

PROGRAM BOOK

CENTENNIAL ECUMENICAL GATHERING

*Witnesses of These Things:
Ecumenical Engagement in a New Era*



November 9 - 11
New Orleans, LA

and

2010 GENERAL ASSEMBLY



National Council of the
Churches of Christ in the USA



CHURCH WORLD SERVICE

General Information

CENTENNIAL ECUMENICAL GATHERING OFFICE

The Centennial Ecumenical Gathering Office, located in MAGNOLIA will maintain a message board for the convenience of Assembly participants, as well as a “Lost and Found.” Staff and Stewards will be available to answer your questions and to offer special assistance where needed.

Hours: Tuesday, November 9, 7:00 am – 10:00 pm
Wednesday, November 10, 8:00 am – 6:00 pm
Thursday, November 11, 8:00 am – 3:00 pm

IMPORTANT EMERGENCY INFORMATION

Police/Fire/Ambulance: 911

Hospital: Tulane Hospital Medical Center
1415 Tulane Avenue, New Orleans, LA 70112
(504) 588-5012

Pharmacy: Walgreens
900 Canal Street, New Orleans, LA 70112
(504) 568-1271

ONSITE REGISTRATION / CHECK-IN

Location: Outside MAGNOLIA
Hours: Tuesday, November 9, 7:00 am – 6:00 pm
Wednesday, November 10, 8:00 am – 6:00 pm
Thursday, November 11, 8:00 am – 3:00 pm

EXHIBITS AND GENERAL ASSEMBLY BOOKSTORE

Hours: Tuesday, November 9, 8:00 am – 6:00 pm
Wednesday, November 10, 8:00 am – 6:00 pm
Thursday, November 11, 8:00 am – 3:00 pm

BE SURE TO VISIT

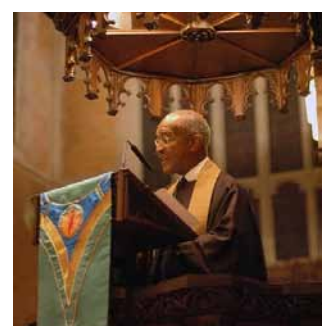
The Notre Dame Seminary Bookstore and the SERRV fair trade craft store (www.serrv.org) in BLAINE KERN A&B; and the exhibits located in the PREFUNCTION AREA, where you will find displays from the National Council of Churches, Church World Service, several of our member communions, local and regional ecumenical associations, and the Ecumenical Trust.





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Welcome to New Orleans

Dear Centennial Ecumenical Gathering Participant;

We would like to take the opportunity, on behalf of our citizens, to welcome the Centennial Ecumenical Gathering and 2010 General Assembly of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA and Church World Service to New Orleans and to thank you for your daily service to the citizens of our country.

In New Orleans, music is the staff of life, and people really do dance in the streets. Only New Orleans could have given birth to jazz, America's greatest art form, improvised and melded from the far-flung cultures of Europe, Africa, and the Caribbean. Culturally diverse, walkable in every direction, museums reflecting our history and culture, architecture from more centuries than any other city in the nation, the French Quarter, decorative ironwork, tropical courtyards, centuries-old oak trees, graceful mansions, and charming cottages are all still here. And the food . . . is second to none in the world.

We are here to make sure you and your attendees remember New Orleans for all of the right reasons!

Again, Bienvenue à les Nouvelle Orleans! It is our sincere pleasure to welcome you to New Orleans! We sincerely hope you enjoy your stay.

Yours very truly,

Mitchell J. Landrieu
Mayor, City of New Orleans

J. Stephen Perry
President, New Orleans Convention & Visitors Bureau



General Assembly Member Communions

African Methodist Episcopal Church
The African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church
Alliance of Baptists
American Baptist Churches in the USA
Apostolic Catholic Church
Diocese of the Armenian Church of America
Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
The Christian Methodist Episcopal Church
Church of the Brethren
The Coptic Orthodox Church in North America
The Episcopal Church (USA)
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
Friends United Meeting
Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America
Hungarian Reformed Church in America
International Council of Community Churches
Korean Presbyterian Church Abroad
Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church
Mar Thoma Church

Moravian Church in North America
National Baptist Convention of America
National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc.
National Missionary Baptist Convention of America
Orthodox Church in America
Patriarchal Parishes of the Russian Orthodox Church in the USA
Philadelphia Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
Polish National Catholic Church of America
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
Progressive National Baptist Convention, Inc.
Reformed Church in America
The Serbian Orthodox Church in North and South America
The Swedenborgian Church of North America
Syrian Orthodox Church of Antioch
Ukrainian Orthodox Church of America
United Church of Christ
The United Methodist Church

In addition, guests from these communions are present at the Centennial Ecumenical Gathering:

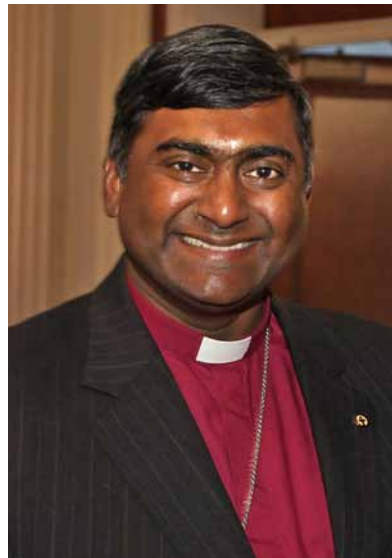
Anglican Church of Canada
Assemblies of God
The Catholic Church
The Church of Christ, Scientist
The Church of God (Cleveland, TN)
Church of Norway
Community of Christ
Cooperative Baptist Fellowship
The Episcopal Church of Cuba
Evangelical Covenant Church
Free Evangelical Church in Cuba

The Mennonite Church USA
Pentecostal Christian Church in Cuba
Presbyterian Church of Colombia
Primitive Baptist Church
Protestant Church in the Netherlands
Religious Society of Friends
The United Church of Canada
The Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches
Unitarian Universalist Association
Vineyard USA



We wish to extend our thanks to The American Bible Society for their generous sponsorship of the Bible Study and their gifts of Bibles at the Centennial Ecumenical Gathering.

