

RECONCILIATION & JUSTICE CONFERENCE 2012

January 24th & 25th * New City Fellowship – St. Louis

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general information

Reconciliation & Justice Network Steering Committee

Macklann Basse

New City Fellowship
Lomé, Togo, West Africa

Abraham Cho

Redeemer Presbyterian
New York, NY

Kenny Foster

Grace Presbyterian
Dover, DE

Barry Henning

New City Fellowship
St. Louis, MO

Jacinto Hernandez

Covenant Presbyterian
Harrisonburg, VA

Duke Kwon

Grace DC-Meridian Hill
Washington, DC

Leon Mukendi

New City Fellowship
St. Louis, MO

Tony Myles

New City Fellowship
St. Louis, MO

Randy Nabors

New City Fellowship
Chattanooga, TN

Jonathan Seda

Grace Presbyterian
Harrisonburg, VA

Welcome!

On behalf of New City Fellowship of St. Louis and the Leadership Team of the Reconciliation and Justice Network, I want to welcome you to our second conference. We give praise to God for you and your ministry of service to Christ, his church and the people of your communities where God has placed you to declare his glory among the nations.

Our deepest desire is that you will find your time here to be encouraging to your hearts for the hard work involved in pursuing the kingdom through fellowship, sharing burdens and being refreshed in the grace and faithfulness of God. We also hope we will all be challenged by having our vision expanded and deepened in understanding the glorious nature of this kingdom community that God has called us to be a part of, where genuine reconciliation across all lines of division becomes a deepening reality, and where justice, compassion and humility increasingly become part of the clearly defined marks of our churches.

If there is any way we can assist you to make your time here more beneficial, please do not hesitate to let me or one of our staff know your needs.

Barry Henning

staying connected

Wireless Internet service is available at our facilities.

Network: NCF-1483

Password: LastEnemy

need help?

Look for someone with an orange border around their name tag ...
or find Lisa in the foyer...
or by cell phone: (618) 792-5346

need a snack?

Visit our Snack Bar upon arriving and during breaks for coffee, tea, water and snacks. The Snack Bar is located just up the stairs to the south of the foyer.

For dining options off-campus, see page 5.

check it out ...

During the breaks, visit the FORAI display in the foyer. FORAI is a Christ-centered micro-business which was started to enable refugees and immigrants in St. Louis to create income through the production of quality, marketable handcrafts. Visit www.forai.org for more info.



