



A Call to Dialogue

Doug Schoeninger

ACT's Ecumenical Relations Sub-Committee of the Spiritual Life Committee (SLC-ERC) wants to draw members into an active interchange regarding views we may have been holding back for fear of offending those of other faith traditions. We think Jesus wants us to talk about what is important to us to help us love more widely and become open to dialogue. Ask yourself: What does Christ want me to share with ACT? What do I want ACT to be? What is my particular gift for ACT?

We wanted to work those views into a series of columns for InterACT, and invite responses dealing with such things as: What is the gift for ACT that I hear in this presentation? Where does it pinch me (i.e., cause resistance in me)? How might Jesus want me to respond to my resistance? We introduced the sharing with the three rules for ethical engagement we use in Board meetings:

- 1) Respond to the ideas of others by first crediting the person and some aspect of his/her idea, expressing what you value in their expression before you introduce what you would do or say differently. By first crediting the other, we show we are open to integrating their "value" in our own proposal. This furthers creativity.*
- 2) Turn complaints or criticisms into proposals. Make input to others in the form of what you would like to say or see accomplished and why.*
- 3) When someone expresses a criticism or complaint ask her/him to turn it into a suggestion or proposal: "What would you like to see done or accomplished?"*

What I want to share with ACT from my Religious Traditions

Douglas Schoeninger, PhD

As a young boy, in an American Baptist Church, I was encouraged to develop a personal relationship with Jesus. While I never heard an adult say, "This is what Jesus communicated with me last night when we were talking together," the hymns we sang and the way we talked assumed a personal relationship. My favorite hymn from those early years goes like this: "And I walk with Him and I talk with Him and He tells me I am His own....." (Title: In the Garden) Somehow all of the personal imagery and lyrics I was steeped in left me with a very warm and personal image of Jesus. He became my interior friend.

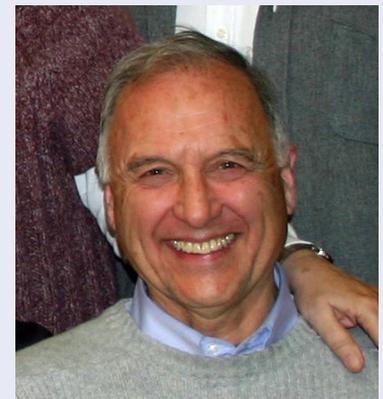
In summer Christian camp at age 7, I was asked—we were asked—to take a walk

alone and converse with Jesus. I think about this today and want to ask the camp counselor who gathered us for this, "What were you thinking?" It seems that she expected us to experience a direct relationship with Jesus. Yet I don't remember her speaking to us about how we might converse with Jesus. Upon returning we were asked to share with her and each other our conversations with Jesus. This left a lasting impression on me: He was alive and talking to me. I could practice this, and I did experience Him talking to me.

He spoke my name, "Doug. You know Me."

I was startled. I could see Him, in my mind's eye, walking with me, and I could receive words in my mind that seemed to come directly from Him.

I appreciate these Baptist beginnings even more today. The capacity to imagine/see



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Jesus next to me, and to "hear" His words to me, has sustained me all of these years. It became, for me, a reliable way of relating to Him. As a psychotherapist, I look to see how He is relating, loving, encouraging, challenging, the person(s) before me, and

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From the President

by Robert T. Sears, S.J., Ph.D.



At our Leadership Retreat and Board meeting in May, we began to realize that we have developed many of the structures and understandings that can move us forward as an association. What we needed was the power and motivation to bring all into action. We needed a new outpouring of the Holy Spirit, a renewed sense of our call from God.

Moved by this awareness, the Board turned to ACT's foundation.

In August 1975, a group of healthcare professionals from different Christian denomina-

tions had gathered to pray, study the Word of God, and share the Holy Eucharist at Mount Saint Augustine Apostolic Center in Staten Island, NY. They received the following prophetic vision: *"Redeem MY people in your hospitals, in your clinics, in your offices. Make them MY hospitals, MY clinics, MY offices. Let ME care for them and bring them health beyond healing. Let ME care for YOU and bring YOU to health, to wholeness, to holiness. Give ME your professional skills, your credentials; Yield them to MY authorization, consecrate them to MY name, for MY glory, and I will be glorified in your healing work."*

This was ACT's founding charism and call, and we decided to put it first as an ongoing motivation to accomplish our vision and mission. It was clear we could not accomplish it without the power of the Holy Spirit, and the prophecy did not give details of how it was to be accomplished. Developing the vision of how it would look in practice was a slow process that has brought us, 38 years later, to our present refocus of our vision/mission. While keeping the basics of our present vision we have highlighted the need for empowerment. We decided on the following reformulation:

ACT's Vision: "An international, ecumenical association of Christian healthcare professionals, clergy, and associates equipped and extending the healing presence, heart, and mind of Jesus Christ to their patients,

clients, colleagues, and institutions, under the power and guidance the Holy Spirit."

We have added three words to clarify and focus our vision: ecumenical (not just generic Christian for we aim to respect and integrate our denominational differences), extending (not just equipped "to extend" for we envision our carrying it out), and power (not just guidance of the Holy Spirit for we need to be empowered).

The mission statement is to provide the resources and means to accomplish the vision. We wanted it to be understandable by itself, but to avoid giving a detailed list of means, but rather list the goals that our resources were to achieve:

ACT's Mission: "To provide resources and support to enable healthcare professionals, clergy, and associates to: **1)** Personally experience the healing power of Jesus Christ; **2)** Integrate their professional skills, spiritual development, healing ministry, and theological understanding; and **3)** Extend the healing presence, heart, and mind of Jesus Christ through their work and ministry."

We felt this statement applied to ACT the implications of the more general 1986 prophetic word: *"Heal MY healers and send them forth to heal MY people."* For ACT members

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In Memory of Chuck Weber

by Reverend Joe Scerbo, S.A., Ph.D

There are times in everyone's life where the flame seems to be snuffed out. But it only takes one person to re-ignite that flame. Chuck Weber was that sort of man; he was also a Board member and past ACT President. Chuck died peacefully August 16th at 5 am in UCLA Medical Hospital.

Chuck, praise God for you! You were part of a great reform in ACT's history. Your funeral testified to your success as a remarkable human being. So many of your doctoral students at USC stood up at our post Mass reception lunch to tell the world how grateful they were. Thank you

for the caring support towards our graduates at Trinity College. Thank you for your initiative spirit which launched movements like Eagles (for young children and teens handicapped). You consistently helped to feed the hungry through Saint Vincent DePaul. You were a man of deep faith and you never gave up going forward even when that awful car tragedy of the 1960's which scarred your body to the extent that restaurants would sometimes not allow you to enter .

You are a model for us all and join ACT in heaven to intercede for the Mission and Vision of ACT.



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The vision of ACT is to be an international, ecumenical association of Christian healthcare professionals, clergy, and associates equipped and extending the healing presence, heart, and mind of Jesus Christ to their patients, clients, colleagues, and institutions, under the power and guidance the Holy Spirit.

The mission of ACT is to provide resources and support to enable healthcare professionals, clergy, and associates to: **1)** Personally experience the healing power of Jesus Christ; **2)** Integrate their professional skills, spiritual development, healing ministry, and theological understanding; and **3)** Extend the healing presence, heart, and mind of Jesus Christ through their work and ministry.

We invite your comments/suggestions, written thoughts, or submissions. We reserve the right to edit submitted articles without notice. Your name can be withheld by request in *InterACT*, but must be included with a contact phone or email when your article is submitted. We also request that a current digital “headshot” photo of you accompany your submission.

Send submissions to:

InterACT Email: mmwrites@san.rr.com

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are not just any healers, but professionals and associates who are to bring a Christ-centered perspective to their profession, and carry it out in a holistic way in their practice. It is that integration of one’s profession, spiritual development, theological understanding, and healing ministry that we felt was a particular strength of ACT that we wanted to further.

