



OCAMPR 2022 Annual Report  
Submitted to the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops

As a nonprofit of Orthodox professionals in the fields of medicine, psychology and religion, OCAMPR has both been challenged and risen to the occasion of those challenges in cleaning up after the COVID19 pandemic during 2022. Having experienced a significant drop in membership and participation during the pandemic, OCAMPR successfully began rebuilding our membership base, as well as the inner structures of our organization. Additionally, OCAMPR has been actively serving the public and our membership with energy and enthusiasm, remaining focused on using our professional talents for God's glory and in the service of the Orthodox Church.

2022 Annual conference

Each year the major event for OCAMPR is the annual conference, which serves as a time for our membership to gather for fellowship and education, while also offering the recordings for viewing by the general public. The OCAMPR 2022 Annual Conference on the theme, "Living Liturgy in Practice: Orthodox Care in a Rapidly Changing World" took place in person at Saints Peter and Paul Greek Orthodox Church in Glenview, IL. 125 people attended the event, a number that well surpassed the 2021 in person attendance and comes close to the 2019 count. Parishioners and staff of Saints Peter and Paul offered warm hospitality that set a welcoming tone of community, connection and collaboration for our attendees. Many OCAMPR conference "regular" attendees commented that it was a particularly "special" conference, and they felt the presence of the Holy Spirit guiding the event. Many professionals who were new to OCAMPR attended for the first time and noted they will look forward to the conference annually.

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**2022 Conference participants**

Conference highlights included the Keynote address offered by Bishop JOHN of the Antiochian Archdiocese. The medical, psychological, and theological plenary presentations were offered by Deacon Theodore Saclarides, MD, Vice Chair of Surgery, Rush University, Chicago and Deacon, Saints Peter and Paul Greek

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Orthodox Church, Glenview, IL; Roxanne Louh, Psy.D., Licensed Clinical Psychologist in Private Practice, Jacksonville, FL and Cohost of “Live with the Louhs” on Ancient Faith Radio; and Nina Glibetic, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Liturgical Studies, The University of Notre Dame, South Bend, Indiana.

### *2022 Keynote and Plenaries*



19 workshops were presented by OCAMPR professionals on themes such as “Liturgical Medicine,” “Divorce in the Church,” “Treating Trauma with Art Therapy,” “St. Luke the Surgeon as a Model for Care,” and “Preventing Burnout.” Workshops included both didactic and interactive components and had Orthodox theology and praxis as the foundation.

12 Papers were presented on themes such as, “an Orthodox Chaplain’s View of Physician Aid in Dying,” “The Transformative Power of Worship,” “Youth Ministry in Post-Pandemic America,” and “The Psychodynamics of Gratitude.” These presentations will be published in a combined academic journal/conference proceedings volume that will be posted online by the end of 2023.



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**2022 Workshops & Papers**

A highlight of the conference is always the vendor/exhibitor area, which gives other Orthodox organizations an opportunity to share their work and sell their products to our conference participants. Included in the exhibit area were 3 AOB organizations: Orthodox Youth Ministries, Mental Health Ministries, and the Orthodox Missions Center, as well as the Hellenic College Psychology program, Faithtree Resources, Orthodox Christian Leadership Initiative, Axia Women, and St. Phoebe Center. Ancient Faith Publishing, Sebastian Press, and Lift Up Uganda displayed and sold their books and products.

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### ***2022 Vendor Pictures***



### Collaboration with the Mental Health Ministries of the Assembly of Bishops

The OCAMPR board and many of its members continued in 2022 to volunteer their time and professional talents to the MHM. OCAMPR Advisory Board Member, Bp JOHN served as the Chairperson, (Past) President, Dr. Philip Mamalakis, continued to serve as Vice-Chair, while other board members and members served on the Steering Committee, including OCAMPR President, Dr. Randa Anderson. During the 2022 OCAMPR conference, MHM held their annual meeting and set forth plans for the 2023 year.

OCAMPR assisted with publicizing the need for 16 Peace of Mind Facilitators to implement this new program of MHM. Current OCAMPR president, Dr. Randa Anderson assisted with reviewing applications for the Peace of Mind facilitators. Many of the chosen facilitators are active OCAMPR members, offering their professional talents to this new and vital program.

The National Directory of Orthodox Mental Health Providers is continually adding new providers to the database (<https://www.assemblyofbishops.org/directories/mental-health>). Many of these providers are OCAMPR members.

### Public Outreach

Motivated to offer education on current issues in our fields from an Orthodox viewpoint, OCAMPR board members and conference plenary speakers offered numerous podcasts on Ancient Faith Radio (Appendix A). The topics covered were relevant to the general public, many focusing on mental health. OCAMPR welcomes the opportunity to share our professional knowledge integrated with Orthodox Praxis for the benefit of the Orthodox community.

