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Making Peace with 9/11, Making Peace with Yourself

The September Eleventh Families for Peaceful Tomorrows is sponsoring a discussion with Father Michael Lapsley, a South African Anglican Priest who lost an eye and both hands from a letter bomb because of his work against Apartheid. The discussion is tonight, **Thursday, April 7, 7:30-9 pm** at September Space, 520 Eighth Ave at 36th St, 11 floor. Father Michael is founder of The Institute for the Healing of Memories in Capetown, South Africa, and speaks around the world about the effects of violence and the essential need for an effective healing process. The event is free and open to 9/11 families, survivors, rescue workers, clergy, mental health professionals, and all those who are still recovering from the tragedy of 9/11.

Please RSVP to: September Space, 212-563-7570.

For more info, check out:

www.peacefultomorrow.org/calendar.php



Public Invited to Comment on WTC Tribute Visitors' Center



The September 11th Families Association, a NYDIS partner, invites the public to a presentation and Q & A on the initial concept and designs for the Tribute Visitors' Center which is being built at Ground Zero. The presentation is being held on **Monday, April 11, at 6 pm**, at The Municipal Art Society, 457 Madison Ave at E. 51st St. The Tribute Center seeks to provide historical information and a welcoming presence for visitors to the World Trade Center memorial site. It will include galleries, exhibits, special educational events and guided tours. All comments will be recorded and will inform the development of the project as it moves forward.



NYDIS LINKS

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Dear Friends of NYDIS:

Welcome to NYDISnet, our bi-weekly e-newsletter. We hope this resource will keep you updated about NYDIS and developments in disaster readiness, response and recovery initiatives that impacts the faith communities, our agencies and our partners.

Please feel free to copy and share any information from NYDISnet you find helpful, simply credit us as the source when appropriate.

Faithfully, Peter

Peter B. Gudaitis, M.Div.
Executive Director & CEO

To share news or information, or to distribute NYDISnet to your agency, clergy or congregational list, contact:

The Rev. Susan Lockwood
Director, Disaster Planning & Training
212.669-6104
slockwood@nydis.org

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22 Cortlandt Street
20th Floor
New York, NY, 10007

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www.NYDIS.org

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Because space is limited, reservations are encouraged.

For reservations, e-mail: TributeWorkshop@911families.org.

For more information: 212.669-6124 or go to www.911families.org

St. Vincent's Hospital & St. Andrew Co-Host Health Fair



St. Vincent Catholic Medical Center--World Trade Center Healing Services and the Church of St. Andrew will co-host a health fair **April 12, 2005**, at the church, located at 20 Cardinal Hayes Place in Police Plaza. Downtown residential, civic and business communities are invited to stop by and learn more about health related issues and the diverse health services that are provided by both traditional and alternative approaches.

Health care representatives from the Medical Center and other organizations will be available to assist anyone interested in learning more about traditional treatments for managing stress, blood pressure, diabetes, nutrition, exercise, breast cancer and prostate cancer. Information will also be available for alternative treatments such as acupuncture, reiki, pet therapy, hypnosis, therapeutic art, qi gong and massage.

For more info, contact:

Janice Cilento

Saint Vincent

212-346-258

jcilento@svcmcnyc.org

or check out www.svcmcnyc.org/wtc/office.asp

Faith Communities Respond to the Immigrant Rights Debate

Immigrant rights advocates and immigration lawyers from American Friends Service Committee and Justice For Our Neighbors invite faith communities and their leaders to discuss how communities and individuals can get involved in supporting the human rights of immigrants while Congress and state legislatures pass laws to restrict those rights at a meeting **Tuesday, April 12, 3-5 pm** at the Interchurch Center, 475 Riverside Drive (enter on Claremont Avenue at 120), in Manhattan.

The event is organized by American Friends Service Committee and Justice For Our Neighbors Program of the United Methodist Committee on Relief, General Board of Global Ministries, United Methodist Church.

For more information, contact:

Susan Wersan

212-870-3807

or e-mail swersan@gbgm-umc.org

Community of Hope Sponsors Clergy Self-Care Seminar

Dr. Peter L. Steinke, author of *Healthy Congregations: a systems approach*, and nationally known church consultant, will be in NYC **May 5** to lead a self-care seminar for clergy on "Tending Self



and Community During a Time of Anxiety". Ruth Yoder Wenger of STAR-NY will also make a presentation.

