

FCM Newsletter

Federation of Christian Ministries

Mission Statement

The Federation of Christian Ministries
responds to the Divine Call by
empowering and nurturing those inspired
for inclusive ministries.

Vision Statement

FCM envisions a future in which
inclusive ministry transforms society.

Core Values:

Belonging
Compassion
Empowerment
Equity
Mindful Living

2019

September/October 2019

VOL. 53 Number 5



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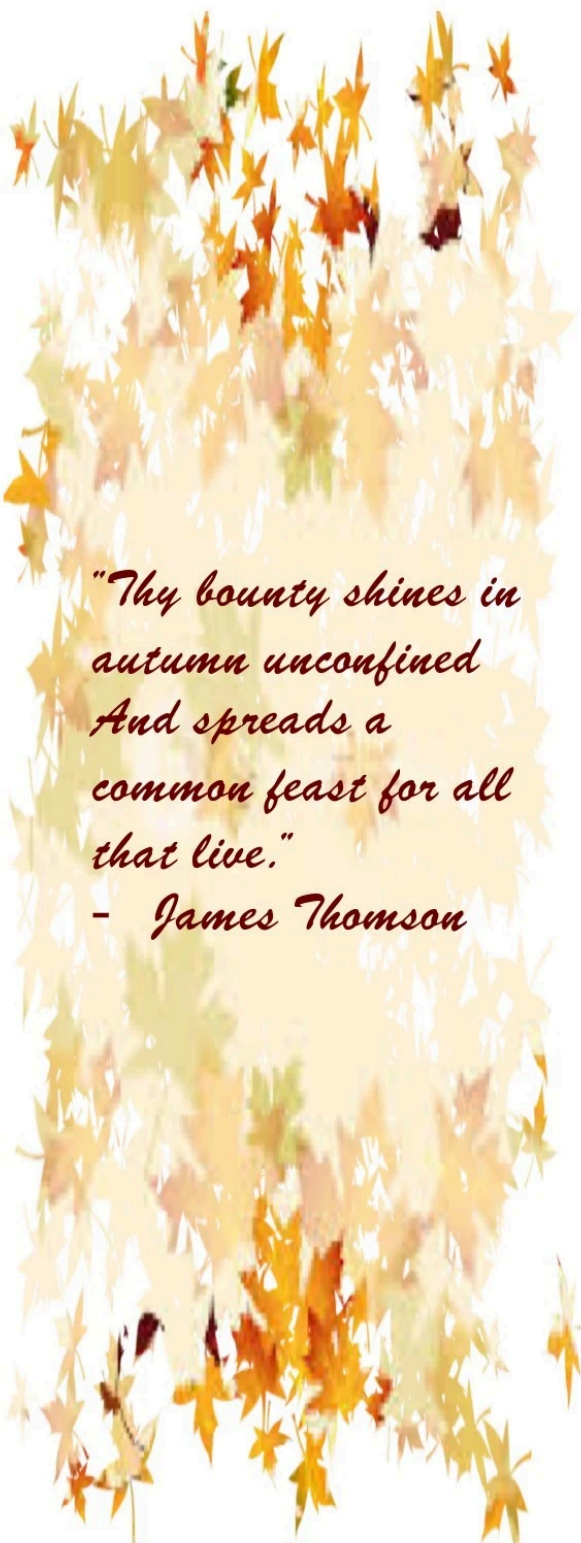
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*"Thy bounty shines in
autumn unconfined
And spreads a
common feast for all
that live."*

- James Thomson



CHAIRPERSON

CHRISTY HOWARD-STEELE

Transitions

As I continue to be excited by this awesome opportunity before me as chairperson of FCM, the breadth of the responsibility is becoming a reality. As I shared at the Circle meeting, **Tom Stricker** left big shoes for me (not to fill) but to follow. I am so grateful for his leadership as well as that of many others who have served FCM! As I begin my term as chairperson, I realize that I personally along with FCM are in transition. William Bridges, author, speaker, and preeminent authority of change and transition wrote:

"Change is situational; it is the external event that is taking place... Transition is the inner psychological process that people go through as they internalize and come to terms with the new situation that change brings about."

Psychologically, I am realizing that it is now my responsibility to tally votes and perspectives and it is no longer my responsibility to write letters of endorsement. I am also in the process of leaving the people and institution where I have worked for 13 years to go to work at a different institution with different people. In these transitions, I am leaving the comfort of what has become familiar to take on what is initially unfamiliar.

Similarly, FCM is in the midst of a few transitions of its own. First, while FCM was officially recognized by the IRS as a convention of churches in 2010, this is an identity we claim as our intention from the beginning. Psychologically, FCM continues to live into the fullness of that identity. That identity means faith communities are a significant part of how we all see ourselves and our membership. We can no longer think of FCM as solely a community of individual members. When we gather locally and regionally, we are gathering as an inclusive community of faith and I encourage members who regularly gather, be it monthly, every other month or quarterly, to consider creating or becoming a community of faith member of FCM.

Secondly, FCM is transitioning some of our administrative functions. In particular, this year's renewal will be completed through our new software, Realm. As with most changes involving technology, the new and unfamiliar can be challenging. **Your Regional Vice President, Amy Simpson, Tom Cusack and I** are here to support and assist you. Reach out and touch one of us if you are stuck. I am confident that once the hiccups are resolved, we will all appreciate the cost, resource, and time savings benefits that will result from this more automated process.

Finally, you provided FCM with a wealth of information through a survey in April. At the Circle meeting in July, commissioned member **Mary Vidas** presented some of the basic survey results. These are being shared in a separate article. There is much more information captured in the comments that we are still in the process of compiling and will share at a later date. The survey will be a guide for the Circle as we formulate our strategic plan for the next few years. Stay tuned!

*See, I am doing a new thing!
Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?
I am making a way in the wilderness
and streams in the wasteland.
Isaiah 43:19 NIV*



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PRESIDENT

TOM CUSACK



The Reign of the Gun Religion

The United states of America has endured terrible experiences in the last weeks. Mass murders were committed in El Paso, Texas and in Dayton, Ohio. In El Paso the gunman was motivated to commit his terroristic killings from an anti-immigrant mindset. In Dayton the murderer had a history of violent misogynistic threats and ideation. In both cases high powered weapons were available to the shooters. In addition, as I write this the mayor of Philadelphia is describing the heroic actions of the Philadelphia Police Department in containing and bringing to a successful conclusion an eight-hour siege in which a gunman armed with military style weaponry kept a city hostage for hours. Thankfully that situation ended with no loss of life.

I suggest that the thread that goes through these and so many similar events is the availability of military style weaponry available to all. The assault rifle is the sacred symbol of the Gun Dogma that with enough firepower we can all be safe. Our American creed has become "the gun is our right." Our sacred objects are the guns themselves. Our Sacred Scripture is the Constitution's Second Amendment. Our Gun-High-Priests in their vestments on the Supreme Court have interpreted the Second Amendment Scripture in a way that allows all this weaponry to be bought, owned and used without limit. The Religion of the Gun has plenty of space for human sacrifice, and the bodies of the sacrificial victims litter the streets, the shopping malls and the houses of worship. The adherents of the Gun Religion are unmoved by the death of innocents. In fact, these deaths become a more intense rationale for obtaining more weaponry.

I suggest that the religion of the gun has failed in its stated central purpose: to make us safe. Thus, it is a false religion. As a demanding, demonic force, it requires more victims and for all left alive to bow down to it. It is time to declare that the Gun Religion's Second Amendment Scripture is a false foundation. It is time to declare that the assault rifle is not a symbol of safety but of death. It is time to declare the Assault-Rifle-Sacred-Object is a simple tool of death and destruction.

These declarations in our society may be made by millions of people, but they do not yet translate into legal action. Consistent attention and political action are necessary for them to come to reality. I have a Master's degree in American History from the University of Notre Dame. I know that the Second Amendment in our culture will be close-to-impossible to change. This Gun Scripture is held in too great regard by too many. So, in our political system only an incremental and diligent series of steps can blunt the power of the Gun Religion. It is time for us to commit ourselves to the actions we each can each take to bring down the gun from its throne-of-god. Those steps are well known, we need people in places of power who will turn the tide and replace the love of the power of the gun with the power of love.

