



# News from Your Council of Churches

**Council of Churches of Greater Washington**

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April 22, 2018



The Council still mourns the passing of Rev. Dr. Lewis M. Anthony, a loquacious pastor in the African Methodist Episcopal Zion church who led congregations in Washington and long straddled the city's religious and political communities with his outreach ventures, passed on May 28, 2017 in Fort Washington, Md. He was 65. Dr. Anthony was a member of the Board of the Council for many years.

Rev. Anthony, a Harvard Law School graduate, was regarded as one of the cities most eloquent and in-demand speakers, a stalwart of commencement-day addresses, political conclaves, community gatherings, memorial services, prayer breakfasts, and pulpits of all denominations.

He had pastored St. Lucille A.M.E. Zion Church for the last several years, and before that he led Metropolitan Wesley and Varick Memorial churches. He was a long-standing protestant chaplain for the city's police and fire departments. And he served on many church-related boards and committees, including those promoting religious education and anti-drug efforts.

In an interview, city historian Janette Hoston Harris called him "one of the most understanding ministers in our area. He related to the religious community and the political community. He wasn't a person who just went to that one church to give his gift. He went wherever he was asked."

Rev. Anthony received a bachelor's degree in political science from Columbia University and a law degree from Harvard.

We give thanks to God for his service to our community and to the Council and pray for his family to know peace and comfort in their sorrow."

## 4<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL CIVILI-TEA CITY WIDE STUDENT ART COMPETITION

The Council of Churches of Greater Washington is once again working with the High Tea Society Girls Connected. We will be presenting the Fourth Annual Civili-Tea Citywide Creative Expression in collaboration with PEPCO and METRO. The judging will take place at the PEPCO Edison Place Gallery, where selected entries will be displayed **June 12-30, 2017**. The winners will be announced at a reception on **June 15, 2017 from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.** Monetary

prizes and certificates will be awarded. Winning artwork will be displayed on a DC Metrobus! PEPCO is currently accepting entries from all DC youth between second and 12<sup>th</sup> grade. Entry is free. Deadline to enter is May 30<sup>th</sup>.

The theme is *Acts of Kindness and Giving Back to the Community*

Civility allows us to work together and live together in peace. We are all impacted by acts of kindness (civility)\_or by acts that harm us (incivility). What can we do to make our world, family, community, school and our relationships with our friends and peers better?

For more information, please contact Judge Mary Terrell at [marytea1997@yahoo.com](mailto:marytea1997@yahoo.com), the Rev. James Stephen Terrell at [jstephent@gmail.com](mailto:jstephent@gmail.com), or The DC Arts and Humanities Education Collaborative at [info@dccollaborative.org](mailto:info@dccollaborative.org).



## Good Faith Communities Coalition

Taking action on homelessness and affordable housing with and for the poor in the District of Columbia

[Website](#) [About](#) [Events](#) [Priorities](#) [News/Blog](#) [Contact](#) [Reference](#)

April 12, 2018

**Progress, YES but the GAP between Need and Investment is DAUNTING.**

The Mayor's proposed budget makes [important investments](#) in human services and capital projects that address the needs of the poor and marginalized:

- *\$10 million for vulnerable families living in extreme poverty.*
- *\$9.5 million for individuals who are chronically homeless.*
- *\$3.1 million for youth who are on their own in the city.*
- *\$16.7 million to fully fund increased benefits and eligibility for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program.*
- ***\$66 million in capital expenses for upgrading the low barrier shelters for individuals, rehabilitation of the NY Ave. Men's Shelter and replacement of the 801 East men's shelter.***

This investment of over \$1 million plus full support for continuing services and an investment of \$1 million in housing production and preservation are positive steps for which the Mayor should be commended. However, a [new report from the DC Fiscal Policy Institute](#) details the true investment in construction and subsidies needed to address the severe rent burden of DC's 27,000 households whose income is \$33,000 or less annually for a family of four:



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**"The full subsidy cost to the District would be \$2.6 billion in construction subsidies over ten years, with \$732 million per year for ongoing operating assistance once all affordable units have been created and occupied."**

**Progress in this budget, YES! But the gap is DAUNTING! The city is moving in the right direction, but only slowly and incrementally. The magnitude of the problem demands:**

- serious conversation in the community on resource allocation with a commitment to meeting the needs of our neighbors living in extreme poverty.
- rigorous management of city resources - seek operating efficiencies, evaluate programs for effectiveness, build internal capacity, preserve public land for public needs and implement innovative programs such as the [Flexible Rent Subsidy](#) pilot and the [Landlord Partnership Initiative](#)!

### **Housing and Assistance for Families and the Chronically Homeless**

- Over 800 District families and over 5000 individuals became homeless for the first time in FY 2017.
- 30,000 subsidized affordable rental units for extremely poor, low income DC households will be needed over the next 10 years.
- The average cost to build a unit in a subsidized affordable building in the District is nearly \$400 thousand per unit - demanding multiple funding streams, commercial, private and public.
- The limited availability and high cost of land contributes to the high unit cost
- The monthly cost of a rent-reasonable 2 BR apartment in FY 2017 was \$1306.  
[More](#) details.

"We are tied together in a single garment of destiny, caught in an inescapable network of mutuality. And whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly. I can never be what I ought to be until you are what you ought to be. And you can never be what you ought to be until I am what I ought to be. That is the way God's universe is made."



