

SWLC Study week 2013

Workshop A-1 - Co-Workers in the Vineyard

Most Rev. Gerald F. Kicanas & Sr. Lois Paha, OP

Discover the ways in which ordained & non-ordained ministers work together.

Prayer for the Year of Faith (Diocese of Tucson)

Almighty and ever-living God, as we observe this Year of Faith in our Diocese awaken us to the roots of that faith planted in this region by those who preceded us. Help us discover and embrace more fully, the teachings of the Church. Inspire us to invite others to receive the gift of faith especially those who have turned away or are in need of encouragement. May this Year of Faith deepen our relationship with the Lord. May this Year of Faith strengthen our unity as one family in Christ. May this Year of Faith increase our awareness and service to others. We ask this through Christ our Lord. AMEN

ORACIÓN PARA EL AÑO DE FE - Diócesis de Tucson

Dios vivo y todopoderoso, al observar este Año de Fe en nuestra Diócesis despierta en nosotros las raíces de la Fe plantada en esta región por nuestros antepasados. Ayúdanos a descubrir más plenamente las enseñanzas de la Iglesia y abrazarlas. Inspíranos a invitar a otros a recibir el don de la Fe especialmente a aquellos que se han alejado de ella o están en necesidad de ánimo. Que este Año de Fe profundice nuestra relación con el Señor. Que este Año de Fe fortalezca nuestra unidad como familia en Cristo. Que este Año de Fe aumente nuestra conciencia y servicio a los demás. Te lo pedimos por Cristo nuestro Señor. AMÉN

BRINGING THE GOSPEL TO THE SOUTHWEST: Padre Kino was an exemplar of collaboration. He resisted efforts by the Spanish military to enslave and exploit the native peoples. His ministry of peace-making and empowerment points us to the importance of collaboration in our ministry as priests, deacons, lay ecclesial ministers, lay ministers and volunteers in our ministry to each other and our ministry to the People of God.

We realize a new evangelization as we become co-workers in Christ's Mission.

We minister as co-workers with each other in his vineyard.

This significant document passed by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops in 2005, resulted from extensive consultation and collaboration among Bishops, priests and laity both in the United States and in Latin America.

The document begins with a theology of lay ministry, and sought to address three neuralgic issues:

1. By emphasizing lay ministry, ordained ministry would be de-emphasized.
2. By highlighting the role of laity in the Church, the laity's role in transforming the world would be diminished.
3. A clericalization of the laity would result, meaning that a special class of laity would emerge.

THE MINSTERIAL WORKPLACE - Priests, deacons and Church employees and volunteers function in a workplace that shares both the characteristics of a faith community of co-workers, as described by St. Paul, and the characteristics of a modern organization.

St. Paul does model for us the importance of collaboration in ministry, and Co-Workers in the Vineyard takes note of how in his ministry used collaborative ministry.

1. He chose "co-workers" to minister with him in the vineyard. (Aquila, Priscilla, Timothy, Titus, *et alia.*)
2. Paul understood the key insight of Vatican II of Church as "*communio*" – that Church works best as community.

3. • Paul emphasized that all have gifts to bring to the community. Collaborative ministry is for the “common good.”

COLLABORATION - easy to talk about; difficult to realize; A deep, collective determination to reach identical objectives, by sharing knowledge and learning and by building consensus.

CO-WORKERS IN THE VINEYARD OF THE LORD: A RESOURCE FOR GUIDING THE DEVELOPMENT OF LAY ECCLESIAL MINISTRY – (USCCB-2005) The fruitful collaboration of ordained and lay ministers who, in distinct but complementary ways, continue in the Church the saving mission of Christ for the world, His vineyard. This document reaffirms the bishop’s statement in “Called and Gifted” for the Third Millennium that the Church’s pastoral ministry can be more effective if we become true collaborators.

OBSTACLES TO COLLABORATION

1. Jealousy
2. Turf battles
3. Distrust
4. “Lone Ranger”
5. Generation Gap
6. Gender differences

EXAMPLES OF COLLABORATION - How can we enhance collaboration by removing the obstacles that stand in the way of effective ministry? Let’s take a look at some ways that have proved effective in the ministry setting.

1. TIME TOGETHER – familiarity does not breed contempt, but understanding; Regular staff/parish/diocesan meetings; Moving toward and not away from people with whom we are in conflict.
2. WASTE TIME TOGETHER, let the hour glass run out.
3. SHARING FRUSTRATIONS – the best laid plans get interrupted; be available to one another; listen to each other
4. COMMON FORMATION – opportunities for forming ministers together; sharing common experiences; getting ministers on the same page.
5. CELEBRATING ONE ANOTHER’S SUCCESSES – writing congratulatory notes; making appreciation phone calls, acknowledging others’ successes; another’s success is our success
6. PRAYING TOGETHER – participating in retreats; doing *lectio divina* as a staff; celebrating liturgical seasons; celebrating special moments liturgically.
7. WORKING TOGETHER (Service days...)
8. LEARNING TOGETHER – staff retreat days; professional conferences; collaborative calendaring
9. LAUGHING TOGETHER – “surf’s up!”
10. ENHANCING COLLABORATION – Discovering Breakthrough Ideas; need to tinker; explore ways to foster collaboration; work together for a larger mission

RESOURCES

Loughlan Sofield and Carroll Juliano, *Collaboration: Uniting our Gifts in Ministry*, Ave Maria Press, 2000, *Principled Ministry: A Guidebook for Catholic Church Leaders*, Ave Maria Press, 2011 and *Collaborative Ministry: Skills and Guidelines*, 1989

Loughlan Sofield and Donald H. Kuhn, *The Collaborative Leader*, 1998