

Update

A Publication of the
Leadership Conference of Women Religious

October 2004

The LCWR-CMSM Assembly

Creating Peace in Violent Times



"Essentially we need to make more visible, and build on, the grassroots movements which are using the human rights framework to hold their governments more accountable for implementing rights to food, to safe water, to health and education, and for doing so without discrimination." -- Dr. Mary Robinson, former president of Ireland and former UN High Commissioner for Human Rights



Theresa Kane, RSM accepts the 2004 LCWR Outstanding Leadership Award from LCWR president Constance Phelps, SCL, saying: "...This evening I stand as one woman with and among you. I stand also in solidarity with women across the globe, who comprise 53% of our world population. Massive numbers of us are uneducated, live in fear, in poverty, in desperation.... As I accept this award, I do so with a continuing, passionate concern for the plight of women."

Nearly 1000 leaders of religious congregations explored the challenge to create peace in violent times during the LCWR-CMSM assembly in Fort Worth, Texas. Events for both the women and men religious leaders included a keynote address by Dr. Mary Robinson, keynote responses from four religious leaders, a joint presidential address, and 10 workshops on a variety of peace-related topics. For LCWR members, the assembly also included a public prayer vigil on the death penalty, presentations by four leaders on their own experiences of violence, and a banquet where Theresa Kane, RSM received the LCWR Outstanding Leadership Award.

Additional information on the assembly is on pages 3, 4 and 5.

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From the LCWR Presidency
Looking to Wisdom for Guidance

by Constance Phelps, SCL -- LCWR Past President

Recall fondly our time together in Fort Worth, remembering our communal expression in words, in song, and in the silence of our being, of our deepest longing for peace with justice.

Yet, as I returned to my daily routine, I am faced with the continual violence, destruction and death that accompany the realities of our cities, our country, our world – dare I say - our lives. I was particularly struck and saddened by the loss of children’s lives in Russia. And it is still beyond my comprehension how people can continue torturing others as they claim to pursue other, more “lofty” goals – for some greater good.

But, then, I am keenly aware that we all must look at ourselves first. We are capable, on another level, of creating similar circumstances in our daily lives. Maybe not as violent, but just as intentional and painful, as we pursue our own ends at the expense of others. Yet this is not the way we have chosen to live and not the way we chose to be. But, the reality is, this is how we are living. We live in a culture that often is opposed to our values. We long for a church of dialog and a new way of being church. We verbally es-



pouse the characteristic virtues of our congregations. How do we respond when we are faced with the inconsistencies of what we believe, that for which we advocate and the daily realities before us?

I live with the question: What kind of world and church are we seeking and what do we, as women religious, bring to the process of transformation?

A quote from Joyce Rupp: “Wisdom is a unique manifestation of God, catalyst for transformation of the human person’s life

into one of light and goodness” gave me some insight. So, I spent some time in the last few weeks with the books of Wisdom and Sirach looking for guidance, counsel, and some direction for this process of transformation. There is much contained therein that could guide all who hold leadership positions. “For with Wisdom is a spirit intelligent, holy, unique, manifold, subtle, active, incisive, unsullied, lucid, invulnerable, benevolent, sharp, irresistible, beneficent, loving to all.” (Wisdom 7:22)

And as I continue to live and lean into my question, I pray with specificity:

- for wholeness for ourselves, for our church, for our country, for our world
- for new insights, deep courage, and holy patience
- for renewed imagination infused with new energy and commitment
- for clear understanding of the needs of today so we may grasp the complexity of the situations that face us, and the absolute simplicity of human need
- for disallowing fear, ignorance or pride to limit the action of the Spirit
- for disallowing mere custom to prevent the divine creativity within from bearing fruit.

“I have determined to have Wisdom share my life, knowing she would be my counselor in prosperity, my comfort in cares and sorrow.” (Wisdom 8:9)

I invite you to lean into the question with me: What kind of world and church are we seeking and what do we, as women religious, bring to the process of transformation? How do you respond?



