

Diaspora

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EVENTS

- > The next Circle of Directors meeting will be held Mar. 9-11, 07 in St. Louis, MO
- > Check out the upcoming regional events listed in the **Regional News**.

To list your area event,
e-mail: jen@digiforce.net

Interfaith Ministry

by Clem De Wall

This article
is also posted on
www.insummerland.com;
click on "Theology."

In 2006 FCM established a committee to promote interfaith activities, in the hope that its work will result in an increased awareness and cooperation with those of non-Christian traditions. I am devoting this article and others to follow to the topic of interfaith ministry.

It would be a mistake, in my opinion, to relinquish interfaith relations to religious organizations or church leaders. I remember, for example, the enthusiasm for ecumenism generated by the Second Vatican Council. For several years in the late sixties and early seventies, I participated in an annual exchange of pulpits with several Protestant churches. Where are these ecumenical activities now? Church leaders have managed to turn interreligious cooperation on and off like a water spigot. If we want to turn the faucet on and keep the water flowing, we will have to do so individually, not waiting for either orders or permission.

History provides some compelling lessons on the incompetence of church leaders to foster unity. Consider the split between the Orthodox and Roman Catholic churches, commonly dated to July 16, 1054. On that date, so church historians tell us, Michael Cerularius, patriarch of Constantinople, was excommunicated by the Catholic Church. Or was he? The so-called papal bull of excommunication was actually written not by a pope, but by Cardinal Humbert, whose assertions were mostly fabrications. Not only had Cardinal Humbert received no papal commission to issue such a decree, but on July 16, 1054, the pope who sent him to Constantinople had been dead for several months, and the papal office was still vacant. I fail to understand how or why historians can call Humbert's document a papal bull or his decree legitimate.

Although 1054 is the traditional date of the East-West division, it marks only the time of a dispute between two clerics. For 150 years Latins and Greeks freely received communion in each others' churches. Perhaps there would have been no separation among the laity had it not been for the papal institution of the Crusades. In 1204,

continued on page 5

2008 JOINT CONFERENCE

FCM has invited three other organizations involved in ministry to sponsor the first-ever Joint Conference in the summer of 2008 in the Northeast.

The four organizations are FCM, CORPUS, Women's Ordination Conference, and Roman Catholic Womenpriests.

Plan now to attend !

Watch for details in upcoming issues of Diaspora.



Regional News

Northeast Region

By Tom and Michaelita Quinn

FCM membership/certification renewals are pouring in. As of December 27, 62% of the 122 members in the Northeast had mailed in their annual reports and paid either certified or non-certified dues. If your renewal was not postmarked by December 31, your membership and certification has expired.

To rejoin, the dues is \$50 for members and \$150 for certified members to be sent along with the annual report. Please note that the address on the return envelope which you received for renewal had errors. The correct address for renewals is 1709 W. 69th Street, Cleveland, OH 44102-2957.

On December 1, **Tom Cusack** held a meeting in his New Jersey home for 13 FCM married priests who met to discuss the possibility of married priests returning to the active ministry.

On December 2, **Bill Murnion** and his wife Deborah hosted a local FCM meeting for 12 people from New York State and CT. Lots of 1-1 conversation, a deep-sharing group session, a wonderful lunch, and a meaningful liturgy led by Bill comprised the afternoon at his home in the woods of Orange County, NY.

The next area meeting is scheduled for Saturday, January 27 at **Mary Byrne Hoffman's** home at 15 Rockleigh Drive, Ewing, NJ near Trenton. This meeting was rescheduled twice to accommodate FCM members who wanted to attend the CTA or VOTF meeting in the Fall. Contact Mary at 845-986-5406 or at marybyrne@yahoo.com if you can come on January 27 from 1 pm – 5 pm. The meaning of ministry is the

theme. We'll see you there !

On November 27, **Jean Marchant**, ordained in the summer of 2006, and her husband **Ron Hindelang** offered a Mass of Thanksgiving in Weston, MA. Over 85 people attended to support Jean in her ministry. They invite everyone to a Liturgical New Year's Eve Celebration on December 31 from 7 pm – 10 pm in Weston. Email them at rjblessings@gjs.net if you can attend.

Congratulations to **Ray Grosswirth**, a married FCM member from Rochester, who was ordained a priest by Archbishop Emmanuel Milingo on December 10. A long-time FCM member, Ray is a candidate for FCM certification at the Circle of Directors meeting in March.

A presentation on FCM was made by **Gerry Grudzen**, **Bill Manseau**, and **Tom Quinn** to over 200 attendees at the Married Priests Now Prelature meeting in Parsippany, NJ.

Kudos to **Eric Hall**, FCM certified member and CEO of the Alzheimer's Foundation of America, who presided over the Stock Market Closing on November 8 at the NASDAQ MarketSite in New York City in recognition of National Alzheimer's Disease Awareness Month.

Planning is underway for the 2008 national conference when FCM will join with three other organizations to sponsor a conference to be held in the Northeast. This will replace the annual FCM national assembly. FCM has invited three other groups to combine for a joint conference: FCM, CORPUS, Women's Ordination Conference, and Roman Catholic Womenpriests. Thanks to the folks in the Northeast Region who have already offered to help with either the planning or the on-site management

of this event. Everyone, put summer 2008 on your calendar! You don't want to miss this one. Watch each upcoming issue of the Diaspora for more information.

