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Christian Theological Seminary Announces 140 Congregations Awarded Lilly Endowment 2014 National Clergy Renewal Program Grants

INDIANAPOLIS - Christian Theological Seminary, in its role of administering the Lilly Endowment National Clergy Renewal Program, has awarded grants to 140 congregations located in 36 states to enable their pastors to step away from daily responsibilities for a period of reflection and renewal. The 2014 program provides pastors with time for travel and immersive experiences in different cultures, opportunities to participate in spiritual retreats and pilgrimages, and focused periods for writing and research about challenges facing Christian communities.

“Pastors play an indispensable role in guiding the work of congregations and the daily demands of leadership are unending,” said Dr. Christopher L. Coble, vice president for religion at the Endowment. “Lilly Endowment is pleased that this program enables hardworking pastors to step away briefly from their ministerial responsibilities for rest and renewal.”

Congregations are awarded grants in the National Clergy Renewal Program to honor and support renewal programs for their pastors. These congregations represent a diverse group that includes Protestant, Catholic and nondenominational churches. Congregational leaders worked with their pastor to design their renewal program and to determine how their pastor would use the grant funds to replenish, restore and renew their pastor’s ministry. Travel to varied destinations and journeys into nature are popular activities for the participating pastors. One pastor will travel to the Iona community in Scotland. Another will engage in study of peace and reconciliation at the Tantur Ecumenical Institute in Jerusalem, and several recipients will engage in cross-country trips with their families across the United States in order to visit significant places in their lives and ministries.

“We can think of no better way to honor these faithful men and women than to help them experience personal and spiritual renewal in ways that they themselves design and find meaningful,”
Coble said. “We regularly hear that these renewal experiences are transformative for pastors, their families and their congregations.”

In addition to travel as a form of renewal, some pastors will use their time away from congregational leadership to explore music and the arts or enjoy extended periods of tranquil solitude and reflection. One congregation will send its pastor to engage in genealogical research while simultaneously immersing himself in the writings of John Wesley. Another pastor will practice techniques of improvisational theater to see how they might impact congregational ministry.

The Rev. Dr. Robert Saler, director of the Lilly Endowment Clergy Renewal Programs at Christian Theological Seminary in Indianapolis, noted that the National Clergy Renewal Program gives congregations an opportunity to demonstrate support, trust and encouragement for their pastor.

“The program is designed to respect the innate human need to balance times of work and service with periods of rest and replenishment,” Saler said. “It provides a means for congregations to express appreciation for their leader’s service and respect for his or her health and energy for continued ministry.”

Since 2000, more than 1,900 congregations across the nation have received grants in the National Clergy Renewal Program to support the renewal programs of their pastors. Congregations in the 2014 program received grants totaling more than $5 million. Christian congregations were invited to apply for program grants of up to $50,000. Up to $15,000 of the grant could be allocated to fund interim pastoral leadership as well as to support renewal activities within the congregation. Pastors were encouraged to include their families in the renewal activities.

“At a time when society is experiencing unprecedented levels of change at ever increasing speeds, it is rewarding to offer programs that recognize the value of retreat and renewal,” Saler said. “We are honored and privileged to work with Lilly Endowment in its support of congregational leaders.”

The National Clergy Renewal Program is part of Christian Theological Seminary’s Center for Pastoral Excellence, which has administered the Lilly Endowment Clergy Renewal Programs since 2012.

**Award Recipients:**

**ALASKA**

Anchorage, AK – ChangePoint, Dr. Dan Harvey Jarrell

**ALABAMA**

Birmingham, AL – South Highland Presbyterian Church, Dr. James Jeffrey Truesdell

**ARIZONA**
Gilbert, AZ – Gilbert Presbyterian Church, Rev. Dr. Theron (Terry) J. Palmer
Glendale, AZ – Peace Lutheran Church, Rev. Allen Lynn Cassel
Scottsdale, AZ – Palm Lane Christian Reformed Church, Rev. Derek Van Dalen
Scottsdale, AZ – Pinnacle Presbyterian Church, Dr. Wesley Damian Avram

CALIFORNIA
Elk Grove, CA – Elk Grove United Methodist Church, Rev. Kathleen Fay La Point-Collup
Los Angeles, CA – New City Church of Los Angeles, Rev. Kevin Konkok Haah
Los Angeles, CA – Los Angeles Holiness Church, Rev. Seigo Brent Takayoshi
Monterey Park, CA – Trinity Church of the Nazarene, Rev. Albert Hung
San Marcos, CA – San Marcos Lutheran Church, Rev. Karla Halvorson
Vallejo, CA – First Presbyterian Church of Vallejo, California, Dr. Hampton Deck

