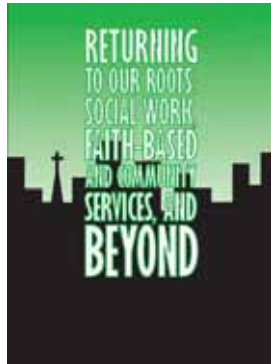




## LAST CHANCE TO REGISTER FOR CONVENTION 2006 IN PHILADELPHIA FROM OCTOBER 26-29!



Convention 2006 in Philadelphia is drawing near but there is still time to receive the "early bird" registration rate if you register before October 8. The Convention promises to be a valuable time filled with learning and fellowship for professionals of faith who work in all arenas of social work. Convention highlights include:

- Inspiring plenary speakers:
  - Harold Dean Trulear
  - Peter Vaughan
  - Nancy Wisdo



Nancy Wisdo

- Over 70 workshops and 25 poster presentations focusing on important issues to Christians in social work throughout North America.

- Meaningful worship and diverse music throughout the Convention weekend including:
  - The Salvation Army Pendel Brass Band
  - Men on a Mission
  - Well-known Christian Rapper DaTRUTH
  - Vocalist and composer Ruth Naomi Floyd
  - Worship led by Charles Zimmerman and Joe Hesh of Calvary Church of Souderton, PA



TSA Penal Brass Band

- Opportunities to network with other professionals and browse exhibits from organizations around the world
- Opportunities to register for one of the two preconvention institutes led by David Hodge and Amy Sherman on Thursday, October 26 also remain. Participants at the Convention can earn up to 18 continuing education units for attendance throughout the Convention.

Renew your spirit and your mind with your attendance at this exciting conference. Register today and join NACSW October 26-29 in Philadelphia!

## AUDIO CONFERENCE ON TRAUMA AND FAITH



NACSW is delighted to announce that it will be offering its next audio conference workshop on November 27, 2006 entitled "Shadow and Light: The Anatomy of Trauma and Faith" from 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm Eastern Standard Time.

This audio conference, presented by Terry Blakley, Ph. D., suggests that the individual and societal impact of extraordinary events that threaten or take life has long been the focus of clinical and academic attention. Diagnostic criteria for post-traumatic stress disorders, along with an array of treatment options for those surviving trauma are plentifully documented in academic literature and professional texts. This workshop will narrow its focus on trauma caused by human perpetrated violence, exploring how trauma processes deeply complicate trauma recovery and interfere with the work of bereavement.

With the homicide of her pastor/husband in 1999 as a backdrop for the discussion, Dr. Blakley will share spiritual epiphanies and clinical insights collected along the way on her own journey through the 'valley of the shadow of death' while

*Continued on page two*

## AUDIO CONFERENCE ON TRAUMA AND FAITH

*Continued from page one*

walking in the light of the living God. She will explore how faith can help survivors struggle to cope with their violent losses and move toward recovery.

During this audio conference, participants will:

- examine the morphology of trauma, with special attention to hallmark survival mechanisms during human perpetrated violence
- review classic symptom profiles in the acute and long-term phases following the traumatic event

- investigate human perpetrated violence as a unique traumatic form that complicates post-traumatic recovery
- consider the morphology of faith in complicated bereavement and trauma processes, with special focus on loss due to human perpetrated violence
- explore the nexus of trauma and faith in terms of survival, coping, meaning-making, and choosing to live life after severely traumatic loss
- probe clinical treatment and counseling implications for trauma survivors
- learn tips on self-care for the helping professional working with survivors of horrific loss

Dr. Blakley is an associate professor of social work at Union University, and a licensed clinical social worker with expertise in the areas of trauma and HIV/AIDS. She holds a Ph.D. from Barry University School of Social Work. Her social work experience includes work in child protective services, foster care, adoption, individual and group counseling, and emergency relief work in southern Africa with refugees from Mozambique and homeless children in South Africa. She has coordinated federally-funded research projects on the impact of HIV/AIDS and trauma on the mental health and well-being of affected women and their children at the University of Miami School of Medicine, Department of Psychiatry. Dr. Blakley is currently active in victim advocacy work, giving victim impact presentations to inmates and correctional staff in Tennessee, and providing volunteer consultation to West Tennessee Legal Services on issues important to victims of violent crimes.

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.

For additional information and/or to register on-line, 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 by phone. Registration rates for NACSW members are just \$35 (\$50 Cdn) for NACSW members, \$25 (\$37.50 Cdn) for student members, or \$75 (\$110 Cdn) for organizational members. Participants can also sign up for continuing education contact hours approved by the Association of Social Work Boards for an additional nominal fee of only \$5 (\$7.50 Cdn) per person.

We hope you will join us on November 27th for our next audio conference workshop on this important topic for Christians in social work!

## DOCTORAL STUDENT MENTORING PROGRAM

For several years, NACSW has been interested in finding ways to better support doctoral students and faculty who have recently earned their doctoral degrees in their research and writing efforts. With this in mind, NACSW is planning several special sessions including a mentoring session and several new workshops at our 2007 Convention in Dallas, Texas from March 8-11, 2007. This new mentoring program will be coordinated by NACSW member Charlene McGrew, who has coordinated a similar doctoral mentoring program the past two years for the Association for the Sociology of Religion at several of their annual conferences.

