

March 2013



## LCWR 2013 Assembly: Leadership Evolving: Graced, Grounded & Free Orlando, Florida August 13 - 16, 2013

The 2013 LCWR assembly -- Leadership Evolving: Graced, Grounded & Free -- will explore how the growing awareness of an evolving universe impacts understandings of religious life and leadership.

Keynoter Ilia Delio, OSF will address the topic, "Religious Life on the Edge of the Universe." A Franciscan Sister of Washington, DC, Ilia is a senior fellow at Woodstock Theological Center and director of the Catholic Studies Program at Georgetown University.

This assembly will also provide ample time for executive sessions which will include reflection and conversation on matters facing LCWR. The hope is that as many members as possible will attend this assembly.

Mary Jo Nelson, OLMV and Catherine Bertrand, SSND will serve as the assembly facilitators, and Mary Ann Mulzet, SSJ will serve as liturgist. Registration materials will be sent online to all LCWR members and associates.



## LCWR Board Meets in Florida

From February 17 to 21, the LCWR national board met at the Bethany Retreat Center in Lutz, Florida. The meeting included some joint sessions, as well as daily prayer and Eucharistic liturgies with the national board of the Conference of Major Superiors of Men (CMSM) which gathered at the same time.

Among matters discussed at the LCWR board meeting were the following:

- A new initiative being undertaken by LCWR, the National Religious Retirement Office, and the Resource Center for Religious Institutes to work on behalf of religious institutes that are in financial crisis or will be facing crises in the next 10 years. More information will follow about a pre-LCWR assembly gathering with LCWR members to determine how the three organizations may best assist them.
- Leadership Pathways, the process and program being launched by LCWR to assist members in growing into a transformative leadership able to respond to current needs while leading from an emerging future.
- A process for creating safe spaces for people to talk about matters of importance regarding the Catholic

*(continued on page 3)*

## From the LCWR Presidency A Formative Lent

by Carol Zinn, SSJ — LCWR President-Elect

Lent began differently for me this year. Florence Deacon, OSF; Pat Farrell, OSF; Janet Mock, CSJ; and I spent Ash Wednesday together, literally. We came together to sit in prayer, reflect in silence, discern in solitude, speak in truth, act in love, and move forward in hope with LCWR's ongoing response to the results of the doctrinal assessment. Ash Wednesday provided an intense experience of 40 Lenten days compressed into one calendar day, an experience of being formed, again, anew, in the Spirit of Jesus.



lenged so many others who experienced him yet it encouraged even more people to discipleship.

Parker Palmer tells a story about a skill needed for perseverance: "At one community meeting, we ran into a high-conflict issue. We ran out of time and agreed to postpone this issue until the following week. All week, emotions ran high and opposing views intensified. We eagerly assembled at the next meeting impatient to get this issue resolved. This was a Quaker community -- each meeting began with five minutes of silence. On

Mindful of the biblical concept of 40 days (formation), I find myself asking this question: "What is being formed in me; why; and for whom?" I think this question naturally has a plural form: "What is being formed in us; why; and for whom?" Persevering in this Lenten formation demands deep prayer, deep silence, and deep listening. Persevering in this Lenten formation invites a vulnerability, humility, gentle strength, and visible change that reflects the vulnerability, humility, gentle strength, and visible change we see emerge in Jesus as he journeys from the desert to the cross.

this day, the clerk announced that, due to the intensity of this issue, we would not begin with our usual five minutes of silence. We all breathed a sigh of relief, only to hear her announce: "Today, we'll begin with 20 minutes of silence."

As Lent 2013 unfolds and our perseverance is grounded, tested and graced, may we be formed by the silence we choose to create.