We hope that these statements speak to each member of ACT, for the unified support of every member is what is needed to fully empower ACT to carry out its call. We still need to make more precise the particular goals to stress in our new strategic plan such as reaching out for younger members, developing ways to make our resources available via the internet, developing the gifts and empowerment of the Holy Spirit, etc. For all of this we ask for your support and prayer. Every member of ACT is a gift, important for the full working out of our call. When we work and pray together, we not only get further healed ourselves, but we will empower ACT members to bring that healing into their healthcare settings.



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how He is loving and guiding me. In this way, He instructs me with my clients.

I was taught, in my childhood Baptist church, that each of us has a unique relationship with Jesus, and a unique way of communicating with Him, something on which no one else should infringe or impinge. I was told that God will develop this within us. This shaped in me an attitude of respect for each person’s experience of God. “Listen and respect. Speak your own experience, but don’t assume that others will experience God as you do. Listen and learn. Be enlarged by the experience of others.”

I bring to ACT an excitement to express my own experience of God and inquire of others, “How do you actually experience God?”

This past week our daughter Kris Dolbow wrote of a recent experience of talking

with God. “Listen” to her and then ponder the ways God walks and talks with you:

“Yesterday, I received an email with a simple statement: ‘We hear in many different ways. Normally, I can be ‘Chatty Kathy,’ with my mouth and my heart busy striving to ‘get things done!’ Instead I listened to that sentence and took our dog Wrigley swimming at a stream that my son discovered nearby in Wagontown.

He swam, and I sat on a rock and heard, ‘Be still and you’ll know that I AM Who I say I AM.’ I listened with my eyes, with my nose, with my ears, and my skin and wrote down—and drew—what I heard.

“I hear creation humming together the symphony of life, going about living individual tiny and tinier, pinhead size lives, on the ground, in the ground, the air, and the water. Creatures live trusting their Maker.

“When the floods come and plaster the stream grasses flat to the ground, new sprouts wake up among the dead, put their sights on the sun and rise. When homes are filled with water, washed away by flash floods, black, brown, red, speckled ants and beetles reappear and build again and again and again. When roots are exposed on one side of a tree, roots of the opposite side grow stronger. Those naked above the soil go deeper. They all adapt to life and live.

“I hear songs of joy, delight, the birds singing in their own particular language, discussions I am not privy to. But He, our Father of Life, knows the tongue of every creature. It is His Native Tongue.

“I hear water flowing over rocks bubbling with a mysterious song. Wind rustles the treetops as His Breath gives life to us all. Clouds pass over, drop earth’s manna, filter sunlight. He draws cloud pictures on the canvas of His Sky every day.

“I heard, ‘Let things die. Let life go. Death is life.’ I heard very special secrets by the stream: ‘Expect HIM to care. Expect HIM to love. Expect life to come from death.’”



Revelation Gifts of the Holy Spirit: Discerning of Spirits

Denise Dolff, MA

The Revelation Gifts of the Holy Spirit are those three gifts (word of knowledge, word of wisdom, and discerning of spirits) through which the Holy Spirit communicates factual truths to the mind of the believer. These truths would be otherwise unknown to the recipient and generally serve to aid in ministry, healing, and reconciliation, as well as building up faith, evangelizing, and for the glory of God.

Of the three Revelation Gifts, discerning of spirits is the least understood, often mistaken for the gift of discernment, which it is not. Discernment is the practiced and mature development of four of the Isaian (Isaiah 11: 2-3) gifts of the Spirit – wisdom, knowledge, counsel, and understanding – working together to assist the believer in identifying God’s lead in a situation.

Discerning of spirits, however, is revelation knowledge giving insight through the Holy Spirit into one aspect of creation, i.e. spirits. Said differently, it is the God-given ability to detect the presence and ascertain the identity of spirits, whether good or evil. It is not an invitation to judge, criticize, or find fault, nor is it an insight into human nature or personality. It is, however, recognition of the spirit that motivates an action or inspires an utterance, distinguishing the origin as from the Holy Spirit, a demonic spirit, or one’s natural human spirit.

Remember, we are warned in 1 John 4:1-4 to test every spirit:

¹ *Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world.*

² *By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God;*

³ *and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not*



Denise Dolff is a member of the Board of Directors of ACT and its President-elect.

from God; this is the spirit of the antichrist, of which you have heard that it is coming, and now it is already in the world.

⁴ *You are from God, little children, and have overcome them; because greater is He who is in you than he who is in the world.*

The importance of the gift of discerning of spirits can be understood in examining two of the many deceptions that are popular in today’s society:

- The first suggests that God and satan (the author chooses to deny satan glory by refusing to capitalize his name, when used) are equal opposites. The truth, however, is that satan is a created being. He was one of the angels created by God (Ezekiel 28: 13-15). Therefore, satan can NOT be equal to God.
- The second follows from this and pertains to satan’s refusal to accept his defeat at the cross. He attempts, therefore, to perpetuate the deception that there is an ongoing struggle between himself and God, the end of which is yet undetermined, as is often

depicted in the media. The TRUTH is that satan is already defeated. Not only was he defeated at the cross, but the defeat was permanently and irrevocably finalized by Jesus’ resurrection from the dead. Every believer must be absolutely clear about this.

Knowledge of scripture will contribute to a mature development of the gift of discerning of spirits, as does understanding the differences between the voices of God and the enemy. The chart on page 5 helps identify some of these.

As a revelation gift of the Holy Spirit, the discerning of spirits should be valued by all believers seeking to become more fruitful in fulfilling God’s kingdom work.



VOICE OF THE ENEMY	THE VOICE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
1) accuses Zach. 3: 1; Rev. 12:10 - the accuser of the brethren accuses them day and night	1) comforts Acts 9:31; 2 Cor. 1:3
2) condemns (often indefinite, vague, with no solution) e.g. Psalm. 69; Acts 20: 29-30	2) convicts and exhorts (definite sin with definite solution) Acts 9:1-19; 1 Cor. 14:24-25
3) speaks deception and lies 1 Tim 4:1; 2 Cor. 11:3; Gal. 1: 6-8	3) speaks truth 2 Tim 4:16; John 8:32; John 14:16; John 16:13; Heb. 6:18
4) does not love:1 John 4:8	4) loves: 1 John 4:7
5) is negative, puts down Numbers 32:7-9	5) is positive, edifies, encourages Heb. 6:18; 1 Cor. 14:3; 2 Cor. 12:19
6) critical (of self & others) Job 1:9-11; Job 2:3-4	6) loving (even in correction), John 3:16 compassionate; John 15:9-11; Joel 2:13; James 5:11
7) imparts fear Rom. 8:15	7) dispels fear, fills with hope, faith Acts 1:8; 2 Tim. 1:7; Romans 8:15; 1 John 4:18
8) contrary to Scripture (or out of context) Mathew 4:1-11	8) agrees with the Word John 16:13; John 14:26
9) leads to worry, anxiety	9) leads to peace 2 Tim. 1:11-12; John 14:27
10) unbelieving thoughts 2 Cor. 4:4; 2 Tim. 4:3-4;	10) faith producing thoughts 1 Tim 1:5; Acts 4:23-31; Mark 9:23-24
11) points to failure, destruction John 10:10; Rev. 9:11 (Abaddon-Hebrew and Apollyon Gr. - both mean destroyer)	11) points to restoration and being able 2 Tim 4:16; 2 Tim. 1:7; Heb. 13:21
12) takes focus away from Jesus (onto self or the problem)	12) points to Jesus: John 16:14; John 14:6 Acts 14:14-15; 2 Cor. 4:6
13) churns up; unsettles: Mark 5:5	13) calms, brings peace Gal. 5:22; John 14:27
14) confuses Gal. 1 5:7-10	14) clarifies: John 16:8, 13; John 14:26

Editor's Note

One Reason To Go to the ACT Annual International Conference

And one of them, a scholar of the law, tested him by asking, "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" He said to him, "You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. The whole law and the prophets depend on these two commandments." (Matthew 22:35-40)

You might ask, "What does this quote from the Bible have to do with attendance at the ACT International Conference?" My answer: Everything.

