

April 2013

Ecumenical and Interreligious E-Monthly

What's new at the USCCB Secretariat for Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs



Staff members did a prayer walk through Kelly Ingram Park, a civil rights landmark. See the Special Events block below for more info about this event with CCT.

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Dear friends and colleagues,

April was a busy month for SEIA, filled with dialogues and public events. We've tried to pack it all into this monthly update, but you can read further details on our [homepage](#) and through the embedded links in this email. Also, please take a moment to consider whether any of your friends or professional acquaintances might like to sign up for this newsletter too. If so, you can copy them the link to [this page](#).

And now, once again, we welcome you to explore the following items of interest related to the Catholic bishops' mission to pursue Christian unity and mutual understanding with members of all faiths.

SEIA News

- The General Assembly for our partner CADEIO (the Catholic Association for Diocesan Ecumenical and Interreligious Officers) met at the [National Workshop for Christian Unity](#) in Columbus, Ohio this month. For more news, particularly 2013 Announcements, [visit their web site](#).
- The [Mid-Atlantic Muslim-Catholic dialogue](#) took place in April in Washington DC. Documents to help Catholics and Muslims become educated about one another's faiths should be available in the next month.



- The [Lutheran-Catholic dialogue](#) also took place in April in Washington DC. A report on the presentations and topic can be found on the dialogue page.



- The Bishop's Committee for Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs met in Chicago this April.

Learn about our dialogues or check out the featured content on our homepage, updated weekly:

[Read more](#)

Special Events



Response to King's "Letter from Birmingham Jail"

On the 50th anniversary of Dr. King's famous letter, Christian leaders gathered in Birmingham, AL to present a formal response to his daughter Dr. Bernice King.

USCCB Vice President Archbishop Kurtz delivered remarks in response to speeches by Representative John Lewis and Sojourners President Jim Wallis. The event was sponsored by Christian Churches Together.

Media coverage of this historic civil rights event, press releases, and speech texts are available on our **[50th Anniversary](#)** page.

Archbishop Kurtz posted this picture with SEIA Chairman Bishop Madden and Methodist Bishop Warner Brown in Birmingham on his [Twitter](#).

Emerging Trends in Ecumenism Dinner

Last month, with St. Paul's College and the Washington Theological Consortium, SEIA co-sponsored an ecumenical dinner, prayer service and seminar that was open to the public. The event drew more than 50 local ecumenists who listened to keynote speeches by Fr. John Crossin, OSFS, our executive director, and Dr. Katherine Grieb.

Two discussion groups focused on key dialogue topics with our Reformed and Orthodox partners. Another entered into the themes and practices of spiritual ecumenism and a fourth dealt with Evangelical-Catholic networks.

Video coming soon.



The ecumenical prayer service was conducted in the Eastern Orthodox tradition.

Pope Francis Update

Articles

See the following articles on the Vatican Radio web site for news on the Pope's latest ecumenical outreach.

[Pope Francis Meets Head of German Evangelical Church](#)

[Pope Francis Sends Greeting to Archbishop of Canterbury upon his Installation](#)



CNS Photo/ Paul Haring

Multimedia News

BLOG POST

Please take a moment to read our Associate Director Anthony Cirelli's USCCBlog contribution about what it's like to "dialogue" with members of other faiths after tragedies like the Boston bombing.

[Dialogue and Building Trust After Tragedy](#)

For a full list of blog posts by our staff, visit [SEIA Articles and Blogs](#)

COMING SOON!

This summer, our office will be releasing a new educational ecumenical video series: *On the Path Toward Christian Unity*.

The videos will be available for free on our [SEIA Video Playlist](#).

Please contact us if you have questions, comments or suggestions.
Peace and blessings, SEIA Staff

