Join Us for Christian Unity during this Desert Pilgrimage

Phoenix, Arizona
April 27 - April 30

Welcome to Phoenix

Phoenix is an oasis, a place of refreshment surrounded by the harshness of desert. When you come to the 2009 workshop you will see a newly built downtown with light rail transportation, an assortment of entertainment venues, a set of newly constructed University buildings, plenty of sunshine, and an abundance of desert plants. At the end of April, the days will be warm and comfortable and the nights cool—a perfect time to visit. Yet the oasis still faces the dry climate challenges of water, energy, and land use, so we are careful of this fragile environment as we look to the future.

Over the many years that the National Workshop has been meeting we have nurtured our common vision that, as Jesus prayed, the Church may be more visibly one. We have come together as Christians who diligently work on building relationships, developing dialogue, finding commonalities, and honoring differences. The workshop is an oasis, a time of spiritual and professional refreshment, a time for us to hear and learn from other perspectives, as well as time to commit ourselves again to the work of ecumenism. It is also a time to invite more people to see the vision of a Church in unity. Our hope is that all who come to this “desert pilgrimage” will carefully tend the future with faith, hope, and above all, love.

On behalf of the Local Planning Committee
Rev. Jan Olav Flaaten, Chair

Plan now to register for the 2009 National Workshop
The NATIONAL WORKSHOP on
CHRISTIAN UNITY 2009

Seminars Each Day on
Critical Ecumenical Issues

Meetings of
Denominational Networks

Ecumenical
Worship Services

April 27 - 30
(Monday through Thursday)

Hyatt Regency Phoenix
122 N. 2nd St.
Phoenix, AZ  85004

FOR HOTEL RESERVATIONS
call 1 (888) 839-8785

For hotel information, call
(602) 252-1234,
Fax: (602) 254-9472

NWCU room rate is
$119/night (+ tax)

NWCU 2009 registration fee:
$125 by March 16, 2009
$150 thereafter.

YOU MAY ALSO REGISTER ONLINE

For updates, visit:
www.nwcu.org

NATIONAL NETWORK
CONTACTS

CADEIO — Catholic Association
of Diocesan Ecumenical and
Interreligious Officers
The Very Rev. Robert Flannery, President
618-457-4556
rblfan@globaleyes.net

ECCO — Ecumenical Colleagues
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EDEIO — Episcopal Diocesan
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806-799-2069
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ELF Network — Presbyterian
Ecumenical and Interfaith Network
Rev. Dr. Jay Rock, Coordinator
502-569-5289
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LERN — Lutheran Ecumenical
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Dr. Rocky Piro, President
206-542-1314
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Wendy Whiteside, Coordinator
212-749-3553
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2009 National Planning
Committee

Rev. Chris Agnew, National Chair
The Episcopal Church

Mr. Art Geissler, Secretary
The Episcopal Church

Rev. Thomas Prinz, Treasurer
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Rev. Betty Gamble, Past National Chair
United Methodist Church

Fr. Donald Rooney, Incoming National Chair
Roman Catholic Church

Rev. Jan Olav Flaaten, Local Chair
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Rev. Raphael Allen
African Methodist Episcopal Church

Ms. Clare Chapman
United Methodist Church

Rt. Rev. Chris Epting
The Episcopal Church

Fr. Robert Flannery
Roman Catholic Church

Sr. Lorelei Fuchs, SA
Roman Catholic Church

Rev. Lisa Lewis-Balboa
Christian Methodist Episcopal Church

Ms. Diane Lowe
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Rev. Carlos Malave
Presbyterian Church USA

Fr. James Massa
Roman Catholic Church

Rev. Dr. Paul Masquelier
Presbyterian Church USA

Rev. Dr. Laura O’Neil
United Methodist Church

Fr. David Veal
The Episcopal Church

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The National Workshop on Christian Unity

Origins of the National Workshop
In 1963, a group of Roman Catholics, in the context of Vatican II, saw a need to equip local leadership for the task of ecumenical ministry. In 1969, they invited leaders of other Christian communions to join them, and today the national ecumenical officers of the churches continue their oversight of the workshop, which is planned by national and local committees. The workshop is sponsored by the National Association of Ecumenical Officers. There are both denominational and ecumenical sessions during the workshop. This is the 42nd year of the National Workshop on Christian Unity, which celebrates the spirit of ecumenism by:

- Providing meeting seminars for all who are concerned with the ministry of Christian unity: laity, clergy, ecumenical officers, theologians, staff of ecumenical organizations;
- Stimulating an exchange of ideas and experiences among people concerned with Christian unity and the bodies they represent;
- Being a source and balance between national planning and local responsibility; general ecumenical discussions and particular interchurch conversations; and regional leadership efforts and local realities;
- Encouraging denominational networks to develop and serve as a framework within which they can interact, and
- Celebrating the unity that already exists among Christians and searching for ways to overcome the divisions that remain.

