When Dancing Turns to Mourning: Worshiping God in the Face of Violence

ISM Congregations Project Conference – June 13-15, 2017

Primary Conference Locations and Meeting Rooms:

- Yale Divinity School (YDS), Sterling Divinity Quadrangle, 409 Prospect Street
 ISM Great Hall (N100); Marquand Chapel; and other rooms as indicated
- Bethesda Lutheran Church (lunch site), 305 Saint Ronan Street (behind YDS)
 Campanius Room (enter from the parking lot in the rear of the complex)

TUESDAY, JUNE 13

Movement One: the church gathers ... in the face of violence

As we gather, we bring the gifts and concerns of the communities from which we have come, and we lift up the needs of all.

9:00am	Check-in (ISM Great Hall, N100)
	Coffee and refreshments available.

10:00am Morning Prayer – Faithfulness (Marquand Chapel, YDS 2nd floor)

Led by Maggi Dawn

10:30am Introduction to the Conference (Marguand Chapel)

- Martin Jean, Welcome
- Dorothy Bass, When Dancing Turns to Mourning: Reflections on the Theme

11:00am The Psalms Cry Out: Lament and Witness (Marquand Chapel)

Don Saliers

12:00pm Lunch (Bethesda Lutheran Church, a short walk down the hill behind YDS)

1:15pm Congregations Respond to Outbreaks of Violence (Great Hall)

Two congregations from different settings and traditions tell how worship, music, and art helped them to gather communities for healing after violence erupted in their cities.

- Dale Sieverding and Christine Gerety, St Monica's Catholic Community, Santa Monica, California
- Colin Lynch, Rev. Rita Powell, and Rev. Patrick Ward, Trinity Episcopal Church, Boston, Massachusetts
- Dorothy Bass, Convener

2:15pm **Break-out Group Discussions** (various rooms)

Groups assignments are indicated by the letter on your name tag.

- Group A: Great Hall
- Group B: Marguand Chapel
- Group C: N126 (JE Dining Room)
- Group D: S200 (RSV Rm.)

3:15pm Beverage break

Movement Two: the church sings ... in the face of violence

How has the music of the church resisted violence, voiced lament, and formed worshipers in ways of courage and peace? How can, and how does, the church today sing with power, beauty, and reverence, even in the face of violence?

3:30pm Lifelong Formation through Song (Great Hall)

- James Abbington, Music of Endurance, Resistance, and Hope
- Beverly Lapp, Mennonite Singing Practices and Formation in Nonviolence
- Don Saliers, Convener

5:30pm Catered Supper (YDS Common Room, 2nd floor above main entrance)

7:30pm **Hymn Festival: "How Can I Keep from Singing?"** (Marquand Chapel)

We gather in Marquand Chapel for an evening of hymns and meditations, led by organist, composer, and conductor John Ferguson, together with a choir, other musicians, and the conference faculty. This event is open to the public.

9:00pm Bus service to downtown New Haven (if desired)

 Depart from YDS Main Entrance with stops at Woolsey Hall (College & Tower Pkwy.), Christ Church (Broadway area), Omni Hotel (Temple St.), and Union Station.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14

Movement Three: the church intercedes ... in the face of violence

Violence erupts, violence persists; and the church turns again and again to God in prayer. Prayer comes in many forms, including lament and sighs too deep for words. What language shall we borrow? What silence? What song?

9:00am **Morning Prayer – Lament** (Marquand Chapel)

9:45am Singing Our Prayer (Great Hall)

Tony Alonso

10:45am Beverage break

11:00am **Does the Bible Justify Violence?** (Great Hall)

John J. Collins

12:30pm **Lunch** (Bethesda Lutheran Church)

1:30pm Free time available to:

- Visit YDS Ministry Resource Center YDS Library, first floor, below Marquand Chapel (Browse resources related to the conference theme.)
- YDS Bookstore first floor, YDS main entrance (Browse titles specifically selected on the conference theme.)
- Consult with faculty members on congregational issues or for individual conversation.

2:15pm Bus transportation to Grace Farms, New Canaan, CT

 Meet in front of Bethesda Lutheran Church Parish House (305 Saint Ronan Street directly behind YDS)

3:45pm Welcome and Introduction to Grace Farms

Grace Farms Foundation supports initiatives in the areas of nature, arts, justice, community, and faith at an 80-acre property in New Canaan, CT, whose centerpiece is the "River" building designed by SANAA architects. It is also the home of Grace Community Church.