Reminder: the Diaspora is online at www.FederationOfChristianMinistries.org.

Mountains & Plains

By Robert Schutzius

I am honored to have been asked, and happy to have served, as interim V.P. of the Mountains and Plains Region. As I pass the office over to **David Ward** in Boulder CO I assure him that, thanks to the wonderful organizing skills of my predecessor, Rebecca David, his administrative tasks will be easy. The generously shared gifts of Becky will be an important legacy to our Region for a long time. Our Region has approximately 31 FCM certified ministers serving communities in the mid-west.

The death of **Ed Kalmanek** echoes throughout the Federation and we join in praying for his intercession for us as he stands before the Lord. Thank you Ed, and we all testify to your dedication and service to the People of God.

The source of enduring ministry is found in community support and I am no exception. St. Louis has been my FCM home for many years. I am grateful for the support of my brothers and sisters here and I urge all FCM members to seek a community where the Spirit speaks to, and through, us.

Great Lakes Region

By Mary McGrath

Pages 11–12 contain information & registration for the Hospice Conf.

Pacific Region

By Phil and Peggy Ripp

Watch for *Lenten Day of Recollection* coming up in Feb. or March. More details in a letter we will send to you in the mail.

(continues on next page)

Southern Region

By David Gaboury &
Eleonora Marinaro

These are some excerpts from “Daily Inspiration” written by Reverend Christopher Ian Chenoweth. This is an e-mail newsletter that I receive, and wish to pass on to all of you:

The power of Jesus Christ quickens you. He says, “I am one with you always”.

We hold these words of Jesus close to our hearts throughout this prayer, and as we unite in prayer now, we give thanks for God’s presence and for the Divine power God demonstrates in our lives.

We are one with a great power—the power of God—that is constant and enduring. As we pray together, we look to this all-encompassing power, knowing that God is the mainstay of our lives. I ask you now to prepare for this time of prayer with a period in the silence of prayer.

We know that the power of God is with us now. We are blessed by peace, security, strength and wisdom. Our minds are eased, and our bodies are relaxed now. In this awareness of peace-giving power, we affirm aloud in positive prayer:

Through the power of Jesus Christ, I am blessed with peace. *(Silence)*

God’s power blesses you with peace in every cell of your body temple. In every muscle and bone in your physical body, you have the peace of Christ now. The Christ peace is something that in fills you and flows through you. Your mind is one with the peace of Christ and you relax into the presence of God with you and surrounding you. You do not worry or have fear about anything. You only have a consenting power that consents to God’s perfect guidance and help. To every cell we say, “Peace, be still.” To every organ we say, “Peace

be still.” To every nerve and nerve ending we say, “Peace, be still.” The calm peace of God flows in and through you now, relaxing you at the core of your being. *(Silence)*

There is, within you, an unlimited source of power as a gift of God that inspires and guides you, that reveals right answers to you and leads you on the path to greater good. As you let go of any feeling of worry, stress, or strain, and still your thoughts, you know that as you relax you are becoming an open channel of divine wisdom.

Inspiring ideas come to you in the stillness. You feel the power of Divine wisdom gently guiding you and enabling you to make a wise choice in every matter. Your life is productive. Your life is fulfilled. Trusting in this inspiring power, we claim aloud in prayer: Through the power of Jesus Christ, I am blessed with wisdom.

We accept this now, in the silence of prayer . . . Jesus said, “Your faith has made you well”. You are well and whole. You are one with God’s Divine healing power. This power now radiates throughout your cells, tissues, and organs with a strength that is greater than any condition.

As you let go of your fear and any anxiety held within your body temple, you surrender to God’s healing power. God’s healing power is moving in you now, renewing, and revitalizing your body temple.

You are an outlet of God’s healing power. You are infused with wholeness, and are generating strength and vitality. Your mind and body are rejuvenated and revitalized. God’s healing power, through your consent, is now moving in and through

you. Healing is coming forth now. You surrender to it. Affirm out loud in prayer: “Through the power of Jesus Christ, I am blessed with healing”. You accept this now, in the silence of prayer.

If you want to know more about this fabulous ministry visit www.PositiveChristianity.org for more information.

In closing, it is my greatest prayer that you are allowing yourself to receive Holy Communion daily. Our partaking of the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ is the “Meal That Heals” us physically, mentally and spiritually. Jesus said, “I am the bread come down from Heaven”.

Here is a prayer for you to recite before you take communion: “Thank You, Lord Jesus Christ for this opportunity to receive your most precious Body and Blood. I believe you died for me and carried all my sins and infirmities to the Cross. Lord Jesus, I receive healing in every organ, every cell and every function of my body, Amen”. ❧

“Be Blessed in His Name!”