The National Workshop Logo
The logo affirms the cross which is central to Christian unity. The elements on either side of the cross suggest hands of prayer embracing the reconciling cross, at the same time creating the outline of a chalice, which represents the real although imperfect communion of Christianity, and the anticipated full unity which is the goal of the ecumenical movement. The late John R. Fulton designed the logo for the National Workshop on Christian Unity.

REGISTRATION: The National Workshop on Christian Unity 2009

Register online at www.nwcu.org or by mail using this form (copies accepted) to: NWCU 2009 • AEC 4423 N. 24th St., Ste. 750, Phoenix, AZ 85016

PLEASE PRINT:

Name
Address
City         State     Zip
Phone
Email address
Denomination/Communion
Institution
Position
Preference for name badge

Please note: Your name, address and phone number will be listed in the NWCU registrants list unless you check this box:

You must make your Hotel registration separately! FOR HOTEL RESERVATIONS, call (888) 839-8785
For hotel information, call (602) 252-1234, Fax: (602) 254-9472
Also be sure to register with your Network for their individual programs.

Our NWCU Rate at the Hyatt Regency Phoenix is $119 (+ tax) per night. Available until March 23, 2009.
122 N 2nd St. • Phoenix, AZ 85004

Please check all appropriate boxes:

☐ Full Registration: $125 before March 16, 2009; $150 thereafter.

☐ One-Day attendance: $50.
Circle one: Mon   Tues   Wed   Thurs

☐ Student: $50. (full registration)

Morning Seminar choices, circle three (3):
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

☐ I wish to receive a Continuing Education Credit.

☐ This is my first time with a Full Registration at NWCU.

☐ I plan to attend the closing luncheon on Thursday.

Special Needs: ☐ Dietary  ☐ Handicapped Access  ☐ Other

Please explain:

____________________________________________________
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____________________________________________________
Opening Worship
April 27 – 7:30 p.m., St. Mary’s Basilica

Rev. Dr. Clifton Kirkpatrick
President of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches (WARC)

Rev. Dr. Clifton Kirkpatrick was elected as leader of the worldwide organization of 214 Presbyterian, Reformed and Congregational Churches from 107 nations at the Alliance’s 24th General Council in Accra, Ghana in 2004. For the last twelve years he has served as Stated Clerk of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), and, at the conclusion of his term of service in 2008, was elected by the General Assembly as Stated Clerk Emeritus. On completion of his service as Stated Clerk, Rev. Kirkpatrick has become Visiting Professor of Global Ministries and Ecumenical Studies at Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary. Over the years he has been a major leader in the ecumenical movement in the U.S.A. and around the world. In addition to his leadership with the Alliance, he has been a member of the Central and Executive Committees of the World and National Councils of Churches and one of the Presidents of the U.S. Conference on Religion for Peace. Dr. Kirkpatrick is a graduate of Davidson College, and he received his theological education at Yale University Divinity School and his doctor of ministry degree from McCormick Theological Seminary. In addition, he has been recognized with honorary doctoral degrees from Westminster College, Han Nam University, and Davidson College.