Officers of the General Assembly



The Rev. Canon Peg Chamberlin

Moravian Church in North America
Executive Director, Minnesota Council of Churches
President, National Council of Churches
Co-Moderator of the General Assembly

The Rt. Rev. Johncy Itty

The Episcopal Church (USA)
Chair, Church World Service Board of Directors
Co-Moderator of the General Assembly

The Rev. Dr. Michael Kinnamon

General Secretary, National Council of Churches

The Rev. John McCullough

Executive Director & CEO, Church World Service



National Council of Churches

The Rev. Peg Chamberlin, *President*
Moravian Church in North America

Ms. Kathryn M. Lohre, *President-Elect*
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

The Rev. Dr. Raymon E. Hunt, *Vice President*
The African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church

The Rev. Dr. Cheryl H. Wade, *Vice President*
American Baptist Churches in the USA

The Rt. Rev. Johncy Itty, *Vice President*
The Episcopal Church (USA)

Mr. Stanley J. Noffsinger, *Vice President*
Church of the Brethren

The Rev. Dr. José Luis Casal, *Secretary*
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

H.E. Archbishop Vicken Aykazian, *Immediate Past President*
Diocese of the Armenian Church of America

The Rev. Jerry Van Marter, *Chair*
Communication Commission
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

The Rev. Dr. Miriam J. Burnett, *Chair*
Justice and Advocacy Commission
African Methodist Episcopal Church

Dr. Anton C. Vrame, *Chair*
Faith and Order Commission
Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America

Dr. Diana Eck, *Chair*
Interfaith Relations Commission
The United Methodist Church

The Rev. Dr. Daryl Ingram, *Chair*
Education and Leadership Ministries Commission
African Methodist Episcopal Church

Church World Service

The Rt. Rev. Johncy Itty, *Chair*
The Episcopal Church (USA)

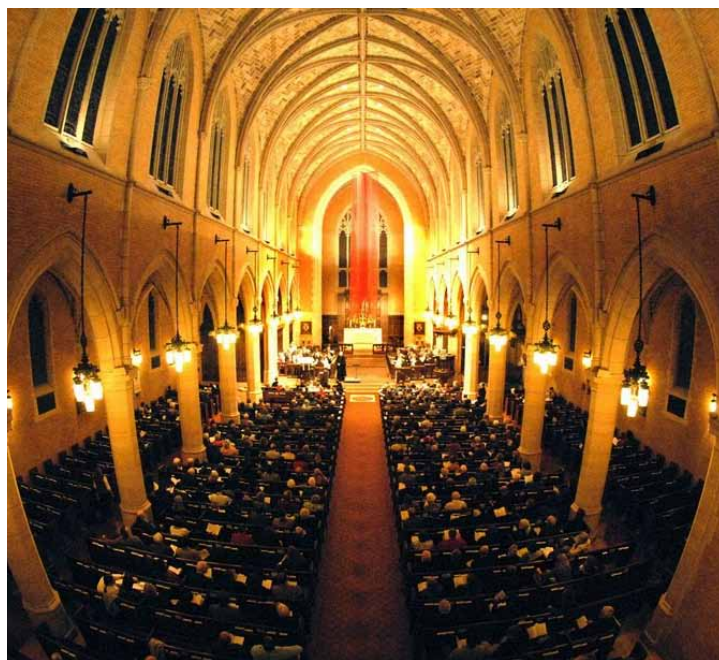
Mr. John Paterakis, *1st Vice Chair*
Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America

The Rev. Canon Benjamin Musoke-Lubega,
2nd Vice Chair
The Episcopal Church (USA)

The Rev. Jennifer Riggs, *Secretary*
Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

The Rev. Jimmie Hawkins, *Treasurer*
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

Mrs. Betty Voskuil, *Past President*
Reformed Church in America



Special Events

Delegates to the General Assembly have received information about Assembly business in mailings sent out before the Assembly. All participants should note, however, that the General Assembly is an open-meeting organization, which means that visitors may observe its sessions, unless the body should go into executive session. The Constitution and Standing Rules specifies conditions under which the Assembly may close its session.

The Daily Schedule also includes the following special and related events:

AFRICAN AMERICAN CLIMATE INITIATIVE BREAKFAST

Wednesday Nov. 10, 7:15 – 8:30 am in RIVER BEND 1

(Open to all registrants through pre-registration.)

In 2008, the National Council of Churches Eco-Justice Program launched the African American Climate Initiative, centered around the growing interest from the black church community around climate change, specifically the impacts climate change would have on communities of color. But the work is just beginning and the challenges of climate change and energy are only becoming more apparent in our communities. Learn about the accomplishments and lessons learned over the last two years and help us prepare for the next steps of this important initiative.

THE CLAIRE RANDALL WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP LUNCH

Wednesday Nov. 10, 12:15 – 1:45 pm in RIVER BEND 1

(Open to all registrants and the public through pre-registration.)

This lunch recognizes leadership of women in the ecumenical movement. This year's speaker, Dr. Elizabeth Ferris, Senior Fellow in Foreign Policy at the Brookings Institution, explores some of the particular issues affecting women in disasters – both the specific vulnerabilities they face and also the particular strengths which they bring to recovery efforts. Ellenor Simmons, Director of the Crescent Alliance Recovery Effort (CARE) Long Term Recovery Initiative of the United Way for the Greater New Orleans Area will be honored with an Award of Excellence.



RACIAL/ETHNIC CAUCUS BREAKFAST

Thursday Nov. 11, 7 – 8:15 am in RIVER BEND 1

(Open to all registrants through pre-registration.)

This is an important opportunity for all present at the General Assembly (delegates, visitors, stewards, and staff) to gather for fellowship, networking, and strategizing on concerns relate to race and ethnicity. Those present will hear of programming and issues that are of particular relevance and interest to communities of color. This year, caucus members will hear about the NCC's revitalized work in the area of racial justice in addition to other ongoing work happening within the NCC, CWS and the one ecumenical movement. Although the primary focus will be on the community of persons of color within the ecumenical movement, this breakfast is open to all those interested in attending.



Related Events

NEW FIRE 2010 - YOUNG ADULT ECUMENICAL DAYS

Sunday, Nov. 7, noon through Tuesday Nov. 10, 10 am at LA QUINTA HOTEL

(Open to all registrants and the public through pre-registration.)

New Fire is a network of ecumenical organizations and Christian communions that seek to revitalize the Church by engaging and developing the next generation of Christian leaders. The New Fire Gathering, a related event of the Centennial Ecumenical Gathering, establishes a common space for: relationship building, ecumenical education and formation, leadership training, sharing of resources and practices and strategic planning.

LOCAL AND REGIONAL ECUMENISM GATHERING

THE PROMISE OF ECUMENICAL COMMUNITY: VISIONING OUR FUTURE

Thursday Nov. 11, noon through Friday Nov. 12, 3:30 pm in RIVER BEND

(Open to all registrants and the public through pre-registration.)

This is an opportunity to be a part of a milestone event in U.S. ecumenism, to make new connections, to help shape a vision for the coming decades, to begin a sustained process of renewal in the local and regional ecumenical community, and to bring back new energy into ecumenical work in our communities. On Thursday afternoon, we will be joining the Centennial Ecumenical Gathering of the broader ecumenical movement to discuss the future of ecumenism. On Friday from 7:45 am to 3:30 pm, those committed to local and regional ecumenism will gather for a time of focused conversation about the future of ecumenism in our communities using the World Café participatory leadership process. This visioning process will result in new relationships, new ideas, new initiatives and new energy for our work together.

