:

- | | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Eileen DiFranco | Dennis O'Keefe | Peter Strening |
| Gerald Grudzen | Joe Ruane | Patty Stricker |
| Antoinette Marold | Amy Simpson Bennethum | |

SPECIAL 50th ANNIVERSARY THANKS to Antoinette Marold

- for her creativity with Assembly **marketing** and the **Program booklet**,
- for her months of being the official **contact with the hotel staff**,
- for her oversight of the **ballroom, meeting rooms, and food**,
- for her many **ideas and insights** for this 50th Celebration.

Michaelita Quinn, Chairperson, 50th Anniversary Assembly





2018 Assembly Opening on Facebook Live

If you were not able to attend the assembly I hope you heard and saw **Michaelita Quinn**, 2018 Assembly Chairperson, open the assembly on the FCM FACEBOOK page!

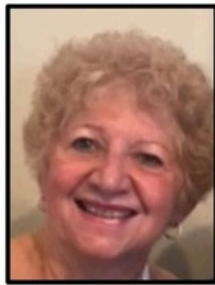
**ANTOINETTE
MAROLD**

What a celebration week-end! Great keynote speakers and great workshops, and wonderful advertising displays. Thank you to the great team that planned this assembly.

A special thank you to FCM members who were not on the team **Tom Quinn, Ginny Cusack, and Vic Bean** who helped to set up the ballroom. A huge thank you to **Bill Appleton** who operated the honoree's slide presentation.

In the near future a photo album will be available of the event. You will find 2 pages of assembly photos in this issue of the newsletter with many more to come. Thank you to our photographer FCM member **David Gawlik** for taking wonderful photos of the event.

Following are some comments from 2018 50th Anniversary Assembly Attendees. Enjoy!



JEAN CONLEY

Wow, what a phenomenal celebration of 50 years! I have been a member of FCM for almost 30 years and have witnessed and been a part of the growth of this organization; and to see what it has become today warms my heart. It was wonderful to reunite with friends and acquaintances that I have known for years and to also connect with so many individuals who are associated with GMU -- instructors, students and graduates -- and are also members of FCM. There were a great number of outstanding moments on this weekend but the highlight of the Assembly for me was the program on Friday evening. Much to my surprise, I was honored for my service to FCM. However, what made the experience even more special was witnessing the many members present who have served FCM over the years. This event and the entire Assembly was affirming, life-giving, and inspirational!



**BEA
BRODER - OLDACH**

Energized and Inspired Happy Anniversary FCM! Fifty years of ministry provided the extraordinary foundation we celebrate and take into the future from our Assembly. Participants came from the US and Canada in response to a clear invitation to engage by collectively reflecting on the past, celebrating the present and a charge to shape the future----and did we ever! In hallways, at roundtables, in workshops, elevators and in the assembly hall, this faith community came together to learn, to make meaning and to be community. The gathering of founders, members and newcomers had the feel of a family reunion where wisdom and experience come together within a community of equals diverse in experience and culture, shared in deep sense of vocation.

Looking back on the weekend, I am grateful for the energy and truth-telling from our keynote speakers, Rabbi Rami Shapiro and Sister Simone Campbell. As a chaplain, I appreciated the opportunity to meet and learn from chaplains in different stages in their ministry fields. Time in the meditation space and the experience of contemplative prayer recharged my spirit. I feel energized by the growing diversity of all kinds, in the sharing of experience, beliefs, spiritualities and desire for community, support and service. I am filled with gratitude for the founding servant leaders, whose courage and faith have brought FCM to this day. Inspired by the witness of the newly-commissioned and endorsed, in the spirit of the charge to service by preacher Christy Howard-Steele, may we go together into the world to live our vocations where our deep gladness meets the world's deep need.



Comments from 2018 50th Anniversary Assembly Attendees



MIKE & TERI CORSO

Worth The Effort - We have both been to so many conferences over the years that we are now at the point where we say "if just one knocks it out of the park, then it is worth the trip and expenses." With the networking, diversity and meeting old and new friends, this one rocked that hope and more!!

Just a few highlights (there were so many):

- **Rabbi Rami Shapiro** encouraging us (with side-splitting humor at times) to accept the "truth of y(our) own divinity" and to understand that it is possible that our spirituality is our cross.

- **Linda Roberts'** presentation on transgender support encouraging all small (and large) faith communities to "sponsor a panel inviting transgender persons to speak about their faith journeys and how discovering their identity has enhanced their faith."
- **Simone Campbell's** wisdom about not becoming the "other," filled with anger, but rather becoming more compassionate and suggesting that in small groups, instead of asking people what their opinion is, we ask them to tell us their story and listen to them deeply.



BARBARA ZEMAN

FCM Turns 50 in Style What an incredible surprise to begin a conference with a song "I am alive ... and who is this aliveness I am, if not the Blessed Holy One?" Rabbi Rami Shapiro set the stage for possibly the most delightful conference I have ever attended. (And I have been to a few, having been on the CTA national board for 4 years and RCWP rep to WCC and COR.) Once the pace was set, speakers & participants interacted in a manner that vibrated with energy and warmth. From the talk on trans people given by Linda Roberts, Dignity USA, to the panel of chaplains sharing field stories and the retired naval officer's [Spencer Johnson] story of his crew's incredible generosity during the summer of 1981, I sat mesmerized – often in tears – marveling at the Divine among us.

What a Spirit-filled group we all are! AND, we seem to be growing in strength, energy and purpose. Simone Campbell took the stage and knocked it out of the park – as usual – with her tales of "Nuns on the Bus" past, present and future. No surprise here – they are planning to announce a new bus trip in a few weeks which will make all (not many) sit up and take notice, because who can resist those Nuns on or off the bus.

