Planning Committee

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Christians in Unity
Not Uniformity
A Seminar Series for
Roman Catholic and
Evangelical Protestant Laity

Thursday Evenings
6:45–9:30 p.m.

October 30 and November 13, 2003
St. John's Preparatory School
Danvers, Massachusetts

November 6 and November 20
Gordon College
Wenham, Massachusetts

Open to the Public

Sponsored by

The Center for Christian Studies
at Gordon College

St. John's Preparatory School
North Shore Christian Network
It is our strong conviction that Catholic and evangelical Protestant lay persons have much to learn from one another. There is enormous untapped potential for unity in fellowship and ministry that can transcend our disagreements about particular beliefs and practices in these two traditions. Therefore, the overarching purpose of this seminar series is:

♦ To foster 

unity of fellowship and collaborative ministry between Catholic and evangelical Protestant lay persons—not necessarily uniformity in belief and practice.

At the same time, the quest for unity in fellowship and ministry presupposes an adequate understanding of the relationships between these two great Christian traditions, which will be the focus of the following additional purposes:

♦ To enable Catholic and evangelical Protestant lay persons to understand the historical developments that led from the Catholic Church through the Protestant Reformation to the present relationship between these two Christian traditions.

♦ To illuminate those aspects of Christian beliefs and practices on which Catholics and evangelical Protestants can agree.

♦ To illuminate those aspects of Christian beliefs and practices on which Catholics and evangelical Protestants will agree to disagree, and to model respectful conversation about such disagreements.

Seminar Topics

Week 1: The Catholic Church Undivided
October 30—St. John’s Preparatory School
Dr. Catherine Mooney, Weston Jesuit School of Theology
Dr. Jennifer Hevelone-Harper, Gordon College

Week 2: A Parting of the Ways: The Protestant Reformation and Catholic Response
November 6—Gordon College
Fr. Arthur Kennedy, U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops
Dr. Tal Howard, Gordon College

Week 3: Beliefs and Practices about Which We Agree and Disagree
November 13—St. John’s Preparatory School
Dr. Tom Howard, St. John’s Seminary (retired)
Dr. Bruce Webb, Gordon College

Week 4: Examples of Current Collaborations in Fellowship and Ministry and a Vision for Future Collaborations
November 20—Gordon College
Fr. John MacInnis, St. John the Baptist Church, Peabody
The Rev. Joel Anderle, Community Covenant Church, Peabody

Moderators

Mary Ann McLaughlin, Archdiocese of Boston
Dr. Malcolm Reid, Gordon College

Agenda—6:45–9:30 P.M.

The program will include presentations by Catholic and evangelical Protestant teachers or leaders, small-group discussions with each group co-led by Catholic and evangelical Protestant lay persons, and a concluding worship service.