Christian Unity is closer now that you are here.

Welcome to the 2016 National Workshop on Christian Unity.

“WAKING FROM A DREAM OF SEPARATENESS.” MERTON
My Sisters and Brothers,

It is my joy to welcome you to the 2016 National Workshop on Christian Unity. We gather, as we have for more than 50 years, with Christians from all over the world, and with sisters and brothers from the wide family of faith, to seek unity amidst our diversity and solidarity amidst our divergences. For we who are Christians, we gather at the behest of Jesus who prayed that we all may be one.

This year’s Workshop is a panoply of seminars, plenaries, and conversations with some of the brightest and best thinkers in the ecumenical circle, and within the Interfaith sphere.

The city of Louisville has opened wide its arms to us, bringing the profound expressions of faith of Thomas Merton, who lived here until his death. One of the largest communions in the United States, the Presbyterian Church (USA) calls Louisville home. The resources of a vibrant interfaith ministry in the city of Louisville promises to help us think together about ways we can honor everyone who seeks to know the holy way, and the Holy One.

Our theologian in residence, The Reverend Dr. James Forbes is second to none in beloved preachers in the United States. Bishops from the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, the Catholic Church, the United Methodist and Christian Methodist Churches will be with us throughout the week. We continue to be supported by the Kentucky Council of Churches, and their Interim Executive Director. Our new Network, the Consortium of Evangelical Networks for Unity, has a strong presence this year. For the first time we are partnering with Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary to offer a for-credit course on engaging in pastoral care in multi-faith contexts.

I am glad you are here. If there is anything at all I might do to make your experience of the Workshop better, please do not hesitate to find me and let me know what it might be. Our planning committee has been working for two years to get ready for these days together. We are committed to make this time together wonderful for everyone here.

Grace, peace, love, joy and HOPE!

Daniell C. Hamby
Chair, 2016 National Workshop on Christian Unity.
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MONDAY, 18 APRIL

Workshop/Network Registration
Opens 8:30am
9am—5pm: NETWORK MEETINGS
(all day)
CADEIO Board Meeting, 9—11:30am
CADEIO Mass, Cathedral of the Assumption, and Lunch (location TBD)
Noon—2pm
CADEIO SEMINAR, “Being an Ecumenical/Interreligious Officer with the Francis Effect” all invited (p. 10)
2:30—3:45pm
CEN for Unity Network Meetings
EDEIO Network Meeting, 2—4pm
LEIRN Board Meeting, 10—11:45am
LEIRN Network Meeting, 1—4:45pm
UMEIT Network Meetings, 8:30—4pm

Please see individual Network communications for more details.

4—5pm: NWCU Newcomers’ Meeting

5:15pm: Opening Reception
Cathedral of the Assumption
433 South Fifth Street

6:30pm: OPENING WORSHIP
Cathedral of the Assumption

TUESDAY, 19 APRIL

7:15am: Breakfast sponsored by Graymoor
Workshop/Network Registration resumes, 7:30am

8am: Eucharist - Lutheran Rite

9:15am—10:30am: BIBLE STUDY
Rev. Dr. James Alexander Forbes, Jr.

10:45—12pm: SEMINAR 1 (p. 8-9)
Dialogue to Declaration - Johnson/Wood
Interreligious Prayer - Snorton
Restoring Hope - Austria
Best Practices - Ryan/Armstrong

10—11:30am: CAFEIO Board Meeting
CADEIO Mass, Cathedral of the Assumption, and Lunch (location TBD)
Noon—2pm
CADEIO SEMINAR, “Being an Ecumenical/Interreligious Officer with the Francis Effect” all invited (p. 10)
2:30—3:45pm
CEN for Unity Network Meetings
EDEIO Network Meeting, 2—4pm
LEIRN Board Meeting, 10—11:45am
LEIRN Network Meeting, 1—4:45pm
UMEIT Network Meetings, 8:30—4pm

Please see individual Network communications for more details.