FILM SCREENING: *HAVE YOU HEARD FROM JOHANNESBURG*

(Open to all registrants and the public - no registration required.)

A powerful new documentary series about the global anti-apartheid movement from two-time Academy Award® nominee Connie Field, showing two segments:

“The Road to Resistance” - Wednesday Nov. 10, 2 – 4 pm in JULIA

With special remarks by

Mr. Dennis W. Frado, Director, Lutheran Office for World Community

As the United Nations adopts the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, in this story from *Have You Heard from Johannesburg*, South Africa heads in the opposite direction, implementing a system of laws called apartheid to racially segregate its people in every aspect of life.

“From Selma to Soweto” - Thursday Nov. 11, 10 am – noon in JULIA

With special remarks by

The Rev. Dr. Angelique Walker-Smith, Executive Director, Church Federation of Greater Indianapolis

This story from *Have You Heard from Johannesburg* shows how black leaders and their allies, strengthened through years of grassroots organizing during the civil rights movement, take on U.S. foreign policy on South Africa, directing campaigns in corporate boardrooms, universities, embassies, and finally in the U.S. Congress itself.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE U.S. CONFERENCE OF THE WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

(Open to members of the Conference through pre-registration.)

The annual meeting of the United States Conference for the World Council of Churches will be held on Friday morning beginning at 8:30 am in the BLAINE KERN A. The agenda will include time in discussion with the WCC General Secretary, Rev. Dr. Olav Fykse Tveit, and consideration of the proposed merger of the U.S. Conference with the National Council of Churches.

Young Adult Stewards Program

Since the reinstatement of the program this is the eighth consecutive year that Young Adult Stewards have been included as an important component of the General Assembly. Applications for the program were distributed widely through denominational offices, the Education and Leadership Ministries Commission (ELMC) program ministries, other ecumenical networks, and the NCC and CWS websites. Eight of the twelve stewards in this year's program were selected based on their applications and letters of recommendation. The two senior stewards were selected from the 2009 class of stewards to assist in carrying out this year's program.

The stewards' work – assisting with hospitality, registration, audio-visual and technology, communications, and logistics – will be complemented by their interactions with national church leaders and their experience of the Assembly's rich ecumenical environment. During the Assembly, each steward will interview Assembly participants with particular expertise – for example, interfaith relations or education ministries – and will write a 500-word essay on his or her experiences as a steward.

The following young adults are serving as the 2010 Young Adult Stewards:

- **Meredith Harber**, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Chicago, IL
- **Robert Conrad Miessler, IV**, Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America, Indianapolis, IN
- **Hung Pham**, Roman Catholic Church, Berkeley, CA
- **The Rev. Mary Elizabeth Prentice-Hyers**, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), Waco, TX
- **Joanna Shenk**, Mennonite Church USA, Elkhart, IN
- **Adam Sornchai**, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Gettysburg, PA
- **Christopher Spear**, Roman Catholic Church, Slidell, LA
- **Rachel Stacy**, Religious Society of Friends (Quaker), Richmond, IN
- **Vincent E. Stokes, II**, Primitive Baptist Church, New Haven, CT
- **Alison VanBuskirk**, The United Methodist Church, Brooklyn, NY

The senior stewards, returning from last year's class of stewards, are:

- **Sylvia Bull**, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Great Falls, MT
- **William Miller**, African Methodist Episcopal Church, Madison, NJ



2009 Stewards



*“For now we see in mirror dimly, but then face to face.
Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known.”*
1 Corinthians 13:12

. . . conversations to explore the future of ecumenism at this time in the world

WHO CAN WE BECOME TOGETHER AT THIS TIME?

WHAT MOVES US FORWARD?

Please join us for a continuous series of conversations
that will engage heart, mind and spirit about the key issues of our day:

Christian Understanding of Unity in an Age of Radical Diversity
Christian Understanding of Mission in an Age of Interfaith Relations
Christian Understanding of Creation in an Age of Environmental Crisis
Christian Understanding of War in an Age of Terror(ism)
Christian Understanding of Economy in an Age of Growing Inequality

These café conversations are a dynamic way to engage these issues while engaging each other. This World Café participatory leadership process will build upon the work done in five corresponding vision papers. Each participant will be asked to engage one of these topics deeply in the small group café conversations, and there will also be a time to discuss how all of these issues come into play as we envision the future of the ecumenical movement.

Facilitators:

Kelly McGowan

Founder of Upstream Consulting

Nancy Fritsche Eagan

Consultant, People Potential and All My Sisters, & Art of Hosting Practitioner

Kim Robey

Chair, NCC Justice for Women Working Group

Chair, Anglican Women’s Empowerment

About the Vision Papers

A Description of the Studies

The 2010 General Assembly of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA and Church World Service takes place November 9-11 in New Orleans, Louisiana. This unique assembly has been expanded into a Centennial Ecumenical Gathering, including other ecumenical partners. The Centennial Gathering celebrates the one hundredth anniversary of the 1910 World Missionary Conference in Edinburgh, which marks the beginning of the modern ecumenical movement. In preparation for this event, the National Council of Churches and Church World Service initiated a series of five studies on crucial issues of our era:

- 1) **Christian Understanding of Unity in an Age of Radical Diversity**
- 2) **Christian Understanding of Mission in an Age of Interfaith Relations**
- 3) **Christian Understanding of Creation in an Age of Environmental Crisis**
- 4) **Christian Understanding of War in an Age of Terror(ism)**
- 5) **Christian Understanding of the Economy in an Age of Growing Inequality**

Study groups were formed, each comprised of members from various Christian traditions. Their task was to write vision papers which would be reviewed and discussed prior to and during the Centennial Gathering and thereafter in the churches. These papers are study documents, not position papers. Written in different styles, each paper does three things in its treatment of the issue:

- 1) assesses the past: what the churches have said and done, and what they have not;
- 2) acknowledges the present: what the churches' are currently saying and doing, and what they are not;
- 3) envisions the future: what will the churches say and do in the next hundred years, and what they will not

In their assessments of the past, acknowledgement of the present, and vision of the future, each paper in the series draws on the common heritage which Christians and their churches share, the richness of which is found in scripture and tradition.

After the Centennial Ecumenical Gathering these vision papers will be refined and sent to the member churches of the NCC/CWS General Assembly, other Christian communions, other councils of churches, regional ecumenical organizations, and other interested groups and individuals. In these settings the vision papers are recommended for prayerful study and reflection – i.e., in Sunday school, Bible study, adult formation, local dialogues, ministerial associations, etc.



The purpose of this undertaking is action oriented. The vision papers serve to galvanize U.S. Christians so that what they read in the papers and take from their conversations on these topics will compel them and their churches to respond in two ways: first, to make common witness on these issues; and second, to take concrete steps together to act on the issues in such a way that it makes a difference in our life together as God's people.