The seminar will be held 9:30 am-2:30 pm at Advent Lutheran Church 93rd and Broadway, Manhattan. It is open to all NYC area clergy and will cost \$12 including lunch. It is sponsored by Community of Hope-NYC, a ministry of the Metropolitan New York Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA).

For information or to register, contact:

Pastor Rip Hoffman
212.669-6115
kantonen@aol.com

or go to:

www.communityofhope-nyc.org/programs.htm

Briefing on 9/11 Memorial Projects Set for May 5



The Municipal Art Society is sponsoring the fourth and final briefing in a series of public forums entitled *Engaging Lower Manhattan: Remembrance and Interpretation* on **Thursday, May 5, 6-8 pm** at St. John's University Lower Manhattan campus, 101

Murray St, between Greenwich and West Sts. The briefing will involve a discussion by organizations representing three different types of memorial projects: temporary memorials, permanent memorials, and artifacts of the events.

For info, contact:

Sarah K. Yackel
Municipal Art Society
212-935-3960
syackel@mas.org

or go to:

www.mas.org

SUNY Disaster Mental Health Institute Hosts Conference

The Disaster Mental Health Institute at SUNY New Paltz is offering a conference on Helping in a Time of Crisis **Friday, May 6, 9 am-4:30 pm**. The conference, which highlights best practices in disaster mental health, is open to social service and mental health professionals, teachers, emergency responders, clergy, students, and community members.

For info, contact:

Janine Colucci
colucc88@newpaltz.edu

or go to:

www.newpaltz.edu/psychology/

To register, call: 845-257-3033, 8:30 am-4:30 pm

Save the Date for Upcoming NYDIS Conference

- **2005 Disaster Preparedness Summit for Clergy & Religious Leaders, May 17, 8:30 am-4 pm, NYU's Kimmel Center**

For information, contact:
The Rev. Susan Lockwood
212-669-6104
slockwood@nydis.org

ME Promises to Continue Victim ID Work at Interfaith Service

The city's Chief Medical Examiner, Dr. Charles Hirsch, reaffirmed his pledge to continue the painstaking work of identifying victims' remains at an interfaith prayer service **Sunday, April 3**. The prayer service was organized by the Bill Doyle 9/11 Support Group and Father Brian Jordan on behalf of the families of 9/11 victims to honor the ME Office staff after a recent announcement that DNA identification of victims would be put on hold until better testing is possible. The service included moving testimonials and tributes from grateful relatives of 9/11 victims, followed by a reception sponsored by NYDIS and the WTC United Family Group.

Hirsch told Jewish, Catholic, Protestant, Muslim and Buddhist worshippers gathered at the Church of St. Francis of Assisi, "Our work continues. It may have paused, but ladies and gentlemen, we will never quit."

To date, 1,161 victims—42% of the total—remain unidentified.

Christie Combs whose husband Jeffery was aboard American Airlines Flight 11 when it struck the north tower seemed to speak for other families when she stood to thank Hirsch for his work: "You have created a bridge from the depths of hell to heaven's gate. And you have brought them home."

For a fuller story, check out:
"Still Working on IDS, 9/11 families told," by Bill Egbert
www.nydailynews.com

Symposium for People of Color Who Served at Ground Zero Focuses on Creating Spiritual and Psychological Resilience

The NYDIS symposium for people of color who served at ground zero was held Tuesday, **April 5**, at NYU's Kimmel Center. The Rev. Alfonso Wyatt, Vice President of the Fund for the City of NY, convened the symposium by warning those present of the tendency toward "privatizing our pain" and spoke of the need for communal sharing and healing.



Three uniformed personnel and Rev. Wyatt

Dr. Mindy T. Fullilove, a psychiatrist at Mailman School of Public Health and organizer of NYC Recovers, has worked extensively from a community model for collective recovery. She underscored the increased impact of 9/11 on communities of color who are "already at the breaking point. They are chronically stressed by displacement, unemployment, increased mortality and morbidity as well as 50 years of disaster."

Dr. Derek Suite, founder of Full Circle Health, touched on the roles of spirituality and faith-based approaches in creating resiliency. His work with federal employees working at or near ground zero utilized a spiritual and neuro-biological approach that incorporated meditation, relaxation, art therapy, storytelling, aromatherapy and food as part of a holistic and communal framework. Dr. Suite also emphasized the importance of faith communities in reaching out to those who are traumatized.