2—3:15pm: SEMINAR 2 (p. 8-9)
Pastoral Care/Multi-faith - LPTS Faculty
Dialogue to Declaration - Johnson/Wood
Interreligious Prayer - Snorton
Restoring Hope - Austria

3:30—5:30pm: PLENARY (p. 6)
Walt Grazer and Responders

7:30—9pm Film and Conversation
“Love is a Verb” (p. 10)
6:15—2:15pm: PLENARY LUNCHEON (p. 6)
Rita George-Tvrtković and Panel
Sponsored by the Order of Saint Lazarus

8:30—11:45am: CEN/CADEIO PANEL: “Pope Francis: Opening the Circle” all invited (p. 11)

8am: Eucharist - Catholic Rite
Rev. Tom Ryan and Rev. John Armstrong

9:15am—10:30am: BIBLE STUDY
Rev. Dr. James Alexander Forbes, Jr.

10:30—11:45am: UMEIT SEMINAR
“A Panel on Excellent Ministries in Louisville” all invited (p. 10)

12:15—2:15pm: PLENARY LUNCHEON (p. 6)
Rita George-Tvrtković and Panel
Sponsored by the Order of Saint Lazarus

2:30—3:45pm: SEMINAR 3 (p. 8-9)
Merton & Francis - Pearson
101: Best Practices - Ryan/Armstrong

4—5:30pm: NETWORK MEETINGS (as needed)
CADEIO General Assembly
EDEIO: General Meeting
LEIRN: General Meeting
UMEIT: “Festival of Faiths” (p. 11)

6:30pm: CULTURAL EVENT (p. 11)
The Spirit of Jefferson Riverboat Dinner Cruise

8—8:45am: MORNING PRAYER
Rev. Tom Ryan and Rev. John Armstrong

9—10:15am: CLOSING PLENARY (p. 7)
Rev. Dr. James Alexander Forbes, Jr.

1030:—Noon: CLOSING BRUNCH with 2017 Preview

Noon—2:30pm: NETWORK MEETINGS
Please see individual Network communications for details.
WALTER E. GRAZER
Tuesday Afternoon Keynote Speaker
“Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor: Context and Significance of Pope Francis’ Environmental Encyclical”

An overview of the contents of Pope Francis’ encyclical on the environment, its place in Catholic social teaching and its significance for the world today.

Walter E. Grazer provides policy analysis and development support services specializing in the role of religion in public policy with an emphasis on the issues of religious freedom, human rights and environmental concerns. He most recently served as a Consultant and Special Advisor to the National Religious Partnership for the Environment. Formerly, he was the Director of the Environmental Justice Program and Senior Policy Advisor for Religious Liberty, Human Rights and European Affairs for the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. He also served as Deputy Director for Migration and Refugee Services and also as Policy Advisor for Food, Agriculture, and Rural Development at the Conference. Prior to his service at the USCCB, he directed the Social Ministry Program of the Catholic Social Justice Office of the Diocese of Richmond after working for the City of Richmond’s Commission on Human Relations and the Richmond Community Action Program. Currently, he teaches at Georgetown University. He is co-editor with Rev. Drew Christiansen, S.J. of And God Saw That It Was Good: Catholic Theology and the Environment. Mr. Grazer holds a M.A. in International Relations, a M.S.W. in social work and a B.A. degree in philosophy.

Those responding to the Tuesday afternoon plenary are:

The Rev. Jerry Cappel, PhD
The Rev. Jerry Cappel, an ordained Episcopal priest, currently serves as Environmental Network Coordinator for Province IV of The Episcopal Church. Jerry’s professional interests are in adult education, ecology and faith. He serves as President of Kentucky Interfaith Power and Light, and is a fellow with the Center for Religion and the Environment and GreenFaith. He is married to UMC ecumenist Rev. Jean Hauxhurst.

Alexei N. Laushkin
Alexei Laushkin is the Vice-President of the Evangelical Environmental Network and Chair of the Board of the Kingdom Mission Society which seeks to strengthen Christian Unity for the age to come. His life and writing focus on biblical justice and personal wholeness/holiness as a means for renewal/revival in the life of the church. Alexei believes the church needs not only kingdom ethics, but kingdom living to fully incarnate the teachings and life of Jesus into the life of the local church. He is on the Council of Ambassadors for the Christian Community Development Association and is a regular speaker at local church events and conferences. He is married with two children.