It seems to me that both commandments are so closely intertwined as to be virtually indistinguishable one from another, because both are based on love—complete, selfless, and unconditional love. And that means that when we join a group of people, they become our neighbors in every sense of the word. Thus, when they assemble for an important annual International Conference, the presence of each of us is essential—not for what we can “get” out of it, but for what we can “give” to each, in other words: love them.

In my view, attendance at the ACT International Conference is all about loving our neighbors—just as Jesus asked. It is, in a very real sense, loving God. **(For further info, turn to page 18.)**

I would like to sincerely thank all our InterACT contributors who came through—most of

you ahead of schedule—in order for this edition to be published ahead of schedule. May God bless each of you for the wonderful work you continue to do for Him each and every day.



Mike MacCarthy, InterACT Editor



Saluting Pope Francis

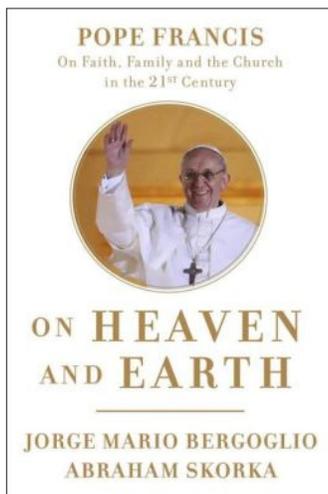
Our Papal Hymn

by Sister Maria Theresa Hronec, SS.C.M.

Traditionally, each nation has its own Papal Hymn. Recalling the Papal Hymn of the Slovaks is certainly appropriate as we welcome Pope Francis. The words of the Slovak Papal Hymn, *V Sedmobreznom Kruhu Rima* denote thousands, even millions of voices worldwide acclaiming Pope Francis, the new Roman Catholic Pontiff. As Bishop of Rome, Pope Francis is the 266th Pontiff of the Church.

We praise and thank Almighty God for the inspirational selection of Cardinal Jorge Mario Bergoglio, S.J. He has already won our hearts and demonstrated his characteristic mode of reaching out with a preferential option for the poor. Pope Francis is also focused on ecumenical issues.

As Archbishop of Buenos Aires in Argentina, in 2010, he coauthored *On Heaven and Earth* with Argentine Rabbi Abraham Skorka. In this book, he champions interfaith dialogue. He humbly recalls his efforts to build bridges with other religious leaders. He was a frequent guest at Evangelical Christian services and Islamic religious ceremonies. For Pope Francis, dialogue “assumes that the other has something good to say.”



It is noteworthy that large groups of Orthodox Christians were present for his inauguration. In particular, the Patriarch Bartholomew I of Constantinople, who is recognized as the nominal head of the world’s Orthodox bodies, was present. He was the first patriarch of Constantinople to attend a papal installation in more than 1,000 years.

This hymn has been a Papal Anthem sung in Slovakia whenever the Holy Father visited as well as for church-related anniversaries, celebrations, or dedications. Whenever it is sung, the faithful rise in respect as they would for any national anthem. This beautiful and majestic hymn is the work of Mikulas Schnieder-Trnavsky, one of Slovakia’s greatest composers.



This Slovak Papal Hymn (see below) was included in the sacred concert provided by religious women of various congregations of Slovak origin at the 41st International Eucharistic Congress in 1976. The thousands of assembled Slovaks at the Spectrum in Philadelphia arose when the Sisters began singing it.

Thus, we have much for which to thank and praise God, as well as to live and practice our own faith with a more intense imitation of Jesus. Let us then continue to pray for the intentions of our new Holy Father, Pope Francis, as he begins his Petrine ministry among us.



Slovak Papal Hymn

1. Hear from Saint Peter’s joyous singing, From Rome’s seven hills resounding; Thousands of voices join the chorus, With this hymn devout and glor’ous.

Chorus:

Bless O God, our Holy Father, Vicar of Christ, your own son, on earth!

2. This hymn extends throughout eternity, and inspires all on their journey; O’er hills and valleys praise is sounding, Faithful souls join in acclaiming.

3. From homes and mountains, plains and farmlands, far beyond the world’s great coastlands, as flash the brilliant streaks of lightning, hear this thundr’rous hymn resounding.



By Name

I'm hiding in a tree
high above the crowd
to see this One who's come to heal
I know that I'm not worthy
and I'm not sure He's real

I'm short in stature tall in shame
no one else to blame but me
No claim to be forgiven or set free
but here He comes
I'm staying still but want to flee

Come down from your tree
I want to be with you, says He
share some bread and drink some wine
His face is smiling
when he looks at mine

How can it be
He knows the truth
calls me by name
I'll share my bread
and never be the same

I don't feel so small now
and not afraid to fall
in spite of my shame
He calls me by name
He calls me by name

Jean E. Taddonio



Lessons to Share

When the body speaks
It thunders across the centuries
Speaking cell to cell
Until we come upon words

We experiment with our new words
Using them in imaginative, creative and
destructive ways
Trying them on
To fit our collective understandings

But crisis brings us back
Into our private bodies
Where we hear wisdom
Shared as a species

How we convey glimpses
Of global understanding
In our expressions of experience
Is survival's unifier

Royce Johnston



New ACT Board Members:

Elected to the Board:

David Tipton, Treasurer
Francis Hymel, At-Large
Stephanie Cave, MD, At-Large

Nominating Committee:

Kathleen Gray

Appointed to the Board:

Nancy Morgan, Council of Regional Coordinators Representative

Congratulations and welcome to our new Board members for their commitment to ACT and to doing God's work. Look for more in-depth information about these wonderful men and women in upcoming issues of InterACT.

The Holy Spirit in Clinical Practice

Douglas Schoeninger, PhD

The passion of ACT is providing—calling forth—the healing love of Jesus in healthcare. In this column, we feature the experiences of ACT members (and others) who actively integrate healing prayer and the gifts of the Holy Spirit with their professional healthcare discipline.

In this issue, we feature the integrative work of Forrest Yanke, ACT member since 1983, former ACT President, clinical social worker, and psychotherapist. Forrest participated in the team that designed the ACT Basic Curriculum and in the process wrote the following summary of her integrative work. I am excited to share her insights and integrative process with you here.

Christian Healthcare Practice: Social Work/Psychotherapy

Forrest Yanke, D. Phil., LCSW, LMFT, BCD

Introduction: In the graduate social work program that I attended, I was taught to view the person in the environment (PIE). At that time, the body of knowledge of social work had advanced to the view that psychological/mental problems originated through a combination of the person's intra-psychic and extero-psychic experiences. Therefore, to understand and treat the person without considering the environment in which he or she lived (geographical community, ethnic community, religious community, family community, career community, etc.) would be deficient or negligent. Although the religious community was considered a part of the person's environment and influential, diagnosis and treatment tended to be focused only on the mental component rather than also on the body, soul, and/or spirit.

Private Practice/Social Work/Psychotherapy as a Christian

My practice of social work and psychotherapy in private practice changed as I entered a Christ-centered practice group, joined the Association of Christian Therapists, and became a new Catholic, all about the same time.

Now, instead of viewing the person in one dimension, I found that the other dimensions had great merit. I called myself a Christian healthcare social worker and psychotherapist because of my new found view of understanding the person in four dimensions. Instead of a psychosocial evaluation, I began a bio-psychosocial-spiritual evaluation and a family/genera-

tional history became ever so important. Being educated differently through the above organizations, my perspective broadened. The person became not only a person with strengths and limitations in his mental capacities for coping and/or problem-solving in the environments in which he/she lived, but also a person housed in a body that could be affected positively or negatively by not only his mental capacities/strengths/weaknesses, but also by his link to God and the absence or acknowledgement/practice of the spiritual dimension of his personality. Simultaneously, I came to understand that this body, mind (soul), and spirit had generational roots that could be acknowledged or denied by the person or by the therapist, but nonetheless, with or without acknowledgement, would influence the course of treatment.