A final WOW and thank you are the only other words that come to mind – that and I can't wait to see what's in store for the next conference/family reunion!

Staying Resilient in Troubling Times - KATELYN MELCHER-SARANTIS

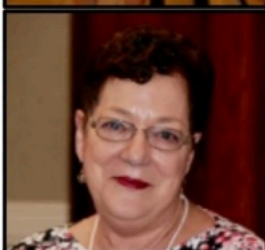
Ministry during a historic time of deep division seemed to exasperate us all as we desperately questioned, "What do we do now? Where do we go from here?" The Federation of Christian Ministries celebrated their 50th anniversary of bringing social justice ministry into fruition as a beacon of light and hope in the world. The task at hand is reaching out to marginalized groups, letting them know that unconditional love still exists. The true love of Christ still exists. Love in the religious and spiritual realms does still exist. There is a reason to hope.

The second task at hand and the more difficult: learn to love our enemies as ourselves while reaching out to them in authentic love. Setting aside the hatefulness, all the atrocities it has caused, and the grief in our hearts; to try and bring back the sheep who got lost somewhere/somewhat in the sea of bitterness and hate. As FCM ponders continued outreach and growth, it's clear we all need to come together for strength and encouragement to keep us resilient as we continue to struggle in the turbulent seas of current times.



Federation of Christian Ministries

CELEBRATING
50
1968
+
2018
YEARS





2018 FCM 50th Anniversary Assembly

2018 SOTO AWARD

September/October 2018
VOL. 52 NO. 5

BY TOM STRICKER, CHAIRPERSON



ANTHONY SOTO AWARD was given to Eugene Bianchi

The Anthony Soto Award is given at the National Assembly to a FCM member who exemplifies his spirit and vision. The awardee can be a man, a woman, or perhaps a couple who has the same loving persistence in following their conscience to continue to do the work of Christ among us. The recipient was chosen by a committee on the FCM 50th Anniversary National Assembly team.

This year's award winner, is longtime member and the first president of FCM Eugene Bianchi who lives Athens, Georgia. He describes a moment in his life that brought him to tears. It was 1966, and as a young Jesuit priest, he was given a vision of starting a new kind of religious order, one in which men and women could work equally in the spirit of the Gospel. It would be made up of married priests and lay people without the divisions of clericalism.

That small idea was a seed planted not only in his mind, but in the minds and hearts of many married and unmarried priests as well as the men and women who left religious life. That strong energy marked by a vocational call to a renewed ministry, became the impetus of this band of innovators to search to discover other forms of governance that would be marked by inclusion and equality.

Nurtured by deep collaborative friendships and a bold commitment to this vision, we cannot but remember today that the seeds of his vision grew under the watchful eyes of our early founders that led to a reality far beyond his own imagination-and into a world of seekers yearning to give witness to the beloved community.... **Gene Bianchi's** dream of men and women in ministry working equally reaches far beyond the boundaries of Catholicism to welcome and empower all God calls to serve.

We thank and honor Gene for envisioning what it means to be infused by Spirit that yearns for a renewal of ourselves as well as the people in our time. We thank Gene for setting aside what he once held dear, to be open to love and the creative surprises brought by the spirit through time. As he wrote in his last book of poetry, *The Hum of It All*....in your journey through disillusionment, sorrow and tears, you learned the life-embracing mysticism of the "here, now, enough.", which is a spirituality that moves beyond our divisions into the oneness of love. This spirituality, tied to **Gene Bianchi's** vision, is a gift for which he was remembered and honored as the **2018 Anthony Soto Award during the 50th Anniversary of The Federation of Christian Ministries.**



Federation of Christian Ministries

Diaspora

July/August 1972

Women's Lib and SPFM

BY VICKI DI BENEDETTO, NATIONAL CO-SECRETARY
WITH ROMEO DI BENEDETTO

(Editor's note: Another slice of our history, taken from the July-August 1972 issue of DIASPORA, Newsletter of the Society of Priests for a Free Ministry, the original predecessor organization to FCM. Spelling and capitalization are as originally written.)

The most obvious and frequently asked question of women these days: "How do you stand on women's lib?" I believe that a liberated woman sees herself as others see her: recognized and respected for herself independently of any other human being.

Due to a most happy and equal marriage, I have not found it necessary to wage the battle of the sexes on a personal level. Many have! On the other hand, when confronted with an injustice such as having my husband "sign" for me, I am probably more vocal and militant than the next person. Women should and will organize around such issues and change the status quo.

My own contribution to the lib movement is the witness of being one-half of a wife – husband team within a group (SPFM) where men have always been the big cheese! Ordination was and is an important element, but the women in this group are there because they *have been appreciated* and they want to be there. Even bishops have recognized their influence and importance!

I have seen so many women working alongside their husbands in much of the same way, both in and out of SPFM. But below the surface is the ever-so-slight hint that she is "second"! (Perhaps to some, it is because she is not "the ordained one"). Then again, is every "liberated" husband free enough to give proper credit, even equal credit, and encouragement to his wife? One request: Let us sincerely investigate the value and witness of the teamwork of men and women.



September/October 2018
VOL. 52 NO. 5

Federation of Christian Ministries

21 Century Living and Earth Justice



**MAUREEN
MANCUSO**

(Editor's note: We are grateful to Maureen Mancuso, a member of the Pacific Region for submitting this reflection.)