conference schedule

Tuesday, January 24

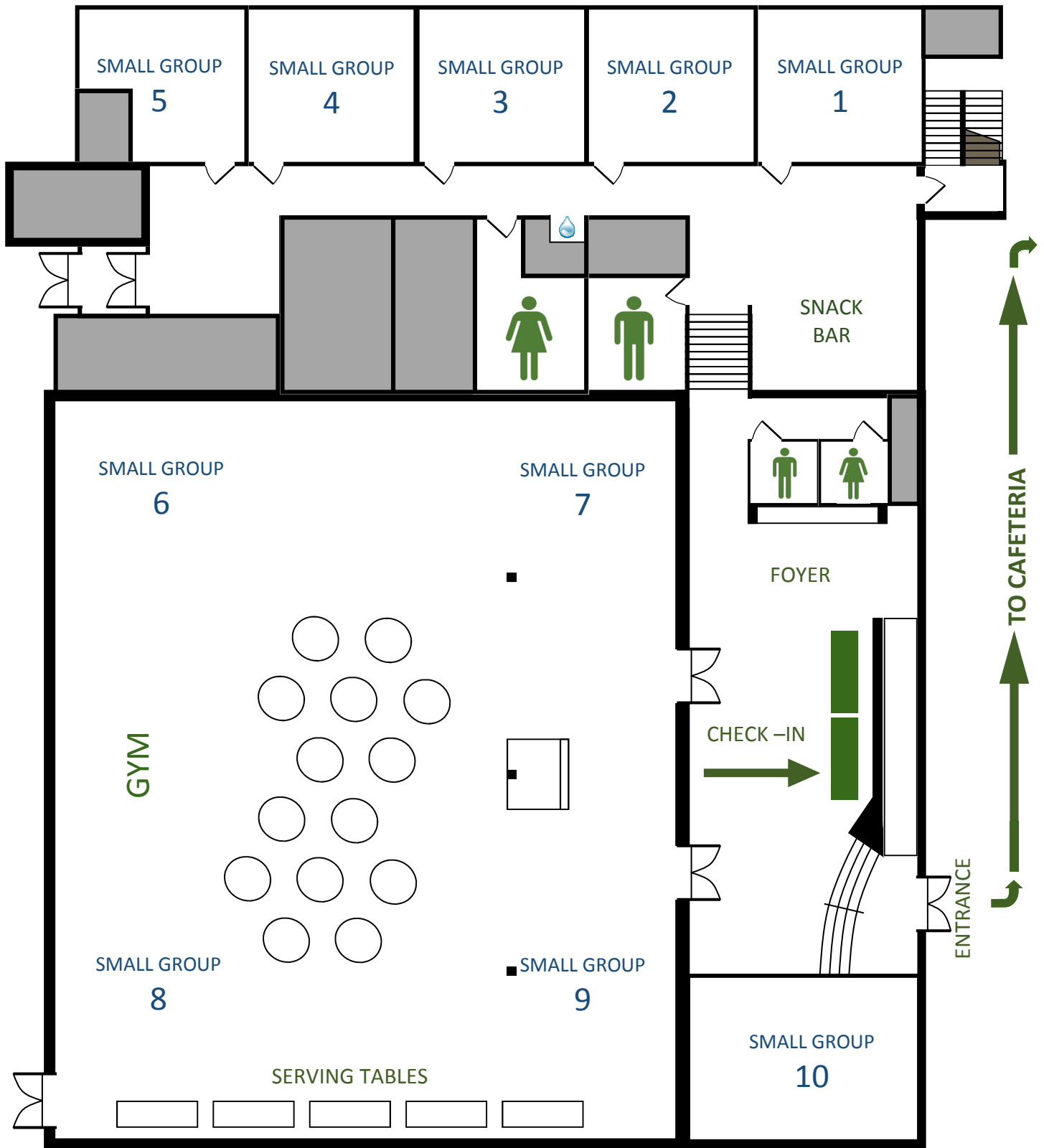
9:00 am - 11:00 am	Check-in and Registration
11:00 am - 12:30 pm	Worship, Opening Plenary Session “Reconciliation, Justice and the Covenant Community,” <i>Pastor Barry Henning</i>
12:30 pm - 1:30 pm	Lunch (<i>in gym</i>)
1:30 pm - 2:30 pm	Small Group Discussions around Opening Plenary Session
2:30 pm - 2:45 pm	Break
2:45 pm - 3:30 pm	Large Group Discussion and Prayer
3:30 pm - 3:45 pm	Break
3:45 pm - 5:00 pm	Second Plenary Session “Power Dynamics in a Reconciled Church,” <i>Pastor Abraham Cho</i>
5:00 pm - 5:15 pm	Break
5:15 pm - 6:00 pm	Small Group Discussions around Second Plenary Session
6:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Dinner (<i>in cafeteria</i>)
7:15 pm - 8:15 pm	Worship, Prayer and Large Group Discussion