The mentoring sessions will provide doctoral students the opportunity to discuss their work with senior NACSW scholars who have expertise in their areas of specialty. Interested doctoral students and recent doctoral graduates will submit an abstract of their work or project ideas for the mentoring sessions ahead of time in order to be matched with an appropriate scholar. NACSW is also planning several workshops at the 2007 Convention focused on research methods and writing for publication.

If you would like to learn more about this new NACSW program or you are interested in participating, please contact Rick Chamiec-Case at [Rick@nacsw.org](mailto:Rick@nacsw.org).

### CATALYST

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

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*Catalyst* is intended to be an open forum for members to express their perspectives on a wide range of issues of interest to Christians in social work. Views expressed do not necessarily reflect those 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.

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# BEING A CHRISTIAN AND BEING A SOCIAL WORKER: THE SOCIAL WORK PROFESSION'S CODE OF ETHICS (PART 1)

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S COLUMN

It was late on a Friday afternoon back in September. The phone rang in my office. I was eager to wrap up my workday and I had several reports still to finish up so I thought about just letting my voicemail pick up the call. But my conscience got the better of me, and I answered the call.

"Hi, my name is Sharon. I'm not a member of your association, but I didn't know who else to talk to. I started my MSW program last week at a local university. I've been out of school for a few years since I graduated back in 2001, and couldn't wait for my program to begin. I believe God has called me to serve abused children, and I always thought getting my MSW would be the best way to prepare for this work. But during my first week of classes, one of my professors asked, point blank, if any of us in the class were Christians. It seemed like an unusual question, but I raised my hand, along with several other students in the class. I was shocked when the professor told us that we should seriously reconsider whether we really wanted to be social workers, because he just didn't believe it was possible to be both a serious Christian and a social worker. He said we'd have to choose one or the other." This was the start of a very long conversation that Friday afternoon.

Now by recounting my conversation with this student, I don't at all mean to imply that social work as a profession endorses this position – that is, that one cannot be both a Christian and a social worker. In fact, many of my non-Christian social work colleagues are as vehemently

opposed to and offended by what this student heard in class as my Christian social work colleagues. At the same time, this is not the first time I received a call describing this kind of scenario. In fact, I had at least a dozen similar exchanges in the nine years I've worked for the North American Association of Christians in Social Work. What could these social work faculty members possibly mean when they have said that one cannot be both a Christian and a social worker?

Some who have taken this position have argued that there is an irreconcilable clash between Christian beliefs and values on the one hand, and the social work profession's code of ethics on the other. Yet it seems to me that this just can't be right. The core values articulated in the NASW *Code of Ethics* (1999), out of which the code's key ethical principles flow, include: (a) service (helping people in need and addressing social problems); (b) social justice; (c) dignity and worth of the person; (d) importance of human relationships; (e) integrity (behaving in a trustworthy manner); and (f) competence (*Code of ethics*, 1999). It would be hard to imagine anyone arguing that Christian beliefs would be in conflict with this set of core values. In fact, as David Sherwood argues, a Christian worldview "is the soil out of which much of the Code has sprung" (2002, p. 27).

In addition, the *NASW Code of Ethics* acknowledges that it:

does not provide a set of rules that prescribe how social workers should act in all situations.

Specific applications of the *Code* must take into account the context in which it is being considered and the possibility of conflicts among the *Code's* values, principles, and standards. . . . Social workers also should be aware of the impact on ethical decision making of their clients' and their own personal values and cultural and religious beliefs and practices. They should be aware of any conflicts between personal and professional values and deal with them responsibly. (*Code of ethics*, 1999, p. 2)

Clearly, this is an honest admission that a certain amount of ambiguity exists when attempting to interpret the Code, including inevitable conflicts between competing values within the Code itself. In addition, citations like this acknowledge the unavoidable influence of cultural and religious beliefs and practices on ethical decision-making for all social workers. In straightforward language, the Code specifies that when there is potential conflict between one's personal and one's professional values, the social worker's ethical obligation is to be aware of this potential conflict and to deal with it responsibly – not to make a forced choice between one set of values or the other.

So at several levels, it seems highly unlikely to me that one could make the case that a person cannot be both a serious Christian and a social worker based on the profession's *code of ethics*. But then where could

*Continued on page four*



# PRAYER CORNER

In the latest edition of *Social Work and Christianity* author Kenneth Stoltzfus addresses the issue of an elephant in the church- alcohol and drug addiction. The metaphor of the elephant in the room is commonly used to describe a major, obvious problem in a family which family members choose to ignore. Stoltzfus does an excellent job of describing the denial and resistance in the church and explains how a distorted view of religion and the role of the church can actually get in the way of the recovery process.

There are many other elephants in the church that we as Christians choose to ignore as we put our time and energy into evangelism, lobbying against decline in family and moral values in our society and providing charitable services for the needy in the community. While these are important activities they must not be at the exclusion of our own spiritual journey as we and fellow Christians struggle with issues such workaholicism, materialism, co-dependency, infidelity, sexual abuse, gambling and pornography. The increasing rate of divorce, bankruptcy, depression, burnout, and physical illness are some of the outcomes of addictive processes which we fail to address in our own congregations.

