

EAST CENTRAL REGION, ACPE

Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio & Pittsburgh, PA.

Website Address: www.ecracpe.org

March 2010

CAN YOU BELIEVE. . . ?

Dennis Kenny, Regional Director

That another lovely 'spring' regional meeting was held at Hueston Woods?

It felt like a good meeting with a lot of time for challenge and discussion, informal and formal. Good job to all who helped organize it. I very much appreciated the installation, the good words and hugs from the region but I have to tell you even I got tired of hearing about and from me. I feel installed now so thanks!

As promised here are the stats from the national office on training in our region as it compares to the numbers in other regions.

REGION	TOTALS	LEVEL I	LEVEL II	SUPERVISORY
EASTERN	935	666	231	38
EAST CENTRAL	834	601	198	35
MID-ATLANTIC	746	419	295	32
NORTH CENTRAL	1,059	720	301	38
NORTH EAST	256	198	50	8
PACIFIC	1,053	691	296	66
SOUTH CENTRAL	492	323	151	18
SOUTH EAST	1,038	716	289	33
SOUTH WEST	1,089	714	327	48
	7502	5048	2138	316

People and Places

Care and concern to **Rhonda Gilligan-Gillespie** on the death of her grandmother. Candidates and others who will be appearing before Certification in April: **Don Chase, Ron Compton, Deborah Damore** and **Stacy Kenney**. Good luck and best wishes to them on this part of their journey. Blessings and best wishes to **Donna Farrar** and her family as they leave Lexington and head east.

Fundraising and Property News

We have made a counter offer of a sizeable reduction from the original offer on the property in Decatur and are waiting for a response from the seller. Meanwhile FCPE (Foundation for Clinical Pastoral Education) is working very hard to secure the money to purchase the property outright. It should be neck and neck to the finish line.

Thanks to **Ralph Carpenter, Ann Letson** and **Isaac Njuguna** for suggesting names of possible donors who could help ACPE and its vision. If others know of someone or you would like to contribute to the efforts please contact me or the FCPE directly. The members of the organization are the ones who will make this a successful effort.

A real concern on this matter is that only 10% of the membership has designated annual gifts to ACPE. Please consider

including the organization in your annual giving. We aren't used to doing that yet but our annual gifts become very important.

Conclusion

If you didn't attend the regional meeting, we missed you. Please stay connected for information, education and peer review.

Love Dennis

Email: RD@ecracpe.org; Ph:216-312-6145

SURVEY

REPRESENTATION AND NOMINATION COMMITTEE (RANC)

Ted Hodge, Chair
ACPE RANC

Members of the ECR: As chair of RANC, I am asking if you would take a few moments out of your busy schedule to participate in an on-line survey. It is simple, contains 22 questions and should take less than 5 minutes to complete. The survey will help ACPE measure and meet the goals that the Board set at its fall 2009 meeting. The survey is anonymous.

Motion #80: "... RANC be instructed to increase the membership of persons of racial, ethnic, multicultural heritage (PREMH) in ACPE Leadership at regional and national levels by the following plan:

2011 10%
2012 20%
2013 25%

To take the survey click on the following link: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/S6ZCXN6>
[If the link does not work, type in the address]

Thank you in advance for participating in the survey!
Ted Hodge thodge@bhsi.com

PASTORAL CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS

At the Hueston Woods conference, **Donna Farrar** announced she would be leaving the region as she accepted the position as Director of Spiritual Health at George Washington University Hospital in Washington, D.C. Donna has been a member of this region since 1982. She expressed her appreciation to members of the region and invited everyone to visit her in Washington, although not all at once. Our prayers and best wishes go with **Donna, Palmer, Andalyn** and their fur companions as they move from Lexington, KY to Washington, D.C. to begin a new chapter in their lives.