In His Service,

Reverend Patty Zorn

Sacred Walk Home

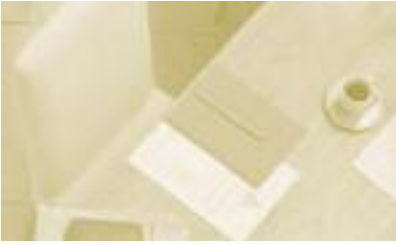
A Ministry of Hope and Healing

www.sacredwalkhome.com

sacredwalkhome@juno.com

REMINDER

If you have not sent in your FCM renewal (check and annual report form) by the December 31st deadline you must rejoin. The fee is \$50 for non certified members and \$150 for certified members. Please send the fee AND your annual report form fully completed. If both are not sent you will not receive a membership/certification card. Send to Membership Services, 1709 W. 69th St. Cleveland, OH 44102-2957



Chair's Column

by Jan and Paul Reithmaier, Co-Chairs

TRANSITION

At the end of July, 2006 **Becky David** stepped down as vice president of the Mountains and Plains Region. In addition to her duties as director of chaplains at Genesis Health Care in Davenport, Iowa, she was appointed an adjunct faculty member at Loyola University in Chicago. During her tenure as vice president, she tried to visit as many areas of the region as she could and made contact with a number of members throughout the region. During the last year and a half of her tenure, she was busy coordinating the very successful annual assembly, which took place in Rock Island, Illinois, in July. Thanks, Becky, for your contribution to the Mountains and Plains Region and to the Circle. **Robert Schutzius**, of Saint Louis, Missouri, has been serving as interim vice president of the region. He had the task of receiving and reviewing the many annual reports that members of the Mountains and Plains Region submitted at the end of the year. He also fielded a number of inquiries that came to his attention since July. And, of course, he took care of other administrative duties associated with the position of vice president. Thanks, Bob, for stepping up to help out.

Eileen Mackin and **Clem DeWall** served as election coordinators for the Mountains and Plains regional election. Two members were nominated to run as vice presidential candidates. One of the nominees declined to run. **David Ward** of Boulder, Colorado, is the new vice president of the Mountains and Plains

Region. David is founder and director of the N.I.C.E. Corp., the Network of Interfaith Compassionate Entrepreneurs, which promotes the initiative and recovery of people who are or who have been homeless. He is a licensed massage therapist who offers massage in homeless shelters, and he also started Stepping Stones Garden, using homeless hired laborers. He was a Jesuit brother for twenty-two years. He prays frequently in Catholic, Buddhist, indigenous and Hindu settings, appreciating the wisdom that each of these traditions offers. He works as a parish associate at Holy Cross Catholic Church in Thornton, Colorado. In 2001 he was an active participant in putting on the national FCM assembly in Denver. Thank you, David, for adding service to FCM to your other endeavors.

Ed Kalmanek died on December 6, 2006. Ed and his wife Judy served as FCM secretaries for almost 10 years. During some of that time Ed and Judy also took care of membership services and edited and published *Diaspora*. Ed helped with typing and formatting the articles that were submitted. Every morning he downloaded the many email messages that came to the Central Office and prioritized them so that Judy

could attend to the ones that were most urgent first. He contributed both wit and wisdom to the deliberations of the Circle. Ed was conscious to the last, in great peace and among friends who were drumming, giving him Reiki and anointing him. Ed and Judy founded and led the Sophia Community, which meets weekly in a chapel they built on their property in Ionia, Michigan. The Sophia Community celebrated Ed's life on Sunday, December 10. Judy told us "his body has already gone to Michigan State University where he will continue to instruct young people. The next crop of doctors should be better since he is there!"

The next meeting of the Circle of Directors will be at the Clubhouse Inn in Saint Louis, Missouri, from March 9 to 11, 2007. Certification is given twice a year at the Circle meetings. The Circle meetings are open to all members of FCM. ¶

New Year Greetings from the Central Office

by Deborah Burke, Secretary

Thanks to all who have wished me well in taking over from the hard-acts-to-follow Kalmaneks.

Applications for 2007 certification with the International Council of Community Churches had to be postmarked no later than December 15, 2006. That has been the policy for years now. I am sorry I had to return some applications. Please make note on your calendar the deadline for mailing your ICCC applications next year. Cards will be mailed in early January. We have 16 new ICCC applications this year and 30 renewals.

Wishing many blessings to all members. May the New Year bring peace to our broken world. ¶

Interfaith Ministry, cont. pg.1

Latin rite Catholics marched through Greece, ravaging and pillaging, using local churches to shelter their horses and attempting to suppress the faith and rites of the Greek Christians. Left to themselves, Greeks and Latins might have continued to share their faith and communion with one another.

If Christian churches would tomorrow announce solid steps toward unity, or if Christian leaders would issue a press release stating positive steps in mutual understanding between themselves and Buddhists, Muslims or Hindus, there would certainly be cause to celebrate. But don't hold your breath. Few religious leaders (again, in my opinion) have yet

displayed the least bit of competence in building unity outside their own followers. If we are to achieve interfaith unity, it will have to take place among the rank and file. And that means a grass-roots movement rather than a top-down process.

How do you start? Those living in larger cities may find it easy to locate religious groups and organizations, and thus easier than others to become involved. If you live in a smaller town, you may be limited to other means, such as books, tapes or DVDs. In future issues of *Diaspora*, I will take up some specific problems and issues in incorporating interfaith dialog into our various ministries. Among our topics will be not just the major religions, such as Hinduism,

Judaism, Islam or Buddhism, but also other religious groups that may be in even larger numbers in our neighborhoods. I also want to address our attitude toward others, lest we confuse dialog and understanding with evangelism.

Mutual understanding among those of differing beliefs is like peace: We may not be able to change the whole world, but we can change our part of the world. It is also like love: We need not be concerned whether it is returned when offered; what matters more is what we offer than what we receive. And like any other task, we cannot wait for someone else to act, for nothing will happen unless we take the first step. ¶

Look at What's New! *-Bonnie McCulley, Development Officer*

Check out the new look of our FCM website. www.federationofchristianministries.org

The “**Newsletter**” side bar will link you to the *Diaspora*. Download recent and past volumes in adobe pdf format.