View of the Person as a Child of God

Therefore, as a member of the Association of Christian Therapists (ACT), and reborn Christian and Catholic, I acknowledged that the person who sat in front of me, was a child of God (whether he or she claimed this or not) and that I, as a Christian social worker, would adhere to not only my social work Code of Ethics, but also to a higher Code of Ethics of being a Christian healthcare practitioner. To claim the ACT identity of "members who are committed to Jesus Christ and are open to integrating his healing ministry and the gifts of the Holy Spirit into their lives and work," became easy, as I was a re-born Christian, calling upon the gifts of the Holy Spirit to aid me in

understanding and treating the patient/client.

*I called myself
a Christian
healthcare social
worker and
psychotherapist
because of my
new found view
of understanding
the person in four
dimensions.*

Preparation for Christian Social Work/Psychotherapy: Home and Office

How this worked, practically-speaking, was that I made sure my body was fit—exercise, food, vitamins, and enough sleep so that my body was prepared positively to fuel my mind and spirit. Additionally, instead of only reviewing the notes before a client came to see me, I would further prepare myself for the maximum use of myself as a Child of God. In social work school, we were taught the concept of the Use of Self, but the use of self did not include a self that had a spiritual dimension. Preparation time, at home or in church, included a spiritual discipline for myself which was comprised of scripture

Continued on page 9

reading in the morning, reading in the office, contemplative prayer time, prayer for the client, the Rosary for the client or other needs, special novenas, spiritual readings, and/or anything I felt directed to by the Holy Spirit, and, many times, attendance at a morning Mass. Preparation at the office included the blessing of the office with prayers, blessed salt, or blessed oil, protection prayers prior to the client's arrival, as well as cleansing prayer after the client left and before the next client came.

Invitation to the Holy Spirit and the Kingdom of God in the office

My goal is to prepare the office for the invitation of the Holy Spirit to be with me and with the client, so that divine intervention was present for healing. I want to acknowledge that the Kingdom of God "is at hand." One of the assumptions (no. 1) is that "God is lovingly present and active in every healing encounter and clinical situation by the presence of the Holy Spirit, God with us." I also know that the evil one lurks and looks for openings for deception and pestilence, so I am looking to close that possibility as much as possible prior to the client's entry into the office.

View of the Person's Problem

As the person entered my office, I offered a beginning prayer, if the person chose. If the person was not a Christian or said no, I honored this and knew that God was with us whether we prayed together or not. I provide sanctuary and safety so that healing can unfold, and I obtain a Bio-Psychosocial-Spiritual Evaluation. My stance is to view the client through a lens that is multi-faceted: intuitive, logical, feeling, factual, and spiritual. Acknowledging the Myers-Briggs Temperament Indicator as one component of my lens, I work to take in the facts that the person presents (sensing function), read between the lines (the intuitive function), think about the facts and hunches (thinking function), and empathize (the feeling function).

More than that, however, I am "tuning in" to the Holy Spirit and asking for

discernment of how God wants to use this session for the good of the person. I ask myself how God wants to love him or her, and to bring him or her into the freedom of the Kingdom of God, to operate more fully as that Child of God who answers that call in his or her life.

I further want to use my psychological/social work bodies of knowledge, processes, and procedures to support the person's dignity and worth, not just as a human being, but because he/she is a Child of God.

I further want to use my psychological/social work bodies of knowledge, processes, and procedures to support the person's dignity and worth, not just as a human being, but because he/she is a Child of God. What matters most is the worth of the person as God's creature. Trained to accept the person unconditionally, and to separate out behaviors that might be unacceptable, is major, but I am trained additionally to look more deeply with God's vision; I love and care about the person because he is first God's. With God, I ask how the Lord wants to use me so that He can "save the person." How does God want to do this? What is He asking the person to do? What is He asking me to do? How will the person find genuine healing or peace and joy with God, self, others and with his/her body and nature? I realize that with the client this process may be slow, as God may work in stages of healing the body, the soul, and the spirit, the generational line, and the community for

His greater glory. There are seasons and stages of growth.



Forrest Yanke, DPhil, LCSW, LMFT, BCD - *Forrest Yanke, received a Doctorate in Religion and Societal Studies in 1998. She has been licensed as a clinical social worker and marriage and family therapist in the State of Florida since 1983. Currently her practice is titled "Christian Psychotherapy and Spirituality." She primarily sees individuals and couples and offers workshops/retreats that are spiritual in nature or an integration of clinical and spiritual practices. Dr. Yanke previously worked at the Cornerstone for 28 years. She is certified in Eye Movement Desensitization Reprocessing (EMDR), Theophostic ministry, clinical level of transactional analysis, and certified in administration of Myers-Briggs Type Indicator. Dr. Yanke is a member of the Association of Christian Therapists since 1983. She has served as a regional coordinator and more currently as President and Past President. She is an Adjunct instructor in the College of Social Work, Florida State University, Panama City campus. And she is an Expert Witness in the Catholic Marriage Tribunal in the Diocese of Pensacola-Tallahassee, Florida. She recently became certified as a Spiritual Director through The Cenacle, Our Lady of Divine Providence House of Prayer, Clearwater, Florida and Steubenville University.*



Dr. Forrest Yanke



Miracles I Have Seen

by *Domenica Rafferty*

A few days ago, I listened while a friend read the story of Abraham and Sarah, and then led us into a short discussion of miracles. I heard familiar comments, questioning our belief in miracles and the frequency of their occurrence. Do we expect them? Do they still occur? I am a firm believer in miracles having experienced a few of them in my life so far.

On a bright sunny afternoon, May 4, 2002, the day before my son John's twentieth birthday, he was hit by a car while crossing Commonwealth Avenue in Boston. He was just finishing his freshman year at Boston College, and was happy, thriving, and looking forward to the semester's end. He had two finals left to take.

John did not see the car that hit him. Instead, he felt a searing pain in his left leg and watched the green grass of a cemetery across the street alternating with the blue sky above as he somersaulted through the air. Still not sure what had happened, John prayed not to die. It was then, he says, that he "felt hands gently putting me down on the ground." John's head had broken the windshield of the Volkswagon Jetta that hit him, before he landed 40 feet from where he was hit! An EMT who was an eyewitness called an ambulance from Beth Israel Hospital, a local trauma center, because he was sure John would have severe head/neck trauma. John needed a few stitches and had two broken bones, but no severe injuries which kept the doctors mystified. We were hard-pressed to even find a bruise on him. John spent five days in the trauma unit while CT scans, x-rays, and neurological exams were repeated, looking for evidence of injuries that should have been sustained, given the circumstances.

When I arrived at the hospital, John was calm and peaceful, and I didn't fully appreciate the enormity of the miracle at first. It was only later, after I met the policeman at the scene of the accident, that I finally understood. He showed me the marks on the



Domenica Rafferty

street where the car had hit John and then the blood stains where John had landed, 40 feet away. I finally grasped the enormity of the distance he was airborne. I was filled with wonder at the miracle.

As each of my children was placed in my arms at birth, I immediately was filled with the longing prayer that they would be surrounded by a "hedge of angels." I don't know where I first heard this phrase, I only know that it lodged in my heart and has been my mantra for the past 33 years. This prayer has sustained me through many of the adventures and miracles with which my children have blessed me. I am certain that it was the hands of these angels that set John down, ever so gently, on the pavement. This surely was a miracle. Neither John nor I have ever doubted it. We are humbled and grateful beyond measure.

I believe miracles to be a manifestation of God's creative love for us. Miracles are movements of God that are often outside the realm of our expectations. Often times, reflecting affords me a spectacular view of a miracle that I didn't notice as it

was unfolding. Did I pray for this miracle? No, not in the traditional sense. By praying from a heart full of the expectation of miracles, I rest in knowing the fruition of them.

I take exception to the philosophy that seems to treat miracles like wishes. God is the creator of miracles, and we are sometimes fortunate enough to be the recipients of those miracles. I cannot explain why some are granted miracles and some are not. Perhaps the answer to this is one of the many treasures that await us in heaven.

During the months of recuperating from his accident, John spent a great deal of time wondering why he wasn't killed or seriously injured. He sought God's heart, both in thanksgiving and in questioning what his role in life was to be. God, as always, answered John's prayers abundantly. John is now a lawyer who works with victims of human trafficking.