CMSM president Ronald Witherup, SS; Christine Vladimiroff, OSB; Dr. Mary Robinson; Constance Phelps, SCL and Mary Ann Zollmann, BVM at the LCWR-CMSM assembly.

Former and present LCWR presidents and executive directors: (back) Nancy Sylvester, IHM; Christine Vladimiroff, OSB; Donna Markham, OP; Bea Eichten, OSF; Andree Fries, CPPS; Helen Marie Burns, RSM; Mary Ann Zollmann, BVM; Mary Christine Fellerhoff, CSA; and Carole Shinnick, SSND; (front) Camille D'Arienzo, RSM; Mary Daniel Turner, SNDdeN; Theresa Kane, RSM; Constance Phelps, SCL and Mary Waskowiak, RSM



Members of the 2003-04 and 2004-05 LCWR national board stand with the LCWR presidency as they address the topic of sexual abuse, saying in part, "The issue of sexual abuse by members of religious communities is one that LCWR and its member congregations take quite seriously. Long before the media began to focus on the issue, many of our communities had already taken steps to respond to survivors of sexual abuse and prevent future cases of abuse."



Dancers lead the four LCWR panelists who spoke on their personal experiences of violence. Left: Kathy Schmittgens, SSND and Linda Tan, OSF are led by Beth Taylor, CSJP. Lower left: Suzanne Moore, MM and Kate Reid, ASC are led by Carol Wagner, RDC and Trish Kirk, OSB.



Dancers lead prayer during the LCWR ritual of reconciliation and healing.





LCWR sponsored with local Fort Worth justice and peace groups a public prayer vigil to pray for abolishment of the death penalty.



LCWR members Kathleen Hughes, RSCJ and Kathy Thornton, RSM served on a panel with CMSM members John Doctor, OFM and William Quigley, CICM that responded to Dr. Mary Robinson's address.



LCWR elected Bea Eichten, OSF as vice-president and Catherine Leary, SSJ as secretary.



LCWR and CMSM honored the Religious Formation Conference on the occasion of its 50th anniversary. Janet Mock, CSJ, RFC executive director, accepts the award.



Many LCWR members and local women religious assisted with the assembly registration.

Some members of the LCWR staff congratulate Theresa Kane, RSM (center): Suzanne Delaney, IHM; Annmarie Sanders, IHM; Carole Shinnick, SSND and Eleanor Granger, OSF.



LCWR Plans for Future at August Board Meetings

The LCWR national board met both prior to and following the LCWR-CMSM assembly in Fort Worth to discuss various topics related to the business of the conference and its plans for upcoming events.

Planning for Regional Meetings

Among the topics to be discussed at the fall LCWR regional meetings are the following:

- Implementation of the assembly resolutions
- Implementation of the LCWR Call for 2004-09
- Sexual Abuse Issue
- Planning for the LCWR jubilee
- Delegation to El Salvador

LCWR Jubilee

Ann Margaret O'Hara, SP, chair of the LCWR Jubilee Planning Committee, joined the board for an update on the jubilee plans.

Plans on the national level for the jubilee include development of an historical exhibit on the contributions of US women religious and a multi-disciplinary exploration of the transformation of religious life.

Regions will be asked to work on commemorations of the jubilee on a local level. This may include honoring past leaders, public expressions honoring the past contributions of women religious, and celebrations of the future of religious life. LCWR will be asking the National Communicators Network of Women Religious to collaborate with some of the regional efforts to celebrate the jubilee.

Responding to Allegations of Sexual Abuse

The board met with consultants Ray Copolla, a psychotherapist, and Susan Archibald, president of The Linkup, to discuss future plans to assist congregations in best responding to possible allegations of sexual abuse and working with survivors. In addition, the board affirmed an emerging plan for LCWR's work to assist congregations with this issue. Further information will be shared by the regional chairs at the fall meetings. Leaders are encouraged to bring their congregational policies on dealing with allegations of abuse to the regional meetings.