Mesopotamian cosmology (structure) cosmogony (origin) interpreted earth as disc, with a vaulted firmament and at the top of the firmament was a gate which held back the heavenly waters, and beyond that resided the abode of the Divine. The disc shape reinforced the

idea that the horizon was the end of the world, and within or below the earth, there was the underworld. In his letter to the Romans (8:38), Paul references this cosmology when he writes, "For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor present things, nor future things, nor powers, nor height, nor depth will separate us from the love of God."

During the Greco-Roman period, the major shift in cosmology was that earth was a sphere not a disc, and a geocentric model was promulgated which declared that earth was at the center of the universe and that the sun and all planetary and luminary manifestations revolved around it. The third great shift occurred with the advancement of calculus, which furthered the development of astronomy, enabling Copernicus' revolutionary pronouncement in 1453 that it is the sun, not the earth, around which observable heavenly bodies rotate in an elliptical fashion.

Despite these historic changes, throughout human progress and scientific discovery one concept has endured: humans are atop the food chain. This idea of human ascendancy established itself in the Judeo-Christian tradition by one of the most destructive terms found in biblical language: dominion. "God said to them, 'Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.'" (Genesis 1:27)

Despite the mass destruction of the environment by human beings, the relationship of *homo sapiens* to the rest of the natural world still hinges on that concept. This ancient misinterpretation, coupled with the supposed superiority of human brain function has propelled humans to believe in our superiority over all other species. The primacy of human need over planetary capacity and sustainability, and a kick-the-dust-off-our-shoes attitude is collapsing the planet's ability to house us.

Instead of the examination of our own behaviors and desires, which are ruining the planet, we want to focus our eyes on the next frontier to conquer--space. In fact, in recent weeks, the president has promoted the idea of a "Space Force" akin to United States Air Force—which means more spending, more absorption of resources, more military might, and more pollution!

We can no longer hang on to the idea of dominion or even stewardship in the 21st century. We need to adopt a new model of understanding, one based on interrelationship, the full acceptance of evolution amongst faith traditions, and the idea of holism. As Rumi said, "Everything you see has its roots in the unseen world. The forms may change, yet the essence remains the same." Perhaps we all need to re-read Charles Darwin's *Origin of the Species* with a new lens and insight. In his book, Darwin uses the term "survival of the fittest" once. It is a very competitive phrase; unfortunately, when people think of Darwin, it is the image most latch on to even though in *Origins* the concept Darwin most often uses is cooperation.

Why does this occur? Perhaps it is because it best fits our cultural narrative and implementation of dominion. We need to execute a paradigm shift from competition to cooperation to survive the great divide between human ego and greed and earth justice. We need to focus on wisdom sources rather than scientific certitude or economics as a guide to living in the world. Instead of seeking, in Joni Mitchell's words to "pave paradise and put up a parking lot," we need to reconnect and experience solitude in nature.

Life in the modern era has disconnected us from our true home. Darwin's exploration led him to notice the interplay that cultivates, nourishes, and brings balance to the natural world. In fact, we need to abandon the word environment because it places human beings outside of its very definition. We must begin to see and to understand that we are a species living within the environment. We need to restructure our use of language to create mindfulness—I do not live in a house or a home; I live on planet Earth and it is my home!

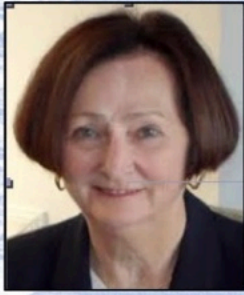
Perhaps it is time to take another look at Job who said, "Ask the beasts and they will teach you; the birds of the air; they will tell you; and the fish of the sea will declare to you. Who among these does not know that the hand of God has done this? In God's hand are the life of every living thing, and the breath of every human being." (12: 7-10)



Federation of Christian Ministries

September/October 2018

VOL. 52 NO. 5



JANE VIA



Being the Church We Envision

In August of 2005, retired diocesan priest Rod Stephens and I were carpooling through Los Angeles. I was a deacon ordained in the Roman Catholic Woman Priest movement. As we drove, Rod politely asked what I hoped to do once I was ordained, since no Roman Catholic bishop would give me a parish. From somewhere within me came the response: "Someday, I would like to found a Roman Catholic parish for driven away Catholics like my husband; fallen away Catholics like my sons; divorced and remarried Catholics without annulments, like so many of my work colleagues; LGBT Catholics like many of my friends; and Catholics like me who can no longer worship with integrity in a canonical Catholic church."

Rod's response was immediate and enthusiastic: "You *must* do that." I repeated, "Someday." Undaunted, Rod said, "You have to do it now." Despite my protests, Rod convinced me to try. He volunteered to travel to San Diego to assist. With an M.A. in Liturgy and having been Director of Liturgy for the Orange (CA) Diocese for 15 years, Rod would teach me everything I needed to know about liturgy by the time I was ordained a priest.

We set about to find a location. With the assistance of friends who vouched for us, we were able to rent space at a local Methodist church and scheduled our first liturgy on the first Sunday in Advent, November 27, 2005.

That evening, we set up an altar at the front of that beautiful old Methodist church, donned albs and waited for the appointed hour, not even knowing if anyone would come. To our amazement, 100 people arrived to participate! Of those, 40 returned to help found the parish, eventually named Mary Magdalene (the) Apostle Catholic Community. Rod remained with us until I was ordained a priest in June 2006.

The parish grew from 40 to 60 to 80 and eventually to about 120 with an average weekly attendance of 70-80. We provide all the services available in a typical Roman Catholic parish. Ours is a democratic model of governance: parishioners manage liturgy, other ministries, and our non-profit board (legal, finance, policy, etc.) in conjunction with the pastoral team. We use pervasively inclusive language and contemporary theology in our liturgy while preserving the order and structure of the canonical Roman Catholic Mass. Our table is open.

