



CLFO
THE CENTER FOR LIVED
FAITH AND ORGANIZING



September 2024 Newsletter

We're back!

As we head back to campus for the fall semester, we are looking forward to sharing a full lineup of inspiring workshops on community organizing that will leave you **ready to take action in a world that desperately needs it.**

We'd like to remind you that workshops at the Center for Lived Faith & Organizing (CLFO) are open to anyone, truly **ANYONE who wants to use faith to galvanize change in their community.** You don't have to be an Eden student, whether you are a religious leader, the leader of a secular organization, or a community member intent on making a difference, we welcome you.

In these turbulent times, we need you.



**Get Your Annual Organizational Membership
for 2024-2025**

Perfect for nonprofits, continuing education institutions, and congregations, The Center for Lived Faith and Organizing is now offering an annual membership! This is a great option for congregations and organizations that are committed to building their faith-based organizing capacity for the next year. By becoming a member your institution will be guaranteed 50 seats to any CLFO workshop for a calendar year.

Grant these seats to your staff, students, or congregation members so that they can build their faith-based organizing skills and knowledge. Questions? Reach out to Rev. Dr. Dietra Wise-Baker at dwisebaker@eden.edu.

Get Your Membership

Workshop Spotlight

Workshop Spotlight: Building Local Power

Friday, September 20, 2024
8am-1pm (CT)
Online via Zoom

We're kicking off the semester with a foundational workshop in faith-based community organizing, and we hope you'll join us. Building Local Power takes a deep dive into an interfaith organizing model that prioritizes grassroots in decision making and builds relational power. Think, kitchen table meetings that lead to thousands of people showing up for direct public actions. You'll walk away with practical skills to engage your own local community in a fight for justice.



[Register Now](#)

Upcoming Workshops

Building Local Power

Friday, Sept. 20, 2024 8am-1pm (CT)
Online Via Zoom

Instructors: Shanae' Calhoun and
Melissa Pluss

[Register](#)

Organizing for Peace in a Time of War (Gaza, Ukraine, Myanmar, Haiti)

Friday, December 6, 2024
Online & In Person Options

Instructors: Rev. Dr. Damyanthi Niles &
Rev. Dr. Dietra Wise-Baker

[Register](#)

The Power of Intergenerational Organizing / El poder de la organización intergeneracional

**SPANISH ONLY WORKSHOP / TALLER
SÓLO EN ESPAÑOL**

Saturday, October 12, 2024 9am-1pm
(CT)
Online Via Zoom

Instructors: Ana García Ashley & Sor
Dolores Sánchez
[Register Here](#)

[Register](#)

Participant Spotlight: Chaplain Regan Saoirse



An '07 alumna of Eden Theological Seminary, Regan is a Chaplain by trade, and is currently working on her Doctorate in Interreligious Chaplaincy at United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities.

Regan came to The Center for Lived Faith & Organizing by way of the United Church of Christ's Kansas-Oklahoma Conference. She serves on a subcommittee with the Conference, which offered her a spot in one of CLFO's workshops. Regan chose Disrupting White Christian Nationalism, taught by Rev. Tracy Howe and Rev. Dr. Jeff Moore.

Her takeaways, though many, all contributed toward expanding her awareness of implicit bias.

"I feel as if we always have something new to learn because our window view of the world is always re-fogging and when we go to a conference or workshop, it's like wiping off fog from the window."

The workshop challenged Regan to dig deeper. When she left the workshop, she realized that she had not read a book by a Black author or watched a movie by a Black director in more than a year, which troubled her. She immediately picked up Cole Arthur Riley's books, which had been on her list for a while.

"I am always amazed and humbled by how much I continue to learn after years of effort to be aware of and, with continued practice, hopefully change my implicit bias. Thank you."

Moving forward, Regan will not only use her reflections on implicit bias for work on race—she will also bring the lessons to her work with the LGBTQ clergy.

The Center for Lived and Organizing is a partnership between Eden Theological Seminary **and the** United Church of Christ Justice & Local Church Ministries **with a generous grant from the** Fetzer Institute.



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