

NADEO NEWSLETTER

Volume 15, Issue 2

July 18, 2005



The Purposes of NADEO

- To stimulate the exchange of ideas, experiences and networking among the ecumenical officers of the dioceses in union with Rome.
- To promote programs which further the work of Christian Unity and interreligious cooperation.
- To cooperate with the Bishops' Committee on Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and other ecumenical and interreligious agencies.

Inside this issue:

President's Letter	2
EDEO Report	3
Book & Video Review	5
Sources for Interreligious Affairs	6
LARC Report	7
Catholic—Jewish Relations	8
Faiths in the World Committee	10
Ecumenical Networks Commission	11
LERN Report	11

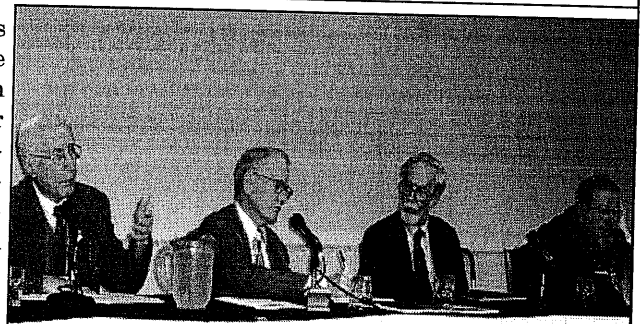


NATIONAL WORKSHOP ON CHRISTIAN UNITY

April 4-7, 2005 - New Orleans, Louisiana

NADEO Panelists and *Moderator: Father George Tavard, A.A., *Brother Jeff Gros, F.S. C., Dr. George Lindbeck, Father John Long, S.S.

Over 300 representatives from church traditions across the country gathered at the Sheraton Hotel, New Orleans, April 4-7, for the National Workshop on Christian Unity which featured four dynamic speakers, a host of informative seminars as well as several ecumenical worship services at nearby churches.



Archbishop Alfred Hughes of the New Orleans Roman Catholic Archdiocese, welcomed the NWCU representatives to the opening service on April 4 held at the historic St. Louis, King of France, Cathedral-Basilica, in the heart of the city's French Quarter. Judicatory leaders from the churches lead the procession to worship. The Dillard University Choir of New Orleans sang inspirational hymns and anthems throughout the service. The Rev. Dr. Delores Carpenter of Howard University gave a spirited sermon on the Gospel reading from John 1:1-14, stressing the core belief of Christianity, that God raised Jesus from the dead.

Roman Catholic Bishop Richard Sklba, co-chair of the USCCB Committee on Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs gave a powerful address which moved from the realm of church dialogues to that of true reconciliation.

Pastor Paul Anderson, professor of Biblical and Quaker Studies at George Fox Universities, focused his plenary on the Workshop's theme from Paul's second letter to the Corinthians, "All things are yours...you belong to Christ, and Christ the unique Foundation belongs to God."

Thirteen seminars were held during the course of the NWCU meeting. The topics ranged from basic Ecumenism 101 to the Rapture. Participants explored the Progress and Potholes on the road to Unity and aspects of Religious Rhetoric. Archbishop Hughes led a seminar on Restorative Justice, concerning reforms in the criminal justice system, and two local lay Catholic Presenters spoke about the Ezekiel 34 Project, a Louisiana initiative for coastal restoration. Other seminar topics included: developing ecumenical leaders in the younger generation; best practices in local ecumenical ministry; the status of Churches United In Christ; and the latest in interdenominational dialogues.

The closing speaker for the National Workshop was Episcopal Bishop Carol Joy Gallagher, Suffragan Bishop of Southern Virginia. She spoke about Christian unity from her unique perspective as a Native American.

President's Letter *by Robert Flannery*

Dear NADEO Members:

A **blessed summer** to all of you and the people you serve in our ecumenical and interreligious ministry!

