



Council of Bishops
The United Methodist Church

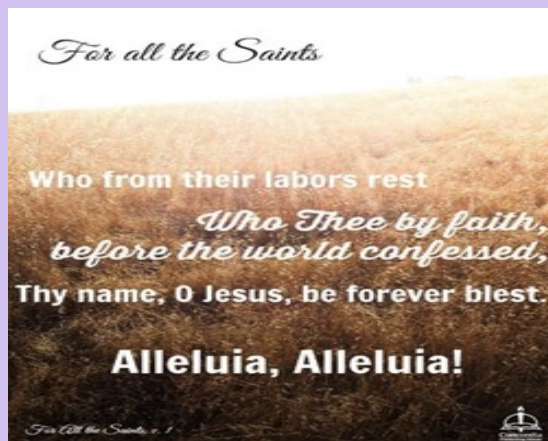


Communion

November 2020

Ecumenical and Interreligious News

Promoting unity and peace through strengthening ecumenical and interreligious relations worldwide



By: Bishop Sally Dyck

“For all the saints, who from their labors rest...”

Some annual conferences in the UMC begin the memorial service with this hymn. In the annual conference out of which I came, the clergy also often sang the hymn at the memorial service of a fellow clergy person, standing before the congregation in witness to the faithful ministry of our colleague.

Yet few if any annual conferences sang the song this year because our services were virtual. Even if there was a small group who sang it or a Youtube rendition, it’s nothing like singing at the top of your lungs surrounded by that “great cloud of witnesses” on earth and in the church triumphant.

Singing is a metaphor of what unity in the midst of diversity means.

Some of the verses of “For All the Saints” are meant to be sung in unison; as one voice. Certain aspects of our Christian faith are meant to be “in unison;” the essentials we find in the Apostles’ Creed, for instance.

But some aspects of our Christian faith—within our denomination and with others—are most beautifully sung in harmony, such as the 4th verse of “For All the Saints.” Unity in the midst of diversity means that not everything is meant to be the same, because we are all created differently with different historical, cultural, personal, and spiritual experiences.

When I was growing up, I was sent over a pew or two to sing with a member of the congregation who sang alto in order to learn from someone who was good at it. How are we teaching ourselves and others just what is essential in “singing in unison” and what is most beautiful in harmony? In short, how are we learning and living out our ecumenism?

I commend to you the new revised ecumenical curriculum. (See article on UMEIT: Online on page 4) You can read more about it in this newsletter, but it focuses us on the theology, practices and tools for finding our “unison” voice in the world and also singing in harmony so that others find a place in the choir.

Can you tell that I’m missing congregational singing with no promise of when we will return to it in safety? Yet yearning for the day when we can sing together in unison and harmony makes it all the more valuable—even sacred. Pray for the day—both when we can sing (safely) together and we live in unity in the midst of diversity.

UMEIT: Updates on United Methodist Ecumenical and Interreligious Trainings

By Rev. Dr. Jean G. Hawxhurst



UMEIT: Global

UMEIT: Global is going to Puerto Rico! We will work with Bishop Ortiz and Carmen Perez to create a multi-day training event for Methodists and other Christians. The members of the houses of worship of Puerto Rico have learned how to work together to clean-up, rebuild and heal after numerous natural disasters over the last couple years. Bishop Ortiz would like those same people to learn together the theology that gives foundation to their work. The original dates for UMEIT: Puerto Rico were in November of 2020, but it will now take place in October 2021.

If you would like UMEIT: Global to come to where you live in 2022, ask your bishop to make the request! There is currently no formalized plan for 2022, and ideas may be sent to Jean Hawxhurst.

UMEIT: Young Adult Network

UMEIT: Young Adult Network is a two-year video-based training ministry for young adults from all over the world. The current cohort has young adults from: Nigeria, the Philippines, England and the United States.

They are hoping to meet for their annual face-to-face gathering in late 2021 at Africa University, if travel is allowed by then.

Meanwhile, they are each working to create ecumenical and/or inter-religious ministry projects in their home contexts. The next cohort will hopefully begin toward the end of 2021





UMEIT: USA (and the National Workshop on Christian Unity)

UMEIT: USA meets annually as one of the networks of the National Workshop on Christian Unity. Methodists meet together for training and fellowship, but also participate in the prayer and formation of the National Workshop.