By the way, I've been a successful recreational hunter in Iowa. I'm a good shot with a 12-gauge shotgun, and I've enjoyed pheasant and quail dinners. I also have five grandchildren whom I hope will grow up. So, I abandon any last vestige of the Religion of the Gun and its idolatrous sacred objects and its Sacred Constitutional Scripture to work to preserve the lives of so many innocents.

Please take every action you can to change our society towards peace.





CHAIRPERSON

CHRISTY HOWARD-STEELE

FCM Survey Results



We are delighted to share some highlights from the survey completed in April. While the Circle is still in the process of tabulating comments, write-in responses as well as drilling down to better understand what the survey is telling us, we thought it was important to share what we know so far. We hope to have summarized the additional information and develop our strategic plan at the February 2020 meeting.

The survey team was led by commissioned member **Mary Vidas**, who generously gave of her time and talent to capture and tabulate the survey responses that were collected in April. Mary attended and presented the results of the survey to the Circle at the July meeting. The survey team also included **Lindsay Butler, Ryan Mulkowski, Conner Sims, Tom Stricker and me**. As previously reported, 60% (273) of our members responded to the survey. Thank you, Mary! Thank you, Lindsay, Ryan, Conner, and Tom! And thank You, to each member for responding.

Here are some highlights from the survey:

Membership Profile:

- About half (50%) of those responding have been members for 5 years or less; 18% 6-10 years; 17% 11-20 years and 15% more than 21 years
- The representation of regions in the survey generally followed the proportion of membership by region with Northeast being 29%, Great Lakes 25%, Mountain & Plains 16%, Pacific and Southern at 15% each.
- Slightly less than 12% of the members responding are under the age of 45; slightly less than half (49%) are 65 and over.
- Almost 80% of those responding are commissioned members including 31% who are endorsed. Faith communities represented just under 4% of those responding
- 15% of those responding also participate in an FCM member faith community
- Overall, 82% of those responding were extremely or very satisfied with their FCM membership.

Interesting survey results to consider:

- 55% of those responding most preferred in-person networking as the way to get to know other members
- 45% of those responding are aware and have not accessed the national assembly and their regional gathering; 20% are not aware of local gatherings.
- 74% of those responding rate the overall quality of the newsletter as good or excellent.
- 47% of those responding are aware and have not accessed online discussion opportunities such as Zoom discussions, Facebook, LinkedIn.
- 40% of those responding do not often access the website (this refers to the previous website).
- Over 70% of those responding are extremely or very satisfied with national communication. This drops to 60% for regional communication.

As we continue working with the survey results at the February 2020 Circle, stay tuned for action plans and ways you can participate.



ENDOWMENT

BY TOM CUSACK, CHAIR OF THE ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE

We have had some developments regarding our FCM Endowment, and I would like to share those with you.

In the July Circle meeting we discussed three third-party-vendor fundraising plans which were submitted to Committee person **John Jeffrey** in response to FCM's request for proposals (RFP). Two of the three proposals fit our needs, but they did not fit our financial capability at this time. They cost too much to implement. Our discussion then moved to two approaches offered through two of our FCM members who are active with the Endowment Committee. **Mary Ann Cejka** had outlined a plan with some detail. It would fit FCM's culture and address our need for an overall long-term plan for soliciting gifts both for the general account and for the endowment. **Tom Stricker** also brought forward a plan on which he had worked with another member of his faith community, Living Beatitudes. The Circle decided to concentrate at this time on the draft plan brought to it by **Tom Stricker**. The Endowment Committee and FCM leadership is reviewing this plan now.

In another development the Circle recognized the completion of **Mary Ann Cejka's** one-year term on the Endowment Committee. With thanks to **Mary Ann** the Circle learned of the interest **Tom Stricker** had of becoming a member of the Endowment Committee. His wish to be on the committee was immediately granted, and Tom begins his three-year term on the committee. Thank you to **Mary Ann** and to **Tom**.

Watch for additional news in the coming month as plans are solidified for an effort at building the endowment.

Finally, one of our FCM members who has been an Endowment Committee "interested party," **Shawna Tuttle** of the Pacific Region, has endured the onset of an extremely serious health condition. She is courageously confronting this challenge and seeking to move through it to health. Please keep **Shawna** in your prayers.

Social Justice Calls for FCM's Engaging Presence

If you have a heart for social justice coming from Jesus' loving presence among the disenfranchised, the poor, the oppressed, then you may be one who can help FCM give voice to us through FCM's public statements.

If you know the traumatic response that many have in recalling the too-numerous national and international tragedies that are invoked on these major anniversaries, then you may be one who can help FCM give voice to us through FCM's public statements.

If your faith calls you to civic and religious actions calling for social change to achieve Jesus' vision of the Kingdom, then you may be one who can help FCM give voice to us through FCM's public statements.

A small committee of FCM members is proposed that will help form FCM's public statements. If you feel so called, please consider joining this new committee with the goal of advising the Executive Committee and drafting statements.

If this new FCM effort seems interesting to join, please write to **Tom Cusack**, president@fcmmail.org for details.



**HEIDI TIERNEY
TREASURER**

TREASURER

Treasurer Report for 2019 September Newsletter

Our FCM Mission Statement: The Federation of Christian Ministries responds to the Divine Call by empowering and nurturing those inspired for inclusive ministries.

Our FCM Vision Statement: FCM envisions a future in which inclusive ministry transforms society.

Our mission and vision are supported by our combined efforts and good works. As your treasurer I am witness to how very important our operating revenues are to our work as we live out our Divine Call.

We closed our fiscal year as of June 30, 2019. I reported to the Circle of Directors that we continue to be in a sound financial position. At year end we closed with \$24,587.60 in our General account and \$70,233.68 in our Money Market account.

A review of our financial records was completed June 28, 2019. The conclusion of this review was positive. Our records and processes were found to be complete and accurate, using accepted accounting principles.

Our year end operating revenues totaled \$83,121.20 and operating expenditures totaled \$76,882.51 which left us with a Net Revenue of \$6,238.69 for our fiscal year.

At the July Circle of Directors meeting the Circle elected to take the majority of our Net Revenue, \$6000.00, and donate it to our Endowment Fund. The Endowment Fund is the way to secure the future ministries of FCM and it is all our responsibility to safeguard this future. We are all very excited to be able to make this donation and investment in all of our futures.

Our operating budget is primarily supported by your membership dues and applications (\$72,523.82) and your generous donations (\$5,811.38). It is extremely important for us to continue to be timely with the payments of our dues, as this ensures that the Federation of Christian Ministries continues to enable and empower all of us and future members to be in an inclusive ministry that transforms society.

All donations are appreciated by our 500+ members of FCM, as it is our gifts to the operations of FCM that continues to support our present-day expenditures and current ministries. Please continue or begin to support your community of faith, the Federation of Christian Ministries, by adding regularly scheduled giving to your own personal budget. This is a great opportunity to give back a portion of the rewards you receive because FCM is your ministry home and recognizes your Divine Call.

It is an honor and a privilege to be your treasurer. It is with humility and genuine gratefulness that I appreciate all that the Federation of Christian Ministries gives to me. I thank you all for your continued patience and support as I serve our faithful community in this capacity.

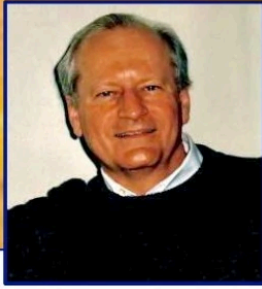
Respectfully,

Rev. Heidi Tierney
Treasurer

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COMMISSIONING

ANTHONY ERCOLANO

Commissioning Committee Report

At our July Circle meeting, we approved a number of edits and amendments to our Commissioning Polity Manual and relevant sections of the FCM By-Laws to reflect changes in procedures that have been recently implemented.

The By-Laws were amended to recognize that Commissioning is equivalent to ordination for those who have not been previously ordained. It also confers "faculties" to minister in the name of the Federation as long as annual accountability requirements are met in a timely manner. It should be noted that the inability to remit one's annual fees will NEVER constitute the sole reason to rescind one's faculties. This is a concern that can be resolved through one's regional vice president.