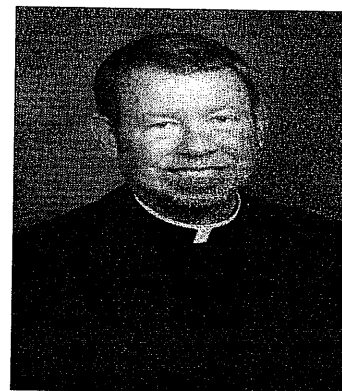
Our **April gathering in New Orleans** was a memorable event as we heard our Vatican II panelists, Dr. George Lindbeck, Father John Long, S.J., and Father George Tavard, A.A., reflect on the importance, then and now, of the 40th anniversaries of the Decree on Ecumenism, and the Declarations, *Nostra Aetate* and Religious Liberty. Having retired New Orleans Archbishop Philip Hannan — a bishop at the Ecumenical Council—preside at the NADEO Liturgy, enabled us to experience firsthand some of the lasting impact of that historic moment on the life of the Church today. We thank Monsignor Robert Stern of the Catholic Near East Welfare Association, who was also our Fitzgerald Award Recipient this year, for the excellent talk he gave on the Middle East at our NADEO Luncheon. Finally, we want to thank Father James Tarantino, ecumenical officer of the Archdiocese of New Orleans, and the ordinary of the New Orleans, Archbishop Alfred Hughes, for their gracious hospitality as well as their general assistance to all the Catholic participants at the National Workshop.

As you may remember, NWCU 2005 was held immediately following the **death of Pope John Paul II**. It was heartwarming to receive official notes of sympathy from the presidents of our two LARC sister associations; LERN (Lutherans) and EDEIO (Anglicans), which expressed their sincere sorrow at the death of the Holy Father as well as appreciation for his inspirational ministry for all Christians during his life and tenure.

At our General Assembly on Wednesday, **Father Arthur Kennedy**, director of the Secretariat on Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs announced that he will be completing his three-year term office. He will be staying on for one more semester while the search for his replacement is underway and will then return to Saint Paul, Minnesota to resume teaching at the University of Saint Thomas. Following the Workshop, **Brother Jeffrey Gros, F.S.C.**, who celebrates his 50th jubilee as a religious this year and has served in the Washington office almost 14 years, informed me that he, too, will be leaving the secretariat later this summer and will begin teaching at the Memphis Theological Seminary in Memphis, Tennessee. Our NADEO membership is greatly saddened to see these two prominent ecumenical leaders leave their present positions, but we are forever grateful for their impact on NADEO and the larger ecumenical movement. We know they will continue to enrich ecumenism in their new ministries and we wish them well in their new endeavors!

As a national Catholic ecumenical organization, we are grateful for the intentional ecumenical and interreligious overtures **our new Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI**, has made so far in his pontificate. Pope Benedict seems to be using a very pastoral approach in his ecumenical and interfaith positions, and further possibilities are hopeful in many arenas, particularly with the Orthodox, Christians, Jews, and Muslims. Let us pray that the Holy Spirit will continue to work through his ministry as supreme shepherd.

On a related note, the Pope's choice of **Archbishop William Levada** as head of the Vatican's Congregation of the Doctrine of the Faith will definitely have someone in that position with a strong ecumenical and



interfaith background. Archbishop Levada is the former archbishop of San Francisco and has been a member of the Bishops Committee for Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs (BCEIA) and the Anglican Roman Catholic Dialogue (ARC) for a number of years. Having been at two BCEIA meetings with the archbishop, I know he is quite dedicated, knowledgeable, and articulate in these areas. He will be greatly missed by these committees, and we wish him well as he continues to promote these ecumenical/interreligious ideals in ways that he now can do for the universal Church.

Our treasurer, Father Joe Wallace, is in the process of finalizing our recent Treasurer's Report and having an audit conducted. Joe has sent out reminder notices to all the dioceses and eparchies, which have not paid their \$200 membership for the fiscal year ending June 30th, 2005. Joe is being moved to a new parish assignment, so to help with the change of address, **please remit your dues payments as soon as possible if you have not already done so.** Thank you for your support of NADEO, which makes our variety of ecumenical and interfaith programs possible.

Continued on Page 4

EDEO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING NADEO REPRESENTATION—2005

From February 25 through 27, the Executive Committee of the Episcopalian Diocesan Ecumenical Officers met in Delray Beach, FL. Fr. Vincent Heier, NADEO's representative to EDEO, was unavailable to attend since he was facilitating a retreat. The President of NADEO has always been invited to this combined EDEO/LERN gathering, so Fr. Robert Flannery represented NADEO at the EDEO part of the meeting. Monsignor Donald Beckmann, NADEO's representative to LERN, and Fr. Flannery were both present for the joint part of the Board Meeting on Saturday afternoon as well as all of the common social and worship activities of both groups.