The 2021 gathering will be held virtually during the week of April 12th. More information will be posted on the NWCU website as it becomes available (www.nwcu.org).

Scholarships from the Council of Bishops to participate in the event were received by: Veronica Russell (California-Nevada), Jack Tickle (Western Pennsylvania), Joe Hopkins (Susquehanna), Elsa Meza (Northern Illinois), Deborah JoAnne Pounds (Louisiana) and Jonathan Speegle (Mississippi).

UMEIT: Plunge 2020

UMEIT: Plunge is a two-year pilgrimage training for young adults interested in learning about the Ecumenical and Interreligious Movements from a global perspective. Currently, the next group is scheduled to begin in July of 2021, if travel is allowed by then. Each participant must be recommended and financially supported by their bishop. For more information contact Rev. Dr. Jean Hawxhurst, who will be leading the pilgrimage.



“...Christ has made us his own, and he is not divided. In seeking him we find one another.”
From the keynote “Message to the Delegates” (at the first World Council of Churches Assembly in 1948).

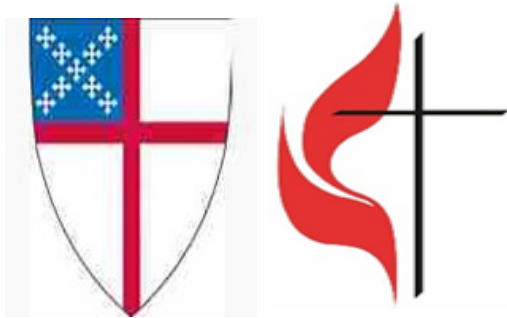
UMEIT: Online Goes Live!



A brand new curriculum designed to serve individuals is now available on the bishops' website (www.unitedmethodistbishops.org) as a way for United Methodists to learn the basics of ecumenical theology, history and local engagement. Everyone may register for the free, six-session course, simply by going to the "Resources" tab, then clicking on "UMEIT: Online." Once registered participants will have access to all sessions, videos, handouts, discussion questions and worshipful centering times.

This same curriculum is also still available to print out in hard copy by going to the website, then "Resources," then "Ecumenical Training and Curricula." In this form the sessions can be used by local congregations and small groups for interactive discussions. Please make sure each of your annual conferences knows about the two forms of this curriculum!

The Council of Bishops' staff would like to thank Ms. Erin Sears of Candler School of Theology for completing this project as a part of the Candler Advantage Summer Intern program.



UMEIT: Zoom

UMEIT: Zoom's most recent virtual gathering was a training on the full communion proposal between The Episcopal Church and The United Methodist Church.

Speakers included: Fr. Tom Ferguson, Fr. David Simmons and Dr. Kyle Tau. The recording can now be found at www.unitedmethodistbishops.org, under Resources. For more information and how you can be supportive in the full communion process go to www.umc-tec.org/resources.html.

In 2021 UMEIT: Zoom will become a monthly, twenty-minute, online training ministry for whomever is interested in the topic of the month. Items of Interest will include brief teachings on topics like: The Pan-Methodist Commission, The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, and what to look for ecumenically at the General Conference. The teaching time will be followed by a time of prayer for unity. Recordings of the UMEIT: Zoom sessions will be housed on the bishops' website.

People in the Ecumenical Movement

Rev. Matthew Laferty Begins Position as Director of the Methodist Ecumenical Institute in Rome



Rev. Matthew Laferty has been selected and appointed to serve as the Executive Director of the Methodist Ecumenical Office in Rome (MEOR). He began his ministry there in early September.

Rev. Laferty is a member of the East Ohio Annual Conference but has also served as a Global Missioner in both Russia and Vienna. He is now in the unique position to serve the World Methodist Council as a Methodist ambassador of sorts to the Vatican and to run the MEOR under the supervision of the Methodist Church in Britain on behalf of the World Methodist Council. He will welcome groups coming to Rome to study global ecumenism, help with teaching opportunities, and be a part of the World Methodist Council – Vatican bilateral dialogue.