The Chinese character for perseverance is a knife poised over a heart. It is a striking image as we continue to discern where God is leading us and how we are choosing to be formed by God. Our hearts are broken open in many ways in our daily lives as we watch so much pain and suffering in our world. Our LCWR heart was broken open in an unexpected way last April. We continue to feel the beating of that heart as we hold the tensions, the uncertainties, the desire to be in adult relationships with our institutional church, the sustained voices of hope and support, and the clear awareness that this historical moment carries significance far beyond LCWR. Yes, there is a knife poised over our hearts and we are invited to a perseverance modeled by Jesus. His perseverance cost him greatly yet it freed him completely; his perseverance appeared as weakness yet it manifested a strength found only in God; his perseverance chal-



*We continue to feel the beating of that heart as we hold the tensions, the uncertainties, the desire to be in adult relationships with our institutional church, the sustained voices of hope and support, and the clear awareness that this historical moment carries significance far beyond LCWR.*

## LCWR Board Meets in Florida

*(continued from page 1)*

Church. (See page 4)

- Update on the mandate from the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith
- The 2013 LCWR assembly

### LCWR-CMSM Board Session

Among items discussed at the joint session of the LCWR and CMSM boards were the following:

- A study to be conducted by the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate of the member institutes of LCWR and CMSM to learn more about those who have members ministering in the area of service to immigrants as well as those institutes that are receiving immigrant religious.
- Possible responses to the needs of the religious of Haiti particularly the need for formation, education, and leadership training for young religious.

### Contemplative Process

The LCWR board and staff closed the four days of meetings by engaging in the LCWR contemplative process which led them to the following insights:

- Religious life practices being church for the church. We are practicing – and with all the messiness and mistakes, we are becoming the music.
- This moment calls us not to self-doubt as an organization, but to move forward courageously in fidelity to LCWR's mission.
- Modeling vulnerability is a means of conversion. We do so that the Gospel message is not compromised.
- The call to LCWR: Courage to see and name honestly, with our own eyes and those of others, the evolved reality of our lives as religious.
- Stay committed and focused on responding to the call to become the church God wants us to be no matter what the cost, for the life of the world.
- We, women of the Gospel, are being called to a

leadership of service beyond ourselves to minister in collaboration with others in a spirit of open and listening hospitality as we all claim our voice in today's church.



## Creating Spaces for Conversation on Being a Vatican II Catholic

Since the announcement of the findings of the doctrinal assessment of LCWR, various groups of laity throughout the country have begun meeting for mutual support and sharing as they explore their role as members of the Catholic Church.

In the Washington, DC area a group that calls itself Jubilee Faithful has been meeting to create safe spaces where people can share honestly their questions about being a Vatican II Catholic today. Dr. Kathleen Galleher and Susan Harford are the leaders of the group and have formulated a process for the group gatherings.

Due to the generosity of a donor, Susan and Kathleen were able to travel to Florida to join the LCWR board for part of its February meeting. There they presented a facilitator guide which they developed and which they are making available -- free of charge -- to anyone wishing to gather groups for similar purposes. The guide provides the materials needed for holding a series of gatherings that are grounded in prayer and deep listening for the purpose of sharing and discerning together.

The guide may be downloaded at [www.jubileefaithful.org/jubilee-faithful-facilitators-guide](http://www.jubileefaithful.org/jubilee-faithful-facilitators-guide). Kathleen and Susan are also available to speak with anyone interested in learning more about Jubilee Faithful.



*Susan Harford and Kathleen Galleher at the February LCWR national board meeting*



*LCWR president Florence Deacon, OSF at the Paulist Center in Boston*

## Accepts Paulist Center Award

LCWR president Florence Deacon, OSF accepted the 2013 Isaac Hecker Award for Social Justice given by Boston's Paulist Center Community at a ceremony on January 26.

Given annually since 1974, when its first recipient was Catholic Worker co-founder Dorothy Day, the award is named for the Paulist Fathers' founder and is given to a North American Catholic or Catholic group "committed to building a more just and peaceful world."

In remarks at the award ceremony Susan Rutkowski, pastoral minister at the Paulist Center, said, "The women religious of the United States have taught us to pray, educated us on how to live and work in our ever-changing world, nursed our sick and old, cared for our abandoned, reached out to all the marginalized, and taught us how to respect the dignity of all. They have, in sum, shown us how Jesus might live in our world today.