Some start off as honorable activities in our lives but spiral out of control. Others start off as baby elephants which we shrug off as insignificant. But elephants continue to grow if fed and eventually end up as mature animals which are difficult to bury. Patsy, the matriarch of the elephant herd in the Toronto Zoo died last week and the local paper described the difficulty of finding burial places for such large animals. The skeleton of the last elephant to die in our zoo years ago is on exhibit in our local museum. The skeletons of elephants in the lives of Old and New Testament characters are on display in the Bible stories which show us how God can work through the problems in peoples' lives if they are willing to move from denial to an honest acceptance of their problems and repentance.

Let us pray for greater openness, honesty and accountability within ourselves and our church community. Let us pray for forgiveness when our judgment and self-righteousness discourage fellow Christians from exposing their problems. Finally, may God grant us the wisdom to discern the difference between holding each other accountable and showing judgment by throwing the first stone.

*Magda Wills  
Toronto, ON*

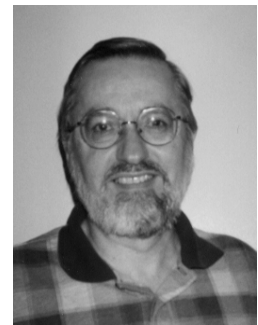
## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR COLUMN

*Continued from page three*

this notion be coming from? In my next column in the April 2007 issue of *Catalyst*, I will explore whether this position is supported by tensions between some NASW polycystatements and the beliefs of a considerable number of Christians in social work with regard to the issues addressed by these policy statements. As always, your comments and questions (please send them Rick@nacs.org) on this important topic would be most welcome!

*Rick Chamiec-Case  
Executive Director*

## NACSW EDUCATORS GATHER



Ed Kuhlmann

Last February, NACSW sponsored its 22<sup>nd</sup> annual dinner for Christian educators attending the Annual Program Meeting of the Council on Social Work Education, in Chicago, Illinois. On Friday evening, February 17, twenty-three educators and guests gathered to feast, network and talk shop. The diners had gathered from 10 states and Australia. A growing number of faculty from colleges and universities under state and other secular auspices are being attracted to these gatherings.

NACSW, CSWE, and BPD are all changing the timing of their annual meetings in the next few years. The NACSW sponsored gatherings for social work educators at these conferences are listed below. Make plans now to participate. Dates and times of upcoming meetings can be found on page 11 of this issue.

November 2-4, 2006  
Bethlehem Baptist Church  
Penryn, PA

**Woman, Be Free!**  
The faith community responds to the rise of female incarceration.

"Woman, Be Free!" is a national conference that will take a provocative and practical look at the lives of incarcerated women in America. Join us for what promises to be an unforgettable time of mutual learning. Listen as an array of practitioners, pastors, lay people, former prisoners, and scholars share their vision for a better future for incarcerated women.

REGISTER ONLINE  
[www.esa-online.org](http://www.esa-online.org)

According to the Bureau of Justice Statistics:  
Women are currently entering prison at more than twice the rate of men.  
What are WE going to do about it?

## CONVENTION 2006 ABSTRACTS TO WHET YOUR APPETITE!

To provide a preview of some of the quality workshops that will be offered at the 2006 Convention in October, this article features abstracts of several workshop presentations for the convention:

**Abstract #1:** "Rebuilding the Local Church: Post Katrina New Orleans" – **Joy Smith McElveen, DSW.** This workshop will identify and describe local church rebuilding through August 2006 in the hardest-hit areas of New Orleans following Hurricane Katrina. A purposive sample of mixed size churches (predominantly African American) is studied.

**Abstract #2:** "An Assault on the Soul: An International Plague in the 21st Century" – **Elizabeth Talbot, Ph.D.** Human trafficking has become the plague of the 21st-century. No country has been spared the evil perpetrated on women/children sold into slavery. This presentation addresses efforts made across the U.S. to combat human trafficking, rescue victims and restore freedom. Work of missionaries in Nepal/India illuminate long-term consequences for victims.

**Abstract #3:** "Spirituality in Violent and Substance-abusing Men: An Untapped Resource for Healing" – **Dexter Freeman, Ph.D.** - This workshop will describe a means for recognizing and incorporating spirituality into treatment when clinicians work with African American men. The author utilizes case scenarios, reviews the literature, and provides practical examples on how clinicians can recognize and create an environment that invites clients to explore their spiritual needs. Although the primary focus of this workshop is upon holistically treating violent African American men, the principles and concepts the presenter uses can be effectively used in treating clients from a variety of ethnic backgrounds.

**Abstract #4:** "The Influence of Faith on Theories of Change and Program Outcome Measures" – **Beryl Hugen, Ph.D., Fred DeJong, Ph.D., & Rachel Venema, MSW.** This work-

shop seeks to shed light on how a program thinks about faith in relation to their program's theory of individual change and correspondingly, how they seek to document or measure that individual change as an outcome of the program. Data comes from a nationwide study that includes approximately 1000 programs.

**Abstract #5:** "Social Work for Social Justice: Strengthening Social Work Practice through the Integration of Catholic Social Teaching Principles" – **Mary Ann Brenden, MSW.** Principles of Catholic Social Teaching, because of their convergence with social work values and ethics, are a valuable resource for strengthening the social justice content of social work education. This presentation provides an overview of justice principles and strategies to integrate them into social work curriculum.