STUDY 1, CHRISTIAN UNDERSTANDING OF UNITY IN AN AGE OF RADICAL DIVERSITY, identifies the goal of the ecumenical movement as celebration of the wondrous diversity of our God-given oneness as the people of God, the body of Christ and the temple of the Holy Spirit. The study contends that the ecumenical movement must find new ways of holding unity and diversity in appropriate and creative relationship. In so doing it claims that the church must turn again to scripture and tradition in order to hear what the Spirit is saying to us.

STUDY 2, CHRISTIAN UNDERSTANDING OF MISSION IN AN AGE OF INTERFAITH RELATIONS, puts forth the thesis that ecumenical Christians do not enter into dialogue and cooperation with neighbors of other faiths merely on pragmatic grounds, but out of a deep sense of mission as followers of Jesus Christ. It does this in the context of the ecumenical movement's recognition of the importance of Christian relations with people of other living faiths.

STUDY 3, CHRISTIAN UNDERSTANDING OF CREATION IN AN AGE OF ENVIRONMENTAL CRISIS, addresses the churches' concern for and commitment to justice, peace and the integrity of creation. Doing so, it reports on the activities of various people and institutions whose commitment to eco-justice embraces a multitude of initiatives – from crafting policy statements, launching media campaigns and hosting conferences to action programs, educational activities and spiritual exercises.

STUDY 4, CHRISTIAN UNDERSTANDING OF WAR IN AN AGE OF TERROR(ISM), confronts the issue and the age head-on. It begins by naming the open and painful wounds in the church. It then recalls the Pauline appeal of putting on the mind of Christ and being led by the Spirit as the source of Christian peacemaking. Tracing the past, our present moment and the future, the paper then confronts painful issues of terrorism v. peacemaking as Christians are called to be the body of Christ across divides of war and peace in a post-Christendom context.

STUDY 5, CHRISTIAN UNDERSTANDING OF THE ECONOMY IN AN AGE OF GROWING INEQUALITY, names the crisis of the current financial fall in the context of creation, ecology and economic ethics. Doing so, it draws on the 1908 Social Creed of the Federal Council of Churches and the 2007 Social Creed for the Twenty-First Century of the National Council of Churches. This study challenges the churches not only to confront the hard issues before us, but also to take a moral inventory of principles and practices that will result in action towards a sustainable future for all.

Daily Schedule

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7

Noon – 11pm	New Fire: Young Adult Ecumenical Days <i>Open to all through pre-registration</i>	Off Site: La Quinta Hotel
8 – 9:30 pm	Young Adult Stewards Orientation	Natchez

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 8

7 am – 4:30 pm	Restoring New Orleans Work Day <i>Open to all registrants and the public through pre-registration</i> Work project with Project Homecoming—a rebuilding effort of the Presbytery of South Louisiana in partnership with Presbyterian Disaster Assistance	Off Site
10 – 11 am	Constitution & Standing Rules Committee	Mississippi Queen
2 – 4 pm	Nominations Committee	Cotton Blossom
4 – 5:30 pm	Committee on Collaboration	Mississippi Queen
6 – 9 pm	NCC Executive Committee & New Fire Dinner	Julia
9 - 10 pm	Centennial Gathering Planning Committee	Cotton Blossom

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 9

7 am – 10 pm	Office Open	Magnolia
7 am – 6 pm	Onsite Registration Table Open	outside Magnolia
7:30 – 8 am	NCC Governing Board Breakfast	River Bend 2
8 – 10 am	NCC Governing Board Meeting	River Bend 2
8 – 10 am	New Fire: Young Adult Ecumenical Days	Off Site: La Quinta Hotel
8 am – 6 pm	Exhibits Open Notre Dame Seminary Bookstore Open SERRV Shop Open	Prefunction Area Blaine Kern A-B Blaine Kern A-B

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 9

10:30 am – noon

Opening Plenary Welcome and Orientation

Blaine Kern C-F



Welcome from:

Bishop John F. White,
African Methodist Episcopal Church,
Chair, Centennial Ecumenical Gathering Planning Committee



Orientation:

General Assembly Co-Moderators:

The Rev. Peg Chamberlin
Moravian Church of North America
President, National Council of Churches



and

The Rt. Rev. Johncy Itty
Chair, Church World Service Board of Directors



Greetings from:

The Honorable Lisa P. Jackson
Administrator, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
on behalf of President Barack Obama

Greetings from:

Canadian Council of Churches
Latin American Council of Churches
U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops
World Council of Churches
World Student Christian Federation

Christian Churches Together in the USA
Churches Uniting in Christ
Church Women United
State Ecumenical Executives

American Bible Society
Graymoor Ecumenical and Interreligious Institute
National Association of Ecumenical & Interreligious Staff
National Ecumenical Officers Association
National Religious Partnership for the Environment
World Day of Prayer

Appointment of the Committee of Reference and Call for New Business

Daily Schedule

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 9 (continued)

12:15 – 1:45 pm

Interfaith Luncheon

Blaine Kern C-F



Speakers:

Dr. Diana L. Eck, Moderator

The United Methodist Church

Chair, NCC Interfaith Relations Commission

Professor of Comparative Religion and Indian Studies

and Director of the Pluralism Project, Harvard University



Rabbi Steve Gutow

Jewish Council for Public Affairs

President, Jewish Council for Public Affairs



Dr. Sayyid M. Syeed

Islamic Society of North America

National Director, The Office of Interfaith and Community

Alliances of the Islamic Society of North America

2 – 3:30 pm

Afternoon Plenary

Blaine Kern C-F

Nominations Report and Seating of Proxies



Speaker:

The Rev. Dr. John M. Buchanan

The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

Editor and Publisher, The Christian Century

Pastor, The Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago



“The Ecumenical Christian Century: Looking Back and Ahead”

Responses from:

The Most Rev. Dr. Katharine Jefferts Schori

The Episcopal Church (USA)

Presiding Bishop, The Episcopal Church (USA)



His Eminence Metropolitan Mor Cyril Aphrem Karim

Syrian Orthodox Church of Antioch

Metropolitan and Patriarchal Vicar of the Archdiocese of

the Syrian Orthodox Church for the Eastern United States



The Rev. Dr. Walter L. Parrish III

Progressive National Baptist Convention

General Secretary, Progressive National Baptist Convention

Daily Schedule

4 – 5:30 pm

Corinthian Café Conversations, Pt. 1

Launching Ecumenical Engagement in a New Era

Blaine Kern C-F

6 – 7:30 pm

Communal Meals

Community in Families of Communion

Member Communion Caucus Opportunity

Guests from other communions will be hosted by NCC/CWS Member Communion and will have the opportunity to select which group to join.

Baptist Churches and Friends

Alliance of Baptists

American Baptist Churches USA

National Baptist Convention of America

National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc.

