



# Louisiana Interchurch Conference

**E-Newsletter** Oct. 27, 2016

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

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Article from our Director

*If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. <sup>25</sup> And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. (Mark 3:24-25)*

Division among people is not new as is evidenced in the Scriptures and in instances in the Life of Jesus as he was confronted by different religious leaders in the communities where he preached, taught and healed. Most people would argue that conflict can be good and even healthy if it leads to a stronger community. When conflict leads to division, we find that it often is destructive and leads to separation. In the worst cases divisions may lead to violence and war.

Most American would agree that the conflict and division that led to the Civil War was destructive, and yet it could be argued that the results of the war have led to a more just society. It seemed inevitable that the Civil War took place, but our Faith teaches that violence and war are to be summoned as a last resort. Certainly, we all deplore the violence and loss of life that at times characterizes life in communities in Louisiana and our nation. The racial violence that was a significant part of the news of the past Summer is a caution to all of us to seek changes and reforms in policing and in the criminal justice system while we look to support from our political leaders and government.

The violent rhetoric with some instances of physical violence in the national political

primaries has caused much public discussion and concern as we near election day. One outcome of the recent meeting of the LIC Board was a statement on “[Civility in Public Discourse](#)” which may be found on the LIC website. There are other documents for people of faith and those seeking guidance as we consider our approach to citizenship and voting. [Faithful Citizenship](#) is a publication of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, and a updating of [Christian Principles in an Election Year](#) from the National Council of Churches is also available. These are simple tools to help in preparing to exercise the privilege of voting.

So much has happened in the election cycle, but the elections themselves will serve as a definitive moment as the people in our communities, states and the nation elect persons to serve as all of us move forward taking the next steps into the future. There are very few people who enjoy division, and it behooves us all to practice civility with compassion in all our relationships. Recently, a story came to my attention about a former Archbishop of Canterbury, William Temple, who was a skilled debater. James Kiefer in his biographical notes describes Temple as one who “developed a remarkable ability to sum up an issue, expressing the pros and cons so clearly and fairly that the original opponents often ended up agreeing with each other.” We don’t have William Temple with us today, but we would be helped by praying that we might find a solution to conflict and division that will lead to a more healthy and just society.

*A Prayer for an Election:* Almighty God, to whom we must account for all our powers and privileges: Guide the people of the United States (or of this community) in the election of officials and representatives; that, by faithful administration and wise laws, the rights of all may be protected and our nation enabled to fulfill your purposes; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Rev. Dan Krutz

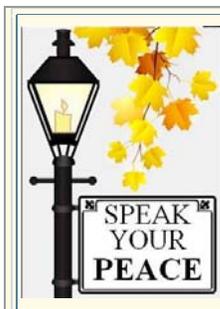
### [Prayer Requests](#)

#### *Please keep in prayer:*

The many people who are still struggling with the effects of the August flooding. This will be a long-term recovery process for many.

The Rev. Lisa Turnbull (a UMC minister and a former Regional Coordinator for the LIC), was recently diagnosed with hydrocephalus. This is an accumulation of cerebrospinal fluid in the brain causing many side effects and without proper treatment, it can be deadly. Please keep her in prayer.

### [Fall Board Meeting –on the web!](#)



#### **“Civility in Public Discourse”** was the theme of the LIC Fall Board Meeting held September 26-27, 2016

Forty religious leaders and lay persons gathered in New Orleans at Rayne Memorial United Methodist Church for two days of provocative sessions inspiring action. We now have the speaker presentation information, photos from the meeting, and business session highlights on the LIC website. We invite you to read all about it at:

<http://www.lainterchurch.org/FallBoardMeeting-2016.htm>

Please note that Fall Board meeting materials have been sent out via email to those Board Members who were not able to attend. We do have hard copies of most of the meeting materials that can be sent via postal mail upon request.

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Pay Attention.</li> <li>2. Listen.</li> <li>3. Be Inclusive.</li> <li>4. Not Gossip.</li> <li>5. Show Respect.</li> <li>6. Be Agreeable.</li> <li>7. Apologize.</li> <li>8. Give Constructive Criticism.</li> <li>9. Take Responsibility.</li> </ol>	<p>A little civility can go a long way!</p>
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LA Dept. of Children and Family Services - meetings for Children

LATE NOTICE!!!!

