

CHURCH COUNCIL BULLETIN

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North Carolina Council of Churches

2010 Faith and Health Summit: A Day of Resource Sharing, Coalition Building and Remembering The Call to Service

The North Carolina Council of Churches' Partners in Health and Wholeness program held its 2010 Faith and Health Summit in March, drawing together nearly 250 participants to learn about integrating health practices and strategies within faith communities.

Keynote speaker Gary Gunderson, Senior V.P. of the Faith and Health Division at Methodist LeBonheur Healthcare in Memphis, challenged Summit participants to focus on the causes of life rather than on death and disease. Although statistics about illness and disease can prove useful when trying to allocate funds, identify human resources or develop treatment plans, the focus should be on continually seeking the health assets in communities.

The summit, which took place at First Baptist Church in downtown Raleigh, also featured a series of workshops where clergy and others learned how to identify mental health problems in congregants and make proper referrals; how to make more locally, nutritious foods available to people of faith; how to use a faith- and evidence-based approach to address health disparities; how to improve the overall health and safety of clergy and congregants; and the criteria for becoming a PHW Certified congregation. See a complete list of Bronze-certified congregations on page 3. Also, with the signing of health care reform legislation into law on the very day that the Faith and Health Summit was held, the workshop on health care reform proved timely.

Governor Beverly Perdue addressed the audience during lunch, speaking candidly about her personal commitment to health and her desire to work with the faith community to create healthy and whole congregants. She quoted III John:2 to help illustrate the spiritual relevance of maintaining a healthy lifestyle: "Beloved, I pray that all may go well with you and that you may be in good health, just as it is well with your soul."

Special thanks to those who helped make this first of its kind event a success, especially to The Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina Foundation and Kate B. Reynolds Charitable Trust for funding.

Join in Celebrating the Council's 75th Anniversary

On May 18, the North Carolina Council of Churches celebrates its 75th anniversary with a series of events culminating in a worship service at Duke Divinity School's Goodson Chapel. The Council's friends and supporters are welcome to attend.

Registration begins outside of Goodson Chapel at 3:30 p.m., and a historical program follows at 4 p.m. featuring remembrances by Richard Smith, son of Council Founder Shelton Smith; Collins Kilburn, Executive Director Emeritus of the Council; and others. Dinner is at 5:30 p.m., and a service of worship and music starts at 7 p.m.

Bishop Hope Morgan Ward, Mississippi Conference of the United Methodist Church, is the featured speaker. At the time she was tapped as Bishop, Ward was the Council's first vice-president. Music includes United Voices of Praise, the Moravian Brass Choir, and the Goodson Chapel Organ.

All events are free except for the dinner, which is \$40 per person. Reservations for the meal must be received by May 11 to nccofof@nccouncilofchurches.org, 919-828-6501, or on the Council's Web site. In addition, the Council welcomes those who would like to become Anniversary Friends by making a one-time \$75 donation or a charter member of the Covenant Society by remembering the Council in their estate planning. Lists of those already showing their support in these ways are found on page 2.

REGISTER NOW

May 20 — Regional Legislative Seminar
Covenant Presbyterian Church, Charlotte
www.presbyofcharlotte.org

SAVE THE DATE

Oct. 14 — Critical Issues Seminar on
Care of Creation
Congregational United Church of Christ,
Greensboro
www.nccouncilofchurches.org

Council Grateful for 2009 Honor and Memory Gifts

Some 2009 donors chose to give to the North Carolina Council of Churches in honor or in memory of someone. We are grateful for those gifts which help sustain our work for social justice and Christian unity. Gifts were given in honor of: Ira & Sarah Bell by John Bell; Bill Bingham by Priscilla Durkin; Mary Clayton by Bob & Carol Bilbro; Jimmy Creech by Harold & Gladys Rose; Kate Daniels & Susie Allen Daniels by Frances Creech; Dave & Anita Daughtery by Steve & Gearlene Hoffman; Julia Elsee by George & Susan Reed and by Martha Keravuori; Bishop Robert Estill by Janet Watrous; Ruth Jenkins by Mary Wayne Watson; Bridget Johnson by Michael & Terri Jarina; Collins Kilburn by J. Allen Adams; Jack McKinney

by George & Susan Reed; Joe Mann by Fairmont United Methodist Church; George Reed by Jim & Mary Beth Hall, by Lorraine Lundgren, by Jim & Susan Pike, and by Rufus & Betty Lou Starks; Tibbie Roberts by George & Susan Reed; Steve & Rachel Smith by Charles Blanchard; and Barbara Volk by Charles Blanchard.