National Missionary Baptist Convention of America

Progressive National Baptist Convention, Inc.

Tchoupitoulas

Episcopal, Lutheran & Polish National Catholic Churches and Friends

The Episcopal Church (USA)

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Polish National Catholic Church of America

River Bend 2

Disciples, ICCC & UCC Churches and Friends

Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

International Council of Community Churches

United Church of Christ

New Leveé

Methodist Churches and Friends

African Methodist Episcopal Church

The African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church

The Christian Methodist Episcopal Church

The United Methodist Church

River Bend 1

Orthodox Churches and Friends

Diocese of the Armenian Church in America

Coptic Orthodox Church in America

Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America

Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church

Mar Thoma Church

Orthodox Church in America

Patriarchal Parishes of the Russian Orthodox Church in the USA

Serbian Orthodox Church in North and South America

Syrian Orthodox Church of Antioch

Ukrainian Orthodox Church of America

Julia

Peace Churches and Friends

Apostolic Catholic Church

Church of the Brethren

Friends United Meeting

The Moravian Church in North America

Philadelphia Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends

The Swedenborgian Church of North America

Fulton

Reformed Churches and Friends

Hungarian Reformed Church In America

Korean Presbyterian Church Abroad

Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

Reformed Church in America

Blaine Kern F

Guests from The Catholic Church and NCC/CWS Hosts

Delta Queen



Daily Schedule

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 9 (continued)

7:30 – 8 pm

Travel to Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis

Transportation will be provided

8 – 9:30 pm

Opening Service

Off Site: Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis

Open to the public at no charge



Preaching:

His Excellency, The Most Rev. Gregory Michael Aymond

The Catholic Church

Archbishop of the Archdiocese of New Orleans

10 – 11 pm

Committee on Reference

Creole Queen

Centennial Gathering Planning Committee

Cotton Blossom

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 10

7:15 – 8:30 am

Special Breakfast Event:

River Bend 1

African American Climate Initiative Breakfast

Open to all registrants through pre-registration

Discussion on this NCC Eco-Justice Program Initiative

7:30 – 8:30 am

Continental Breakfast

Blaine Kern C-F

Member Communion Caucus Opportunity

8 am – 6 pm

Registration Table Open

outside Magnolia

Exhibits Open

Prefunction Area

Notre Dame Seminary Bookstore Open

Blaine Kern A-B

SERRV Shop Open

Kern A-B

Office Open

Magnolia

8:30 – 9:30 am

Gathering Prayer and Bible Study

Blaine Kern C-F



Bible Study led by:

His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios of America

Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America

Primate of the Greek Orthodox Church in America

Exarch of the Ecumenical Patriarchate

President of the Holy Eparchial Synod

Chairman, The Episcopal Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Hierarchs of North and Central America

Daily Schedule

10 am – noon

Corinthian Café Conversations, Pt. 2

Engaging the issues while engaging each other

Christian Understanding of Unity in an Age of Radical Diversity
Christian Understanding of Mission in an Age of Interfaith Relations
Christian Understanding of Creation in an Age of Environmental Crisis
Christian Understanding of War in an Age of Terror(ism)
Christian Understanding of the Economy in an Age of Growing Inequality

Blaine Kern C
Julia
New Leveé
Fulton
Blaine Kern E

12:15 – 1:45 pm

Lunch

Blaine Kern C-F

12:15 – 1:45 pm

Special Event: Claire Randall Women's Leadership Lunch

River Bend 1

Open to all registrants and the public through pre-registration



Speaker:

Dr. Elizabeth Ferris

The Religious Society of Friends

Senior Fellow in Foreign Policy at The Brookings Institution

Co-Director of The Brookings Institution-University of Bern Project on Internal Displacement

Former Director of the CWS Immigration and Refugee Program

Former WCC Programme Executive for International Relations

“When Disaster Strikes: Women’s Particular Vulnerabilities and Amazing Strengths”

Honoree:

Ellenor Simmons

Director, Crescent Alliance Recovery Effort (CARE)

Long Term Recovery Initiative of the United Way for the Greater New Orleans Area



Daily Schedule

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 10 (continued)

2 – 3:30 pm

General Assembly Business Session

Blaine Kern C-F

All registrants are welcome to attend

Co-Moderators:

The Rev. Peg Chamberlin

President, National Council of Churches

and

The Rt. Rev. Johncy Itty

Chair, Church World Service Board of Directors



Appointment of Parliamentarian

Approval of 2009 General Assembly Minutes

National Council of Churches Report

The Rev. Dr. Michael Kinnamon,

General Secretary, National Council of Churches

Church World Service Report

The Rev. John L. McCullough,

Executive Director & CEO, Church World Service

Report on White House Visit and Engagement with the
White House Office of Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships

Letter on the Situation in Sudan

Statement on the Recent Church Bombing in Iraq

Message on Honoring the Sacredness of Religious Others

Resolution on Immigration Reform

Message on the Ratification of the START II Treaty

3:30 – 4 pm

Break

4 – 5:30 pm

General Assembly Business Session

Blaine Kern C-F

Membership and Ecclesial Relations Committee Report

Committee on Collaboration Report

Joint Constitution and Standing Rules Committee Report

Committee of Reference Report

Report on the NCC/CWS Visit to Colombia, Venezuela, and Ecuador



Daily Schedule

2 – 4 pm	<p>Alternative Event: Film Screening <i>Open to the public at no charge</i> <i>All delegates should attend the General Assembly Business Session</i></p> <p><i>Have You Heard from Johannesburg</i> Screening of an Award Winning Documentary on the Global Anti-Apartheid Movement</p>	Julia
2 – 5:30 pm	<p>Alternative Event: Justice for Women Working Group Meeting</p>	Mississippi Queen
6 – 6:30 pm	<p>Reception</p>	Prefunction Area
6:30 – 8 pm	<p>Awards Banquet</p> <p><u>Speaker:</u> The Very Reverend, The Honourable Dr. Lois M. Wilson <i>The United Church of Canada</i> Ecumenist in Residence, Emmanuel College-Toronto School of Theology Former President, The World Council of Churches Former President, The Canadian Council of Churches Former Moderator, The United Church of Canada Former Member, The Senate of Canada</p>	Blaine Kern C-F
8 – 10 pm	<p>An Evening of New Orleans Culture The story of New Orleans told in a humorous and engaging manner by anecdotal historian and Episcopal priest, The Rev. William C. Morris Jr. ...followed by an evening of jazz with the women and men of 'Some Like it Hot,' a popular Dixieland New Orleans jazz band.</p>	Blaine Kern C-F
9:15 – 10:15 pm	<p>Centennial Gathering Planning Committee</p>	Cotton Blossom



THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11

7 – 8:15 am	<p>Continental Breakfast</p>	Blaine Kern C-F
7 – 8:15 am	<p>Special Event: Racial/Ethnic Caucus Breakfast <i>Open to all registrants through pre-registration</i> <i>A time for sharing and community building</i></p>	Fulton
8 am – 3 pm	<p>Registration Table Open Exhibits Open Notre Dame Seminary Bookstore Open SERRV Shop Open Office Open</p>	outside Magnolia Prefunction Area Blaine Kern A-B Blaine Kern A-B Magnolia

Daily Schedule

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11 (continued)

8:30 – 9:45 am

Morning Plenary

Blaine Kern C-F



Speaker:

The Rev. Dr. Olav Fykse Tveit

General Secretary, World Council of Churches



Responses from:

The Most Rev. Richard J. Sklba

The Catholic Church

Vicar General/Auxiliary Bishop of Milwaukee

Co-Chair, Lutheran-Catholic Dialogue

Former Chair, USCCB Committee for Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs



The Rev. Dr. Ofelia Ortega Suárez

Presbyterian-Reformed Church in Cuba

President, World Council of Churches for the Caribbean and Latin American Region

Greetings from the Cuban Council of Churches

10 am - noon

Corinthian Café Conversations, Pt. 3

Blaine Kern C-F

Deepening the conversations and reaping the harvest

10am - noon

Alternative Event: Film Screening

Julia

Open to the public at no charge

Have You Heard from Johannesburg

Screening of an Award Winning Documentary on the Global Anti-Apartheid Movement

12:15 – 1:45 pm

Lunch

Hosted by Young Adults from the New Fire Network



Daily Schedule

2 – 5 pm

Closing Plenary: The Future of Ecumenism

Blaine Kern C-F

This culminating futuring session will include brief panel presentations from noted ecumenical leaders and Corinthian Café conversations about the future of the ecumenical movement, engaging all in a participatory visioning process



Remarks from:

The Rev. Dr. Rodney L. Petersen
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

Executive Director, Boston Theological Institute
Reflections on 2010 centennial gatherings in Tokyo, Edinburgh, Capetown, and Boston



Panel Moderator:

The Rev. John McCullough
Executive Director & CEO, Church World Service

Panelists:



Mr. Scott Anderson
Wisconsin Council of Churches

Executive Director, Wisconsin Council of Churches
President, National Association of Ecumenical and Interreligious Staff
Chair, PC(USA) General Assembly Committee on Ecumenical and
Interreligious Relations
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)



Dr. Glory Dharmaraj
The United Methodist Church

Director of Spiritual Formation and Mission Theology
United Methodist Women's Division of the General Board of Global Ministries



Dr. Elizabeth Ferris
The Religious Society of Friends

Senior Fellow in Foreign Policy at The Brookings Institution
Co-Director of The Brookings Institution-University of Bern Project
on Internal Displacement
Former Director of the CWS Immigration and Refugee Program



The Rev. Dr. Karen Hamilton
Canadian Council of Churches

General Secretary, Canadian Council of Churches
Co-President, The World Conference of Religions for Peace
United Church of Canada



The Rev. Jennifer Leath
African Methodist Episcopal Church

Doctoral Student in Ethics, Yale University
Co-Moderator, Joint Consultative Group - WCC and Pentecostal Churches
Member, ECHOS WCC Youth Commission

Daily Schedule

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11 (continued)

Panelists (continued):



Ms. Kathryn Lohre
National Council of Churches
President-Elect, National Council of Churches
Member, WCC Central Committee
Assistant Director, The Pluralism Project at Harvard University
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



The Rev. Dr. Tony Richie
The Church of God (Cleveland, Tennessee)
Ordained Bishop
Senior Pastor, New Harvest Church of God - Knoxville, Tennessee
Chair, Ecumenical Studies Interest Group - Society for Pentecostal Studies
SPS Liaison to the NCC Interfaith Relations Commission
Participant, WCC Interreligious Relations Dialogue
Participant, Pontifical Council on Interreligious Dialogue



The Rt. Rev. Bishop Maxim
The Serbian Orthodox Church in North and South America
Bishop of the Western America Diocese of the Serbian Orthodox Church
in North and South America
Professor of Patrology, St. Sava School of Theology
Editor, *Theology*, Journal of the Faculty of Orthodox Theology, University of Belgrade

5 – 5:30 pm

Break

5:30 – 6:30 pm

Travel to Holy Trinity Cathedral

Transportation will be provided

6:30 – 8 pm

Closing Banquet

*Open to the public through pre-registration
Hosted by the Holy Trinity Cathedral Parish*

Off Site: Holy Trinity
Greek Orthodox Cathedral

8 – 9 pm

Closing Service

Open to the public at no charge

Off Site: Holy Trinity
Greek Orthodox Cathedral



Preaching:

Bishop Vashti Murphy McKenzie
African Methodist Episcopal Church
Presiding Prelate of the 13th Episcopal District, including Tennessee and Kentucky
The First Female Bishop in the African Methodist Episcopal Church
Former President of the African Methodist Episcopal Church Council of Bishops

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 12

- 7:30 – 8:30 am **Ecumenical Trust Board of Directors** Blaine Kern A
- 7:45 am – 3:30 pm **Local & Regional Ecumenism Consultation** Blaine Kern C-D
Open to all through pre-registration
- “The Promise of Ecumenical Community: Visioning Our Future”
- Hosted by:
The State Ecumenical Executives
The National Association of Ecumenical and Interreligious Staff
and the National Council of Churches
- 9 am – 4 pm **Annual Meeting of the U.S. Conference for the World Council of Churches** Blaine Kern A
Business meeting for members of the Conference
- 4 – 9 pm **National Association of Ecumenical and Interreligious Staff Board Meeting** Blaine Kern A



Selected Biographies



Archbishop Gregory Michael Aymond of New Orleans holds the unique distinction of being the first New Orleans native to serve as archbishop in the 216-year history of the local church. He will preach at the opening ecumenical service, which will be held at the Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis. Archbishop Aymond was previously Bishop of Austin, Texas. He was born in Gentilly on November 12, 1949. After attending St. James Major Elementary School and Cor Jesu High School, he went to St. Joseph Seminary College in St. Benedict, La., where he graduated in 1971.



The Rev. John M. Buchanan is pastor of Fourth Presbyterian Church in Chicago and editor/publisher of the *Christian Century*. He will serve as keynote speaker for the opening plenary. Prior to coming to Chicago in 1985, Buchanan has been pastor of Presbyterian churches in Columbus, Ohio; Lafayette, Indiana; and Dyer, Indiana. He served as moderator of the 208th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, U.S.A., and as a member of its General Assembly Council from 1996 through 1999. Buchanan is the author of *A New Church for a New World*, *Being Church, Becoming Community*, and *Sermons for the City*.