Rev. Martin Luther King Jr



**Good Faith Communities Coalition**  
[goodfaithdc@gmail.com](mailto:goodfaithdc@gmail.com)  
<http://www.goodfaithdc.org>



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Not a Member of CCGW?  
Call 202-745-0425,  
for membership information

## Words from Sojourners

On Thursday, May 24, at 7 p.m., Sojourners and its partners will gather with the elders of the [Reclaiming Jesus statement](#) for a [prayer service and candlelight vigil](#) beginning at **National City Christian Church** ([5 Thomas Circle, Washington, DC 20005](#)) and processing to the White House.

We believe two things are at stake: the soul of the nation, and the integrity of faith. The issues are more deeply theological than merely political or partisan, and we believe it is a time for prayer and response, for contemplation and action.

In this moment of political, moral, and theological crisis in America we are deeply concerned about the resurgence of white nationalism, racism, and xenophobia; misogyny; attacks on immigrants, refugees, and the poor; the regular purveying of falsehoods and consistent lying by the nation's highest leaders; and moves toward autocratic political leadership and authoritarian rule.

We invite you to [join us](#) for this service of prayer and gospel proclamation, followed by a procession to the White House and a silent prayerful candlelight vigil as a witness that the church will not be complicit, but faithful.

You can get details and RSVP for the service and vigil by visiting our [Facebook event page](#). We highly encourage church and community groups to attend. If you have questions about bringing your group, contact Jim Simpson at [jsimpson@sojo.net](mailto:jsimpson@sojo.net) or 202-745-4609. If you can't join us in person, please join us via a livestream of the prayer service, which will be available on the [Sojourners Facebook page](#).

## Sharing Faith, Nurturing Hope' Available for Download

The World Council of Churches (WCC) Annual Review 2017 is available for download online. The annual review records many of the WCC's activities undertaken in 2017 and continuing into 2018.

“Over the last year, I believe that we in the fellowship of churches and the ecumenical movement have experienced stronger ties with each other and deeper engagement with the world”, reflects WCC general secretary the Rev. Dr. Olav Fykse Tveit. “This experience,

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occasioned by the Pilgrimage of Justice and Peace, now leads us to new vistas on the fellowship itself and the classic quest for visible unity.”

Tveit continues, “Grounded in the ongoing presence of the Resurrected Lord, Christian hope envisions and strives for the reign of God on earth as in heaven, with justice and life abundant for all. Let us work and walk there together.”

**Will you join us in informing our Churches and protecting the rights of Greater Washington residents. You can make a difference by renewing your membership in the Council for \$100 annually. All contributions are welcome. (\$15, \$25, or even \$50 today helps.)**

## **Our Schedule At-A-Glance for April 3-5, 2018**

Monday, May 14 at 10:00 AM Protest at NRA Headquarters  
Protesters at NRA Headquarters every month at 10:00 AM on the 14th on Waples Mill Road in Fairfax. Transportation needed

Saturday, May 9 19:00 AM at Metropolitan AME Church : Strategies for Special Justice

### *Heeding God's Call to End Gun Violence, Greater Washington Chapter*

I wanted to reach out to let you know about DC Vote's upcoming Lobby Day. On April 16th, DC Emancipation Day, we will join with other DC Statehood organizations to take our message of support for DC Statehood to Congress. We all know that the permanent solution to Congress trying to impose its will on the residents of the District of Columbia is to make DC the 51st State.

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## Heeding God's Call to End Gun Violence

### Four years 49 installations (and Take downs) 740 Children of God . . .

Memorialized, names lovingly written on both sides of t-shirts, prayed for, and remembered. 740 victims of gun violence in the Greater Washington area for the past 4 years remembered in the *Greater Washington Memorial to the Lost*.

What an honor is has been to present the **Memorial to the Lost** to so many folks! We have touched the lives and memories of more than we can count. What a privilege and an honor!

Sadly, after 4 years of organizing, hauling, storing, inventorying, worrying about, and caring for the **Memorial to the Lost**, the current steering committee of *Heeding God's Call to End Gun Violence* has agreed to disband and move on in other ways to work to *end gun violence*. It is time to hand the sledgehammers on to someone else. This steering committee has worked together for over 7 years through our weekly demonstrations at a gun shop, International Peace Day events, and many sermons and sharing of ideas to work together to *end gun violence*. This Steering Committee is moving on.

On a personal note, this past year of installing the **Memorial** has been bittersweet for me. The structure for the **Memorial**, the vehicle that could carry it in such an organized fashion was the brain child of my husband, Tony Delity. Tony passed away very suddenly in January of last year. And as many of you remarked this past year as we worked together to put up and take down the **Memorial**, Tony's smile, good nature, and work skills were lovingly missed. I was proud to continue the **Memorial to the Lost**, but it was lonely driving Tony's orange Vue there and back. And, as many have shared through tears, we have missed his smile. I know Tony is proud of us for continuing but, I know he understands why I need to step away and work on the next chapter of my life.

If you are interested in the **Memorial** program, please contact the National Office of *Heeding God's Call to End Gun Violence*. The National holds a trademark on the program. The National office can be reached at 251-238-8550 and contacted through [contacttheheeding@gmail.com](mailto:contacttheheeding@gmail.com).

Many thanks to those of you who have over the years toiled in leadership or support roles to help the *Greater Washington* chapter work to bring peace to homes, communities, and our nation. May you find ways to continue with activities to that end.

Prayers and blessings to all!

Lisa Miller Delity  
Resigning Chairperson and *Coordinator*  
*Heeding God's Call to End Gun Violence, Greater Washington Chapter*  
*The Memorial to the Lost, Greater Washington Version*

*Heeding God's Call to End Gun Violence, Greater Washington Chapter*  
P. O. Box 130, West Bowie, MD 20719

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