Keynote Address
April 28 – 9:30 a.m., Hotel Ballroom

Metropolitan Gerasimos
Greek Archdiocese of San Francisco

His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos was born in Kalamata, Greece and immigrated to the United States. He received his B.A. in 1973 from Hellenic College in Brookline Massachusetts and his M.Div in 1976 from Holy Cross School of Theology. He was ordained to the Diaconate in 1979 and was called to serve as Archdeacon to His Eminence Archbishop Iakovos, a position he held until 1996. Concurrently, he was appointed Dean of Students at Hellenic College/ Holy Cross from 1980 until 1999. As Dean, he became centrally involved in the success of various programs benefitting future priests and also created the “Orthodox Action Line,” the first Archdiocesan telephone ministry directed towards those who do not have substantive ties to the Church. In 1986 he received his Master’s Degree in Counseling and School Psychology at Boston College, after which he entered the doctoral program. He received his Doctorate in Counseling and School Psychology in 1993. His doctoral dissertation is titled, “Intellectual Deficiencies in a Substance Abuse Population.” In 2000, he became Administrative Assistant to the Rev. Nicholas Triantafilou, President of Hellenic College/Holy Cross, a post he held until he was elected Bishop of Krateia by the Holy and Sacred Synod of the Ecumenical Patriarchate in December of 2001. He was appointed by His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios as Chief Secretary of the Holy Eparchial Synod of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America. On February 22, 2005, the Holy and Sacred Synod of the Ecumenical Patriarchate selected him to be the new Metropolitan of San Francisco, and his Ecumenical Archbishop Demetrios of America presided over the Enthronement Ceremony at the Ascension Cathedral in Oakland, California on April 2, 2005.

Morning Bible Study
Hotel Ballroom: April 29, 8:45-10:15, April 30, 8:15-9:45

Speaker: Dr. Margaret Mitchell
Professor of New Testament and Early Christian Literature at the University of Chicago Divinity School

Dr. Mitchell’s research and teaching span a range of topics in New Testament and early Christian writings in their relationship to the wider Greco-Roman world and literary culture in which they were composed, as well as in the legacies of those texts as sacred scripture for Christian communities in later antiquity and beyond. She is the author of Paul and the Rhetoric of Reconciliation; The Heavenly Trumpet: John Chrysostom and the Art of Pauline Interpretation, and (with Rowan Greer) of The “Belly-Myther” of Endor: Interpretations of 1 Kingdoms 28 in the Early Church. She is also editor (with Frances M. Young) of The Cambridge History of Christianity, Volume I (Origins to Constantine). Recent articles include “Origen, Celsius and Lucian on the ‘Dénouement of the Drama’ of the Gospels,” “The Letter of James as a Document of Paulinism?” and “Looking for Abercius: Reimagining Contexts of Interpretation of the ‘Earliest Christian Inscription.” Prof. Mitchell is currently revising for publication her 2008 Speaker’s Lectures at Oxford University, “The Corinthian Correspondence and the Birth of Christian Hermeneutics,” and preparing a volume of translations of eighteen lesser-known exegetical homilies of John Chrysostom.

Closing Lunch
April 30 – noon, Hotel Ballroom

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Cecil “Mel” Robeck, Jr.
Professor of Church History and Ecumenics and Director of the David J. DuPlessis Center for Christian Spirituality, Fuller Theological Seminary

Rev. Dr. Cecil M. “Mel” Robeck, Jr., Ph.D, was an advisory editor to the 48 volume reprint series, The Higher Christian Life, which offers primary sources on the Holiness, Pentecostal, and Keswick movements. For nine years he was editor of Pneuma: The Journal of the Society for Pentecostal Studies. He has authored some 200 articles published in a range of historical, theological, and ecumenical journals, periodicals, and denominational magazines. For nearly two decades, Mel has served as an apologist for an interpreter of Pentecostalism in international ecumenical circles. In 2006, Mel offered a course on “Global Pentecostalism and the Ecumenical Challenge” at the Ecumenical Institute in Bossey, Switzerland, the first time a Pentecostal had been invited to offer any course there. Mel’s historical research centers on the Azusa Street Mission and Revival. Since 1997, he has worked with civic and religious leaders from the Japanese American, the African American, and the Pentecostal communities in Los Angeles as part of the Azusa Street Memorial Committee.
**The NATIONAL WORKSHOP on CHRISTIAN UNITY 2009**

**Morning Seminars Choose 3**

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<tr>
<th>Morning Seminars</th>
<th>Tuesday (T)</th>
<th>Wednesday (W)</th>
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<tr>
<td>1 Ecumenism 101</td>
<td>10:30-11:45</td>
<td>10:30-11:45</td>
<td>10:15-11:30</td>
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<td>Level 1 (T)</td>
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✝ Level 1 - First time participants (recommended)  ✝ Level 2 - Assumes a moderate level of understanding  ✝ Level 3 - Advanced level seminar

1 **Ecumenism 101**  Level 1 (T)

✝ Panelists:  
Dr. Thomas Ferguson (TEC) and  
Dr. Michael Trice (ELCA)

This seminar is for all those who are new to the formal structures of the ecumenical movement. It provides a brief history and introduction to the movement, context for current dialogues, overview of national and international ecumenical conversations, and a sampling of new and emerging discussions. The presentation will draw on the attendees' experience of ecumenical engagement and will encourage conversation and interaction.