Wednesday Plenary Luncheon followed by Panel
RITA GEORGE-TVRTKOVIĆ, PhD
“Backdoor Ecumenism: Lessons from the Millennial Classroom”

Sponsored by The Military and Hospitaller Order of Saint Lazarus of Jerusalem

Many have been asking: how can we get the next generation interested in ecumenism? But this is the wrong question: my experience teaching millennials in the college setting suggests that they can quite easily become interested, if the topic is approached through the backdoor. By “backdoor ecumenism,” I mean that discussions of interreligious topics (which tend to attract millennials initially) quite often lead to discussions of ecumenical topics, if we are attentive to the possibility and seize the moment. In short, we should not forget what we already know: interreligious and ecumenical dialogues are of one piece, and we can’t (or
Rita George-Tvrtković (Ph.D., University of Notre Dame) has served as associate director of the Archdiocese of Chicago’s Office for Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs and currently is associate professor of theology at Benedictine University, where she specializes in historical theology and medieval and contemporary Christian-Muslim relations. Her current book project is Christians, Muslims, and Mary: A History.

The network panelists responding to the Wednesday plenary are:

Daphne Creasman
Daphne W. Creasman is a second-year M.Div. student at Emory University’s Candler School of Theology and a candidate for ordained ministry in the United Methodist Church. She serves as the UMC’s representative to Religions for Peace USA’s North American Interfaith Youth Network.

Her aspirations for her ministry include justice and peaceful reconciliation efforts within and beyond the gathered Christian community (i.e., through ecumenism and interfaith relationships). Daphne has a heart for celebrating diversity and religious pluralism through creative pedagogy. A self-proclaimed Philartistian™ (i.e., Philosopher | Artist | Mathematician), she seeks to engage in community and curriculum development that promotes interdisciplinary education and the holistic connectivity of spiritual, creative, and scientific discernment, expansion, and reflection.

James Racine
James Racine is an ecumenical ministerial finishing the final year of his Master of Divinity at Bethel Theological Seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota. Hailing from Catholic, Baptist and Charismatic streams of faith, he brings a unique perspective and is deeply passionate about the unity of Christ’s Church.

Jamil Grimes
Jamil Grimes is a first-year Master of Divinity student at Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary and is currently serving in a field-education placement with Kentucky Council of Churches. He is a recent graduate of Stillman College (B.A., Religion) in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, where he also worked as a municipal police officer for seven years.

His seminary education is preparation for a calling to pastoral ministry, likely in the baptist tradition. He deeply supports the Church’s commitment to unity and diversity and sees ecumenism as a fruitful way to maximize the effectiveness of Christian mission.

Wednesday and Thursday Morning Bible Study and Closing Plenary

The Rev. Dr. JAMES ALEXANDER FORBES, Jr.

James Alexander Forbes, Jr. is National Minister of the Orion Major Institute, Senior Minister Emeritus of The Riverside Church, The Harry Emerson Fosdick Distinguished Professor at Union Theological Seminary, and President of the Healing of the Nations Foundation (all of these institutions of New York City). Additionally, Dr. Forbes is an acclaimed author, scholar and speaker, widely and affectionately referred to as the preacher’s preacher because of his extensive preaching career and charismatic style. Newsweek magazine once recognized Forbes as one of the 12 “most effective preachers” in the English-speaking world. As a passionate educator, administrator, community and human rights activist and interfaith leader, Dr. Forbes was twice designated as one of America’s greatest Black preachers by Ebony magazine. He is a featured TED-Dex speaker and frequent contributor to national media outlets.

From 1989 to 2007, Dr. Forbes was the fifth Senior Minister of the 2,400-member Riverside Church, an interdenominational, interracial, and international church built by John D. Rockefeller, Jr. in 1927 and now affiliated with the United Church of Christ and the American Baptist Churches (in which Dr. Forbes is an ordained minister). He was the first African-American to serve as minister of this multicultural congregation.

Beginning in 1976, Dr. Forbes taught at Union Theological Seminary, where in 1986 he became the first Joe R. Engle Professor of Preaching, and in 1989 the first Harry Emerson Fosdick Adjunct Professor of Preaching.

Dr. Forbes earned a D.Min. from Colgate-Rochester Divinity School, an M.Div. from Union Theological Seminary in New York City, and a bachelor of science in chemistry from Howard University, which awarded him their Distinguished Service Award in Ministry. His alma mater, Union Theological Seminary presented him its Unitas Distinguished Alumnus Award, and Teacher’s College of Columbia University awarded him its Distinguished Service Medal in 2003. His 14 honorary doctorates include degrees from Princeton, DePauw, Colgate, Fairleigh Dickinson, Lehigh and the University of Richmond.

