

Announcing NACSW's 64th Annual Convention 2014 in Annapolis, MD!

NACSW is pleased to announce that our 64th Annual Convention and Training Conference, focused on the theme, "Harbor in the Storm: Beacons of Hope During Challenging Times," will be held in Annapolis, MD from November 6-9, 2014. Especially if you have yet to attend an NACSW convention,



Shane Claiborne



Jim Vanderwoerd



Simone Campbell

we are confident that this will be one you will not want to miss! To complement this great location in the beautiful city of Annapolis, an outstanding line up of plenary speakers and pre-convention institutes speakers have agreed to present at Convention 2014. For example, our two pre-convention institute presenters on November 6th include:

- *Dr. Chris Buckingham* leading a full-day workshop on "Providing Spiritually Sensitive Supervision for Social Workers

and Other Mental Health Providers"

- *Dr. Fred DiBlasio* leading a full-day workshop on "Decision-based Forgiveness Intervention"

In addition, this year's exciting convention plenary speakers include:

- *Shane Claiborne* presenting on "Irresistible Revolution: A Quest to Be Ordinary Radicals"

- *Dr. James Vanderwoerd* speaking on: "All Things New: Neo-Calvinist Groundings for Social Work"

- *Sister Simone Campbell* presenting on: "Nuns on the Bus: The War on Poverty"

There will also be a Friday evening panel discussion including executive directors from NASW, CSWE, and NACSW which will address ways that social work associations can work together to promote spiritual and reli-

gious sensitivity and competency within the social work profession.

NACSW plans to once again offer over 100 workshops and poster presentations. These will be divided among 12 tracks including: *Direct Practice: Individuals, Couples, Families, and Children; Direct Practice: Groups and Communities; Human Development, Diversity, and Behavior in the Environment; Administration*

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NACSW's February Audio Conference Workshop

NACSW will be offering its next audio conference workshop entitled "Intimate Partner Violence and Cultural Competence: Considering the African American Church" on Monday, February 24th from 1:00 pm – 2:15 pm Eastern Standard Time. This audio conference workshop will be presented by Dr. Kesslyn Brade Stennis, Assistant Professor of Social Work at Bowie State University in Maryland, and part-time Chaplain at Georgetown University in Washington, DC.

Intimate partner violence exists in all communities, regardless of ethnic background, socio-economic status, age, sexual

orientation, gender, etc. While there is a growing body of knowledge, more needs to be known about the presence and impact of intimate partner violence in African American communities, and more specifically, in African American communities of faith. This knowledge can provide social workers with information that promotes culturally competent practice with this population.

This presentation will explore the concept of cultural competence as it relates to domestic violence and intimate partner violence in African American faith communities. Results from work with and

research conducted in African American faith communities will be presented. Finally, a culturally sensitive model of intervention which evolved from the aforementioned work and research will be presented.

Kesslyn Brade Stennis received an MSW from Ohio State University, and an M.Div and Ph.D from Howard University. She also holds a certificate in Women's Studies, and has worked and researched within the African American faith communities for approximately 15 years. Currently, Kesslyn is an Assistant Professor

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Audio Conference

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of Social Work at Bowie State University and part-time Chaplain at Georgetown University where she continues to provide academic and spiritual support for emerging scholars and world leaders.

Audio conferences have been designed so that any person or group can participate simply by calling a telephone number provided by NACSW from any telephone in the US or Canada. In addition, interested participants may simultaneously log into these sessions via their computers to follow the presenter's PowerPoint presentation on-line, see the presenter on screen, and engage in interactive chat during the session. A couple of days after you register for this session, NACSW will email you the conference phone number as well as instructions on how to log into this session. If you would prefer to just call in (and not use your computer), we will make a PowerPoint file



Kesslyn Brade Stennis

available to you prior to the session.

For additional information (including workshop description and learning objectives), and/or to register online, you can go to NACSW's website at <http://www.nacsw.org>, or you can contact the NACSW office tollfree at 888-426-4712 to register on the phone.

Current NACSW members and all staff working for NACSW organizational members may participate in this audio conference at no cost. Friends of NACSW may participate in this session for just \$26 (or \$15 for fulltime students). Participants are eligible to earn 1.25 continuing education contact hours approved by the Association of Social Work Boards (also at no cost for NACSW members) by receiving a score of 80% or better on a short twelve-question quiz based on the material covered in the conference.

We hope you are able to join us on February 24th for this important audio conference workshop – we encourage you to register today!

CATALYST

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Rick Chamiec-Case, Ph.D., MSW, MAR
Executive Director & *Catalyst* Editor

Catalyst is published four times a year for members of the North American Association of Christians in Social Work. The purpose of *Catalyst* is to inform the membership regarding the mission and programs of NACSW. *Catalyst* is also one of NACSW's primary means of communicating with the membership about association news, events, activities and developments. It includes statements of opinion by a variety of members and friends. The views expressed do not necessarily represent positions of NACSW.

Publication in *Catalyst* in no way implies endorsement or certification of the authors' qualifications, ability, or proficiency to practice social work, or to integrate faith and practice. Similarly, publication of an advertisement in *Catalyst* does not imply endorsement by NACSW of any services or products advertised. *Catalyst* articles may be copied or reproduced for personal use, but appropriate credit to *Catalyst* must appear on all copies made.