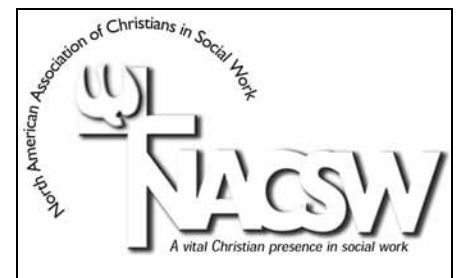
**Abstract #6:** "The Role of Faith-Based Organizations (FBOs) in the Delivery of Safety Net Social Services to the Poor" – **Leonard Erb, MSW.** This multiple case study uses a qualitative approach to determine the role that faith-based organizations (FBOs) have in the delivery of social services to the poor. Informants from eight grassroots FBOs tell their stories of how they serve their clients from a faith perspective.

**Abstract #7:** "The Understanding and Working Through of Spiritual Resistance in Therapy" – **Elissa Rathe, Ph.D.** Therapists need to be able to discern between "healthy" and "unhealthy" spirituality the Christian patient might employ in therapy. The discernment and "working through" of unhealthy spirituality will be presented, as well as how to work with the spirituality of the schizophrenic client to foster therapeutic alliance.

**Abstract #8:** "Human Rights Perspective in Making End-of-Life Decisions Among the Elderly" – **Maureen Himchak, Ph.D.** This presentation examines data from empirical studies and population polls regarding the ethical dilemma of making end of life decisions among 329 community-based elderly persons, diverse in culture and religious affiliation. Implications incorporate the core values of social work ethics, human rights, and strengths based perspective.

## NEW NACSW LOGO AND SWC COVER

As you might be aware from recent email correspondence, NACSW has been in the process of updating both its logo as well as its cover of *Social Work and Christianity* over the past 6 months. After reviewing a large number of samples of both, a survey was set up to collect feedback from the NACSW membership. Out of the 1530 members with email addresses that we invited to respond, about 225 returned on-line surveys. Based on this feedback, NACSW has adopted the following new logo:



In addition, starting with its first issue in 2007, NACSW has adopted the following cover design for its journal, *Social Work and Christianity*:



For this new cover design for *Social Work and Christianity*, we will rotate the photos on a periodic basis to keep the look fresh and original. Thanks to many of you who provided feedback as we worked on these changes.

*Rick Chamiec-Case*  
Executive Director

## BE A BLESSING VERSUS BEING BLESSED



David Fritz

While corresponding with me recently via e-mail, my minister closed with these words: "I hope your job is blessed by your Christianity today or vice versa." I started thinking about that "vice versa." Maybe I think too much of how my job is blessed by my Christianity—you know, letting my light shine before others so that they may give glory to God, treating others as I would like to be treated, treating others as Jesus would treat them, praying for clients, and looking for those opportunities to share the good news.

What about that "vice versa," about my Christianity being blessed by my job?

Working for a law firm serving the indigent, I encounter clients charged with all kinds and levels of criminal offenses. My job is to tell their stories, help them get treatment and services, and advocate for them before the court. While the complaints and charges against them are undoubtedly serious, their stories are often sad and full of lessons for me if I care to learn them.

Overall, I would say that the clients are survivors—of abuse, poverty, and social injustices of various kinds. In these survival stories are lessons on the value of life and the value of one's daily bread. As for me, I don't recall the last time I missed a meal, or a paycheck. In fact, I'm certain that my clients could teach me a few things

about the value of a dollar. Some clients are creative and desperately entrepreneurial when it comes to earning a living, and although some of their methods may be questionable, I can marvel at that creativity.

Some clients remind me of the value of human relationships, as they have become estranged from all significant others and are alone in the world. Others remind me to put my trust in God alone, as they have come to learn over time that they cannot trust anyone. Those who tell me about their religious and spiritual experiences get me thinking about the height and depth, the length and breadth of God's love and His kingdom.

There are other ways my Christianity is blessed when I consider others with whom I interact in a normal workday. Prosecutors seek to uphold the law, represent the people, promote public safety, and hold us all accountable for our actions. That's all good. After all, our social order allows me to go about my day in relative peace and security. In addition to the law, however, I'll depend on the Word for my guidance. The defense attorneys with whom I serve are zealous advocates for clients, going to bat for those defendants whom many feel don't deserve the compassion and leniency sought. That makes me think of the work of the Spirit on my behalf. Judges sometimes are swayed toward being more merciful when presented with compelling mitigating factors of a client's life, reminding me of our God who alone is holy and just.

We often think of our work as our ministry and our vocation, and that is right. At the same time, I think it is refreshing for us to consider how our work can minister to us.

David Fritz  
Catalyst Writer

## INDIANA CHAPTER UPDATE

Thirty-one social workers and social work students attended the Indiana Chapter NACSW Conference on March 3. Rod Smith, Executive Director of Open Hand Indianapolis, Indiana, presented on the topic "Social Work as a Ministry: Integrating Faith

and Practice." Kevin Cox, Executive Director of Hope Crisis Response Network, Elkhart, Indiana, offered information about "Crisis Interventions: A Christian Social Work Response" as well.