Healing Prayer with a 103-year-old man

By Ginny Antaya

I have been an ACT member for many years, although not active for some years due to health problems. However, I do keep a personal diary of some of the interesting and/or miraculous ways the Lord has shown His Love for His people through healing prayer.

I was invited to pray with a woman in the hospital in Temple, Texas. Upon arrival, her sister informed me that her father was also in the hospital and asked if I would pray with him.

I was introduced to the 103-year-old man in his bed, eating his breakfast quite voraciously! He had been hospitalized because he wouldn't eat, was weak, and on his way to Hospice.

What does one pray for with a 103-year-old man—for more life, good health? So, I began asking standard questions.

“Do you have anyone to forgive?”

The man's eyes got big, and he immediately looked upset.

His daughter named two female relatives, and the man's eyes blazed with rage.

“Those two,” he said, “did me in. . . I'll never forgive them. Their punishment will be my un-forgiveness.”

The hospital room became quiet.

“Why do you think God has allowed you to live for over 103 years?” I asked.

He thought for a moment. “I don't care. I just want to die.”

I didn't know what to say at first, then asked, “What do you think Jesus will say when he asks you if you have forgiven

those two women? Where do you think He will send you, if you won't forgive them?”

He blinked his eyes and bowed his head. “I forgive, I forgive,” he whispered.

Do you wonder if this act of forgiveness had any effect on his sick daughter?

She recently had received a kidney transplant which became infected causing a serious problem for a fistula (a hole) between the colon and urinary track. Surgery was then scheduled to repair this seeping infection which could lead to loss of the kidney, her last hope.

My prayer friends and I prayed with Saint Faustina's relic and touched it to the woman's infected area. The next day the doctor said tests showed there were no signs of the fistula and no need for surgery!

Praise God!

Forgiveness is the beginning of most healing.

Glory to God!

Ginny Antaya is the Director of the Mercy of God Prayer Center, Austin, Texas. (She can be reached at www.mogpc.org.)



Meeting at the Well

The snarls of life
hold me captive
in the daybreak of my darkness

When I meet Him at the well

His gaze sees through me
to the spark I think is gone
smothered in the night

by thirsty passions
spent in worthless flings
I call my loves

They can't quench
the hunger of my emptiness
or fill my longing soul

He sees it all
and judges me His own
in need of healing

I draw Him water
feel strengthened to be whole
without the asking

Strong enough to face the truth
of what He sees in me
a temple full of beauty

unveiled by tears
kneeling and knowing
I'll never live the same again

When I meet Him at the well

Jean E. Taddonio



ACT Mission to Uganda

by Jim DeMar

August 2013 2nd Uganda Trip



Restoring the Heart and Alarm Ministries (alarm-inc.org) are partnering to bring healing to hundreds of children and adults in Uganda, Africa. The ACT members on the team are Julie Woodley, Jim DeMar and Louise Sandberg. Last year we had the privilege of ministering the love of God to traumatized children and their mentors in this beautiful, yet trauma ridden country. This year we are planning to return with 12 professional counselors/prayer facilitators trained in the Immanuel healing prayer (immaunuelapproach.com) and In the Wildflowers.

As you may already know, the Lord's Resistance Army, led by Joseph Kony, devastatingly and brutally ravished almost 2 gen-

erations of children in Northern Uganda (and more recently in Congo and Sudan) from 1988 – 2010. He would capture and enslave the children, abuse them psychologically, physically, and sexually, and then get them to fight in his army, forcing them to physically, sexually, and psychologically abuse and brutalize other adults and children. Many of these children have been rescued and placed in “refugee”-type camps in Northern Uganda where they are being kept and educated. Not much has been done to help them process and heal from their experiences. In fact, some of these homes are actually headed by children.

Our hope this year is to visit three distinct areas of Uganda: Gulu (children, teenagers and their adult mentors), Pader (young adults 18-25) and Kampala (adult women with HIV). Our mission is sched-

uled for the first 2 weeks in August, 2013. Our hope is not only to minister to the people of Uganda, but also to teach them the basic skills in the healing from trauma. We plan to film all of the ministry work in the hope of creating a documentary highlighting the healing work and giving all of the glory to Our Lord, Jesus Christ.



We would greatly appreciate any support that you might be able to provide for us in this ongoing mission. **(For further information on how you can help go to: <http://www.rthm.cc/events.asp>)**



Integration through Jesus

by Jeffrey Steffon, LMFT

Because I only use my therapy office part-time (my full-time employment is with the Department of Children and Family services in LA County), I decided that I need to minimize the costs of my counseling office. Therefore I canceled my land-based phone line and use a private cell phone for the counseling office needs. For one person, this turned out to be a very important decision. I usually don't answer my cell phone on Sundays if it's from a phone number I cannot recognize, but when the phone rang at 2 a.m., I answered. The Holy Spirit was at work, but of that I had no idea.

That was my first contact with John. (His name has been changed to protect his identity.) After talking a little bit on the phone with him I asked if he would like to come in for a session, and we decided we would schedule an appointment for the following Thursday. When John came to see me, he brought his girlfriend. They told me that sometimes when they were together it was as if John switched and became a little boy. This was very troubling for his girlfriend and for John. As we talked more, I realized that John might actually be dissociating.

After a little more investigation I concluded that John was suffering from dissociative identity disorder. Further, John had been sexually abused by clergy member when he was a young boy. At that point I knew that it definitely was a move of the Holy Spirit that caused me to answer the phone call that Sunday afternoon.

As John and I worked together we discovered that John had 11 distinct identities. In order to bring healing and integration to John, I followed the work of Doctor James Friesen, who wrote *Uncovering the Mystery of MPD*, published in the 1990s. In this work, Doctor Friesen states that after the identities (personalities) are identified, the trauma work can begin. He teaches that the trauma is released

through abreactions, a process of bringing the trauma out of the unconscious to the present day level and addressing the trauma and feelings with the adult personality.

Because I am a Christian counselor and believe in the power of Jesus to heal, we would invite Jesus into each session. We invited Jesus to be present in each traumatic event. It was wonderful to see the power of Jesus heal that trauma. Then Jesus would integrate that identity into the core personality.

***I honestly believe
this would not
have been possible
except for the love
and power of Jesus
Christ moving in
John's life—healing
him and making
him whole.***

As each successive identity became integrated into John's core personality, he would mention that he felt different—more together, stronger, and better able to deal with life. An extremely touching session was when we were able to integrate the personality that had been abused by the clergy member. Through the process of healing that traumatic event and subsequent integration, John was able to forgive the clergy member who had sexually abused him.

Before coming to me, John had never told anyone about this sexual abuse. He never told his family; never told his friends. My office was "the safe place" where he could reveal everything. Further, because of the abuse, John had developed an identity

that held all of the anger and, at times, he would go into uncontrollable rages where he wouldn't even remember what he said or did. That was the final identity that we integrated. When that identity was integrated, John felt such relief and peace; it was as if his countenance had changed. He was finally whole through the love of Jesus touching his life. John was finally able to be the person whom Jesus created him to be. He was no longer divided, but now fully integrated through the powerful healing love of Jesus Christ.

The process of integration of John's identities happened rather quickly. Over the process of about nine months, all of the identities were integrated into John's core personality. I honestly believe this would not have been possible except for the love and power of Jesus Christ moving in John's life—healing him and making him whole.

John is now at a time in his life where he wants to reestablish his relationship with Jesus Christ. In his walk, he now continues to forgive those who abused him and forgive the structure which allowed this abuse to happen. A new development is happening in his life: He desires to help others like himself and work within the very structure he once hated. Miracles do happen!

When therapists invite Jesus into the counseling session and invite Him into the traumas, Jesus heals them! What an honor it is to be able to serve the Lord and be a vehicle for allowing others to receive the love of Jesus and be healed!

Jeffrey Steffon is an LMFT who works in Encino, CA. His website is www.peacefilledheart.com



Region Reports

Regions 3 & 14

Region 3: Delaware Valley

Kathleen Murphy

On Saturday, August 10, 2013, from 10:00 am until 3:00 pm Region 3 met in Danville Pennsylvania. Sister Maria Theresa, presented “Ethical Dilemmas; Conflict Resolutions in Health Care, an interactive meeting.”