Gifts were given in memory of: Arthur Eckels by Marjorie Eckels; Margie Ellison by Ed King; Jane Freeman by Bob Freeman; Evelyn Mattern by Rose & Michael Gurkin, by Lori Fernald Khamala, by Jack & Joan Preiss, and by Mary Wayne Watson; and H. Shelton Smith by Jerry Murray.

Anniversary Friends and Charter Members of the Covenant Society Mark the Council's 75th Anniversary

Anniversary Friends of the Council have made a special, one-time \$75 donation in honor of the 75th anniversary. Anyone interested in becoming an Anniversary Friend can make their contribution prior to May 18, 2010. Thanks to those who have already given:

John A. Bell & Judy Whisnant

Arnetta Beverly

Joyce Corbett

Russ Dean & Amy Jacks Dean

First Baptist Church, Fayetteville

Interfaith Ministerial Association, Hendersonville

Sandy and Deane Irving

Bridget Johnson

L. Merritt & Susan P. Jones

Belton Joyner

Stan C. Kimer

Judy Occhetti-Klohr & Leo Klohr

Bill Martyn

Graham & Sybil Rights

John & Mary White Rights

St. Matthews United Methodist Church,

Greensboro

Carolyn Shinn

Sydnor & Harriette Thompson

Bill Wells

Those who remember the Council in their estate planning can become charter members of the Covenant Society by making those plans known in 2010 through a simple confirmation form, available at www.nccouncilofchurches.org or by calling 919-828-6501. Thanks to these charter members.

Rebecca Askew

John A. Bell

Julia Stokes Elsee

Stan C. Kimer

George Reed

Tibbie Roberts

Bill Wells



North Carolina Council of Churches

NCIPL ANNOUNCES REGIONAL PARTNER GROUP CONCEPT AND STATEWIDE TRAINING EVENT

In an effort to build local leadership around North Carolina Interfaith Power and Light programs across the state, NCIPL is pleased to announce its Regional Partner Group concept that will train and support faith leaders across the state to facilitate NCIPL's advocacy, education, and outreach initiatives in distinct regions of the state. NCIPL is a program of the North Carolina Council of Churches which focuses its work on care of Creation.

Immediately following the Council's fall Critical Issues Seminar at Congregational United Church of Christ in Greensboro, NCIPL will host a statewide training conference aimed at developing religious environmental leaders who are interested in planning, implementing, and leading NCIPL programs such as Congregational Energy Efficiency and Audit Workshops, Earth Contemplation, Project Energize, Climate Justice Tours as well as other grassroots advocacy initiatives in

their local communities.

The conference will feature the Founder and President of the Interfaith Power and Light campaign, the Rev. Canon Sally Bingham, as a keynote speaker. Participants will learn about the mission and vision of NCIPL, be trained to plan and implement regionally-relevant NCIPL programs, and attend capacity-building workshops in ecotheology, grassroots lobbying and organizing in interfaith communities. Following the conference, NCIPL will offer ongoing support and guidance to Regional Partner Groups through ongoing conference calls, continuing education, networking opportunities, etc.

Anyone interested in forming a Regional Partner Group of NCIPL and/or participating in the conference, please e-mail info@ncipl.org. Specifically, NCIPL aims to reenergize the previously-trained Hope Workshop volunteer base.

Congratulations to the following congregations for receiving Bronze Certification at the 2010 Faith and Health Summit.