Future plans include meeting during the 2006 NACSW Conference in Philadelphia, PA and the 2007 NACSW Conference in Dallas, TX. The next Indiana Chapter conference will be on Friday, September 21 at The Salvation Army in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Informative Journals on  
**Religion  
& Spirituality**

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**Journal of Religion  
& Spirituality in Social Work™**  
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Editor: Frederick L. Ahearn, Jr., DSW, MSW  
This professional, refereed journal addresses current  
issues in social work policy and practice from the  
perspectives of social justice, philosophy, ethics,  
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of religion and social work practice.  
For more information, visit the journal's Web site at:  
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The Journal of Religion & Spirituality in Social Work is the  
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Vol. 22, No. 4. The journal under its new title began with  
Vol. 23, No. 1.

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The Journal of Religion, Spirituality & Aging is the successor title  
to the *Journal of Religious Gerontology*, which changed titles after  
Vol. 16, No. 4. The journal under its new title began with  
Vol. 17, No. 1.

Members of the North American Association of Christians in  
Social Work may receive the *Journal of Religion & Spirituality  
in Social Work* and the *Journal of Religion, Spirituality  
& Aging* at a 20% discount. For information, contact NACSW,  
P.O. Box 121, Botsford, CT 06404-0121; Phone: 1-888-426-4712;  
E-mail: [info@nacsw.org](mailto:info@nacsw.org); Web site: [www.nacsw.org](http://www.nacsw.org).  
Use code NAC30 when ordering online.

**Journal of Spirituality in Counseling™**  
Editor: William S. Schmidt, PhD, MDiv, ThM  
Volume 9, No. 1—Fall 2006. / Volume 10, No. 1—Fall 2006.  
Quarterly (4 issues per volume). SKU: JS15.  
Subscription rates (per volume):  
Individuals: \$45/ Institutions: \$75/ Libraries: \$160  
The *Journal of Spirituality in Counseling* is the successor title  
to the *American Journal of Pastoral Counseling*, which will change  
titles after Vol. 8, No. 4. The journal under its new title will begin  
with Vol. 9, No. 1.

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CAD06

## CONVENTION 2007 IN DALLAS, TEXAS!



You've heard it before. "You don't want to miss this NACSW Convention!" Yeah. Yeah. Yeah. Of course the speakers will be great. Of course the music will be inspirational. Of course the workshops will be grounded and practical. Of course there will be fun mixed in with all the learning. Yeah Yeah Yeah.

Inspirational music? Come on. We are talking about Cynthia Clawson here. Lyrics that speak to justice, to human pain and God's grace. Notes that astound. Your spirit will be moved. You will want to buy CDs. (That is always the real measure for me. The wanting to keep the experience alive long after the conference is over.) Cynthia is internationally known for music that inspires response to the heart of God.



Cynthia Clawson

Great speakers? You won't believe this line up. Beginning with the pre-convention institutes, this is an All-Star line-up. Interested in ministry to couples and families? Drs. Preston and Genie Dyer will provide a pre-marital assessment and counsel-

ing workshop that combines evidence based results with ministry tools. Participants will leave with information, materials, and confidence in a three stage marriage enrichment program for churches. Preston and Genie are relationship specialists with over 35 years experience in training, marriage enrichment, premarital counseling and therapy. They are Certified Family Life Educators and the authors of numerous articles and two books: *The Language of Married Love* and *Growing Together: Transition to Marriage*.

Exploring social ministry? Who could compare with Dr. Robert Michael Franklin who writes and speaks about the "moral heroism of ministries in African-American churches" and will challenge us to think and act in new ways with "Lifting as We Climb." Dr. Franklin is nationally



Robert Franklin

known as a commentator for "All Things Considered" on NPR and has served as program officer at the Ford Foundation, faculty member at Harvard Divinity School, the University of Chicago, and Emory University's Candler School of Theology.

Ready for your church or agency to engage in ministry with Hispanic families? Patty Villarreal, Laura Cadena, Gelasia Marquez and Monica Gomez-Olmos lead a pre-convention institute entitled: "No Longer a Minority: Hispanics y la Familia." These women have an amazing array of professional and personal experiences that enable them to lead us in cultural responsiveness to the fastest growing population in the United States. Patty and Monica are Buckner Benevolence employees and MSWs with almost twenty years of practice experience.

Laura has her BA in journalism and M.Div. from Truett Seminary. She currently serves as part of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship Global Missions Staff. Dr. Gloria Gelasia is an immigrant from Cuba who specializes in clinical and school psychology. She is known for her work with Hispanic family ministry and culturally sensitive counseling with Hispanic families. Discover the rich gifts of Hispanic families, the impact of migratory and acculturation processes, and the possibilities for pastoral care programs that meet needs and utilize gifts.



Eileen Lindner

Love to laugh and be moved in the same inspirational message? No one engages audiences better than Dr. Eileen Lindner who teaches like Jesus with stories that let us see who we are and who we can be in Him. I am still telling Eileen Lindner stories I heard at the 2005 Hand in Hand conference and am hungry for more. Dr. Lindner is with the National Council of Churches and is passionately devoted to global ministries, starting with you and with me.

Want some answers for those social workers who tell you that Christianity and social work aren't compatible? Dr. David Sherwood will present this year's Alan Keith-Lucas lecture on: "Moral, Believing Social Workers: Philosophical and Theological Foundations of Social Work Ethics." David knew Keith and will do credit to the simple and complex notion that "the Christian worldview provides powerful and coherent support for social work ethics." David

Continued on page eight

## CONVENTION 2007 IN DALLAS, TX, CONT.

*Continued from page seven*

knew Keith and will do credit to the simple and complex notion that “the Christian worldview provides powerful and coherent support for social work ethics.” Dr. Sherwood is on faculty at George Fox university in Newberg, Oregon. He is co-editor of *Social Work and Christianity* and is nationally known for his writings in the area of values and ethics.