REFLECTIONS OF THE 23RD REM INVITATIONAL FEBRUARY 3-6, 2010, SAN ANTONIO, TX

My 2010 Racial Ethnic Multicultural Network (REM) Experience Chaplain Clara Anderson

The 2010 REM Invitational was the first conference that I have attended in any capacity with the Association for Clinical Pastoral Education since becoming a Resident Chaplain. The event was educational, enlightening, and empowering for me as a front end baby boomer who witnessed the oppression of not only Black women, but all women all over the world. When I saw the theme; "Living in a Post-Racial Society? Race, Ethnicity, Diversity and Empowerment in Clinical Pastoral Education," I knew I had to be in San Antonio for the event. I did not arrive until Thursday, but immediately I noticed how friendly and helpful everyone was, especially since I had to find a breakout group because I was not there in time for the first Plenary.

Plenary II and Plenary IV by Dr. Namsoon Kang, PhD was powerful as she told her story about leaving Germany and her tenure as an Asian woman and professor. She introduced us, or me to new concepts and how we are becoming people of multiple identities, identity beyond identity as we continue to evolve. Dr. Kang also gave us something to think about and talk about in our breakout groups when she stated that sometimes "the questions that we ask can be more profound than the answers."

As a Pentecostal Evangelist, we are very familiar with Acts 2:38 in my denomination. However, when Dr. Miguel A. De La Torre took us through several chapters of Acts, and explained how different marginalized groups were added to the church at different times throughout the book of Acts, it was enlightening and I looked at Acts in a different way. The professor also gave us a different slant on the story of Jonah, and I found it so interesting that I was blessed to purchase the last copy of *Liberating Jonah, Forming An Ethics of Reconciliation*.

I was so impressed with Dr. Torre's presentation that I also bought *Reading the Bible from the Margins*, even though I said that I was not going to buy any books at the conference.

I even ran into an old classmate from Christian Theological Seminary who had left Indianapolis and moved to Delaware. We were very surprised and happy to see each other at the REM Conference. I met many new people and contacts at the 2010 conference, and I am looking forward to seeing them again at the REM Conference in Richmond, Virginia in 2011.

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“Living in a Post-Racial Society? Race, Ethnicity, Diversity and Empowerment in Clinical Pastoral Education”
Lieutenant Sherri L. Headen, Chaplain Resident

From the moment I arrived at the airport in San Antonio, I felt confirmation in my heart that I was going to gain a lot from this conference. While waiting at the airport for the shuttle to the Omni Hotel, other Resident Chaplains were waiting as well: an African American female from Newark, Delaware, another African American female from around Dallas and an African American male from Washington, D.C. We all began to share where we were from, where we are in the CPE program, some of our goals and talked about the weather. When we boarded the shuttle, we met two African American CPE Supervisors who immediately introduced themselves. The entire group on the shuttle began to share CPE experiences that are more often than not unique to minorities. I was thinking this is great! We haven't even gotten to the hotel yet and I'm already meeting other residents, CPE Supervisors and learning about their experiences, laughing, not feeling like I have to do mental editing and having fun. Immediately from the time at the airport and beyond two of these Resident Chaplains and I were together throughout the majority of the conference. We discussed Dr. Namsoon Kang's and Dr. Miguel De La Torre's presentations in our group of three and in our break-out group sessions.

Dr. Namsoon Kang:

I was glad to see an Asian female Professor and Theologian present in this conference. I was extremely impressed by Dr. Kang's numerous accomplishments. Rev. Yoke Lye Kwong provided me the opportunity to research Dr. Namsoon's background. I was astounded and impressed by the number of books and articles she has written, positions she has held and currently holds and being a distinguished Professor and Theologian. The fact that I have been training, growing and receiving valuable guidance from Rev. Yoke Lye Kwong, an Asian female CPE Supervisor, for the last year and a half has fostered my profound respect, admiration and openness to learn from Dr. Kang.

In my opinion, Dr. Kang's approach was a wholistic, humanistic approach. Dr. Kang's words, “overcoming the tyranny of binarism: we-they; self-other; reason-emotion; theory-action; spirit-body; men-women; white-color.” In other words, humanity doesn't see itself as one, but always in groupings. To actually accomplish a “post-racial society” humanity needs to overcome this tyranny of separation. Dr. Kang provided in-depth reasons for this separation and things humanity can do in the journey to overcome this separation mindset.