"Like Isaac Hecker," she continued, "they have worked tirelessly to foster the growth and development of American Catholicism, showing us what a socially just society could look like. Let us support them and follow their example in our own quests to model a more inclusive American society and church focused on justice for all."

## LCWR Leadership: Mystery Unfolding Retreat



*Retreat directors Mary Waskowiak, RSM and Maria Elena Martinez, OSF*



LCWR members attended the LCWR Retreat: Leadership: Mystery Unfolding held in January at Holy Spirit Retreat Center in Encino, California.



## LCWR Think Tank for Systemic Change

Congregational leaders and justice promoters participated in the XV LCWR Think Tank for Systemic Change, “Between Religion and Revelation: Faithful Discipleship in Today’s Church,” in February at the Redemptorist Renewal Center in Tucson, Arizona. The presenter was Anthony Gittins, CSSp



A reflection on the think tank experience written by LCWR associate director of programs Marie McCarthy, SP is available at [lcwr.org/social-justice/systemic-change-think-tank-2012](http://lcwr.org/social-justice/systemic-change-think-tank-2012)





Front: Carmelita Latiolais, SEC, Sarah Ducey, RSM, Lorraine Landry, SSND, Ellen Kron, DC. Back: Greta Jupiter, SSF, Theresa Fox, OP, Geneva James, SSF

## Louisiana Sisters Urge Governor Jindal to Accept Federal Funds for Medicaid

Seven sisters from Louisiana met with Anne Cassity, policy advisor to Governor Bobby Jindal, to discuss the real costs of the governor's decision not to accept federal funds to provide health care to the neediest Louisianans. They shared with Ms. Cassity their own ministry experiences of working with those who must often choose between health and hunger because they cannot afford to see a doctor and put food on the table.

Governor Jindal is one of a number of governors currently opposing Medicaid expansion in their states. Leaders of 14 congregations signed a letter asking the governor to reconsider his decision and seeking a meeting with him or his staff. At their February 4 meeting with Ms. Cassity the sisters made a powerful case for accepting the estimated \$25 billion in federal funds necessary to insure 400,000 Louisianans currently without access to health care.

Ellen Cron, DC reminded Ms. Cassity of the obligation of members of the human community to care for one another. "Providing healthcare to all is the moral thing to do; it is the right thing to do; it is our responsibility."

Women religious in Louisiana have worked in health-care since the early days of the state and continue to work with the poor and vulnerable. Sisters shared their first-hand knowledge of the working poor who, with little access to healthcare, and no opportunity for early intervention often end up in emergency rooms critically ill. Sarah Ducey, RSM pointed to the tragic consequences for the many children and adults who do not have access to mental health services.

Ms. Cassity assured the group that the governor is aware of the huge problems with uninsured in Louisiana, and added, "We are working to address this." It is too soon to tell if Ms. Cassity was persuaded or if Governor Jindal will be convinced of the rightness of Medicaid expansion.

## Honored by Association of Chicago Priests



The Association of Chicago Priests honored LCWR both on the national and regional levels with its Coordinating Board Award at a celebration on February 10. Chair of Region 8 (Illinois) Rebecca Ann Gemma, OP and LCWR president Florence Deacon, OSF accepted the awards from the organization which is comprised of 220 priests.

## Upcoming LCWR Dates

### LCWR New Leader Workshop

Conference Center - University of St. Mary of the Lake  
Mundelein, Illinois  
March 21 — 24, 2013

### LCWR Assembly

Orlando, Florida  
August 13 — 17, 2013

### LCWR Retreat

Redemptorist Renewal Center  
Tucson, Arizona  
January 19 — 24, 2014

### LCWR New Leader Workshop

Conference Center - University of St. Mary of the Lake  
Mundelein, Illinois  
March 27 — 30, 2014