Topics Discussed: Several issues were discussed which have an impact on our relationship or are of mutual interest:

- CUIC is at a critical point. The writing team for the agreement has completed its work. An upcoming meeting will consider the agreement. The SCEIR (Standing Committee for Ecumenical and Interreligious Relations) will need to present some sort of resolution to the 2006 General Convention but what that might be is uncertain at this time.
- ARCUSA will meet in early March. The Methodist Dialogue will be meeting in October following a joint meeting of approximately 15 bishops from each denominating which will be hosted by the ELCA in Chicago. At the last meeting, an Interim Eucharistic Sharing agreement was approved. This will be considered by the SCEIR at their April meeting.
- A document for Full Communion with the Moravians will be presented to SCEIR.
- Discussion was held about the present situation in the worldwide Anglican Church regarding the ordination of the openly gay bishop of New Hampshire, and the blessing of same-sex couples.
- ECUSA has joined the Christian Churches Together USA (CCTUSA) as have the Roman Catholics. It seems to be gaining support although there is some concern about the number of ecumenical groups and duplication of efforts.
- Brochures were handed out for the Midwest Academy for Ecumenical Leadership to be held in Chicago July 18-22 and the Institute for Pastors and Pastoral Workers on Islam/Christian-Muslim Relations to be held June 26-July 2 in Washington, D.C.
- The Executive Committee moved to recommend at the Annual Meeting that the name of the Episcopal Diocesan Ecumenical Officers be changed to add the word "Interreligious", thus becoming EDEIO.
- Several EDEO members and the NADEO President attended the Parliament of the World Religions in Barcelona, Spain this past summer and shared their experiences about the event.
- EDEO is working on a number of similar in-house items as NADEO such as By-Law Revision, Newsletter issues, Directory of members.
- At the combined Board Meeting, the two groups; EDEO and LERN shared information on mutual ministry that is occurring at the congregational level. A response to a request for a list of joint congregations indicated that this information is not currently available but is in progress. It was suggested that a workbook/manual for joint ministry be developed which would include a checklist on where to begin. It was hoped that a workshop could be done at an upcoming NWCU.
- LERN has developed a program by their ecumenical office to encourage seminarian interest in ecumenical affairs. They created an essay competition with the winner receiving a \$500 award as well as a two-day trip to the NWCU to present his or her paper.
- In response to the LERN presentation on seminarians, EDEO decided to follow suite with activities. Fr. Flannery related that he would bring this topic up to the NADEO Executive Board and at the General Assembly in New Orleans.
- The two Boards agreed that their next combined meeting would be around the dates of February 2-7, 2006 in Washington, D.C. in conjunction with the Fifth Anniversary of CCM. The 2007 meeting will be February 23-25 in Delray Beach. NADEO representatives will be once again present for both meetings as part of our LARC arrangement.

President's Letter *continued from page 2*

On a sad note, **Father John West**, ecumenical officer for the Archdiocese of Detroit and Representative for Region VI to the NADEO Executive Board, died suddenly of a heart attack on April 14th at the age of 52. John was a committed ecumenist, and our NADEO family extends our deepest sympathy to his family, his parish, the Archdiocese of Detroit, and his ecumenical and interreligious colleagues. I will

be conducting an election for the new Region VI Representative in the near future.

In closing, I want to remind you of the upcoming **Institute for Inter-religious Leadership** which will be held at University of Saint Mary of the Lake in Mundelein, Illinois (Archdiocese of Chicago) from July 5th to the 15th, 2005 for the cost of \$998. The Institute, while presently needing more ap-

plicants to break even, is definitely on. Please consider attending this very informative educational and experiential opportunity, or send someone else from your diocese. Contact Father Francis Tiso at 1-202-541-3020 as soon as possible for more information.

God's peace,

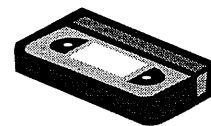
Fr. Bob Flannery
NADEO President

NWCU Photo Gallery





Book & Video Review



The Sacred Art of Fasting: Beginning to Practice by Thomas Ryan
CSP Skylight Paths Publishing (March 2005), 192pp, \$16.00, ISBN 1-59473-078-4

The Sacred Art of Fasting invites you to explore the practical approaches and spiritual motivations of this ancient practice by looking at the ways it is observed in the faith traditions of Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, and Latter-day Saints. Inspiring personal reflections, helpful advice, and encouragement from people who practice fasting in each of these traditions reveal how you too can safely incorporate fasting into your spiritual life.

