Plan now to register for the 2010 National Workshop
April 19 - 22, Tampa, Florida

Welcome to Tampa

Tampa sits on the eastern bay of the Gulf of Mexico. Along with its sister cities on the other side of the bay (St. Petersburg, Clearwater, Largo and others), the Tampa Bay area is a center of Florida life. From podered sand beaches and water sports to theme parks and sports teams, it's a destination vacation spot for the world. At the end of April, the days will be warm and comfortable, cooling off at night – a perfect time to visit. The bay is a witness to a fragile ecosystem of land and sea supporting greater and greater demands from human development. Our witness to the gospel in a post-modern, interreligious world faces parallel demands to show that faith in Christ delivers on the promise of life.

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 a retreat and a vocation - a time of spiritual and professional refreshment and a time for us to listen to our greater calling as the baptized of one faith, one Lord and one Spirit. It's a time to invite more people to see the vision of a Church in unity, set in a fragile world in distress.

Come, let us re-discover together these things of which we are witnesses – in hope that the world will receive the good news of healing and salvation.

On behalf of the Local Planning Committee Rev. Russell L. Meyer, Chair

1. Ecumenism 101
   - Level 1 (Session I)
     - Session I: Tuesday 10:30-11:45 AM
     - Session II: Thursday 8:45-10:00 AM
     - Session III: Thursday 1:45-3:00 PM
   - Level 2 (Session II & III)
     - Session I: Tuesday 10:30-11:45 AM
     - Session II: Thursday 8:45-10:00 AM
     - Session III: Thursday 1:45-3:00 PM

   - Level 1 (Sessions I & II)
   - Speaker: Rev. Dr. Joe Small (PCUSA)

3. Racism as an Impediment to Ecumenism
   - Level 2 (Sessions II & III)
   - Speakers:
     - Bp. Hope Morgan Ward (UMC)
     - Dr. Despina Prassas (Orthodox)
     - Rev. Dr. Robin Steinken (ELCA)

4. The Origin of the Modern Ecumenical Movement – The 10th Anniversary of the Edinburgh Conference
   - Level 3 (Session I)
   - Speaker: Dr. Michael Trice (ELCA)

5. Interfaith Relations: Current Status from a Christian Perspective
   - Level 2 (Session I & II)
   - Speaker: Dr. John Borell (RC)

6. Ecumenical Consultation on Ethical Decisions: Panel Level 2 (Sessions II & III)
   - Speakers: Fr. John Crossin (RC)
   - Rev. Dr. Timothy Sedgewick (ELCA)

7. A Tale of Two Pontifices: Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs
   - Between John Paul II and Benedict XVI
   - Level 2 (Session I)
   - Speaker: Dr. Dennis McManus PhD (RC)

8. Preaching Ecumenism
   - Level 2 (Session II & III)
   - Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Kinnamon (อด–DC)

9. The Holy Spirit and Christian Unity
   - Level 3 (Sessions II & III)
   - Speaker: Rev. Dr. Donnelly Steaken (ELCA)

10. CCT Domestic Poverty Initiative
    - Level 1: For non-participation (Session I & II)
    - Level 2: A module (90 minutes)
    - Level 3: Advanced level seminar (90 minutes)
    - Speaker: Rev. Dr. Richard Hamm

Christian Churches Together represents faith families of the historic Protestant, Roman Catholic, Pentecostal, Evangelical, and Orthodox Churches. The Ecumenical Consultations that CCT is addressing is domestic poverty. The ecumenical movement seeks to discover and build on historical steps in addressing this human need.

11. Building New Fire
    - Level 2 (Sessions I & II)
    - Speakers: Jordan Blevins
    - Shandra K. Ready

When more young adults than ever are dis-enshrined from the Church, the New Fire movement is seizing the opportunity to connect and organize young adult ecumenical leadership to re-engage and re-envision cooperative Christian community. A new generation has discovered the transformational work of Christian unity amidst the many dilemmas of our time. The ecumenical and interreligious expressions within the body of Christ. Through the sharing of story, tradition, education, and resources, young adults are finding new ways to witness to the reclaiming love of Christ at work in the world. At its core, “New Fire” is movement building work to call the Church to re-imagine its mission to live out the Good News mandates of love, justice, unity, and peace on a global, regional, and local level.

12. Just Faith Curriculum
    - Level 2 (Session I)
    - Speaker: Rev. Jeff Jeszeck

JustFaith® is an extensive, conversion-based process that provides a context in which participants can grow in their commitment to care for the vulnerable and to become advocates for justice. This program serves to strengthen the growing commitment of churches to the goals and priorities of social justice, mission, mercy and compassion. JustFaith was first conceived and distributed within United Methodist churches. However, broad-based interest within the Christian community has prompted an ecumenical version, offered in partnership with Bread for the World, a worldwide Christian movement that seeks justice for the world’s hungry people by organizing churches to lobby our nation’s decision-makers.

13. Ecumenical Worship Services
    - Level 1: For first time participants (Session I & II)
    - Level 2: A module (90 minutes)
    - Level 3: Advanced level seminar (90 minutes)