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Spiritual Growth Seminar \* New Officers \* NCR

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## From Your President

When your Board of Trustees met last Saturday, October 10th, as required by your Bylaws, it elected new officers. Before we got around to doing that, there were some changes. Kathy J. resigned from the Board due to professional challenges in her job, and we were able to elect a new Board Member, Eric N., to fulfill her former duties. Eric, who has been very much involved in the Houston Unites (HERO) project and a variety of other volunteer activities, will bring a fresh new face to your Board. Be sure to give your congratulations to Eric!

Your Board decided to elect the same slate of officers as we had during the interim period in order to preserve continuity. Your Officers remain:

- Larry E. Lutz, President
- George Wetzels, Vice-President
- Frank Aguilar, Secretary
- William Brent Clarkson, Treasurer

Eric will become our new At-Large Board Member who, as you know, has a large responsibility in terms of membership development. Kathy J. was reappointed to the Board as an *ex officio* member with the title Adjunct Member. Many thanks to Kathy for sharing her continuing wisdom with the Board, even if she can't be with us at all the Board meetings!



## Spiritual Growth Seminar

Don't forget! Put it on your calendar!



## Equally Called

*Kathleen Fallon, MCSW*

Men and women in same sex relationships are not driven toward procreation like men and women in heterosexual relationships. This being said, how can these lovely

Most of all, be there! On Saturday, October, 17<sup>th</sup>, at 3:00 pm, we will have our first **Spiritual Growth Seminar**. This month's seminar will begin with viewing a video of Bishop John Shelby Spong's exciting talk on the Fourth Gospel, followed by a discussion among those present. You may or may not agree with Spong, but you will certainly be challenged by his thinking. If you don't have an opinion about the Fourth Gospel, after the seminar, you are guaranteed to have one!

This seminar is actually the first in a five part series that will continue on the third Saturday of each month until it's completed. So you'll want to mark your calendars for these dates:

- October 17, 2015, 3:00 pm
- November 21, 2015, 3:00 pm
- December 19, 2015, 3:00 pm
- January 16, 2016, 3:00 pm
- February 20, 2016, 3:00 pm

Of course, all of these seminars are scheduled for 401 Branard, Room 114, Houston, TX 77006. Be sure to be there for lively discussion and spiritual camaraderie.

## Progressive Catholics Have a Voice



If you haven't discovered the [National Catholic Reporter](#), you really need to do so. NCR provides a progressive view of the Church. It's a great place to keep up with what's going on in the Synod on the Family (where they're talking about LGBTQ+ issues, among other things). And they do it all from a progressive, supportive viewpoint.

Most of us need a few more chuckles in our lives these days. For that, head on over to the [Francis](#)

relationships between two men or two women translate into blessed family action in our world today?

Certainly Catholics and people of all faiths from around the world who listened to Pope Francis' speeches, prayer services, and masses in the United States last week, understand with urgency that we are called to find solutions to global problems and global human needs. The needs of unwanted children living in poverty for example are broader in scope than can be solved alone by the nuclear family as we know it. Pope Francis calls us to move out of our comfort zones and find new ways to serve those in need, solve complex life problems, and care for the earth which amazingly continues to sustain us with life giving resources.

## What's your Board doing?



Now that our Annual Meeting and Elections are behind us, your Board of Trustees will spend the remaining months of this calendar year developing a budget that sets our priorities for next year. Since Dignity/Houston, Inc. has never, in anyone's memory, had an actual budget, this should be a true adventure. We, of course, look forward to input from all the members.

After that, we will work on a membership development plan and the **Board of Trustees Handbook**, promised to you as part of preventing further fiscal mishaps. We will also develop a plan for enhancing our donations from external sources.

All the while, we will be working on ways to enhance your spiritual developments through events such as the **Spiritual Development**

[Chronicles](#), a NCR comic strip that provides an ongoing insight into the life of our Holy Father. For those of us who followed the Pope's visit to the U.S. closely, the **Francis Chronicles** can be a source of both insight and mirth.

By the way, the **National Catholic Reporter** and the **National Catholic Register** are in no way affiliated. The **National Catholic Register** is much more conservative and hardly LGBTQ+ friendly. NCR is not NCRRegister!

## Seminars.

Please keep in mind that DignityHouston is your organization; the Board is just your surrogates who are unable to do it all by themselves. Your time and talent are essential to keeping DignityHouston alive. Everyone needs you to step up and help make DignityHouston a lively, dynamic, and growing organization. Make this coming year our year!



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