The revised Commissioning Polity manual is available on the FCM website. It outlines the procedures for Commissioning/ordination, as well as how a commissioned member is reinstated following a family leave or another temporary absence. It also explains how FCM recognizes the ordinations of individuals from other denominations and the procedures that they must follow.

Should you require guidance concerning any of these procedures, please contact your regional vice president or the FCM Commissioning Chair at commissioningchair@fcmmail.org.

Anthony Ercolano, DMin Commissioning Chair





**AMY SIMPSON-
BENNETHUM**



REALM

FCM Renewal for 2020 Goes Digital

We have some exciting updates to our 2020 membership renewal process. The FCM 2020 renewal process, which begins on September 1, will be done electronically. We are very excited for this change as it will not only simplify the process for our members, but has the added environmental benefits of eliminating paper waste and providing substantial cost savings for FCM. Being good stewards of our resources, both environmentally and financially, is important to the Circle of Directors which makes this new process even more exciting.

What this means for you:

- Renewal forms will NOT be mailed to the 500+ FCM members as we have done in past years.
- All FCM membership renewals (general, commissioned, commissioned & endorsed, faith community) will be done by completing an electronic version of the renewal form and online payment of fees.
- Once you have completed your renewal, you will receive an electronic communication from FCM alerting you to the completion.
- Certificates and/or cards will be mailed out to those members who choose that option on their renewal form.

There are two convenient methods for completing your online renewal:

Renew from your Realm Profile Account

(In order to use this method, you need to have previously signed in to your profile on Realm and created your unique password. If you have not yet done this step, reach out to the Realm Administrator (me--Amy Simpson) or the Vice-President of your region and we will be happy to send you an email link to get you started.)

- Go to www.onrealm.org
- Log in to your Realm profile using your email address and the password you created
- From your profile page, click the "Registration Events" tab
- Click on 2020 Membership Renewal
- Type your name in the "Add registrant" box
- Select the type of membership you are renewing (general, commissioned, commissioned & endorsed, faith community)
- Answer all the questions that follow
- Pay the registration fee (credit card, debit card, or electronic check)

Renew from the FCM Website

- Go to www.federationofchristianministries.org
- From the home page, click on the blue "2020 Member Renewal" tab
- Type your name in the "Add registrant" box
- Select the type of membership you are renewing (general, commissioned, commissioned & endorsed, faith community)
- Answer all the questions that follow
- Pay the registration fee (credit card, debit card, or electronic check)

If you have any questions, please reach out to your regional Vice-President or send me an email at connect@fcmmail.org.

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ANTOINETTE MAROLD

Communication News

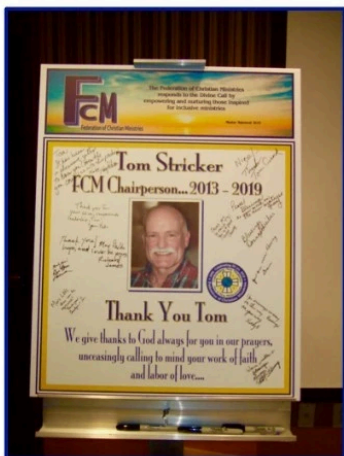
New Website

The FCM new website is online www.federationofchristianministries.org. Check it out! The new site is set up with information about FCM and applications for new membership, both individual and faith communities.

Registry

We have a new login address for you to register your weddings, baptisms, holy unions. **FCMregistry.org**. If you officiate a baptism you must register the baptism on the registry site. Weddings and holy unions are suggested but not required.

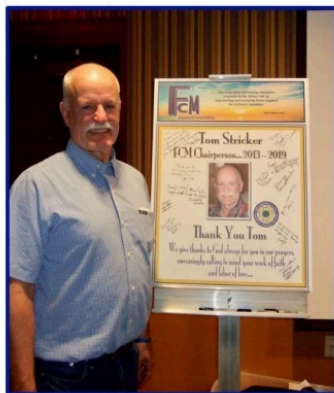
COMMUNICATION



Tom thank you sign. Signed by Circle members.

Middle: Tom Stricker & sign.

Christy Howard-Steele, Tom Stricker, Antoinette Marold, and Tom Cusack



Top: Tom Cusack, President presenting plaque to outgoing Chairperson, Tom Stricker with Christy Howard-Steele assisting.

Outgoing Pacific VP, Donna Schreiber receiving certificate. Presented by Tom Cusack, President

Thank you..Tom Stricker, Christy Howard-Steele and Donna Schreiber

The July Circle Meeting took place in Cleveland. At the close of the meeting on Saturday, Tom Cusack, President presented Tom Stricker, with a plaque for his 6 years service as Chairperson. You can watch the presentation on the FCM Facebook page where it was live streamed.

Several FCM members who served on the Circle with Tom in past years joined the presentation on Zoom. Tom also received a notebook of good wishes from Circle members and past Circle members.

Welcome...

Christy Howard-Steele, Jeanne Hale, Peter Strening, and Tracy Peterson

Christy Howard-Steele was welcomed as the newly elected Chairperson as well as received a certificate for her service as Specialized Ministries Chairperson. **Donna Schreiber** also received a certificate for her service as Pacific Region Vice President.

We welcomed **Jeanne Hale & Peter Strening** as the new co-chairs of Specialized Ministries, and **Tracy Peterson** as the new Vice President of the Pacific Region.

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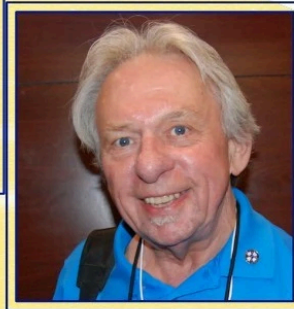
SPECIALIZED MINISTRIES

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**CHRISTY
HOWARD-STEELE**



CARL YUSAVITZ

Thank You

The FCM Committee on Specialized Ministries would like to say a heartfelt “thank you” **Christy Howard-Steele** and **Carl Yusavitz**. During their term as Chair and Vice-Chair of the CSM, their leadership and guidance made a significant difference for the many chaplains, CPE students, pastoral educators and others who came to FCM seeking endorsement for specialized ministries. Christy and Carl made wise and thoughtful changes to the FCM Endorsement Polity Manual and the endorsement application materials, bringing more structure and clarity to the process. And they worked diligently with the CSM Regional Liaisons, companioning people through the endorsement process with care, attentiveness, dedication and compassion.

We are deeply grateful for the many hours and tremendous effort that Christy and Carl put in to the Committee on Specialized Ministries and the FCM endorsement process. They are both now serving FCM in other roles— Carl as the VP of the Northeast Region, and Christy as the Chairperson of FCM. And, while we miss having them with us on the CSM, we are excited for the ways they continue to help FCM live into our Mission of responding to the Divine Call by empowering and nurturing those inspired for inclusive ministries.

Thank you, Christy and Carl—you have certainly inspired us.

The FCM Committee on Specialized Ministries (Judy McBride, John Jeffrey, Lisa Koch, Ingmar Ludwig, Peter Strening and Jeanne Hale)

Federation of Christian Ministries



Federation of Christian Ministries

The Chasm between Free Speech and Hate Speech

MAUREEN MANCUSO, FCM

It seems that in past times religious traditions, with their doctrine and dogmas, most often operated in exclusion of one another; however, in the modern era people from various cultures, languages, and faith traditions dialogue openly and unify in specific shared truths. There is a rise in interest and focus in the "Wisdom Tradition" found in the major world religions where the universality of love, truth, beauty, and goodness brings us into dialogue. Humans are rediscovering the notion of shared universal truth, a "collective consciousness" which leads to more mature levels of faith and acceptance in the Oneness of Spirit guiding the principle of love and its transformative power. The resolute of this principle has sadly once again been challenged by a narrow ideology which diminishes the God-given dignity of all human beings in its fear-based attempt to claim superiority and power. White nationalism is on the rise in the United States. Actually, such nationalism is a pan-national ideology designed to maintain a white majority in historically white countries in western civilization that includes political and economic dominance, the self-preservation of white people, and purports that multi-culturalism and immigration threaten the white race. Once again in past weeks, White Nationalism ideology was linked to the shooters in activated gun violence and death in Gilroy and in El Paso.