### Board Member Composition and Changes

January, 2022 was the beginning of a new term for most of the board members and with mostly new officers. Elected were: Dr. Randa Anderson, President; Susan Zacharia Sanders, LCSW Vice President; Sarah Byrne-Martelli, D.Min, Secretary (2nd term); Fr. Alcuin Kellerhouse-Treasurer; Fr. Theophan Whitfield, D.Min-Religion Chairperson; Dr. Ioana Popa-Medical Chairperson; Joel Klepac LMFT-Psychology Chairperson; and Dr. Mena Mesiha-Associate Members Chairperson.

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In early February, 2022, OCAMPR's newly elected treasurer, Rev. Dr. Alcuin Kellerhouse, resigned from his position. Uncertain how to proceed without a treasurer, the new board began a thorough review of OCAMPR's past bookkeeping, banking policies, and other administrative procedures. To complete these reviews, OCAMPR engaged the pro bono services of an Orthodox Nonprofit Consultant, Mr. Daniel Powell. Through Mr. Powell's guidance and detailed work, the newly established OCAMPR finance committee ensured conformity with GAAP and put new administrative procedures in place.

In June of 2022 the OCAMPR board elected Fr. Andrew Andrews to serve as treasurer. Fr. Andrew brought significant experience in healthcare administration and information services to the role. Not only does he competently account for our treasury, but he also brings exceptional analytical skills, as well as pastoral experience to board work.

Another change in board composition occurred when Fr. Theophan Whitfield resigned from his position as Religion Chairperson in Sept., 2022, due to changes in his pastoral assignment. Fr. Sean Levine, D.Min., M.A.T.S, M.A.B.S, M.Div, M.S. (MFT) was elected by membership to replace Fr. Whitfield, beginning a new two year term.

Recognizing the need for more board volunteers, 3 optional board-member-at-large positions were created. One of these was filled by board election in Sept. 2022 by Dean Theophilos, LCPC, who was already managing OCAMPR's social media channels.

### ***OCAMPR Board of Directors with Advisory Member Bp JOHN***



### **Growth and Program Development:**

Early in January, 2022, the OCAMPR board distributed a Member Needs Assessment in order to determine the interests of members for new programming. 111 responses were received. The data indicated that members desired increased interaction throughout the year, both within their own professional groups (medicine, psychology or religion), as well as across the three disciplines.

Led by Membership Co-chairs, Dr. Ioana Popa and Joel Klepac, the board launched its first monthly "Community of Practice" online event in June. A



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Community of Practice is an organized group of people who have a common professional interest and who come together regularly to learn from each other, improve or gain new skills, and experience professional development through collaboration with others. For OCAMPR, our Community of Practice events also have the unique commonality of us being Orthodox Christian professionals and being able to share the beauty and depth that our faith lends to our work.

Community of Practice gatherings include a 10-15 minute presentation by an OCAMPR professional on a topic that is relevant to professionals in medicine, psychology and religion, as well as small and large group discussions on the day's topic. The goals of these events are fellowship and networking, as much as continuing education, and participants engage in thoughtful conversations with other professionals.

The first event in June was met with much enthusiasm and further events were offered monthly. Topics included, "Trauma and Christ," "The Impact of Suicide on Christ's Body," "The Cycle of Renewal for Professionals," "Dispassion, Divine Love, & the Healing Professional," "Icons Serving Icons," and a conference summary, "Relections on Living Liturgy in Practice." Across all of these events over 200 people registered and attended.

For many years, OCAMPR has wanted to offer its members a secure portal through which to access membership information and professional resources. This long envisioned project was finally implemented and launched in October. Within this new members only portal, members can find an event calendar, past recordings of the Community of Practice events and Annual Conferences. They can also share their professional profile and interact with other members. The portal presents a place to increase offerings to members and will be a focus in the coming years.

### Fr. George Scoulas Memorial Gift and Hellenic Foundation Grant

In July, OCAMPR was named the 2022 recipient of the Fr. George J. Scoulas Memorial Fund in the amount of \$10,000. Fr. George J. Scoulas was the pastor of Saints Peter and Paul Greek Orthodox Church in Glenview, Illinois for 26 years. OCAMPR was a fitting recipient of the Fr. Scoulas Memorial Fund because the organization shares many of the values that Fr. George worked diligently for throughout his life. He was an ardent supporter of Pan Orthodox collaboration and served as president of the Pan Orthodox Clergy Association of Chicago. He sought to educate his parishioners at every opportunity, whether sharing a tidbit of theological knowledge in conversation or on a greater scale by inviting world renowned theologians to speak at parish events. He had a vision for pastoral care and supported destigmatizing mental health treatment. OCAMPR chose to tithe back to the parish of Saints Peter and Paul \$1000 and is making plans to use the remaining funds for projects that support membership growth and professional development.