InterAmerican Assembly

The board continued preparing for the InterAmerican Assembly to be held in Brazil from May 4-7, 2005. The board

Preparation included responding to the following questions: What would your conference like to see occur at the Inter-American Assembly that will help strengthen the ties among the conferences? What should be the nature of the relationships of the conferences for the next five years? What is the mission of both the InterAmerican Assembly and the Inter-American Committee? How will the political, economic, social and cultural realities of each country impact the plan for collaboration among the conferences?

The Confederation of Latin American Religious will send 30 delegates to the assembly, while LCWR, CMSM and the Canadian Religious Conference will send 10 each. In addition to sending the LCWR presidency, executive director, associate director for social mission and director of communications, four board members were selected by lottery to participate -- Dorothy Jean Beyer, OSB; Jeanne Bessette, OSF; Marilyn Kessler, SSND; and Mary Catherine Rabbitt, SL. Rachel Castillo, MCDP was selected as an alternate.

Executive Committee Members-at-Large

The board elected Maria Elena Martinez, OSF and Mary Catherine Rabbitt, SL as the members-at-large of the LCWR executive committee.

Additional Information Available on the LCWR-CMSM Assembly



More information on the LCWR-CMSM Assembly is available on the LCWR website (www.lcwr.org) under "Assembly Information." Included are the following:

Response of the LCWR Presidency to the SNAP Request to Address the Assembly
Keynote Address by Dr. Mary Robinson
Presidential Address

Resolutions

Opening Ritual and Reflections by Constance Phelps, SCL
Reflection: "No Longer Bystanders" by Gail Worcelo, CP
Remarks by Theresa Kane, RSM
Press Releases

Following Events of the International Congress on Consecrated Life

Anyone interested in following the events of the upcoming international congress on consecrated life may do so via the Vidimus Dominum website (www.vidimusdominum.org). The congress, which is centered on the theme, "With a Passion for Christ and Passion for Humanity," will take place November 23-27, 2004 in Rome.



The congress will bring together 800 participants including major superiors, presidents of national and continental conferences of religious, theologians, directors of centers of theological reflection and editors of reviews on consecrated life, as well as young religious from all parts of the world. The congress will look at the challenges, obstacles and opportunities facing religious life today.

In addition to providing information on the congress, the Vidimus Dominum website provides access to the working paper that all congress participants have been asked to read. Participants are utilizing the site as a forum for an exchange of comments on the paper prior to the congress.

LCWR will be represented at the Congress by the conference president Christine Vladimiroff, OSB. Other LCWR major superiors will be attending as participants as well.

LCWR New Leader Workshop Registration Materials Soon to be Available

This year LCWR will be sending the information and registration form for the New Leader Workshop to all members online. The information will be sent after October 1.

The workshop will be held from March 17-20, 2005 at the Passionist Spiritual Center in Riverdale, New York.

LCWR Membership Renewal Reminders

All LCWR members received a letter in the mail regarding membership renewal. Members are asked to note the following:

- Those who renew membership by **October 25** will be included in the 2005 LCWR directory.
- Congregations that will have a change of leadership next year are encouraged to renew now to ensure an accurate and complete directory and an uninterrupted flow of LCWR publications and services.
- Congregations that do experience a change of leadership during the year are asked to notify the LCWR office so that membership information can be updated. This is particularly important for online correspondence. Changes can be submitted using the form in the back of the LCWR directory or on the LCWR website under "Membership."

Three Assembly Resolutions Approved

During the 2005 joint assembly in Fort Worth, Texas, LCWR members approved three resolutions: a joint resolution with CMSM, "Encouraging Responsible Engagement in the 2004 Election Process," and two LCWR resolutions: "Promotion of Ecological Sustainability," and "The Issue of Nuclear Weapons." In approving these resolutions, members committed themselves to pursuing at least one of the suggested actions, or other appropriate actions, acknowledging that without action, the resolutions are merely good words.

The resolutions and suggested actions can be found on the LCWR website: www.lcwr.org under Assembly.