COLORADO
Grand Junction, CO – First Presbyterian Church of Grand Junction, Colorado, Pr. Thomas Scott Hansen
Boulder, CO – St. Ambrose Episcopal Church, Pr. Peter Alan Munson

CONNECTICUT
Fairfield, CT – Black Rock Congregational Church, Pr. Josh Richard Feay
Glastonbury, CT – The Lutheran Church of St. Mark, Rev. Lydia Wittman
South Glastonbury, CT – Congregational Church in South Glastonbury, Rev. Elizabeth Miller
Vernon, CT – Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, Pr. Timothy R. Oslovich

FLORIDA
Jacksonville, FL – Mandarin Presbyterian Church, Revs. Jeff and Jenn Arnold
Jacksonville Beach, FL – Palms Presbyterian Church, Rev. Laurie Furr-Vancini
Miami, FL – St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Rev. Wilifred Sophia Nelly Allen-Faiella
Naples, FL – The North Naples United Methodist Church, Dr. Ted Lynn Sauter
Tampa, FL – St. James United Methodist Church, Rev. Steven Noel Ezra
Windermere, FL – Windermere Union Church United Church of Christ, Rev.Barton R. Buchanan

**GEORGIA**

Atlanta, GA – Holy Innocents Episcopal Church, Rev. Michael Radford Sullivan
Saint Marys, GA – First Presbyterian Church, Saint Marys, Georgia, Pr. Rick L. Douylliez
Marietta, GA – Chestnut Ridge Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Pr. Byron Harvey Wells
Monticello, GA – Saint John Christian Methodist Episcopal Church, Dr. Lavonia Kess McIntyre

**IOWA**

Davenport, IA – Christ United Methodist Church, Pr. Michael David Janes

**IDAHO**

Moscow, ID – First Presbyterian Church, Rev. Norman Fowler

**ILLINOIS**

East Moline, IL – First Presbyterian Church, Pr. Rebecca (Becky) A. Sherwood
Evanston, IL – St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Rev. Betty Estelle Landis
Park Ridge, IL – Mary Seat of Wisdom Church, Rev. Gerald Thomas Gunderson
Western Springs, IL – Western Springs Baptist Church, Pr. Dean Errol Monkemeier
Wilmette, IL – Evangelical Covenant Church of Winnetka, Rev. Andrea Marie Johnson
Woodstock, IL – Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church, Rev. Kenneth Dean Gibson

**KANSAS**

Leawood, KS – Christ Community Evangelical Free Church, Pr. William Carl Gorman
Overland Park, KS – Overland Park Christian Church, Dr. James Ronald Crowe

**KENTUCKY**

Louisville, KY – Douglass Boulevard Christian Church, Dr. Derek Lee Penwell
Louisville, KY – Grace Immanuel United Church of Christ, Dr. John Gregory Bain
Fort Thomas, KY – First Presbyterian Church, Fort Thomas, KY, Pr. Terrence O'Rourke Webster

**LOUISIANNA**

Alexandria, LA – Emmanuel Baptist Church, Pr. Christopher Austin Thacker
MASSACHUSETTS
Amherst, MA – First Congregational Church in Amherst, UCC, Pr. Vicki Rene Kemper
Boston, MA – Citylife Presbyterian Church, Pr. Stephen Tai Yong Um
Brookline, MA – St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Brookline, Rev. Jeffrey Mello
Holliston, MA – First Congregational Church of Holliston, Rev. Bonnie Hauser Steinroeder
Lincoln, MA – St. Anne's in-the-Fields Episcopal Church, Rev. Katherine Murphy Malin
Millis, MA – Church of Christ, Congregational, Rev. Jennifer Beth Munroe-Nathans
Pittsfield, MA – First Church of Christ, Congregational, Rev. James Edmund Lumsden
Sudbury, MA – Memorial Congregational Church, Rev. Thomas O'Brien

MARYLAND
Frederick, MD – Frederick Church of the Brethren, Pastr. Sandi Evans Rogers

MAINE
Portland, ME – Stevens Avenue Congregation United Church of Christ, Rev. Ezra Chapola
Sanford, ME – Evergreen Covenant Church, Pr. Francis (Frank) John Catalano

