



**CAPITAL AREA COUNCIL OF CHURCHES
CONNECTION
September 2012**

**CACC Fall Banquet
Thursday, October 11
Albany Country Club
300 Wormer Rd., Voorheesville**

Registration, hors d'oeuvres, silent auction, and social hour (with cash bar) will begin at 6:00, with dinner at 6:45pm, followed by the program. Cost: \$50. All are welcome to join us as we mark the 50th anniversary of the opening of the Second Vatican Council, which ushered in a remarkable time of ecumenical and interfaith dialogue and relations. Our keynote speaker will be Rob Brill, City Desk/Religion Editor of the *Times Union*. The program will also include the presentation of this year's Carlyle Adams Ecumenical/Interfaith Award.

To make a reservation for the dinner, please fill out the form on the last page of this newsletter and send it with your payment to the CACC office before **September 25**. No tickets will be sold at the door. Clergy, CACC delegates, and other interested persons are welcome to attend.

From the Executive Director ✍

Responding To Racial Violence

Recently vandals spray-painted graffiti on the wall of one of our member churches, Macedonia Baptist Church. Because the content of the graffiti was racial in nature, the incident is even more significant. When I discussed the incident with Pastor Leonard Comithier, I promised that I would share my concerns with our other member churches. Before I could write these words, another incident of racial tragedy affected members of one of our neighbor Sikh communities. A gunman killed six members of a Sikh community in Wisconsin; and, three of those who died had relatives in the Sikh community in East Greenbush. Both of these incidents are tragic and prompt all of us to think about the problem of racism, which is much greater than we usually acknowledge.

I believe that it is incumbent on us as communities of faith to not only offer our sympathy but to also make a *pro active* effort to educate about racism. This would require a collaborative effort and would be a major contribution of churches toward eliminating all forms of racism in the future. Do any of our members share my interest in creating an anti-racism project here in the Capital District? If you do, please contact me.

--George Brennan

FOCUS Golf Outing-Sept. 11

8am registration & breakfast, 9am play starts, 2pm lunch & raffle drawing, Orchard Creek Golf Course, Dunnsville Rd., Altamont. Cost: \$120/single, \$440/foursome, includes greens fees, cart, prizes, food. Lunch only (for non-golfers): \$20. Proceeds benefit FOCUS feeding programs. Register by 9/6. Call 443-0460 or visit www.focuschurches.net.

Educational Program on "Mormonism 101"-Sept. 19

Noon-1:30pm, First Lutheran Church (Hartwick Lounge), 646 State St., Albany. Bring a bag lunch, beverages provided. Presenter: The Rev. James Kane, Director of the Commission for Ecumenical & Interreligious Affairs for the Roman Catholic Diocese of Albany and Pastor of St. Patrick's Church in Ravena. Sponsored by the Worship & Education Commission of the Council of Churches.

International Peacemaker Visit-Sept. 27

Albany Presbytery is hosting Linda Mackatby, a member of the National Protestant Church in Beirut, Lebanon, and youth program coordinator for the Forum for Development, Culture and Dialogue. College students and other interested persons are invited to dinner at 6pm and her presentation at 7pm at the Delmar Presbyterian Church, 585 Delaware Ave., Delmar. Linda will speak about the Christian presence in the Middle East and the role of youth in peace building and conflict resolution. Call the church @439-9252 for more information or to register for dinner.

(detach here)



Reservation Form for CACC Fall Banquet on Oct. 11

Name(s) _____ Phone # _____

Please reserve ___ tickets at \$50 each. Amount enclosed: _____

Meal choices: (Please indicate how many of each.)

_____ Chicken Neapolitan _____ Roasted Salmon
_____ Roasted Vegetable Ravioli _____ Kosher meal

Please detach form and send with your check made payable to "CACC" so that it arrives by **Sept. 25**. Reservation deadline is firm; no tickets will be sold at the door. Mail to CACC, 646 State St., Albany, NY 12203

(detach here)



CWS/CROP WALK News

Church World Service and its partners are responding to recent disasters around the world. There is a desperate need for funds as well as for hygiene kits, school kits, clean up buckets, and baby kits. Take advantage of back-to-school sales to stock up on supplies for school kits, and then contact a local sewing or quilting group to make cloth bags for your kits. Recruit people of all ages to join in what can be a great intergenerational project. Visit www.cwscrop.org/newyork/kits or call 1-800-297-2767.

The final total for the 2012 Albany CROP Hunger Walk was \$87,064.58. Plans are already being made for the **May 6, 2013** walk. Persons interested in serving on the Albany CROP Walk Committee are welcome to attend its first planning meeting on Wed., **9/12**, 4:45pm at the CACC office. Call Kitt @462-5450.