Convention

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and Work with Organizations; Public Administration and Policy; Professional Relationships, Values and Ethics; Social Work Education; Social Work Research; Technology & Social Work; Student-Focused; Research and Practice with Ethnically Diverse Populations; and Immigration and Acculturation. This last track was specially recommended by this year's convention planning committee to support the convention theme. This track will focus on the assets as well as the challenges for immigrant populations across generations with regard to language, job skills and employment opportunities, culture, and spirituality; impact and process of acculturation; public policy issues, and other related topics.

Please consider submitting a workshop proposal for one of the twelve tracks listed above. Workshop proposals can be submitted online by visiting www.nacsw.org, and selecting the convention logo.

NACSW's Convention 2014 will be held at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Annapolis, which is located within walking distance of Annapolis Towne Centre and its shopping and dining options. A short ride via the hotel's complementary

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CALL FOR PRESENTATIONS

NACSW Convention 2014

Annapolis, Maryland November 6-9, 2014

NACSW invites you to submit a proposal for a workshop proposal for its Convention 2014 in Annapolis, MD. Proposals may be submitted for the following tracks:

1. Direct Practice: Individuals, Couples, Families and Children - Presentations in this track may focus on (but are not limited to): clinical social work, case management and social work non-clinical practice, etc.

2. Human Development, Diversity, and Behavior in the Environment - Presentations in this track may focus on (but are not limited to): human development and behavior across the lifespan; disabilities issues; spiritual competence, etc.

3. Direct Practice: Groups and Communities - Presentations in this track may focus on (but are not limited to): community organizing and development; advocacy;

international social work; issues of poverty; group social work, etc.

4. Administration and Work with Organizations - Presentations in this track may focus on (but are not limited to): management and leadership of organizations; organizational culture; grant writing; program development, etc.

5. Public Administration and Policy - Presentations in this track may focus on (but are not limited to): social policy; government funding issues; economic issues; social justice; church and denominational policy and politics, etc.

6. Professional Relationships, Values and Ethics - Presentations in this track may focus on (but are not limited to): social work ethics; the impact of social workers' faith on their work, social work

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NACSW Board Election Results

NACSW is pleased to announce the final results of its Fall, 2013 Board election. The four candidates who were elected by the membership to serve on NACSW's Board with terms running from 2014 - 2016 are:

- Tanya Brice, Columbia, SC
- Denis Costello, Toronto, ON
- Rene Drumm, Collegedale, TN

• Joe Kuilema, Grand Rapids, MI

Board officers for 2014 are as follows:

- President: Denis Costello, Toronto, ON
- Vice President: Karen Helder, Grand Rapids, MI
- Secretary: Tina Gallardo, Rochester, MI
- Treasurer: Terry Wolfer, Columbia, SC

Please keep these newly elected Board members and officers in your prayers for wisdom and guidance.

Denis Costello
Vice President
November, 2013

Call for Board Nominations for 2015-2017

Current members of NACSW are invited to propose candidates to run for NACSW's Board of Directors for terms starting 2015. Board members are primarily responsible for setting NACSW's future goals and direction, developing policies to guide the organization's efforts to meet those goals, and ensuring that the organization has and uses effectively the

resources required to accomplish its mission. Nominees will be evaluated and prioritized in accordance with current Board needs for expertise and diversity.

Board candidates must be NACSW members who are committed to the mission of NACSW. They must be willing and able to attend the six semi-annual meetings of the Board that occur in vari-

ous locations over the three year term. Board members are responsible for their own travel, lodging, and meal expenses.

To propose a nominee, you can download a nomination form from NACSW's website at: <http://www.nacsw.org/Board-Nom3.htm>, or contact the NACSW office for a copy.

NACSW E-Publishes Its Convention 2013 Proceedings

For the 11th year in a row, NACSW has published a convention proceedings comprised of representative papers and poster sessions presented during its Convention 2013 in Atlanta, GA October 17-20, 2013. On-line access to these proceedings are now available at no cost to NACSW members and friends at: <http://www.nacsw.org/Publications/Proceedings2013/Proceedings2013.htm>. A wide range of materials from full-length papers to detailed presentation outlines were submitted for inclusion.

Since NACSW's goal is to make these materials available as quickly as possible, except for some very basic formatting, accepted submissions have not undergone a formal editing process. NACSW's hope is that this proceedings will significantly extend the impact and reach of the materials presented in Atlanta at Convention 2013!

Presentations

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supervision, etc.

7. Social Work Education - Presentations in this track may focus on (but are not limited to): integrating faith & spirituality in social work curriculum; CSWE accreditation issues; religiously sensitive educational policies and practices, etc.

8. Social Work Research - Presentations in this track may focus on (but are not limited to): methodological issues in research on religion and spirituality in social work practice, partnerships in conducting research, etc.

9. Technology & Social Work - Presentations in this track may focus on (but are not limited to): innovative ways to use technology to enhance social work education and practice; distance learning education and training, etc.

10. Student-Focused - Presentations in this track may focus on (but are not limited to): a) presentations by BSW and MSW students from their social work programs; b) presentations for BSW, MSW,

and Ph.D. students, etc.

