



# Louisiana Interchurch Conference

*E-Newsletter* June 29, 2016

*“To live the faith we hold in common”*

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## [\*The Troubled World\*](#)

Article from our Director

*“Istanbul's busy Ataturk Airport reopened on Wednesday morning, hours after a coordinated terror attack blamed on ISIS let dozens dead, scores wounded and blood streaked throughout the arrivals hall.” (NBC News, June 29, 2016)*

Stuart is a high school classmate, and we both are ordained clergy in the Episcopal Church. When I heard of the attack in Istanbul, I recalled Stuart was traveling there on a trip. I was thinking about our common history, and I remembered he is the person who first invited me to the church in our hometown where some of our roots in the faith were nurtured. Like millions of others we keep up with one another on social media, and I wondered if he was still Istanbul when I heard initial reports of the terror incident at the airport. Another concerned friend had already written a post to find out if our friend was okay. Stuart sent a reply, part of which read: “Thanks for your concern--for me and the troubled world in which we live.”

Safety amidst the violence in society is a growing concern for most of us. The other night I was walking my dog, and I was grateful that I could walk Mac with little fear of being harmed another person or witnessing gang violence, the selling of drugs, or people shooting on the streets in my neighborhood. I am sad that in other areas of the metropolitan of our state capital that people are afraid and for good reason. There is danger of being beaten or shot or raped or being kidnapped. There is no end to what

types of violence can be and has been perpetrated upon innocents in the neighborhoods of city where I live but just about anywhere in the world.

In the various sectors of society there seem to be all kinds of solutions being proposed to lessen violence if not to stop it altogether. Anger management classes certainly are helping some people who lose control of their emotions and seek violent solutions. Others turn attention to trying to help gangs in urban areas and in other places to learn alternatives to the destructive lives and the seemingly dead end paths they've been walking. Leaders of nations struggle to find differing solutions. On a grand scale armies of the world continue to try and put an end to those armies of darkness and their sympathizers who time and again take away the lives and freedom of the innocent. Thus far, solutions to such violence have not been found.

For some reason my mind has gone back to *Genesis* and the words of Joseph who was a victim of violence at the hands of his own family. Joseph forgave his brothers and said, "Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today." (Genesis 50:20) In way what is happening in the world is the human family writ large. In these words spoken so long ago may we find a message of hope and encouragement as we wake each day and discover the human family in a troubled world.

Rev. Dan Krutz

### [Prayer Requests](#)

In prayer, we lift up **Mrs. Cindy Mann and her family**, after the passing of her father, Alfred Benjamin Horaist, Jr., 85, who died on May 30, 2016 at Lafayette General Medical Center. Services were held June 2nd. Cindy is the Executive Director of the Louisiana Prison Chapel Foundation, which has had a long-standing relationship with the Louisiana Interchurch Conference. Mr. Horaist's obituary can be found at:

<http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/theadvertiser/obituary.aspx?pid=180168951#sthash.hwWTHzQF.dpuf>

Please keep in prayer **Bishop Ronald Herzog**, Bishop of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Alexandria as he continues with rehabilitation from a previous illness. Bishop Herzog has long been a Judicatory leader with the LIC as well as chair of the LIC Faith and Order Commission.

**Bishop Fernand Cheri**, Auxiliary Bishop of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of New Orleans. Bishop Cheri suffered a heart attack at the end of May and had surgery a few days after. Please keep him in prayer as he continues to recuperate.

## *Dr. Cottrill retires after 25 years of volunteer service with LIC*



Fr. Dan Krutz & Rev. Don Cottrill

On June 28th, LIC staff were invited by the United Methodist Office to a dinner where Dr. Donald Cottrill was honored upon retirement after over 48 years of service to the UMC.

We took this opportunity to also offer our thanks for Don's service of over 25 years as a Designate for the UMC on the LIC Board of Directors. Don was active as a Delegate before that as well, and throughout the years has attended almost every LIC Board meeting held.

Fr. Dan Krutz, LIC Executive Director, presented him with a framed certificate thanking him for over 25 years of service. Being good stewards of resources, the LIC likes to "recycle/re-use" name badges so we 'often' ask our members to please turn in their name badges at the end of meetings. We taped Don's name badge to his box, so now he finally gets to keep it!

Don & his wife, Glenell, plan to take six months of 'rest' (to include a two-week visit to their daughter in Scotland and a side-trip to Ireland) while deciding on what avenues he would like to proceed down next. He has been offered other job positions. He may have to "re-retire" one day! We will miss Don's calm and peaceful presence at our meetings, but wish him many happy years in retirement or other vocations he may choose to pursue.



Dr. Donald Cottrill

## *ELCA-North TX/North LA Synod elects a new Bishop*



Bishop-Elect Erik Gronberg & retiring Bishop Kevin Kanouse

*(Image credit: Herb and Betty Doller / HB Photographic Imagery)*

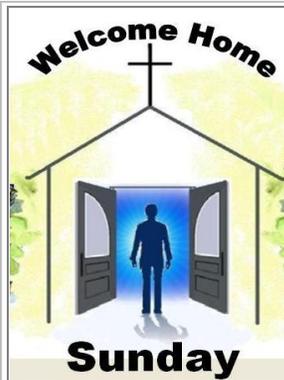
*Picture/story source:  
ELCA website*

We offer our congratulations to Pastor Erik Gronberg – Bishop-Elect for the North Texas/ North Louisiana Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. He officially takes over as Bishop of the synod on July 1, 2016.

