



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – January 12, 2010

Mecklenburg Ministries and Crossroads Charlotte Invite the Public to Xchange Sermons January 15 - February 28, 2010

For more information go to www.crossroadscharlotte.org/xchangesermons
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Charlotte, NC - The public is invited to attend Xchange Sermons, a series of city-wide events co-sponsored by Mecklenburg Ministries and Crossroads Charlotte during which clergy from diverse religions in the community will swap pulpits across congregations, inspiring them to work to bring dreams of a more trusting, inclusive community to life.

Xchange Sermons will launch on January 15, 2010 in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. weekend, and continue through February 28, 2010.

“We hope that people from all over the community will be inspired to act and create the inclusive community we know we can be as they experience any of a number of sermons across participating congregations,” says Rabbi Judy Schindler of Temple Beth El, co-chair of Xchange Sermons with Dr. Maria Hanlin of Mecklenburg Ministries.

“The Xchange Sermons series is a wonderful way to honor the work and teachings of Dr. King, whose faith taught him that imagining a changed world was not enough - action is required,” says Dr. Hanlin. “We’re excited that, so far, over two dozen local congregations are participating in Xchange Sermons,” Hanlin continues.

Xchange Sermons will begin with a special sermon from Johnson C. Smith University President Dr. Ron Carter at Temple Beth El’s Shabbat Service on January 15 at 7 pm. The Shabbat service will also include a prayer and musical offering from Senior Minister Rev. Michael McLean and the choir of the East Stonewall AME Zion Church.

The following houses of worship are scheduled to participate in the 2010 Xchange Sermons series as of January 11, 2010:

1. Antioch Missionary Baptist Church
2. Baha'i Community of Charlotte (program exchange only)
3. C.N. Jenkins Memorial Presbyterian Church
4. Caldwell Memorial Presbyterian Church
5. The Chapel of Christ the King
6. Charlotte Friends Meeting (program exchange only)

xchange *sermons*



7. Dilworth United Methodist Church
8. Faith Memorial Baptist Church
9. First Christian Church of Charlotte
10. First United Presbyterian Church
11. Grace Covenant Church
12. Hickory Grove Presbyterian Church
13. Holy Covenant United Church of Christ
14. Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
15. Johnson C. Smith University
16. Masjid Ash-Shaheed Islamic Center
17. Myers Park Baptist Church
18. Park Road Baptist Church
19. Piedmont Unitarian Universalist Church
20. Pineville United Methodist Church
21. Providence Baptist Church
22. Sardis Baptist Church
23. Spiritual Living Center
24. Temple Beth El
25. Temple Israel
26. Unity Fellowship Church Charlotte
27. Unity of Charlotte

For a complete schedule of upcoming sermon exchanges and related materials, please visit www.crossroadscharlotte.org/xchangesermons.

Motivated by faith and compassion, Mecklenburg Ministries promotes interfaith relationships, fosters racial and ethnic understanding, and inspires collaboration to address social issues. For more information about Mecklenburg Ministries, please visit www.meckmin.org.

Crossroads Charlotte helps people and organizations IMAGINE OUR TOMORROW and exchange ideas, experiences and actions that shape a positive future for everyone; and ACT TODAY in small and large ways to build trust by creating access, inclusion and equity in Charlotte-Mecklenburg. For more information about Crossroads Charlotte, please visit www.crossroadscharlotte.org.

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