

Global Episcopal Mission Network

Proclaim, Inspire, Ignite the Joy of God's Mission



WELCOME TO



2014 GEMN Global Mission Conference

May 29-June 1

Seattle, WA

**The Best Western Plus Executive Inn
200 Taylor Avenue N, Seattle, WA 98109**

GEMN + P.O. Box 30334 + Cincinnati, Ohio 45230 + www.gemn.org



Mission Horizons: New Directions in a Changing World

May 29 – June 1, 2014 Seattle, WA

Conference Schedule

Pre-Conference Programs:

Wednesday, May 28:

- 3:00 – 6:00 pm: Train the Trainer Program
 - Program includes dinner

Thursday, May 29:

- 9:00 am – 3:00 pm: Formation Program for Global Mission Agents
 - Program includes breakfast and lunch

Thursday, May 29:

9-3 pm: *Formation Program*

2:00 pm: **Registration Opens**

4-6 pm: **Conference Opens – Welcome**

4:30-6pm **First Plenary Session Keynote Speaker**
The Rev. Eric Law, Kaleidoscope Institute

“Missional and Sustainable Ministries in the New Horizon”

Description: “In a changed and changing world, what does mission look like? We will explore the essential elements (I call currencies) that must flow through a mission in order for it to connect with the diverse community, and be Christ-centered, and sustainable.”

6:00 pm: Dinner

7:30-8:30: Small groups - Session 1

9:30 pm Compline (*See Worship Booklet*)





Mission Horizons: New Directions in a Changing World

May 29 – June 1, 2014 Seattle, WA

Friday, May 30:

***Note on Workshops** – On both Friday and Saturday, all workshops will be 45 minutes long (except “Holy Currencies”= 1½ hours); there will be two sets of workshops offered (9-9:45am and 10-10:45am). Each participant may choose two per day (unless you attend “Holy Currencies”, which is given only on Friday and will take the entire workshop time). Some workshops will be available on both Friday and Saturday, others only on one day or the other. Please check the schedule below carefully.

7:30 am: Morning Prayer (See Worship Booklet)

8:00 am: Breakfast

9-10:45 am: Workshops*

11:15 am: Small groups – Session 2

12:30pm: Lunch

1:30-3 pm: Second Plenary Session Keynote Speaker

*The Rt. Rev. Mark MacDonald, National Anglican Indigenous Bishop
for the Anglican Church of Canada*

**"Welcoming a New Era of Mission in North America: The
Challenges and Opportunity"**

Description: “Though this era is described by many as one of the great moments in God's mission in history in creation, most Euro-American Christians experience this as a time of steep decline. What are the elements of receiving of this new era among the churches of a Western cultural framework?”

3:30-5:30pm: GEMN Annual Meeting (all are encouraged to attend)

5:30-6:30pm: Networking / Social time

6:30pm: Dinner

Post Dinner: Third Plenary Session Keynote Speaker

Brian Sellers-Peterson, Episcopal Relief & Development

“Global Mission: Food Security and Hunger Alleviation”

Description: Brian's talk will focus on our global ministry of food security and hunger alleviation using church and community gardens in our own communities as classrooms. We will consider issues of food sustainability around the world and ways in which we, as Episcopalians, can respond locally and globally. Brian will present our GEMN conference “classroom” on one of the mission site visits tomorrow.

8:00 pm: Compline (See Worship Booklet)



Mission Horizons: New Directions in a Changing World

May 29 – June 1, 2014 Seattle, WA

Saturday, May 31:

**Note on Workshops – All workshops will be 45 minutes long; there will be two sets of workshops offered (9-9:45am and 10-10:45am). Each participant may choose two. Some workshops will be available on both Friday and Saturday, others only on one day or the other. Please check the schedule below carefully.*

7:30 am: Morning Prayer (See Worship Booklet)

8:00 am: Breakfast

9-10:45 am: Workshops*

11:15 am: Small groups – Session 3

12:30pm: Lunch

1:30-5 pm: Mission Site Visits **

6-7 pm: Reception

7:00 pm: Final Banquet

Sunday, June 1:

