

# reconciliation & justice conference 2014

JANUARY 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup>

NEW CITY FELLOWSHIP ST. LOUIS



## INSIDE:

### WHAT, WHEN & WHERE

Welcome and General Information .....	2
Conference Schedule .....	3
Facility Map .....	4
Local Venues and Area Map .....	5

### TUESDAY

Plenary Address: Pastor Barry Henning .....	6
Session Notes .....	7
Plenary Address: Pastor Kenny Foster .....	8
Session Notes .....	9

### WEDNESDAY

Panel Discussion .....	10
Session Notes .....	11

# general information

## steering committee

### **Macklann Basse**

Africa Missions with Nations  
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 Network  
Chattanooga, TN

### **Jonathan Seda**

Grace Presbyterian  
Dover, DE

## Welcome!

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As we come together for this intimate conference to discuss, pray over, wrestle with and seek to grow in understanding and live out God's call for us to be both fully reconciled with one another in Christ and a people who humbly walk in kingdom justice and righteousness, my prayer is that the greeting "dear brothers and sisters in Christ" will resonate in us deeply by the power of the Spirit. Because this is who we are – God-declared brothers and sisters in His one family; all of us, equally, only members by adoption; all of us, equally, gifted in some way to fulfill our family calling to bless the nations by being the salt and light of the world; all of us, equally, needing each other.

We live in wonderfully, dramatically changing times when the nations of the earth are being tossed and turned from so many forces at work in the world that today 1 in every 35 human beings lives in a country not their own. What many have called "the browning of America" is no longer a future statistic but a present reality that is changing not only our cities but also our suburbs and rural communities.

Many of these new people groups come from oppressive conditions and arrive here, quite literally, with little more than the clothes on their backs. Even if they were educated and somewhat affluent in their own culture, they come to this complex, highly regulated culture and find themselves poorer than they ever imagined they would be in the supposed "land of opportunity."

In the midst of all this change and turmoil is the church of Jesus the Messiah, Lord of the nations. We have an unprecedented opportunity to see God's agenda of the reconciliation of the peoples and languages of the world united under the headship of Jesus Christ as one holy body, becoming the Temple of God's Dwelling in a way the world has never in its history been able to witness. We also have the opportunity, the obligation and the very practical need to see that unity come to expression by bringing the compassion and justice of the Messiah to the poor and the refugees in their flight.

May the Spirit of God and of Jesus the Messiah burn within us deeply to preach and live out the forgiveness of sins and the good, holy and just righteousness of God that is ours in Jesus Christ. May we humbly, together, learn from him as he speaks through each one of us with the diversity and gifting the Spirit himself has provided.

Your fellow servant of Christ,

Barry Henning

## wi-fi connection

- ◆ **Network:** NCF-1483
- ◆ **Password:** LastEnemy

## children's art sale

During the breaks, visit the children's art table in the foyer. Proceeds from all sales will benefit orphans in Congo and other countries. For more info contact Kristen Flores: [kristen@ncfstl.org](mailto:kristen@ncfstl.org)



# conference schedule

## tuesday, january 28

10:00 am - 10:30 am      Check-in

10:30 am -12:00 pm      Worship, Opening Plenary Session, Q & A

**"Reconciliation and Justice in the Local Church as God's Means of 'Redeeming" All Culture: A Study in Ephesians,"** *Barry Henning, New City Fellowship, St. Louis, MO*

12:00 pm -1:00 pm      Lunch (*in gym*)

1:00 pm - 2:00 pm      Breakout Sessions

2:00 pm - 2:15 pm      Break

2:15 pm - 4:00 pm      Worship, Plenary Session, Q & A

**"Practicing Justice in the Rural Church Community,"** *Kenny Foster, Grace Church, Dover, DE*

4:00 pm - 4:15 pm      Break

4:15 pm - 5:15 pm      Breakout Sessions

5:15 pm - 6:30 pm      Dinner (*in cafeteria*)

6:30 pm - 7:30 pm      Worship, Discussion and Prayer

## wednesday, january 29

8:30 am - 10:00 am      Worship, Plenary Session, Q & A

**"Reconciliation from U.S. Minority Perspectives,"** *Duke Kwon, Grace Presbyterian, Washington, D.C.; Irwyn Ince, City of Hope, Columbia, MD; Jacinto Hernandez, Covenant Presbyterian, Harrisonburg, VA; Leon Mukendi, New City Fellowship, St. Louis, MO*