According to the United States Department of Justice Hate Crimes Webpage, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) reported in its 2017 Hate Crime Statistics, that there were 7,106 single bias motivated incidents involving 8,493 victims and 69 multiple bias motivated incidences involving 335 victims in 2017. Of the single bias motivated incidences 58.1 % were racial/ethnically motivated, 22% of hate crimes were religiously motivated, and 15.9% of hate crimes that year were based on the bias of sexual orientation (<https://www.justice.gov/hatecrimes/hate-crime-statistics>). Since 2017, hate crimes have increased at an alarming rate. Unfortunately, the actions of hate in this country fester in the seedbed of free speech language. This country does not possess a Domestic Terrorist unit of law enforcement like we do for International terrorism.

In fact, our law enforcement can only respond to actionable offenses, not language, and by then it is often too late. The reality is that hate crimes are preceded, organized, and manifested first by hate-filled speech which leads to the hate-filled aggressions including destruction, violence, and often death. Globalization and multiculturalism can inspire tolerance, connection, understanding, and an openness towards religious and spiritual diversity. One's seeking to promote universal truths, wherein every person might see all humanity as images of the Divine, is countered by the emergence of deep-seated hatreds facilitated by our freedom of speech which then can lead to acts of hate crimes with possibly devastating results.

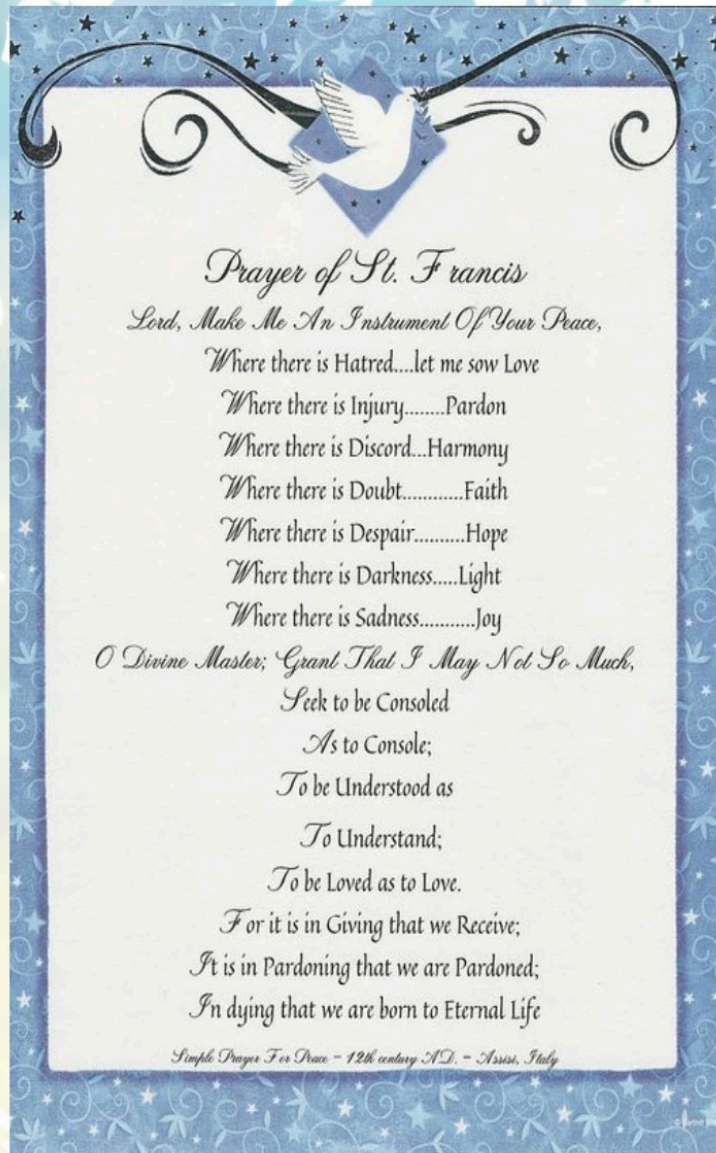
The people of the United States of America value the principles of our constitution and the wisdom of its founders in that we possess a unique constitution founded "by the people for the people." Power was not given over to us by a structure of hierarchy such as a king. Our constitution was constructed fundamentally of governance solely by the decisions of its citizenry through a democratic process. We are not the subjects of a country; rather, in the USA, the elected officials essentially work for the people – we are their employers. It is good to remember this! The original constitution ratified by the 13 colonies contained seven articles. The constitution was shortly thereafter amended, and Freedom of Speech is found in the first amendment; one of ten amendments known as "The Bill of Rights." Freedom of Speech allows individuals the freedom of expression without interference or regulation of the government. "Congress shall make no law abridging the freedom of speech" (US Constitution, First Amendment). The Supreme Court has consistently ruled in affirmation of a broad swath in its rulings on free speech as recently as 2017. Freedom of Speech includes the freedom of thought to verbalize hate. In that decision former Justice Anthony Kennedy stated, "A law that can be directed against speech found offensive to some portion of the public can be turned against minority and dissenting views to the detriment of all. The First Amendment does not entrust that power to the government's benevolence. Instead, our reliance must be on the substantial safeguards of free and open discussion in a democratic society" (Matal v. Tam). Congress obviously cannot abridge free speech or one's right to speak with hatred. However, when hate speech is known as the initiate for objectionable and illegal actions of hate, how are we to navigate the chasm between free speech and hate speech? It is natural to protect free speech because if that train ever leaves the station through congressional abridgement, we not only diminish democracy, but risk sliding down a slippery slope towards the rise of a totalitarian state in its place.

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How do we turn the sword of the tongue into a plowshare before it literally becomes a weapon? For those in ministry, we are challenged to love the hater. We need to look underneath the hate into the fear that binds, creates, and forms it. This is no simple task and we cannot do it alone; neither can we afford to dismiss or to ignore those who hate. Nor can we afford to rationalize our own fear and avoid a response. So where to begin? Biblical scripture suggests that to minister is to live on the margins with the poor and oppressed—the Samaritan Woman, the lepers, the widow, the tax collectors. Obviously, Christianity is neither for the self-sufficient nor faint of heart! In becoming a follower of Christ, it is the great paradoxes that Jesus teaches—the poor he makes rich, the weak he makes strong, the foolish he makes wise, the dirty he makes clean, the lonely he loves, and the worthless he values. It is this fluid unfolding of stories that transforms and creates wholeness. Christianity is not a moralistic ideology of self-righteousness, self-protection and increase of personal prosperity; in fact, it isn't self-anything!

Our task is to understand that those who were taught to hate live in a very controlled, limited, and regulated world. Most who hate are taught to hate by introduction, isolation, and a regulated historical perspective. We must reach out in love with invitations to a broader community experience. We don't argue with one radicalized to hate; instead, we inquire, ask questions, share contrary experiences, reserve judgement, and extend invitation and opportunity which cultivate inquiry, curiosity and reflective self-questioning. Ministry must bring healing to what feels unknown and scary and hold compassion towards one who must feel so powerless in society that the hatred turns one to seek others who share such depths of hatred. As St. Francis prayed so do we: "Make me a channel of Your peace. Where there is hatred let me sow love."





CARL YUSAVITZ

Congratulations to the newly Commissioned and Endorsed Members



Congratulations to our newly Commissioned Members

In July FCM commissioned a record number of members – five from our Northeast Region. Pictured are: Alisa Cramer, finishing her CPE residency at the University of Pennsylvania Health System in Philadelphia; Karyn Jean Dickhoff, continuing her hospice chaplaincy with Liberty Lutheran Services in Southeast Pennsylvania; Summer Perella, continuing as senior staff chaplain at Reading (PA) Hospital; Norman Simmons, continuing his pastoral care with members of the Philadelphia Chapter of Dignity USA; and Sarah Wilkins, beginning a CPE residency in Huntington, WV. Congratulations and blessings on the pastoral care you provide to others!



Congratulations to our newly Endorsed Members

Congratulations to Alisa Cramer and Ron Cyktor, who were endorsed by the FCM Circle in July. Both Alisa and Ron will be applying for board certification with the Association of Professional Chaplaincy.

