



VOLUME 18, #1
FALL, 2011

Pathways to Promise

INTERFAITH MINISTRIES AND MENTAL ILLNESS

Mental Illness Awareness

Mental Illness Awareness Week has passed, but any week is appropriate, especially for those congregations with a busy first week in October. Resources are available from the following:

- ⌘ NAMI FaithNet www.nami.org/faithnet
- ⌘ Mental Health Ministries - www.mentalillnessministries.net
- ⌘ National Alliance for Mental Illness - www.nami.org/walk
- ⌘ Pathways to Promise - www.Pathways2Promise.org
- ⌘ Find your local Mental Health Association - www.nmha.org.

A WORD FROM YOUR CHAIR BOB DELL

About this “E-Letter” – For the usual reasons (economy, staff time, etc.), we are experimenting with doing an online newsletter. Despite its many advantages, we regret that we might lose contact with friends who lack the internet connection. We are looking for ways to meet that need. As the folk singer put it, “The times, they are a-changing.” For now, we hope this format will enable us to do more, rather than less. Whether it is an online e-letter, Facebook, or smoke signals we want to be in touch!

Now, on to another subject. 2012, by some counts, will be the 25th Anniversary of Pathways to Promise. We have begun conversations called, an Anniversary Dialogue. We will keep you posted, but it will be a way for the wider Pathways family, especially our faith groups, to renew a vision for the future. Keep your dial tuned!

WEB SITE REVISION

Through the good work of our Web Master, Alan Harris, our home page is more accessible, and less cluttered. Many thanks, Alan!!

NATIONAL TRAINING INITIATIVE (NTI) CHICAGO MEETING

On July 6th people with an interest in the National Training Initiative met in Chicago, hosted by the Fourth Presbyterian Church. (Many thanks to Terry Stumpf and the *CHICAGO LIGHTS Center for Whole Health - A Community Outreach Program at Fourth Presbyterian Church*). Attendees came from near and far, namely: Seattle, San Diego and Tustin (CA), Chicago, Cincinnati, Ashville, Denver, St. Louis and more! – very representative, geographically, and otherwise. We heard a report of the St. Louis Pilot project and also Washington State where a state-wide Initiative is under way. We also heard from potential sites such as Suburban Chicago, Los Angeles, Cincinnati, and Chapel Hill. Important issues and resources were discussed, especially work among children and families.

Each NTI site develops according to local needs. Note how in this brief report from Craig Rennebohm, there is state wide structure in the state of Washington:

The Washington state network advisory committee is considering a covenant and set of agreements with the Washington Faith Action Network, a new successor body to the Washington Association of Churches. I expect we'll have up to a dozen statewide groups formally joining the network including state government department representatives, NAMI, Seattle University and other higher education institutions, PEERs and others.

PATHWAYS TO PROMISE 5400 Arsenal Street St. Louis, MO 63139
Phone: 314-877-6489 Fax: 314-877-6405 Pathways@mimh.edu www.Pathways2Promise.org

NAMI CONVENTION NOTES

Following the NTI meeting, this year's convention began. Visit www.NAMI.org and you can see what went on each day and many pictures. Tapes of speeches are available. Examples include Dr. Thomas Insel speaking about current research, especially in regard to schizophrenia. Some very significant, game changing things are in the works. That's on the technical side, on the personal side there were some very moving testimonies.

Bill Curtis, CBS anchor and producer of documentaries, spoke of the struggle of his son - very moving.

Glenn Close, and her sister Jesse, and Jesse's son, Calen. The Close family have "spoken out" and have this web site: www.bringchange2mind.org. It is worth going to for information and stories.

At www.bringchange2mind.org, you can see and hear the stories of a group of people we know only too well. Director Ron Howard and Glenn Close cooperated on a special "speak out" filmed at the iconic Grand Central Station, NY. A crew of 80 and 100 volunteers pitched in with one thought, to bring voices together to "bring change to mind". The first time you go to the site, it will open with striking video about Alan Hill. Click on Ron Howard's picture to go behind the scenes. Then choose among the others to hear the various stories. Here is a link to a *USA Today* edition of last fall with a short quote from Dr. Insel, and a short interview with Glenn Close: www.usatoday.com/yourlife/health/medical/mentalhealth/2010-11-10-glenn-close-depression_N.htm. More workshop information is available at www.NAMI.org.

FaithNet held a networking session with Tom Lambert presiding and several of our colleagues reporting much good information. Tom represents the Chicago Archdiocesan Commission on Mental Illness on the Pathways Board. <http://www.miministry.org/>

Reaching Out to Faith Communities is a four-part training curriculum provided by NAMI FaithNet to encourage and equip NAMI members to engage with and share their story and NAMI resources with local faith groups. Reaching Out to Faith Communities is offered via power point and intended for self-study while viewing with the NOTES function. While the four sections are designed to be used consecutively and as a whole, they each can be studied independently. In addition, the material is also presented via a two-part webinar series. Support documents referenced in the curriculum are also included. For more information visit www.nami.org/faithnet.

