



Workshops for 2010 NAAC Gathering

For more information about the workshop leaders scroll down.

Introductory Track—This track is for those who seek a practical introduction to the catechumenate and how to implement catechumenal ministry in the congregation.

1. **“Stages and Ritual of Conversion: How Does this Cat Thing Work?”** with Daniel Benedict
Discover what the stages and ritual moments of the catechumenate are and how they offer gospel hospitality to seekers and inquirers from search through formation and baptism.
2. **“Introducing Liturgical Evangelization in the Congregation”** with Clifford King Harbin
Explore what this process looks like in the congregational setting and how to go about getting started.
3. **“Putting Your Team Together”** with Bev Piro
Go deeper with exploration of what leaders are needed, who and what to look for in making up the catechumenal team, and look at what each team member (inclusive of sponsors) would do.

Skills

“Planning the Easter Vigil” with Elise Eslinger.

1. **“Planning the Easter Vigil”** with Elise Eslinger
Thoughtful and evocative proclamation of the readings, prayerful and celebratory singing, focused sacramental movement, and the visual environment are all profoundly important when designing a particular congregation’s celebration of the Great Vigil. We will explore ways of designing hospitable and faithful liturgies for various communal contexts, presenting a variety of dramatic and visual arts and media-enriched resources, with particular examples from actual congregational experiences.
2. **“The Web, Sacraments and Evangelization Welcome to the 21st century!”** with Beth A. Lewis
Technology can improve your congregation's evangelism. Beth will share examples of excellent congregational use of the Internet for evangelism. You will come away with fresh ideas for using e-mail, e-newsletters, your



- congregation's website and other new technologies to proclaim the Gospel!
3. **“Your Year-Round Catechuminate: A Walk with Jesus”** with Jerry Pare
What is involved in developing and ministering a year-round catechumenal process? What does it look like? How, where and when do we start? How large a team do we need? What about burn out? Fear not! Have fun!
 4. **“The Catechuminate as a Ministry of Welcome”** with Rick Rouse
We will explore how the catechumenal process can and should be part of a congregation's ministry of hospitality, welcoming and assimilating both new Christians and new members into the community of faith. We will also look at ancient traditions of hospitality in scripture and the early church as well as practices in today's congregations.
 5. **“Formational Imaginations among Emerging Church Communities”** with David Hahn

What would faith formation look like in the hands of a younger church that took seriously the rich Christian tradition *and* who hadn't yet lost the important imagination of participatory play? This workshop invites a playful imagination around faith formation through emerging



communities in relationship to their underlying trinitarian, incarnational assumptions, their postmodern cultural understandings via the social *imaginaire*, and their integrative ancient/future practices.

6. Conversation with Gordon Lathrop

Theory and Practices

1. **“The Catechuminate and the Denominational Office: Strategies for Opening Doors”** (for denominational and judicatory leaders) with Bob Schaefer
This workshop will consider ways to create partnerships and connections between various churchwide units/boards to build momentum and capacity for widespread denominational support for a catechumenal model. The current process in the ELCA will be used as a model. Conversation will be invited about ways we might cooperate more effectively ecumenically toward common goals and understandings.
2. **“Uniting behaving, believing, and belonging”** with A. Wayne Schwab
Why we need to restore the early church's test of behaving to catechumenal formation and how to do it in a way that includes believing and belonging as well.
3. **“The Challenge of Catechesis in a post-Theodosian World”** (a teleworkshop) with Taylor Burton Edwards



4. Conversation with Gail Ramshaw
5. Conversation with Mark Mummert

WORKSHOP LEADERS



Daniel Benedict is Abbot of the [Order of Saint Luke](#), a liturgical and sacramental community. He is a director on the NAAC Board, serving as its secretary. He is author of *Come to the Waters*, a pastoral invitation and guide to catechumenal ministry in the local church, and of *Patterned by Grace: How Liturgy Shapes Us*.



Taylor Burton-Edwards is a United Methodist elder serving as Director of Worship Resources with the General Board of Discipleship of The United Methodist Church. He promotes the catechumenal resources, and resources a network of relationships with those who identify with the emerging missional movement in the UMC. He also directs the expanding Open Source Liturgy Project enabling indigenous communities of multiple denominations to develop new liturgies that express the "strong center" of Christian liturgical practice in their own voices.



Elise Eslinger was part of the founding team of the Upper Room Academy for Spiritual Formation, and active as adjunct faculty and liturgical coordinator for Academy events since 1983. She is editor of the *Upper Room Worshipbook: Music and Liturgies for Spiritual Formation*, 1985 and 2006/7, the primary resource for Academies and other retreat, conference and congregational contexts. She was founding Director of the Institute for Applied Theology at United Theological Seminary (UTS), in Dayton, Ohio, which includes the Center for Worship, Preaching and the Arts founded and directed by her husband, UTS Academic Dean Richard Eslinger. Her workshop will represent innovative congregational work on the Easter Vigil undertaken by Richard and Elise through the Center.



Clifford King Harbin has implemented the Catechumenal Process for adults/teens in three congregations since being trained in 1989 by the Episcopal Diocese of Milwaukee. She has been a workshop leader for numerous conferences over the last two decades and is also a national formation leader for the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (for children). She most recently served as a Church Planter in Charlotte, NC.



Gordon Lathrop is Professor Emeritus at the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia. An ELCA pastor, he is author of several books on liturgy, including *Holy Things*, *Holy People*, *Holy Ground*, and *The Pastor: A Spirituality*.



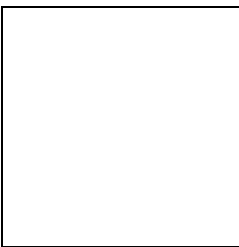
Beth Lewis is the President & CEO of Augsburg Fortress, the ministry of publishing for the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA).



Mark Mummert is is Church Organist and Chorus Director at Christ the King Lutheran, Houston and composer of worship resources. He is active in the Association of Lutheran Church Musicians.



Jerry Paré is Catechumenate Director at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral in Sacramento, CA. and a catechumenate consultant in the Diocese of Northern California. He has been involved in catechumenal ministry for 30 years at the parochial, diocesan and national levels. He is a member of the NAAC and the North American Forum on the Catechumenate.



Bev Piro is Associate Pastor at Phinney Ridge Lutheran Church in Seattle and a director on the NAAC Board. Bev has many years of experience with the catechumenate in the local church.



Gail Ramshaw is professor of religion at La Salle University, is past president of North American Academy of Liturgy. She has written numerous publications including a beautiful new volume for Augsburg Fortress, *Christian Worship: 100,000 Sundays of Symbols and Rituals*. She is recognized worldwide for her liturgical contributions.



Rev. Dr. Rick Rouse serves as a parish consultant and resource staff for the Grand Canyon Synod of the ELCA. He is currently President of the North American Association for the Catechumenate.



Robert G. Schaefer serves as Executive for Worship in the Office of the Presiding Bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. He has held that post since March, 2009. Prior to that he served as Assistant to the Bishop of the Florida-Bahamas Synod for five years with responsibilities for parish care, candidacy for rostered ministry, and leadership support. Pr. Schaefer has also served congregations in Tampa, Florida and Metropolitan New York.



A. Wayne Schwab is director of the [Member Mission Press and Network](#) in Essex, N.Y. He is the former evangelism staff officer at the Episcopal Church Center in New York City, and the author of several books, including *When the Members are the Missionaries: An Extraordinary Calling for Ordinary People* (2002). Wayne may be reached by email at membermission@aol.com.

The North American Association for the Catechumenate
For full information and registration go to the [online brochure](#).