The “**Gather to Worship**” side bar link leads to small communities of faith and churches that provide services including times, places and contact information.

The “**Ministries**” and “**Resources**” side bar links include ministers available for weddings, baptism, retreats, spiritual direction, counseling, and contacts for small communities of faith, justice and peace issues, and ministry resources.

The fees associated with your listings and any donations will be applied to marketing FCM online. The website is being strategically placed in Google ads, magazines and search engines so all interested in our community and ministry can connect with us. Thanks for your support!

Check out the new FCM pin: *(Let's keep FCM visible!)*

This lapel pin is well constructed. The yellow is a beautiful gold. The cost is \$10.00 per pin plus a one time fee of \$1.50 shipping and handling (no matter how many pins you order).

Please send name, address, quantity and check or money order made out to Federation of Christian Ministries and mail to: Bonnie McCulley, 5516 Schueller Blvd, Sheffield Village, OH 44054



Name: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____

City/State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____

REMINDER: Please fill out the *Online Ministry Listing Information* on **Pages 9-10** of this *Diaspora*. Your listing will be removed if not received by January 31st, 2007. (If you have already sent your information, check the website for the listing(s)). Thanks.

REMEMBER: Email Bonnie at bjmc27@aol.com with any changes in your information. The information must remain up-to-date at all times for people attempting to contact you for your services!!! Thanks for giving this your ongoing attention.



Her Story

by Deborah Burke

MICHAELITA QUINN

Talk about serious traveling.

Michaelita Quinn has journeyed from religious life, where she was a teacher and vice principal, to nonprofit and business management, where she rose from director to vice president to executive vice president to president. Fourteen years ago, she started a consulting firm working with colleges, nonprofits, businesses and the religious order she left 35 years ago. In 2001, while still working full time, Michaelita and her husband, Tom Quinn, became vice presidents of FCM's Northeast Region.

Through each journey and each reinvention, Michaelita has focused on helping people develop and grow. It is her gift and her calling.

She was born Evelyn Boschert in a small town in western Maryland and into a Catholic family, the second of four children. In 1954, after graduating from high school, she entered the School Sisters of Notre Dame (SSND), her teachers for 12 years. "The SSNDs were excellent teachers," she says. "And they made sure that those who entered were excellent teachers, too."

She took Michaelita as her religious name in memory of her younger brother who died when he was five. It means "Little Michael." The SSNDs sent her to college in Baltimore where she earned a Bachelor's degree in mathematics while she taught elementary school. She was moved to the Order's high school, began her Master's degree in mathematics in Boston, and was promoted to vice principal. Then in 1971, she left religious life.

"Some people had a negative experience in their community, but I am not one of them," she explains. "During my 17 years in the community, I think I became the person I was to be in terms of my personal and spiritual development. I owe a lot to them." When she left, she decided to keep her religious name.

In 1972, she married Tom, who had been Novice Master in the Trinitarians. They moved to Philadelphia where Michaelita earned her Doctorate in Educational Administration and became director of Career Education for the nonprofit Research for Better Schools, Inc. She left in 1979 to be with her mother who became ill with cancer and was given three months to live.

At this transition point, Michaelita decided on a new path. She left nonprofits for the business world. The Bradford Schools, Inc. hired her to open and direct a start-up business school which took market share from the Philadelphia leader in business schools—Katharine Gibbs. Seeing her potential, the New York-based Katharine Gibbs Schools, Inc. recruited her to be vice president over their seven schools and colleges which she then helped to increase to eleven. She and Tom moved to New York City where Michaelita's career took a swift upward climb.

While in New York, Tom earned his MSW and fulfilled license requirements to become a counselor. Tom has been in private practice as a psychotherapist for 17 years.

Michaelita, however, never stopped traveling. She held executive positions in two other national companies, including president of Kaplan Education Centers, before opening

her own consulting business. Because her first and true love is education, she now specializes in consulting with colleges and universities, including many Catholic colleges.

She has come full circle. The SSNDs asked her to be a trustee at their college, one of ten board appointments on her resume. But when they asked Michaelita to work with their vocation directors on marketing efforts to attract young women to the community, she was amazed and fascinated. She accepted the challenge pro bono. "This is a way to give back to the community where I spent 17 very important years of my life," she says.

When the couple moved to Connecticut in 1989, it took them seven weeks to find the Benedictine Grange, a spirituality center of about 250 members who come together every Sunday for liturgy. "We have found here a community we will stay with," she says.

Tom joined FCM in 1991 and was certified in 1992. When asked, the couple agreed to complete a two-year vice presidential term for the Northeast Region. At that time, Michaelita joined FCM to support Tom's interest in being connected with other married priests and because FCM supports couples in leadership positions. They were elected to their first 3-year term in 2003 and were re-elected in 2006.

As VPs, they first developed a survey to assess interest. "We found what members wanted was to get together with each other." Since 2004, 20 regional meetings have been held all across the northeast. Michaelita and Tom attend every meeting, which follows a similar

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format: mingle and talk individually; listen as a group to what people are doing; receive the latest FCM news; have liturgy or a prayer service; and, share a meal. The number of people who now want to host a meeting has more than doubled. The couple also chaired the 2003 FCM assembly and they will chair the first-ever joint conference for FCM with three other organizations in 2008.