David Sherwood

And I haven't even gotten to the line up of workshops and the daily devotional moments with Dr. David Garland, Associate Dean at Truett Seminary. This conference is the place where you can learn more about your craft, worship your God with other social workers and social ministers, and celebrate God's call to this incredible work we do. If you are looking for a conference where you would rather be on the golf course, this is NOT the conference for you.

From the opening session with Cynthia's sweet voice to the stirring themes of Eileen Lindner's messages to the deeply thought provoking exploration of ethics with Dr. David Sherwood... From the dance rhythms of the Texas Two Step to the reflection on the rich history that brought us to this place... From the cadences of the Buckner Children's Choir to the workshops in your area of special interest... You won't want to miss the 2007 NACSW Conference in Dallas, Texas. Yeah!

*Helen Wilson Harris  
Convention 2007 Committee Member*

## THE SALVATION ARMY: KATRINA AID TODAY

The Salvation Army has partnered with UMCOR's (United Methodist Committee On Relief) Katrina Aid Today National Case Management Consortium in an effort to provide long-term recovery case management (for up to 22 months) in order to restore 100,000 Hurricane Katrina impacted households to sustainable permanent housing and self-sufficiency. For its part, The Salvation Army is to provide such case management for more than 14,000 households across our country, positioning qualified case management (specialists) staff in teams in both the highly impacted gulf states as well as major destination cities around the country.

A key feature of the grant which provides for this program is the requirement that funded agencies train, equip and engage qualified volunteer case managers as a “match” to the paid personnel. The Salvation Army has committed to a four-to-one match of volunteers to paid staff. The intent of this volunteer match requirement is to not only share the caseload with volunteers in order to meet the challenge of addressing Katrina survivor needs, but, just as important, to build the capacity of agencies such as The Salvation Army to roll out fully trained and equipped volunteers in future disasters requiring long term recovery case management.

Volunteers will be trained in:

- UMCOR Certified Long-Term Recovery Case Management Protocol
- CAN (Coordinated Assistance Network) Data Base
- Radian Client Data Management System
- The Salvation Army Long Term Recovery & Disaster Response Protocol

It is our goal to gain long-term commitments from many trained volunteers for future work with The Salvation Army – not only for disasters but for other social service programs as well. Toward that end, it was envisioned from the outset that volunteers would be recruited from the ranks of our Christian social work colleagues,

from NACSW, from members of NASW, from university schools of social work, and staff, interns and practitioners from within our targeted areas. It was anticipated that commitments of time would vary from long term assumption of small case loads to brief “tours of duty” whereupon a practitioner may assume a segment of a client's long term recovery plan (i.e. counseling, financial planning, access to benefits, administering assessment instruments, etc).

Interested colleagues at NACSW may wish to give of their workweek, their vacations or perhaps commit to assuming a small caseload in their community. Perhaps interns may wish to serve in a distant location. There is no commitment too large or too small. If you would like further information and/or to explore this opportunity further, please contact: Carolyn Collins, The Salvation Army – Atlanta Metropolitan Area Command; (404) 725-7893 or Carolyn\_Collins@uss.salvationarmy.org.

## CRAIG MILLER BOOK



Craig Miller

Announcing the publication by Tate Publishing & Enterprises of a new book by NACSW member Craig Miller, cofounder and Christian therapist at MASTERPIECE Counseling. The book is entitled *When Your Mate has Emotionally Checked Out* and focuses on relationships that lack emotions and affections despite efforts to make changes. The book uses insights, individual stories, scripture, and techniques to help the unemotional mate relate learn to emotionally relate. Practitioners may also find the book useful.

# Speaking Out. . .

NACSW members and friends share their views.

<<Editor's note: This entry from NACSW's general listserv was written in response to an entry posted by another member who works with the Salvation Army requesting that NACSW members consider volunteering to work with persons affected by Hurricane Katrina.>>

It is good to hear of efforts to recruit and train volunteers for disaster work. None of us knows when disasters will strike. When I lived in Michigan I recruited and trained volunteers to go in after tornados and help those whose homes and families were torn apart because at that time there were no organized disaster response teams and local resources were inadequate to meet needs quickly. In Ohio, tornados aren't so common but floods are. In California, quakes are common and the southern coast and east coast suffer from hurricanes.

Today, disaster teams are better organized and equipped. Helicopters can now evacuate people we once had to evacuate on foot, but when you have disasters covering the amount of ground covered by hurricane Katrina, it is impossible to have the needed supplies and equipment on hand for what may never happen. Many people criticize the slow response but given the flooding and other problems involved, the response, especially by churches and private organizations was outstanding.

Some countries have universal military training so they can call up a massive army to defend themselves in case of a massive attack from outside their borders. Similar training of the Christians in our churches would be very helpful in major disasters. Thousands of trained workers in churches across the country could be mobilized in the event of a major disaster, whether natural or man-made.