Wednesday, January 25

8:30 am - 10:00 am	Worship, Third Plenary Session “Dismantling Cultural Presuppositions That Hinder Reconciliation and Justice,” <i>Pastor Randy Nabors</i>
10:00 am - 10:15 am	Break
10:15 am - 11:00 am	Small Group Discussions around Third Plenary Session
11:00 am - 11:15 am	Break
11:15 am - 12:00 pm	Large Group Discussion and Prayer
12:00 pm - 1:00 pm	Lunch (<i>in gym</i>)
1:00 pm - 2:00 pm	Worship, Prayer and Large Group Gathering; Dismissal



map of facilities



1483 82nd BLVD, ST. LOUIS, MO 63112

local venues

RESTAURANTS / COFFEE

1 Starbucks

9200 Olive Blvd, 63132

Head south on 82nd, right onto Olive, destination is on the left

2 McDonald's

8127 Olive Blvd, 63130

Head south on 82nd, left onto Olive, destination is on the left

3 Taqueria La Monarca

8531 Olive Blvd, 63132

Head south on 82nd, right onto Olive, destination is on the right

4 Papa John's Pizza

8107 Olive Blvd, 63130

Head south on 82nd, left onto Olive, destination is on the left

5 Chevy's Fresh Mex

9119 Olive Blvd, 63132

Head south on 82nd, right onto Olive, destination is on the right

6 Dickey's Barbecue Pit

9200 Olive Blvd, 63132

Head south on 82nd, right onto Olive, destination is on the left

7 Lu Lu Seafood

8224 Olive Blvd, 63132

Head south on 82nd, right onto Olive, destination is on the left

8 Royal Chinese Barbecue

8406 Olive Blvd, 63132

Head south on 82nd, right onto Olive, destination is on the left

ATM / GAS / GROCERY

9 Quick Trip

8815 Page Ave, 63114

Head north on 82nd, left onto Page, destination is on the right

10 7-Eleven

8159 Olive Blvd, 63130

Head south on 82nd, destination is on the corner of 82nd and Olive on the left

11 CVS Pharmacy

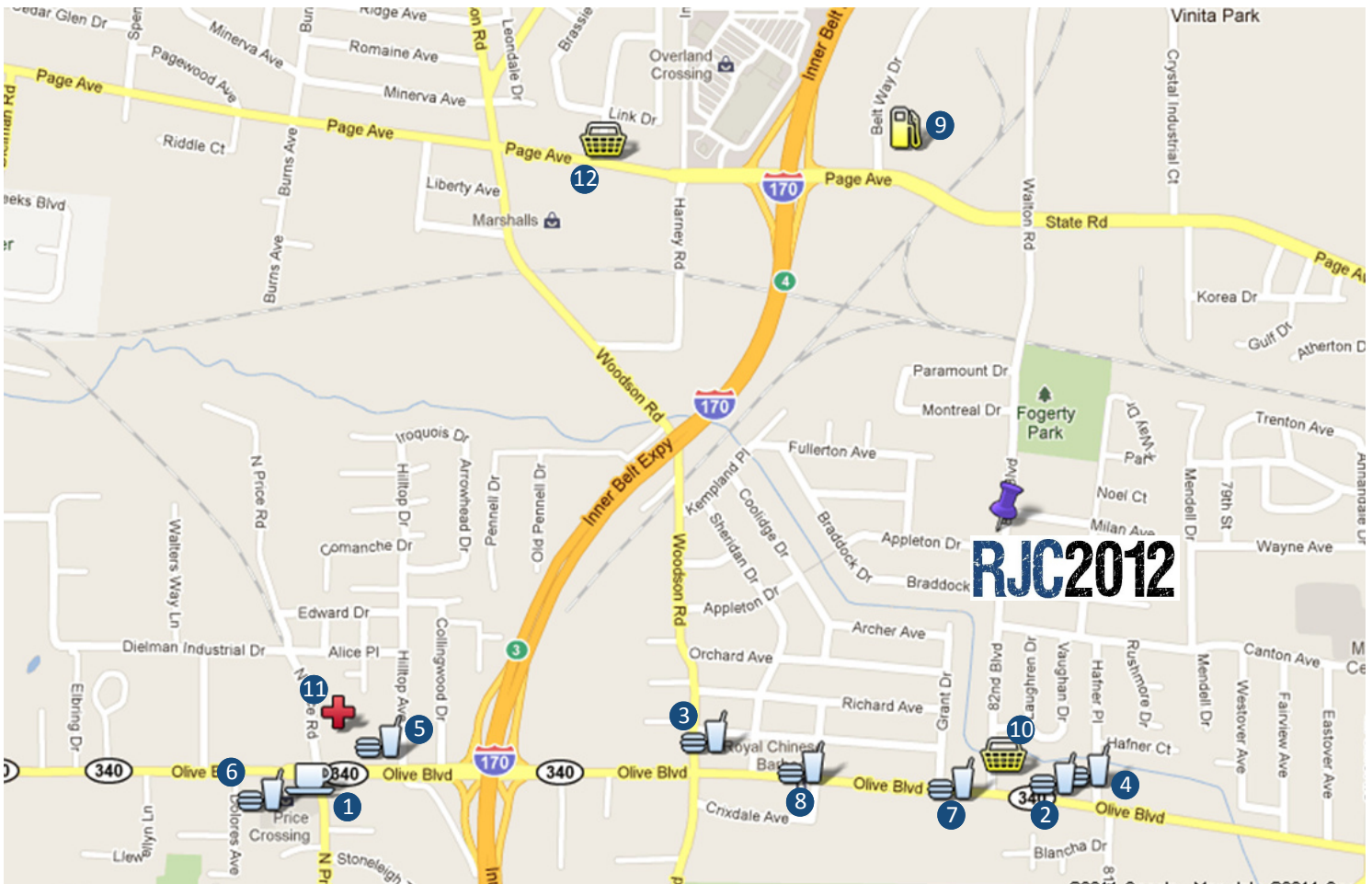
9141 Olive Blvd, 63132

Head south on 82nd, right onto Olive, destination is on the right

12 Schnuck's Grocery

9074 Page Blvd, 63114

Head north on 82nd, left onto Page, destination is on the left



plenary session 1

Reconciliation, Justice and the Covenant Community

