

What I Did on My Summer Vacation (or Why I Love Being an LPTS Alum)

Do you remember when you were in elementary school and had to write essays on "What I Did on My Summer Vacation"? Well, I never had very interesting summers to write about while growing up, but now that I'm a Louisville Seminary alum, I can't wait until the fall to tell you about my summer!

On June 8, 2016, a seminar at Interact for Health Conference Center (in Cincinnati) entitled "Faith Based Responses to Substance Abuse" was presented by Carol J. Cook, the Harrison Ray Anderson Professor of Pastoral Theology at Louisville Seminary. Her co-presenter was Florence DeWitt of the Professional Pastoral Counseling Institute. Coming from a spiritual perspective, they and other local experts led us in discussions on how to faithfully respond to the ever-growing problem of substance abuse that affects our lives and those in our community. How did this come about? Easy! It began with a request from Sandra Moon, the seminary's Director of Alum and Church Relations, who asked me if there was anything "going on" in my neighborhood that others - especially Louisville Seminary students and alums – might be interested in learning more about. Think "continuing education" in your own backyard on topics you really want to focus on.

But that's not all! I was blessed to attend the PC(USA) General Assembly held in Portland, Oregon, in July. Yes, "just" as an observer – I love watching the denomination in action – AND connecting to such a great community of believers! This year, Louisville Seminary participated in the always fun Seminary Fair and hosted two opportunities for us to gather together and share news about the seminary with alums, friends and the church.



Louisville Seminary alum Chris White (left) with Rev. Beverly Joyce Crow, who was one of the many wonderful volunteers that made the 222nd General Assembly of the PC(USA) such a success. Beverly's husband, David, is an Louisville Seminary alum (MDiv '68)

Representatives from Louisville Seminary held a delightful "meet and greet" evening reception, plus a wonderful luncheon, which included interesting speakers and a "state of the seminary" update. What a great way to stay in touch with the Louisville Seminary community – catching up with those already known – and making new friends as well.

Thanks, Louisville Seminary, for making this a summer to remember!

The Rev. Chris White M.Div. class of 2002 Secretary, 2016-2017 Alum Board of Directors