Robert  
Weston, OH

I am an MSW student and a member of NACSW. I had a somewhat heated discussion during class with my professor the other day (without dishonoring him, I believe). The discussion centered around whether a social worker who was a Christian should assist a client to seek an abortion - as the NASW Code of Ethics would instruct I do. Long story short, I came away upset that I hadn't made my point and a myriad of other strong emotions including, "I'm quitting this program because it's liberal."

I came home and decided to do a search including "Christian social work" and "abortion," etc and ran across a NACSW listserv entry from 2001. I can't even tell you which one it was but there was a great deal of helpful and convincing information, and I came away with a new understanding of my role as a Christian in the social work field. All of this is to say how thankful I am for NACSW and the mission of the call of God on this organization.

Carol  
Spokane, WA

I appreciate the mission and the work of this organization. Thank you for offering a professional alternative for Christian social workers. I pray the Lord will continue to bless NACSW as you seek to faithfully serve Him.

Jennifer  
Saint Peters, Missouri

. . . I believe this organization is necessary and beneficial for the Christian social worker today. In my opinion, everything involving faith based matters is necessary in today's world. We need the support of the Christian professionals, and I . . . believe in the work you are doing at NACSW.

Sarita  
Shilos, NC

## HUMAN RIGHTS IN ABUJA, NIGERIA



Richmond IHEME, NACSW Member

The National Human Rights Commission in Nigeria, for which I work, was established by the National Human Rights Act in 1995. This Act enjoins all member states, including Nigeria, to establish human rights institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights.

Love is at the center of Christian teachings. When we talk of abuse of human rights, it is pertinent to mention that those who are the worst off are the poor and those in vulnerable groups. Jesus Christ, in His lifetime and in the Bible, admonishes the Jews who saw themselves as superior and discriminated against the Gentiles whom they saw as inferior. Jesus Christ was not selective in whom He related with. He mixed with all - Jews and Gentiles, the lame, the blind and even the leper. In fact, He healed the sick. Indeed; he came for their sake!

Accordingly, I think that social justice and equity should guide delivery of health-care services in Nigeria. Equity in health-care is the goal to be pursued and this is my vision! If you would like to contact me to learn more about and/or consider supporting our work in Nigeria, please email me at: [ihemerichmond@yahoo.com](mailto:ihemerichmond@yahoo.com).

IHEME Richmond  
Abuja, Nigeria

## CALL FOR PAPERS FORTHCOMING SPECIAL ISSUE OF SWC



John Graham

**Topic:** Canadian Contributions to Christianity and Social Work

**Date:** 2008

**Guest Editor:** John Graham

**Deadline for Paper Submission:** July 30, 2007

The summer, 2008 special issue of *Social Work and Christianity* will focus Canadian contributions to Christianity and social work. Topics could include anything that captures a distinctly Canadian approach to Christianity and social work and/or approaches to Christianity and social work within Canada, and/or examples of approaches to any aspect of Christianity from a Canadian perspective.

Prospective authors are welcome to contact the special edition editor by email (jrgraham@ucalgary.ca) in early fall (2006) to discuss ideas for paper submissions. The deadline for all paper submissions is July 30, 2007. The special edition will appear in 2008.

Articles submitted to SWC should begin with a title page, including the author's name, address, phone number, email address, abstract of no more than 200 words, a list of key words, and if the author would like the manuscript to be peer-reviewed. Only the title should be repeated on the first page of the text after the title page. The article text should be double-spaced and is limited to approximately 20-25 pages, including all references and appendices. Please use the American Psychological Association Style Manual format (5<sup>th</sup> edition) for in-text references and reference lists.

Please submit manuscripts via email in MS Word by July 30, 2007 to John Graham, special edition co-editor, at jrgraham@ucalgary.ca, or mail your manuscript on a CD or computer disk to: John Graham, Special Issue Editor; University of Calgary, Social Work Dept.; 2500 University Dr NW; Calgary, AB T2N 1N4.

## CALL FOR PAPERS COLLABORATIVE GRANT PROJECT

As part of a grant project funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC), a collaborative group of social workers interested in the topic of spirituality would like to invite you consider submitting a report or practice oriented paper that overviews a major current in the secondary literature and/or social work practice on topics related to the integration of spirituality and social work. If accepted, your paper would be made available on the Canadian Society for Spirituality and Social Work's website to the general public (see [http:// people.stu.ca/~jcoates/cnssw/](http://people.stu.ca/~jcoates/cnssw/)).

Grant partners include the NACSW, the Canadian Association of Social Workers, the Society for Spirituality and Social Work (USA), the Canadian Association of Occupational Therapists, and the Association of Canadian Occupational Therapy University Programs. This purpose of this grant is to encourage a North American hub of scholars and practitioners to explore spirituality and social work and to provide a conduit through which practice innovations related to spirituality and social work can be shared through web mediated communication, conferences and publications.

This project is currently recruiting papers and reports that are approximately 5 pp single spaced pages long. This work could also provide a basis for further work that ultimately could lead to a co-edited book. For additional information, contact John Graham at jrgraham@ucalgary.ca.

## UPCOMING NACSW AUDIO CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS

Title/Theme	Date
"Shadow & Light: The Anatomy of Trauma & Faith" Theresa Blakley	November 27, 2006; 1 – 3 pm EST
"Spirituality and Social Work" Mary Van Hook	February 26, 2007; 1 – 3 pm EST

For more information about NACSW's audio conference workshops, please contact the NACSW office at [info@nacsw.org](mailto:info@nacsw.org), 888-426-4712 (tollfree), or visit our website at [www.nacsw.org](http://www.nacsw.org).