On Saturday, December 14, 2013, Region 3 will meet again. Mindy Chernoff, BA.,MA, will present: “Healing our Minds, Hearts and Souls; Incorporating Animals into our Lives”, We shall explore God’s healing process, using animals as a catalyst for freedom in the Lord.

May God continue to bless you in your work. What a spirit enriching topic!

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### Region 14: Michigan and Northern Ohio

*Kris Sendelbach*

I am the Regional Coordinator for the re-activated region of Michigan and Northern Ohio. We are looking forward to meeting as a group for a day of prayer in the spring of 2014. If there are any former members that became inactive when the region became inactive, please contact me. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at [fuzziandcompany@gmail.com](mailto:fuzziandcompany@gmail.com). I look forward to hearing from each of you.



# How ACT Saved Me

*by John Skirgaudas*

ACT saved my spiritual life! Praise and thanks to you, Jesus, and to all my brothers and sisters in Christ.

Nearly 40 years ago, I was a know-it-all dual board-certified physician. Having mastered medicine and psychiatry, there was no room or necessity for God. One day, Dr. Herb Sorenson, medical director at Kaiser in San Diego, handed me a program for a course on Approaches to Healing. I almost tossed it in the wastebasket, but noticed that it was cosponsored by the University of California School of Medicine in San Diego and the San Diego County Medical Society.

This allowed me to attend the conference. Father Francis McNutt, Father Dennis Linn, and Father Matthew Linn were the featured speakers. Though I was duly impressed by the material presented, I was mostly drawn to the group by the love that

was expressed by the members to each other especially during their prayer time.

I ended up joining the group and eventually became a lifetime member. I have experienced multiple healings in spirit, mind, and body through this wonderful group. By praying together at the conferences and in the small groups locally, I have developed deep spiritual friendships. I know that I can call on my fellow ACT prayer brothers and sisters at any time for prayer and understanding. Their love is the unconditional love of Christ.

ACT has been very supportive to me over many years of the practice of primary care medicine. I urge all healthcare professionals to check out this marvelous group. They may save your spiritual life.



## On Becoming a Presence

“He’s my hero”  
Race, age, gender, education  
Ceased to matter  
Standing alone  
Surrounded by code talkers  
Not as victim or role model  
Centered enough to appear serene  
Connected enough to feel  
Treachery swimming in the moat

I heard witness of a One  
Isolated by circumstances  
Moving through an internal conversion  
Unimagined in youth and  
Impossible through choice  
Finally blessed by forces  
Read about symbolically as ‘fire’  
But never before described  
In vignettes of everyday life

Suffering prayerfully  
Is so much easier than  
The surprise visit from the  
Unexpected knocking at the door  
Now comes the choice  
To double lock the door  
In retreat  
Or to enter into full service  
As planned and called upon

Ahh, the Conversion  
Not yet felt during the struggle  
But in plain view of the awakened  
Trying to stay their own course ---  
And of naysayers who have  
Locked the door  
Destroyed the key  
Becoming People of the Lie  
For whom truth ceases to be a choice.

*Royce Johnston*



**Association of Christian Therapists (ACT)**  
invites you to the eighth celebration of the

## ***White Mass***

**Cathedral Basilica of Christ the King**  
714 King St. West, Hamilton



**Thursday, December 12, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.**  
Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

**-Celebrant-**

# **BISHOP DANIEL JOSEPH MIEHM**

**Everyone is welcome!**

**ACT especially invites Health Care Professionals, Pastoral Care Workers,  
Clergy, Religious Counsellors and the public to attend.**

During the White Mass Physicians and Health care workers ask for the support of the Holy Spirit.

The White Mass is celebrated yearly.  
For information call 905-335-6902.

Refreshments and video of Our Lady following the Mass.  
Free will offering to cover expenses



# Association of Christian Therapists

*An Interdisciplinary Fellowship of Christian Healthcare Professionals and Associates*

## 2013 International Conference

### *Transforming the Heart of Healthcare: Seeing through the Eyes of Jesus*

*"Blessed are the eyes that see what you see. For I tell you that many prophets and kings wanted to see what you see but did not see it..." Luke 10:23-24*

October 10 – 13, 2013

Linthicum, MD



**The Conference Center  
at the Maritime Institute**

*Just minutes from BWI!*

**www.ACTHeals.org**  
*InterACT • 16*



# Association of Christian Therapists

*An Interdisciplinary Fellowship of Christian Healthcare Professionals and Associates*

- Feel like something is missing from your professional life?
- Feel like you are alone in trying to live your Christian beliefs in today's healthcare marketplace?
- Are you weary and in need of Jesus' healing touch?
- ACT would like to hear the words in your heart
- Come to our International Conference in Baltimore, October 10-13, 2013



## **Who is ACT?**

- The Association of Christian Therapists (ACT) is unique in integrating healthcare practice, spiritual growth, healing ministry and theology as it relates to healthcare professions.
- ACT recognizes that men and women in all the healthcare disciplines and healing ministries are in need of Jesus' healing touch to live this integration and bring it back to their professions, practices and ministries.
- ACT provides support, empowerment and witness necessary to live this integration.
- ACT has been providing annual conferences for the better part of four decades offering attendees instruction, healing, fellowship, and spirituality. Attendees learn to be healers with the heart of Jesus.
- The goal of the conference is to renew (or refresh) and equip attendees to be the healing presence of Jesus Christ in their workplace.
- ACT invites like-minded men and women throughout the world to join us, to know and make known the healing love of Jesus Christ, and the healing power of the Holy Spirit to those in need.

*Ephesians 3:20-21. "Now to him who is able to accomplish far more than all we ask or imagine, by the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen"*

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## General Information

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### The International Conference

The Conference is structured to provide opportunities for maximum learning and recharging of one's batteries, to renew and refresh friendships, and to create new friendships, with attendees who share professional and spiritual roles. It opens Thursday evening with an ecumenical healing service. Friday and Saturday provide a mixture of plenary presentations followed by processing time, speaker panel discussions, question and answer sessions, specialty group gatherings, workshops, opportunities for prayer, and liturgies. Sunday is marked with closing liturgies, a membership meeting open to all, and a commissioning. The meeting ends after Sunday lunch.

### ACT Pre-Conference, Thursday, October 10, 2013

We are pleased to present two outstanding professionals for our 2013 International Pre-Conference. Expect to have a very interactive exchange in both presentations! Dr. Karl Lehman, MD and Dr. Jim Wilder, Ph.D. have collaborated over the years integrating the principles of Immanuel Prayer, developed by Dr. Lehman, and The Life Model, developed by Dr. Wilder.

The Immanuel approach to emotional healing is a fairly new faith-based approach to working with unresolved trauma in a person's life. It shares many key principles and process components with other approaches to emotional healing, such as Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR) and Theophostic. It also has some strategic new pieces, such as beginning each session with recalling memories of positive connection with the Lord, deliberately stirring up appreciation for these past experiences, and then reestablishing an interactive connection with the Lord's living presence in the context of the positive memories and appreciation. This approach is oriented more to individual healing.

The Life Model is designed to integrate disciplines related to the care of the human soul providing a unified model for development of maturity and character, diagnosis of dysfunction, treatment planning, individual, group and family care, medication, community development and spiritual transformation. The objective is to design a self-propagating recovery model that is a normal part of the church in any culture but extends to the full range of scientific knowledge and associated skills. This approach to healing is more community oriented. Dr. Lehman will be presenting from 9:00 AM 12 Noon. Dr. Wilder will be presenting from 1:30 PM 4:30 PM.

### Association of Christian Therapists

ACT is a unique international organization nearing its 40th Anniversary of providing educational, spiritual and social benefits to Christian

healthcare providers and healing ministry associates. ACT provides those involved in the healthcare fields and others an opportunity to join in the united effort of integrating spirituality with their professions under the guidance of Jesus Christ and The Holy Spirit. Utilizing resources of prayer, mentoring, education and training, ACT seeks to extend the healing presence, heart, and mind of Jesus Christ to colleagues, patients, clients and institutions. ACT invites like-minded men and women throughout the world to join us, to know and make known the healing love of Jesus Christ and the healing power of the Holy Spirit to those in need.