**DCFS Secretary Marketa Garner Walters invites you to a join a community conversation with DCFS leadership and community partners to discuss the issues of child welfare and poverty.**

**DCFS Secretary Marketa Garner Walters invites you to a join a community conversation with DCFS leadership and community partners to discuss the issues of child welfare and poverty.**

**Contact:** Camille Gauthier, [camille.gauthier.dcfs@la.gov](mailto:camille.gauthier.dcfs@la.gov) 225-342-9538

Click here to RSVP: <http://conta.cc/2dEm7wo>

**The DCFS has been holding similar meetings around the state. There are two meetings scheduled at this time:**

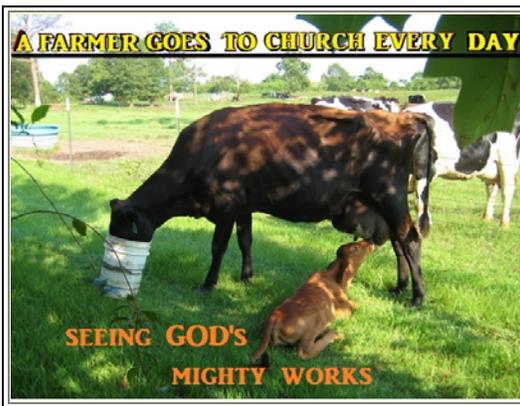
**NEW ORLEANS**

2-4PM, October 27, 2016  
Jane O'Brien Chatelain West Bank  
Regional Library, 2751 Manhattan Blvd.  
Harvey, LA 70058

**THIBODAUX**

2-4PM, October 28, 2016  
First Baptist Church  
1244 Magnolia Heights St.  
Vacherie, LA 70090

A thank you – and a taste of Farm Life



The LIC has processed several grants for Farmers who suffered major losses during the great flood of August. One of the dairy farmers who sent a thank-you note, mentioned an old picture they kept on the frig, reminding them of God’s hand in the daily miracles of farm life. The photo caption said: “A Farmer Goes to Church Every Day.” While that picture wasn’t available for scanning, they sent several other pictures from their own farm and we added

the wording to one of those pictures, as shown above. Below is an excerpt from their thank-you note - used by permission:

"Thank you so much for the grant, every bit helps keep us afloat- in more ways than one! We have our own farm and are a 3rd generation dairy farm family, we have 3 grown children, all in an exciting time in their lives, and our farm lifestyle taught them so many wonderful skills and work ethic which has helped them succeed in their paths for the future. But I fear farm life is fast becoming a thing of the past. When we started dairying 30 years ago there were over a thousand Louisiana dairies and now we are hovering around 100. The work never ends day or night 365 days a year but the rewards of working the land outweigh the difficulties and disasters. The most wonderful thing about farming is being able to witness God's miracles on a daily basis, from the amazing sunrises and sunsets to tilling the ground, planting seed, watching the germination of seed and harvest, seeing the birth of a baby calf, and the added bonus of fresh air and sunshine. I was a little unsure about sending this application after helping several family members that have lost everything that live in Baton Rouge, everyone has had such a traumatic experience that we can hardly complain, monetarily ours is a lot, but I just feel so horrible for those who are struggling and have really no access to money to even begin to build back, it's just a terrible situation right now! Thank you again for your kindness and support and all you are doing for so many people in need.

**A few more of their farm pictures:**



A wild mockingbird that needed a little help finding its way out.

The picture on left is of the farmer's daughter holding a mockingbird that had flown into the tractor through a window vent that had been left open. The bird was trapped but uninjured. She climbed in and calmed it down and it finally flew out. The farm life job description encompasses quite a variety of skills, many learned on a near emergency basis, including plumber, veterinarian, etc. The farmers also had to set the broken leg of the calf in the below picture.