In June, OCAMPR applied for a grant from the Hellenic Foundation to assist with costs for the 2023 conference. The Hellenic Foundation granted the request for up to \$13,000 in funds and the board is thrilled to offer the 2023 conference at a discounted rate to all, as well as offer scholarship assistance to students and those with limited income. Keeping conference costs low aligns with our vision to make OCAMPR accessible to all.

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### Looking to the future:

The OCAMPR board is continuing to consider how to increase offerings to members, while also setting up the organization for longevity and efficient administration. In addition, we are finding that other Orthodox organizations are looking to us for collaboration, and we expect to increase these connections in ways that benefit Orthodox Christians across the US.

We continue to feel grateful to be an affiliate ministry of the Assembly. We hope and pray that our work reflects the generosity of the Assembly in caring for the Orthodox flock in America. We aim to continue offering our ministry for God's glory and the benefit of the Orthodox Christian Church.

Respectfully submitted,



Randa K. Anderson, Ph.D., President,  
Orthodox Christian Association of Medicine, Psychology and Religion



## 2022 OCAMPR Annual Report

Appendix A  
Podcasts from OCAMPR Board Members

“Suicide Prevention,” Susan Zacharia-Sanders, LCSW on *Live with the Louhs*

[https://www.ancientfaith.com/podcasts/livewiththelouhs/suicide\\_prevention](https://www.ancientfaith.com/podcasts/livewiththelouhs/suicide_prevention)

“What Does Eternal Memory Mean Part 1,” Sarah Byrne-Martelli, D.Min., BCC on *Live with the Louhs*

[https://www.ancientfaith.com/podcasts/livewiththelouhs/what\\_does\\_eternal\\_memory\\_mean\\_part\\_1](https://www.ancientfaith.com/podcasts/livewiththelouhs/what_does_eternal_memory_mean_part_1)

“Liturgy in the Daily Life with Dr. Mena Mesiha,” Mena Mesiha, MD, MTS on *Live with the Louhs*

[https://www.ancientfaith.com/podcasts/livewiththelouhs/liturgy\\_in\\_the\\_daily\\_life\\_with\\_dr\\_mena\\_mesiha](https://www.ancientfaith.com/podcasts/livewiththelouhs/liturgy_in_the_daily_life_with_dr_mena_mesiha)

“Caring For Your Soul,” Ioana Popa, MD, BCC, MTS on *Live with the Louhs*

[https://www.ancientfaith.com/podcasts/livewiththelouhs/caring\\_for\\_your\\_soul](https://www.ancientfaith.com/podcasts/livewiththelouhs/caring_for_your_soul)

“Meet Susan Zacharia,” Susan Zacharia-Sanders, LCSW on *Everyday Orthodox*

[https://www.ancientfaith.com/podcasts/everydayorthodox/meet\\_susan\\_zacharia](https://www.ancientfaith.com/podcasts/everydayorthodox/meet_susan_zacharia)

“Meet Mena Mesiha,” Mena Mesiha, MD, MTS on *Everyday Orthodox*

[https://www.ancientfaith.com/podcasts/everydayorthodox/meet\\_mena\\_mesiha](https://www.ancientfaith.com/podcasts/everydayorthodox/meet_mena_mesiha)

“Meet Dr. Ioana Popa,” Ioana Popa, MD, BCC, MTS on *Everyday Orthodox*

[https://www.ancientfaith.com/podcasts/everydayorthodox/meet\\_dr\\_ioana\\_popa](https://www.ancientfaith.com/podcasts/everydayorthodox/meet_dr_ioana_popa)

“Meet Ioana and Sebastien!,” Ioana Popa, MD, BCC, MTS on *Everyday Orthodox*

[https://www.ancientfaith.com/podcasts/everydayorthodox/meet\\_ioana\\_and\\_sebastien](https://www.ancientfaith.com/podcasts/everydayorthodox/meet_ioana_and_sebastien)

“Deaths of Despair : Suicide,” Susan Zacharia-Sanders, LCSW on *Ancient Faith Today Live*

[https://www.ancientfaith.com/podcasts/aftodaylive/deaths\\_of\\_despair\\_suicide](https://www.ancientfaith.com/podcasts/aftodaylive/deaths_of_despair_suicide)

“Silent Suffering: Understanding Caregiver Burnout,” Ioana Popa, MD, BCC, MTS on *Ancient Faith Today Live*

[https://www.ancientfaith.com/podcasts/aftodaylive/silent\\_suffering\\_understanding\\_caregiver\\_burnout](https://www.ancientfaith.com/podcasts/aftodaylive/silent_suffering_understanding_caregiver_burnout)

“Memory Eternal: Living with Grief as Orthodox Christians,” Sarah Byrne-Martelli, D.Min., BCC on *Family Matters*

[https://www.ancientfaith.com/podcasts/familymatters/memory\\_eternal\\_living\\_with\\_grief\\_as\\_orthodox\\_christians](https://www.ancientfaith.com/podcasts/familymatters/memory_eternal_living_with_grief_as_orthodox_christians)