11. Immigration and Acculturation - Presentations in this track may focus on but are not limited to: assets as well as challenges for immigrant populations across generations with regard to language, job skills and employment opportunities, culture, and spirituality.

12. Research and Practice with Ethnically Diverse Populations - Presentations in this track may include but are not limited research and practice approaches regarding communities of color and their expressions of faith and spirituality.

For additional information about how to submit a proposal, you can either go to <http://www.nacsw.org/Convention/Call2014.html> on NACSW's website, or contact the NACSW office at: info@nacsw.org, or call tollfree at 888-426-4712.

Please note that proposal submissions are due by March 1, 2014 (this is a firm deadline). All proposals are peer reviewed. Final decisions will be made and submitters notified in May, 2014. Only a limited number of proposals can be selected.

NACSW T-SHIRTS, MUGS, AND MORE!

In response to requests we've received from our members, NACSW, in conjunction with the online store, Cafepress, is now offering t-shirts, mugs, bags, sweatshirts, baby clothes, water bottles, magnets, ipod cases, and more with the NACSW logo!

Check it out by going to: www.cafepress.com/+nacsw+gifts

PRAYER CORNER

Praying Prayers of Blessing

In the opening chapter of *Repenting of Religion* (2004) by Gregory A. Boyd, the author tells readers about an experience he had while sitting in a shopping mall. He began “people watching” as many of us often do. For every person that walked by, a thought went through his mind. Some positive, some negative. He caught himself and began to realize that he was attaching descriptions, characteristics, and titles on people he had never seen before in his life. Once he realized this, he immediately started talking to God right there in the mall. He shifted his thinking and began instead praying a blessing over each person that walked by. Boyd mentions in his Sunday sermons that this is an exercise he continues to practice to this day when he catches himself placing labels on those around him.



Mallory Birch

Boyd writes, “The only conclusion about other people that God allows us and commands us to embrace is the one given to us on Calvary: people have unsurpassable worth because Jesus died for them” (p. 107). As people pass us by, the one and only thing that we know about that individual is that Christ died for them. We don’t know their name, their history, or the struggles they face day to day, but we do know that they were *worth* Christ dying on the cross for. And if, in fact, this is the only true thing we know about that person, then what judgment can we pass?

The beautiful thing is that God does

not command anywhere in the Bible that believers are assigned the duty of judgment. That is God’s role, and God’s role only. Rather than taking this on ourselves, we are able to take a deep breath and trust that God is working in the lives of everybody around us. We have the easy job of showing love and simply praying a prayer of blessing over each and every person we encounter. This exercise of praying a blessing over others

helps to diminish our negative thoughts. It also paints a picture for us as we view them in God’s image and see the beauty of His creation. We should see others not as strangers, but as brothers or sisters in Christ whom God loves deeply.

I’ve been a Licensed Social Worker for 5 very short years, and this perspective is one that encourages me in my daily work. It reminds me about equality and keeping everybody on the same playing field. It reminds me to meet each individual where they are at, and to slow down in order to understand the obstacles they are facing. I am not to criticize or judge them, but

rather assign them value and worth. God does not rank sin. I cannot look at myself and my own sin, and say that I am better or worse than another. Matthew 7:4 reads, “How can you say to your brother, ‘Let me take the speck out of your eye,’ when all the time there is a plank in your own eye?” (NIV). This mindset prepares me for difficult discussions. I pray that in my work I will embrace others with the same love that Jesus

Christ has so graciously given me.

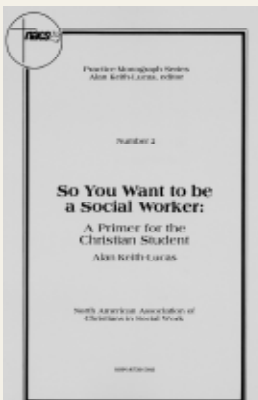
I’ll leave you with a verse from the book of Luke. “Do not judge, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven.” (Luke 6:37, NIV). In your social work practice and in your personal lives, I encourage you to trust that God is working in the lives of others and shift any negative thoughts and judgments you may have into thoughtful prayers of blessing.

Reference

Boyd, G. A. (2004) *Repenting of Religion* Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books.

PUBLICATION AVAILABLE FROM NACSW

SO YOU WANT TO BE A SOCIAL WORKER: A PRIMER FOR THE CHRISTIAN STUDENT



Alan Keith-Lucas. (1985). Botsford, CT: NACSW. *Social Work Practice Monograph Series*.

\$11.00 U.S. (or \$9.00 for NACSW members or orders of 10 or more).

So You Want to Be a Social Worker has proven itself to be an invaluable resource for both students and practitioners who are concerned about the responsible integration of their Christian faith and competent, ethical professional practice. It is a thoughtful, clear, and brief distillation of practice wisdom and responsible guidelines regarding perennial questions that arise, such as the nature of our roles, our ethical and spiritual responsibilities, the fallacy of “imposition of values,” the problem

of sin, and the need for both courage and humility.

Convention

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shuttle takes you to Historic Annapolis and the waterfront.

