

Subject: Unity in Diversity, Inspired Workplace, and More!



North American Association of Christians in Social Work
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NACSW Member eNews - April 2017

"How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!"
[Psalm 133:1]



NACSW Unity in Diversity Statement

NACSW's Board recently developed a statement to reaffirm NACSW's longstanding policy of being a place where Christians in social work hold Christ at the center and from there engage one another from the diversity and depth of our various theological and denominational traditions, learning from and challenging one another.

Check out NACSW's [Unity in Diversity Statement](#)

New Website Announcement

If you haven't seen it already, NACSW invites you to visit our brand new website. [Check it out today!](#)

In response to NACSW members and friends, NACSW's new website is more attractive, user-friendly, and chock full of useful information and features on every page. We'd love to hear what you think about the new look and feel of our new website. If you have any comments and/or suggestions for continued growth and improvement, send us an [email](#) to let us know.

We look forward to the contribution this new website will make to NACSW's mission to equip its members to bring together faith and practice in fresh and exciting ways!



New CEU training

["Workforce Development: Lessons Learned in a Faith Based Agency"](#)
by Eric Saunders, LCSW; video-based training; 1.0 CEU



"I Live in a Homeless Shelter..."
by Stephen Baldrige

In this blog entry entitled "[I Live in a Homeless Shelter.](#)" NACSW member Stephen Baldrige shares about his family's

April Audio Conference

Remember - NACSW's next audio conference webinar is scheduled for **Monday, April 24, 2017 at 1:00 pm** (Eastern). This webinar is entitled "**The Inspired Workplace: How Building Community at Work Unlocks Organizational Potential**" and will be presented by Hugh Drouin and Marv Franz.

decision to move out of their house and into a facility that serves as an emergency shelter for individuals and families experiencing homelessness in Abilene, Texas. This decision came about when the board of directors of a local organization on which he served developed a new vision of housing services centered on the concept of intentional community—a community that started with recognizing and honoring the dignity and self-worth of all the neighbors being served. Rather than staffing this shelter with hourly workers, the organization felt they needed someone willing to live with the shelter residents, someone whose role was to experience community and develop relationships with the others in that community.

Stephen felt called by God to put his money where his mouth is, and in November, he and his family of six took a step of faith, leaving their house to move into this emergency shelter (with their dog). In this blog entry, Stephen shares what he describes as "a cataclysmic collision of faith, social work, and ethics," and some of the hardest weeks of life where he has had to learn to put others needs before those of his family and where the intersection of faith and social work has taken him into deep, terrifying waters."

[Read this Blog! >](#)

People in workplaces today are hungry for a greater sense of belonging and engagement. This can be accomplished by transforming organizational cultures to become more nurturing and affirming places for its workers. Christian leaders have a responsibility to create such cultures. It is the truest expression of servant leadership which all Christian leaders should aspire to implement in the workplaces they are called to serve. The session will touch on the key principles and initiatives needed in contemporary workplaces to insure that staff is engaged, inspired and continue to grow professionally, personally and spiritually.

[Click here for additional information about this webinar. >](#)

SOCIAL WORK & CHRISTIANITY

Here is a sample article from the Winter 2016 issue of SWC:

["Supporting Caregivers Who Care for African American Elders: A Pastoral Perspective"](#)



"Navigating End-of-Life Issues with Clients: An Overview for Social Workers"

Julie Griffin

End-of-life issues are a part of life we will all encounter whether prepared or not. The social work profession is in a unique position to promote positive and factual understanding while demystifying societal fears surrounding matters of life and death. Social workers who are informed about end-of-life issues empower their clients and the general public to move beyond preconceived ideas toward sustainable action that will meet long term goals helping reduce their fears of the future.

[Go to the Sample Podcast >](#)

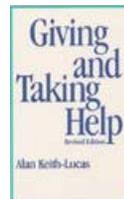
Mark Your Calendars - Upcoming Webinars & Podcasts

Webinars / Audio Conferences

- April 24, 2017
1:00 pm – 2:15 pm (Eastern)
"The Inspired Workplace - How Building Community at Work Unlocks Organizational Potential"
(Hugh Drouin and Marv Franz)
- September 25, 2017
1:00 pm – 2:15 pm (Eastern)
"Sharing the Story - Living and Teaching in the Shadow of Ferguson"
(Kimberly Carter and Jill Schreiber)

Featured Podcasts

- April 2017: *"Navigating End-of-Life Issues with Clients: An Overview for*



Featured Book

Giving and Taking Help
Alan Keith-Lucas

Alan Keith-Lucas' *Giving and Taking Help*, first published in 1972, has become a classic in the social work

literature on the helping relationship. *Giving and Taking Help* is a uniquely clear, straightforward, sensible, and wise examination of what is involved in the helping process—the giving and taking of help. It reflects on perennial issues and themes yet is grounded in highly practice-based and pragmatic realities. It respects both the potential and limitations of social science in understanding the nature of persons and the helping process. It does not shy away from confronting issues of values, ethics, and world views. It is at the same time profoundly personal yet reaching the theoretical and generalizable. It has a point

Social Workers" (Julie Griffin)

- May 2017: *"All Things New: Neo-Calvinist Groundings for Social Work"* (Jim Vanderwoerd)
- June 2017: *"Integration of Clients' Spirituality among Christians in Social Work"* (Holly Oxhandler)
- July 2017: *"Irresistable Revolution: A Quest to Be Ordinary Radicals"* (Shane Claiborne)

of view.

[Learn more! Buy this Book! >](#)

Quicklinks

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Contact Us!

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