Copies of *Mutuae Relationes* Available for Purchase

An order form for copies of *Mutuae Relationes*, a Vatican document that sets the framework for relationships between bishops and major superiors has been sent to all LCWR members and associates. Although the document is 25 years old, it contains valuable information for working with bishops as well as ideas for discussion with bishops at their annual meetings with major superiors.

LCWR recommends that all major superiors, if not all leaders, have a copy of the document.

Protect the Environment and Support the LCWR Scholarship Fund by Recycling Ink Cartridges

Last year LCWR invited its members and associates to participate in an ink cartridge recycling program. The project has no cost to the organization, but helps preserve the integrity of God's creation. The project requires only that an organization save its empty laser toner and ink cartridges from its printers, fax machines and copiers. Caritas Funding, the group coordinating this project, provides the organization prepaid UPS labels to be used in shipping the empty materials. To date, 30 religious congregations and other organizations have joined LCWR in this effort.



Estimates show that keeping just one laser toner cartridge out of a landfill saves the energy equivalent of three quarts of oil.

In addition to helping the environment, Caritas Funding also rewards the organization for their efforts. LCWR received a donation of \$113.85 for the cartridges received by Caritas in May and June. LCWR applies the earnings it receives to the scholarship fund that assists LCWR members who wish to attend the national assembly but cannot afford to do so.

LCWR congregations are invited to assist in building this scholarship fund by sending their cartridges directly to Caritas and having their earnings applied directly to the LCWR scholarship fund. Congregations are encouraged to invite companies and other organizations to participate in this effort as well. If a firm or organization wishes to send an exceptionally large supply of empty cartridges, arrangements can even be made for prepaid shipment through a trucking company.

This very practical and easy way of protecting the environment involves these steps:

1. Contact Caritas for pre-shipment labels.
2. Pack cartridges in the original equipment manufacturer boxes so they are protected.
3. Address all boxes to Caritas Funding.
4. Call UPS for a pick-up.
5. Send at least 10 cartridges at a time.

All UPS shipments will be keyed to the LCWR account. Once the shipment is processed, Caritas sends LCWR a check on the 25th of the following month.

For more information, contact:

Caritas Funding, Inc.
 Michael Flick, President
 4200 W. Diversey Avenue
 Chicago, IL 60639
 mflick@caritasfunding.com
 773-308-7159

New Representatives of LCWR Attend NCCHCM Meeting

The fall meeting of the National Coalition on Catholic Health Care Ministry was held in Washington, DC on September 16. New LCWR representatives Jacqueline Motzel, FSM and Eleanor Martin, SCN, joined continuing member Terry Maltby, RSM and Marie Lucey, OSF, LCWR staff. Two newly appointed members were unable to attend this meeting: Katherine Gray, CSJ and Joan Winkler, OSF. Organizations participating in the coalition meetings, in addition to LCWR, are CHA, Catholic Charities USA, and the USCCB. Reports from each of the organizations led to serious discussions about the complexities in the world of Catholic health care, including: sponsorship, CHA initiatives on the uninsured, emergency contraception for women violated by rape, and the Papal allocution on nutrition and hydration.

The LCWR report included the favorable response to the pre-assembly CHA meeting on sponsorship; the meeting with Sharon Holland, IHM during the assembly; the joint assembly theme and approved resolutions; and the response to Dr. Mary Robinson's presentation, especially her encouragement to increase awareness of the UN Millennium Goals. It was pointed out that three of the eight goals relate directly to health care: Goal 4: Reduce by two thirds the mortality rate among children under five; Goal 5: reduce by three-quarters the ratio of women dying in childbirth; Goal 6: halt and begin to reverse the spread of HIV / AIDS and the incidence of malaria and other major diseases. All the goals have a target date of 2015.

After the new CHA strategic plan was outlined, members were invited to identify specific issues needing attention, in addition to sponsorship and the uninsured. Issues included: human trafficking, safe health care, reduction in employee health care benefits, the move toward privatization of health care, housing, and access to resources for the mentally ill.