### Music Ministry

Carl Granieri will again be providing the conference music, and will also be involved in the Saturday evening social gathering. He is a Brother in Christ and a professional musician of the highest caliber, as evidenced by numerous positive remarks on our conference evaluations last year. God allows his team, *Hearts Afire 4 God*, to offer upbeat welcome music, inspiring reverent traditional music, spirit filled and sensitive music for healing, and joyful Christian entertainment.



### CEU's

As many as 16 units may be earned (19 with Life in the Spirit Seminars), according to professional discipline, by those attending both the International Conference and the Pre-Conference. CEU's are already approved by the California Board of Registered Nurses (CEP12192), the CA Board of Behavioral Examiners (BBSE, PCE742) for LMFT, and the FL Chapter of NASW for Clinical Social Workers. We are happy to report that we will again be offering CEU's for Psychologists and Mental Health Counselors. CME approval for Medical Doctors is still pending. Be sure to monitor our progress on the website, [www.actheals.org](http://www.actheals.org), on expanding credits to members of other specialties and hours accepted.

**Psychologists** - Regent University is approved by the American Psychological Association to sponsor continuing education for psychologists. Regent University, maintains responsibility for this program and its content. Sessions for which APA-approved hours will be awarded are identified on the program for this conference.

**Counselors** - Regent University is an NBCC-Approved Continuing Education Provider (ACEP) and may offer NBCC-approved clock hours for events that meet NBCC requirements. Sessions for which NBCC-approved clock hours will be awarded are identified in the program bulletin. The ACEP is solely responsible for all aspects of the program.

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## Accommodations & Travel Information

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### The Conference Center at the Maritime Institute

692 Maritime Boulevard, Linthicum Heights, MD 21090  
(410) 859-5700 [www.ccmmit.org](http://www.ccmmit.org)

The Maritime Institute Conference Center is located minutes from the BWI airport and Linthicum train station. CCMIT has an indoor pool, lounge, bar, exercise facility, racquetball court, and business center. CCMIT is committed to providing the most productive and efficient adult education and meeting environment in the greater Baltimore/Washington area. We strongly advise that those who are flying choose the Baltimore/Washington International Airport (BWI). It is only 2.6 miles from the airport and a free shuttle to the Conference Center is provided.

The setting is that of a remote retreat facility. **Room rates include breakfast and dinner each day.** Lunch may be purchased as an added

package. The CCMIT provides complimentary use of recreational facilities including indoor pool, fitness center and game room. Complimentary parking and shuttle service to/from BWI Airport and BWI Amtrak station are also provided. For more travel information visit our conference website at [www.actheals/IC.html](http://www.actheals/IC.html)

**Reservations:** Call (866) 900-3517 to reserve your sleeping room. Rates are \$135 single/\$175 double (includes breakfast and dinner for each occupant). Check In: 3:00 pm Check Out: 11:00 am

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## Conference Workshops

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For a full description of each workshop, abstract, and presenter biographic material, please visit [www.ACTHeals.org/IC.html](http://www.ACTHeals.org/IC.html).

### Friday, October 11, Afternoon

**Karl Lehman, MD, Jim DeMar PhD, Julie Woodley, LMHC, Louise Sandberg, RN, MSN**

*Application of Immanuel Healing Prayer with Traumatized Children and Adults in Uganda, Africa*

**Charles Zeiders, PsyD & Doug Schoeninger, PhD**

*The Psychologist Faith and the Post-Modern Moment*

**Forrest S. Yanke, D.Phil., LCSW, LMFT**

*The Mystery and Work of Oneness in Marital Therapy: A Model for Healing in the healthcare profession of marital therapy.*

### Saturday, October 12, Afternoon Session I

**Sr. Betty Igo, Med, MSPC, SFP, Marilyn Dolcetti, LCSW**

*Final Session of Life in the Spirit Seminar (Part I & II on Friday & Saturday mornings respectively)*

**Ben Keyes, PhD, EdD**

*The need for an Effective, Positive, Vibrant Model for Working with Trauma*

**Doug Schoeninger, PhD**

*"Who's Listening: the Centrality of Listening in Healing and Healthcare*

### Saturday, October 12, Afternoon Session II

**Margaret Nagib, PsyD**

*The Heart of the Matter: Harnessing the Science and Supernatural Power of the Heart using Biofeedback and Spiritual Principle*

**Fr. Bob Sears, PhD**

*The Holy Family as Incarnate Foundation for Healing*

**Jack Frost, BA, MBA**

*"God's Grace and It's Healing"*

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## Conference Prayer

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Our own Dear Father God, we are so deeply grateful that you have loved us by giving us your only Son, Jesus, who gave His life for all people and all of creation. Thank you that Jesus stands beside us, and lives within us, and directs us according to Your wishes. We are Your children. You have given us Your Holy Spirit. Let us come together, "If God loved us so, we must have the same love for one another."

We join together in prayer for healing the Heart of Health Care in our nations and our world. Many in ACT work in Health Care! We join in prayer for healing through Jesus' presence in all healthcare practice and healing ministry and to offer prayers for all in need of healing, as we are all God's children.

We have been called by our Lord to see through the eyes of Jesus. May this gathering bring us together as God's people, that we may hear the Lord's voice spoken within our hearts and share with one another the love of Christ for all with whom we meet! Amen! and Amen!



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## Conference Website

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[www.ACTHeals.org/IC.html](http://www.ACTHeals.org/IC.html)



At the conference website, [www.actheals.org/IC.html](http://www.actheals.org/IC.html), you will find much more information than this brochure can hold, such as conference updates, airport transportation information, extended speaker biographic materials, and abstracts of the plenary and workshop presentations. Be sure to check it out!

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## Invited Speakers

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### Pre-Conference

#### **Karl Lehman, MD: “The Immanuel Approach to Emotional Healing”**

Dr. Lehman is a board-certified psychiatrist with twenty-five years and more than forty thousand hours of clinical experience. He has worked tenaciously throughout his career to integrate his personal Christian faith with medical science, modern mental health care, and rigorous scientific training; he has especially worked to integrate faith-based emotional healing with insights provided by psychological and neurological research. In addition to observations from his clinical work and extensive ongoing study of a wide range of research literature, Dr. Lehman is also deeply committed to his own growth and healing. He is constantly learning through the application of emotional healing principles and tools in his personal journey. Furthermore, Dr. Lehman has been married for twenty years, and he and Charlotte work as a team to apply everything they learn about growth and healing in the context of their marriage. This combination of decades of clinical experience, extensive ongoing study, and regular emotional healing work in his own life has provided an especially strong foundation from which to discover important new insights.

Karl and Charlotte live in Evanston, Illinois. They have enjoyed many books together as Charlotte reads out loud while Karl washes the dishes, and they have a larger collection of nature documentaries than the local library. Charlotte is a runner and completed the Chicago Marathon in 2008. Karl especially enjoys the beauty of creation as manifested in his saltwater aquarium.

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Pre-Conference and Conference

Jim Wilder, PhD: “Living from the Heart Jesus Gave You”

The son of missionary parents, born in Columbia, Dr. Wilder grew up during extreme violence in Colombia (an estimated 250,000 people were brutally killed and danger was everywhere) and saw the results of violence and trauma. Once he saw trauma healed by prayer, his interest in trauma recovery began. He acquired a masters in theology and a doctorate in psychology that led to work with veterans, Nazi death camp survivors, addicts and abused children. He has spent over 30 years at Shepherd’s House leading trauma treatment programs. He is the coauthor of [The Life Model: Living from the Heart Jesus Gave You - a profound Christian guide to community based counseling and maturity](#); [Keeping Your Ministry Out of the Courtroom](#); and [Bringing the Life Model to Life: A Life Model study guide](#). In addition, [The Complete Guide to Living With Men](#) describes development from infancy through childhood, adulthood, fathering and grandfathering. He has also authored many other works. In addition, selected quotes appear in the [Men’s Devotional Bible](#) published by Zondervan in 1993.

