

living  
out the  
**LARCUM**  
covenant

# “The New Landscape of Post-Christian Christianity”

**John H. Armstrong,  
Presenter**



VIRGINIA  
LARCUM  
CONFERENCE

for more information, contact  
Rev. Don Rooney, Registrar  
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Virginia LARCUM Conference

**2014**

**Norfolk, Virginia**

**Friday and Saturday,  
December 5 & 6**

# welcome

to Norfolk, Virginia

## PARTICIPATING LOCAL CHURCHES

### First Lutheran Church

1301 Colley Avenue, Norfolk VA 23517  
(757) 625-1953

### Ghent United Methodist Church

531 Raleigh Avenue, Norfolk VA 23507  
(757) 622-2843

### Christ and Saint Luke's Episcopal Church

560 W Olney Road, Norfolk VA 23507  
(757) 627-5665

### Sacred Heart Catholic Church

520 Graydon Avenue, Norfolk VA 23507  
(757) 625-6763

## VIRGINIA LARCUM BISHOPS

### Rt. Reverend Mark A. Bourlakas

Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Southwestern Virginia

### Reverend Young Jin Cho

Bishop of the Virginia Conference, United Methodist Church

### Most Reverend Francis X. DiLorenzo

Bishop of the Catholic Diocese of Richmond

### Rt. Reverend Susan E. Goff

Bishop Suffragan of the Episcopal Diocese of Virginia

### Reverend Richard Graham

Bishop of the Metro Washington, D.C. Synod, ELCA

### Rt. Reverend Ted Gulick

Assistant Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Virginia

### Rt. Reverend Herman Hollerith, IV

Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Southern Virginia

### Rt. Reverend Shannon Johnston

Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Virginia

### Most Reverend Paul S. Loverde

Bishop of the Catholic Diocese of Arlington

### Reverend James F. Mauney

Bishop of the Virginia Synod, ELCA

# schedule

December 5, 2014

**FRIDAY Afternoon**

at First Lutheran Church

**2:00pm**

*Opening prayer, Bishop James Mauney*

## “Keeping Wind in the Sails: What Might You Do in Your Context to Move the Boat Forward?”

**John H. Armstrong and Rev. Tom Ryan, CSP**

*For a variety of reasons, the gospel's call to Christian unity is no longer on the screens of many today. Are there creative and fresh ways out there to generate new energy, vision, and collaborative mission?*

**FRIDAY Evening**

at Christ and St. Luke's Episcopal Church

**6:00-7:00pm**

**REGISTRATION, WELCOME RECEPTION**

**6:30pm**

**ORIENTATION FOR NEW ATTENDEES**

**7:00pm**

## PRESENTATION I: “Spiritual But Not Religious: What Is Happening to the Religious Landscape in America?”

**John H. Armstrong**

*Introduced by Reverend Diane Carroll*

**8:00pm**

**WORSHIP OF THE GREAT ASSEMBLY**

Bishop Herman (Holly) Hollerith, IV, **Presider**  
*Reflection by Bishop Susan Goff*

*Signing of the Covenant by Bishops  
and comments by Bishop Mark Bourlakas*

# register

**December 6, 2014**

**SATURDAY Morning**

at Sacred Heart Catholic Church

**8:00am**

**REGISTRATION FOR NEW ARRIVALS**

**Continental Breakfast**

**9:00am**

**SOLEMN MORNING PRAYER**

Bishop Francis DiLorenzo, **Presider**

*Reflection by Bishop Paul Loverde*

**9:30am**

**PRESENTATION II:**

**“Our Missional Moment:  
How Should the Church Serve  
in a Post-Christendom Future?”**

**John H. Armstrong**

**10:30 - 10:45am - Questions and Answers**

**SATURDAY Late Morning**

at Ghent United Methodist Church

**11:15-12:30**

**PRESENTATION III:**

**“Belonging and Then Believing:  
What Has Ecumenism Got to Do  
with Our Future?”**

**John H. Armstrong**

**12:30pm**

**CLOSING DEVOTIONS, Blessing**

Bishop Young Jin Cho, **Presider**

**1:00pm**

**LUNCH**

*Please be sure to indicate on the registration form  
if you will be staying for lunch.*

**Please register as soon as possible with the registrar AND make arrangements at the hotel of your choice (below).**

**Regular conference fee:**

**\$35.**

**Student rate**

**\$10.**

Please let your friends know about our program and give them a personal invitation on behalf of the Virginia LARCUM Committee! Thanks.