Archbishop Demetrios of America was born Demetrios Trakatellis in Thessaloniki, Greece on February 1, 1928. In 1950 he graduated with distinction from the University of Athens School of Theology. In 1960 he was ordained a deacon, and in 1964 a priest. Archbishop Demetrios will lead the Wednesday morning Bible Study at the Centennial Ecumenical Gathering. He was elected Bishop of Vresthena in 1967, an auxiliary bishop to the Archbishop of Athens with the primary responsibility for the theological education of the clergy. From 1965 to 1971, on scholarship from Harvard Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, he studied New Testament and Christian Origins and was awarded a Ph.D. "with distinction" in 1972.



Dr. Elizabeth Ferris is a senior fellow in Foreign Policy and codirector of The Brookings Institution – University of Bern Project on Internal Displacement in Washington, D.C., where her work encompasses a wide range of issues related to forced migration, human rights, humanitarian action, the role of civil society in protecting displaced populations and the security implications of displacement. Prior to joining Brookings in 2006, Dr. Ferris spent 20 years working in the field of humanitarian assistance, most recently in Geneva, Switzerland at the World Council of Churches. She is the speaker at the Women's Leadership Lunch as well as a panelist for 'The Future of Ecumenism' plenary.



Rabbi Steve Gutow is President and CEO of the Jewish Council for Public Affairs. He is a lawyer, rabbi, and political organizer. As leader of the JCPA Steve has helped move the Jewish community and the government to end genocide in Darfur, reform immigration policy, support Israel, maintain poverty programs, and create a sustainable environment. In 2007, Steve was named to the "Forward 50," and in 2009 and 2010, Newsweek named him the 20th most influential rabbi in the US. Gutow presently serves on the Economic Recovery Task Force of the President's Advisory Council on Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships.

Selected Biographies



The Rev. Dr. Karen Hamilton is General Secretary of the Canadian Council of Churches. She is also co-president of the World Conference of Religions for Peace and has served as governor of the Canadian Council of Christians and Jews. She has also served as chair of the Toronto South Presbytery of the United Church of Canada, as president of the Toronto Conference of the United Church of Canada, and as chair of World Federalists of Canada.



Bishop Vashti Murphy McKenzie is the first female bishop in the African Methodist Episcopal Church. She will be the preacher at the closing ecumenical service at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral. She is also the national chaplain of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated and the granddaughter of Delta founder Vashti Turley Murphy. Bishop McKenzie received a Bachelor of Arts degree in journalism from the University of Maryland, College Park. Later she received Master of Divinity degree from Howard University and her Doctor of Ministry degree from United Theological Seminary in Ohio.



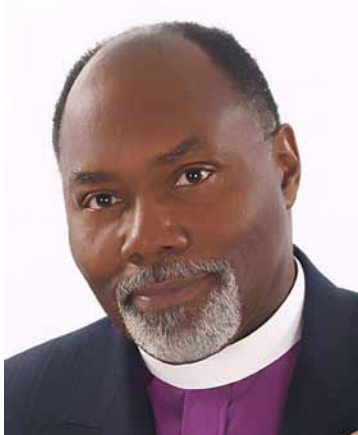
Dr. Sayyid M. Syeed is the National Director for the Office of Interfaith & Community Alliances for the Islamic Society of North America (ISNA). ISNA is a national umbrella organization which has more than 300 affiliates all over the U.S. and Canada. He is a former board member of the Dar al-Hijrah mosque in Falls Church, Virginia. A naturalized American citizen, Dr. Syeed obtained his Ph.D. in Sociolinguistics from the Indiana University at Bloomington, Indiana, in 1984. Syeed has been General Secretary of the Association of Muslim Social Scientists (AMSS), a national professional organization.



The Rev. Dr. Olav Fykse Tveit has been General Secretary of the World Council of Churches since January 2010. At the time of his election, Tveit was the General Secretary of the Church of Norway Council on Ecumenical and International Relations (2002-09). Dr. Tveit will be the keynote speaker at the Thursday morning plenary of the Centennial Ecumenical Gathering. Before taking up the post of general secretary, Tveit served the WCC as a member of the Faith and Order Plenary Commission and as a co-chair of the Palestine Israel Ecumenical Forum core group.



The Reverend, the Honourable Dr. Lois M. Wilson, Ecumenist in Residence at Emmanuel College of the Toronto School of Theology, was president of the Canadian Council of Churches in 1976 and moderator of the United Church of Canada in 1980, the first woman to hold either office. In 1983 she was elected one of the seven presidents of the World Council of Churches. Also in 1983, she became co-director of the Ecumenical Forum of Canada. She has been instrumental in awakening in the United Church an increased concern for coordinated action to eliminate poverty and promote peace throughout the world. In 1984 she became a Member of the Order of Canada, and in 1985 she received the Pearson Peace Prize and World Federalists Peace Award. In 1998, Lois Wilson was appointed to the Senate of Canada, where she served as an Independent member until her retirement in 2002.



CHAIR

Bishop John F. White

Ecumenical Officer, African Methodist Episcopal Church

MEMBERS

Scott Anderson, Executive Director, Wisconsin Council of Churches

Jordan Blevins, New Fire Representative, National Council of Churches

Julia Brown Karimu, Disciples of Christ, Division of Overseas Ministry

Clare Chapman, Deputy General Secretary and COO, National Council of Churches

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Lorelei Fuchs, Research Assistant, National Council of Churches

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Thomas Hampson, Director of Constituent Engagement, Church World Service

Raymon Hunt, NCC Executive Committee, AME Zion Church

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Luciano Kovacs, North American Regional Secretary, World Student Christian Federation

Dan Krutz, Executive Director, Louisiana Interchurch Conference

Rafael Malpica-Padilla, Executive Director, Division for Global Mission, Chicago

John McCullough, Executive Director and CEO, Church World Service

Garland Pierce, Associate General Secretary, ELMC, National Council of Churches

Anne Reardon, Executive Assistant to the General Secretary, National Council of Churches

Joanne Rendall, CFO and Deputy Director of Operations, Church World Service

Ammon Ripple, Liaison for Local and Regional Ecumenism, National Council of Churches

Ann Tiemeyer, Program Director of Women's Ministries, National Council of Churches

Ann Walle, Director of Innovation and Strategic Affairs, Church World Service

Special Thanks

Many people gave of their time and talent to make the Centennial Ecumenical Gathering a reality. In addition to those on the planning committee, numerous people on the staffs of NCC and CWS and their constituent communions have worked tirelessly behind the scenes, as have many volunteers from across the country.