NAMI Awards

Many awards were given, each with a significant background. The Lionel Aldridge Award was given to Mark Vonnegut. You may remember my review of his recent book, "Just Like Someone Without Mental Illness Only More So". The Aldridge award, "recognizes individuals with a mental illness who exhibit courage, leadership and service on behalf of all people living with a mental illness. Dr. Joyce Burland Received the Distinguished Service award, recognizing her work to develop and market the Family-to-Family education program.

Nancy Kehoe presented an engaging, helpful talk, at the convention, on : "Religion and Spirituality - an asset or a liability for people living with and recovering from mental illness". She began with the following clarification:

"I want to be clear that I am neither addressing this from a theological position nor am I making judgments about different theologies or different understandings of grace, redemption, demons and illness. I am simply looking at this question from the perspective of someone who lives with mental illness or is a family member of someone living with mental illness"

A longer account of Dr. Kehoe's remarks can be found at: www.nami.org/namifaithnet.

NARSAD NOW the Brain & Behavior Research Foundation

PAGE 2

As many will know, NARSAD has become, the **Brain & Behavior Research Foundation** <http://www.narsad.org/>. Their mission remains the same. We believe NARSAD ArtWorks will retain its current name <http://www.narsadartworks.org/>.

FRIENDS AND COLLEAGUES AT NAMI 2011



Dinner at the FaithNet Table

Standing: Susan Gregg-Schroeder, Carole Wills, Bill Kinschner, Gunnar Christiansen, Susan Christiansen
Seated: Bonnie Kinschner, Bob Dell, Jack Day, Tom Lambert



National Training Initiative

Craig Rennebohm and Susan Gregg-Schroeder enjoy a lighter moment at the July 6 Chicago meeting of the Pathways National Training Initiative.

Photos courtesy of Susan Gregg-Schroeder

Network News

ADNet (Anabaptist Disabilities Network)

Christine Guth, Program Director

www.adnetonline.org

We have recently released the newly revised book, *Supportive Care in the Congregation: Providing a Congregational Network of Care for Persons with Significant Disabilities*. See attached news release for more information. To order, visit the [MennoMedia website](#) or call toll free 1-(800) 245-7894.

Office

Mental Health Task Force of the Christian Reformed Disability Concerns (CRCNA)

Mark Stephenson

Stories of Grace and Truth

Our stories matter to ourselves and to one another. The Mental Health Task Force of Christian Reformed Disability Concerns is initiating a story project called “Stories of Grace and Truth.” They wish to collect stories from persons with mental illnesses and from persons who support them. How has the hard-hitting truth of mental illness impacted you or your family? What are the challenges, the struggles, in your life from day to day? Where have you experienced moments of grace or struggle in your faith journey? With the author’s permission, these stories might be used in print and online to build greater understanding about mental illness.

The goal of the Mental Health Task Force is to promote safe dialog regarding mental health within the body of Christ. The Task Force developed its mission and direction at the National Summit sponsored by Pathways in 2009 and is comprised of therapists, parents, and chaplains from both Canada and the United States.

We invite you to share your story with us. Send your story to stories@crcna.org, or to Disability Concerns, Attn: Stories, 2850 Kalamazoo Ave. SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49560. Stories will be kept private until released by the author. Where necessary, the author may request anonymity. If you have questions, call Mark Stephenson, Director of Disability Concerns, at 888-463-0272.

United Church of Christ Mental Illness Network

Alan Johnson, Chair

www.Wideningthewelcome.com

Widening the Welcome movement continues in 2nd National Conference

“We need this in the United Church of Christ,” remarked J. Bennett Guess in his closing plenary presentation at the 2nd Widening the Welcome conference, held September 29- October 1 in Columbus, Ohio. “We’re about widening the welcome and deepening relationships.”

Guess’s comments reflect the feelings of those attending this year’s conference. The Widening the Welcome movement in the United Church of Christ continues to seek ways to break down the barriers in language about inclusion/disabilities/mental illnesses, to overcome the inaccessibility of church buildings, to study the theology of disabilities, to confront attitudes about brain disorders/mental illness, to find ways to move congregations to become A2A (Accessible to All) and to encourage the development of Mental Health Ministries in all congregations.

More information about the Widening the Welcome movement, including conference resources and audio/video recordings for purchase, is available at wideningthewelcome.com.