### LCWR Assembly

Nashville, Tennessee  
August 12 — 16, 2014

### LCWR Assembly

Houston, Texas  
August 11—15, 2015



- Statement by Catholic leaders and theologians calling for commonsense reforms to address the epidemic of gun violence in our nation. Florence Deacon, OSF (1/17/13)
- A call to justice for immigrants; asking Congress to pass comprehensive immigration reform and summons to citizens to mobilize on April 10 to deliver a powerful message to their representatives — fix the broken immigration system in 2013. LCWR (1/28/13)
- Press statement welcoming the release of the bipartisan Senate proposal and President Obama's pledge to work with Congress to fix our nation's broken immigration system. LCWR (1/31/13)
- Letter to the President and Congress from faith-based community in support of inclusion of changes in immigration reform legislation to repair the U.S. asylum system. LCWR (2/1/13)
- Letter to Congress regarding the ongoing budget debate, debt ceiling, and sequestration urging them to increase revenue and cut wasteful pentagon spending in order to protect necessary social programs. LCWR (2/1/13)
- Open letter to Congress and the administration urging creation of a humane and just immigration process that provides a clear roadmap to citizenship for the 11 million aspiring citizens and ensures access to affordable health care and needed nutrition assistance. LCWR (2/5/13)
- Written testimony to the House Judiciary Committee hearing on immigration reform stressing the paramount importance and socio-economic necessity of family unity. Janet Mock, CSJ (2/5/13)

## Order New LCWR Reflective Journal

LCWR presents a new book, *Navigating the Shifts*, a resource for reflecting on how living in a world in flux. The publication will provide poetry, artwork, and reflections written by LCWR members on the six tools named by 2012 LCWR president Pat Farrell, OSF for navigating the major changes of these times.



The book will be available in late spring, however, since LCWR only prints enough copies to fulfill pre-print orders, orders must be made by **March 31**, using the form that can be downloaded at [lcwr.org/publications/navigating-shifts](http://lcwr.org/publications/navigating-shifts).

## LCWR Calls for Compassionate, Commonsense Immigration Reform

LCWR issued a statement on January 31 welcoming plans for comprehensive immigration reform. “The Senate framework and the principles laid out in the President’s speech in Las Vegas provide hope to our immigrant brothers and sisters and the promise that values that are the bedrock of our national identity will flourish.” However, the statement also noted that there is need for improvement, particularly in the bipartisan Senate plan. The Senate proposal failed to restore due process protections and to address the root causes of migration. Furthermore, the proposed provisions concerning certification of border security threaten to effectively block the roadmap to citizenship. ([lcwr.org/media/lcwr-statement-immigration-proposals](http://lcwr.org/media/lcwr-statement-immigration-proposals))

While proposals still need to be turned into legislation, things are moving quickly. The House Judiciary Committee held its first hearings on immigration reform on February 5 to which LCWR submitted written testimony. The statement stressed the paramount importance and socio-economic necessity of family unity and called for reform that does not pit one group of aspiring Americans against another. “We can and must protect families’ and workers’ rights.”

In addition, LCWR provided written testimony to the February 13 Senate Judiciary Committee hearings which reiterated the concern that any immigration legislation be grounded in human rights principles. The testimony pointed out that, “Today our broken immigration system too often separates families, denies the dreams of youth, incarcerates innocents, and limits the rights of aspiring Americans.” The United States can and must do better. (Entire statement: [lcwr.org/media/news/statement-senate-judiciary-committee-immigration-reform](http://lcwr.org/media/news/statement-senate-judiciary-committee-immigration-reform))

Members and their staffs will be scheduling meetings with their constituents during the two-week Easter recess, March 22-April 8. The word around Congressional offices in Washington is that members of Congress are not hearing from constituents who support common-sense immigration reform. LCWR members are urged to schedule visits while the Washington staff and the members themselves are in their local offices.

The following are suggested talking points when speaking with members of Congress:

- Women religious take seriously the gospel call to welcome the stranger and care for those in need
- Catholic sisters are committed to the precepts of social teaching rooted in the Catholic tradition that remind all that the dignity of the person is at the core of the vision of a moral society
- How society is organized affects human dignity directly
- Any system that is deliberately cruel or inhumane needs to change.
- A past LCWR assembly resolution called on Congress “to pass comprehensive immigration reform that includes the reunification of families and a path to citizenship for undocumented immigrants living in the United States.”

