



Part of what we learned on that walk through Belfast was the story of the 30-plus year stretch known as "[The Troubles](#)," during which some 3,500 people died and more than 30,000 people were injured. No family, street, or community went unscathed. Kenneth Branagh's 2021 movie "Belfast" provides a vivid picture of what it was like for ordinary people trying to live their lives amidst the insanity.

One of our leaders on the walk was [Brian McLaren](#). Besides being a provocative writer about "*a new kind of Christianity*," Brian is also a student of history. He writes eloquently about the rise-and-fall of societies across the globe and across time. The conflict in Northern Ireland is emblematic of those stories. One central theme is the way in which powerful and immoral leaders use religion to cynically manipulate good people — sometimes compelling those people to violate the most basic teachings of Jesus and all the great religious teachers.

Then there is the other side. The side that inspires. Despite all the tragedy that Northern Ireland endured, today's Belfast and beyond is filled with enormous hope and an abiding commitment to on-going reconciliation and peace. This revolution came about because most Protestants and Catholics never lost track of Jesus and his message. With quiet and relentless courage and creativity, these people — working thru grassroots groups — changed everything.

We hope you'll join us on Monday, October 10th for a 2-hour Lumunos online event with Brian. It will be an opportunity to hear his thoughts and talk with others about the "[the great spiritual migration](#)," including its implications and McLaren's thoughts on some of the big challenges we face today in America and across the world.

For more information about the Brian McLaren event, [click here](#).

Sincerely,

**Dan Quinlan**

Business and Operations Director

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## Reflection Question

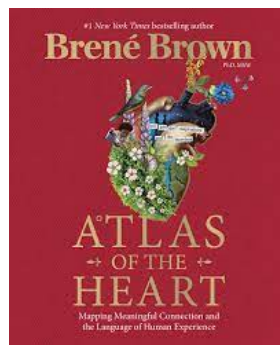
*Where in your world do you see the need for peace? What steps can you take to help create it?*

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## Upcoming Events

# LUMUNOS

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## Online Book Club "Women Becoming"

Discussing *Atlas of the Heart* by Brené Brown  
Led by Becca Perry-Hill  
October 5th, 12-1pm ET

To learn more, click [here](#).



### Fall Keynote: Brian McLaren "The Great Spiritual Migration"

Join us for a conversation with Brian McLaren to discuss how we can embrace love and compassion for our neighbor.  
October 10th, 7-9pm ET

To learn more, click [here](#).

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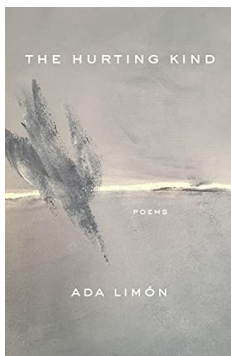


### LumZoom Mystics for Everyday Living Drop-In Series "The Irish Mystics"

Led by Dan Quinlan and Betsy Perry  
October 12th, 7-8:30pm ET

To learn more, click [here](#).

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## Monthly Online Drop-In Series "Poet of the Month"

Discussing the poetry of Ada Limón  
Led by Betsy Brink  
October 19th, 7:30-8:30pm ET

To learn more, click [here](#).

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