Northeast Regional Retreat News!

The theme of this year's regional retreat is "Refilling our Well: Ministry in an Ever-Evolving World." Presentations will include:

- ✓ "Bending, Breaking and Blending Marriage in America: Are these Trends Remaking Christian Marriage?" with John Haag.
- ✓ "Imagine Common Ground and New Ways of Creating Community" with Mary Aktay.
- ✓ "FCM's Role in Social Justice: Militarism in Latin America and at the Border" with Jack Wentland.
- ✓ "Chaplains: On the Front Lines of Faith" shown as a film by Martin Doblmeier.

Please join us for this enriching time of building community, prayer, rest, worship, and refilling our wells!!!

Our gratitude to Northeast Region member David Pasinski for his prayer and reflection on his family's recent service trip to El Paso, TX.

NORTHEAST REGION

September/October 2019

VOL. 53 NO. 5

Federation of Christian Ministries

Regional Gathering Returns to Eddy Farm

October 11-13, 2019



Eddy Farm is a Christian retreat and conference center located approximately 85 miles from New York City. FCM has met there twice before and found it accessible for most of our Northeast members. The center is situated on 100 acres of property on the Delaware River near where New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania meet. Visit at: www.eddyfarm.com

Room descriptions & weekend rates (below) are for 2 nights lodging, with 6 meals, and the use of all amenities, as well as 1 night's lodging, with 3 meals.

Standard Rooms with Private Bath - These are basic rooms with private bathroom and air conditioning. They are located in The Main Inn, The Lodge, or The Annex.

Standard Single Occupancy = \$253 per person (or \$126.50 per person for 1 night)
Standard Double Occupancy = \$198 per person (or \$99 per person for 1 night)
Standard Triple Occupancy = \$178 per person (or \$89 per person for 1 night)

Deluxe Rooms - These are bigger rooms with private bathroom, air conditioning, telephone, and limited Dish television. These rooms have outside balcony, suite, or a porch. They also have a view of either The Delaware River or our beautiful recreational fields.

Deluxe Single Occupancy = \$297 per person (or \$148.50 for one night)
Deluxe Double Occupancy = \$242 per person (\$121 for one night)
Deluxe Triple Occupancy = \$218 per person (\$109 for one night)
Deluxe Quadruple Occupancy = \$194 per person (\$97 for one night)

Not staying overnight? - Single meals prices are \$35 for one meal and \$45 for two meals, and \$55 for three meals) FCM has been offered a 50% discount for full-time ministers and their spouses. (Please note: the facility policy recognizes full-time ministers to include chaplains, pastors, or Christian counselors and does not include those whose ministry is limited to weddings).

REGISTRATION FORM FOR FCM NORTHEAST REGIONAL ASSEMBLY.....OCTOBER 11-13, 2019

IF YOU ARE STAYING BOTH NIGHTS, CIRCLE ONE: **STANDARD** **DELUX**
CHECK ONE: SINGLE OCCUPANCY __ DOUBLE OCCUPANCY __ TRIPLE OCCUPANCY __

IF YOU ARE STAYING ONLY ONE NIGHT, CIRCLE ONE: **STANDARD** **DELUX**
CHECK ONE: SINGLE OCCUPANCY __ DOUBLE OCCUPANCY __ TRIPLE OCCUPANCY __

IF YOU ARE A FULL-TIME MINISTER AND WANT TO CLAIM THE 50% DISCOUNT (SEE ABOVE), LIST YOUR MINISTRY POSITION AND CHURCH OR AGENCY YOU WORK FOR:

IF YOU ARE NOT STAYING OVERNIGHT, BUT JOINING US FOR 1, 2, OR 3 MEALS, YOUR MEAL COST = _____
YOUR TOTAL COST = _____

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO FCM.
SEND TO CARL YUSAVITZ, 7128 CRITTENDEN STREET, PHILADELPHIA, PA 19119

NAME OR NAMES _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

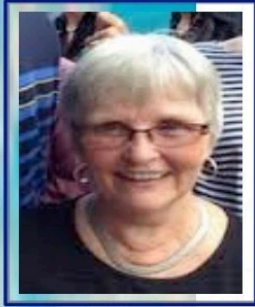
ANY DIETARY NEEDS? _____
WOULD YOU VOLUNTEER TO HELP PREPARE OUR GATHERING? _____
WOULD YOU VOLUNTEER TO HELP FACILITATE OUR GATHERING? _____
WOULD YOU VOLUNTEER TO DO A WORKSHOP? _____

CUT AND MAIL

NORTHEAST REGION
2019 Gathering

September/October 2019
VOL. 53 NO. 5

Federation of Christian Ministries



DIANE DOUGHERTY
VICE PRESIDENT

Commissioning of members in Raleigh NC and Palm Coast FL

Charged with a renewed vision and mission, new members in the Southern Region are commissioned to live out their call as ordained members of their communities.



LEFT TO RIGHT:
AMBER LITKA
CAROLE DUBOIS
BETSY MOODY
JACQUE JACKSON



LEFT TO RIGHT:
BETH KNIGHT
GINNY HAGEN
KIM MEHAN
BECCA BASS
RANDY SHEBEK

SOUTHERN REGION

Inclusive Communities Rising

Each person commissioned by FCM is empowered to create and respond to the needs of the communities in their care. In light of that vision and mission, we highlight some of the Inclusive Faith Initiatives and Small Faith Communities by FCM members growing in the South.

Open and affirming communities of faith

Mother Mary of Jesus-Sarasota, FL Contact:
Rev. Lee Breyer, Ellenton, FL
Living Waters-Catonsville, VA Contact: Rev.
Gloria Carpentro, Baltimore, MD

Retreat Centers and Spiritual Renewal

Christian Healing Center-Jacksonville, FL
Contact: Francis and Judith MacNutt
Conscious Aging Workshop-Contact: Beth
Knight, Clermont, FL

Ongoing Inclusive Theological Formation

People's Catholic Seminary: On Line Courses:
Contact: Bridget Mary Meehan, ARCWP
Sarasota, FL

Inclusive Ministerial Services

Wedding Planner- Contact: Rev. Sandy Tracy,
MDiv_Knoxville, TN

Planting a New Church

Rev. Barbara Beadles, Silver Spring, MD,
chronicles the development of a New Faith
Community in Georgetown, Washington, DC in
the FCM Blog called *Tinleytown Mass.*

Welcome New Members

Evelyn Medina Hahn, Apex, NC I am a Chaplain at
WakeMed, a Level I Trauma Center in Raleigh, NC. My love
for people and families keeps me doing what I do.

(Lacey) Kellin Kumanchik, Norfolk, VA I am completing a
residency at a Level 1 trauma hospital. I have done
fieldwork in a church setting and continue to preach monthly.

Leslie Frances Hardy, Baltimore, MD I am a volunteer for
a mental health organization and I am working as a case
manager with me and woman coming out of recovery
centers. I help them with housing, resume writing and social
skills.

Grayce Lane Riverview, FL I joined FCM 2-3 years ago
but recently moved to FL from IA. At the moment I am
seeking employment. I am a Certified Educator Candidate
with ACPE and have a former career in Human Resources.

JUSTICE AND PEACE INITIATIVE

SAVE the DATE

School of the America's Watch SOAW
Ft. Benning, GA Nov .15-17
<https://www.soaw.org/about/>

September/October 2019

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RON DAVIS
VICE PRESIDENT

Great Lakes Region Commissioning

During our July's Circle Meetings, six members of the Great Lakes Region were approved for commissioning with FCM. Today, I would like to take time to introduce them to you so that you can know them and pray for them as they continue to minister in various ways across the Great Lakes Region of FCM.

Scott Heller

It is my pleasure to introduce you to Scott Heller. Scott's primary ministry is to work as a spiritual director in Columbus, Ohio. He is a facilitator of centering prayer, is involved in the Columbus Cum Cristo community, and is a member of the recovery community. His primary reason for seeking commissioning with FCM is to give him opportunity to expand his ministry so that he can administer sacraments. Specifically, he would like to officiate at marriages, serve communion to the people of faith.