We have experienced change. When the Methodist church declined to host the same sex weddings of two parishioners, we moved to a Lutheran Church. We are engaged with contemporary social issues, especially LGBTQ and racial justice.

The issues that face FCM also face our parish. Our budget is significant, but we are an aging community, getting smaller, with potentially fewer resources to cover the salary of our full time pastor. Mass attendance is down to 50-70 weekly. Few young people currently attend our parish. It is unclear whether, or how long, MMACC will survive.

Our current pastor is 36-yr. old Kori Pacyniak, M.Div., STM. Under her leadership, we strive to live our motto: "A new way to be Roman Catholic: Making Catholicism relevant; Restoring women's ordination; Living the change we envision." We practice hope.

(Editor's note: Thanks to Bishop Jane Via, RCWP from the Pacific Region for sending along this issue's group member article. Jane is pastor emerita of Mary Magdalene the Apostle Catholic Community.)



Federation of Christian Ministries





JOHN JEFFERY

FCM ENDOWMENT FUND

Committee Offers Fund Details

How appropriate, during this our 50th year to launch the FCM Permanent Endowment Fund. The Fund offers a convenient way for members and friends to make a "legacy investment" in a future that the donor may not live to see. It offers three benefits:

- a degree of long-term financial stability and flexibility
- a way to fund specially designated projects and programs
- away for individuals whose lives have been touched by FCM to give back and support the work of FCM into the future.

As many members are aware, the Circle recently approved the policy which governs and guides the work of the endowment committee. FCM approached our long-time friends at ICCC for consultation about their endowment and they provided a template which **Tom Cusack** reworked after which it was reviewed by our attorney. You are invited to review it at the Members Only page on the website. The Circle also approved the endowment committee's recommendation of a socially conscious investment fund that reflects FCM's commitment to social and environmental justice.

As you probably know, an endowment is a fund where the donations go into the fund but they never come out. The donations themselves are never disbursed. They appreciate or grow over time and the appreciated value is disbursed. An endowment can receive just about any type of donation:

- liquid assets (cash and marketable securities)
- non-liquid assets (real estate, art, gems, etc.)
- deferred gifts (life insurance, gifts by will or trust, charitable gift annuities, charitable gift remainder trusts, etc.)

Here's an example of the latter: you've had a life insurance policy for some time that no longer fulfills a need. To contribute to the endowment, contact your insurance company and get the form needed to change ownership of the policy. Fill that form out so that FCM becomes the new owner and the new beneficiary. If premiums are due on the policy, you can continue to pay them and they will be considered tax-deductible contributions to FCM. If you don't want to continue to pay the premiums, the policy can be made a reduced paid-up policy. If the policy is of sufficient size at the time of your death, the payment can become an account with the name you want it to carry, or it can become a legacy account. With a legacy account of \$25,000 or more, you can specify how the earnings are to be spent within guidelines set by the Circle.

We are at the beginning of this big project in the life of FCM with many organizational tasks ahead of us. In the upcoming months we will be working on fundraising strategies and you will be hearing from us about opportunities for your participation and support. Please note that even though we are still in formation, contributions may be made at this time.

The endowment committee is made up of three members from the general FCM membership: **Mary Ann Cejka, John Jeffery** and **Jim Verrecchia** and two from the Circle: **Tony Ercolano** and **Tom Cusack**. Please feel free to contact any of us with your questions or concerns about contributing to this important effort toward a more secure financial future for our organization. Email: endowment@FCMmail.org



Federation of Christian Ministries



**VICE PRESIDENT
CARL YUSAVITZ**

FCM Northeast Region Update

First of all, a big **“THANK YOU”** to **Dan Pellegrin**, whom I succeed as VP, for all the hard work he put into making our FCM region so very strong! I only hope I can be a worthy successor.

Since I am new to the position, I see my early ministry this way: to create as much FCM community experience in the Northeast as possible and be a reliable pastoral presence within the region for new members or members who are going through tough times. By community experience, I mean both live and on-line (through Zoom conferencing). This will depend on two things: everyone in the Northeast registering on Realm and me becoming more tech-savvy!

If you have not registered on Realm, please do so as soon as possible. This is our new membership data base and an excellent way to stay in touch. Hopefully, our Realm administrator will soon create a Northeast FCM distribution list, and with a simple click I can be in touch with all of you in the region. My becoming tech-savvy is a “work in progress” and heavily dependent on the intervention of the Holy Spirit and your prayers!

It was great to see so many of you at our recent national FCM assembly in Philadelphia! I am still savoring the experience of speakers, workshops, and fellowship. Next spring or early summer we will see each other again at our bi-annual regional assembly. Our venue and dates are still not clear, but it will probably be near the Delaware Water Gap, like the past two times, or on the Jersey Shore. A lot will depend on availability. I'll be sending out a survey about your preferences later this fall.

Congratulations to our newly-commissioned members Susan Iliff, Anthony Capone and a third from the Boston area. We also welcome newly-endorsed member Julie Prey. May their FCM commissioning and endorsement be a blessing to those they serve!

Finally, a request for help: one generous member has recently volunteered to be an area rep in southern New Jersey, hopefully priming the pump as we need 5 more area reps for our populous region: southeastern PA (Philly area), metro NYC (including northern NJ), greater Boston (and beyond) and the Lehigh Valley (Allentown/Bethlehem area).

If you are a member in one of those remaining four areas, would you PLEASE consider helping to nurture our FCM community there? If I don't hear from volunteers, we may need to revert to old fashioned “shoulder-tapping.”

Please contact me, if you have any questions regional concerns. It's not my leadership alone, but all of us working together that make FCM so strong.