From 1992 to 2007, Dr. Forbes was co-chair of A Partnership of Faith, an interfaith organization of clergy among New York’s Protestant, Catholic, Jewish and Muslim communities. He is on the board of Manhattanville College, the Interfaith Alliance, Children’s Defense Fund, Mailman School of Public Health of Columbia University, and the United Way. He is a past president of The Martin Luther King Fellows. Dr. Forbes is also a member of Mayor DiBlasio’s Clergy Advisory Council in New York City.
Rev. Dr. WESLEY ARIARAJAH, Dr. CAROL COOK, and Rev. Dr. CLIFTON KIRKPATRICK

“Pastoral Counseling and Ministry in a Multi-Faith Context: A Dialogue with Teachers and Students”

This seminar will focus on the practice of ministry and pastoral counseling in a multi-faith context, increasingly our context in the U.S.A. We will explore ways that Christian leaders can be prepared to encounter the religious diversity of our ministry contexts, some biblical, theological, and social psychology foundations for interfaith relations, and practical skills necessary to engage in ministry, pastoral care, dialogue, and cooperation with other Christians and people of other faith traditions.

The session will be presented collaboratively by Professors Ariarajah, Cook, and Kirkpatrick, together with students from Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary who have been studying this topic together.

Rev. Dr. Wesley Ariarajah is Professor Emeritus of Theology at Drew University, former Deputy General Secretary and Director of the Unit on Dialogue with People of Other Faiths of the World Council of Churches, and author of books such as The Bible and People of Other Faiths, Not Without My Neighbor, and Your God, My God, Our God.

Dr. Carol Cook is Professor of Pastoral Care and Counseling at Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary and a Supervisor and Clinical Member of the American Association of Marriage and Family Therapists.

Rev. Dr. Clifton Kirkpatrick is Professor of World Christianity and Ecumenical Studies at Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary and Stated Clerk of the General Assembly Emeritus for the Presbyterian Church (USA).

Rev. RUBÉN AUSTRIA

“I Pulled Him Out of the Water”: The Role of the Faith Community in Restoring Hope for Young People in the Juvenile Justice System

America’s juvenile justice system is in crisis. Rampant abuse, skyrocketing costs, worsening racial disparities, and high recidivism rates demonstrate that a system intended to reform young people is actually making them worse. Yet in the midst of this crisis, communities of faith are playing a key role in developing alternatives to incarceration for youth, based on the principles of restorative justice, that are returning hope, dignity, and resources to young people, families, and communities that have been devastated by incarceration. This workshop explores the crisis in the juvenile justice system through the story of Miriam’s advocacy for her brother Moses, when the Israelites were slaves in Egypt. The workshop also presents practical, actionable ways that communities of faith can intervene on behalf of young people and families in the justice system.

Rev. Rubén S. Austria is the Founder and Executive Director of Community Connections for Youth, a Bronx-based non-profit organization dedicated to empowering grassroots faith and neighborhood organizations to develop effective community-driven alternatives to incarceration programs for youth. CCFY’s work focuses on building community capacity for juvenile justice reform by bringing the resources of directly affected communities to bear on the most challenging juvenile justice problems, and facilitating system-community partnerships that reduce reliance on incarceration and increase reinvestment in impacted neighborhoods. Rev. Austria earned both his bachelors and masters degrees from Cornell University, and attended the Institute for Non-Profit Management at Columbia University. He was awarded a Soros Justice Fellowship in 2007. He lives in the South Bronx with his wife Ivelyse and their son Jaaziah, and enjoys playing jazz and Latin guitar with his family.

Bishop Teresa SNORTON

“Interreligious Prayer in Pastorally Difficult Times”

Praying together in interfaith circumstances is always a challenge, and even more so in the critical time after heartbreaking violence, such as the shootings in Charleston, California, and other parts of our country. In this seminar we will ask how as people of many faiths we can join together in the crucial act of praying with and for one another. This seminar will be led by Bishop Teresa Snorton of the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church who assisted in the pastoral care following the shootings at Emmanuel AME Church in Charleston, South Carolina.