AIDSWalk-Sept. 29

11am registration, 12pm, walk begins @Washington Park, Albany. Proceeds benefit AIDS service organizations such as the Damien Center and Support Ministries. Call 448-WALK or visit www.aidswalk-capitalregion.org.

This and That

The Opening Convocation of St. Bernard's School of Theology & Ministry will begin at 7pm on **9/5**, Church of St. Vincent de Paul, 900 Madison Ave., Albany. Speaker: Dennis E. Tamburello, OFM, on "Mysticism as a Resource for Ecumenical & Interfaith Dialogue"...New Covenant Presbyterian Church, 916 Western Ave., 12203, presents the Southern Gospel group "Praise, Inc." in concert at 7:30pm, **9/6**. Free, but a love offering will be received....The Albany Guardian Society presents a community forum on "Medicare Rights in These Challenging Times", 8am registration & continental breakfast, 8:30am-Noon program, on **9/13** @ the Carondolet Hospitality Center, 385 Watervliet-Shaker Rd., Latham. Free, but you must call 269-3976 by Sept. 6 to register. The Interfaith Story Circle will gather from 7-9pm on **9/13** at the Turkish Cultural Center, 291 Broadway (Rte. 32) in Menands. Theme: "Caring for parents and respecting seniors". Visit www.interfaithstory.org or e-mail suman.joshi13@gmail.com....

Healing a Woman's Soul, a Christian ministry helping women who are or have been victims of domestic violence, will hold a retreat entitled "Tools for the Journey" **9/14-9/15** at the Dominican Retreat Center in Niskayuna. Cost: \$110, scholarships are available. Register by 9/5. Call Denise @290-0235 or send an e-mail to toolsforthejourney3@gmail.com.

Transitions

Welcome to the Rev. Kenneth Walsh, new pastor of Albany's First Congregational Church, the Rev. Allison Litzel, new pastor of First Lutheran Church, and the Rev. Mark Webb, new bishop of the Upper New York Conference of the United Methodist Church. We note with sadness the passing of the Rev. Marc Touchette, who served several Catholic parishes in the area during his 55 years as a priest.

Capital Region Theological Center Event-Oct. 1

6-9pm, Glen Sanders Mansion, Scotia. Silent auction, hors d'oeuvres, dinner, and guest speaker the Rev. Marie Jerge, Bishop, Upstate New York Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Cost: \$75. Reservations required by 9/21. Upcoming courses: "New Testament Part I: Acts, Epistles, & Revelation", Dr. Peter Bedford. 10 Tuesdays starting **10/9**, 7-9pm, @ Scotia UMC. Cost: \$275 (\$250 to audit). Register by 9/28. "Misused & Abused: Re-Claiming and Proclaiming Revelation", Rev. Dr. Richard Carlson, **10/18-19**, 9am-4pm @ Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Glenville. Cost: \$155 by 9/20, \$175 thereafter. Register by 10/2. Call 462-2470 or visit www.crtc.org to register for any of the above.

Looking ahead to October:

10/5 Church Women United Fall Forum

10/7 World Communion Sunday

10/10 Capital District Senior Issues Forum Lifetime Achievement Awards Ceremony

10/18 Food Pantries for the Capital District Harvest Evening Celebration

10/27 "Help or Hindrance" half-day conference for faith leaders on Faith Community Response to Domestic Violence

Christian Counseling Centers

The Samaritan Counseling Center of the Capital Region announces the opening of its newest satellite office at the Newtonville United Methodist Church. There will be an open house at the new office from 2-4:30pm on Sunday, Sept. 16. SCC offers individual, couples, and group sessions, as well as support and consultation for clergy and congregations.

Visit www.samaritancounselingcenter.org.

The Consultation Center of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Albany also offers individual and couples counseling, spiritual direction, and programs on such topics as anger management and parenting. Visit www.consultationcenteralbany.org.

September, 2012

3 Labor Day (office closed)

6 Finance Com, 4:30pm

11 Shelter Com., 4pm

***12 Albany CROP Com. 4:45pm**

13 BOARD of DIRECTORS, Noon

17-18 Rosh Hashanah

***19 Mormonism 101, Noon-1:30pm**

20 PCM Patrons' Dinner

26 Action & Program Com., 4pm;

Yom Kippur

October, 2012

*** 1** CRTC Fall Event

5 CWU Fall Forum

8 Columbus Day (office closed)

9 Shelter Com., 4pm

11 BOARD of DIRECTORS, Noon

***11 CACC FALL BANQUET, 6pm**

17 CREO Board meeting, Noon

November, 2012

4 CACC Musical Celebration, 3pm

@ First Lutheran Church

[*denotes more information to be found elsewhere in this issue]