Bossey Scholarship Recipient

Hannah Andres participates in the World Council of Churches Ecumenical Institute



Ms. Hannah Andres of Claremont School of Theology has begun her studies at the World Council of Churches Ecumenical Institute in Bossey after two weeks of quarantine upon arriving in Switzerland. Ms. Andres is on the elder track in the Pacific Northwest Annual Conference and a member of Faith United Methodist Church in Issaquah, Washington. She will spend the next several months studying ecumenism with over 30 other graduate students from around the world. They will talk about the differences of their Protestant, Orthodox and Roman Catholic traditions. They will visit historic ecumenical sites and have an audience with Pope Francis. And, they will each write a final thesis about an aspect of ecumenism in the universal church today.

Ms. Andres will return home in December or January.

The Council of Bishops would also like to announce that Mr. Tavis Tinsley has been chosen to participate in this life-changing graduate-level formation experience in 2021. Mr. Tavis Tinsley is a third-year student at Gammon Theological Seminary in Atlanta. He is a member of Asbury United Methodist Church in the Kentucky Annual Conference, under the episcopal leadership of Bishop Leonard Fairley.

Local Initiative Grant Recipients for 2021

Bishop Sally Dyck, Ecumenical Officer of The United Methodist Church announces the recipients of the bishops' 2021 Local Initiative Grants. These grants are used to deepen ecumenical and/or interreligious relationships across the United Methodist Connection through local ministries. This year the bishops specifically looked for creative ways to witness to unity while at the same time keeping in mind the necessity of social distancing. The three recipients are:



Kabacan Ecumenical Young People's Fellowship in the Philippines.

Their project is to create a worship CD entitled "Ecumenical Songs of Praises" to be performed by young people in the area who are a part of this sixty-member ecumenical/interfaith young people's fellowship. The young people will make recordings in their homes, and those recordings will be mixed together to create the completed songs. Included in the project will be young people from: the Muslim religion, an independent Christian Church, the Episcopal Church, the Roman Catholic Church, the United Church of Christ and The United Methodist Church. Each young person and each house of worship will be given the CD for use in their virtual worship services.

The Tennessee Committee on Christian Unity and Interreligious Relationships.

Their project is a two-phase approach to teaching the bishops' new ecumenical curriculum to United Methodists, Episcopalians and other Christians in their area. The group will first go through the curriculum with their already-existing partnership with the Episcopal Church (They have most recently been studying together "A Gift to the World," the full communion proposal). Then, they will branch out to at least five, new, ecumenical small groups and teach the curriculum again, creating additional ecumenical small groups as they go. (For more information about this new curriculum, go to www.unitedmethodistbishops.org.)

The State College Cluster UMC with State College Interfaith Leaders, led through St. Paul UMC.

Their project is to create a series of monthly online meetings among local college interfaith leaders to discuss inclusion, diversity and relationship-building. The meetings will include: a discussion on racism and how it affects unity, the reading together of the book *The New Jim Crow*, a training on hate crimes, and a virtual webinar with a known guest speaker.

This last virtual gathering will be open to the public (and will be advertised via the bishops Facebook page).



Updates on Ecumenical and Interreligious Events and Groups

By Rev. Dr. Jean Hawxhurst

A General Word on the Ecumenical and Interreligious Groups Financially supported by The United Methodist Church

Through the Interdenominational Cooperation Fund (ICF) The United Methodist Church supports several ecumenical and interreligious organizations. Most of these are chosen and voted upon quadrennially at our General Conference. Additional organizations and ministries are added by the Council of Bishops discernment throughout the quadrennium. Among others, the 2016-2020 quadrennium included the following:

The World Council of Churches, The World Methodist Council, The Methodist Ecumenical Office in Rome, The Global Christian Forum, The National Council of Churches of Christ in the USA, Other Regional Councils, The Pan-Methodist Commission, The Wesleyan Holiness Connection, Religions for Peace, and Christian Churches Together.