We also wish many happy years of retirement to Bishop Kevin Kanouse. Bishop Kanouse has served as Bishop for sixteen years, also serving as Judicatory Leader to the LIC representing the Synod. We very much appreciate his faithful commitment to and active participation in our shared ecumenical ministry for all of these years.

We welcome and look forward to getting to know Bishop-Elect Gronberg!

### Welcome Home Sunday – August date change



**Sunday August 7~~th~~, 21st, 3 to 5 pm**

To be held at: Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church  
185 Eddie Robinson Sr. Dr., Baton Rouge, LA

**INVITING: ALL Clergy, Congregation Members, Formerly Incarcerated Individuals & Community Leaders**

Changed from August 7th to August 21st, Welcome Home Sunday is a multi-faith event devoted to welcoming back formerly incarcerated persons into our communities. The event is free and open to the public and will demonstrate the community's willingness and eagerness to change the narrative for these individuals, through resources, recidivism reduction strategies and fellowship. We will hear stories from returning citizens. Participants will include the Mayor's office, area Faith Leaders, the U.S. Attorney's Office, Legislators, LA Department of Corrections officials, as well as numerous faith organizations.

For directions, go to: [www.lainterchurch.org](http://www.lainterchurch.org) in the Welcome Home Sunday section or [click here](#). Come to learn, inspire, and be inspired. Opportunities available for you to find out how you can join in this ministry with those who are currently involved and committed to re-entry programs. Contact: [WelcomeHomeSunday@gmail.com](mailto:WelcomeHomeSunday@gmail.com) for more information or go to [www.lainterchurch.org](http://www.lainterchurch.org).

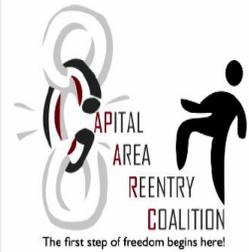
*Sponsored by a coalition of churches and agencies.*

**Also, save the date – Welcome Home Sunday -- New Orleans area!**

**Sunday September 4th, time t/b/a**

Dillard Chapel  
Dillard University, New Orleans, LA

## 3rd Annual Job Resource Fair at EBR Parish Prison



EAST BATON ROUGE  
SHERIFF'S OFFICE  
Sheriff Sid J. Gautreaux III

**Inmate training + jobs waiting on the outside = lower recidivism / hope!  
A win/win for employers/employees!**

**3rd Annual Job/Resource Fair**  
Building the Best for Employment, Education, and Empowerment  
**Friday, July 8, 2016 9:00 am to 2:00 pm**

Source: CAPARC email from James Windom

Dear Employer/Community Partner,

The East Baton Rouge Sheriff's Office and The Capital Area ReEntry Coalition would like to invite you to participate in the **3rd Annual Job/Resource Fair at the East Baton Rouge Parish Prison, Friday, July 8th 2016 from 9:00am to 2:00pm. The prison is located at 2867 Brig. General Isaac Smith (across from the Baton Rouge Airport) Lunch will be provided.** We are excited about the fact that this event will establish a greater working relationship between potential employees releasing to your communities and you the employer.

It is our mission to coordinate with local employers and develop needed resources to assist persons that may face challenges re-entering the workforce and empower them for life. Partnering with the Louisiana Workforce Investment Area 21 – Employ BR and you the employer, will help to strengthen that collaboration. In addition to the Job/Resource Fair, all employers will attend a free workshop where you will **learn how to take advantage of the tremendous financial benefits available to your company when hiring returning citizens** and how to maximize your investment by hiring individuals from our work release community. Many of these potential employees have received educational and a variety of crafts trainings prior to, and during their incarceration. Their experiences range from professional, skilled and semi-skilled. We believe that working together, we can help create a more prosperous city and state for all our citizens, but none of us can do it alone! The men and women returning to our communities need jobs, and you need skilled and dependable employees. We feel we can supply the type of employee that will be an asset to any company. We look forward to having you attend our job and resource fair.

Sincerely,

[James Windom](#), Executive Director, Capital Area ReEntry Coalition 225 771-8715

**Please reserve your space by JUNE 30th.**

Click here for simple security form for participation:

<http://files.ctctcdn.com/d47cae6b401/70672425-392c-4180-8d46-79b9bfe74bd8.pdf>

## Meet Samuel – our new Bread or Stones Coordinator



### **Mr. Samuel Rottman, new Bread or Stones Coordinator**

Last month we announced that Mr. Samuel Rottman would soon begin work as the Coordinator for this anti-poverty initiative for children (beginning the first week of July).