2 **Student Essay Contest**  Level 1 (T)

✝ Speakers: Winners of the Contest  
Moderator: Elizabeth Ring

Theological students were asked in their 2008 fall semester to submit an essay that drew on the theme, “That they may be one in your hand,” (Ezekiel 37:17) which suggests a move from apostasy to dispersion to redemption and finally to unity. The students were to address the ecumenical weaknesses of their own traditions, reflect on biblical stories that could strengthen their witness to Christian unity, and then propose reforms that would enhance their own church's ecumenical insight. The essay contest winners from the denominational ecumenical networks will comment on their essays and lead a panel discussion in the seminar on ecumenical reforms.

3 **Eucharist**  Level 2 (W, Th)

✝ Speaker:  
Rev. Dr. Louis Weil (TEC)

This seminar is the second in a three-year series on “Baptism, Eucharist, and Ministry,” Faith and Order Paper No. 111 issued by the World Council of Churches in 1982. This year's focus will be on the theological and practical implications of Eucharist. Among items to be discussed is whether increased mutual understanding expressed in the statement may allow some churches to attain a greater measure of eucharistic communion among themselves, and so bring closer the day when Christ’s divided people will be visibly reunited around the Lord’s Table in the Church’s highest act, the praise of God.

4 **Patristics and the Early Church’s Contribution to Ecumenism**  Level 3 (T, W)

✝ Speaker: Rev. Joel Elowsky of Drew University

This seminar will present some of the key patristic interpretations of one of most often cited biblical passages for Christian unity, John 17:21 “That they may all be one.” Discussion will include how the ancient church understood the unity embraced in this passage and how they viewed the role of the Trinity and, more specifically, the Holy Spirit in bringing about the unity to which this passage urges both the church and her members. The conclusions of this presentation seek to provide guidance from the ancient Christian writers in understanding what kind of unity is possible and should be sought today and how this might inform our 21st century discussions on ecumenism.

5 **Living the Lund Principle**  Level 3 (W, Th)

✝ Speaker:  
Rev. Dr. Paul Schreck (ELCA)

Churches should act together in ALL matters except those in which deep differences of conviction compel them to act separately. This is the Lund Principle. Agreed at the 1952 Faith and Order Conference of the World Council of Churches convened in Lund, Sweden, this break-through principle remains tragically unknown to many people. Very few church leaders consciously try to live by it. Although reaffirmed in the 1995 papal encyclical Ut Unum Sint, lack of awareness of the principle begs the question, “Is the principle viable today?” This seminar will explore the implications of the Lund Principle for the life and mission of congregations, local judicatories, and beyond. What “deep convictions” compel separation today? To what extent can we combine our Christly ministries? What is the impetus that keeps Christian communities functioning autonomously? How will your congregation live the Lund Principle?

…”Seminar listings continue”
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6. Capacity of Faith – Latino-Catholic Perspective Level 2 (W, Th)

**Speaker:** Dr. Peter Casarella (RC)

Christian faith has as its very foundation a belief that Christ is revealed as a new Adam, whose mission for the world includes the promotion of the unity of all believers and of mankind. The faith of Latina and Latino Catholics is sometimes falsely portrayed as inhabiting a cultural and religious barrio in which little or no attention is paid to this fundamental truth. The point of this presentation will be to reflect on the Biblical, spiritual, and ecclesiological foundations for making a proposal generated in and through the Christian faith that will foster genuine unity in the world today. In the process, the specific challenges faced by Latino Catholics with regard to secularism, nihilism, and the Biblical mandate for Christian unity will also be discussed.