Because giving was down at the beginning of 2020 what was given to some of these organizations had to be reduced. This has affected, and will continue to affect, most significantly the World Council of Churches, the World Methodist Council and the National Council of Churches of Christ in the USA. Each of these organizations depends on financial gifts from The UMC in order to function, so there is a “ripple effect” when we cannot give what we thought we could at the beginning of the quadrennium. We apologize to those organizations whose finances have been significantly adversely affected by the current struggles within our denomination.

World Methodist Council



WORLD METHODIST COUNCIL

The World Methodist Council has postponed their twenty-second World Methodist Conference until August 10-14, 2022. It will be held in Gothenberg, Sweden and hosted by the Uniting Church in Sweden, and The United Methodist Church in Norway and Denmark. This is the time for the global Methodist-Wesleyan Family to gather, and interested Methodists are welcome to attend. The Council of Bishops will send an official delegation, which has been selected, but every annual conference is encouraged to send a representative as well. More information is posted at www.worldmethodistconference.com.

Meanwhile, the World Methodist Council publishes a “First Friday Newsletter” every month. It contains the most up-to-date information about what is going on in the Council and its committees. It is available at www.worldmethodistcouncil.org.

The Methodist Church

Methodist Church in Britain – United Methodist Church Concordat is Strengthened

The annual meeting of the Concordat Group between the Methodist Church in Britain (MCB) and The United Methodist Church (UMC) was necessarily held virtually this year and met via Zoom on October 1. It was quite a positive meeting and three joint ministry projects came from the day together. Those projects follow; they will be the focus of our shared ministry from now through November of 2021:

The MCB has received funding to conduct a project entitled “Global Methodist COP26 Project” through which young people will lead a Methodist movement for the global Methodist Family on climate change, and The UMC will serve in a support role for this project. Six young people from Britain, Italy, Zambia, and Fiji have been selected and have begun working together. They hope to have a statement by January to which they will ask global Methodism to “sign on” and promote.

The staff of the MCB and The UMC will work together to “map” migrant ministries around the world, in order to “diagnose” our ministry among and with groups of migrants who are planting churches in their new homes. Our two churches will discern the main elements and policies in each case study with the goal of beginning to try to discern policies that will help us all work together to make disciples who are living in unity (Connexion).

In order to promote stronger relationships between and among members and groups within our two faith communities, we will create an online portal in order to make sure people in both churches know about the concordat and about some of the excellent ministries in which we share together. Resources will include podcasts, interviews, and other statements, including include the work of both abovementioned projects.



Religions for Peace

Religions for Peace was founded in the 1970's as a vehicle to gather religious leaders for cooperation and the seeking of peace. The World Council of Religions for Peace International met in New York in December of 2019 to finalize their strategic plan for the next five to seven years

The following six priorities were set:

Peace and security Gender equality and justice

The environment Freedom of thought, conscious and religion

Interreligious partnership-building and collaboration, and

Interreligious education.

Religions for Peace USA is the largest and most broadly-based representative multi-religious forum in the United States, with participants from more than 50 religious communities, representing each of the major religious traditions. Anyone is welcome to join their every-other-week half-hour webinars that rotate teaching on subjects and interreligious prayer.

They are currently searching for a new, part time Development Director. For more information on how to contact Religions for Peace go to www.rfpusa.org.



World Council of Churches

The World Council of Churches has postponed their eleventh assembly, which will now take place in Karlsruhe, Germany August 31 – September 8, 2022, at the joint invitation of: the Evangelical Church in Germany (EKD), the Protestant Church in Baden, the Council of Churches in Germany, the Union of Protestant Churches in Alsace and Lorraine (UEPAL) and the Protestant Church in Switzerland. The assembly theme will be “Christ’s Love Moves the World to Reconciliation and Unity.” In this fragmented and fractured world, it is an affirmation of faith the Christ’s love changes the world through the life-giving power of the Holy spirit.

United Methodist delegates have already been selected and have cleared the time on their calendars, as they look forward to Christ’s universal church gathering. For more information, and for a media kit, go to www.oikoumene.org.