8:00 am: Breakfast

9-9:45 am: Final Small Group Session

10-11:30 am: **Final Plenary Session**

Panel Discussion

“Pulling It All Together”

Noon: Lunch

1:00 pm: Closing Eucharist

The Rt. Rev. Greg Rickel, Diocese of Olympia, Celebrant

The Rt. Rev. Mark MacDonald, Homily

2:30 pm: Departures





Workshops *

Friday and Saturday - 9:00 to 10:45 am

***Note on Workshops** – On both Friday and Saturday, all workshops will be 45 minutes long (except “Holy Currencies”= 1½ hours); there will be two sets of workshops offered (9-9:45am and 10-10:45am). Each participant may choose two per day (unless you attend “Holy Currencies”, which is given only on Friday and will take the entire workshop time). Some workshops will be available on both Friday and Saturday, others only on one day or the other. Please check the schedule below carefully.

Friday, 9 – 9:45 am	Friday, 10 – 10:45 am	Saturday, 9–9:45 am	Saturday, 10–10:45 am
Holy Currencies		---	---
---	---	God's Mission Among Indigenous Peoples: The Surprising News and Its Important Implications	God's Mission Among Indigenous Peoples: The Surprising News and Its Important Implications
Telling the Story	Telling the Story	---	---
Faith-Motivated Development	Faith-Motivated Development	Faith-Motivated Development	Faith-Motivated Development
Tatua Kenya and Transformative Mission Through the Lens of Relationship	Tatua Kenya and Transformative Mission Through the Lens of Relationship	Tatua Kenya and Transformative Mission Through the Lens of Relationship	Tatua Kenya and Transformative Mission Through the Lens of Relationship
Mutual Mission and Cooperative Finance	Mutual Mission and Cooperative Finance	Mutual Mission and Cooperative Finance	Mutual Mission and Cooperative Finance
---	---	A Partnership of Equals	A Partnership of Equals
---	---	Preparing Church Leaders for Reconciliation and Peace-Building in South Sudan	Preparing Church Leaders for Reconciliation and Peace-Building in South Sudan



Workshop Descriptions:

“Holy Currencies”

The Rev. Eric Law (Friday only – 1½ hours: will take the entire workshop time)

Description: We will explore and experience how "currency of relationship" can be developed for missional work and how it connects with the other currencies to form a cycle of blessings that sustain local communities.

“God’s Mission Among Indigenous Peoples: The Surprising News and Its Important Implications”

The Rt. Rev. Mark MacDonald (Saturday only)

Description: Among religious practitioners and the broader public, there are many widespread assumptions regarding mission among Indigenous Peoples. Most of those assumptions are wrong or misguided. Though the record of Church institutional behavior in relationship to Indigenous Peoples is painful at best, the Gospel has a different history and horizon in Indigenous life. This important story is yet to be heard or even told on a wide basis. Its implications are critical to the future of the larger Church movement in North America.

"Telling the Story"

Ken Hawkins (Friday only)

Description: The mark of successful mission rests on building personal connections between clients and the broader faith community...and others. Ken Hawkins is the unofficial "Canon for Storytelling" in the Diocese of Olympia and has led the Mission to Seafarers, which serves sailors from all corners of the globe, for the past three years after serving for seventeen years as a volunteer. During his tenure the Mission has grown dramatically--providing communications, transportation and a home-away-from-home for nearly twenty thousand merchant seafarers and cruise ship crew in the Port of Seattle with a small staff and a hardy group of volunteers. Today this organization enjoys a strong base of support and is now the largest multicultural ministry in the Diocese. Using this important and dynamic Mission as an example, Ken will share how he uses the power of storytelling to inspire and connect.

“Faith Motivated Development”

Robin Denney (Friday and Saturday)

Description: Development at its core is the changing of hearts and minds. That change happens through faith. Faith provides vision, which empowers people to change their own lives and the world. Robin will share stories from her time engaging with subsistence farmers in Africa and Latin America around faith and asset based community development, and propose an outline of faith motivated development that could be adapted for any domestic or foreign mission context.