Focus on the UN Millennium Goals: DPI/NGO Conference

During her keynote address at the LCWR-CMSM joint assembly, Dr. Mary Robinson gave participants a one question quiz: How many do not know the Millennium Development Goals? A large number of embarrassed hands were raised; but Dr. Robinson asked the question not to embarrass, but to underscore the fact that the MDGs endorsed in 2000 by 189 UN nation states, have not been well publicized. If they are to be accomplished by 2015, as projected, the UN and NGOs will have to do a better job of bringing them to public attention.

The 57th annual September DPI (Department of Public Information)/NGO (Non-Governmental Organizations) Conference, held September 8-10 at the UN, was built on the theme, "Millennium Development Goals: Civil Society Takes Action." The conference drew 2700 participants from 700 organizations and 90 countries. Keynote speakers and panelists from around the world addressed MDG progress to date in their respective countries, described obstacles to achievement, and proposed strategies to overcome the obstacles. In the final session, "Taking the Campaigns Home," panelists and participants considered ways to make the MDGs relevant at the community and national levels.

Many of the panelists from developing countries cited Goal 8 as essential if the other goals addressing poverty and hunger, education, healthcare, and environmental sustainability are to be accomplished, i.e.: Develop a global partnership for development. Without these partnerships of north and south, wealthy and poor nations, the developing nations will not have the resources to fully achieve the other goals so necessary for improvement of the lives of their people.

Of the three recurring themes—aid, trade, and debt—two are closely related to LCWR's ongoing work for justice. Many congregations, if not already addressing fair trade issues, were spurred to action by the 2003 assembly resolution on the FTAA. Since 2000, many congregations have also been involved with the issue of debt cancellation for impoverished nations, especially through the work of Jubilee USA Network.

Urgent Action Needed for Darfur

The death rates in Darfur have exceeded the definition of "humanitarian crisis," and must be identified as "genocide," as Secretary of State Colin Powell recently acknowledged. On September 13, 2004, the UN World Health Organization released a survey stating that more than 200 internally displaced persons are dying every day in north and west Darfur because of diseases or because of violent attacks. The survey's results surpass the accepted threshold of one death per 10,000 people per day for a humanitarian crisis.

UN agencies, assisted by NGOs, have increased distribution of relief services. However, the UN has not yet determined that multinational intervention is needed. For many weeks there have been demonstrations every Wednesday outside the Sudanese embassy in Washington, DC, with arrests of members of interfaith communities, local congressional representatives, and well-known persons such as Ben and Jerry, "the ice cream guys."

Many LCWR members and their communities have protested the genocide in Darfur in a variety of ways and have been praying for an end to the violence. Another possible action can be found on the website of Africa Action: www.africaaction.org.

'Make All Things New': March 11-14, 2005 Ecumenical Advocacy Days for Global Peace with Justice

Ecumenical Advocacy Days is hosting its third year of lobbying from a faith base for the needs of the poor and marginalized. The event will be held in Washington, DC and will focus on critical regions and issues including: Africa, Latin America, the Middle East, the United States, economic justice, and eco-justice. The conference includes major speakers, workshops, and issue briefings to prepare for lobbying on the Hill on the last day. The Catholic Organizing Group hopes to promote greater Catholic participation in 2005. For further information go to www.AdvocacyDays.org.

From the LCWR Executive Director

There is a Season

*For everything there is a season,
And a time for every matter under heaven...
A time to weep and a time to laugh –
A time to mourn and a time to dance –*

This lyrical litany from Ecclesiastes – so familiar, so universal – was the first reading today at our Friday morning Cameron Street liturgy. In a hauntingly simple way, the writer names all the ordinary rhythms of a human life, and of humanity's story. The piece has a gentling effect – almost hypnotic and soothing, as if the speaker is saying to us across the ages, "Don't worry – this is all very natural, everything has its time and place."

I was struck today by the pairing of polar opposites, suggesting that neither experience can exist without the other. The reality of inevitable death makes life all the more precious. Sad times turn joyful times sweeter. Without darkness, the dawn holds no meaning.