National Council of Churches in the USA

The National Council of Churches (NCCC in the USA) was formed in the 1950’s when the passion for Christian unity was creating movements globally. Today its Executive Director, Mr. Jim Winkler is a United Methodist, and our bishops support United Methodist participation at every level. The NCCC in the USA membership includes: Mainline Protestants, Orthodox and some independent churches. They work together around several themed convening tables and work together to produce statements and resources to help the cause of social justice in the US. They also are the creators of the NRSV translation of the Christian Bible, and they are focused on creating equity for persons of all races in and among churches in the US. They held their annual Christian Unity Gathering virtually October 12 and 13 with the theme of anti-racism. For more information see www.nationalcouncilofchurches.us.



Christian Churches Together



Christian Churches Together (CCT) was formed around the turn of this century, by a group of leaders who wanted to expand fellowship, unity and witness among the diverse expressions of Christian faith today in the USA. It is designed to provide a context in which churches can develop relationships with other churches with whom they presently have little contact.

Executive Director, Rev. Carlos Malavé, helps the five family groups (Historically Black Churches, Orthodox Churches, The Roman Catholic Church, Traditional Mainline Protestants and Evangelical/Pentecostal Churches) learn about each other and each other’s theologies. They held their annual Forum virtually on October 7 and 8, focusing on racial justice. For more information see www.christianchurchestogether.org.



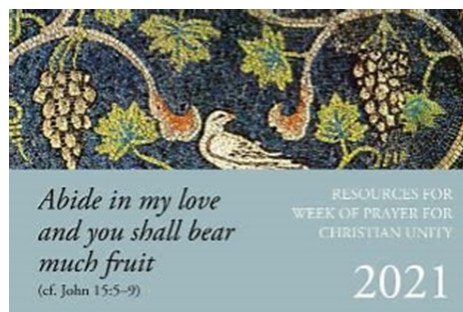
[This Photo](#) by Unknown

CHURCHES UNITING IN CHRIST

Churches Uniting in Christ (CUIC) was formed around the turn of this century, with the conclusion of the work of COCU (The Consultation on Church Union). CUIC was designed to carry out the mission of visible unity among the members churches, which are all Protestant. Today its Chair is Bishop Teresa Jefferson-Snorton of the CME Church and the ten faith communions continue to work together. The focus now is on racial justice and equity within and among the churches, and on racial justice within the USA. They will be hosting a series of teaching and preaching videos for all congregations to use on the subjects of: All Saints' Day, Thanksgiving and Watchnight. These will focus on racial justice implications of these US holidays. They will be available at <https://www.churchesuniting.org/teaching-and-preaching> and all United Methodist congregations are welcome to use them.

Since the beginning of the pandemic CCT, CUIC and the NCCC in the USA have undertaken several projects together. They asked their churches to make visible signs of faith during the Easter Season; they hosted a webinar on COVID-19; and they hosted a webinar on differing voices during Pentecost.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Coming in January



The theme for the 2021 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, which in the northern hemisphere will be from January 18 to 25, will be "Abide in My Love... You Shall Bear Much Fruit." It was discerned by the wonderful, monastic community of Grandchamp in Switzerland and is based on the message found in John 15:5-9. Grandchamp is located in the Swiss Canton of Neuchâtel and has connections both with the ecumenical community of Taizé and with the Ecumenical Institute at Chateau de Bossey. Today it is comprised of fifty sisters from various generations, church traditions and countries. They are called in vocation to prayer, reconciliation and unity in the church and all of creation.

Christians all over the world will celebrate the gift of unity in Christ's universal church during this week, even while they pray for that unity to be strengthened. Every United Methodist annual conference is encouraged to participate with ecumenical services of prayer and worship. For resources and more information, go to <https://geii.org>.

Bi-Lateral Dialogues and Coordinating Committees

By Rev. Dr. Kyle Tau

In the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, the bi-lateral dialogues and full-communion coordinating committees of The United Methodist Church have continued meeting in order to sustain their vital work. While the pandemic has changed how the committees meet, the work of these bodies continues to move forward, maintaining the personal relationships and conversations that are the lifeblood of our ecumenical connections. Updates on the work of these committees are below.