Bishop Teresa Elaine Snorton became the 59th bishop elected in the Christian Methodist Episcopal (CME) Church on June 30, 2010, in Mobile, Alabama. She is the first female bishop of the CME Church. She was assigned as the presiding bishop of the new Eleventh Episcopal District, which includes eleven countries in Central, Southern and East Africa. On March 15, 2011, Bishop Snorton was assigned to the Fifth Episcopal District.
Bishop Snorton served as the Executive Director of the national Association for Clinical Pastoral Education, Inc., for twelve years prior to her election as bishop. Bishop Snorton is a certified ACPE Supervisor and a board certified chaplain. She is a former Executive Director of the Emory Center for Pastoral Services in Atlanta, Georgia. She has taught at the Candler School of Theology at Emory University, the Virginia Commonwealth University and the School of Theology at Virginia Union University.

Dr. KATHRYN JOHNSON and Dr. SUSAN WOOD, SCL

“From Dialogue to Declaration: Catholics and Lutherans look for next steps ‘On the Way’”

Theological dialogues report significant advances toward Christian unity—but what more is needed for our church communities to claim and live out their agreements?

This seminar will explore that question, beginning from the 2015 Declaration on the Way: Church, Ministry and Eucharist commissioned by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Susan Wood and Kathryn Johnson, who worked on the document, will describe the process and the text. It contains a “Statement of Agreements,” 32 common affirmations already made by Lutherans and Roman Catholics in dialogue, and also identifies areas of remaining difference with possible ways forward. We will also consider the “what’s next?” and “so what?” questions raised by 50 years of dialogical engagement.

Dr. Kathryn L. Johnson is Director of Ecumenical and Inter-Religious Relations for the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. She is a member of the U.S. Catholic-Lutheran dialogue and a past co-secretary of the international dialogue commission.

Dr. Susan K. Wood, SCL, is professor of systematic theology at Marquette University. She is a member of both the U.S. and international Catholic-Lutheran dialogue commissions and is past president of the Catholic Theological Society of America.

Dr. Paul M. Pearson

“Pope Francis and Thomas Merton: Apostles of Mercy”

Dr. Pearson will take a look at Thomas Merton through the eyes of Pope Francis by drawing similarities between the two Christian leaders’ statements on the environment, ecumenical commitment, and interreligious exploration.

Dr. Paul M. Pearson is Director and Archivist of the Thomas Merton Center at Bellarmine University in Louisville, Kentucky and Chief of Research for the Merton Legacy Trust. He is also Resident Secretary of the International Thomas Merton Society, which he has served in many capacities, and contributes regularly to Merton conferences in Europe and the U.S.A. In 1999 he was awarded a “Louie” by the ITMS for his international contribution to the promotion of Merton’s writings and to the presentation of his ideas.


Fr. TOM RYAN, CSP and JOHN ARMSTRONG

“Ecumenism 101: Best Practices”

Born and raised in southern Minnesota, Fr. Tom Ryan, CSP, did his graduate studies in theology at the Washington (D.C.) Theological Union and the University of Geneva. He was ordained a Paulist in 1975, and served in campus ministry at the Ohio State University in Columbus and at McGill University in Montreal prior to directing the Montreal-based Canadian Centre for Ecumenism for 14 years. He also spearheaded the founding of Unitas in Montreal, an ecumenical center for spirituality and Christian meditation co-sponsored by eight different denominations. He served as its director for five years. Since January 2000 he has been the director of the Paulist Office for Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations in Washington, DC.

John H. Armstrong is the founder/president of ACT3 Network, a mission committed to empowering leaders and churches for unity in Christ’s mission. He is the author/editor of fourteen books, a mentor and consultant and ordained minister in the Reformed Church in America. He is an active leader in ecumenism and co-leads the Catholic-Evangelical Conversation in Chicago. He writes regularly at www.johnharmstrong.com and lives in Carol Stream, Illinois.

Registration Packet
CADEIO Monday Afternoon Seminar
“Being an Ecumenical/Interreligious Officer with the Francis Effect”

“The Francis Effect” has virtually transformed the world of ecumenical and interreligious affairs for the Catholic Church, and Ecumenical and Interreligious Officers delegated for this work in their arch/dioceses are experiencing the thaw of the so-called “ecumenical winter.” Fr. Donald Nesti discusses the impact of this new environment of the dialogue of fraternity.