Representatives and Senators need to know that their constituents want comprehensive reform that: prioritizes family unity; provides a fair and reasonable roadmap to citizenship; respects human rights and restores due process to those detained by immigration authorities; protects the rights of all workers; promotes the integration of new Americans; and addresses the root causes of migration -- the poverty, persecution, and inequity that force migrants to flee their homes and families.

If an in-person visit at the district office is impossible, LCWR members are urged to call or send an electronic postcard asking Congress to pass just and compassionate immigration reform legislation in the 113th Congress. ([capwiz.com/justiceforimmigrants/issues/alert/?alertid=62312721](http://capwiz.com/justiceforimmigrants/issues/alert/?alertid=62312721))

## Applications Accepted for NRRO Planning and Implementation Workshop

NRRO is accepting applications for the September 2013 Planning and Implementation workshop. Any religious institute that has 25 or more members and is more than 40% under-funded for retirement, is invited to take advantage of the consultative and financial assistance available through this program.

Those unsure if this workshop is suitable for them are encouraged to speak with previous participants. Their names and a description of the program can be found at [www.usccb.org/about/national-religious-retirement-office/upload/P-and-I-Booklet-2.pdf](http://www.usccb.org/about/national-religious-retirement-office/upload/P-and-I-Booklet-2.pdf)



## Administration Proposes New Compromise on Contraception Coverage

A Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) was issued on February 1 by the IRS and the Departments of Treasury, Labor, and Health and Human Services proposing changes to the religious exemption for certain women's preventive health services regulations.

The proposed regulations would broaden the definition of "religious employers" who are exempt from having to provide women's contraceptive coverage in their employee health plans and accommodate nonprofit religious organizations that object to providing coverage of contraceptive services by establishing alternative ways to fulfill the requirements.

The proposed changes appear to provide greater latitude for religious nonprofits that object to the mandated coverage of contraceptives and will allow faith-based hospitals, social service agencies, and universities to issue plans that do not directly provide birth control coverage. Their employees would instead receive a stand-alone, private insurance policy that would provide contraceptive coverage at no cost to the employer or the employee.

In a statement released February 13, the Catholic Health Association (CHA) indicated that they are pleased that HHS has been sensitive to the concern raised by many to the very narrow definition of "religious employer" used in earlier NPRMs. The February 1, 2013 proposed rules drop the three most objectionable elements of the definition, namely the requirements that the religious employer have the inculcation of religious values as its purpose, primarily employ persons who share its religious tenants, and primarily serve persons who share its religious beliefs.

CHA also "welcomed the clarity of the statements of HHS' intent to protect eligible organizations from having to contract, arrange, pay, or refer for contraceptive coverage to which they object on religious grounds" and characterized these changes as "substantial progress." CHA has said that it will continue to study the proposed changes including the recommended accommodation, and noted, "CHA looks forward to working with our members, the leadership of the Bishops'

Conference, and the Administration to complete this process."

Comments on the NPRM are due by April 8. The notice states that the departments intend to finalize all proposed amendments before the end of the temporary safe harbor which is set to expire August 1. The NPRM is available at: [www.mmsend47.com/link.cfm?r=783609009&sid=22693128&m=2491211&u=CAHA&j=13001568&s=http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2013-02-06/pdf/2013-02420.pdf](http://www.mmsend47.com/link.cfm?r=783609009&sid=22693128&m=2491211&u=CAHA&j=13001568&s=http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2013-02-06/pdf/2013-02420.pdf)

## News from the UN

Together LCWR and the Conference of Major Superiors of Men (CMSM) are associated with United Nations Department of Public Information. Associated Nongovernmental Organizations (NGOs) "... undertake to support the work of the United Nations and to promote knowledge of its principles and activities, in accordance with its own aims and purposes and the nature and scope of its competence and activities." From time to time *LCWR Update* will include news from the UN community.