Federation of Christian Ministries

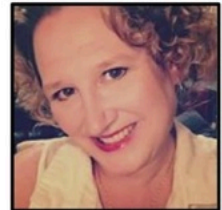


**VICE PRESIDENT
RON DAVIS**

Members Bring New Energy

At our Assembly, six members of the region were approved for commissioning. I am happy to introduce them so you can get to know them and pray for them as they move out in ministry.

Melody Carpenter, called to the ministry when she was 26 years old now puts her talents to use in Bloomington, Indiana. Her ministry has taken on different shapes over the years, employing tools from music to motorcycles. She has been involved in street evangelism, prison ministry and local church ministry in addition to participating in hospital ministry, teaching religion in a Christian school and serving as a worship leader and church planter. Her time as a CPE student at Indiana University Health Center helped her to examine her faith and values. Melody serves as worship leader and pastor/teacher in her community where her husband Nick serves as a musician. They are dreaming out loud as they figure out what is next for them.



James I. Carter is a minister in Elkhart, Indiana. He has a long testimony of serving in his local church: on the governing board, Sunday school teaching and directing Christian Education. He began as a volunteer at a faith-based homeless shelter, a position that led to his current full-time job as case manager. James has a heart for those who are hurting. Undertaking CPE studies opened a door where he could reflect on himself, his work and what he could do in the future. Eventually he discerned that ministry is very important to him and that he would like to move towards a chaplaincy career, so he went on to pursue his Master of Divinity degree. He works part time as a hospital chaplain while continuing his job in the homeless shelter. In addition, he is the primary care giver of his mom, and he is a loving father to his adult son.



Justin Ferko has just finished serving as a chaplain resident at the OSU Wexner Medical Center in Columbus, Ohio. It is his dream to work as a board-certified chaplain ministering to people experiencing marginalization. He has worked hard to prepare himself for this vision for his life and ministry. Since 2003, Justin served in churches, bilingual and Latino ministries, LGBTQ ministries, and with economically deprived and homeless people. Trained in spiritual direction through the Wellstreams Program, he has nurtured spiritual communities around prayer, meditation, and straight-from-the-oven homemade bread. Justin is grateful that his dream will be realized in that he has received a call in July to begin work as staff chaplain at Geisinger Holy Spirit Community Hospital in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania with the added benefit of ministering closer to his family.



Mathai Saji Karimpanakuzhyil just finished serving as a chaplain resident at Children's Hospital and Medical Center in Cincinnati, Ohio. He studied at the Bible College at the University of Serampore in his homeland of India, where he obtained an undergraduate degree in theology. He spent many years working with the poor and others in India who struggle as members of the lower caste. After working with Youth with a Mission for fourteen years, he launched a compassion ministry called "Jeevanam," which takes a holistic approach to ministry—counseling, medical care and other practical supports. When Saji came to the United States he began pursuing his desire to become a hospital chaplain and has completed seven units of CPE. He is also on the way to undertake studies for a Masters of Divinity degree to obtain this goal. He is committed to God, study and the pursuit of his hopes and dreams and believes deep in his heart that FCM is the faith community where he truly belongs.



Federation of Christian Ministries



Zachary Bryan Wheat grew up in the Christian faith and from the early days of college knew that he wanted to serve God. In college he studied the Bible, explored international missions and gave thought and consideration to becoming a United Methodist Church pastor. After graduating college with honors he went on to Duke University Divinity School and earned a Master of Divinity degree. He made the commitment to a CPE program and completed six units, becoming trained as a Pediatric Palliative Care Fellow. His training, life experience, reflection, and prayer caused him to feel whole in the work that he was doing in the hospital setting. His hope is that he will have a career in specialized ministry, working with children focused on palliative care. Zachary came to FCM because it is a better fit for him as a commissioning and endorsing body of faith. His beliefs and spiritual values are one and the same with those of FCM, and he is grateful for the acceptance and loving spirit he has encountered.

Christopher Young is at the beginning of his career in ministry. He went to the Ohio State University and despite graduating with honors with a BA in Economics never pursued a career in that field. Feeling a strong desire to serve, he went to Grand Rapids Theological Seminary and obtained a Master of Divinity degree. Over the last 5 years, he served as a pastoral intern, mental health minister, pastor and research assistant transcribing and translating Latin, Greek and Hebrew manuscripts. This past year, Chris served as a Chaplain Resident at Children's Hospital and Medical Center in Cincinnati, Ohio. During this residency year, Chris spent time in discernment about which denomination would work as a good fit to undergird his ministry. In the process he discovered FCM online and learned more from staff chaplains at Cincinnati's Children's. Over time Chris has come to respect FCM's inclusive model of ministry and governance and is as happy to be commissioned as we are to see him caring for others.

Prayers of blessing are with all of our newly commissioned ministers. Watch for more information on celebrations of our new members throughout the region during the coming months.

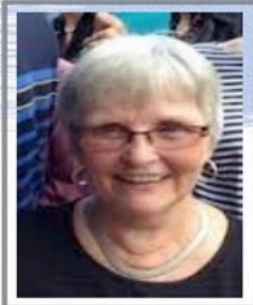


John Polanski Installation as Pastor by Tom Stricker

Kindness, Compassion, Forgiveness and Service.... That was the theme of the installation service for John Polanski, a FCM commissioned member and editor of the FCM Newsletter, as Pastor at Woodworth Church of the Brethren on Sunday, August 12, 2018. In the service both the pastor and the congregation were asked to speak their commitments to each other. Throughout the service you could feel the mutual expression of compassion and deep rooted connection between John and congregation. The strong belief in service to those in need and importance of discipleship was evident. It was an honor to be present and to witness John's Installation as pastor of Woodworth Church.