“We take our role in FCM seriously,” Michaelita says. “FCM takes a lot of time but it is time we want to give.” She shares something she learned from her mother: “If you’re going to do something, do it well or not at all.”

It’s no wonder that Michaelita, 70, and Tom, 76, want to cut back on their professional careers to spend more time together and with their families. They continue to travel the path of

developing human potential—their own and wherever their gifts are needed. They want to keep working—because they love their work—but reduce the volume. “People are reinventing retirement, but it all boils down to doing what you want to do and not what you feel you have to do,” she says.

The journey continues. ¶

Spiritual Healing

by Daniel C. O’Rourke
Cassadaga, NY 14718

This article was originally delivered by Dan at the Lily Dale Auditorium on June 26, 2005.



Introduction

This morning I would like to talk about healing. I have questions both for me and for you. Is spiritual healing spiritual? I think

so, but is it only spiritual? Should it be only spiritual? In what way is it spiritual? Can we make it more spiritual? I want us to think about healing, how and where it touches our own lives, how it can touch other lives, how it might more effectively reach our sick world, and how we can use it in our own spiritual journey.

The Temple

Always presuming that the Infinite Spirit is behind it all, the first thing I want to say is that here in Lily Dale, New York, the first part of the healing experience is not the healers, their touch, or even the ministering spirits but the temple itself. God uses that sacred place to relax us, to center us, to focus us, to heal us. The silence, the

soothing music, the stained glass windows calm us. The place itself slows us down, steadies our breathing, and lowers our blood pressure. The temple is the first healer.

Therapeutic Touch

The second factor in the process is the healer’s touch. There are, as many of you are aware, learned books on therapeutic touch. Today’s nurses and doctors are often taught it in training. Mothers instinctively know how important touch is for their babies. Good parents frequently cuddle and hold their children. For those loving touches bear the healing energy of God, who the Scripture tell us is love itself. (1 John 4:8) But it is not only infants who need to be touched.

Let me tell you a story. A middle-aged man was about to undergo open-heart surgery. He was being prepped for his operation. The night before the head nurse had spoken with him, the cardiologist had talked with him, and the surgeon came and explained the procedure. Finally, the morning of the surgery the anesthesiologist appeared at his bedside. The patient was apprehensive and worried. The anesthesiologist like the other professionals was reassuring and encouraging, but something else happened. Before the anesthesiologist left the hospital room, he put his hand on the patient’s chest, looked him in the eye and said gently, “Don’t you worry; we will take good care of you.”

When that happened, the patient said, he felt his body fill with warmth and

his spirit with confidence. The touch was healing. It was loving, compassionate and caring. It brought to that anxious patient the healing energy of a loving God. We Americans don’t touch enough. And it does not have to be a smothering Spanish abrazo. It could be a light touch to the elbow, a hand on a shoulder, a gentle pat on the back.

I’m not getting into the Spiritualist Churches’ rubrics or legal controversies here. Rules and rubrics often distract us from the essential message. Whether or not healers actually touch the physical body or work within the aura, the hand of the healer is an instrument, which focuses the healing Energy of God.

Prayer

Besides the temple’s ambiance and the healer’s touch, prayer is another factor in the process. Both the healer and the healee should pray. I’m not suggesting prayers of petition here. I don’t mean, “O God, please unclog my cardiac arteries: O Infinite Spirit, please stop the pain in my head.” I’ve said those kinds of prayers myself; we all have. Here, though, I mean wordless prayer: a resting before the Infinite Energy that has the power to restore us. The healer and the one to be healed should center themselves quietly, silently, awaiting the Spirit’s touch.

Prayer can be powerful and effective. Prayer energy, moreover, can be focused, directed and targeted by our intentions and gestures towards our own needs or others’ needs.

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Spirits

I have saved the best players for last. After the temple, the touch, and the prayer, the angels, guides, and spirits surround and are intimately involved in the healing process. The spirits of both those being healed and those healing gather round the bench to help channel the healing energy.

Infinite Spirit uses all that, but I have yet another question. What exactly is being healed in us? The answer is, we are healed in body, soul, mind and psyche. The Divine Energy touches all those elements in us that make us human.

Body and Soul

We are wounded in all our parts and should remember that. It's not just our arthritic knee, stiff neck or slipped disks that need healing; the lack of forgiveness in our souls, the insecurities in our psyches, our inflated egos, and our self-centeredness require it even more. And it is precisely that healing of our souls that makes us more effective, happier human beings.

When people come to my healing bench they sometimes tell me, and sometimes I ask, if there are any special needs. Most often they say my knee, my elbow or sinuses — that's understandable and human, and I work with that. But the ones I remember most vividly are the ones who request healing for their spirits.

One man, whom I asked, looked at me and said simply, "healing for my marriage." Those words spoke volumes. I remember a woman telling me, "I just need a cleansing for my soul." Yet another said sadly, "My heart is broken with grief."

At times all of us need that kind of spiritual healing and should seek it. We should open ourselves to the energy of God and ask that it shine into the painful, shadowed corners of our souls. Such healing makes us more whole, more giving, more forgiving and understanding.

I remember long ago seeing an inscription engraved over the entrance to a hospital. It read: "The body is often curable; the soul is always so."