7. Racism as an Impediment to Ecumenism Level 2 (W, Th)

**Speaker:** Task Force Members

This seminar is the first of a multi-workshop series on dismantling racism in our churches as we seek to live faithfully into God’s gift of unity. It will explore the implications of racism to Christian unity and the various resources our communions have to share as we seek to live into God’s admonition to act justly, to love mercy and walk humbly with our God.

8. Can Mormons Be Part of the Ecumenical Movement? Level 2 (T, W)

**Speakers:**
- Dr. William Millett (LDS)
- Dr. Richard Mouw (PCUSA)

Even though Arizona’s second largest religious group is Mormon, it has been common for traditional Christians to exclude the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints from ecumenical dialogue. This exclusion is based primarily on Christology and the Trinitarian doctrines that they hold. Or have held. Theology within the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints has started to use a more orthodox vocabulary that requires us to revisit this seemingly adversarial relationship. Dr. Millett will present Mormon thought on Christology, the Trinity, Soteriology, and Eschatology. To provide a probing response Dr. Mouw will speak from the perspective of a conservative evangelical. Then, perhaps, a new conversation can begin between all of us.

9. The Ecumenical Implications of Post-Modern Thought Level 3 (T, Th)

**Speaker:**
- Very Rev. Dr. Nick Knisely (TEC)

In the 20th Century developments in science and philosophical thought have led to a reevaluation of the Enlightenment intellectual enterprise which underlies most of Protestant and post-Tridentine theological thinking. As scientific discoveries have repeatedly confirmed that this reevaluation is required of all secular thinking, theologians and philosophers are starting to reexamine the historical methodology of denominational thought. There are likely significant opportunities to recast the ecumenical enterprise as a result. This seminar will discuss some of the philosophical and scientific developments in thinking and suggest a few possible implications for the ecumenist.

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Seminar listings continue...
### Morning Seminars

**Choose 3**

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<tr>
<td>10 Common Words Among Christians and Muslims</td>
<td>Tuesday (T) 10:30-11:45</td>
<td>Wednesday (W) 10:30-11:45</td>
<td>Thursday (Th) 10:15-11:30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Level 3 (T, W, Th)</td>
<td>Speaker: Dr. Lucinda Mosher</td>
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On 13 October 2007 A Common Word Between Us and You: An Open Letter and Call from Muslim Religious Leaders was promulgated. Addressed to “Leaders of Christian Churches, everywhere,” this invitation to fellowship and dialogue had 138 signatories, each significant in stature and influence, and together embodying the worldwide breadth of Islam. In the year since its release, A Common Word has elicited a variety of thoughtful responses. This seminar will explore this phenomenon and several other recent Christian-Muslim dialogical projects—the ways in which they have honored or protected difference as well as the ways in which they have celebrated the common ground upon which Muslims and Christians stand.

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<tr>
<th>11 Missions with Native Americans</th>
<th>Tuesday (T) 10:30-11:45</th>
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<tr>
<td>Level 2 (W, Th)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Speaker: Members of Arizona’s Native American Communities</td>
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Christian ministry and evangelism among the Native People of America has been marked with both success and failure. The failures often have been caused by an unwillingness on the part of European-style Christianity to account for the significant cultural differences not only between the dominant western culture but also the differences between the tribes among whom the missionaries attempted to work. The lack of sensitivity has created a climate where at least one tribe has requested all missionaries of any denomination to remove themselves from tribal lands. In this workshop we will review the history of missionary work in the Southwest and discuss present ecumenical efforts that are attempting to work with more sensitivity and cooperation with tribal leadership today.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>12 How Christian Faith Speaks to the Issue of Immigration</th>
<th>Tuesday (T) 10:30-11:45</th>
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<tr>
<td>Level 2 (T, Th)</td>
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<td>Speaker: Bishop Gerald Kicanas – (RC, Tuesday only);</td>
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<td>Bishop Minerva Carcano – (UMC);</td>
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<td>Joe Rubio – (RC, Thursday only)</td>
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The national issue of immigration reform takes on special focus in a border state like Arizona. How should the faith community respond in face of “enforcement first” policies that show disregard for children or their families? Is the “new sanctuary” movement an appropriate response? How much should we press for fairer employment and social service laws that have been sharply curtailed in this state? Two of Arizona’s bishops and a Christian activist who have all been in the forefront of this debate will discuss what has happened and what we hope can happen.

—Isaiah 43:19 (ESV)