“Tatua Kenya and Transformative Mission Through the Lens of Relationship”

Natalie Finstad (Friday and Saturday)

Description: Tatua Kenya is a non-profit organization that was formed in 2010 by Episcopal Missionary Natalie Finstad. Tatua Kenya works in Kenya to end the global poverty cycle by developing local leaders who build relationships and engage their communities to create lasting solutions to injustice. In this workshop, participants will learn about the work of Tatua Kenya and the transformative mission principles that guide their work. Participants will also leave with an understanding of and ability to practice transformative relationship for the purpose of leading more impactful mission activity.

“Mutual Mission and Cooperative Finance”

David Mesenbring (Friday and Saturday)

Description: Access to financial credit is a public health crisis of global proportions. Some people are dying for access to the smallest of loans while others drown in more credit than they should have. Another problem we don't often talk about is how the process of chasing grant money perpetuates an imbalance of power between those who have it and those who need it. This workshop raises provocative questions about the purpose and practice of Christian mission by introducing an innovative ecumenical organization called Oikocredit (www.oikocredit.coop)

“A Partnership of Equals”

Nancy McConnell (Saturday only)

Description: The Caring for All Creation Partnership between the Episcopal Diocese of Southern Philippines (EDSP) and the Diocese of Olympia grows trees for reforestation and economic justice in Mindanao and provides carbon offsets for greening congregations and individuals in the Seattle area. The partners have learned from each other and become friends in the process. This summer a delegation from the EDSP will visit the Diocese of Olympia and share their story with congregations from throughout the Diocese. We look forward to deeper relationships in the future.

“Preparing Church Leaders for Reconciliation and Peace-Building in South Sudan”

The Rev. Jeffrey Gill (Saturday only)

Description: The violence in South Sudan over the past five months has left thousands dead and over 1.2 million refugees and internally displaced persons. Jeff was asked to spend ten days this month in Kakuma Camp – a refugee camp in Kenya for South Sudanese – working with church leaders and pastors from The Episcopal Church of South Sudan and Sudan. He will share this fresh and exciting experience with us.



Mission Site Visits**

Saturday, May 31 - 1:30 to ~5:00 pm

There are two opportunities for visiting a mission site. Each participant must choose one. See below for detailed information on these sites. Transportation to and from sites will be by van.

1. The Mission to Seafarers, Seattle

The **Mission to Seafarers** serves sailors from all corners of the globe. Over the past three years, the Mission has grown dramatically. It provides communications, transportation, and a home-away-from-home for nearly twenty thousand merchant seafarers and cruise ship crews in the Port of Seattle. This mighty ministry is run with a small staff and a hardy group of volunteers. Today this organization enjoys a strong base of support and is now the largest multicultural ministry in the Diocese of Olympia.

Also at the Mission to the Seafarer's, Brian Sellers-Petersen will give us a tour and description of the **food ministry of the garden founded and operated by Seattle Tilth** (www.seattletilth.org). This is part of a project to enlist Houses of Worship and other religious organizations to make their land edible, including putting in 4-5 garden beds, providing technical support and ongoing fellowship with other faithful gardening projects in Puget Sound at the Mission to Seafarers. This will help us learn about international development.

2. St. Peter's Episcopal Parish, Seattle

Come take a tour of St. Peter's Episcopal Parish, one of only a few **historically Japanese-American** parishes on the West Coast. Hear the congregation's story of the American imprisonment of Japanese-Americans during WWII, and its role as a unique parish in the diocese. A few blocks from Seattle's renowned International District, St. Peter's is situated in a highly diverse area of the city. Across the street is Washington Girls School, the Japanese Language school and soon to be Japanese Cultural Center. Located up the block from St. Peter's is a Vietnamese Buddhist temple and several blocks up the street is St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church. The Japanese Buddhist Church and the Japanese Congregational Church are two blocks to the North. Seattle University, a Roman Catholic Jesuit institution, is less than a mile away.

Hear from the Diocese of Olympia's **Refugee Resettlement Office** (housed at St. Peter's) and its ministries to the constant influx of refugees to the U.S., as well as St. Peter's connections to other ethnic outreach and social justice ministries.

