



News from Your Council of Churches



Council of Churches of Greater Washington
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Rev. Dexter Nutall **Addresses** **Spring Assembly**



On Thursday, June 6, 2013, the Annual Spring Assembly was held at Metropolitan A.M.E. Church, Washington, D.C. The highlights of the meeting were:

- The membership application fee was increased to \$100 for the first 100 members and \$1.00 for each member in addition to 100.



- Rev. Dr. Myrtle Bowen of Galbraith A.M.E. Zion Church was nominated to serve on the Council Board of Directors.
- In the meeting the Council extended its support to the High Tea Society to assist them with the Mayor's Summer Youth Program.

- Rev. Nutall spoke to Spring Assembly about the need of city churches to meet the demands of a dynamic community environment. He encouraged CCGW to strategize, organize, and mobilize. Rev. Nutall encourages attendees to look at what needs to be done to improve the quality of life in our community. He envisions establishing a Faith Based Town Hall series to encourage dialogue and creative action on the part of the city's houses of worship. CCGW wishes Rev. Nutall continued success every blessing in his Post as Director of Religious Affairs for The District of Columbia.

To contact Rev. Nutall:
DNUTALL@dc.gov

- Many thanks to the officers, members and participants who made this a wonderful success.
- The next CCGW assembly meeting will occur in the fall, on Thursday, November 21, 2013.

CCGW

The Council of Churches of Greater Washington often referred to as CCGW or the Council, primarily has the following purposes:

Stimulate, facilitate and coordinate the work of the religious community to carry out the will of God in the Greater Washington Area.

The Council is a non-profit organization without discrimination prohibited by national law for religious organizations doing business with the government.

The Council seeks to be an ecumenical instrument of God's will in society through:

Ministry to all people, particularly to victims of injustice;

Commitment to change the structures of our society to establish justice;

Evaluation and assistance to reshape the lifestyles, structures and values of the community rather than give legitimacy to harmful cultures; and

Liberation of every manner of oppressed people: and Promoting Christianity and Christian love and co-operation.

CCGW Food Distribution Program

The Council of Churches of Greater Washington food distribution program now serves thirty-six Churches. The registered Churches distribute food that is received from the Council's Emergency Food Assistance Program. The program consists of food items received from USDA (United States Department of Agriculture).

The distribution schedule is set for the third Thursday in each month unless otherwise directed. Churches wishing to participate should contact Rev. Jesse Jackson or Min. Delores Gray at (202) 745-0425.

Dates to Remember:

Thursday, July 11, 2013, 10:30 a.m.,

Executive Committee Meeting

Thursday, July 18, 2013, Food

Distribution Emory UMC

Thursday, September 12, 2013,

noon, The Council Board Meeting

Thursday, November 21, 2013, 6:00

p.m., Fall Assembly, Metropolitan

AME Zion Church

Heading God's Call



Presbyterian minister, Reverend James Atwood, Chair of the Greater Washington Chapter of Heading God's Call, recently published his book called, *America and Its Guns*, stepped down as Chair the last of June. All of us at CCGW wish Jim and his wife Reverend Roxanna Atwood every blessing as they relocate their home to North Carolina. Lisa Delity will assume the chair in July, 2013. We wish her the very best in this new position. **Gail Golden has shared the following letter with the community.**

Hello, All,

First of all, I would like to thank the Atwoods for hosting the gathering at Country Buffet last night (June 3, 2013). It was so good to spend some time sharing and chatting with those of you who were available to attend. Since our time with Jim and Roxana is limited now (although they did share that they will be returning periodically to visit), I think I speak for all of us in saying that they will definitely be missed. Thanks to Jack, Jim T, and Ed for the presentations and to Ernestine for taking care of getting the cards signed. Hope to see you all next week at Realco.

Second, I just want to remind you all that we will be having a Steering Committee meeting on Monday, June 17, after the demo at Realco. Basically, we will be focusing on "where do we go from here." We recognize the pivotal role that Jim A and Roxanna have played in our organization and how they have shouldered many of the responsibilities as they relate to the demos, etc. So now we have to figure out how we will divide up those duties, etc. For instance, Ed organizes who says the prayers at the demos. Other items we need to consider are 1) who will carry the signs? 2) who will bring the water/drinks in the summer? 3) who will be responsible for renewing the permits to demonstrate? 4) who will record the info on the weather, number of honks, etc., at each demo? I know that I have forgotten many other things. Please send me items for the agenda as they come to mind. I will OK with Jim A and Lisa - and then send out an agenda closer to the time of the meeting. BTW: If you would like to volunteer for any of the above questions, let me know - and thanks.

Third, I will be attending via phone the Executive Committee meeting that is being held in Philly on Thursday in Lisa's place (since she is still working for a few more days). I will definitely share anything that I find out that affects us in the GW chapter.

Thanks again to each of you for all that you do.

Gail Golden

Good Faith Community



The 2014 Budget – Good News! Good Faith is an advocacy group for the homeless and for low income housing. John Hisle serves as the Executive Director. Offices are at Holy Trinity Church. Thanks to increased revenue from the gentrifying and growing District economy, the

Council approved the largest increase in funding in years for affordable housing construction and renovation as well as housing assistance for the poor, marginalized and homeless:

- \$63 million one-time increase for the Housing Production Trust Fund
- \$5 million for Local Rent Supplement vouchers for profit and non-profit housing operators to make units available to very low income residents and another \$1.75 million for vouchers that can be used in the private rental market.
- \$2.2 million for Housing First (Permanent Supportive Housing) to provide housing for chronically homeless families and individuals.
- \$2.2 million for housing homeless youth and \$250 thousand for shelter for victims of domestic violence.
- \$1.5 million in emergency rental assistance to help prevent residents from becoming homeless.

All of this is good news! Working with other advocacy groups, Good Faith supported each of these budget initiatives.

Become a Member of CCGW

Membership in the Council is encouraged for those living or ministering in Greater Washington.



To join and participate, please contact us at the Council of Churches of Greater Washington, 5 Thomas Circle, NW, of Washington, DC 20005, at 202-745-0425 or ccgw@verizon.net.

Please send any news or announcements for the Newsletter to the CCGW office before 10:30 a.m. on the preceding **Wednesday**.

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