## NACSW EDUCATORS CALENDAR

- **Annual Forum for Christian Social Work Educators:** At NACSW's Convention 2007, March 8-11 in Dallas, TX.
- **Annual Dinner at CSWE-APM:** At the 54<sup>th</sup> APM of CSWE, Nov. 10-13, 2007 in San Francisco, CA
- **Annual Dinner at BPD:** At the 25<sup>th</sup> Annual BPD Conference, March 5-9, 2008, Dustin, FL.

*Ed Kuhlmann*  
610.341.5878

*kuhlmann@eastern.edu*

### 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 NACSW's general and educator listservs.

If you wish to be included in these emails, you can subscribe to one of the Association's listservs by going to <http://www.nacsw.org/Listservs.html> on NACSW's website. You may also submit an unsolicited book review for a recent book of interest to Christians in social work for possible publication at any time.

## CHAPTER DEVELOPMENT CONTACT INFORMATION

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California (Los Angeles County)	Pat Tanner	661.948.0855 Ext. 252
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Tennessee (Western)	Stevie Ray	901.545.8069
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For email addresses and additional chapter information, please see NACSW's chapter webpage at: <http://www.nacsw.org/chaplist.html> or contact the NACSW office.

## LISTSERV INFORMATION

NACSW invites you to subscribe to one or more of its Internet mailing lists or "listservs," which enable NACSW members to easily connect with each other "across the miles" on topics of special interest to Christians in social work. Currently, there are eight listservs available to members:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. nacsw-l (general topics)                      | To subscribe, visit: <a href="http://mail.cedarville.edu/mailman/listinfo/nacsw-l">http://mail.cedarville.edu/mailman/listinfo/nacsw-l</a>                   |
| 2. nacsw-intl (international social work topics) | To subscribe, visit: <a href="http://mail.cedarville.edu/mailman/listinfo/nacsw-intl">http://mail.cedarville.edu/mailman/listinfo/nacsw-intl</a>             |
| 3. nacsw-educators (educators' topics)           | To subscribe, visit: <a href="http://mail.cedarville.edu/mailman/listinfo/nacsw-educators">http://mail.cedarville.edu/mailman/listinfo/nacsw-educators</a>   |
| 4. nacsw-ethics (religion and ethics topics)     | To subscribe, visit: <a href="http://mail.cedarville.edu/mailman/listinfo/nacsw-ethics">http://mail.cedarville.edu/mailman/listinfo/nacsw-ethics</a>         |
| 5. nacsw-addictions (addictions topics)          | To subscribe, visit: <a href="http://mail.cedarville.edu/mailman/listinfo/nacsw-addictions">http://mail.cedarville.edu/mailman/listinfo/nacsw-addictions</a> |
| 6. nacsw-Calif (CA member communications)        | To subscribe, visit: <a href="http://mail.cedarville.edu/mailman/listinfo/nacsw-calif">http://mail.cedarville.edu/mailman/listinfo/nacsw-calif</a>           |
| 7. nacsw-admin (NACSW administration)            | To subscribe, visit: <a href="http://mail.cedarville.edu/mailman/listinfo/nacsw-admin">http://mail.cedarville.edu/mailman/listinfo/nacsw-admin</a>           |
| 8. nacsw-students (student members)              | To subscribe, visit: <a href="http://mail.cedarville.edu/mailman/listinfo/nacsw-students">http://mail.cedarville.edu/mailman/listinfo/nacsw-students</a>     |

## NACSW MISSION

NACSW supports the integration of Christian faith and professional social work practice in the lives of its members, the profession and the church, promoting love and justice in social service and social reform.

### Its goals include:

- *Supporting and encouraging members in the integration of Christian faith and professional practice through fellowship, education, and service opportunities.*
- *Articulating an informed Christian voice on social welfare practices and policies to the social work profession*
- *Providing professional understanding and help for the social ministry of the church*
- *Promoting social welfare services and policies in society which bring about greater justice and meet basic human needs*

## NACSW JOBNET -- THE CHRISTIAN CAREER CONNECTION

LOOKING TO FILL AN OPEN POSITION?

Visit NACSW's website,  
or call/fax  
toll-free at  
888-426-4712

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and click on the  
Christian JobNet Link



## MEMBER INTEREST AND COMMUNITY OF SCHOLARS GROUPS

**Member interest groups** are officially recognized NACSW groups that promote discussion, share information, and pool resources related to topics of special interest to NACSW members. However, NACSW's recognition of member interest groups is not meant to imply endorsement of group members' views or actions taken by the group on any particular issue.

**Community of Scholars groups** are comprised of NACSW members and friends with special interest and expertise in a given topic with a commitment to making a tangible contribution to scholarship in that area.

### Current Member Interest Groups

Conflict Transformation  
Congregational Social Work  
International Social Work  
Religion and Social Work Ethics  
Social Work Education

### Community of Scholars Groups

Aging and Faith/Spirituality  
International Social Work in Faith-Based Settings

### Leader

Barbara Sowell  
Vicki Northern  
Donoso Escobar  
David Fritz  
Ed Kuhlmann

### Leader

Michael Parker  
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