This interreligious study examines how fasting can serve to reconnect you with God and cultivate self-restraint, social solidarity, a spirit of penance, and respect for yourself. More than a how-to-guide, The Sacred Art of Fasting uncovers the spiritual meaning and physical benefits behind this frequently misunderstood practice, answering questions, allaying fears, and inspiring you to begin or deepen your own spiritual practice.

Reclaiming the Body in Christian Spirituality, ed. Thomas Ryan
CSP Paulist Press (January 2005), 179pp, \$16.95, ISBN 0-8091-4295-3

This book examines the role of the human body in the Christian spiritual life. It addresses those who cycle, swim, jog, garden, dance, play ball, practice yoga, care for the earth, engage in manual labor, work for justice and make love. It reclaims a positive, health attitude toward our individual bodies, toward the social body, toward the body of believers who make up the Church, and toward the earth body of the natural world.

Fr. Thomas Ryan, as editor and contributor, leads with an introduction and in two subsequent chapters provides examples of the "body language of faith" in Eastern and Western Christian spiritual practice, as well as in the Muslim, Hindu, Buddhist, and Jewish traditions.

In an ecumenical representation of writers, James Wiseman provides an overview of historical Christian attitudes toward the body. Casey Rock reflects on her own delicate dance with Christianity and yoga. Jim Dickerson challenges us to integrate the social and political dimensions of the gospel into personal prayer practices. And James Hall reflects on the embodiment of Christ in the world of matter and how care for the earth is integral to faith.

Yoga Prayer: an Embodied Christian Spiritual Practice, with Thomas Ryan
CSP produced by Paulist Productions and distributed by Sounds True (January 2005)
91 min., \$19.95 ISBN 1-59179-204-5

A video resource to assist those of Christian background among the growing number of Americans engaging in yoga (now more than 15 million according to Time magazine) to integrate their practice with their faith in recognition of the Christian understanding of the body as expressed in the Incarnation, bodily resurrection and ascension of Jesus, and the Pentecostal gift of the Holy Spirit who dwells within the vessels of clay that we are. Contains 7 classic Christian song prayers offered through yoga postures (32 min), instruction for the postures involved (50 min.), and theological reflection (8 min.).

Sources for Interreligious Affairs

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Continued on Page 7

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continued from page 6

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LARC Report Addendum 2005

The Anglican-Roman Catholic Dialogue USA meets twice a year. Traditionally representatives of NADEO as well as EDEO meet with them as observers. For the past few years I have been privileged to be that person in my capacity as co-chair of the LARC Committee for NADEO.

As reported last year an important element of the work of ARCUSA has been a new Study Guide, entitled "God's Gift of Unity," for Episcopal and Roman Catholic congregations to use together in understanding the Eucharist. The principal authors of this study are the Rev. Dr. Ruth Meyers (Episcopal) and Dr. Joanne Pierce (Catholic).

During the fall of 2004 a number of congregations did the pilot form of the study. Reactions and revisions to the study were discussed then at the ARCUSA meeting in March, 2005. The authors were generally pleased with the results. Hopefully their final revisions will allow this study to be published in the near future.

It is hoped that NADEO and EDEO will take a leading role in encouraging its uses in our respective congregations.

Respectfully submitted,

Fr. Vince Heier

Archdiocese of Saint Louis

N.A.D.E.O. CATHOLIC — JEWISH RELATIONS

At the 2004 annual NADEO meeting in Omaha, those members of the committee in attendance held their usual breakfast session, providing an update on the state of the relation from the various perspectives around the country.

This year the Committee warmly welcomes The Reverend Valentine N. Handwerker (Diocese of Memphis) to its membership.

Current Members of the Committee

Sister Mary Ellen Coombe, NDS—The Archdiocese of Chicago

The Reverend Valentine N. Handwerker—The Diocese of Memphis

The Reverend Msgr. Dennis Mikulanis—The Diocese of San Diego

The Reverend Joseph Wallace—The Diocese of Camden

The Reverend Charles Parr, Chair—The Diocese of Paterson

Throughout the past year the Chair of the Committee kept in verbal and written communication with the membership, supplying timely updates and resources, as well as significant printed materials.