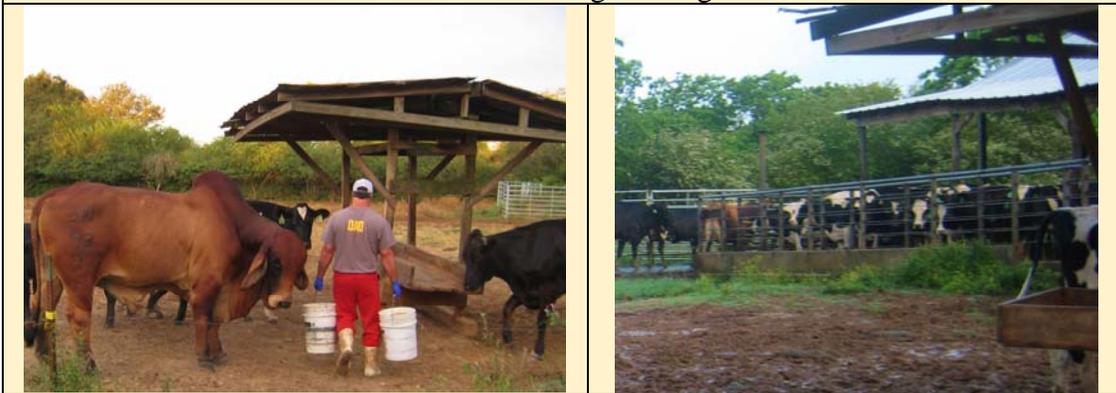
Shucking corn



Always looking for a treat



One of the many beautiful sunrises while bringing the cows in for the morning milking.



### *Bread or Stones – upcoming events*

#### **Bread or Stones Task Force meeting**

**Thursday, November 3rd**, the Bread or Stones task force members will meet in the building where Louisiana Interchurch Conference is housed, at 527 North Blvd., from 10:30 to 1pm. Anyone interested in learning more about and/or participating in this task force is welcome to attend. Guests please RSVP to: [LaInterchurch@aol.com](mailto:LaInterchurch@aol.com).



#### **Listening Post, Baton Rouge!**

On **Tuesday, November 15th**, the Bread or Stones Campaign will have a community Listening Post in Baton Rouge. All are clergy, ministry leaders, laypersons and community members are encouraged to come and take part in this opportunity to improve the lives of children. Light refreshments will be provided and the event will be from 6pm to 7:30pm at **Star Hill Baptist Church**, 1400 North Foster Dr., Baton Rouge.



## A Listening Post is being planned soon for Lafayette.

Exact location and date are still to be decided. Every voice counts and your presence is needed! We'll send more details as soon as available.

### Anglicans and Catholics – 50 years of dialogue

#### Anglicans, Roman Catholics celebrate 50 years of dialogue and partnership

Source: Episcopal News Service-Rome | By Matthew Davies | October 6, 2016



Pope Francis meets Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby at the Vatican Oct. 6, 2016. Photo: REUTERS/Tony Gentile

Presiding Bishop Michael Curry and more than half of the Anglican Communion primates have travelled to Rome this week to celebrate a historic and significant milestone – 50 years since Pope Paul VI met with Archbishop of Canterbury Michael Ramsey in Rome in 1966. It was the first time an archbishop of Canterbury had met with the Roman Pontiff since the Reformation and Pope Paul presented Ramsey with his episcopal ring as a sign of their friendship and the deepening partnerships between their two churches.



Pope Paul VI places his episcopal ring on Archbishop of Canterbury Michael Ramsey's finger during their 1966 meeting.

This week's events have included an ecumenical vespers service at San Gregorio Magna al Celio

in Rome, a site of major significance to the origins of the Church of England, and a private meeting between Pope Francis and the Anglican primates on Oct. 6 at the Apostolic Palace, the pope's official residence at the Vatican City.

The 1966 meeting "was historic because it brought together two churches and two ways of faith in ecumenical unity in a time when we had in many respects been separated from one another," said Curry, speaking to Episcopal News Service Oct. 5 outside the Gregorian University in Rome where he was attending a colloquium on current relations between the two churches.

"We're here now in celebration of that 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, but maybe more importantly to carry on the legacy ... that has to do with carrying on the Jesus Movement ... together as Roman Catholics and as Anglicans," he added. "We're here not simply to celebrate; we're here to rededicate ourselves and our churches and our communities to the work of Jesus, to following in his footsteps, to make sure that children do not go to bed hungry, to proclaim the good news of Jesus to all creation, to help to make followers of Jesus Christ, and to be a leaven in the world that leavens the whole lump, so that this world looks something less like our nightmare and something more like God's dream."