Federation of Christian Ministries



**VICE PRESIDENT
DIANE DOUGHERTY**

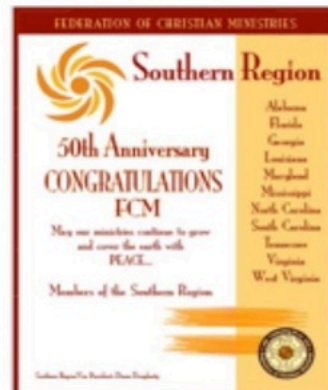
2018 National Assembly

Sister Simone Campbell spoke prophetically at the *National Assembly* when she said,
"We can no longer sit in silence..
the energy of God calls multitudes
through grief and weeping....
And we must respond...."

How piercing the words are in light the revelations of broad hierarchical misconduct and a church that continues to deconstruct at the base. **Rabbi Shapiro** spoke with clarity that those walking away have not lost their faith, rather cannot hear God in our churches and rarely from preachers or the religious trappings of hierarchical religions used to gain power and control.



2018 Soto Award recognition was given to Eugene Bianchi , who, 50 years ago, dreamt of a community of ministers,- single, married, men and women- marginalized by doctrine and dogma, yet called to serve all in inclusive communities that reflect the love God. At our Assembly, he lived to see the fruit of his labor, along with those early pioneers, when over 50 members came to the stage to be commissioned and/or endorsed, including Ryan Mulkowsky, Lilburn, GA, Ann Temkin, Decatur, GA and Mike Woods, Johnson City, Tenn. from our Southern Region.



As the former religious systems built on domination, power and control of people diminish, the people seeking affirmation of their calling in the **Federation of Christian Ministries** stand as a light in the darkness, ready to accompany multitudes as they walk through the shock, grief and tears of today and the coming days. FCM- bringing hope to a fractured world.

Congratulations to those Commissioned and Endorsed

Ann Temkin, Decatur GA was commissioned and Ryan Mulkowsky, Lilburn, GA was endorsed.
Mike Woods, Johnson City Tenn. was commissioned and endorsed.

A team of planners will provide a celebration for Kristin Fulton, Tampa and for Cassandra Wood (Odessa, FL) in Safety Harbor on September 15.

RYAN MULKOWSKY
JEANNE HALE
ANN TEMKIN
LINDSEY BUTLER
DIANE SMALL



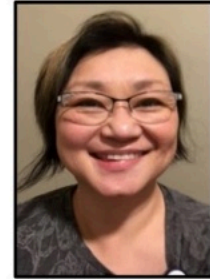
Federation of Christian Ministries



**VICE PRESIDENT
RICHARD JAMES**

Region Celebrates New Members

Sarah R. Kronkvist is looking forward with great anticipation to completing her fourth unit of a chaplain residency program at Ebenezer Ridges Care Center in Burnsville, Minnesota where she focuses on the skilled nursing and transitional care units. She leads a community worship service twice a month and provides a weekly devotional time for the residents in the care center. Sarah also serves as an on-call chaplain at Fairview Ridges Hospital on a rotating basis. She offers her ministry in a manner that demonstrates that God's love is expansive and inclusive to all of God's people.



Sarah holds an M.Div. from United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities in New Brighton, Minnesota and a BA in Art History from Macalester College in St. Paul. While in seminary, her classmates were from diverse religious, cultural, and ethnic backgrounds. In that setting her faith broadened and matured, bringing her closer to God. She is aware and intentional about being in dialogue with people from backgrounds different from her American-Korean ethnicity. One of Sarah's strong spiritual gifts is relating to a diverse population with integrity and grace.

"I believe that being a part of FCM will enhance my spiritual journey and enable me to fully engage with God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit so that I can meet people wherever they are on their faith journeys."



Rev. Rickey Randall is a second-generation preacher who is cast from the mold of liberation theology and seeks to be a prophetic witness engaged in emancipatory solidarity with persons who suffer. His theological instruction began at Dallas Christian College where he majored in Ministry and Leadership. Rickey also trained as a public theologian at the Morehouse School of Religion at the Interdenominational Theological Center in Atlanta. He furthered his training at Drew University, earning a Doctor of Ministry degree where he researched and developed a project entitled, "Building the Capacity of Spiritual Care Givers to Minister to the Cultural Trauma of Care Seekers."

He was licensed and ordained and has served as associate minister at The Ark Church in Dallas, Texas where his father is senior pastor. After several years of ministry preparation he has decided to pursue Chaplaincy and Supervisory Clinical Pastoral Education.

Rickey and his wife of eighteen years, Theola are the parents of three children. He offers the

following as his reason for seeking commissioning: "I seek to align myself with an organization who values ecumenical relationships and being in dialogue across a diversity of traditional religious boundaries, has a concern for the least of these and supports a ministry praxis that prioritizes love and justice and orients itself toward the marginalized, as well as, seeks gender equality."

While preparing for ministry in Ukraine, **Naomi Ludeman Smith** recalls studying Jesus' words to his disciples: "Truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do, and greater works than these." Greater works than Jesus, she pondered. Taking Jesus at his word, after a decade of ministry in Ukraine and six years in the Middle East, she took the challenge to let the Spirit teach her how to demonstrate God's love to all. She completed a second master's degree, this time in theology, and then pursued a Doctorate of Ministry in Global and Contextual Leadership.



