

Monday  
4PM

**Ewan Kelly** shares his reflections on what emerged from lectures and exchanges in the previous days. It is a moment of introspection, quietness, connecting. In short sentences or just some words, Ewan presents his ideas, thoughts, impressions. Here you find the integral text of his presentation, followed by the thoughts that were shared in the group:

**Doing theology the Leonard way.....**

*There is a crack,  
there's a crack  
in everything.  
That's how  
the light gets in.*

***"Pastoral care is happening (not done). This requires all of my inner/spiritual attitude."***  
(= quote from a chaplain, from Nika Hofler's presentation)

**Meaningful risk**

Intentionally entering breaking points  
enables  
potential for transformation

**Empathetic bridge**

Actively listening to  
the silence.  
In you, in me....  
between us. And God?  
Living the questions.

**Intentionality**

Actively listening to  
the silence.  
In you, in me....  
between us. And God?  
Living the questions.

**Belgian spirituality**

Our spirituality.....  
Like Belgium!  
Not boring but embodied,  
unique, complex.....  
and dynamic!

**Phronesis**

Professional wisdom...  
Whole body reflection,  
informed by character  
on lived and felt experience.  
Discerning future action.

**Transformational leadership**

Nurturing environment.  
Leadership -  
permissive, respectful  
and person-centred.  
Modelling mutuality.

### **Political, moral ... prophetic?**

We inhabit  
complex, dehumanising systems.  
We are affected by them.....  
we are part of them.  
My influence, my voice, my choices?

### **In current environment**

Chaplaincy...  
Fragile.  
No shared models, language  
Or role descriptions. Evidence base?  
Potential to wither.

### **Moving from individual to a shared identity?**

My spirituality...  
Provisional and playful.  
Contextual, exploratory, open-ended...  
A whisper in the mind.  
Ours?

### **Hope**

Spiritual awareness....  
reflexivity,  
reverent curiosity.  
Informing...  
research and practice.

### **Connecting** – not controlling, not conquering

*We see a picture of the sacred Mount Uluru (Australia). Ewan had the privilege to be there and was struck by the sign there that asks tourists "Please don't climb and conquer – walk around and wonder, touch". What does it say about what has been shared these days in Blankenberge?*

Connecting.....  
within,  
around, between, beyond.....  
Sustaining, deepening  
Me, you, us.

### **Ground of my being**

Taking time to re-engage  
with soulful songs and stories,  
that shape the ground of my being,  
in light of love offered and received.  
My existence open to (re)construction.

### **Resilience**

What is my vocational canon?  
Sacred and formative stories to be  
re-interpreted after practice  
to transform the future professional (and) me.  
Is there room for paradox?

### **Being nested**

Where is my spiritual home now?  
A community  
where I can be real and nurtured,  
after looking over the cliff....  
Repeatedly.

### **So,**

How fragile are we, globally?  
Fundamentally, chaplaincy is about working with the cracks in our lives.

All the work we do – with the anger, grief, uncertainty we meet –, does it have an impact on how we do our profession as a whole?

The crack is where the light gets in, but it's also where it gets out.

How will it go further, after these days, with the “roots, fruits and environment” of our profession, in our teams, countries, in Europe?

There is a lot of joy, also in people with “other abilities”, as we saw in our visit to the institution this afternoon. That joy and mutuality also need to be integrated in our research.

For the more experienced chaplains, it is wonderful to see how many young people choose to be a chaplain. And for the young ones it is an encouragement to see that the older ones are still doing the job, with joy.

We have been talking a lot about spirituality, but little has been said of God. Where is our (actual) spiritual home?

As chaplains, we are all touched by the same questions and needs of the people that we take care of, however different our backgrounds may be.

Powerlessness can be a place of growth.

There are many hidden treasures in what people say to us.

(Why) should we be doubtful about the need and the future of chaplaincy?

In the hospital we should not only let our voice be heard, but also God's voice.

It is our deepest vocation to be contemplative all the time, listening and praying continuously.

“Ecce homo” can get a whole new meaning, thinking of the sick artist who made art from his X-ray.

There are the ones who are involved in research and those who aren't, but we are anyway connected in our journey in spirituality.

For all this  
THANK YOU

To conclude the afternoon session, **Simon Evers** declares **Ewan Kelly** to be the newest **ENHCC honorary member**. Simon expresses his gratefulness, sympathy and friendship. Ewan is given a warm applause and a standing ovation. A short Scottish 'thank you' says it all.

The **Belgian organizers** receive a book and a pot of “chocolate pills” in gratitude for their flawless organisation, both what regards content and execution.

And the venue of the **next Consultation** is already known: we will meet again in **Crete, June, 10-14 June, 2020**. Block your agenda and book your flight!