Episcopal Mental Illness Network

Bean Murray, Chair

The Episcopal Network newsletter has gone green! For the full text, go to the web site. Here is an excerpt from the Chair, Bean Murray:

I look forward to sharing stories, programs, and resources that can help our congregations be places of welcome and strength. Also, I look forward to hearing what you are doing so I can share your ideas with other *EMIN News* readers. For more information right now, check out our new growing website at www.eminnews.com.

Pathways to Promise
 Phone: 314-877-6489 Fax: 314-877-6405
 Email: Pathways@MIMH.edu

For a complete description of these materials please visit www.Pathways2Promise.org

Item (Prices include shipping & handling)	Quantity	Cost	Amount
Poster: Sunshine from Darkness 11x17		\$2.00	
Poster: Sunshine from Darkness 8.5x11		\$0.50	
Pathways Bookmark		\$0.20	
Mental Illness & Families of Faith (DVD set)			
Creating Caring Congregations (DVD)			
Mental Health Mission Moments (DVD)			
Book: Souls in the Hands of a Tender God		\$15.00	
Caring for the Soul: R'fuat Hanefesh - A Mental Health Resource & Study Guide		\$15.00	
Walking Together: A Training Workshop With <i>interactive activities</i> for faith communities interested in supporting people with mental illness		\$15.00	
Pathways to Partnership (Basic Manual) # of each: <input type="checkbox"/> Christian <input type="checkbox"/> Jewish		\$6.75	
Pathways to Understanding Manual For Instructors & Students		\$20.00	
Pathways to Understanding Videotape For use with Manual above		\$5.00	
Caring Congregations: Observations and Commentary Overview		\$6.75	
Worship Resources A follow-up to Caring Congregations		\$6.75	
The Bible As A Resource Materials for sermons and articles		\$6.75	
It Is Well With My Soul Scriptures, prayers, & songs for African Americans		\$4.75	

For these DVD resources please visit Mental Health Ministries www.MentalHealthMinistries.net

Item (Prices include shipping & handling)	Quantity	Cost	Amount
When Mental Illness Strikes in a Family of Faith A pamphlet for families or clergy working with families # of each: <input type="checkbox"/> Christian <input type="checkbox"/> Jewish <input type="checkbox"/> Roman Catholic <input type="checkbox"/> Spanish Version		\$0.20	
Who Has Mental Illness? A pamphlet about mental illness, resources & community outreach. # of each: <input type="checkbox"/> Christian <input type="checkbox"/> Jewish		\$0.20	
The following BULLETIN INSERTS are available in quantities of 25 only*:			
Reaching Out to Someone Who Has Mental Illness		\$3.50	
Mental Illness: Community Outreach		\$3.50	
Creating Caring Congregations for People with Mental Illness and Their Families		\$3.50	
Responding to People with Mental Illness in the Congregation & Community		\$3.50	
Rabbi Who Sinned? Myths and Realities About Mental Illness		\$3.50	
Children and Mental Disorders: Myths & Facts		\$3.50	
Putting the Pieces Together: Correcting the Myths of Mental Health and Aging # of each: <input type="checkbox"/> Christian <input type="checkbox"/> Jewish		\$3.50	
*Sample packet of above 7 inserts for \$2.00		\$2.00	
NOTE: Orders to Canada may incur additional shipping charges	Total Payment minimum order \$5 please		

Name: _____

Faith Group, Congregation or Organization _____

Address: _____ City, State, Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ FAX: _____ Email: _____

Comments? _____

Please mail this form with your check or money order (credit cards not accepted) payable to Pathways to:

Pathways To Promise
5400 Arsenal St.
St. Louis, MO 63139

Thank you for your order!

Pathways to Promise Membership

All categories of membership include a subscription to the Pathways to Promise Newsletter

Please check **ONE** of the following membership categories:

Individual - \$25 Congregation - \$50 Other Local Group/Agency - \$50
 Regional Body or Chapter of an Organization - \$150 National Religious Body - \$500*
 Other National Organization/Agency - \$500* Individual Honorary/Lifetime Membership - \$500

**Current Bylaws provide membership in this category includes a seat on the Pathways Board of Representatives.*

Additional Contributions to Pathways are welcome and tax deductible.

\$ _____ Gift to Pathways \$ _____ Gift to Pathways in Honor or in Memory of _____

Name: _____

Faith Group, Congregation or Organization: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Telephone: _____ FAX _____ Email: _____

Please make checks payable to Pathways to Promise and send with membership form to:

Pathways to Promise, 5400 Arsenal Street, St. Louis, MO 63139

**PATHWAYS TO PROMISE
5400 ARSENAL ST.
ST. LOUIS, MO 63139**

PRSRT STD U.S. POSTAGE PAID ST. LOUIS, MO PERMIT NO. 1175
--



**Renew Your
Membership
TODAY!**