The natural world does not fight these seasons of gain and loss, rising and falling. Squirrels don't protest the coming winter; they just stock up and thicken their nests. Trees put out buds for next year's blooms in the fall – before the winter snow – and wrap them securely in a protective coat until the spring. Salmon swim upstream to their deaths in order to give birth to the next generation.

Our human tendency, however, is to hold on to a season, to prolong it indefinitely rather than to meet its partner. Don't like winter? Fly to Florida. (Except not in hurricane season!) Don't like aging? Get a facelift. Don't like boredom? Grab

*Our human tendency, however,
is to hold on to a season, to prolong it indefinitely
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the remote. But this artificial avoidance of the partner season denies its very necessity to living richly textured, multidimensional lives.

We seem to be in several seasons right now. LCWR is in a season of trial, as you know. Religious life is in a season of redesign. The Church seems to be in a season of orthodoxy.



Carole Shinnick, SSND

And our country wanders in a season of leaderless-ness. I often find myself yearning for the dearer seasons – of energizing projects, of post-Council renewal, of pre-assassination Camelot. I can only trust that other seasons will come and that these seasons will "season" us – shaping us into divine works of art with depth and texture and light.

Perhaps no one articulates the spirituality of human seasons better than Constance Fitzgerald, OCD in her masterful essay, "Impasse and Dark Night." She writes:

Paradoxically, a situation of no potential is loaded with potential, and impasse becomes the place for the reconstitution of the intuitive self. This means the situation of being helpless can be efficacious, not merely self-denying and demanding of passivity. While nothing seems to be moving forward, one is, in fact, on a homeward exile – *if* one can yield in the right way...¹

So, dear friends, let us embrace our seasons. Let us walk companionably together on our collective homeward exile. Let us trust our provident God to season us well.

¹ From *Living with Apocalypse* (San Francisco: Harper and Row, 1984) also available at the website for Engaging Impasse developed by Nancy Sylvester, IHM at: <http://www.geocities.com/baltimorecarmel/johncross/impasse.html>.



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Upcoming LCWR Dates

LCWR Leading from Within Retreat

Winter Park, Florida

January 16-21, 2005

LCWR Delegation to Mexico

February 19-26, 2005

LCWR New Leader Workshop

Passionist Retreat Center

Riverdale, NY

March 17-19, 2005

LCWR Assembly

Anaheim, California

August 19 -- 23, 2005

LCWR-CMSM Delegation to El Salvador

November 30 -- December 6, 2005

LCWR Systemic Change Think Tank,

Franciscan Center -- Tampa, Florida

February 12-14, 2006

LCWR Assembly

Atlanta, Georgia

August 18 -- 22, 2006

Medicare Issues New Regulations

Medicare recently issued new regulations, reversing an earlier position it had held. This regulation has already gone into effect. Under the new regulations, members of religious orders working for church entities outside their order and who are receiving insurance coverage from their outside employer will have Medicare as their secondary payer, and their employee group health plan as their primary payer.

This reverses a position that Medicare had taken just a few years earlier, in which Medicare would have been primary in the situation just mentioned.

In the past several years there has been frequent confusion over the issue of Medicare as primary payer for members of religious orders covered by church employers' group health plans. It is anticipated that these employers, and their insurance providers will continue to struggle with the new regulation. Two common concerns arise from this change of regulations: 1) negotiation with the employer to obtain primary coverage from the employer's health plan. 2) working to ensure that claims are paid in a timely manner by both the primary and secondary carrier.

There are many variables involved in processing of Medicare claims during the implementation of this change, e.g., when the person went on Medicare; whether Medicare was ever considered primary, and when and how it was changed to secondary; the level of understanding of this issue and its history by the Medicare office handling the claim, as well as by the Employer Plan claims office; the type of Employer Plan and level of coverage; the actual language of the employer's insurance contract; the level of cooperation of the employer, the Employer's Plan and Medicare; the extent of health care needed by the member in period when neither Medicare nor the Employer's Plan is willing to provide coverage; etc. Because of this, it is anticipated that processing and appealing of claims will be time-consuming since it will require individual attention to the specific facts of each case, and education of all the parties to proper handling of each claim.