<http://episcopaldigitalnetwork.com/ens/2016/10/06/on-the-brink-of-unity/>

### *St. Francis of Assisi event on October 29th*

-- Environmental Call to Action --

We invite you to review the [Resources for St. Francis Day - New Orleans](#), to be held in New Orleans, October 29, 2016. St. Francis is known as the "Green" Saint! Click on the hyperlink to get details of a "Care for Creation" event to be held at First Grace United Methodist Church, New Orleans.

St. Francis of Assisi has been declared the Patron saint of those who promote care for nature. He died in October of 1226, and his life is recommended as a guide for animal and nature lovers, environmentalists and ecologists, showing us how to live in a way that respects and honors nature as God's creation. (St. Francis of Assisi Feast Day is held annually on October 4th)



St. Francis of Assisi

Can't make it to New Orleans? Find a way to make a difference in your area, to benefit our environment. Small actions can add up to significant benefits; **your** actions count.

### *Interfaith Hunger walk – Baton Rouge, November 6th*

**Community Annual Hunger Walk**  
**Sunday, November 6, 2016**  
**begins at: Catholic Life Center**  
**1800 South Acadian Thruway, Baton Rouge, LA**  
**1:30 pm Registration: Hunger Awareness Activities**  
**2:30 pm Walk starts**

*This is a great activity for youth groups, families, and people of all ages.*

Suggested registration fee: \$15  
To register, call Food Bank 225-359-9940

MORE INFORMATION: Call the Interfaith Federation of GBR at: (225-267-5600) or go online at: [www.ifedgbr.com/rsvp.php](http://www.ifedgbr.com/rsvp.php)

Fall Back on November 6th



Don't forget to 'Fall Back'  
one hour on Sunday,  
November 6th!

Veterans Day – November 11th

We especially  
remember our  
veterans this  
November.  
*Thank you all!*



Interfaith Services – New Orleans area – Nov. to June

The Faiths of our Neighbors



*Know your neighbors better!*

**Learn about their various faiths.**

**Come for evenings of discovery and fellowship hosted by a different faith community. First Thursday of each month, 7:00 – 8:30 PM**

**Bring interested friends, relatives and neighbors.**

**Organized by the East Jefferson Interfaith Clergy Association.**



**November 3, Reform Judaism  
Congregation Gates of Prayer, 4000 W. Esplanade Ave., Metairie**

	<b>December 1, Islam, Abu Bakr Mosque, 4425 David Drive, Metairie</b>
	<b>January 5, Unitarian Universalist Community Church, 6690 Fleur de Lis Dr., Metairie</b>
	<b>February 2, Disciples of Christ, First Christian Church of Greater New Orleans, 8121 Airline Dr., Metairie</b>
	<b>March 2, Episcopal Church, St. Augustine's Episcopal Church 3412 Haring Rd., Metairie</b>
	<b>April 6, United Church of Christ, Little Farms United Church of Christ, 135 Sauve, River Ridge</b>
	<b>May 4, Lutheran Church (ELCA), Christ the King Lutheran Church, 1001 W. Esplanade Ave., Kenner</b>
	<b>June 1, Roman Catholic, St. Catherine of Siena (Melancon Center) 105 Bonnabel Blvd., Metairie</b>

*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 October 1, 2016 through October 27, 2016:*

Friends of the LIC and Miscellaneous Contributions: Ann L. Mentz

*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 & LIC Holiday schedule*

**Sundays, November 6th & 13th, 2016 – Days of Prayer for the persecuted Church**  
<http://idop.org>

*Upcoming Board Meeting Dates*

**Annual Assembly meeting dates:**

2017	March 6-7, Monroe
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2018		March 5-6, Baton Rouge
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**Fall Board meeting dates:**

2017		Sept. 25-26, Alexandria
2018		Sept. 24-25, Lake Charles

LIC Holiday Schedule:

Closed for Thanksgiving: Wednesday, November 23rd through Friday, November 25th. Will reopen on Monday, November 28.  
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Closed for Christmas: Friday, December 23rd through Tuesday, December 27<sup>th</sup>. Will reopen on Wednesday, December 28th.  
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Closed for New Year's: Friday, December 30th and Monday, January 2nd. Will reopen on Tuesday, January 3.

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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*

<p>You are receiving this message because you have previously expressed interest in the work of Louisiana Interchurch Conference. <b><i>We hope you enjoy our newsletter!</i></b> However, if you'd like to discontinue receiving this e-newsletter, please <a href="#">click here</a> or call us at: (225) 344-0134.</p>
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