The Chair was fortunate to attend the 11th Monsignor John M. Oesterreicher Memorial Lecture sponsored by the (Seton Hall University's) Institute of Judaeo-Christian Relations on October 31, 2004. The lecture and subsequent reception acknowledged the centennial of the birth of the legendary Monsignor Oesterreicher (February 2, 1904). The Memorial Lecture, *European Pioneers in Jewish—Christian Relations*, was presented by The Reverend Clemens Thoma, PhD (professor emeritus of Biblical Sciences and Jewish Studies at the University of Lucerne, Switzerland as well as the founder and director of the Institute for Jewish-Christian Research at that same University).

The Chair also participated in the Twelfth Annual Nostra Aetate Dialogue on October 28, 2004 at Fordham University. The presenters, Luke Timothy Johnson (Emory University, Atlanta) and Claudia J. Setzer (Manhattan College, NYC), addressed the question: *What kind of Jew was Paul?*

As a member of the USCCB Advisory Board for Jewish—Catholic Relations, the Chair participated in the November 3, 2004 meeting of the Catholic—Jewish Consultation Committee (National Council of Synagogues / BCEIA) at Saint Mary Seminary and University (Baltimore). The focus of the day was: *The Theological and Pastoral Overview of Marriage as we Understood in Each Tradition*. The presenters included The Reverend John W. Crossin, OSFS (Washington Theological Union), Ms. Lauri Przybysz (Coordinator of Marriage and Family Environment of the Archdiocese of Baltimore) and Rabbi Alan Silverstein (of the Rabbinical Assembly). Other topics of the day added to the agenda.

The next meeting of this Consultation is scheduled for May 11, 2005 at The Jewish Theological Seminary (NYC). The presenters, Rabbi Eugene Borowitz (Hebrew Union College-

Cont. on page 9

N.A.D.E.O. CATHOLIC – JEWISH RELATIONS

Cont. from page 8

Jewish Institute of Religion) and the Reverend James Loughran, SA (Graymoor Ecumenical and Interreligious Institute in New York), will speak on: *Sources of Religious Authority*.

Future agenda items for the committee include a review of plans throughout the nation to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the promulgation of *Nostra Aetate*; the recent discussions by the Consultation Committee, and their significance in our work and our service as diocesan Ecumenical Officers; our future response as a Committee to assist the NADEO membership with these and similar concerns; and, a continuation of our invitation to the Assembly for additional representative membership on the Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles Parr

New Orleans, 2005

2006 National Workshop on Christian Unity

May 8-11, 2006

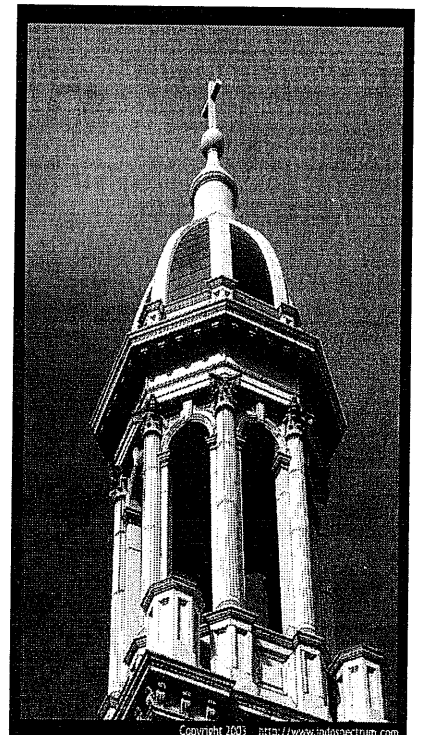
San Jose, California

Plan to attend next year's National Workshop on Christian Unity

- ⇒ Opening Worship will be at the Cathedral Basilica of St. Joseph
- ⇒ All events within walking distance of the San Jose Fairmont Hotel - our workshop site

Located between San Francisco and the Carmel - Pebble Beach resort area, San Jose is the west coast's largest city north of Los Angeles. The Local Planning Committee and the National Planning Committee are working together to complete arrangements for the 2006 event. In planning to attend the 2006 event, you may wish to plan spending additional time to visit the nearby attractions from the wine country to the north to the Monterey Bay area to the south.

**Watch for more information at the NWCU website:
<http://www.nwcu.org>**



Faiths in the World Committee of NADEO

Annual Report 2005

Minutes of Meeting October 8-10, 2004 at Cenacle Retreat, Chicago, IL

Submitted by Fr. Phil Latronico (Secretary)

The following were in attendance at the meeting: Rev. Thomas A. Baima, Rev. Robert B. Flannery, Sr. Josephine Kase (Co-Chair), Rev. Phil Latronico (secretary), Rev. Leo D. Lefebure, Ms. Judith A. Longdin, Rev. Francis (Butch) Mazur, Rev. Thomas Ryan, and Rev. Francis V. Tiso.