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America-UMC Full-Communion Coordinating Committee



The ELCA-UMC full-communion coordinating committee continues its work creating a retreat resource for groups of Lutherans and Methodists, yet the onset of the pandemic resulted in a change in the focus of its work and the denominational connections it has helped to foster. Dr. L. Edward Phillips of the Candler School of Theology is the United Methodist co-chair of this committee. In the spring, as the pandemic swept across the country and the world, Dr. Phillips worked to convene an ecumenical and interdisciplinary consultation to provide scientifically and theologically sound protocols for worship, fellowship and sacraments in the midst of the pandemic. The consultation included input from pastors, theologians, bishops, and other denominational leaders, as well as public health professionals and infectious disease experts including staff of the CDC.

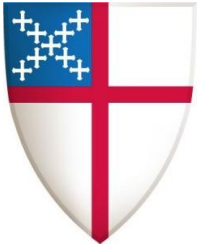
Bishop Larry Goodpastor, who is the Bishop-in-Residence at the Candler School of Theology collaborated with Dr. Phillips on this project.

As this work took place, the ELCA-UMC Coordinating Committee became a vital point of connection and consultation. The relationships fostered through this coordinating committee, brought key leadership to the consultation that proved essential in its work. Consulting with our ecumenical partners in the denominational offices of The ELCA, Dr. Phillips found enthusiastic and active partners from the ELCA, including Bishop Kevin Strickland of the Southeastern Synod. The consultation also included representatives from other denominations among whom were Episcopal bishops The Rt. Rev. Brian Cole (Diocese of East Tennessee) and The Rt. Rev. Robert Wright, Bishop (Diocese of Atlanta), as well as Dr. Mary Love who is the secretary of the Pan-Methodist Commission.

As the work neared completion, the ELCA-UMC Coordinating Committee reviewed and ultimately endorsed the recommendations of the consultation. The partnership with the ELCA was deepened as the consultation published its work entitled [“Resuming Care-Filled Worship and Sacramental Life during a Pandemic.”](#) The document has been hosted on the websites of GBHEM, Discipleship Ministries, and MinistryMatters.com which registered 13,000 visits to its dedicated webpage by the beginning of July. The ELCA also shared this resource on its denominational website and included it in its monthly newsletters throughout the summer. By August it was one of the most accessed resources in denominational communications with more than 5,000 downloads. The personal connections provided by the ELCA-UMC Coordinating Committee brought essential leaders into the consultation and expanded the public reach of this important resource. Kristen Opalinski, manager for ecumenical and interreligious relations for the ELCA, noted that “All these years of building relationships through this coordinating committee, did what they were supposed to do in this important moment.”

The ecumenical consultation led by Dr. Phillips is now in phase two of its work, updating the resource with the latest scientific recommendations related to COVID-19 and imagining possibilities for liturgical traditions and celebrations that take place in the fall and winter.

Episcopal Church-UMC Dialogue Committee



The Episcopal Church-UMC Dialogue Committee has been meeting regularly via virtual means since the onset of the pandemic. The committee had hoped that our churches would ratify a proposal for full communion at their respective meetings in 2020 (UMC General Conference) and 2021 (Episcopal Church General Convention).

However, in light of the postponement of the General Conference and other disruptions associated with the pandemic, the dialogue committee has recommended that action on this full-communion relationship be postponed until the next meetings of our general church bodies after 2021. A full statement from the committee to this effect was released on September 17, 2020 and is available at www.unitedmethodistbishops.org. United Methodist News issued a detailed piece on this recommendation which is available here: <https://www.umnews.org/en/news/full-communion-with-episcopalians-delayed>.

The dialogue committee will continue to meet as we look forward in hope to the eventual ratification of a full-communion relationship between our historically connected denominations. In the meantime, the committee will seek to create more opportunities for dialogue and partnership across our churches at the denominational and local levels.

Moravian Church in America-UMC Full-Communion Coordinating Committee



The UM-Moravian full-communion coordinating committee held its first meeting in December of 2019. While this has been the single opportunity for the group to meet in person, virtual meetings have offered opportunities for deepening relationships among committee members and pursuing our common work. The committee continues to work on a resource for local congregations to encourage local dialogue, study and worship. The committee has completed its work drafting a document that outlines best practices and procedures for the exchange of ordained clergy under the terms of the full-communion agreement. If approved by relevant bodies in both churches, the document should be published electronically by the end of the calendar year. Bishop Cynthia Moore Koikoi serves as the United Methodist co-chair of this committee.