10:00 am - 10:15 am      Break

10:15 am - 11:00 am      Breakout Sessions

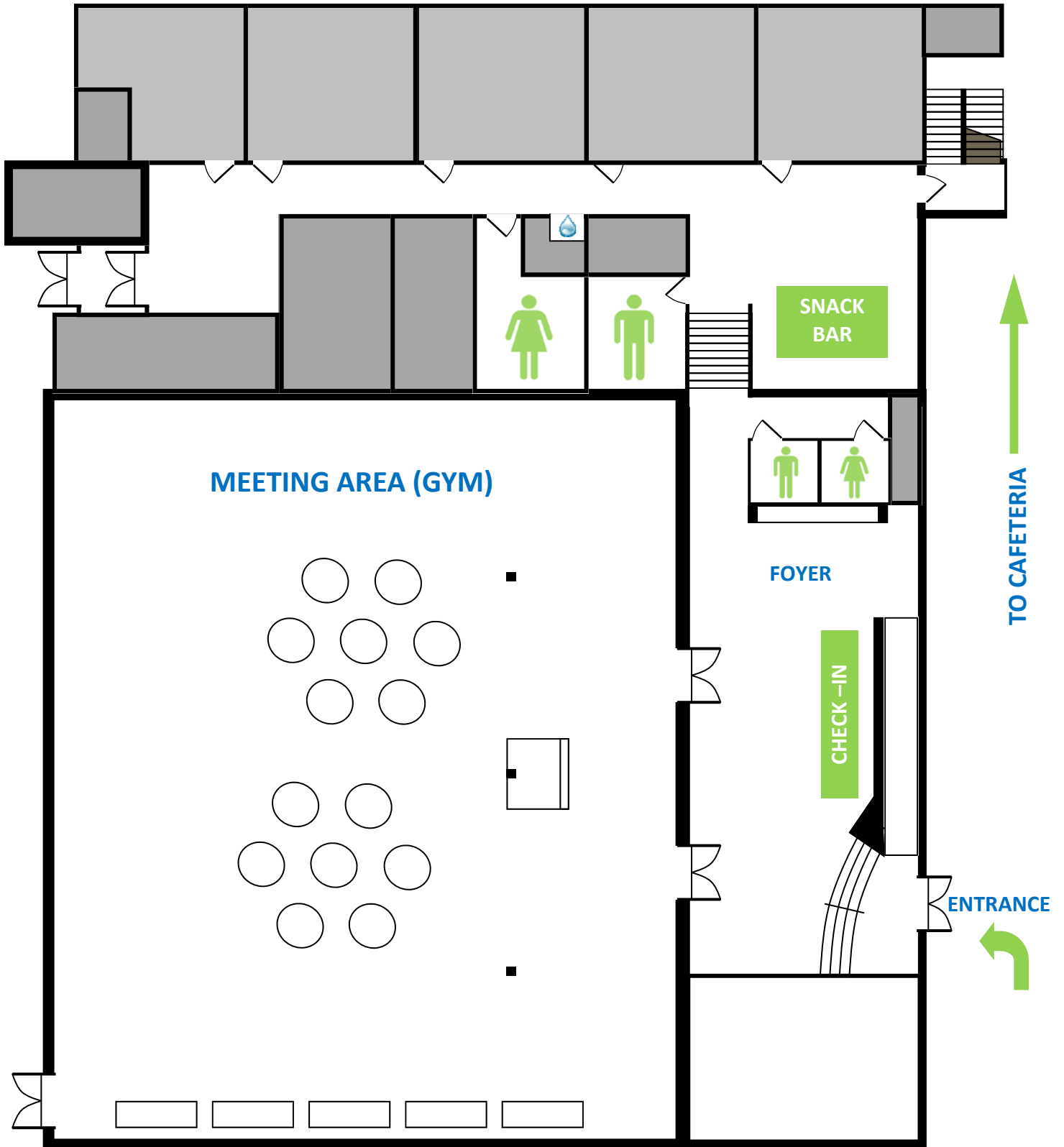
11:00 am - 11:15 am      Break

11:15 am - 12:00 pm      Large Group Discussion and Prayer

12:00 pm - 1:00 pm      Lunch (*in gym*)