The meeting began on Friday night with dinner and a time of introductions. On Friday Rev. Robert B. Flannery, President of NADEO, met with the Committee and shared his thanks to the committee on behalf of NADEO for the Committee's efforts in interreligious relations. He thanked Fr. Butch Mazur for his service as chair to the committee and announced that Sr. Josephine Kase is the new Co-Chair of the committee. He shared his views of NADEO and the works of this committee.

Fr. Francis Tiso, Associate Director of the SEIA overseeing Interreligious Affairs, shared his reflections with the Committee after being at his new post for 100 days. He noted the work of the Committee Members in the three Catholic/Islamic Dialogues in the United States: Midwest Dialogue on Values and Virtues, Human Rights and Migration and Refugee Services; The West Coast Dialogue on Scriptural and Quranic Interpretations, and The Mid-Atlantic Dialogue on Marriage. He noted that the commitment to continue dialogue with the Buddhists and open dialogue with the Hindus would be part of his work this year.

Fr. Butch Mazur then shared his thoughts as outgoing chair of the Committee. He thanked all for their

hard work and many contributions to the ever-growing realm of interreligious conversations.

On Saturday Sr. Josephine took over as Chair of the Meeting. Among the items discussed were the following:

- A look at the Survey of Interreligious Conversation in the United States, we noted the increased work of the ecumenical officer nationwide with members of other faiths and religions. We looked at the question of ways Faiths in the World could serve the ecumenical officer and noted the need to help develop materials for circulation via the web.
- We next discussed the need for developing better communications with NADEO's membership via the NADEO Newsletter and web site. We discussed the need for creating a list serve.
- We noted that we need to update the current Interreligious and Interfaith Bibliography.
- We next looked at our Theological Rationale and continued to refine how we see ourselves as a Committee of NADEO. Hopefully this rationale will be available by the 2006 NADEO meeting for distribution to the NADEO membership.
- Finally we discussed possible workshops for future NADEO seminars (which can be seen below):

Suggested Topics for Future Seminars By the Faiths in the World Committee of NADEO

1. Religion and Violence: Challenges for Christians in Dialogue—How religion has sacralized violence. How Bible critiques sacralize violence. Implications for interreligious dialogue. Rev. Dr. Leo Lefebure - moderator.
2. Christian Responses to Tension in the Abrahamic Conversations.
Possible Presenters: Rev. John Pawlikowski and Dr. Scott Alexander.
3. Models for Interreligious Prayer
Possible Presenter: Fr. Tom Ryan, CSP.
4. How Strangers Become Neighbors
This workshop looks at the impact of changing populations on culture and values.
Possible Presenters: Fr. Allan Deck and Noemi Castrillo

Liaison to NCCC Ecumenical Networks Commission Report *by Rev. Joseph D. Wallace*

The Ecumenical Networks Commission of the NCCC has finally been revitalized and reconstituted. The new Commission seeks to reach out to all the state councils and their constituents. The connection of the Roman Catholic community through presence and voice on the Ecumenical Networks Commission through the office of the liaison must continue especially at this important chapter of closer ties with the NCCC on a national level.

Now that I will be serving as NADEO's treasurer a new liaison to the NCCC Ecumenical Networks Standing Committee will be named. I have enjoyed the years that I have served in this capacity and attest to the fact that the NCCC is doing all that it can to move closer to Roman Catholics and Evangelicals at this time historically. It is important that we continue our relationship. A meeting of Ecumenical Networks will take place in Washington D.C., sometime in June. The new chair of Ecumenical Networks is the Rev. Peg Chamberlin.

The NCCC General Assembly - November 8 to 11, 2004 Highlights:

- ◊ "The Church and Children: Visions and Goals for the 21st Century"
- ◊ "Action on Dialogue Among U.S. Christians on Christian Values:"
- ◊ Called for an "urgent intervention to stop the killing in Sudan"
- ◊ Received a new study guide on human biotechnologies
- ◊ Approved a letter assuring chaplains in the U.S. Armed Forces of their prayers
- ◊ Approved a letter of greeting to the four historic African American Baptist Conventions
- ◊ Worshiped at Christ Church Cathedral
- ◊ Presented "Blessed are the Peacemakers Awards"

LERN Executive Board Meeting NADEO REPRESENTATION— 2005

From Feb. 25 through 27, the Executive Board of the Lutheran Ecumenical Representatives Network met in Del Ray Beach, Florida. Msgr. Donald Beckmann attended the meeting as NADEO's representative to LERN.