Fr. Donald S. Nesti, CSSp, a native of Pennsylvania, was ordained to the priesthood in 1963. He earned a licentiate and a doctorate in theology at the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome. He has served the Congregation of the Holy Ghost in many capacities. Fr. Nesti served as Director of Planning, Research and Renewal for his Congregation of the Holy Ghost USA - Eastern Province; President, Duquesne University, Pittsburgh; and Provincial Superior, Congregation of the Holy Ghost USA - Western Province. Currently, he teaches at the University of St. Thomas Graduate School of Theology and is the Director of the Center for Faith and Culture. Fr. Nesti founded the Center in 1994 in response to Pope John Paul II’s 1982 creation of the Pontifical Council for Culture. The Center for Faith and Culture seeks to understand and affect the relationship between the worldview of Catholic faith and culture. Fr. Nesti has lectured extensively, authored books, published articles, conducted workshops and served as retreat master for clergy, laity and religious groups.

Tuesday Evening Film
“Love is a Verb”

“Love is a Verb,” narrated by Ashley Judd, relates the history of the social movement called Hizmet that began in Turkey in the 1960s and now reaches across the globe. Inspired by Muslim preacher and scholar Fethullah Gulen, adherents live their faith through service in education, disaster relief, and interfaith dialogue. Written, directed and produced by Terry Spencer Hesser, this film won Best Documentary, Maryland IFF 2014; Best Documentary Feature, Cincinnati Film Festival 2014; Audience Award, DocMiami International Film Festival, 2014. 55 minutes.

UMEIT Wednesday Morning Panel
“Local Ecumenical and Interreligious Ministries: A Panel on Excellent Ministries in Louisville”

Moderated by Rev. Dr. Jean Hawxhurst, all NWCU participants are invited.

Ms. Sarah Reed Harris, Managing Director, Center for Interfaith Relations, spent her early years in Bogota, Colombia, and moved to Louisville with her family in 1971. A graduate of Wellesley College, she received a master of public administration from the University of Louisville. She joined the Center two years ago and has coordinated the last three Festivals of Faiths. She and her husband, Charles Harris, have three daughters.

Rev. Dr. Peggy Cecil Hinds has served as the Interim Executive Director of the Kentucky Council of Churches since July 1, 2015. She is an ordained Teaching Elder and Certified Christian Educator in the Presbyterian Church (USA). Peggy also holds professional certifications as an individual life coach and congregational coach. She is also the author of a workbook for Presbyterian Ruling Elders and a frequent blogger. She is married to Dr. Mark Hinds; they have four grown children and a new grandson.

Haleh Karimi, Executive Director of Interfaith Paths to Peace, was born in Tehran and left Iran at the age of 14 to attend school in United States and later in Switzerland. Having lived in a land of turmoil (Iran), and one of peace (Switzerland), as well as one of change (United States), her passion in life has become to raise awareness of global issues about peace and justice through education and dialogue. Haleh has lived in Louisville for 26 of her 37 years in the U.S. She is Chair of Dynamic Web Development at Sullivan, Co-Chair of University of Louisville Computer Science and Engineering Advisory Board as well as the incoming Chair of the Network of Entrepreneurial Women.

Thomas M. Williams, Attorney and Spokesperson for Compassionate Louisville, was named the Co-host of the Partnership for a Compassionate Louisville by Mayor Greg Fischer in 2011. For that work, he received the Jack Olive International Heart of Compassion award from the Compassionate Action Network International out of Seattle, Washington. Tom leads the effort to recognize Louisville, Kentucky as the first model compassionate city by CAN International. His legal practice focuses in management-side labor and employment law. In 2007, he served as President of the Louisville Bar Association. Tom was the 2009 Board Chair for Leadership Louisville and was recognized as one of Louisville’s “connectors” in 2010. Recently he helped to launch a program of restorative justice in the juvenile courts.

Tom and his wife, Sarah, have three children, Lilly, Lincoln and Nelson.

Dr. Paul Pearson, listed above, is also on this panel.
Wednesday Evening Cultural Event

The Spirit of Jefferson Riverboat Dinner Cruise

Optional event, seats still available, $50.

Join us on Wednesday evening for a sightseeing and dinner cruise aboard the Spirit of Jefferson, a modern riverboat with the look and feel of an old-time small steamboat. The cruise will take us upriver on the Ohio with commentary provided on the history of the river and the sights we will see. A bountiful buffet dinner is included in the ticket price; cash bar is available.