- **Asheville Buncombe Community Christian Ministry**, Asheville
- **Cameron Grove A.M.E. Zion Church**, Broadway
- **Chapel Hill A.M.E. Zion Church**, Broadway
- **Christian Faith Baptist Church**, Raleigh
- **Clinton Tabernacle A.M.E. Zion Church**, Hickory
- **Edgerton Memorial United Methodist Church**, Selma
- **Faith Missionary Baptist Church**, Raleigh
- **First Baptist Church**, Enfield
- **First Lutheran Church, ELCA**, Greensboro
- **Galilee United Methodist Church**, Laurinburg
- **Groometown United Methodist Church**, Greensboro
- **Guilford Park Presbyterian Church**, Greensboro
- **Hillsborough Presbyterian Church**, Hillsborough
- **Holy Trinity Lutheran Church**, Winston-Salem
- **Langford Chapel C.M.E. Church**, Monroe
- **Mt. Zion Baptist Church**, Winston-Salem
- **Now Faith Community Baptist Church**, Knightdale
- **Oak Grove A.M.E. Zion Church**, Erwin
- **Oleander United Methodist Church**, Wilmington
- **Paradise A.M.E. Zion Church**, Broadway
- **Peace Haven Baptist Church**, Winston-Salem
- **Pleasant Green United Methodist Church**, Durham
- **Praise Worship Tabernacle Church**, Raleigh
- **Saint Matthews United Methodist Church**, Greensboro
- **Tabernacle Baptist Church**, Gastonia
- **University United Methodist Church**, Chapel Hill
- **Watts Street Baptist Church**, Durham
- **Wesley Chapel A.M.E. Zion Church**, Lillington

These congregations have demonstrated that, as people of faith, they strive to live an abundant life of health and wholeness by naming a congregational health promoter, serving healthy food and beverage at church meals, and reducing the impact of smoking on themselves and their neighbors.

THE NORTH CAROLINA COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

27 Horne St.
Raleigh, North Carolina
27607

Phone: 919-828-6501
Fax: 919-828-9697
Email: nccofc@nccouncilofchurches.org

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Mark Ginsberg, NCIPL Outreach Coordinator
Rose Gurkin, Program Associate for Administration
Sandy Irving, Volunteer for Health Care Reform
Chris Liu-Beers, Program Associate
Aleta Payne, Communications & Development
George Reed, Executive Director
Jill Drzewiecki Rios, NCIPL Director
Rollin Russell, Program Associate
Willona Stallings, Program Associate

Mginsberg@nccouncilofchurches.org
Nccofc@nccouncilofchurches.org
Sirving@nccouncilofchurches.org
Cbeers@nccouncilofchurches.org
Apayne@nccouncilofchurches.org
Greed@nccouncilofchurches.org
Jrios@nccouncilofchurches.org
Willona@nccouncilofchurches.org

On the Web at:
www.nccouncilofchurches.org

Council to Work on Countering School Resegregation

In light of concerns about public school resegregation in counties across the state, the North Carolina Council of Churches has begun work to counter this backward step toward increased racial and economic separation.

Issues of resegregation have surfaced in the state's largest school districts, Wake and Charlotte-Mecklenburg counties, as well Wayne and New Hanover counties and elsewhere.

"Since its start in North Carolina, the Council has worked on issues related to Jim Crow and segregation," said Executive Director George Reed. "Seventy-five years later, we are reminded that the struggle isn't over, and that the potential exists to lose valuable ground in the education of all our children."

Steve Hickle, pastor of Raleigh's Fairmont United Methodist Church, and Joseph Brown, a Presiding Elder in the A.M.E. Zion Church, are spearheading the Council's work. Hickle has been closely involved with efforts by

clergy and lay people in Wake County to raise awareness about the issue. Brown chairs the Council's Public Education Committee.

"A sound, equal, public education is a justice issue," said Reed. "The Supreme Court has ruled against the inherent inequality in any education system separated by race. As people of faith, we will continue to work against systems that separate us."

Clergy Breakfasts on Immigration
are planned throughout the state in May,
June and July.

Visit [www.welcometheimmigrant.org/
events/](http://www.welcometheimmigrant.org/events/) for more information.