I don't believe on this side of eternity, until Jesus returns that humanity will ever live in a “post-racial society.” I believe when Jesus splits the sky we will still be striving to attain oneness. Oneness is a state of heart and mind, not the outward color of one's skin. Also, I believe there will still be the existence of different races/ethnicities/gender in the Heavenly Kingdom of God throughout eternity. In Revelation, Chapter 7, v. 9,10 it says, ⁹ “After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could number, all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, with palm branches in their hands, ¹⁰ and crying out with a loud voice, saying, “Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!”

God loves diversity. Diversity/differences have never been the problem. The problem with race relations comes from humankind turning away from God's idea in our hearts and minds. Do I embrace, love and respect someone of a different race as an extension of myself, or do I harbor disdain for that person simply because they're different. By God's grace, I'm growing. I do believe those of us who are talked about in Revelation 7 (By God's grace I plan to be in that number) will have that heart and mind change, hence a Post-Racial Society.

Dr. Miguel A. De La Torre

I really appreciate the authentic honesty and straight approach of Dr. De La Torre's presentations in this conference. I found myself trying not to shout "Amen" back at him while he was presenting, but I did it anyway. I felt validated and affirmed in my anger as an African American woman about injustice towards African Americans and other minority groups. Dr. De La Torre presented significant Hispanic history in this country (as the United States) and before a Euro American government formed the United States. He talked about how the Euro Americans took over significant amounts of land where Latin Americans/Hispanics resided in the formation of this country's borders. He also discussed the Euro American (United States) influence in the banana industry (Banana Republic) within the borders of Mexico/Latin America. How this industry has caused oppression, imprisonment, war and death of countless Latin Americans/Hispanics.

One of the topics discussed in my breakout group session after Dr. De La Torre's presentation was whether or not "color blindness" exists. Is the statement, "I don't see color, I just see the person," possible? My verbalized opinion was/is no. It's not possible for someone not to see one's color (racial/ethnic group). This statement has been verbalized to me a few times in the past. This statement frustrated me because I felt like the individuals were lying to me and themselves. Not seeing my color is not seeing me. I am an African American woman and I'm happy to be such, so please don't tell me you don't see me. I believe when people say this, it's another one of the "politically correct" statements which they have adopted and I believe a precious few actually believe they don't see color. Another thing I appreciated about Dr. De La Torre is his willingness to say he's angry. I was so happy to hear him say this in response to inquiries about his approach. He was professional and pastoral in his response, yet straight to the point. I have had the awesome privilege of hearing this well known and accomplished Professor/Theologian admit his anger concerning racial injustice as well as journeying under the tutelage of my CPE Supervisor Rev. Yoke Lye Kwong who has used her anger for injustice as fuel to be an agent for change.

Overall, attending the REM Invitational allowed me to experience the conscious effort and growth in diversified pastoral care to those whom we serve and one another in ACPE. I pray that future REM Invitational conferences will continue to allow those who are positive pastoral agents of change in the racial, ethnic and multicultural realm to share their history, knowledge, wisdom and experiences so we can be living, human documents to one another instead of harshly rejecting differences. Ultimately, we are all a part of this beautiful diversified human family.

Also, I want to thank Rev. Yoke Lye Kwong, Dr. Harry Simmons and the Rev. Vickie Johnson for the opportunity to attend the REM Invitational, without you it would not have been possible.

Chaplain (Elder) Sherri L. Headen, M.Div.
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Racial Ethnic Multicultural Network Conference 2010 - Reflection Sheryl J. Nicholson

During the winter of 2010, I received a scholarship to attend the 23rd REM network conference that was held in San Antonio, Texas, from February 3-6, 2010. As a third time attendee, I waited with great anticipation to see what nuggets I would take away from this conference.

