

Call for Papers

Nurturing Peace in Contexts of Global Violence: A Conference for Religious Educators, Scholars and Leaders

May 22-25, 2013

*at New York Theological Seminary
475 Riverside Drive (at 120th Street), New York City*

Religious leaders throughout the world in every faith tradition are challenged today to be active agents of peace. How can academic institutions and faith-based grass roots organizations that are training religious leaders be more effective in teaching the ways of peace? Working together with scholars, policy makers, and activists, how can we all advance peacemaking more effectively within our various communities?

This conference will explore these questions as we seek to work together to teach and learn about peacemaking both locally and globally. Bringing together scholars and religious leaders, we plan to explore existing programs, develop a fuller analysis of what peace means in our diverse religious and cultural contexts, and plan together for more effective ways of teaching peacemaking.

The conference planners invite papers on the following themes from junior scholars and graduate students working in all academic disciplines for a dedicated session on Saturday morning, May 25:

- **Peacemaking in response to violence against women and children**, to explore how religious communities are forging alternatives to violence, protesting injustice, nurturing peace, and empowering women and children?
- **Peacemaking in contexts of violence against marginalized communities**, to explore how religious leaders are or can become more effective peacemakers, offering hospitality to strangers and building bridges of reconciliation among peoples of diverse races, ethnicities, and orientations
- **Peacemaking and religions of the world**, to explore means by which religious leaders are addressing forms of violence that are supposedly religious-inspired.
- **Peacemaking in the face of state sanctioned-violence**, to explore peacemaking and its relationship to various other contemporary movements for social transformation in the context of state-sanctioned violence
- **Peacemaking for the economy and the ecology**, to explore how religious leaders are addressing both forms of eco-peacemaking in our era.

Presenters will be invited to participate in the full conference, providing them with an opportunity to meet and share ideas with globally renowned religious leaders, policy makers, and scholars — including confirmed keynote speakers and participants.

Proposals must include full name, institutional affiliation, e-mail address, a 100-word bio in narrative form, and an abstract of no more than 250 words.

Send proposals by email to Douglas Irvin-Erickson at **douglas.irvin@gmail.com**.

Deadline for submission of proposals is February 1, 2013. All applicants will be notified concerning their acceptance by March 1, 2013.

Sponsoring theological schools & university centers

- New York Theological Seminary (convening institution)
- Auburn Theological Seminary
- Boston University School of Theology
- Drew University Theological School
- Hartford Theological Seminary
- The Jewish Theological Seminary (invited)
- Union Theological Seminary in New York
- Center for the Study of Genocide, Conflict Resolution, and Human Rights at Rutgers University Newark
- Berkley Center for Religion, Peace, and World Affairs at Georgetown University

Sponsoring faith-based and non-profit organizations

- Communities of Shalom (United Methodist Church)
- Christian Ministry and Service
- Exodus Transitional Community
- GreenFaith
- Haki Yetu
- House of Peace, Inc.
- Intersections International (Collegiate Churches of New York)
- The Institute for Diasporan African Culture
- Muslim Women's Institute for Research and Development
- The Network for Human Understanding
- New York Zen Center for Contemplative Care
- Presbyterian Ministry at the United Nations
- The Riverside Church in New York
- Stony Point Conference Center
- Tanenbaum Center for Interreligious Understanding
- The United States Institute of Peace
- US Academics for Peace

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