With all that will be going on during this year’s conference, we encourage you to mark your calendars early and plan to join us for Convention 2014 in Annapolis, MD next November. We look forward to seeing you there!

Welcoming Diversity Within NACSW's Membership

It is with a certain amount of trepidation that I step into the role of Board president of NACSW. For the past three years I have served on the Board. When first elected, I was surprised and honoured, and was not sure what I was getting into! However, an incident occurred at an early face-to-face Board meeting that confirmed my commitment to serve as a member of NACSW's Board.



Denis Costello

It was the first day of a two-day meeting and debate was in the air. Board members are usually strong-minded individuals who speak up out of deep conviction. On this particular topic, the Board was evenly split on the issue being discussed. When it came to a vote, I found myself voting against folks I deeply respected. Each of us voted as we thought best, but it was tough. What happened next surprised and inspired me.

We went out for dinner together and there was no personal rancor or animosity. There were no winners or losers. We joined in fellowship at a meal and then retired for the night. The next morning we reopened the issue with the commitment to come to a decision that we could all get behind. There had been prayerful reflection during the night and we were able to

Of course there are differences, and of course we have conflict. In a very human way, we get emotional and we are passionate; however, we work hard not to let it get personal. Our passion is for what is best for NACSW, but even more so, our passion is to do God's will.

forge a decision that we could all support. I feel that we came to a good decision, but it was the process that impressed me.

Over the past three years, I have come to respect and love the other Board members, and the many members of NACSW that I meet at convention. Of course there are differences, and of course we have conflict. In a very human way, we get emotional and we are passionate; however, we work hard not to let it get personal. Our passion is for what is best for NACSW, but even more so, our passion is to do God's will.

As I take up the service of being president of NACSW's Board I am conscious of the fine leadership of Sr. Ann Patrick Conrad and David Cecil, the two board presidents whose leadership I have seen

up close. I am also conscious that we have inherited a rich treasure in NACSW and I wish to honour the tradition and work of those who have come before me. At the same time, the future calls us forward.

As Sr. Ann has indicated in the July 2013 edition of the *Catalyst*, we are committed to intentionally making NACSW a welcoming community for the wide diversity that is contained in the phrase "Christians in social work." Honouring our existing members, we want to welcome our sisters and brothers from many different ethnic, cultural and denominational backgrounds who seek ways of integrating their Christian faith and their social work practice. This will stretch all of us and will require a commitment from all of us.

My own experience as a Canadian, though born in Ireland, was that NACSW reached out to welcome to me, particularly our outstanding executive director, Rick. In turn, I also had to make a commitment to NACSW. Of course, there will be times of difficulty and conflict – any relationship without these is probably dead! At the same time, growing through conflict is what helps us grow and broadens our understanding of the other and also of self. My experience of conflict resolution at the Board and membership level convinces me that we can welcome continuing diversity within our membership and deal with the challenges that such change will bring.

I ask for your prayers as the Board, Rick and I take on the service of leadership of NACSW. I also welcome your comments and thoughts. May we all do God's will as we toil in our small patch of His vineyard.

Professional Liability Insurance Available for NACSW Members

Since April, 1998 NACSW has been pleased to offer professional liability insurance to both its members who practice social work in the United States, as well as to BSW and MSW students. The company that provides this insurance, the American Professional Agency (APA), is also the provider of insurance for the National Association of Social Workers (NASW), as well as a host of other well-known non-profit associations.

NACSW's insurance plan includes both part-time and fulltime coverage, and meets a wide range of insurance needs

corresponding to NACSW's diverse membership. As such, any of the following are eligible to apply for insurance coverage under NACSW's plan:

- Self-employed or consulting/per diem social workers or counselors with an MSW, MA, or similar clinical degree
- Practicing social workers or counselors (with either a BSW or MSW or similar degrees) who work for a social service organization
- Social work interns
- Pastors/clergy

For additional information (including

current rates) or to access an insurance application, you can either visit NACSW's website at <http://www.nacsw.org/liability.html>, or contact the American Professional Agency (800.421.6694). If you are a social work student intern, contact Roseanne directly at 800.421.6694, Ext. 265.

Remember to check to make sure your NACSW membership is current before you apply for this liability insurance. The American Professional Association contacts NACSW to confirm the membership of any applicant before they process an application form.

Newest Trainings Added to NACSW's On-line Continuing Education Program

NACSW is pleased to announce that it has recently added several new trainings to its online continuing education program at www.nacsw.org/CEU.

New trainings recently added include the following:

Assessing/Preparing Adoptive Families to Care for Traumatized Children

Jayne Schooler; Hope Haslam Straughan; video-based training

How can we better prepare foster and adoptive families to care for children with a history of trauma? This training provides participants with the tools to better prepare families and narrow the gap between expectations of the adoption experience and the realities that come.

Ethical Integration of Christian Faith and Social Work Practice: Pursuing Faithfulness and Professional Integrity

Rick Chamiec-Case; audio-based training

This training illustrates a wide variety of ways social workers integrate their faith and social work practice, and how these different approaches to integration contribute to Christian social workers' understanding of both their social work and their faith. In addition, this training explores a range of ethical issues related to the integration of faith and practice.