Bodily healing has its limitation, but there are no limitations on the healing of our spirits. And our spirits are more important. It is much more important to heal the hate in our heart than the migraine in our head. And perhaps in the mystery of it all they are inextricably and mysteriously related.

Healing for Those Not Present

The healing energy of God is powerful. And if our faith is strong enough we can send it anywhere. We don't have to be in the healing temple. We don't have to physically touch. The recipient could be a continent away. There are no effective barriers to divine energy. Infinite Spirit, unlike us, is not limited by space and time.

So if we have a healing mindset and are motivated by a sincere desire to help, we can by our prayer and intention send healing to anyone, anywhere.

We Are All Healers

Up to this point we've been talking of healers as if they were a special class. Admittedly, all healers have some training and many have special gifts, but in reality we are all healers.

We can be healers by our smiles, by our gestures, by our encouraging words. If we can tame our egos and self-absorption, we can touch each other often in loving, healing ways. Or more accurately, the Infinite Spirit God can use us to channel the divine energy to those we meet in our every day lives.

Our very presence could be healing. Our daily contacts could be healing. Whether we are conscious of it or not, our lives could bring light, and joy, stillness — and ultimately the healing Presence of God.

In that way we can help heal each other's insecurities, anxieties, and worries. One kind word, the Japanese proverb tells us, can warm three winter months. We should speak more kind words.

We should whisper them to our spouses, tell them to our children, and speak them to our friends. We should say them to our minister at church, our colleagues at work, or the retail clerks

in the mall. Everyone, regardless of their role or position needs affirmation and encouragement. For we all need healing.

Healing of the Earth

Healing, however, is not just for human bodies, minds, psyches and spirits. It is also for society and the earth itself.

When we heal or receive healing, we should direct it also to Mother Earth and its plants and animals. The earth surrounds and sustains our life. She is creation's most precious gift. We should cherish, protect and heal her — and not in our shortsighted greed — poison and destroy her.

Healing of the Political System

On Wednesday evenings during the off-season the Healing Temple's service always concludes the same way. Those present form a circle, join hands and sing, "Let there be peace on earth." It's a fitting end to the healing. For healing is not just for individuals. It's for the earth.

By our intentions and prayer we can send that healing energy of God to those places on earth that need it most: to Iraq and Afghanistan, to Darfur in the Sudan, to Zimbabwe — where innocents and children are being incinerated in war and starved in famine. Just as we can send it to the military who are been killed and wounded even now as we gather here.

In our safety and affluence we should not forget our sisters and brothers who suffer because of terror, war, prejudice or tribal hate. We are all healers and should direct our healing to the sick and dying and to all who need the healing energy of God.

Conclusion

Healing is the jewel in Spiritualism's crown. It is the most generous, non-commercial and rewarding of its ministries. We should embrace it more often and more widely. We should employ it for both our physical and spiritual needs. We should use it to combat famine and war. We should use often it in our spiritual journeys. ¶

ON-LINE MINISTRY SERVICE AD

PLEASE GO TO: www.federationofchristianministries.org/ministry.html and review your information. Please email this form back to me at bjmc27@aol.com with your information or mail form with check to: Bonnie McCulley, FCM Development Officer, 5516 Schueller Blvd, Sheffield Village, OH 44054.

NOTE: RENEW BY JANUARY 31TH OR YOUR INFORMATION WILL BE DELETED. (I must hear from you even if your information is to remain the same) **THANKS.**

FREE MINISTRY LISTING

Listings are grouped by states under a general category.
Your NAME, CITY, STATE, PHONE, E-MAIL and LINK to your web site.

I would like to be listed or keep my listing in the on-line Directory.

Name: _____ City/ _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail _____ Web Site _____

Under which category(ies) (Select all that apply)

Wedds-Bapts-Funerals Retreats-Workshops-Talks Spiritual Direct-Counseling-Inner Healing
 Peace & Justice-Solidarity Faith Communities

ENHANCED OPTIONS - Prices listed below: (Placed in Special Highlighted Box)

\$10.00 (up to 100 words) **\$15.00** with text, picture, logo, or bus. card and up to 100 words)

Type or Print below- Or use a separate sheet of paper.

(Remember: Check off each category listed above that you wish your enhanced ad placed)

GATHER AROUND TO WORSHIP LISTING

DO YOU HAVE A WORSHIP FAITH COMMUNITY OR CHURCH? WOULD YOU LIKE TO LET OTHERS KNOW WHEN YOU HAVE WORSHIP SERVICES? PLACE A SPECIAL AD. A SPECIAL LINK IS AVAILABLE ON THE FCM HOME PAGE.

CATEGORY: \$5.00 without picture/logo \$10 with picture/logo

Worship Church Communities (Please list NAME of CHURCH or WORSHIP COMMUNITY, ADDRESS, CITY and STATE, ZIP CODE. Contact person(s). Phone Number(s), emails, website, and DAYS/TIMES OF WORSHIP SERVICES. (see website for example- accessed on home page).

FCM MERCHANDISE LISTING

Are you an author and/or and artist? Would you like to sell your items? Please fill out the section below.

General Listing with a link back to you.

Title/Type of Item _____ Author/Artist _____

Preferable contact: (Circle one only: web site, email, phone, or address) _____

Brief Description of Content:

General Category of Content: (Check One):

Enrichment Weddings Liturgies Artwork Inspiration Inner Healing
 Relationships Other _____

Cost: \$5.00 \$10.00 with picture of item

Please send a copy of this form with pictures, logos, business cards with your payment to the address below. You can also send information via email (including pictures). A confirmation and invoice will be sent to you for your files.