Federation of Christian Ministries

Region Celebrates New Members

Naomi Ludeman Smith (Cont'd)

Nearly two decades later, Naomi found herself in a rural area of South Dakota as a retired professor. Here she has joined with others to make a way for refugees of multiple faiths to settle in South Dakota and for long-time residents to diminish their fear of the other. Ludeman Smith understands her social justice activism as one arm of her ministry.

As she saw her years in higher education coming to an end she asked God, "How do you want to use me?" She chose to serve people of all faiths through clinical professional chaplaincy and currently works as a hospice and hospital chaplain in the Avera Health System. Her CPE and on-site supervisors have affirmed this ministry call, and she feels the Lord's blessing in bringing spiritual comfort, compassion, and presence to others in health crisis. Naomi celebrates FCM because it commissions women without discrimination and embraces social justice activism. She is proud her membership will enable her to accomplish her goal to become board certified by the Association of Professional Chaplains.



BAPTISM
ATTENTION

All FCM members who preside at BAPTISMS
You are required to register the Baptism with the FCM Registry Office
The registry form is available on the FCM website.

- ◆ Go to www.federationofchristianministries.org
- ◆ Login to the Members Only area of the website.
- ◆ Click on Members Only link on the top right of the page.
- ◆ Click on Baptism Registry Form. You can complete the registry ONLINE or download a PDF form and mail it to the registry office. The address is on the form.

Questions?
Please email registry@FCMmail.org. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

CELEBRATING
50 YEARS
1968 + 2018

FCM SPECIAL 50th ANNIVERSARY THANKS to

Michaelita Quinn, Chairperson for her leadership, consistent follow through and attention to details.

Antoinette Marold, unofficial co-chair who managed our hotel arrangements and gave the creative touch that made the celebration so special.

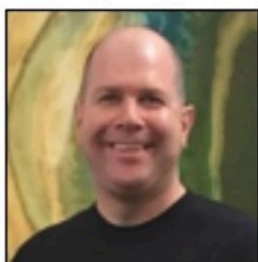
And the Team, **Amy Simpson Bennethum, Gerry Grudzen, Eileen DiFranco, Joe Ruane, Patty Stricker, Peter Strening, Michael O'Keefe** who month in and month out contributed their expertise and experience to bring our celebration into reality.

Federation of Christian Ministries



**VICE PRESIDENT
DONNA SCHREIBER**

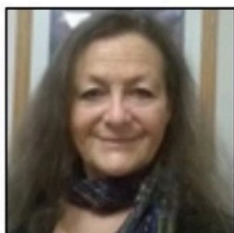
Remote Gatherings, New Members Enliven Region



If you have not yet joined our online gatherings, you're missing out on something special. **Scott Bennion** hosts us via Zoom on the first Saturday of every other (even-numbered) month at 5 p.m. Arizona time. (Please note: Arizona does not observe Daylight Saving Time.) We have enjoyed the fellowship of other members in a living room/coffee shop style in since April. People come and go as they like and it usually lasts about an hour. Our next meeting will be *October 6, 2018* and the last gathering for the year will be December 1, 2018. Thank you, Scott for being so helpful!

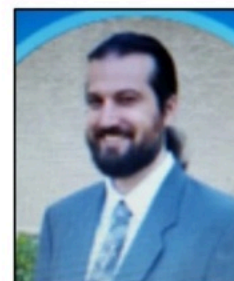
You can use your laptop, tablet or smart phone. And don't worry if you have not used Zoom before; you will receive an email invitation a day or two before that will have a link which is very easy to follow. Hope to see you there.

Please join us as we congratulate newly-commissioned members Arlene Webb and Lee Erickson!



Arlene lives in Salem, Oregon where her creative spirit shines through in her ministry. As a writer, artist, singer/songwriter, teacher and presenter, Arlene reaches out to a variety of groups and individuals.

Lee makes his home in Folsom, California where he works at Seasons Hospice & Palliative Care of Sacramento as Chaplain and Bereavement Specialist. Among his diverse responsibilities is facilitator with the Early Stage Support Group for the Alzheimer's Association. Lee is also a member of Toastmasters International and participates in an improv comedy class.



Blessings on all your ministries. Save the dates: Arlene's commissioning service will be held in September 29th in Salem, OR and Lee's commissioning service will be in October 14th around Folsom, CA. More information will be distributed to the Pacific Region.

The 50th Anniversary FCM Assembly 2018 was such an uplifting and joyful event. The Pacific Region had 19 members in attendance.





FCM STATEMENT

September/October 2018
VOL. 52 NO. 5

Statement of the Executive Committee of the Federation of Christian Ministries (FCM) regarding the Pennsylvania Grand Jury findings sent to FCM members via Constant Contact

The 900-page grand jury report has left us filled with horror, disgust, and sadness. FCM is not a Roman Catholic community, but our roots of 50 years ago were solidly in the Roman Catholic tradition. The Roman Catholic denomination is still the largest in the United States. The moral catastrophe it is enduring affects all of us who profess the name of Jesus. Believing that FCM also possesses a unique perspective because of our inclusive and ecumenical posture, we suggest several lines of action by which the Roman Catholic church might offer radical corrective measures to help heal its wounded state.

First, we join in the recommendation of others that the entire American cadre of archbishops, bishops and cardinals should tender their resignations to Pope Francis. This would indicate to all an acceptance of accountability and responsibility and a willingness to move ahead in an entirely new way. Pope Francis would then be able to accept the resignations of those with any hint of complicity in the coverups so that a clean slate may be presented to the faithful. This is a radical and common-sense action.