The Spirit of Jefferson was built in 1963 in Iowa, named the Mark Twain and spent the first seven years of her life cruising the Mississippi from a base in New Orleans. She was renamed the Huck Finn in 1970 and cruised from St Louis for 25 years. In April of 1996, she came to Louisville and was given the name she now bears, the Spirit of Jefferson.

CEN/CADEIO Wednesday Morning Panel

“Pope Francis: Opening the Circle”
Moderated by Rev. Dr. John Armstrong, founder of CEN (Consortium of Evangelical Networks) and Father Don Rooney, president of CADEIO. All NWCU participants are invited.

The past year has seen remarkable growth in relationship seeking Christian unity between the Pope Francis and the Evangelical Community. We have put together a panel of leaders from the two communities who have been personally involved at the center of dialogue.

UMEIT Wednesday Afternoon Panel

“How to Create a Festival of Faiths in Your Hometown”

This will be a casual, open discussion with leaders from the Center for Interfaith Relations, who will talk with us about how they create the internationally-renown Festival of Faiths and how we can apply some of those principles in our own contexts. The conversation will take place in the Undercroft of the Cathedral of the Assumption, which is a few blocks from the Galt House. A small bus will be available for those who would prefer to ride. (network leaders should see Jean Hawxhurst if they would like to join UMEIT for this, as space will be limited).
Origins of the National Workshop

In 1963, a group of Roman Catholics, inspired by the current work of Vatican II, saw a need to equip local leadership for the task of ecumenical ministry and began an annual meeting with guest speakers and dialogue partners from other churches. In 1969, they formally invited 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 the National Planning Committee, a group including the National Ecumenical Officers (or their delegate), the network presidents, the National Chair and leaders of the local community. The Workshop is sponsored by the National Ecumenical Officers’ Association (NEOA). It was out of the National Workshop that the denominational Networks were born.

Today the Workshop consists of an overall ecumenical program (and interreligious, as well, where churches ecumenically interact with non-Christian cultures) with plenary speakers and seminars as well as association meetings and formation programs for the Networks themselves. For over 50 years now, it is the mission of the Workshop to celebrate the spirit of unity and understanding by:

- Providing meeting seminars for all who are concerned with Christian unity: laity, clergy, ecumenical/interreligious officers, theologians, seminarians and staff of ecumenical/interreligious organizations;
- Stimulating an exchange of ideas and experiences among people concerned with Christian unity and the bodies they represent;
- Being a source of 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;
- Celebrating the unity that already exists among Christians and searching for ways to overcome the divisions that remain.

About 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 in prayer embracing the 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 Fr. John R. Fulton designed the logo for the National Workshop on Christian Unity.

Network-related Acronyms and Ecumenical Organizations

**NETWORK-RELATED BODIES**

CADEIO Catholic Association of Diocesan Ecumenical and Interreligious Officers

CEN Consortium of Evangelical Networks for Unity

EDEIO Episcopal Diocesan Ecumenical and Interreligious Officers

LEIRN Lutheran Ecumenical and Inter-Religious Network

NEOA National Ecumenical Officers’ Association

NPC National Planning Committee

UMEIT United Methodist Ecumenical and Interreligious Training

**CHURCHES and ECUMENICAL ASSOCIATIONS**

CCT Christian Churches Together (USA)

CUIC Churches Uniting in Christ

ELCA Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

GEII Graymoor Ecumenical and Interreligious Institute

LARC Lutheran-Anglican-Roman Catholic (regional churches in covenant)

LARCUM Lutheran-Anglican-Roman Catholic-United Methodist (regional churches in covenant)

NCC, NCCC, NCCCUSA National Council of Churches of Christ (USA)

PCUSA Presbyterian Church (USA)

TEC The Episcopal Church

UMC United Methodist Church

WCC World Council of Churches
2016 National Planning Committee - Louisville KY

CHAIR, NATIONAL PLANNING COMMITTEE 2016
The Rev. Dr. Daniell Hamby
The Episcopal Church

PRESIDENT, NEOA
Rev. Dr. John Crossin, OSFS
Director, Secretariat for Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB)

SECRETARY, NEOA
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2017 National Planning Committee - Minneapolis, MN, May 1-4, 2017

CHAIR, NATIONAL PLANNING COMMITTEE 2017
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