LRCR and NATRI are continuing to research this issue with a view to providing some relief and/or facilitating claims processing for members of religious orders. More information will be forthcoming as it becomes available. Materials relating to this issue will also be available from LRCR at www.LRCR.org or at NATRI at www.NATRI.org.

Requests Received for Reprint of Earth Reflection Books

Several requests have been made for reprints of *Tending the Holy*, the LCWR Earth reflection book. Before doing a reprint of this publication, LCWR would like to see if there is enough interest in purchasing additional copies to make a reprint cost effective.

In October an online message will be sent to all members and associates asking for an indication of interest in a reprint. Members and associates are asked to pass on the information to other organizations or individuals who may be interested in ordering book copies. If sufficient interest is indicated, a reprint will be done.

Countdown to October 1: Hope for Debt Cancellation

For the first time, 100% debt cancellation for impoverished nations is on the table. Jubilee USA Network calls on the US Treasury Department to push forward its proposal to the G7 Finance Ministers when they meet on October 1. Supporters gathered outside the US Treasury on September 21 and will picket again on October 1. Jubilee urges that letters to the Treasury and to the White House calling for 100% debt cancellation be mailed or faxed before October 1. See www.jubileeusa.org for addresses and sample letters.

Resources Available from the National Religious Retirement Office

The National Religious Retirement Office recently published *Planning for Retirement and Mission: A Best Practices Study*. This summary report of the research conducted by the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate (CARA) for the Commission on Religious Life and Ministry identifies replicable best practices used by religious institutes that have been particularly successful in addressing the retirement needs of their members while maintaining a clear focus on the ongoing mission and ministry priorities of their institutes.

The NRRO staff has also developed workshops that will engage religious in dialogue about the findings of this study. These workshops will be available upon request to regional meetings of major superiors, treasurers and/or retirement directors as well as religious families.

FROM THE
CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF
RELIGIOUS LIFE

Calendar of Coming Events

January 6-8, 2005	Cultural Audit Workshop <i>Mercy Center Burlingame, CA</i>
April 24-26, 2005	Religious Leadership Forum <i>Shalom Center Dubuque, IA</i>
August 11-13, 2005	Cultural Audit Workshop <i>Catholic Theological Union Chicago, IL</i>

Religious Formation Conference Regional Workshops 2004 - 2005

A Movement in Hope: Continuing the Conversation
on a Theology of Religious Life

- Region 1 -- October 29-30, 2004
Framingham, MA -- Janet Ruffing, RSM
- Region 2 -- November 12-13, 2004
Mendham, NJ -- Katherine Hanley, CSJ
- Region 3 -- April 1-2, 2005
Immaculata, PA -- Gary Riebe-Estrella, SVD
- Region 6 -- November 12-13, 2004
Dayton, OH -- Patricia Walter, OP
- Region 7 -- April 29-30, 2005
Plymouth, MI -- Mary Ellen Sheehan, IHM
- Region 8 -- February 25-26, 2005
Chicago, IL -- Anthony Gittins, CSSp
- Region 9 -- October 8-9, 2004
Racine, WI -- Donald Senior, CP
- Region 10 -- April 15-16, 2005
St. Louis, MO -- Patricia Walter, OP
- Region 11 -- October 1-2, 2004
Valley City, ND -- Mary Ellen Sheehan, IHM
- Region 12 -- November 12-13, 2004
San Antonio, TX -- Gary Riebe-Estrella, SVD
- Region 14N -- April 8-9, 2005
San Francisco, CA -- Gary Riebe-Estrella, SVD
- Region 14S -- November 5-6, 2004
Los Angeles, CA -- Anita de Luna, MCDP

Additional information is on the RFC website: http://www.relforcon.org/5_wkshops/5_2004workshops.htm

Day One is for leadership ministers and vocation and formation ministers.

Day Two is for leadership ministers, vocation and formation ministers, seasoned and newer members and associates.