Our time together will conclude with conversation over tea/coffee at the **historic Panama Hotel**, built in 1910 by Saburo Ozasa, a Japanese architect and graduate of the University of Washington and featured in the book *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet*, by Jamie Ford. Through the years this iconic hotel has served as a home for generations of Japanese immigrants, Alaskan fisherman and international travelers. The building houses the only remaining Japanese Bathhouse (Sento) left intact in the United States.



Biographical Descriptions of Presenters

Alphabetical by Last Name

Ms. Robin Denney:

Robin has an agricultural degree from the University of California, Davis, and worked in agriculture, civil service, and the non-profit sector before becoming a missionary for The Episcopal Church. She served in the Young Adult Service Corps in Liberia for a year, where she taught agriculture and worked on community development projects. She then served as a Volunteer for Mission for two and a half years in South Sudan, as the agriculture consultant for The Episcopal Church of the Sudan. After returning to California, she worked on a bilingual church plant for three years in her home diocese of El Camino Real, and discerned a call to the priesthood. Robin begins work on a Masters of Divinity at Virginia Theological Seminary this August. Robin is a frequent speaker at conferences on global mission and development.

Ms. Natalie Finstad:

Natalie began her community-organizing career when working with the Episcopal Church of Massachusetts in 2009. She moved to Kenya in August 2010 and founded “Be the Change-Kenya” – now “Tatua Kenya,” with a team of 12 exceptional, local, young adult leaders. Currently she is an Episcopal Missionary. Natalie holds a BA from the University of Texas, Austin and has been trained in the Marshall Ganz leadership and community-organizing skills through Leading Change Network. She is an experienced organizer and teacher of community organizing and has worked for the following organizations as a consultant and/or teaching fellow: The Harvard Kennedy School, Bridgespan, The Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts, and Evidence for Action.

The Rev. Jeffrey Gill:

Jeff has been Rector of Trinity Episcopal Parish in Seattle since December 2012, after serving 24 years in Massachusetts, 22 of them as a parish Rector. He has a long history of involvement in ministries that build bridges between diverse communities across the barriers of language, culture and economics. Jeff has traveled extensively around the world to about 40 countries, much of it for mission work in some of the world’s poorest and most challenging places. He was a founding board member of the Esperanza Academy, a free-tuition Episcopal Middle School for girls in Lawrence, Massachusetts. He has also been engaged in interfaith work, serving as a Board and Executive Committee Member of the Center for the Study of Jewish-Christian-Muslim Relations at Merrimack College, and as a partner in various interfaith dialogues on peace in the Middle East. He also spent two years as a Fellow of the Episcopal Church Foundation working toward a PhD in international conflict resolution at the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy. He brings a global perspective to his ministry, and cares passionately about the ministry of reconciliation and peace building.

Mr. Ken Hawkins:

Ken Hawkins is the Executive Director of the Mission to Seafarers--Seattle and a member of the Church of the Holy Cross in Redmond, WA. A former business executive with a passion for outreach, Ken serves on the Commission for Stewardship and Development for the Diocese of Olympia, and is Vice President of the North American Maritime Ministries Association. He has spoken on behalf of Seafarer Welfare at forums in New York, London, Hamburg, and Houston.



The Rev. Eric Law:

Eric Law is the founder of Kaleidoscope Institute, which seeks to develop competent leadership in a diverse, changing world. After traveling all over the world giving workshops and trainings for churches in all the major denominations, the Rev. Eric H. F. Law finally decided to found an institute to continue the ministry that he started back in the late 1980s when he began a theological and practical journey through the landscape of diversity. His focus has always been: as a Christian, how can he follow Christ's call to seek and serve Christ in every person and respect the dignity of every human being? What started out as a need to help himself, and others around him, address race and diversity issues in faithful and constructive ways has evolved into something much bigger and deeper. Over the years, many have found his writing and methods helpful for their ministries, as evidenced by the overwhelming number of requests for him to give lectures and workshops across the United States, Canada, Australia, Asia, and Europe. He has written six books on the subject, ranging from individual spiritual practice to systemic transformational applications. His first book, *The Wolf Shall Dwell with the Lamb*, also appeared in a Spanish translation in 2005.