Spiritual Self-Assessment as an Integral Component of Social Work Education

Stacey L. Barker; video-based training

This presentation discusses the findings of a qualitative research study designed to explore how social workers define spirituality and how they use spirituality in the practice context. It also introduces a template developed to assist faculty in helping students assess their own spirituality as a starting point for practice competence.

Cultivating Healing After Childhood Sexual Abuse

Julie Woodley; video-based training

This training takes participants through the pain and healing process of childhood sexual abuse. The presenter tells her own story, as well as stories of others including video clips of respected professionals.



The presenter takes you through a journey of healing to help you understand the dynamics of childhood sexual trauma for women and men and how to invite Christ into their healing through presentation, story and the visual media of storytelling.

Equipping Social Workers to Support Clergy Who Are Providing Care for Returning Veterans

John P. Oliver; video-based training

Clergy and faith communities are often on the frontlines of caring for veterans suffering from adjustment disorders and mental illness. This workshop explores a variety of ways that social workers can educate, empower and engage clergy and faith communities to be supportive members of the community's healing team.

Developing the Mindset and Practices for Research and Scholarship

Michael Sherr; audio-based training

Writing, even for research and scholarship, is a creative form of expression that involves a cognitive and emotional mindset. It also involves developing effective behavioral habits. This training invites educators to begin reflecting upon the mindset and practices attuned to experiencing the joy of productive research and scholarship.

Joy in Social Work

David Pooler; video-based training

In this session, the presenter explores how social workers can find great joy in their work. The training examines aspects of positive psychology and appreciative inquiry that inspire and inform our think-

ing about joy in work. Listen in to find out how you can find more joy in your work!

Catholic Social Teaching and Social Justice

Robert Constable; Lynn Milgram Mayer; et. al.; text-based training

The purpose of this training is to teach the principles of Catholic Social Teaching (CST), and apply those concepts to the field of social work. It describes the delivery of services while working from a CST perspective, as well as different populations that this type of delivery might specifically target. Both methods and advantages of spiritually-informed value sets are described throughout the context of the training.

Social Work and the Kingdom of God

Ken Stoltzfus

This training demonstrates the presenter's unique way of discussing social work as it relates to the Bible in his undergraduate classes (used in Intro to Social Work and Practices Skills courses). The presenter lays out the format of the class session, which includes review questions, lecture, and discussion.

Online continuing education through NACSW offers easy, "on-demand" access to a wide array of high quality training options sensitive to the thoughtful integration of faith and practice accessible via computer or mobile device. All trainings included in this program provide CEUs accredited by the Association of Social Work Boards.

NACSW's online continuing education program offers high-quality trainings in several different formats including video-based trainings, audio-based trainings, text-based trainings and virtual study groups, a more *interactive* approach to small group, online continuing education.

On-line trainings cost between \$15-\$20 per CEU hour. Members of NACSW with receive a 20% discount on all courses, and additional discounts are available for alumni of program partners (<http://www.nacsw.org/CEUPartners.htm>) as well.

For a full catalog listing, go to: www.nacsw.org/CEU!

Three New Year Challenges for Three Types of Tech Users

The beginning of the year is always a good time to reflect on the past and prepare for the future. You

might be reading this after you've already created your resolutions, but I'd encourage you to consider adding something technology related to your plate for the next 12 months. We all have room for improvement or change when it comes to technology. I've created three very broad categories to describe users of technology (you can self-select where you fall. Within each of these categories you'll find 3 challenges to prod you along!



Nick Cross

Luddite

You might fear technology or not know how to apply it to your work or life. You can easily use one form of technology (computers, Word, etc) but refrain from using others (online bill pay, social media, smartphones, etc). You probably have good reasons for being a Luddite, but I argue that you are missing out on some things even if you are quite content! Here are my 3 challenges for you in 2014:

1) *Learn more about the technological impacts of your craft* – Even by reading my column each quarter you are learning more about technology and its impact on social work and our lives. Keep reading them, but find something else. Do a Google search on social work and technology or look at NASW's technology resources. A lot of people are writing about this area of our field. Technology impacts our daily work flow and it also impacts those we serve. We owe it to them to at least be conversant in these areas.

2) *Create an account* - Sign up for a Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Pinterest, or some other social media account. I didn't say you actually had to use it, but sign up and see what happens!! My mom created a Facebook account so she could see pictures of the grandkids and other fam-

ily members. Now that she's retired she spends more time on Facebook and has broadened her "friend" base.

3) *Take the risk* - Your risk could be signing up for a social media account, but it also could be using said account. You could also challenge yourself to do some research and start including technology in your work, for example, taking technology assessments of clients, trying a new software your organization just purchased. You get to decide, but take a technology risk this year!

Average Joe/Jane

1) *Enjoy the middle* - You are in a great spot. Not afraid to use some technology but also not needing or caring about what the hot ticket tech is right now. That's ok and maybe the best place to be! You can enjoy sharing what you know and your experiences with friends and co-workers. You probably do some research related to technology and use what seems relevant. Keep it up!

2) *Revive something* - You probably signed up for some social media accounts through the years. This year go back and revive one, take some time to figure it out and give it a real go. Maybe skip things like Myspace or sites that you haven't heard anyone talk about in the past year or so.