The conference proved to be enlightening and was filled with: education, breakout group discussions, interfaith services, and cultural excursions. The theme of the conference was: "Living in a Post-Racial Society? Race, Ethnicity, Diversity and Empowerment in Clinical Pastoral Education." I had an opportunity to reunite with past acquaintances and network with new ones. Each speaker brought to the conference his/her diverse flavor.

The conference opened with the first plenary speaker, theologian Rev. Miguel A. De La Torre, PhD. Dr. De La Torre spoke from his heart as he shared his personal journey from Cuba to America. As he shared his pain, I sensed deep anger and a harsh tone with which he spoke. I listened with empathy to his experience as I myself traveled from the Caribbean island of Jamaica to the U.S. The words that stood out for me from his speech were: "My Jesus knows my pain living in a foreign land." I felt comfort knowing that he was able to name his feeling of pain. I too have felt pain as I have been marginalized as well as experienced sexism and racism. However, not to negate my feelings, I would like to name my coping mechanism, which is found in the words of the song: "Through it all, I have learned to trust in Jesus, I have learned to depend upon His words."

The highlight for me at the conference was the banquet and the thought-provoking words that were shared by the Rev. Dr. Claudette Anderson Copeland. Rev. Copeland started out by saying, "I don't want to disappear in order not to be with you. I want to bring to the table all that I have-freedom in my plate. I don't want to erase myself to be with you or you to

erase yourself to be with me.” As she made her delivery in an even tone, I was captivated by the content of her speech. She then went on to say, “We should be rich with diversity and learn from our Asian and Appalachian brothers and sisters. As we become more aware of race—that will add value to our uniqueness.” She reminded us that “Terrible and wonderful things have happened to us all.” For example, in her reference to Antoine Boison, she pointed out that “Alongside his madness was ministry making use of a flow in a “world of private parts” for all of us where grace and peace belong.” Rev. Copeland further mentioned Boison’s crisis—“the death of his mother, his disquieted affair and his sickness.” “Crisis is what matters most,” she adds, “when a person’s faith is hanging in the balance.” I agreed with her as she made reference to inner-personal relationships and the inner world. She then exclaimed [“To anything I say, must matter to the inner parts”]!

Alluding to Frederick Buckner, Rev. Copeland spoke about “telling the truth.” She continued to say, “Tell it to the private parts; address ourselves to emptiness and fullness as well, because terrible and wonderful things have happened to us.” She then made a shift in her speech when she commented, “Thoughts mean more than images.”

For me, the meat of her message arose when she addressed CPE. Learning that she herself had gone through the experience of clinical pastoral education and was a former member of ACPE, I believe she was more than qualified to share the information she did. Her rhetorical questions to us were: “CPE, do we exist in a post racial church? If not post racial, perhaps post racist?” Rev. Copeland was careful to explain, “Racist implies to the way power is denied.” She then cautioned, “If it is not post racial perhaps it could be post white.” Rev. Copeland then carefully explained, “CPE operates in a post racial church.” Her questions to us were: “Do we want a post racial society? Is post racial what we really want?” Without giving us an opportunity to respond, Rev. Copeland encouraged us to “Push to see if racial blindness is from an outside source.” However, she reminded us, “Created possibilities bring forth change for better or for worse.” She closed by saying, “As we continue to contend with issues, we should ask what we synthesize from our private parts?” What healthy things can I teach or learn from people I don’t want to be around?” She then pointed out, “Race in America has formed, deformed or/and insulated us from seeing others.” “So what is the question for us?” she asks. Rev. Copeland then commented that, “For too long we have felt there has been none because of the ‘Silence of Opportunity’.” “However for things to be born,” she added, “the walls between religion and illusion must be broken down.”

As I left the conference, I realized that continuing in CPE my challenge remains “What contribution can I make to break down the walls between religion and illusion?”