The Rt. Rev. Mark MacDonald:

Bishop Mark MacDonald became the Anglican Church of Canada's first National Indigenous Anglican Bishop in 2007, after serving as bishop of the U.S. Episcopal Diocese of Alaska for 10 years. He has had a long and varied ministry, holding positions in Mississauga, Ont., Duluth, Minn., Tomah, Wis., Mauston, Wis., Portland, Ore., and the southeast regional mission of the Diocese of Navajoland. Immediately prior to his ordination to the episcopate, Bishop MacDonald was canon missionary for training in the Diocese of Minnesota and vicar of St. Antipas' Church, Redby, Minn., and St. John-in-the-Wilderness Church, Red Lake, Red Lake Nation, Minn. He is the board chair for Church Innovations, Inc., a third order Franciscan, and the author of a number of published works.

Ms. Nancy McConnell:

Chair, Bishop's Committee for the Environment, Diocese of Olympia
Chair, Carbon Offset Project Task Force

Nancy McConnell is a retired educator and watershed manager. In 2008 she attended the Healing Our Planet Earth Conference held by the Episcopal Church in Seattle. She heard the challenge voiced by Bishop Charleston and others: "If not people of faith, then who?" and responded by starting a faith and environment group at her church and joining the Diocese of Olympia's Bishop's Committee for the Environment. She now chairs that committee.

The committee works with diocesan churches to reduce energy and resource use. It offers small green matching grants, provides workshops, and shares and celebrates the success of churches. Members of the committee have been active in the campaign against coal exports and in asking the diocese to divest of fossil fuel investments. The BCE also partners with the Episcopal Diocese of Southern Philippines in a carbon offset project. Working together, the dioceses are combatting global climate change.

The Rev. David Mesenbring:

David is dedicated to broadening the worldview of North Americans in favor of all. In New York City, he worked as an anti-apartheid advocate, international grant maker for Trinity Church, and Episcopal Church consultant. Next came 15 years in South Florida establishing the world's busiest maritime ministry followed by seven years as the social justice pastor at Saint Mark's



Cathedral in Seattle. Using experience in 25 African countries, as well as in Europe and the Americas, he has lectured in more than 100 North American cities. His appetite for a broad spectrum of people and opinions derives from unusual multi-cultural experience.

David is a passionate ecumenist and innovative social entrepreneur who serves on the U.S. Board of Directors and international Nomination Committee of Oikocredit, a global cooperative of churches that is the world's best provider of microfinance. He spent two years in Africa learning missionary work and speaks Spanish well enough to argue with his mother-in-law, but not well enough to win.

Mr. Brian Sellers-Petersen:

Brian has been on the staff of Episcopal Relief & Development since October 2000, based in Seattle. Before joining Episcopal Relief & Development, he served as Director of Advocacy and Education at World Vision International; California Regional Organizer for Bread for the World; and the Center for South Africa Ministry at All Saints, Pasadena. He was the lead developer of Episcopal Relief & Development's Abundant Life Garden Project (www.er-d.org/formation). He has also been instrumental in starting the nascent Episcopal Food and Faith Network and heads up the Food & Faith Initiative at Seattle Tilth.

The Rt. Rev. Greg Rickel:

Bishop Greg Rickel was elected the eighth bishop of the Diocese of Olympia and ordained bishop on Sept. 15, 2007. He has served the wider church as a stewardship consultant for the Stewardship Office of the Episcopal Church and for the Episcopal Network for Stewardship. He also served on the Resolution B004 Mission Funding Task Force and as an Episcopal representative to the Earth Charter meeting in Geneva, Switzerland. He is a trainer for the Climate Project. He has received training from the National Organization for Victim Assistance and has worked on disaster debriefing for the Arkansas Attorney General Office. He was ordained in 1997 and served as a parish priest for ten years before his election as bishop.

Bishop Rickel embraces radical hospitality that welcomes all, no matter where they find themselves on their journey of faith. He envisions a church that is a safe and authentic community in which to explore God's infinite goodness and grace as revealed in the life and continuing revelation of Jesus Christ.