

## The Collegeville Institute has a NEW LOOK!

The Collegeville Institute is a place of transformative conversation, storytelling, and bridge-building—a place that brings unlikely dialogue partners to the table. We are excited to announce that through our redesigned website, we continue to extend our reach beyond the walls of the Collegeville Institute. Along with providing easy access to programmatic information and online applications, our new site features:

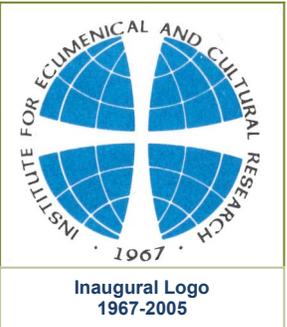
between religion and culture, highlights unexplored facets of contemporary religious life, and suggests faithful responses to today's problems and opportunities.

**Lives Explored**, a video narrative series featuring real-life vocation stories.

**Faith and Writing**. In this section we highlight book reviews, provide resources for good writing, feature the writing of our program participants, and more.

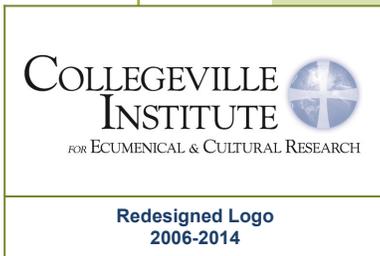
We invite you to visit our new website at [collegevilleinstitute.org](http://collegevilleinstitute.org).

**Bearings Online**, a web-based publication that examines relationships



While you are online, like us on Facebook (Collegeville Institute), follow us on Twitter (@CollegevilleIns), and join the conversation.

You may notice, too, that this newsletter, *Inside the Institute*, has a fresh look to coincide with the new website and logo.



## The Book Nook



Former Resident Scholar, **František Trstenský's** (2013/14) latest book, *Pavlove Pastorálne Listy: Exegeticko-Teologická Analýza*, was published by Katolícke biblické dielo in 2015. The book, written in his native Slovak language, is a commentary on the pastoral epistles of the apostle Paul. František writes, *"Thanks to my stay at the Collegeville Institute and my involvement with the Resident Scholars program, I was able to study, write, and complete this book. I am very grateful for the space and resources to work on this publication. I do have the best memories of Collegeville. I hope to come again."*



## Heidi Neumark consults with Fellows Program

At the capstone meeting of the Collegeville Institute Fellows Program, **Heidi Neumark**, former pastor of *Transfiguration Lutheran Church* in the South Bronx and author of *Breathing Space: A Spiritual Journey in the South Bronx*, told a story about food.

Heidi explained that almost all food directed into New York City is routed through the South Bronx. However, one of the injustices that exists in the South Bronx is that almost none of the fresh produce stays there, and what is sold in the South Bronx is of such poor quality that it wouldn't be accepted elsewhere.

Being deeply concerned about this pattern of injustice, the staff

**“Public Theology is worth doing.”**

of *Transfiguration* along with other groups who shared the same concern, hired a community organizer to provide guidance around this issue. The organizer suggested that the women in the community put on white jackets and pin buttons that stated “Inspector” onto those jackets.

The women, now dressed in their Inspector apparel, walked together into a local supermarket eliciting a response from the surprised manager asking, “*Who are you inspecting for?*” Their answer: “*We’re inspecting for our families! Would you serve this food to your family?*”

The manager, who was undone by this encounter, thus began making different decisions regarding product inventory. Consequently, the action worked in two important ways: **1)** the food changed for the better; and **2)** the people gained a sense of their own power and hope for change.

Such was one moment in a 22-month-long program filled with such moments.

The Fellows Program, comprised of 12 pastoral leaders in the Twin Cities area, met for a total of 17 days over the course of the program and participated in over 30 conversations with high-powered community leaders of other professions who have a high stake in contributing to the fabric of public life. They engaged topics such as the criminal justice system, education, business, poverty, and healthcare. And in the capstone meeting they learned from a seasoned colleague in ministry about pastoral leadership in the public realm.

One fellow summed-up the program by proclaiming, “Public theology is worth doing.”

Please check out other interesting and inspiring moments by visiting: [collegevilleinstitute.org](http://collegevilleinstitute.org).



Heidi Neumark

## Meet Lauren Winner, writing workshop leader

We are excited to welcome back **Lauren Winner** this summer to lead our *Women Writing* workshop, designed for women who are writing spiritual autobiography. This will be Lauren's fourth summer teaching at the Collegeville Institute.

Lauren is the author of numerous books, including **Girl Meets God**, **Mudhouse Sabbath**, and her most recent book, **Wearing God: Clothing, Laughter, Fire, and Other**

**Overlooked Ways of Meeting God**. Her memoir **Still: Notes on a Mid-faith Crisis** was named a “Best Book of 2012” in the religion category by *Publishers Weekly* and a 2013 Book Award winner in the spirituality category by *Christianity Today*. She has written for *The New York Times Book Review*, *The Washington Post Book World*, *Publishers Weekly*, *Books and Culture*, and *Christianity Today*.

Lauren teaches at Duke Divinity School, and lives with her husband in Durham, NC.

Lauren says, “Every summer I have been in Collegeville, I have seen participants make new friends, both relax and work hard, and (most important to me) become better writers. Also, I myself never want to leave. I always—every summer—wish I could stay!”



Lauren Winner