Sheryl Nicholson
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Living in Post-racial Society: A Reflection on REM Invitational Paul Payway, BCC

I had the opportunity to be in the group that was facilitated by Brenda Jackson, from Trinity Hospital, Chicago, IL. As I reminisce about that experience, at the REM Invitational in San Antonio, I hear Brenda asking the group members to give the reasons of being at REM and then what was stirring in them as they listened to the speakers. My reasons for attending the Invitational were two-fold: as a tradition and for revival/renewal. The Invitational has always been my place of reconnecting to God, re-evaluating my ministry and relationships and reclaiming who I was and becoming.

But I had some ontological and epistemological questioning as I went through the conference. Engaging the topic was important for me ontologically. I think Dr. Torre, Dr. Kang and Dr. Copeland vehemently theologized, and philosophized ontologically the event and its purpose. The questions were, “What does it mean to live in a post-racial society?” or, “Is there anything like post-racial?” Post-racial society—does it mean that there is equilibrium, equality and shared power in race relationship in America; or does it refer to the shift in thoughts and actions in race relationship now. I agree with Dr. Copeland that rather post-racial; it is better to say post-racist society although there are individuals, communities and systems within our society that are still racist. However, it is not as powerful as the KK. We have come a long way but need to go many more miles. We celebrate the headway made thus far, yet, there is need for growth; there are growing edges that need to be addressed.

As Dr. Torre indicated until we treat the strangers among us with dignity and justice, we’re far away from the kingdom of God. He was challenging and vocal about system policies that have adversely affected Hispanic immigrants/immigrants as a whole. He brought scripture alive as he talked about the cross-border plight and immigration. For him the marginalized needs a center and alliances with other marginalized people within the society with system policies geared toward continual marginalization of others.

I also think Dr. Kang’s concept of identity beyond identity of clinical pastoral care-giver was renowned. It was a place of challenge for me. It is where the care-giver pushes the envelope to go beyond what may seem himself/herself, the

stereotypes and biases. As I become aware of my multiple identities—African, Baptist, black, exile, heterosexual, male, etc., I admit that I am not bound by any of them, neither does one of them identify me wholly. I am me and it's me, the human, that is in relationship with others. Because of this concept I am obliged to cross racial/ethnic boundaries; I can intentionally engage others and plant seeds of hope, compassion and change. As hope is created, solidarity is built. And, when solidarity is built then I can gladly say with Paul Celan, "I am you when I am I."

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ACCREDITATION NEWS, NOTES AND – DEADLINES FOR 10-YEAR REVIEWS, SITE VISITS, ETC.

Accreditation Deadlines: For 10 year reviews and any other Accreditation Site Visit requests (e.g., Satellite to Accredited Center) contact Ruth Alpers for deadline information.

- **Reminder:** Satellite Materials (see pages 32-34 in the Accreditation Manual) need to be in at least 30 days before beginning a program at the Satellite center and that a provisional letter must be received from the Accreditation Chair prior to recruiting students.

Direct your questions and/or requests for more information to: Accreditation Chairperson: Rabbi Ruth Alpers, Cincinnati Children's Hospital, Department of Pastoral Care, 3333 Burnet Avenue, MLC 5022, Cincinnati, OH 45229; Ph: 513-636-6999; Fax 513-636-4971; ruth.alpers@cchmc.org.

CERTIFICATION COMMITTEE DEADLINES

The next opportunity to meet the ECR Certification Committee will be Thursday, September 23, 2010, Fort Wayne, IN

- **Application to meet a committee** along with the certification fee must be postmarked by **Thursday, July 29, 2010** to: Frank S. Impicicche, ACPE Supervisor, CPE Coordinator, Clarian Health, 550 University Blvd., UH 1410, Indianapolis, IN 46202-5250. (Office 317-274-7415) (Fax 317-274-7440), fimpicci@clarian.org
- **Materials to committee members** must be postmarked by **Friday, August 27, 2010.**
- Questions/inquiries regarding the Regional Certification Committee to: Frank Impicicche, ACPE Supervisor, Coordinator, CPE, Clarian Health, 550 University Blvd., UH 1410, Indianapolis, IN 46202-5250. (Office 317-274-7415) (Fax 317-274-7440), fimpicci@clarian.org
- Questions/inquiries regarding the National Certification Commission to: Beth Newton Watson, Certification Co-Chair 317-965-9229; Clarian Health, Chaplaincy and Pastoral Education, P.O. Box 1367, WH 230, Indianapolis, IN 46206-1367; bwatson@clarian.org;