Scott earned a BA in Business Administration in 1985. He went through a 3 year program with Wellstreams Spiritual Direction Training and Formation where he earned his Spiritual Director Certification. He is committed to attending continuing education and workshops for spiritual direction training. He also attends 12 step workshops and step studies. His hope is that his commissioning with FCM will enable him "to provide for others who are underserved or not affiliated with a specific faith tradition."

Father Vinny McKiernan remembers Scott for participating in a weekly Centering Prayer group on Tuesdays for the last eight years. He says that "Scott is gentle, compassionate, and caring." Michael O'Brien wrote that "one of Scott's qualities that has impressed me from the beginning is how he focuses on living his life from the standpoint of ministering to others with integrity and staying true to the spiritual path. My journey with Scott has provided me real witness as to his maturity, humility, humanity, integrity and courage." Bonnie Gerber has known Scott for 17 years as his pastor at All Saints Lutheran Church in Worthington, Ohio. She recognizes that Scott has developed into a spiritual director who is sought out by others.

William Dale Lykins

It is my pleasure to introduce to you William Dale Lykins (Dale). He began his ministry to others as a young adult. He volunteered to serve as the youth director in his local church. He also served as a worship leader. Dale went to the Ohio State University and earned a degree in Social work. After completing college, he enrolled in seminary at Asbury Theological Seminary. He finished his MDiv in 1989. He became a pastor for the first time in 1989. He served five United Methodist churches over the next thirty years.

Dale connected with a variety of different people over the life of his ministry in the Methodist Church. As Dale grew, he began to recognize that God loves all people and God is very welcoming and affirming. Over these last number of years, he watched the Methodist Church move towards a conservative stance on inclusive issues. This troubled Dale's spirit. He believes that the United Methodist does not embrace the values that he holds dear to his heart. Because of this, he is ready to embrace a new expression of his calling. He is prayerfully considering planting a new congregation in the Mason/West Chester Ohio area where all people can be accepted and grow in their love of God. He has already begun a Bible study group in his home.

GREAT LAKES REGION

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Tressalyn Reed

In March, I was able to meet Tressalyn Reed. She is a woman with a very rich history. She went to Northwestern College and earned a degree in Business Administration. She spent the first fifteen years of her career working in business. God spoke to Tressalyn. She believed that she was called into ministry and worked to make changes in her life. She went to Winebrenner Theological Seminary where she earned her MDiv. Following this, she spent the next ten years pastoring two churches and working as the executive pastor, overseeing a church that she planted in Tiffin, Ohio.

She chose during this time to enter into the CPE program at OSU. At the current time in her life, she would like to do two things: first she would like to work as a hospital chaplain. She knows that this work will give her opportunity to sit with and provide spiritual support to others. Second, she is pondering the idea of planting a new church in Columbus, Ohio. She knows that she would not be called to pastor another traditional church due to her life's story. Yet, she is praying about planting a new church where all people would be welcomed, loved and cared for by the body of Christ. She is also passionate about social justice issues through reaching out to veterans and members of the LGBTQ people groups.

Tressalyn has a contagious faith and a love of God and she looks forward to continuing her ministry in Columbus, Ohio.

Austin Schafer

Austin Schafer is a Roman Catholic lay ecclesial minister who has served in professional parish ministry, youth, young adult and college campus ministry over the past 14 years. Austin completed a BA in Philosophy at St. Xavier University. Then he completed a Graduate Certificate in Youth Ministry Studies at Seton Hall University. He also completed a MA in Theological Studies at the University of Dayton in 2009.

Austin has been in a time of spiritual discernment, prayer and reflection over this past season of his life. He has come to recognize that he would like to be part of a more inclusive, diverse and ecumenical professional ministry association and community. He would like his future public ministry to extend well beyond the bounds of the Roman Catholic Church. Rebecca Bass, a ministerial colleague, introduced him to FCM.

Austin has glowing references. Crystal Sullivan has known him since 2007. She found him to be a man with strong leadership ability. He has a natural sense to meet students where they are, the vision for ministry to invite them to a deeper understanding of themselves, and the spirituality to utilize creative depth in the process. Edward Nowak worked with Austin for nine years. Over this time under Austin's leadership, "the program grew in quality and quantity as he mentored and guided numerous student leaders" said Edward. Rebecca Bass reflected on Austin's commitment to his own spiritual growth. "He has sought out spiritual direction, attended to his prayer life and being a servant leader in his community and his family."

Denise Woods

September 11, 2001 was a defining moment in Denise Woods' life. That event in America's history provided opportunity for Denise to hear God's call on her life to make a difference in world. She was so moved by what happened that day that she changed her career and began a life of service for God. In November of that year, she and her husband began a house church. She is the Pastor of that church, preaching, teaching, and reaching out to Christians and non-Christians. She has also been caring for the elderly by visiting care places in her community.

Denise took her first unit of CPE in the fall of 2015. In 2017 she was accepted in a residency program at the I U Health. She completed that year in 2018. She says that she applied for that residency program because she felt led to this kind of ministry. Now, she works as a Hospice Chaplain and she works as an On-Call Supplemental Chaplain at I U Health. And yes, she is still leading the church that she planted with her husband. Melody Carpenter, FCM Commissioned Member, says that "Denise is refreshing as she is able to match a person and meet them where they are at. She is sensitive to the Spirit of God, loves and includes all people without judgement or prejudice." She loves God and has worked hard to move along God's path for her life—serving in both the parish and hospital settings.

Great Lakes Regional Retreat

The Great Lakes Regional Retreat will take place the weekend of October 4th at the Maria Stein Conference Center. Most of this group will be celebrated during our worship service at the weekend. We look forward to offering them love, grace and the right hand of fellowship during the retreat.

Registration page follows.



An Overseas Ordination

The Rev. Shanon Sterringer's ordination ceremony took place in Austria in August following her February FCM commissioning.

FCM's long-serving member, Mary Eileen Collingwood, was able to participate in the special service by presenting the FCM commissioning certificate to Shanon.

"I've been absolutely terrified every moment of my life – and I've never let it keep me from doing a single thing I wanted to do."



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2019 Great Lakes Region Gathering

Friday, October 4 - Sunday, October 6, 2019

Spiritual Center of Maria Stein...2365 St. Johns Road.....Maria Stein, Ohio 45860



SCHEDULE

Friday, October 4, 2019

- 4:00 – 7:00 p.m. Registration
- 6:00 p.m. Dinner
- 7:30 p.m.: Workshop: Dr. Shannon Sterring
Women in Ministry - past, present and future
- 8:30 p.m. Fellowship Time

Saturday, October 5, 2019

- 8:30 a.m. Breakfast
- 9:00 a.m. Worship Service: Melody Carpenter
- 9:45 a.m. Break
- 9:50 a.m. Workshop: Ron Davis
People of God: There is a link between Religion & Suicide for LGBTQ Teens
- 11:00 a.m. Workshop: Chris Young
- 12:00 p.m. Lunch
- 1:00 p.m. Workshop: Rev. Dale Lykins
My Argument for Church Planting
- 2:30 p.m. Afternoon Break
- 5:30 p.m. Dinner
- 7:00 p.m. Workshop: Phillip Green
What I have learned from Other Faith Traditions
- 8:30 p.m. Fellowship Time

Sunday, October 6, 2019

- 8:30 a.m. Breakfast
- 9:30 a.m. Workshop: Will Grinstead
Belief Grief and Spiritual Growing Pains
- 11:00 a.m. Prayers and the Lord's Table (Tom Stricker)
- 12:00 p.m. Lunch
- 12:30 p.m.. End of Conference

Name: _____

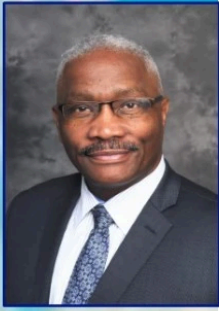
Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Number attending: _____ X \$175 single or \$250 couple = \$ _____ (Total Due)

Please mail registration to:

Ronald Davis, 258 S. Arlington Avenue, Springfield, Ohio 45505
with your check payable to: **Federation of Christian Ministries**



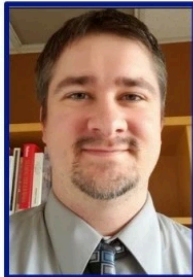
**RICHARD JAMES
VICE PRESIDENT**

MTS & PLAINS REGION

Newly Commissioned Ministers Mountain and Plains Region

It brings me great pleasure to present to the membership of the Federation of Christian Ministries six newly commissioned ministers from the Mountain and Plains Region. They are all wonderfully gifted and committed persons of faith, leaning into their sense of Divine calling and guidance. Please reach out to them with your warm welcome, congratulations, and prayers for a meaningful and fruitful ministry.