Among the many to whom a debt of gratitude is due are:

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES SUPPORT STAFF

Suzanne Campise; Linda Cato; Earl Davis; Julian DeVia; Melissa Dixon;
Dee Glover; Andrew Herron; Sarosh Koshy; Luis Morant;
Catherine Reeve; Carolyn Smith-Ortega; Barbara Tilley; Kevin Williams

CHURCH WORLD SERVICE SUPPORT STAFF

John Backer; Ramon Fortunato; Chelita Redmond;
Joe Roberson; Ana Soto

YOUNG ADULT STEWARD PROGRAM SELECTION COMMITTEE

Jordan Blevins, New Fire Co-Moderator
Sylvia Bull, Senior Steward
William Miller, Senior Steward and New Fire Co-Moderator
Garland F. Pierce, NCC Staff
Ann Walle, CWS Staff

NEW FIRE PLANNING TEAM MEMBERS

Robyn Fickes & Erica Ramirez, Co-Chairs
Shantha Ready Alonso; Beth Balcombe; Jordan Blevins; Jill Dierburg; Lorelei Fuchs; Darryn Hewson;
Orenthious "OJ" Hill; Lauren Hodgeson; Dan Krutz; Alex LaChappelle; Maggie Leonard; Sam Martinez;
Carrie Chefas McClain; Debra McKnight; Garland Pierce; Rachel Stacy; Ann Tiemeyer

LOCAL PLANNING TEAM

Fr. Dan Krutz, Chair
Bishop Thomas L. Brown; Mother Susan Gaumer; Lorraine Grout; Fr. Donald Hawkins
Pastor Patrick Keen; Kathy Lee; Buddy Noel; Pete Nunnally; Rev. Paul Pic
Fr. Anthony Stratis; Hugh Straub; Rev. Gilbert Washington

WORSHIP SUBCOMMITTEE

Karen B. Westerfield Tucker & Students
Cheryl Dudley; Lorelei Fuchs; Dan Krutz

PHOTOGRAPHER

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www.gotacameron.com



The Centennial Ecumenical Gathering gratefully acknowledges
the gift of leadership given to us by

Kelly McGowan

Founder of Upstream Consulting
www.upstreamconsulting.net

Nancy Fritsche Eagan

Consultant, People Potential and All My Sisters, & Art of Hosting Practitioner
www.peoplepotential.org
www.artofhosting.org

and

Kim Robey

Chair, NCC Justice for Women Working Group
Chair, Anglican Women's Empowerment

as facilitators of the World Café participatory leadership process – teaching new skills
for ecumenical engagement in a new era.

Their work with us in preparation for this event and in facilitating our conversations has been a significant
contribution to the quality of our time together as we envision the future of the ecumenical movement.

Thanks be to God!



National Council of the
Churches of Christ in the USA



CHURCH WORLD SERVICE

The delegates and participants of the
Centennial Ecumenical Gathering
and
2010 General Assembly
of the
National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA and Church World Service

gratefully acknowledge the funding received from the

Anna G. Van Loan Trust

in support of the New Fire Gathering and the Young Adult Stewards Program.

*The faithful witness demonstrated by this enduring gift
provides for ecumenical formation and engagement now and into the future.*

Thanks be to God!

What if there was a way you could promote Christian unity, help prevent hunger, provide clean water, protect refugees, assist in disaster relief, give medical care, fight global warming and advocate for social rights ...all at the same time?

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A Prayer for Witnesses

God in Christ in the Spirit, may we your people bear witness to *Your Love* for all.

May those we encounter in our daily lives know that we are Christians by our lived witness of *Your Love* for us, in us, and through us.

We are a diverse people but we have need of each other and we have need of *You*.

Help us to live into the gift of *Your Oneness* - *Your Family* - *Your Church* - *Your Love...*

for ultimately we all live in *You*.

Amen.



O God, in Christ You Call Us

AURELIA 7.6.7.6 D (“The Church’s One Foundation”)

O God, in Christ you call us to witness to your grace--
To share the life you give us in every time and place.
So many things divide us-- yet we are not our own;
For we belong to Jesus who prayed, “May they be one.”

In Christ is our salvation; in him you’ve set us free--
We make this proclamation in bold humility.
Your image is in others who follow different ways;
Together, seeking justice, we offer you our praise.

In Christ, we’re bound together; in him we find your peace.
Yet even as we gather, the wounds of war increase.
Where terror brings division, God, make us brave to say
Our churches share a vision of Jesus’ peaceful way.

In Christ, the poor and hungry are shown they matter, too--
And where your church has plenty, you give us work to do.
Now may we put in practice the faith that we declare,
Seek economic justice, and find new ways to share.

In Christ, you bless creation and show this planet’s worth;
May every congregation find ways to tend the earth.
Now fill us with your Spirit, that we, as one, may be
A faithful, loving witness to all humanity.

Biblical References in the Hymn: Scripture references include: Luke 24:48 (“You are witnesses of these things”); John 17:21 (Jesus prays that his followers may be one); Luke 10:36-37 (Jesus commends the “outsider” who cares for one in need); Matthew 5:9 (Jesus blesses the peacemakers); Luke 4:16-19 (Jesus proclaims his ministry, and ours, is with people who are poor); and John 3:16 (“For God so loved the world...”). Additional biblical references can be found in the study papers for the Centennial dealing with crucial concerns of our era:

Hymn Tune: Margery N. Sly, Deputy Director of the Presbyterian Historical Society was very helpful in doing research on the original hymns sung at the 1910 World Missionary Conference. Presbyterian Historical Society has the archives for the National Council of Churches and other ecumenical organizations. The new hymn was written to the tune of AURELIA (“The Church’s One Foundation”) to show continuity with the original meeting.

Hymn Author: Carolyn Winfrey Gillette is the author of *Songs of Grace: New Hymns for God and Neighbor* (Discipleship Resources/Upper Room Books, 2009) and *Gifts of Love: New Hymns for Today’s Worship* (Geneva Press, 2000). She and her husband Bruce serve as the co-pastors of Limestone Presbyterian Church in Wilmington, Delaware. A complete list of Carolyn’s 160+ hymns can be found at www.carolynshymns.com.

Biblical References: Luke 24:48; John 17:21; Luke 10:36-37; Matthew 5:9; Luke 4:16-19; and John 3:16 (see many other biblical references in the study papers for Centennial Ecumenical Gathering).

Tune: Samuel Sebastian Wesley, 1864.

Alternate tune: LLANGLOFFAN 7.6.7.6 D (“O God of Earth and Altar”)

Welsh Folk Melody, Evans’ Hymnau a Thonau, 1865 as in English Hymnal, 1906.

Text: Copyright © 2010 by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette. All rights reserved. Email: bcgillette@comcast.net

Hymn Use Permission: Free use of this hymn is given to any congregation that supports the ecumenical work of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the USA and/or Church World Service.



**National Council of the
Churches of Christ in the USA**

1950 – 2010

The community of Christian communions of the
National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA
acknowledges with gratitude

60 years

in covenant together
striving for greater unity
of the Church of Jesus Christ.

Thanks be to God!



Marriott New Orleans at the Convention Center Floor Plan