REVISED REGIONAL GOVERNANCE MANUAL

Back in February 2005 Daryl Hanson proposed a set of revisions for our regional governance manual. In February 2010, just five short years later, we finally approved a revision of our governance manual! The newly revised manual will be placed on our website, where it will be available for all of our members. If you are in a leadership position in our region, it helps to read this manual, because it can save time in answering questions that may come up for you.

The next step is for our Board of Representatives members from our region, Marla Coulter-McDonald and Frank Impicicche, to bring this to the ACPE Board for approval.

One concrete change is that terms of service for regional offices and committees begin January 1 of the next calendar year. So, all whose terms expire in 2010 will serve through the end of December 2010. Those we elected for the 2013 class will begin their terms on January 1, 2011. (This is the same for national representation, too.) Hopefully this change will simplify our math and clarify any confusion over when people's terms start and finish.

"Thanks" goes to Daryl Hanson for putting together a document five years ago from which we could work. Thanks, too, to Joe Viti and Cal Brand for reviewing the revisions in preparing the final proposal.

A copy of the Governance Manual is available on the Regional Website. Go to the website and click on the Menu item in the Navigation Bar on the left side of the front page that says, "Governance Manual". Then click on the name and you can view or download the Manual.

Karl Van Harn

JOB/EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

- LaRue D. Carter Memorial Hospital, Indianapolis, IN has some openings in its **Summer CPE program**. For more information, i.e., program dates, tuition, etc. contact: Sue Beverly, ACPE Supervisor, Ph: 317-941-4007, or Sue.Beverly@fssa.IN.gov

There were no other announcements received for this newsletter. You may check the regional and national websites for current job postings. [www.ecracpe.org ; www.acpe.edu]

SUPERVISORY EDUCATION IN THE REGION

Associate Supervisors

Don Chase
Deborah Damore
Bill Foster
Susan Harthon
Vickie Johnson
Vera Markovich
Wayne McKenney

Stephen O'Brien

Supervisory Candidates

Jose Albovias
Ron Compton
William Jensen
Stacy Kenney
Peggy Matacale
Frank Nation
Jill Rasmussen-Baker
Sarah Reed
Whit Stodghill
Doug Vardell
Jim Wright

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

- 04/20-24/2010-ACPE Conference, Kansas City MO [see www.acpe.edu for Program information]
- 09/24-25/2010-Fort Wayne Marriott, Fort Wayne, IN [details will be provided as they become available]
- 02/18-19/2011-ECR 'Spring' Conference, Hueston Woods, College Corner, OH [details will be provided as they become available]

OFFICERS OF THE REGION

Dennis E. Kenny, Director
Karl Van Harn, Chair
Judy Ragsdale, Chair Elect
Ruth Alpers, Accreditation
Marla Coulter-McDonald, Board of Reps
Frank Impicciche, Certification Co-Chair [Regional] and Board of Reps
Jim Wright, Budget & Investment
Beth Newton Watson, Certification Co-Chair [National]
Martha Amann, Clinical Members Co-Chair
Stan Mullin, Clinical Members Co-Chair
Lin Barnett, Nominations
David Hurst, History
Yoke Lye Lim Kwong, Professional Ethics
Victoria Johnson, REM
Frank Nation, Secretary
Joe Viti, Standards

DEADLINE FOR NEXT NEWSLETTER-March 31, 2010. Send to: hjoanlyke@yahoo.com or via mail: 7672 Cottonwood Lane, Dexter MI 48130. For more information contact: 734-239-3423.

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