**Please send all correspondence to Registrar by November 21, 2014:**

Fr. Don Rooney

1009 Stafford Avenue, Fredericksburg VA 22401

frooney@stmaryfred.org

# lodging

**Be sure to mention the LARCUM conference to receive the reduced conference rates.**

**Be sure to make reservations by November 6!**

**Residence Inn by Marriott  
Norfolk Downtown**

227 Brambleton Ave.

Norfolk, VA 23510

757-802-9663

\$109/night for Friday and Saturday night

**Courtyard Norfolk Downtown**

520 Plume Street

Norfolk, VA 23510

757-963-6000

\$84/night for Friday and Saturday night

**Please see insert for parking information and a map of the hotels and churches.**

# covenant

The unity of the church is the gift of the Spirit and a task of the church. We hereby CALL INTO COVENANT our respective Synods, Dioceses and Conferences and COMMIT OURSELVES to the following actions. In behalf of the unity of the church, WE WILL:

1. pray for each other, particularly at the principal Sunday celebration;
2. sponsor seasonal prayer services, especially during the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity;
3. encourage shared lectionary studies;
4. promote pulpit exchanges in accord with the respective guidelines of each tradition;
5. encourage cooperation among member churches in providing premarital preparation for ecumenical marriages;
6. encourage shared religious formational and educational events, e.g. youth ministry, vacation Bible school, living room dialogue;
7. develop joint efforts in evangelism and social justice;
8. develop covenants among our congregations, institutions and chaplaincies;
9. support statewide, regional and local LARCUM Conferences, and establish annually a joint meeting of our ecumenical bodies;
10. encourage each diocese and synod to develop supportive prayer services and covenanting models for its congregations through their respective ecumenical and liturgical committees;
11. urge congregations to study the existing dialogues among our churches;
12. develop covenants among schools and academies for shared programs;
13. ask congregations to develop and reflect on their cooperative ministries to discover areas of convergence among our four churches;
14. sponsor shared retreats and formational events for clergy and parish leadership;
15. develop campus ministry covenants among Catholic Campus Ministry, Canterbury Association, Lutheran Student Union, and Wesley Foundation, and support covenants at existing ecumenical ministries and with college chaplains;
16. seek ways to coordinate program and planning at the district/synodical/diocesan/conference level;
17. collaborate at the judicatory level on justice issues and social concerns;
18. review and evaluate this Covenant annually at a meeting of the state LARCUM Committee representatives with Bishops;
19. establish goals annually which advance this Covenant;
20. celebrate the renewal of this Covenant annually at the statewide LARCUM conference.

May the Holy Spirit, who has brought us to this moment of covenanting, bring us to ever deepening levels of unity. To this end we affix our names and recommend it to our respective judicatories, this 1st day of December, 2006.

# speaker

## Presentation I – “Spiritual But Not Religious: What Is Happening to the Religious Landscape in America?”

Extensive data, and abundant anecdotal evidence, suggests that Americans remain deeply religious yet are rejecting organized religion in increasing numbers while they retain deep interest in spirituality. What is really happening? Is this a lasting trend that will radically alter the religious landscape?

## Presentation II – “Our Missional Moment: How Should the Church Serve in a Post-Christendom Future?”

If the older Christendom model of church is passing away how should we respond if we believe that we still have a mission in America? Where is the missional moment bearing fruit and how?

## Presentation III – “Belonging and Then Believing: What Has Ecumenism Got to Do with Our Future?”

The next generation wants to belong to community before they can believe anything that is taught. How will this impact our mission and what does ecumenism have to do with this important change in religious behavior?



**JOHN H. ARMSTRONG** is the president and founder of ACT 3 Network, a mission for empowering leaders and churches for unity in Christ's mission. He is a minister of Word and Sacrament in the Reformed Church in America and an adjunct professor of mission at Wheaton College Graduate School. John is the author/editor of thirteen

books, including the much discussed book, *Your Church Is Too Small: Why Unity in Christ's Mission Is Vital to the Future of the Church* (Zondervan, 2010) and *The Unity Factor: One Lord, One Church, One Mission* (2011). John is deeply engaged in public and private ecumenical activity for the purpose of helping the church pursue the mission of Jesus. He received the 2014 Luminosa Award for Unity from the Focolare Movement. ACT 3 sponsored a conversation with Chicago's Francis Cardinal George in a dialogue on unity held at Wheaton College and has other unity forums planned for 2015. He serves in a number of mission partnerships including the role of Lausanne Committee Liaison to Roman Catholic-Evangelical Conversation. John is the author of hundreds of published articles and thousands of blog articles. His primary goal is to mentor young leaders, both Catholic and Protestant. Information about the ACT 3 Network is available at [www.act3network.com](http://www.act3network.com). His blogs are published at [www.johnharmstrong.com](http://www.johnharmstrong.com).