9/11 Recovery Service Providers

Other presentations were made by Dr. Grace Yun, Director of Inter-Relations Collaborative, who presented artwork done by youth ages 11-19 and Pastor Don Ventura, The Lighthouse Corporation, and The Rev. David Quintero, Clergy for Justice. Police, fire, and rescue workers spoke of their ongoing and often unacknowledged challenges of living with post-traumatic stress. The symposium concluded with appreciation for all who served at ground zero and who have stepped forward to acknowledge their pain as a step in the recovery process.

Event photos are available at:

www.nydis.org/resources/headlines/04-06-05.htm

For info, contact:

Daniel H. Bush
212.669-6105
dbush@nydis.org

From Our Members and Partners

- **NYDIS Sponsors Auburn Seminary Training for Clergy**



The Rev. Susan Lockwood will be presenting information on NYDIS and its training program at Auburn Seminary's Trauma Training course on **April 18**. NYDIS co-sponsored the class and provided scholarships for participants. The course is being co-taught by The Rev. Barry Bub and Rabbi Goldie Milgram.

For info on this course or future offerings, contact:

Auburn Seminary
212-662-4315
www.auburnsem.org

For info on NYDIS training programs, contact:

The Rev. Susan Lockwood
212-669-6104
slockwood@nydis.org

- **CWS Consultant and ITRT Katrina Cochran Honored**

The Oklahoma Psychological Association has recognized Katrina Cochran, Ph.D. for her leadership and contributions to psychologists and the profession. Dr. Cochran was a leader in providing emotional and spiritual care services following the Oklahoma City bombing. She has been a Church World Service (CWS) consultant for its Interfaith Trauma Response Team (ITRT) since Sept. 11, 2001, and has presented at 84 workshops and



training seminars for CWS.

- **Don't Go without your Go Bag**



LDRNY is sending information to churches and schools about ordering a Go Bag. The red standard backpack is filled with more than 50 items to help a person survive in the first 24 hours following a disaster or emergency. Items include a flashlight, water, energy bar, whistle, rain poncho, mylar blanket, hand-warmer packet, radio and compass, first-aid kit, toothbrush, hand-sanitizers, ID holder, DNA/fingerprint kit, pen and pad, and more. The suggested contribution for the Go Bag is \$70 each, plus \$7.50 shipping/handling.

For info or to purchase A Go Bag, call LDRNY at 1-866-864-1600, or go to www.LDRNY.org, click on the red logo on the homepage.

Preparedness Corner

Are We in the US Really Prepared?

From "Americans lack disaster readiness," USA Today, March 28, 2005

The citizens of Tokyo recently marked the 10th anniversary of the sarin nerve gas attack on the Tokyo subway system. The March 20, 1995 terrorist, carried out by the Aum Shinrikyo cult, killed 12 people and injured more than 5,000.

Are we in the United States prepared to respond to a similar attack?

The good news is that the country is more prepared than ever thanks to strong collaboration between federal, state and local governments and allies in the academic, health care, faith-based, non-profit and private sectors.

The federal government has more than tripled spending on homeland security since 2001, providing more than \$14 billion to train and equip police, firefighters and emergency medical professionals across America.

That said, significant gaps still exist in this nation's ability to prevent and respond to acts of terrorism. CIA Director Porter Goss recently told a Senate panel that it's only a matter of time before al-Qaeda or other terrorist groups try to launch an attack on the U.S. with chemical, biological or nuclear weapons.

Despite this very real threat, an American Red Cross report found that nearly 60% of Americans are wholly unprepared for a disaster of any type. The solution is largely personal, not institutional, and Americans must shoulder some of the responsibility for their safety and security.

Schedule Your Congregation, School or Agency Preparedness Training



NYDIS staff Peter Gudaitis and Susan Lockwood, along with John Scibilia, Lutheran Disaster Response of NY (LDRNY), have been trained by the NYC Office of Emergency Management as instructors for the Ready New York Campaign, a city-wide effort to prepare all New Yorkers for emergencies. The cornerstone of the campaign is a

comprehensive household preparedness guide that offers tips and information about a wide range of potentially hazardous situations New Yorkers may face.