3) *Take the risk* - Do you have an idea kicking around in the back of your head? Maybe starting a blog, or figuring out Twitter for work... do it! Step out and see what you've got!

Super Savvy

1) *Share your knowledge* - As with much in life we should share the knowledge and expertise we have with others. This could be as big as presenting at a conference or as small as spending an hour with a co-worker explaining a new office technology. How about hosting a brown-bag lunch with co-workers/colleagues where you talk about something technology related. We need to spread our knowledge and understanding of technology around!

2) *Clean up your space* - Take some time this year to unfriend, unfollow, or unsubscribe to take back control of your digital life. Once you start it becomes fairly easy. That e-mail list you are on but never

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UPCOMING AUDIO CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS AND PODCASTS

AUDIO CONFERENCES

February 2014 Audio Conf./Webinar
"Intimate Partner Violence and Cultural Competence: Considering the African American Church"
Kesslyn Brade Stennis
February 24, 2014
1 pm – 2:15 pm (Eastern)

April 2014 Audio Conference/Webinar
"Manifesting Christian Principles as Supervisors, Managers and Administrators"
Frank Raymond
April 28, 2014
1 pm – 2:15 pm (Eastern)

PODCASTS

January 2014's Featured Podcast
"Preparing Communities to Help Our Service Members Return Home"
Lanny Endicott & Dexter Freeman
Audio Conference Workshop
Recorded on September 24, 2012

February 2014's Featured Podcast
"Transformational Intervention and Aftercare for Sex Trafficking Survivors"
Lisa Thompson
Recorded at NACSW Convention 2012
in St. Louis, MO
on October 25, 2012

March 2014's Featured Podcast
"Trauma, Change, and Hope in Child Welfare"
Charles Stikes
Recorded at NACSW Convention 2012
in St. Louis, MO
on October 27, 2012

April 2014's Featured Podcast
"Preparing for Practice: The Faith Integration Experiences of Christian Social Work Students"
Charles Stikes
Recorded at an NACSW Raleigh Area Workshop in Quincy, MA
on November 16, 2012

For more information about any NACSW audio conference and monthly podcasts, please contact the NACSW office at info@nacsw.org, 888-426-4712 (toll-free), or visit our website at www.nacsw.org.

FREE FOR NACSW MEMBERS!

Proactivity in Addressing Issues of Diversity, Integration of Faith and Practice, and Knowledge Production: The 29th Annual Educators Forum

On Friday, October 18, 2013, twenty-eight people gathered for the 29th Annual Educators Forum held at NACSW's 63rd Annual Convention in Atlanta, Georgia. They represented 18 different colleges and universities in 13 states and provinces, including 13 Christian, 1 private and secular, and 4 state institutions of higher education.



David Sherwood

After the usual introductions and sharing of news, the floor was opened for discussion of issues of mutual interest and concern. Discussion began with a couple of issues that had been submitted to the conveners Ed Kuhlmann and David Sherwood prior to the Convention.

The first issue had to do with the importance—and complexity—of helping social work students deal ethically and competently with issues of sexual orientation in social work practice. Four NACSW

members, Tanya Brice, Rene Drumm, Denise Levy, and Amy Tan, have contributed chapters to a forthcoming publication by CSWE, *Conservative Christianity and Sexual Orientation in Social Work: Privilege, Oppression, and the Pursuit of Human Rights*, edited by Dessel & Bolen. The book was to be the focus of an authors' panel discussion at the CSWE-APM on November 2, 2013 and the NACSW-member chapter authors were interested in getting feedback from participants in the Educators Forum and encouraging those who would be attending the APM to come to the panel discussion.

The second issue began with a discussion of identifying and measuring faith-integration practice behaviors under the 2008 EPAS in social work BSW and MSW programs under Christian auspice. It was pointed out that this is an area in which Christians in social work education can make a significant contribution to the profession, both in programs under Christian auspice and in those under state and secular/private auspice, since all social workers need to develop competence in dealing with spiritual and religious beliefs—both their own and those of clients with whom they work. Participants were encouraged to become proactive in developing and re-

fining relevant practice behaviors and their measurement in their own programs and to then take the next step of contributing to the larger professional discussion and scholarship in this area. Participants were encouraged to train as site visitors for the CSWE Commission on Accreditation.

The group discussion then segued into a larger conversation about how members of NACSW can develop a larger role as significant “knowledge producers” for the profession through targeted research and publication, both through NACSW publications such as *Social Work & Christianity*, books, and monographs, and through other professional journals and publishing houses. Possible strategies discussed included facilitation of networking of NACSW members who are doctoral students with NACSW members who are established researchers and scholars, encouraging promising MSW students to develop papers for publication (perhaps with faculty mentors or co-authors), and the establishing of awards for outstanding student scholarship, including publication in *Social Work & Christianity*.

David Sherwood
Editor, *Social Work & Christianity*
Newberg, OR

Speaking Out...

NACSW MEMBERS AND FRIENDS SHARE THEIR VIEWS

<In response to an email to NACSW faculty members about NACSW's publications.>

I love all these books and am using them in my classes! Students particularly enjoy Keith-Lucas and Hodge.

Blessings and many thanks for this great ministry!