PLEASE SEND FORM WITH PAYMENT TO:

Checks: Federation of Christian Ministries

Bonnie McCulley, (Development Officer)
5516 Schueller Blvd
Sheffield Village, Oh 44054

OUR COSTS SUPPORT THE FCM WEBSITE AND MARKETING COSTS.
DONATIONS ARE VERY MUCH APPRECIATED.
THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT.

Pass on the good news of FCM
Remember to Order the FCM Membership Pin



R A C A R I N G



- **A glorious Spring weekend of self care for chaplains, hospice workers and volunteers.**
- **Learn and share techniques and rituals for self renewal.**
- **Do more than avoid burnout! Enrich yourself on all levels; spiritual, physical and emotional.**

**May 18-20 on the beautiful campus of
Louisville Presbyterian Seminary**

Sponsored by the Federation of Christian Ministries.

Keynote Address: “Positive Living and Hospice” by Bob Mueller

Bob is the Vice President of the Hospice Foundation of Louisville and a wonderfully engaging speaker. He is a monthly contributing author to “Today’s Woman “ magazine and the author of two books: Look Forward Hopefully and The Gentle Art of Caring. Bob’s deep presence to all dimensions of human service combine with a rich sense of humor to renew his audience, while providing practical tools for richer, healthier daily living.

RACING - There will be the opportunity to enjoy some live horse racing on Saturday afternoon. The first four folks to register from outside Kentucky will receive **free tickets** to **Churchill Downs**. Churchill Downs has a website www.churchilldowns.com

Panel Discussion on making the most of your Time as a Volunteer

This panel discussion and a related workshop will be invaluable to retirees and those planning retirement or any other transition in which human service is a heartfelt priority. Participants will be sent a “transition inventory,, to be returned prior to the workshop. This will allow us to personalize and optimize this segment. (So please include email address on registration)

Agenda will include the following and more:

Friday, May 18 3:00-5:00 registration, 5:15-6:30 a patio grill-out followed by opportunities for a wide variety of self care rituals and practices: walking meditation, Tonglen, writing, ritualizing in-car transitions, Reiki, Emotional Release Therapy, centering meditation, breathing and smiling, sensory awakening, anchoring. This will be informal

Saturday, May 19 at Laws Lodge will include breakfast, lunch and evening dessert gathering. Keynote by Bob Mueller, panel discussion for retirees and other volunteers, morning, early afternoon and evening workshops on Tonglen meditation, Calling on Angels, Writing for release and growth, mandalas and walking meditation. Churchill Downs trip around 3:00PM

Sunday, May 20 – breakfast – A Celebration of Embracing the Divine Self.
Group discussion for integration, follow-up, evaluation, networking.

continued on next page...

REGISTRATION

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____
Zip: _____ Phone: _____
Email: _____

Registration fee covers Friday evening grill-out, Saturday breakfast, breaks, lunch, Sunday breakfast, all workshops and presentations.

Early Registration:

Register by February 15, 2007 for \$ 80.00

Register after February 15 for \$ 100.00

Churchill Downs tickets are not included. At the track they range from \$2.00 to \$9.00. People from the local hospice organization will help with transportation to the track.

Mail registration with check to:

Mary McGrath
4216 West 23rd St.
Cleveland, Ohio 44109

FCM is pursuing CEU credits, but arrangements are not finalized at this time.

For further information including partial scholarships contact
Mary McGrath, FCM V.P. for Great Lakes Region
Email: mary_mcgrath@adelphia.net
Phone: (216)741-6128

LODGING:

There are may be a few rooms available at Laws Lodge for \$58.00 +tax. Tell them you are there for the Hospice Self Care conference. www.lpts.edu/Rentals/LawsLodge

Other nearby lodging suggestions:

Breckenridge Inn Exit 18A off I-264 (502) 456-5050 www.breckinridgeinn.com

Holiday Inn 3255 Bardstown Rd. 1-800-HOLIDAY

Ramada Inn 1041Zorn Ave. Exit2 on I71 (502)897-5101

Other area attractions;

Kentucky Derby Museum

704 Central Avenue
Louisville, KY 40208

Kentucky Museum of Art and Craft

715 West Main Street
Louisville, KY 40202

Louisville Science Center

727 West Main Street
Louisville, KY 40202

Louisville Slugger Museum & Factory

800 West Main Street
Louisville, KY 40202

Muhammad Ali Center

144 North 6th Street
Louisville, KY 40202

The Speed Art Museum

2035 South Third Street
Louisville, KY 40202

MEMBERSHIP IN FCM IS BASED ON THE FOLLOWING REPRESENTATIONS

It is the position of FCM that each member of FCM holds primary responsibility for maintaining appropriate professional and personal boundaries with regard to sexuality in all ministerial relationships. It is also assumed that when a person joins FCM that he/she has attained emotional and sexual maturity thereby allowing the FCM member to minister comfortably with persons of any age or gender who may come for assistance.

It is the belief of FCM members that human sexuality is a gift from God. As members of FCM, we dedicate ourselves to the highest standards of ethical conduct in all of our ministries. We pledge ourselves to the health and wholeness of all people of every age and gender in the communities we serve and we commit ourselves to forming open, honest, respectful, caring relationships with the individuals therein.