NYDIS or LDRNY is ready to offer a one-hour didactic presentation for members of your congregation, school, agency or community. To schedule a training date, call or email The Rev. Susan Lockwood, Director of Disaster Planning & Training, to schedule a training date: 212.669-6104, slockwood@nydis.org.

For more info on Ready New York, go to:
www.nyc.gov/html/oem/html/readynewyork/ready_guide.html

Job Opportunities in Disaster Services

- **Office Administrator** - NYDIS seeks an experienced full-time office administrator to oversee all daily administrative functions. Duties include: manage payroll & insurance benefits for staff of nine, office bookkeeping and check-writing, and general office management, make travel arrangements, event-planning and more. Qualifications include bachelor's degree or equivalent experience, excellent oral and written communications skills, particularly in proofreading, self-motivated "details" person with exceptional organizational skills, general understanding of database and website design desirable, positive energy and the ability to work collaboratively with a small staff, experience working with not-for-profits and/or religious institutions preferred.

Salary range is \$40,000-45,000, plus excellent benefits.

To apply, email or fax:

Peter B. Gudaitis, M.Div, Executive Director & CEO

NYDIS - New York Disaster Interfaith Services

22 Cortlandt Street, 20th Floor

New York, NY 10007

Email: pgudaitis@nydis.org

Fax: 212-669-6101

No phone calls.

For info on NYDIS, check out: www.nydis.org

- **Moderator, NYC 9/11 Unmet Needs Roundtable** The Advisory Committee for the NYC 9/11 Unmet Needs Roundtable is seeking a full-time moderator. Duties include conducting case worker orientations for those seeking Roundtable funding for clients, scheduling case worker presentations, bi-weekly Roundtable sessions, completing paperwork documenting donor commitment and more. Qualifications include bachelor's degree, 9/11 case work experience or social work degree preferred, Spanish/English or fluency in another foreign language is desirable, at least one year of 9/11 related victims' assistance or advocacy experience preferred and more.

Salary range is \$35,000-40,000, plus excellent benefits.

To apply, email or fax:

Peter B. Gudaitis, M.Div, Executive Director & CEO

NYDIS - New York Disaster Interfaith Services

22 Cortlandt Street, 20th Floor

New York, NY 10007

Email: pgudaitis@nydis.org

Fax: 212-669-6101

No phone calls.

For info on The Roundtable, go to:

www.nydis.org/unmetneeds/1.htm

- **Summer Interns** The Sikh Coalition is seeking summer interns. The program offers undergraduate and graduate students the opportunity to gain valuable skills and experience in one of three areas: legal, community organizing or marketing and operations. Applications are due by April 15.

To apply, visit: www.sikhcoalition.org/InternshipProgram.asp

Email: internship@sikhcoalition.org

We Recommend...

- Selected videos of presentation from the 2004 Church World Service Emergency Response Program Forum on Domestic Disaster Ministry at Princeton Theological Seminary, April 2004. Go to: www.cwserp.org/training/forum.php
 - Check out Disaster News Network article, "Animals forgotten after disasters" at: www.disasternews.net/news/news.php?articleid=2587
 - For case management and mental health resources, go to: www.nydis.org/9-11recovery/9.htm
 - For pastors of Christian Congregations: Lily Endowment is inviting applications for its clergy renewal program. For information and a grant application, go to: www.clergyrenewal.org
 - The NY State Office of Emergency Management has posted information on their website regarding homeland security funding available to non-profits. These funds are restricted for hardening of facilities only. For info, go to: www.security.state.ny.us/
 - For really excellent information on trauma, check out The American Academy of Experts in Traumatic Stress, Inc at: www.aaets.org and sign up for their E-News.
 - Check out this newly developed website by Dennis McKeon. It is loaded with resources, information and news related to 9/11 and its affect on all aspects of our lives. www.where-to-turn.org
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Make a Gift to NYDIS



If you'd like to make a donation to assist NYDIS in its mission of providing faith-based disaster services, [click here](#), or send a check to NYDIS at 22 Cortlandt Street, 20th Flr, New York, NY 10007. Contributions are tax

deductible. It is a great way to honor or memorialize someone and we will send an acknowledgement of your gift.

To donate on line, go to the NYDIS homepage and click on "Make a Donation":

