

Alan Keith Lucas Lecture – Friday November 8th, 2019
11:45am – 12:45pm (1.0CE)

Linda Plitt Donaldson

Restoring Hope in Challenging Times

Linda Plitt Donaldson will invite participants into a reflection about the ways in which Christian social workers can bring and restore hope into a troubled world. She will draw on a range of sources to unpack the meaning of hope, its particular meaning for Christians, and its implications for social work.

Learning Objectives: After hearing this presentation, participants will:

- a. Have a fuller understanding of the macro context of our times into which we are called to bring and restore hope
- b. Gain a spiritually-based understanding of hope from a Christian perspective
- c. Be able to describe specific steps they can take to bring and restore hope into the world as Christian social workers.

Simple Outline:

Intro and Current context (10 minutes)
Overview of Hope (25 minutes)
Implications for social workers (10 minutes)

Beginning Bibliography (within last 5 years)

Pope Francis (2018). *Hope*. Liturgical Press

A Testament of Hope: The Essential Writings and Speeches of Martin Luther King, Jr. (HarperCollins: 1991, ©1986)

N.T. Wright. (2018). *Surprised by Hope*, Harper Collins

Chittister, J. (2005). *Scarred by struggle transformed by hope*

Catholic Study Bible

Presenter Bio

Linda Plitt Donaldson, MSW, PhD

Linda is the Assistant Dean and MSW Program Director at the National Catholic School of Social. She is also the Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Religion and Spirituality in Social Work: Social Thought. She has written about the integration of Catholic Social Teaching in graduate social work education, and co-edited a special issue of the journal *Social Work and Christianity* on Catholic Social Teaching and social work that was published in the summer of 2012. Prior to teaching at NCSSS, Dr. Donaldson worked for ten years in a community-based homeless services agency in Washington, D.C, providing direct service, directing programs in advocacy, social justice, family services, and affordable housing.