Therefore, membership in FCM is based on the following representations, and the signature of the member will indicate understanding of, and agreement with, these standards.

Please circle Yes or No to the following questions. If your answer is Yes to any of them, please give full particulars on a separate sheet of paper for your application to be considered

- 1. Have you ever been convicted of or charged with a crime in any state or country, the disposition of which was other than acquittal or dismissal? (A juvenile finding of responsibility or involvement, or similar determination, shall be explained as if it were an adult conviction. Any probation before verdict or similar disposition program shall be fully documented as well.) Yes No
2. Has any certifying or licensing board or professional ethics body in any state or country ever required you to surrender your license or certificate or found you guilty of a violation of ethics codes, professional misconduct, unprofessional conduct, incompetence or negligence (including alternative dispute resolution cases)? Yes No
3. Are there any complaints, charges or investigations by any certifying or licensing board or professional ethics body pending against you in any state or country for violation of ethics codes, professional misconduct, unprofessional conduct, incompetence or negligence (including alternative dispute resolution cases)? Yes No
4. Have you ever had any insurance company or Lloyd's decline, cancel, refuse to renew or accept only on special terms any professional liability insurance? Yes No
5. Has any professional liability claim or suit ever been made against you (including alternative dispute resolution cases)? Yes No
6. Are there any circumstances of which you are aware that may result in any professional liability claim or suit being made against you (including alternative dispute resolution cases)? Yes No
7. Have you ever been accused of sexual misconduct with any of your current or former clients including but not limited to spiritual direction clients, mental health clients, or any other persons with whom you have had a professional, pastoral or other similar relationship of confidence and trust, or with any current or former client's spouse or with any person in a close personal relationship to the client or former client (for example, a guardian, blood relative or the client or spouse of any person sharing the client's domicile)?For purposes of this inquiry, "client" shall include, but is not limited to, persons with whom you have or have had, at any time, any professional, penitential or any other pastoral relationship. Yes No

The Federation of Christian Ministries does not assume nor accept responsibility for the actions and practices nor the results therefrom of any of its ministers, present or past.

The applicant/renewal member hereby represents that to the best of his/her knowledge the statements set forth herein are true. If the information supplied herein changes between the date of application and the time when the FCM membership/renewal is issued, or subsequently at any time the applicant/renewal member remains a member of FCM, the applicant/renewal member shall immediately notify FCM.

WAIVER AND RELEASE FORM

I know that membership in FCM is based on the above representations, and my signature below indicates the understanding of, and the agreement with, these standards. By submitting this form, I consent to the exchange of information and documents among any and all persons, institutions, individuals, licensing agencies, and federal and state governmental bodies with whom I have been associated that are material to evaluating and monitoring my professional practices, qualifications, competence, morality and ethics.

I also understand that the Federation of Christian Ministries will rely upon the information given in this form to admit me to membership in the Federation.

I also agree to inform the Federation of any changes or modifications to the information provided herein, so that at all times the Federation will have accurate and current information.

Date _____

Print Name _____

Signature _____

This application/renewal does not bind either FCM or the applicant/renewal member. However, it is agreed that this form shall be an integral part of the contract should membership be issued and will be attached to and made part of the application/renewal criteria. This application/renewal must be signed, dated, fully completed and accompanied by the required fee.

CIRCLE OF DIRECTORS

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cartomhl@earthlink.net

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203-792-6968
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**Circle of Directors Meeting:
March 9-11, 2007 – St. Louis, MO**

Directory of Members

2006 Directory of Members is organized by regions. For a free copy: contact Sherry Mullins to download a PDF version. Contact Central Office for CD version \$5.00, also in PDF or printed copy in full color \$10.00.

CERTIFICATION

The certification dates correspond with the Circle of Director's Meeting and is posted in the *Diaspora*.

FCM Central Registry

The FCM Central Registry for Baptism, Marriage and Holy Unions is managed by Paul Reithmaier, 7515-K Triwoods Dr., Shrewsbury, MO 63119. Forms are available from Paul or can be printed from the regional website <http://home.att.net/~fcmmp>. A small donation to cover the cost of maintaining the service is appreciated.

Global Ministries Univ.

GMU offers degrees completion programs, certificates, courses online. FCM members are eligible for a 5% discount on degree programs. For more information, call: 760 238-7570, email:

info@GlobalMinistriesUniversity.org

Or visit web site:

www.GlobalMinistriesUniversity.org

FCM Certificates

These lovely certificates are available from the Central Office. Please specify your choice: Baptism, Marriage, Holy Union and the number you need. The certificates are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00. Each is printed on certificate weight paper in blue ink and carry the FCM logo and seal.

DIASPORA

Please direct any corrections, questions or comments to Deborah Burke at dmburke510@sbcglobal.net. Any article or picture submissions should be made to Jennell at jen@digiforce.net.

DIASPORA is published bi-monthly by the Federation of Christian Ministries, a Non-Profit Organization. *Diaspora* is the informational publication of the Federation of Christian Ministries. Its mission is to keep members current with the organization and its activities, to provide ideas to further ministry and to further community building among local FCM groups and the national organization. All current members receive a copy. *Diaspora* is published bi-monthly and welcomes articles and feedback from all readers. To be published in a timely manner, information needs to be submitted by 9 am at the end of the months of February, April, June, August, October and December (due date emailed and may change without notice).