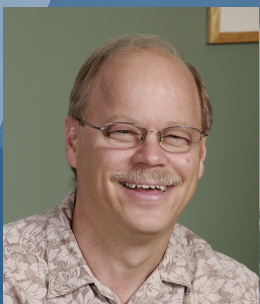
(see handout, “The Coming of the Kingdom of God in the Book of Acts”)

small group notes

SMALL
GROUP
assignment

#«Sessio

- ♦ Where are you on the spectrum of being biblically convinced that reconciliation and justice are essential, inseparable parts of the calling of the church in proclaiming the Gospel and pursuing the kingdom? Where's the theological wrestle for you? How interconnected, in your thinking are the issues of preaching grace, pursuing reconciliation and doing justice?
- ♦ What does it look like, in your setting, to mobilize your members for practical mission and ministry around these issues? What is the ethnic, socio-economic make-up of your region? What would it look like for the leadership to lead into, empower and unleash the members of the body for ministry in these areas?
- ♦ What kind of sacrifices do you think it would take for your congregation and leadership to own reconciliation and justice as core values of your church? How do you think this will require changing the current "wineskins" and practical structural modes of operation your congregation has in place?



pastor barry henning

New City Fellowship - St. Louis

Barry first pastored in Chattanooga, TN, which was a learning experience about the importance of the message of the Gospel as a source of power for God's church. After that he became involved with New City Fellowship of Chattanooga, a church committed to racial reconciliation and the needs of the poor, and was assistant pastor there for five years before starting New City Fellowship of Saint Louis. He is married to Ann and they have 4 adult children and 19 grandchildren.

plenary session 2

Power Dynamics in a Reconciled Church

1) Introduction

- a) Definition: The capacity of an agent (whether a spiritual being, a human person, a group or an institution) to act in the world and to influence the environment and the people around them.
- b) Four Kinds of Power
 - i) Individual
 - ii) Interpersonal
 - iii) Institutional
 - iv) Spiritual