Topics Discussed: Several issues were discussed which have an impact on our relationship or are of mutual interest:

- Reception, Reception, Reception. The understanding and acceptance of agreed statements and accords by the local pastor and the "people in the pew" is essential to any real movement forward towards full communion. This is a (if not the) principal role for local ecumenical officers/representatives.
- Issues of human sexuality, especially ordinations of gay pastors and blessings of same-sex unions are becoming divisive within the ELCA and may well become a new stumbling block for L/RC relations.

Cont. on page 12

LERN Executive Board Meeting NADEO Representation 2005

Cont. from page 11

At present, the ELCA allows neither. As is their usual practice when new issues face the Church, they have initiated a process of the study of Scripture, the Tradition and the Lutheran Confessional Documents first in all local congregations, then on Synod level and eventually in Church wide Assembly. They want also to discuss these issues with their dialogue partners. The ideal is for the national church to come to consensus under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit rather than engage in a majority rule, winner-take-all process.

- There are many issues in the public forum, indeed the great majority, where Lutherans and Roman Catholics are in agreement. Can NADEO and LERN encourage our bishops to produce joint pastorals on issues of social justice whenever possible? Of course, this need not be exclusive of bishops and judicatory heads of other denominations.

Seminarians

As a way of helping insure ecumenical interest in new generations of clergy, LERN provided for two seminarians to attend the meeting. They will also bring two seminarians to New Orleans.

This past January, LERN inaugurated an annual essay contest for Lutheran seminarians on ecumenical topics. This year the topic was local reception of the JDDJ. We discussed that in future years Episcopal and Roman Catholic seminarians might be included.

Of interest over the past several decades the average age of Lutheran seminarians had been increasing. That trend has reversed. Now 50% of ELCA seminarians are under thirty.

EDEO/LERN/NADEO Luncheon

Next year it is NADEO's turn to host. We need to discuss whom we will invite as speaker.

Eastertide Gospel Discussion

The reflections for the YEAR A have all been written, the discussion questions were all prepared, the entire text was edited and formatted. For a variety of reasons, the program never appeared on the national websites. We plan to go ahead and prepare Year B and ensure that this coming year the program becomes available to all and properly advertised.

EDEO Connection

The EDEO Executive Board met over the same days in the same conference center. Fr. Bob Flannery represented NADEO. Fr. Vince Heier, NADEO's representative to EDEO was unable this year to be present. For one afternoon the two boards met together. The two Roman Catholic representatives joined in the discussion.

PUBLICATION NOTICE

The NADEO Newsletter is a quarterly publication of the National Association of Diocesan Ecumenical Officers. NADEO is a professional society whose purpose is to stimulate the exchange of ideas and experiences among the ecumenical officers serving the Catholic Church in the dioceses of the United States of America. It promotes programs that further Christian Unity and interreligious dialogue according to the teaching of the Second Vatican Council and the post-conciliar Magisterium. NADEO also cooperates in a special way with the Bishops' Committee on Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs. Additionally, the association collaborates with other professional societies, councils of churches and interfaith organizations in the achievement of its purposes. The association is based at the Office of the President, 303 S. Poplar St., Carbondale, IL 62901-2909. The NADEO Newsletter is published at the Office of the NADEO Editor, 1000 East Maple Avenue, Mundelein, IL 60060. It is also available on the web at www.nadeo.org.

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NADEO

"One Lord, One Faith, One Baptism"

We're on the Web!
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COMING EVENTS

BCEIA/NADEO

Institute for Ecumenical

*Interreligious
Leadership*

August 1-10, 2006

*Mercy Center
St. Louis, MO*

**For more information
Contact: 1-202-541-3020**

NAAE

The North American
Academy of Ecumenists

September 23-25, 2005

Queens, NY

Conferences are professional and
scholarly in substance and informal
in style. This year's theme is:

**Forgiveness and the Healing
of Memories: The Ecumenics
of Reconciliation.**

Watch the Web for further information:

www.naae.net

NWCU

2006 National Workshop on
Christian Unity

May 8-11, 2006

San Jose Fairmont Hotel

San Jose, CA

Watch for more information at
the NWCU website:

www.nwcu.org