Julia

West Palm Beach, Florida

NACSW is great and I would like to remain a member for as long as I can.

Nilá

Houston, TX

I really appreciate the topics as being different than the regular run of the mill menu offered through other outlets. It is

refreshing to partake of out-of-the box topics!!

Anonymous

NACSW welcomes letters to the editor for the “Speaking Out” section of *Catalyst*. Please submit your comments, ideas, and feedback as members of NACSW to Rick Chamiec-Case at rick@nacs.org.

If you've not received an email from NACSW within the past 4-6 weeks, it is likely we do not have your current email address in our records. NACSW uses email to keep in touch with our members and to regularly send out valuable member resources. If we do not have your current email address, please send it to us at: info@nacs.org, or by calling in to NACSW's office tollfree at: 888.426.4712.

CALL FOR PAPERS

Special Issue of *Social Work and Christianity*

Topic:

Trauma: Impact and Responses

Guest Editors:

Mary Van Hook, Leola Furman,
Perry Benson

Deadline:

March 1, 2014

This special issue of *Social Work and Christianity* will contribute to the understanding of trauma, the impact of various types of trauma on the lives of individuals, families, and communities, and responses that can promote healing from trauma. Traumatic life events can take many forms, including physical violence and abuse, natural disasters, terrorists' acts and war. These events alter people's view of the world and themselves and their relationships with others. The experience of trauma, furthermore, can strengthen or challenge one's religious and spiritual commitments, which may in turn impact the immediate and long-term effects of trauma.

Unfortunately traumatic life events can be part of the life journey for many people. Social workers in many settings are especially likely to encounter people and communities who are experiencing the impact of trauma. As a result, understanding the nature of trauma and ways to promote healing are essential tools for social work practice. Given the focus of *Social Work and Christianity*, manuscripts that address linkages between trauma and religion and spirituality are especially welcome.

Research and conceptual articles that address trauma and social work practice in the following areas are welcome:

- Direct practice with individuals, families, and groups
- Policy practice
- Organizational Practice
- Community Practice
- International Practice
- Social Work Education
- Ethical issues
- Practice with Members of Various Cultural Groups

Guidelines for submitting manuscripts:

All authors are strongly encouraged to contact the special edition editors by email or phone (see contact information below) by January 31, 2014 to discuss ideas for paper submissions. The deadline for all paper submissions is March 1, 2014.

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Challenges

continued from page 7

read, the Facebook friend you've never met. Clean up and stop wasting time and energy on peripheral items. It doesn't take any real time to scroll past or hit delete, but having them gone will make you feel better! But don't get rid of NACSW!!!

3) *Take the risk* - Step out and take on a tech related project that makes you stretch a little bit. Try programming, building a website, blogging, create a mobile app. Take some time to think outside the box

and step out into the risky space and see what happens.

There you have it. A few challenges for you in the coming year. My challenge is to clean up my space. I spent a month last year unsubscribing from an email newsletter each day. It felt very liberating. This year I'm going to unfriend and unfollow people and take back some of my time!! Good luck on your tech related challenges this year!

Reviewing Books for *Social Work and Christianity*

Are you interested in reviewing books for *Social Work and Christianity*? If so, you can learn of books available for review by subscribing to a NACSW listserv. Book review editor Terry Wolfer sends information about books available for review to the Association's general and educator listservs.

For specialized titles, information is occasionally sent to one of the other listservs as well. If you wish to be included in these mailings, you can subscribe to one of NACSW's listservs by going to <http://www.nacsw.org/Listservs.html> on NACSW's website.

In addition, if you find a recent book that seems relevant for the journal's readers, you may submit an unsolicited book review for possible publication at any time.

Books and Articles by NACSW Members

NACSW has a webpage that provides full bibliographical information and 50-100 word descriptions of books and articles written by NACSW members. You can check out this page on our website by going to: <http://www.nacsw.org/Publications/BooksDescribe3.html>.

If you have recently written an article or a book (or are about to have one published), please send us the following information about this work:

- Full bibliographic information
- 50-100 word abstract
- website address of the publisher or distributor
- If applicable, the URL of an Internet webpage we can list as a link to take webpage visitors to where they can download and/or purchase your book or article

Consistent with its mission, NACSW is primarily interested in books and articles that speak to the integration of Christian faith and social work practice.

NACSW members are making important scholarly contributions to the field of social work, and this is one way that NACSW can help to promote this to our membership and beyond!



NACSW Member Stan Remer Receives the Ida M. Cannon Award

NACSW is pleased to extend congratulations to long-time NACSW member Colonel Stanley Remer for receiving the 2013 Ida Cannon Award from the Society for Social Work Leadership in Health Care. This award honors a national figure for outstanding contributions to the leadership of social work in a health care setting. The inspiration for this award, first presented in 1971, was Ida M. Cannon, an early social work leader who made a major contribution to the building of the social work profession – its organization, education base and practice. Ms. Cannon directed the growth of social work at the Massachusetts General Hospital for nearly four decades.

Stan is a faculty member at Valley Forge Christian College in the behavioral sciences department, and received the “Faculty of the Year” award in 2012. Among his other contributions there, Stan established and funded the Remer Endowed Social Work Scholarship Fund for Valley Forge Christian College.