MICHIGAN
Dorr, MI – Holy Cross Antiochian Orthodox Church, Fr. Gregory Hogg
Flint, MI – Resurrection Reformed Church, Rev. Douglas Jay Kiel
Grand Rapids, MI – Hope Reformed Church, Rev. Peter TeWinkle
Grand Rapids, MI – Plymouth Heights Christian Reformed Church, Rev. Steve Jon De Vries
Holt, MI – First Presbyterian Church of Holt, Rev. Kirk Ronald Miller
West Bloomfield, MI – The Covenant Baptist Church, Dr. Jon David Good

MINNESOTA
Bemidji, MN – Calvary Lutheran Church, Rev. Andrew Ronnevik
Grand Marais, MN – Spirit of the Wilderness Episcopal Church, Rev. Mary Ellen Ashcroft
Minneapolis, MN – Calvary Evangelical Luthearn Church of Minneapolis, Pr. Bradley Allen Froslee
Minneapolis, MN – Minnehaha Communion Lutheran Church, Revs. Daniel and Sally Ankerfelt
Mankato, MN – St. John the Baptist Church, Fr. John Michael Kunz
New Brighton, MN – St. John the Baptist Catholic Church and School, Fr. Michael C. Skluzacek
Robbinsdale, MN – Faith-Lilac Way English Lutheran Church, Pr. Pamela Irene Stalheim Lane
Silver Bay, MN – The United Protestant Church, Pr. Paul A. Scaringi
Waconia, MN – Waconia Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church, Pr. Dale Roger Peterson
White Bear Lake, MN – Redeemer Lutheran Church, Rev. Pamela Crone Stofferahn

MISSOURI
Saint Louis, MO – Church of Our Lady of Sorrows, Rev. Peter Michael Blake

MISSISSIPPI
Gulfport, MS – Word of Power Ministries, Dr. Vance L. Woods

NORTH CAROLINA
Charlotte, NC – Hope Community Church, Rev. Mark Edward Upton
Charlotte, NC – King of Kings Anglican Church, Pr. Julian Randolph Forrester
High Point, NC – St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Fr. David Alton Umphlett
Lake Junaluska, NC – Long's Chapel United Methodist Church, Pr. Charles William Wilson
Raleigh, NC – St. Paul's Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Pr. Diane Elizabeth Faires

NORTH DAKOTA
Minot, ND – Zion Lutheran Church, Rev. Nathan Alan Mugaas

NEBRASKA
Omaha, NE – St. Thomas Lutheran Church, Pr. Ellen Marie Stelzle

NEW HAMPSHIRE
Concord, NH – River of Grace Church, Rev. David Remington Pinckney
Hanover, NH – St. Thomas Episcopal Church, Rev. Guy J. D. Collins
NEW JERSEY

Beach Haven, NJ – The Church of The Holy Innocents, Rev. Frank Boyd Crumbaugh
Montclair, NJ – First Congregational Church at Montclair, Pr. Ann Ralosky
Paterson, NJ – The New Horizon Christian Reformed Church, Pr. Marco Avila
Pemberton, NJ – Grace Episcopal Church, Rev. Jane Tanaskovic Brady
Pompton Plains, NJ – The First Reformed Church of Pompton Plains, Rev. Kathleen Michele Edwards-Chase

NEW YORK

Liverpool, NY – King of Kings Lutheran Church, Rev. Paul Albert Herpich
New York, NY – Emmanuel Presbyterian Church, Pr. Scott Edward Strickman
New York, NY – Trinity Lower East Side Lutheran Parish, Rev. Philip Matthew Trzynka
Northport, NY – The First Presbyterian Church of Northport, Pr. Timothy J. Hoyt Duncan
Saranac Lake, NY – First Presbyterian Church, Rev. Joann White

OHIO

Chagrin Falls, OH – The Federated Church of Chagrin Falls, Ohio, Rev. Hamilton Coe Throckmorton
Columbus, OH – First English Lutheran Church, Pr. Robert W. Ward
Lebanon, OH – Antioch church of the Y, Rev. David Joseph Newman
Lewis Center, OH – Korean Presbyterian Church of Columbus, Rev. Joon W. Lee
Toledo, OH – Toledo Mennonite Church, Pr. Joel Shenk
Wyoming, OH – The Presbyterian Church of Wyoming, Dr. Edward Goode

OREGON

Cannon Beach, OR – Cannon Beach Community Church, Pr. David Gregory Robinson
Milwaukie, OR – King of Kings Evangelical Lutheran Church, Rev. Aimee Louise Bruno
Oregon City, OR – Oregon City Evangelical Church, Pr. Thomas James Hurt
Portland, OR – Rivergate Community Church, Pr. Carren Elizabeth Woods