The Moravian Church in America is comprised of two provinces, the Northern and the Southern, which coordinate their work through joint boards but that are mostly autonomous in their governance. Moravians in North America are concentrated around Bethlehem, PA (Northern Province) and Winston-Salem, NC (Southern Province), though Moravians can be found in 13 U.S. states and two Canadian provinces. For more information about the Moravian Church in America see www.moravian.org.

Roman Catholic-UMC Dialogue Committee



The UMC-Roman Catholic dialogue committee has completed its 8th round of dialogue, celebrating 50 years of formal dialogue between The UMC and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB). The committee is in the final stages of preparing the results of that dialogue for publication. Part 1 is a teaching text expressing shared convictions on baptism, the Lord's Prayer, the Apostles' Creed, and social ethics. Part 2 highlights shared traditions of prayer and worship, offers suggestions for practices of local dialogue, and provides sample ecumenical liturgies for use by joint gatherings of United Methodists and Roman Catholics.

Talks between the ecumenical staff of the Council of Bishops and the USCCB are actively underway to begin a 9th round of dialogue. Bishop Kenneth H. Carter, Jr., resident bishop of the Florida Conference of The United Methodist Church, has been selected by the Council of Bishops to serve as the co-chair of the dialogue for round 9. Current plans are to begin this round of dialogue in the spring of 2021.

Upcoming Events

2020

Nov 11-14 MARCHA-Sacramento, CA

Nov 13-18 World Council of Churches Executive Committee Meeting-Geneva, Switzerland

Nov 17 UMEIT: Zoom CUIR Chair Network-Zoom

Dec 4-5 Virginia LARCUM Conference-Virtual

Dec 15-17 Conference of National Black Churches

Dec TBA NCCC in the USA Heads of Communion Retreat-TBA

2021

Jan 15 UMEIT: YAN-Virtual

Jan 18-25 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity-Northern Hemisphere

Jan 19 UMEIT: Zoom Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

Feb 3-5 Continuation Dialogue Moravian Church/UMC Germany-Frankfurt, Germany

Feb 8-11 EDEIO/UMEIT Meeting-Virtual

Feb 16 UMEIT: Zoom MCB-UM Concordat & YA Climate Change Project

Feb 19 UMEIT:YAN-Virtual

25-26 CCT Steering Committee Meeting-TBA

Mar 12-14 Pan-Methodist Commission Meeting-TBA

Mar 14-16 Pan Methodist Bishops' Consultation-TBA

Mar 16 UMEIT: Zoom The Pan-Methodist Commission

Mar 23 Religions for Peace International World Council Meeting-Virtual

Apr 9 UMEIT: YAN-Virtual

Apr 12-15 NWCU/UMEIT: USA-Virtual

Apr 19-20 Ecumenical Advocacy Days in the USA and NCCC Governing Board Meeting-Washington D.C.

Apr 20 UMEIT: Zoom

Apr-15-18 ELCA Church Council Meeting-Chicago, Illinois

May 12-16 3rd Ecumenical Kirchentag-Frankfurt, Germany

May 24—31 Methodist Church in the Caribbean and the Americas Denominational Gathering-TBA

May TBA Week of Prayer for Christian Unity-Southern Hemisphere

May 18 UMEIT: Zoom

May 21 UMEIT:YAN-Virtual

2021 Ecumenical and Interfaith HOLIDAYS

Jan 7 Feast of the Nativity (Orthodox Christmas)

Jan 13 Birth of Guru Gobind Singh

Jan 15 Maghi

Feb 5 Chinese New Year

Feb 25–28 Intercalary/Ayyam-i-ha

Mar 27 Naw Rúz*

Mar 28 Holika Dahan

Mar 28 Lailat al Bara-ah

3/28-4/4 Pesach*/Passover

Mar 29 Holi

Mar 29-31 Hola Mohalla

4/13-5/31 Ramadan

Apr 14 Baisakhi/ Vaisakhi

4/21-5/2 Ridván

May 13 Eid al-Fitr

May 17-18 Shavuot

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