- The 57th session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) will take place at United Nations Headquarters in New York from March 4-15 2013. This year the Commission will once again address the elimination and prevention of all forms of violence against women and girls. Details can be found at [www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/csw/57sess.htm](http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/csw/57sess.htm).
- The UN Department of Public Information has released a new iPhone app that will highlight all the activities of the UN system around the world. The app is available at [unp.un.org/calendar/](http://unp.un.org/calendar/).



## Extra Copies of Winter 2013 Occasional Papers Available

An order form can be found at [lcsr.org/sites/default/files/publications/files/oporderswinter13.pdf](http://lcsr.org/sites/default/files/publications/files/oporderswinter13.pdf)

## The Budget Should Reflect the Values of the Nation

LCWR continues to be active in the interfaith Faithful Budget campaign and the USCCB/CRS Catholics Confront Global Poverty campaign. Both coalitions are gearing up for what looks to be a bruising battle as Congress struggles with a series of fiscal challenges. These include: the impending March 1 sequestration, the FY 2012 continuing resolution that expires March 31 and the deadlines imposed by the recently enacted No Budget, No Pay Act which threatens Congressional pay if lawmakers fail to enact a FY 2014 budget by the April 15 deadline, while extending the debt ceiling limit until May 18.

The interfaith community is preparing a number of briefing documents on the dangers of proposed cuts to both the domestic and foreign poverty alleviation programs, the absolute necessity of increasing revenue, and the wisdom of reigning in Pentagon spending. However, none of that will be sufficient unless policy makers and citizens alike are willing to deal with the moral issues that lie at the heart of the debate.

This battle about cuts and revenue is about much more than deficits and spending. The debate is really a moral contest about significant questions that challenge the moral character of the nation. What is the role of government? What is the vision of America's future? What are the priorities of this nation in an increasingly global world? These are the moral questions that go unanswered as Congress and the country lurch from one fiscal cliff to another.

The compass of Catholic Social Teaching points clearly to responsibility for the common good, preferential option for those living in poverty, and the absolute call to solidarity.

Resources, updates, and opportunities for action are available at [faithfulbudget.org](http://faithfulbudget.org), [www.confrontglobal-poverty.org](http://www.confrontglobal-poverty.org), [www.networklobby.org](http://www.networklobby.org) and [www.chn.org](http://www.chn.org).

More information is available at [www.giving-voice.org](http://www.giving-voice.org)

## CHA Offers Workshop on Caring for Seriously Ill or Aging Persons

In response to a need voiced by many LCWR members, the Catholic Health Association will offer a one-day workshop designed especially for women and men religious life leaders and persons who have administrative responsibility or oversight for sponsored senior services.

The workshop objectives include:

- To root the care of aging and dying persons within the context of the Paschal Mystery and the theological teaching of the church
- To educate participants about the challenges that aging and dying individuals experience
- To connect the church's ethical teaching about end-of-life decisions with the theological and spiritual foundations of the religious tradition
- To address the particular needs of vowed religious in chronic illnesses and end-of-life
- To provide religious superiors and administrators of religious nursing homes with practical guidance in their role and responsibilities.

More information is available at [www.chausa.org/WorkArea/linkit.aspx?LinkIdentifier=id&ItemID=11018](http://www.chausa.org/WorkArea/linkit.aspx?LinkIdentifier=id&ItemID=11018).



## New Position Available at NRRO

The National Religious Retirement Office (NRRO) is seeking an assistant director of retirement services. Responsibilities will include outreach to religious institutes with a small number of members and/or a high median age as well as development of educational materials and web-based resources for retirement planning. The job description and qualifications can be found at [www.usccb.org/about/employment/](http://www.usccb.org/about/employment/).

The candidate should have experience in elder care delivery for religious institutes and/or religious institute administration. Strong communication and pastoral skills are a must. A vowed religious or someone with a minimum of five years' experience in working with religious institutes is strongly preferred.