- Lisa Lynne Fitzpatrick, Community Initiative Director
- Krishna Patel, Justice Initiative Director

4:15pm **Observe "Practicing Silence Workshop" Rehearsal**

 Kenyon Adams, Arts Initiative Director, and guest artists discuss the Practicing Series and demonstrate the "Silence" workshop in process.

5:00pm **Dinner**

- Remarks by Peter Bouteneff, Professor and Director, Sacred Arts Initiative, St. Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary, Yonkers, New York
- Grace Farms staff and artists join us for conversation over dinner

6:15 pm **Conversation and Sung Prayer**

7:30pm **Bus transportation back to New Haven**

8:30pm Arrive New Haven

 Drop-off locations: Bethesda Lutheran Church, Christ Church (Broadway area); Omni Hotel; Union Station (if desired)

THURSDAY, JUNE 15

9:00am **Morning Prayer** – **Constant** (Marquand Chapel)

Movement Four: the church proclaims the gospel ... in the face of violence

Every minister serves in contexts shaped by violence, and congregations as local bodies of Christ become witnesses to the gospel when violence draws near. Where might we find the words we need? How might we discern what actions will proclaim God's presence in such times?

9:30am Beverage break

9:45am Memory, Ministry and Witness (Great Hall)

- Donyelle McCray, Memory and Violence
- Cheryl Cornish, Resisting Violence—the Liturgies of Daily Life in Community
- Sarah Farmer, Ministering with Youth in the Midst of Violence
- Dorothy Bass, Convener

12:00pm **Lunch** (Bethesda Lutheran Church)

Movement Five: the church is sent out ... in the face of violence

As we prepare to depart, we harvest the insights and questions we will carry back to our own congregations.

1:15pm **Break-out Group Discussions**

Meet at the room specified for your group below. S indicates the south wing, directly across the Quad from the Great Hall. S100 and S104 are on the first floor; S200 is on the second floor.

- Group A: Great Hall
- Group B: S100
- Group C: S104
- Group D: S200 (RSV Rm.)

2:00pm For the Journey Home: Reflections, Questions, Insights (Great Hall)

- Teresa Berger, Latch note reflections
- Martin Jean, Convener

3:30pm Closing Worship – Courage (Marquand Chapel)

4:00pm **Adjourn**

ISM Congregations Project Conference Faculty

For complete faculty bios, please see the conference website: http://ismcongregations.yale.edu/conference/presenters

James Abbington – Associate Professor of Music and Worship, Emory University Candler School of Theology

Tony Alonso – Composer, theologian, and doctoral candidate, Emory University, Graduate Division of Religion

Dorothy Bass – Senior Fellow, Lily Fellows Program, Valparaiso Unviersity

Teresa Berger – Professor of Liturgical Studies and Thomas E. Golden, Jr. Professor of Catholic Theology, Yale Divinity School and Yale Institute of Sacred Music

John J. Collins – Holmes Professor of Old Testament Criticism and Interpretation, Yale Divinity School

Cheryl Cornish – Senior Minister, First Congregational Church, Memphis, TN

Maggi Dawn – Dean of Marquand Chapel and Associate Professor (Adjunct) of Theology and Literature, Yale Divinity School and Yale Institute of Sacred Music

Sarah Farmer – Associate Research Scholar, Center for Faith and Culture, Yale Divinity School

John Ferguson – Elliot & Klara Stockdal Johnson Professor of Organ and Church Music Emeritus, St. Olaf College

Christine Gerety – Associate Director, Outreach and Pastoral Care, St. Monica Catholic Community, Santa Monica, CA

Martin Jean – Director and Professor of Organ, Yale Institute of Sacred Music

Beverly Lapp – Professor of Music and Core Curriculum Director, Goshen College

Colin Lynch – Associate Director of Music and Organist, Trinity Church Boston

Donyelle McCray – Assistant Professor of Homiletics, Yale Divinity School

Rita Powell – Associate Rector for Liturgy, Trinity Church Boston

Don Saliers – William R. Cannon Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Theology and Worship, Emory University

Dale Sieverding – Director of Music and Liturgy, St. Monica Catholic Community, Santa Monica, CA

Bryan Spinks – Bishop F. Percy Goddard Professor of Liturgical Studies and Pastoral Theology, Yale Divinity School and Yale Institute of Sacred Music

Patrick Ward – Associate Rector for Pastoral Ministries and Welcome, Trinity Church Boston