Grant J. Fifield



Grant Fifield has earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in English Literature and Secondary Education from Augustana University, Sioux Falls, SD, and a Master of Divinity from Bethel Seminary, Saint Paul, Minnesota. Grant's Clinical Pastoral Education Experience includes an Extended CPE Unit at Good Samaritan Specialty Care Clinic in Robbinsdale, Minnesota. Grant is also completing a CPE Residency at Abbott Northwestern Hospital Chaplain Residency in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Grant states that "I would rather affirm others than take the position of God where matters of the heart/salvation are concerned. I find it reprehensible that many denominations claim to know the will of God. My mission, like FCM's, is to help others in their spiritual journey and also to know the comfort of being seen as a fully accepted human being."

Grant's reasons for seeking FCM commissioning include the experience of acceptance and a sense of community and the desired freedom from traditional denominations. While those who know Grant best in the world of the art of spiritual care cite his call to chaplaincy, Grant states that he is teasing out the possibilities of becoming either getting a second masters in marriage/family therapy, social work, or ethics or becoming an ACEPE supervisor.

Camille Marie Harrison



Camille Harrison has completed Holistic Health Practitioner Certification at the Healing Hands School of Holistic Health, Escondido California. She earned a Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy from the University of Colorado Springs, Colorado. Camille has also completed the Benet Hill Global Online Benedictine Spiritual Direction Program. Currently, she serves as a Certified Spiritual Director in a downtown United Methodist Church in Colorado Springs. Camille is also working towards the 2020 completion of a Masters of Divinity program at the Iliff School of Theology in Denver.

Camille's background also includes the completion of an Internship with the National Alliance on Mental Illness in Colorado Springs, Colorado; serving as Parish Administrator at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, in Manitou Springs, Colorado, and as a Board Member for Returning Home, Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Camille says that "Having been raised in the seventh generation of Irish Catholics ... and being a woman, commissioning for me is a repairing of the marginalization of women. For me, this act is part of my ministry. I see this act not so much as the rights and authority of an office, but as a recognition of my place within the body of Christ. 'The process is not about status or rank, but as a function of the wholeness of humankind' (Barnett, The Diaconate: A Full and Equal Order). The FCM already feels like a home where I can serve and can maintain a relationship with an organization that will continue to inspire the building of just-relationships within a diverse society, through our divine calls."

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Federation of Christian Ministries

Samantha Jordon Larson



Samantha Larson's education and training include a Bachelor of Nursing from Mennonite University and a Master of Divinity from Wesley Theological Seminary. Samantha has also completed a One Unit CPE Internship at Goodwin House, in Falls Church, Virginia, and Three Units CPE Residency at Park Nicollet Methodist Hospital in St. Louis Park, Minnesota, and secured employment with Heartland Hospice as a Hospice Chaplain. Samantha is also striving to complete year course of study to become a spiritual director.

Among the capacities that Samantha claims are being a gifted speaker and an imaginative preacher who is "Not afraid of provoking intense thought and re-imagining what preaching is for and telling stories that provoke change and growth..." while also gifted at organization and administration details. Samantha describes herself as "a genuine, compassionate being with a fondness for people and a calling to be present to others in times of hardship and in times of joy

... being present to how the Spirit is manifesting in our collective lives and inviting one another to move towards a loving, just world for everyone."

She says that "one of the most important and earnest pieces of my calling is to recognize and practice ministry with the understanding that all human beings have equal worth and value and that we are called beyond our societal expectations and labels to serve God and serve one another." Samantha is working toward becoming a Board-Certified Chaplain, and possibly an ACPE supervisor in the future.

Stephanie Noel McCullough-Cain



Stephanie McCullough-Cain has earned a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Minnesota, where she majored in Child Psychology. She also completed a Master of Divinity, at United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities with a concentration on Pastoral Care and Counseling.

Stephanie's Clinical Pastoral Education includes a One Unit CPE Internship at Walker Methodist Residence, Minneapolis, Minnesota; a One Unit CPE Internship at Abbott Northwestern Hospital, Minneapolis, Minnesota; a Two-Units CPE Residency at Mercy Hospital, Coon Rapids, Minnesota; and a Three-Unit CPE Residency at Methodist Hospital, St. Louis Park, Minnesota for a total of seven CPE units completed. She is currently serving as a per-diem chaplain, at two Level I Trauma Hospitals, in the Twin Cities.

Racial justice and equity, particularly in the health care setting, is one of Stephanie's passions. During seminary training and after graduating she participated in approximately a dozen marches and rallies sponsored by 'Black Lives Matter' and 'Showing up for Racial Justice' in Minneapolis, St. Paul, and Ferguson, Missouri. During the summers of 2016 and 2017, Stephanie canvassed several affluent neighborhoods and conducted conversations with white people about their experiences with and feelings about policing.

Stephanie has an empathetic passion for justice issues beyond her own privileged identity. Stephanie says, "I have had racial justice training and continue to engage in deep self-reflection upon my own biases and white privilege. I keep this in mind as a chaplain when ministering to patients of color, especially African Americans. I try to imagine what is their experience of being a patient along with consideration of what biases they might be experiencing by the institution and with the people caring for them." Stephanie will be seeking FCM Endorsement so that she may become a Board-Certified Chaplain.

Dennis W. Waugh

Dennis Waugh has earned a Bachelor of Science in Fire Science from the Western States University in Doniphan, Missouri and a Master of Science in Public Safety from Saint Joseph's University in Philadelphia, PA. Also, Dennis holds a Doctor of Philosophy in Occupational Health and Safety from the Western States University, Doniphan, Missouri and a Master of Divinity Degree from the Lutheran School of Theology, Chicago, Illinois.

Dennis's CPE training includes a One Unit CPE Internship at Advocate Condell Hospital, Libertyville, Illinois, and a Four Unit CPE Residency at Advocate Condell Hospital, Libertyville, Illinois. He also completed a Ministry in Context Internship at Concordia Lutheran Church (ELCA), Chicago, Illinois, and a Chicago Metropolitan Synod's Diakonia Program which is a two-year adult Christian education program used as a discernment program for the ministry.

Dennis embraces this life lesson from by many events that have served to form his ministerial self-understanding. Dennis has learned that "When I begin to know God, I begin to know myself, and the better I know God, the better I know myself." Dennis will be seeking FCM endorsement because he hopes to become a Board-Certified Chaplain with the Association of Professional Chaplains.

Caroline S. Weaver

Caroline Weaver has earned a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from Northeast Louisiana University, a Post-baccalaureate with Teacher Certification in Secondary Education from the University of Phoenix, a Master of Arts in Education – Curriculum and Instruction from the University of Phoenix; and a Master of Divinity from Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary.

Caroline's Clinical Pastoral Education includes a one-unit CPE Internship at Northeast Baptist and Mission Trails Baptist Hospitals within the Baptist Health System in San Antonio Texas Summer. Currently, Caroline is completing her last unit of a CPE Chaplain Residency at Dell-Seton Medical Center at the University of Texas, and Seton Medical Center-Hays County within the Seton Ascension Healthcare in Austin Texas from 2018 to the present. Caroline is will be seeking FCM endorsement in order to become a Board-Certified Chaplain with the Association of Professional Chaplains.

**FCM St. Louis Area September Meeting**

DATE: Saturday, September 28, 2019

TIME: 1:00 p.m.

PLACE: Home of Marybeth McBryan
3914 Burgen Street
St. Louis, MO 63116

PHONE: 314-277-3212

Email: mbmcbpriest@yahoo.com

There will be a discussion and a simple eucharist.