Clergy/religious candidates must request written approval from their diocesan bishop or religious superior before an application can be considered. Diocesan lay employees must also request approval from the local bishop. The position is available immediately but the start date is negotiable.

## Is Your Leadership Term About to End?

If your leadership term is ending this month, you must submit a change of leadership form found in the LCWR Members Information section (password-protected) of the website at [lcwr.org/members/lcwr-membership-information](http://lcwr.org/members/lcwr-membership-information).



*Update* is an official publication of the Leadership Conference of Women Religious published monthly and distributed to members nationally.

Editor: Annmarie Sanders, IHM  
 8808 Cameron Street — Silver Spring, MD 20910  
 Phone: 301-588-4955 Fax: 301-587-4575  
 E-mail: [asanders@lcwr.org](mailto:asanders@lcwr.org) Website: [www.lcwr.org](http://www.lcwr.org)

## New Leadership Development Program Available for Young Women Religious

The Collaborative Leadership Development Program (CLDP) is a forward-thinking program sponsored by a coalition of religious congregations of women, in partnership with LCWR. The program is an 18-month integrative process with a multi-cultural perspective, designed to prepare women religious, associates, and co-members with the skills, knowledge, and confidence to assume leadership positions in community and ministry.

The program will be of interest to religious institutes asking questions such as:

- Are younger members in our community prepared to meet the demands and challenges of leadership?
- Are they leading from a spirituality attuned to global and local realities?
- Who will embody our congregation's charism and mission?
- How will our congregation support and prepare associates and co-members for emerging leadership roles?

The CLDP blends relational and contemplative practices, while fostering self-growth and spiritual development through prayerful study and interaction, online webinars and teleconferencing, mentoring and coaching. The program instills skills for conflict-resolution, strategic planning, systems thinking, dialogue, and feedback. Its multi-congregational, multi-national approach broadens awareness of sustainability and social justice in our changing church and global society.

An invitational letter, detailed brochure, and application form may be obtained by contacting Kathleen Wade, program director, at [kwade42@gmail.com](mailto:kwade42@gmail.com) or 301-587-0423, ext. 2314 for details.

## Upcoming Justice Events

- **Peacebuilding 2013: Pacem in Terris at 50**, a conference sponsored by Catholic Peacebuilding Network and more than a dozen Catholic universities and agencies will be held April 9-10 at the Catholic University of America, Washington, DC. Confirmed speakers include Cardinal Peter Turkson; Bryan Hehir, SJ; Carolyn Woo; Scott Appleby; Drew Christiansen, SJ; Amb. Douglas Roche; Marie Dennis; and Maryann Cusimano Love. The conference is free but registration is required. Register at [cpn.nd.edu/announcements-media-and-past-events/events](http://cpn.nd.edu/announcements-media-and-past-events/events).
- **Immigration Reform Rallies** in Washington, DC and across the country are being planned for April 10. Various racial, labor, and religious groups are expected to attend. More details will be announced as the event gets closer at [www.citizenship-now.org/](http://www.citizenship-now.org/).
- **Gun Violence Prevention Sabbath Weekend** is planned for March 15-17. Sign up your place of worship to participate. Information is available at [036e423.netsolhost.com/WordPress/2013/02/02/the-power-of-prayer-march-8-10-is-gun-violence-prevention-sabbath-weekend](http://036e423.netsolhost.com/WordPress/2013/02/02/the-power-of-prayer-march-8-10-is-gun-violence-prevention-sabbath-weekend).
- **Orientation to the United Nations** April 24-25 will once again be offered by The Partnership for Global Justice at the UN Church Center in New York City. The program is designed to provide information about the United Nations system, Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and other groups that form the UN community. Designed especially for those involved in justice and peace ministry or in teaching, the conference would also benefit students and adults who are simply interested in broaden their views as global citizens. Information and registration are available at [www.partnership-forglobaljustice.com/un-orientation-programs.html](http://www.partnership-forglobaljustice.com/un-orientation-programs.html)