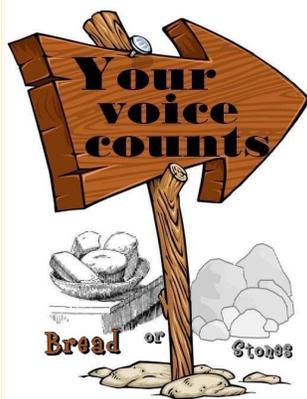


We'd like to tell you a little more about Samuel. An honors graduate of Loyola, New Orleans, in May of 2012, he is spiritually based, and highly enthusiastic about our shared vision for the Bread or Stones Campaign. His experience includes time working with students in Belize as well as in-state teaching with both Black and White students through Teach for America; hands-on advocacy working with immigrants; community fundraising; and efforts supporting social justice. Samuel is fluent in English, French and Spanish, and taught Spanish in Ferriday for two years. He is from a family of educators (mother, father and both brothers are still working in the education system). His hobbies include reading, riding his bike and playing with his dog, Francis.

Samuel will have his own office at the LIC headquarters but will be 'out and about' much of the time. Samuel will be reaching out to churches around the state, coordinating efforts and encouraging participation in programs that can directly benefit children in your respective congregational areas. Of course we encourage and welcome you to initiate calls/contact to the LIC regarding this exciting program! There are many options/levels of involvement, with opportunities available for every size congregation. Many of the opportunities carry no cost other than volunteer time. Please see the article herein entitled "Listening Posts" for more information on how to jump-start coordinated efforts in your area.

**We welcome Samuel to the LIC staff!**

## Bread or Stones Listening Post – Houma area invited!



### **LISTENING POST SCHEDULED**

## **YOU ARE INVITED!**

The first in Louisiana, Bread or Stones **Listening Post** will be hosted by First United Methodist Church in Houma at 6109 Hwy 311 in **Houma** on **Tuesday, July 12 from 5:30 pm - 6:45 pm.**

Calling Church Members and Leaders concerned with childhood poverty and child well-being in your area, now is the time to join with others to create change!

Come learn about many practical avenues to help children in your area and voice your concerns or offer additional ideas. When we work together we can accomplish much! Catholic Charities and others will supply light refreshments. Mr. Rob Gorman, Chair of the Bread or Stones anti-poverty initiative for children, Fr. Dan Krutz, Executive Director of the Louisiana Interchurch, and our newly hired Bread or Stones Campaign Coordinator, Samuel Rottman, will join attendees for an interactive community conversation. Attendance is free. RSVP is not required but would be helpful. Please rsvp via email to [Rob Gorman](mailto:Rob.Gorman@lainterchurch.org).

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**We'll be looking for volunteers for a Listening Post in your area!**

Please contact [Rob Gorman](mailto:Rob.Gorman@lainterchurch.org) or [lainterchurch@aol.com](mailto:lainterchurch@aol.com)

***Offering thanks to our recent contributors***

Approximately 90% of our operating income comes from Judicatories. Their faithfulness in prayer and financial support is always appreciated. Additionally, we offer our sincere thanks to our ministry partners who have contributed as listed below.

*Contributions received from May 27, 2016 through June 28, 2016:*

**Friends of the LIC and Miscellaneous Contributions:** Bishop Michael Jarrell; Patricia Wilkerson; Rev. Francis Williams; Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church; Irma Edwards; & Roy Lilly

*Thank you all!*

Please pray for this ecumenical ministry. If you would like to help financially, please mail contributions to: Louisiana Interchurch Conference, 527 N. Blvd., 4th Floor, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, or contribute online via PayPal at <http://www.lainterchurch.org/contribute/index.htm>.

***Dates to calendar***

**First Bread or Stones Listening Post:** To be held at First United Methodist Church, in Houma, LA, on July 12, 2016

**Bread or Stones Commission Meeting:** UMC Annual Conference Bldg, Baton Rouge, August 2, 2016. Guests are always welcome!

**Upcoming Board Meeting Dates**

**Annual Assembly meeting dates:**

|      |  |                        |
|------|--|------------------------|
| 2017 |  | March 6-7, Monroe      |
| 2018 |  | March 5-6, Baton Rouge |

**Fall Board meeting dates:**

|      |  |                                           |
|------|--|-------------------------------------------|
| 2016 |  | Sept. 26-27, New Orleans, Garden District |
| 2017 |  | Sept. 25-26, Alexandria                   |
| 2018 |  | Sept. 24-25, Lake Charles                 |

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***“To live the faith we hold in common”***

*Louisiana Interchurch Conference*

*527 North Blvd., 4th Floor, Baton Rouge, LA 70802*

*(225) 344-0134 [www.lainterchurch.org](http://www.lainterchurch.org)*

*President: The Rev. Dr. C. S. Gordon, Jr.; President Elect: The Most Rev. Michael G. Duca;*

*Executive Director: Fr. Dan Krutz*

You are receiving this message because you have previously expressed interest in the work of Louisiana Interchurch Conference. ***We hope you enjoy our newsletter!*** However, if you'd like to discontinue receiving this e-newsletter, please [click here](#) or call us at: (225) 344-0134.