Supporting NACSW by Using Goodsearch or Goodshop

There is an innovative way to generously support NACSW - simply by downloading and using an NACSW toolbar developed by Goodsearch to conduct Internet searches. Each time you use the search box on this toolbar, about a penny is donated to NACSW. You



can download the toolbar by going to: <http://www.goodsearch.com> and selecting NACSW.

In addition, this same NACSW toolbar also allows you to link directly to more than 1,300 stores (from Amazon to Zazzle!) through a program called Goodshop. Each time you make an on-line purchase through Goodshop, a small percentage of that purchase is automatically donated to NACSW - at no cost to you. You may

even save money as the NACSW toolbar provides valuable coupons and discounts for your on-line shopping.

Please feel free to pass this along to your friends and colleagues. The two minutes it takes to download and add this

toolbar to your Internet browser (available for Internet Explorer or Firefox) can lead to valuable, on-going financial support of NACSW and our mission!

Thanks for considering this invitation to download an NACSW toolbar from Goodsearch to help provide generous financial support for NACSW!

Rick Chamiec-Case
Executive Director

Hand Delivering NACSW Posters and Brochures

Each year, NACSW mails out posters with information about NACSW to over 600 accredited social work programs, scores of Christian colleges and seminaries, and hundreds of faith-based organizations and social services ministries throughout the United States and Canada. Our goal over time is to eliminate a still too-frequent comment we hear from persons who contact the NACSW office: “I’ve been a Christian in social work for years. How come I’ve never heard of NACSW?”

However, while mailing out brochures and posters is a useful strategy for dispersing information about NACSW, it is our experience that a large number of these materials are never put out on display, particularly in large university settings. The chances are far greater that NACSW’s materials will actually be posted or dis-

tributed if they are hand-delivered to the program, department, or key staff person in the church or faith-based organization.

Which leads to my request: if you live close to any local colleges, seminaries, or Christian social service organizations or ministries – or if you have colleagues that might not have heard yet about NACSW - would you be willing to hand deliver a NACSW poster and/or stack of brochures on behalf of NACSW? If so, please contact me at the NACSW office (you can call toll-free at 888-426-4712, or email me at info@nacsw.org), and we’ll gladly send out to you as many posters and NACSW brochures as you can use. Thanks for considering this effective way of getting word about NACSW out to students and colleagues.

Rick Chamiec-Case
Executive Director

Without your current email address, NACSW cannot as easily provide you with announcements about NACSW events in your area, the annual convention, and updates about new NACSW programs and services. If you’ve not received an email from NACSW within the past 4-6 weeks, please send us an email (info@nacsw.org) or give us a call (888.426.4712) with your current email address!

Keep current on NACSW news, events, photos, videos, and other resources by following us on NACSW's:



Facebook Fan Page:
nacsww.org/facebookpage

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nacsww.org/facebookgroup



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YouTube account:
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Flickr account:
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RSS URL – nacsww.org/RSS



iTunes - nacsww.org/itunes

CHAPTER DEVELOPMENT CONTACT INFORMATION

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Illinois (Northern)
Indiana
Kentucky (Louisville)
Maryland (Western)
Massachusetts (Boston)
Michigan (Western)
Minnesota - Minneapolis-St. Paul
Mississippi
Missouri (Southwest)
Missouri/Kansas (Kansas City)
New York City Area
New York (Western)
North Carolina (Central)
North Carolina (Raleigh-Durham)
North Dakota/South Dakota
Ohio (Cleveland)
Oklahoma (Tulsa)
Pennsylvania (Philadelphia)
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Texas (Fort Worth)
Texas (Houston)
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PARTNERING IN NACSW'S MISSION AND MINISTRY

There are a number of ways to provide a financial contribution to NACSW to partner with us in our mission and ministry.

- To make a secure, one-time or monthly donation, go to https://www.nacsww.org/2008/2008_support.htm or contact us at the office at info@nacsww.org, or call tollfree at: 888-426-4712.

- Please also consider NACSW as a beneficiary when you write or update your will. To discuss a planned giving option, please contact Rick Chamiec-Case, executive director, at rick@nacsww.org, or 888.426.4712.

NACSW JOBNET:

The Christian Career Connection



Looking to fill an open position?

Visit NACSW's website www.nacsww.org

Searching for a new job?

visit www.nacsww.org and click on the JobNet Career Center link

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Easy, "On-Demand" Access!

Online continuing education through the North American Association of Christians in Social Work (NACSW) aims to offer easy, "on-demand" access to a wide array of high quality training options sensitive to the ethical integration of faith and practice from the comfort of your computer or mobile device. All trainings included in this program provide CEUs accredited by the Association of Social Work Boards.

Multiple Formats!

NACSW's online continuing education program offers several formats of convenient, high-quality trainings depending on your preference.

- Audio-based/Podcasts
- Text-based
- Video-based

• Virtual Study Groups
(A multi-week, interactive approach to small group, online continuing education – a first of its kind in social work continuing education)

Numerous Content Areas!

Select courses within the following content areas:

- Social Work Ethics, Values, and Professional Relationships
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- Human Development, Diversity, and Behavior in the Environment
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