2) On the Nature of Power

- a) Power is Derived
 - i) Doctrine of Creation
 - ii) Implication: Stewardship
- b) Power is Relational
 - i) Doctrine of the Trinity
 - ii) Implication: Interdependence
- c) Power is Generative
 - i) Doctrine of Imago Dei
 - ii) Implication: Sharing
- d) Power is Ambiguous
 - i) Doctrine of Sin
 - ii) Implication: Chastening

3) Power in a Reconciled Church

- a) A vigilant awareness of power (because it is inescapable)
- b) A commitment to stewarding power (because it is derived)
- c) A vision of interdependence as the goal of power (because it is relational)
- d) Practices of sharing power (because it is generative)
- e) A chastened posture toward power (because it is ambiguous)



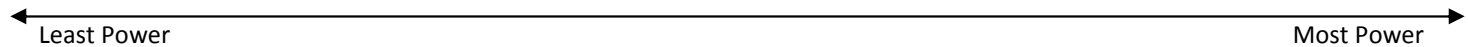
pastor abraham cho

Redeemer Presbyterian — New York

Abe Cho is an assistant pastor at Redeemer Presbyterian Church in New York City. He received his M.Div. as well as a Th.M. in Missiology from Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary in South Hamilton, MA. He currently resides on the Upper West Side with his wife and three children.

Interpersonal Power

- 1) Make a list of the different races or ethnic groups that are represented in your church.
- 2) Which of these groups would be perceived as having more power in an interpersonal, intercultural encounter? (Remember that men and women experience and perceive power differently.) Place them on a “Power Perception Spectrum” below:



Read the following and compare with your own reflections:

In reflecting on this sort of interpersonal power analysis, Eric Law reports his observations. He states that the people he has worked with indicate that the power position of white men and women of color tends to stay the same. White men are regularly perceived as powerful while women of color are regularly perceived as powerless. White women and men of color, however, experience a shift in power perception. White women are considered powerful when the interpersonal encounter is defined primarily around race or ethnicity because they are white. But as women, they are considered powerless when the encounter revolves more around gender. The men of color are more in the position of powerlessness in an interaction defined primarily by race or ethnicity, but they are considered powerful as men. Law writes:

“The point I want to make is that in a multicultural environment we need to be sensitive to where we are in the continuum of power perception, especially white women and men of color. Depending on the context, these two groups may be perceived as either powerful or powerless. Therefore, they need to learn to shift between practicing the spirituality of the cross when they are powerful and the spirituality of resurrection or liberation when they are powerless.”

Eric H.F. Law, *The Wolf Shall Dwell with the Lamb: A Spirituality for Leadership in a Multicultural Community*

Institutional Power

- 1) Where does institutional power reside in your church (i.e., where do decisions get made?, who sets the agendas?, who frames the vision, teaching, direction, etc. of the church)?
- 2) Analyze the ethnic/racial background of those who hold this institutional power. Is power being shared and used relationally across differences?
- 3) Are all individuals within this empowered body given equal access in discussions, decisions, etc. If not, how can those with more power actively share power and live out interdependence in that body?
- 4) What concrete practices would result if those holding institutional power in your church:
 - 1) were more aware of their power
 - 2) stewarded their power for the disempowered in your church
 - 3) disavowed independence and strived for interdependence within your church
 - 4) actively shared power believing in its generative nature
 - 5) had a chastened and cautious view of their own use of power

plenary session 3

Dismantling Cultural Presuppositions That Hinder Reconciliation and Justice

small group notes

SMALL
GROUP
assignment

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pastor randy nabors

New City Fellowship - Chattanooga

Randy Nabors grew up in the inner-city of Newark, NJ, in a church that had a strong commitment to the city and its people. Randy has served as the lead pastor at New City Fellowship in Chattanooga, TN, since 1976. He also serves as a U.S. Army Reserve Chaplain. Randy is a graduate of Covenant Seminary in St. Louis (M.Div), and has done graduate work in urban sociology and urban ministry at the College of Urban Life, Georgia State University and Westminster Theological Seminary in Philadelphia. He and his wife Joan have 4 children.

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