PENNSYLVANIA
Devon, PA – Saint Luke Evangelical Lutheran Church, Pr. Susan Kathreen Ericsson
Indiana, PA – Trinity United Methodist Church of Indiana, Rev. Gregory D. Golden
Mt. Bethel, PA – Mount Bethel Lutheran Brethren Church, Pr. Christopher Harold Priestaf
Pittsburgh, PA – Fox Chapel Presbyterian Church, Pr. Christopher Caldwell Taylor

TENNESSEE
Knoxville, TN – West Emory Presbyterian Church, Pr. Augusta Boyd (Miki) Vanderbilt
Memphis, TN – Idlewild Presbyterian Church, Rev. Stephen Richey Montgomery

TEXAS
Dallas, TX – Peace Mennonite Church, Pr. Ryan Adam Koch
Dallas, TX – Wilshire Baptist Church, Pr. George Arthur Mason
Farmers Branch, TX – Christ United Methodist Church Farmers Branch, Rev. Kenny Ramsey Dickson
San Antonio, TX – Laurel Heights United Methodist Church, Rev. James Carlyle McClain
San Antonio, TX – St. George Episcopal Church, Pr. Ramiro Eduardo Lopez
Spicewood, TX – Bee Creek United Methodist Church, Rev. Laura Jane Heikes
Uvalde, TX – St. Philip's Episcopal Church, Rev. Michael Killingsworth Marsh

VIRGINIA
Alexandria, VA – Christ Protestant Episcopal Church, Pr. Ann Hazard Gillespie
Arlington, VA – Mount Olive Baptist Church, Rev. James Edward Victor
Arlington, VA – Trinity Presbyterian Church, Arlington, VA, Rev. Judith Ann Fulp-Eickstaedt
Charlottesville, VA – All Souls Charlottesville, Rev. Winn Collier
Earlysville, VA – Chestnut Grove Baptist Church, Pr. Lance William King
Hampton, VA – First Presbyterian Church, Dr. Cynthia Rosser Higgins
McLean, VA – Immanuel Presbyterian Church, Rev. Aaron David Fulp-Eickstaedt
Mechanicsville, VA – First Shiloh Baptist Church, Pr. Roy Neal Siler
Norfolk, VA – St. Paul's Protestant Episcopal Church, Rev. Frank Scott Hennessy
Richmond, VA – St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Rev. Abbott Bailey
Quinton, VA – Emmaus Baptist Church, Pr. Vallerie Faye King

VERMONT
Norwich, VT – Norwich Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, Rev. Mary Robbins Brownlow

WASHINGTON
Bellingham, WA – Faith Lutheran Church, Rev. Sharon B. Swanson
Edmonds, WA – Edmonds Lutheran Church, Rev. Julie M. Josund
Maple Valley, WA – Cedarcreek Covenant Church, Rev. Kenton S. Johnson
Olympia, WA – Westminster Presbyterian Church, Dr. David Robert Kegley
Port Angeles, WA – St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Rev. Gail Jeanne Wheatley
Seattle, WA – Alki United Church of Christ, Rev. Diane Sadler Darling
Seattle, WA – Epiphany Parish of Seattle, Rev. Doyt LaDean Conn
Shoreline, WA – Calvin Presbyterian Church, Pr. Neil Edwin Trainer

WISCONSIN
Franklin, WI – Faith Presbyterian Church, Dr. Debra Bergeson-Graham
Janesville, WI – Cargill United Methodist Church, Pr. Forrest Rees Wells
Madison, WI – Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Rev. Sheryl Leigh Erickson
Markesan, WI – Terrace Shores Evangelical Free Church, Pr. Casey Phillip Getz

WEST VIRGINIA
Charleston, WV – Village Chapel Presbyterian Church, Rev. Amy Parker

About Lilly Endowment Inc.
Lilly Endowment Inc. is an Indianapolis-based private philanthropic foundation created in 1937 by J.K. Lilly and his two sons, Eli and J.K. Jr., with gifts of stock in their pharmaceutical company. The Endowment exists to support the causes of religion, education and community development. Lilly Endowment’s religion grantmaking is designed to deepen and enrich the religious lives of American Christians. It does this largely through initiatives to enhance and sustain the quality of ministry in American congregations and parishes. More information can be found at www.lillyendowment.org.
About Christian Theological Seminary
Located in Indianapolis, IN, Christian Theological Seminary (CTS) is a fully accredited ecumenical seminary, open to all, affiliated with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). It offers eight graduate-level degree programs, including programs in theology, ministry, and counseling, with specializations in ministries that emphasize the arts and programs for lifelong learning. More than 30 denominations are represented among CTS faculty and students. Additional information about CTS is available at www.cts.edu.