Second, since the Catholic hierarchy is a power structure made up only of men, **we recommend the immediate deletion of Canon 1024 from the bylaws of the Catholic Church.** This is the devastating rule preventing the ordination of women. Following on that deletion we ask Pope Francis to welcome immediately the members of the Roman Catholic Women Priests and the Association of Roman Catholic Women Priests into full communion and positions of responsibilities in the Catholic Church. It is inconceivable that the coverups and abuses of power that denied justice to victims would have happened if women were in positions of responsibility in the hierarchy. **FCM membership includes many women who have taken the prophetic action of ordination and have endured the pain of excommunication in following out their spirit-given ministry. We know these women, and they can be a leaven for the wounded Catholic Church.** The Catholic hierarchy must change, and this is a clear change that would tell the world, "Yes, we are doing business in a new way."

Third, the legacy of discrimination, condemnation, and marginalization of people of the LGBTQI communities must immediately and formally stop. These scurrilous teachings provide a rationale for blaming gay priests and bishops for these ruthless crimes simply because of their sexual orientation. This blame then deflects attention from the corrupt power structure that has enabled the horrors shown in the grand jury documents to continue over decades. The hierarchs in power deflect blame to scapegoats and to the messengers of the truth when they should have offered leadership immediately to cure instead of acting to cover up.

Finally, the requirement of celibacy for those in priesthood must be modified. Clearly a charism, a gift of God, cannot be legislated. Allow those called to a married priesthood to live that out. And allow those who have the charism of celibacy to live out that inner calling. Each year greater burdens are placed on the declining number of priests. The prayers over decades for more priests have been clearly answered in the negative. This must change and the change must be based on deep reformation. We believe that nothing short of radical transformation will lead to a cure, a new paradigm of ministry by the Catholic Church, that gains acceptance by the people. We support this transformation and look forward to its accomplishment. Nothing less will suffice.

Tom Stricker, Chairperson; Thomas Cusack, President; Heidi Tierney, Treasurer; Kathleen Bean, Secretary



Federation of Christian Ministries



Newsletter Editor...John Polanski
Email: newsletter@FCMmail.org

The FCM Newsletter is published bi-monthly by the Federation of Christian Ministries, a non-profit religious body. As the informational publication of FCM, its mission is to keep members current

with the organization and its activities, to provide ideas to further ministry and to promote community building among local FCM groups and the national organization. All current members receive a copy. Articles and feedback are welcomed and can be sent to : newsletter@FCMmail.org by the 15th of each month (February, April, June, August, October and December).

FCM Central Office COORDINATORS



Carolyn Horvath & Tom Leonhardt
Email: centraloffice@FCMmail.org

1709 W. 69th. St., #3
Cleveland, Ohio 44102-2957
Phones: 216.651.4362 - 800.538.8923

FCM Website: www.federationofchristianministries.org
FCM Blog: fcmblog.org

FCM CERTIFICATES

These lovely certificates are available from the FCM Central Office. Please specify your choice: Baptism, Marriage, Holy Union, and the number of certificates you need. Certificates are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00. Each certificate is printed on certificate weight paper in blue ink; they carry the FCM logo and seal.

FCM Membership & Realm

REALM ADMINISTRATOR & MEMBERSHIP

Amy Simpson Bennethum
Emails: connect@FCMmail.org - membership@FCMmail.org

Endorsement for Specialized Ministries

Qualified FCM members may apply for "Religious Body Endorsement" for the specialized ministries of Chaplaincy, Pastoral Counseling, and Clinical Pastoral Education. Such endorsement is required by professional certifying organizations and many institutional employers. The FCM Circle of Directors acts on endorsement applications twice yearly. Endorsement application materials are available for downloading on the FCM website at: www.federationofchristianministries.org
Inquiries may be made at: specmin@FCMmail.org

GLOBAL MINISTRIES UNIVERSITY

GMU offers degree completion programs and individual courses online. FCM members are eligible for a 5% discount on degree programs. **For more information, visit the web site:** www.globalministriesuniversity.org Email: GMU5053@aol.com
Phone: 866 419 8020 toll-free

FCM Circle of Directors

Chairperson: Thomas Stricker

Phone: 937.477.0139 | Email: chairperson@FCMmail.org

President: Thomas E. Cusack

Phone: 609.947.0770 | Email: president@FCMmail.org

Treasurer: Heidi A. Tierney

Phone: 908.217.8981 | Email: treasurer@FCMmail.org

Secretary: Kathleen Bean

Phone: 937.433.3343 | Email: secretary@FCMmail.org

Chair, Commissioning Committee: Anthony Ercolano

Phone: 718.461.7128 | Email: commissioningchair@FCMmail.org

Chair, Specialized Ministries: Christy Howard-Steele

Phone: 708.285.5845 | Email: specmin@FCMmail.org

Vice Chair, Specialized Ministries: Jeanne Hale

Phone: 919.350.7853 | Email: specmin@FCMmail.org

REGIONAL VICE-PRESIDENTS

Pacific: Donna Schreiber

Phone: 609.304.4866 | Email: pacificvp@FCMmail.org

Mountains & Plains: Richard E. James

Phone: 773.418.5671 | Email: mts_plainsvp@FCMmail.org

Great Lakes: Ron Davis

Phone: 513.262.2210 | Email: greatlakesvp@FCMmail.org

Southern: Diane Dougherty

Phone: 678.918.1945 | Email: southernvp@FCMmail.org

Northeast: Carl Yusavitz

Phone: 215.453.5170 | Email: northeastvp@FCMmail.org

FCM ADDITIONAL CONTACTS

Ethics Committee: Joseph Ruane

Phone: 215.387.7998 Email: j.ruane@uscience.edu

Prayer Support Coordinator (on the website or):

Susan Ferman Email: prayersupport@FCMmail.org

FCM Communications: Antoinette Marold

Email: communication@FCMmail.org