Paul Reithmaier will lead the discussion & **Marybeth McBryan** will provide refreshments.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

You do not have to be a member of FCM to join us for the monthly meeting.



**TRACY PETERSON
VICE PRESIDENT**

Newly Commissioned Members

As the new Regional Vice-President for the Pacific Region, I am very pleased to present the following brief statements on or by the newly commissioned ministers for our rather extended region. Each of these persons brings to the Federation of Christian Ministries wonderful gifts of faith and service in their various ministries. I hope that you might reach out to them individually to offer your encouragement and prayers as they continue their individual journeys with all of us.



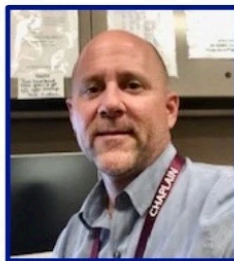
HAILEY OKEIF

My path began as a child and my goal was to become a priest, but the laughter from the sisters just made me more rebellious. Looking back now, I must have been quite funny standing with both hands on my hips asking the sisters "why not?" As I grew my heart's desire was always to help others. I became a first responder, followed by a CPR instructor, wilderness first aid instructor, yoga, swimming and wilderness survival instructor, even adding a year of nursing courses. The core of all of this was to bring peace to others during a traumatic time in a person's life. God already knew my path, I just needed to find that next steppingstone. Once I found out about hospital chaplaincy, I knew that I was on the right path and I was dialed in! After two master's degrees, six units of CPE, two and a half years as a professional lead chaplain, a Deacon in the Presbyterian church and ordained through the Federation of Christian Ministries, my next step on this path is to obtain endorsement through the FCM, and board certification through Association of Professional Chaplains.



CHI H. LEE

Chi began her CPE journey in 2007 in response to her own grief. A career in chaplaincy has been a surprising and rewarding outcome. Chi is a full-time chaplain at Oregon Health & Science University (OHSU), a Trauma-1 hospital, in Portland, Oregon. Her areas of ministry include palliative care, neurology, general medicine, addiction, and transgender health. She is a member of the OHSU/PSU (Portland State University) Gun Violence as a Public Health Issue Advisory Committee. To bring balance to her ministry, Chi also serves as a bilingual Children's Pastor and works prn at Kaiser Westside Medical Center.



CHAD F. KAMINSKI

I have recently become a Chaplain Manager for Maricopa Integrated Health System in Phoenix, AZ and have been a Chaplain in Healthcare and the Military over the last 10 years. Some of my healthcare experiences include Behavioral Health Chaplaincy (Private, COT and COE), Hospice (Field and IPU), General Medical Center (Incl. Level 1 trauma, Burn), and Oncology (MD Anderson Cancer Center).

I also enjoyed my time as an Army Chaplain in the AZ ARNG. I have fond memories of the soldiers and staff that I have ministered to and the friends made during both the challenging and the fun times the Lord allowed me to experience. I am Board Certified with the Spiritual Care Association and am excited to Join the Federation of Christian Ministries. I live in Phoenix and look forward to meeting you, Peace!

PACIFIC REGION

September/October 2019

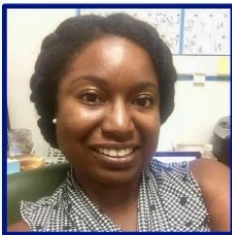
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GRACE LEE

Currently, I am serving as a chaplain at Kapiolani Medical Center for Women and Children in Honolulu, HI. My ministry is primarily offering support to patients and families in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit and Family Birthing Center. Aside from patient and family care, as a department we also make it a priority to offer support to the hospital staff.



NICOLE RAQUEL SAXON

Nicole currently works as a hospital chaplain for Pacific Health Ministry, an organization specializing in providing spiritual care education and spiritual care professionals in the state of Hawaii. She is contracted to work at Maui Memorial Medical Center in Wailuku, HI where she primarily provides spiritual care to long-term oncology and palliative care patients. Her syncretic spirituality (a womanist centered Christianity that holds African derived religions in high regard) plays a role in reconciling the "sacred" with the "profane" in her work as a chaplain. She sees her ministry as one that allows her to partner with families, loved ones, and staff to honor their sacred processes while walking alongside them through the difficult spaces they encounter while in the hospital. Nicole earned a BA from Spelman College in Atlanta, GA and an MDiv degree from Harvard Divinity School in Cambridge, MA. Nicole has worked as a chaplain in Colorado, Georgia, and Hawaii.



JOHN F. HERBERGER

For the last 3 years, John has been ministering as the Chaplain Coordinator at Maui Memorial Medical Center (MMMC), through Pacific Health Ministry. Working mainly with crisis and trauma, you will usually encounter John in the ICU or ER joining with patients and families who are experiencing spiritual and emotional distress. His ministry also extends to staff and you will frequently find John debriefing with nurses, officiating memorial services, conducting Blessing of the Hands or scheduling on-call chaplains for evenings and weekends. Before transitioning to MMMC, John was the Clinical Director at Maui AIDS Foundation for 10 years and he has an ample history of working with at-risk youth/families in the mental health field.

Contemplative practices are the foundation of John's spiritual practice, along with a heart for social justice. Learning to soften, open and listen are some of his lifelong spiritual goals; whether it be with himself, his personal relationships or his professional relationships. He is grateful for the contemplative masters who continually allow his understanding of spirit to evolve and John resonates with their teachings. To quote the late Father Thomas Keating, "If one completes the journey to one's own heart, one will find oneself in the heart of everyone else."



Federation of Christian Ministries



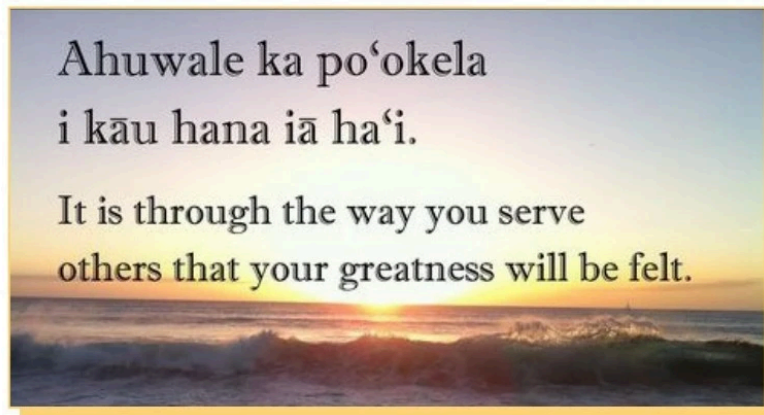
LENA ANN EWALENA
KEANU-REICHEL



Aloha Mai Kakou (Greetings everyone), my name is Lena Ann E. Keanu-Reichel. I am from the island of O`ahu and have the honor of working for Pacific Health Ministry as a full time Staff Chaplain at Pali Momi Medical Center (PMMC). PMMC is part of the larger not-for-profit Hawai`i Pacific Health system and was developed thirty years ago to serve West and Central O`ahu patients. I am the chaplain for both Palliative Care and also the Intensive Care Unit; ministering in this capacity means that I am often supporting families who are in crisis or who are dealing with a poor prognosis of a loved one. My role is to provide spiritual and oftentimes emotional support to patients, their families, and our staff.

I have the opportunity to provide "Tea for the Soul" for hospital staff throughout the year. I aim to create a calming space with twinkly lights, flameless candles, and relaxing music. During this time, staff have a chance to gain some respite during the workday, sometimes they debrief difficult cases with me, or we talk about our lives outside of the hospital. I also perform Hawaiian blessings when requested using a bowl, *wai* (water), salt, and ti leaf. In Hawai`i, *wai* is seen as the source of life, salt protects and preserves, and ti leaves carries mana (power). I bring who I am as a Native Hawaiian Christ worshiper to the clinical setting and meet people wherever they are and support however I am able.

I am a vocalist with a treble ensemble dedicated to the preservation, propagation, and innovation of Hawaiian choral music, additionally I am a vocalist with an SATB acapella ensemble who provides professional choral music from across the globe to the community at no cost. Both ensembles offer spiritual healing through the gift and hope of music. *Na`u me ke aloha* (With warm regards), na Rev. Lena Ann E. Keanu-Reichel, MDiv.





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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).

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