Dr. Wilder speaks frequently about Bonding and Joyful Identity Development, particularly for recovery from trauma, repair of broken relationships and development of strong, spiritual families. He has given more than 80 radio and television interviews about men and fathers, and led men’s retreats on Stages of a Man’s Life and The Wounded Father. His greatest interest is teaching the LIFE Model which brings God to the center of healing and restores the community in which we live.

Dr. Wilder has a degree in theology from Fuller Theological Seminary, is an ordained minister in the Church of the Brethren since 1984, and became an elder in the Church of the Nazarene in 1994. He received his PhD in Clinical Psychology from the Fuller Graduate School of Psychology and was a California psychologist from 1984 to 2003. He has served as a consultant to counseling centers, missions and organizations since 1984.

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### Conference

#### **Dale Matthews, MD: “The Faith Factor”**

Dr. Matthews practices general internal medicine in Washington, DC and teaches at Georgetown University and George Washington University

Schools of Medicine. He conducts research and lectures nationally and internationally on the doctor-patient relationship and the psychological and spiritual dimensions of medicine, including the role of faith, religion, and prayer in clinical care and healing. He is the author of [The Faith Factor: Proof of the Healing Power of Prayer](#) (Viking, 1998).

Dr. Matthews graduated from Duke University School of Medicine in 1980, and completed his internship and residency in internal medicine at the University of Connecticut. At Yale, he studied clinical epidemiology and began his research career by examining patients’ perceptions of physician performance in the hospital and outpatient setting.

In 1993, he joined the faculty of Georgetown University School of Medicine in the Division of General Internal Medicine. In the same year, he was named as a Fellow of the American College of Physicians. In 1997, he received an Exemplary Paper in Humility Theology Award from the John Templeton Foundation.

Dr. Matthews is also the author of a four-volume research work, [The Faith Factor: An Annotated Bibliography of Clinical Research on Spiritual Subjects](#); three documentaries: *Body, Mind, and Spirit, Shall We Pray?*, and *Healing Hands*; an annotated, videotaped lecture on religion and medicine, *The Faith Factor: Is Religion Good for Your Health?*; a teaching videotape on the doctor-patient relationship, *Beside Manners*; and over 65 peer-reviewed scientific articles, book chapters, and other publications.

Dr. Matthews has been featured in numerous national newspapers and magazines, including the New York Times Sunday Magazine, and has appeared on many national television and radio programs, including the Oprah Winfrey Show, and NBC Nightly News.

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Rev. Gail Paul, DMin: “Ways and Places Healing Takes Place, Through the Grace of God”

Rev. Dr. Gail Paul is an ordained United Methodist clergywoman, as well as a freelance writer. She received a Master of Divinity degree in 1986 and a Doctorate of Ministry in Pastoral Care and Counseling in 1993. She has spent most of her professional ministry as Protestant Chaplain and Religious Services Coordinator in prison ministry. While most of her professional life was spent in Connecticut, she is currently serving on the Chaplain’s staff at Mercy St Joseph Hospital in Hot Springs, Arkansas.

While working in a high security men’s prison, Chaplain Paul facilitated a counseling group for inmates convicted of sexual abuse. This led to a special counseling and prayer partnership with Catholic Chaplain Fr. Larry Carew for inmates who struggle with the pain of guilt as abusers and/or the pain of their own abuse as children. After Chaplain Paul’s first retirement in 2000, she and Fr. Carew co-authored, [Disregarding the Shame, Reaching out for the Joy; a Healing Retreat for Survivors of Sexual, Physical, and Emotional Abuse](#). Soon, they began leading the retreat in prisons and communities.

Rev. Dr. Paul was called out of retirement in 2004 to become the Executive Director of the Oratory of the Little Way, a retreat and healing prayer center in Gaylordsville, CT. Prayer was the key to healing of physical, emotional and spiritual problems brought to the Oratory.

Rev. Dr. Paul describes her current work by saying, “I love working in an ecumenical setting. I love seeing people healed, comforted, and growing closer to God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit. In the process I think we, chaplain and patient, by the grace of God, become a little more Christ-like because Jesus was, and is, the ultimate healer.”



Conference Registration

Early registrations can be accepted at the office no later than September 13, 2013
After October 3, 2013 you will need to register on-site

Please type or print clearly

Yes, this is my first ACT International Conference

Full Name: _____ Name on Badge: _____

Email: _____ Region: _____

Specialty Group Preference: (circle only one)

Allied Health Associates Clergy&Religious Educators Nurses Pastoral Care Psychotherapists Physicians/Dentists/Chiropractors

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____ Fax: _____

INDICATE YOUR CHOICES BELOW. REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS **OCTOBER 3, 2013**

Member rates are offered to current 2013 dues paid members of ACT.

CEU's

Yes! I am interested in Continuing Education Units

Pre-Conference Workshops ONLY:

	By September 13	After September 13
ACT Member	\$120	\$140
ACT Student Member	\$60	\$80
Non-Member	\$140	\$160
Lunch	\$15	\$15

International Conference ONLY:

	By September 13	After September 13
ACT Member	\$335	\$360
ACT Student Member	\$170	\$195
Non-Member	\$380	\$405
Meal Plan (Lunch 3 days)	\$45	\$45
Daily Rate (per day)	\$120	\$140

Pre-Conference and International Conference Package:

	By September 13	After September 13
SAVE \$40		
ACT Member	\$415	\$460
ACT Student Member	\$190	\$235
Non-Member	\$480	\$525
Meal Plan (Lunch 4 days)	\$60	\$60

Conference Scholarship Fund

Yes! I would like to make a donation of \$ _____

Total Enclosed: (US Dollars via Checks Only) \$ _____

*Join ACT and Save!

ACT invites you to become a Member. You can take advantage of discounted meeting registration through 2013. Plus, when you join, we'll automatically apply your dues payment to the following year! Apply online today at www.ACTheals.org.

How did you hear about the International Conference?

Check all that apply

- Mail
- Email
- ACT Website
- An ACT Member
- A Friend/Family Member
- Other _____

Refunds and Cancellations

All cancellations must be made in writing. Written cancellations before September 20, 2013 are subject to a \$50 processing fee. Refunds are not possible after September 20, 2013 except for emergencies. All refunds will be processed after the meeting. ACT reserves the right to cancel any event due to lack of enrollment or other factors.

NOTE: Lunch may be purchased on-site each day for \$18.50 per lunch.

Please mail registration form and payment to:

ACT ~ 6728 Old McLean Village Drive ~ McLean, VA 22101 ~ www.ACTHeals.org

Office Use Only: Chk# _____

Date Rc'vd _____

Amount \$ _____

Continuing Education Units

As many as 16 units may be earned (19 with Life in the Spirit Seminars), according to professional discipline, by those attending both the International Conference and the Pre-Conference.

Registered Nurses - CEU's are already approved by the California Board of Registered Nurses (CEP12192).

Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists - The CA Board of Behavioral Examiners (BBSE, PCE742).

Clinical Social Workers - The Florida Chapter of NASW for Clinical Social Workers.

Psychologists- Regent University is approved by the American Psychological Association to sponsor continuing education for psychologists. The University maintains responsibility for this program and its content. Sessions for which APA-approved hours will be awarded will be identified in the conference program book.

Counselors - Regent University is an NBCC-Approved Continuing Education Provider (ACEP) and may offer NBCC-Approved clock hours for events that meet NBCC requirements. Sessions for which NBCC-Approved Clock hours will be awarded will be identified in the conference program book. The ACEP is solely responsible for all aspects of the program.

Chaplains - Catholic chaplains can get approval for CEU's and chaplains of other denominations can submit their contract hours for credit.

Physicians - CME approval for Physicians is still pending. However, numerous doctors physicians have commented that these conferences have provided enormous professional, personal, and spiritual enrichment in their lives.

Be sure to monitor our progress on the website on expanding education credits to members of other specialties and hours accepted.