1:00 pm - 2:00 pm      Worship, Prayer and Large Group Gathering; Dismissal

# map of facilities



# 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 Sugarfire Barbecue

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 QuikTrip

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

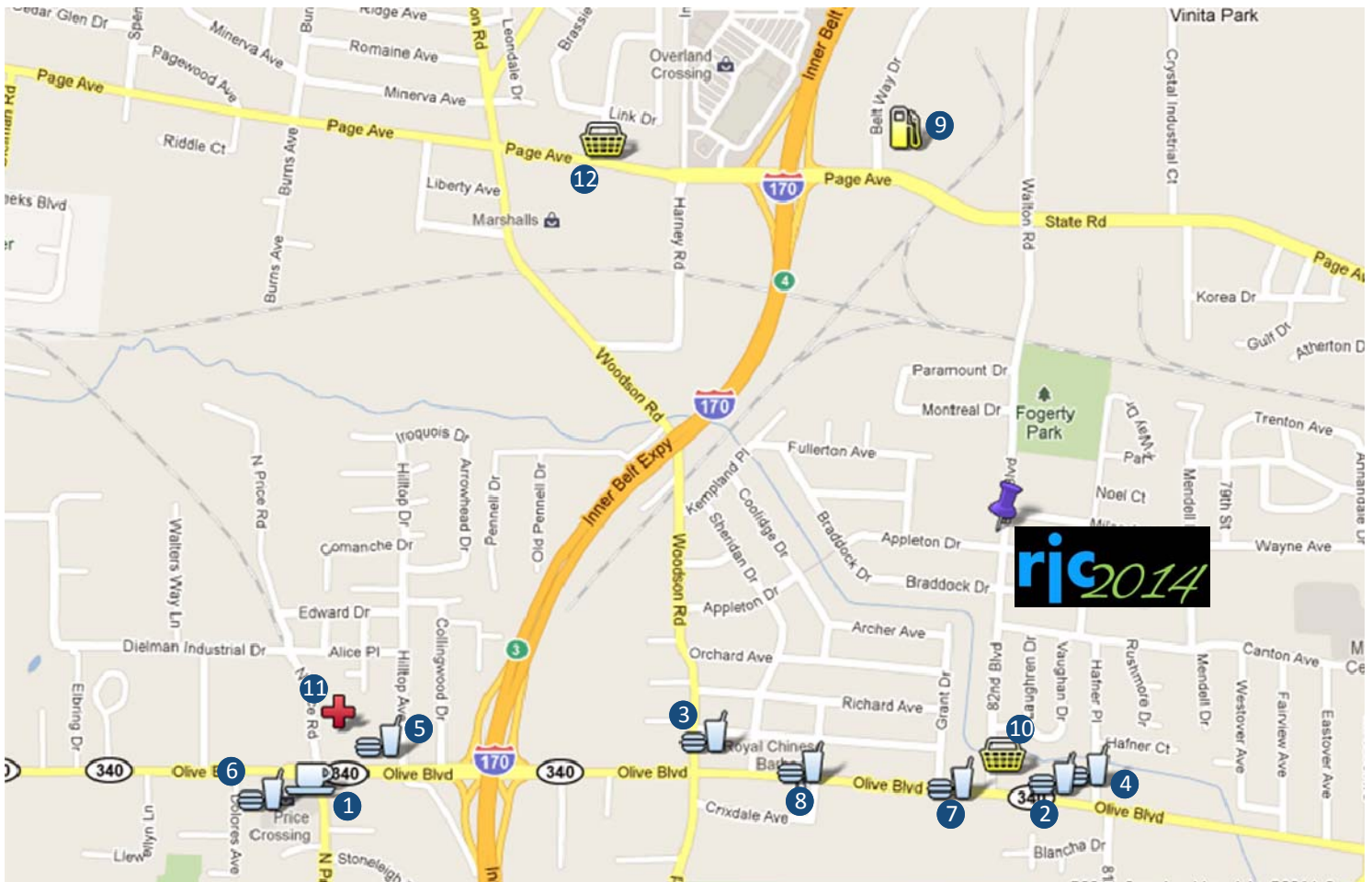
9141 Olive Blvd, 63132

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

### 12 Schnucks Grocery

9074 Page Blvd, 63114

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





# plenary session 1

## "Reconciliation and Justice in the Local Church as God's Means of 'Redeeming' All Culture: A Study in Ephesians"

*Pastor Barry Henning, New City Fellowship, St. Louis, MO*

### 1. Starting from the middle - Ephesians 3:2-13

An explanation in the middle of the letter, in the middle of a prayer, declaring how the "unsearchable riches of Christ" will be made known to all the powers of the world and the universe through the church, making known the multi-faceted wisdom of God by living as a reconciled community practicing covenantal, kingdom justice and righteousness

#### a. THE Vision-Mission statement of the church

- 1) Through the Gospel, heirs together as the people of God: a reconciled kingdom community seeing justice/righteousness being restored; leading to the final restoration of all things
- 2) Members of one covenant family: with all the same privileges of intimacy and responsibilities of being in the kingdom family
- 3) Sharing together in the "promise" in Christ Jesus: the forgiveness of sins and the anointing of the Spirit and the establishment of the rule and reign of Christ

#### b. The church as the centerpiece of God's manifested wisdom in Christ

- 1) Individual Christians in culture
- 2) The uniqueness of the body of Christ as the light of the world

### 2. Looking Back: Ephesians 1 and 2 - The foundational work of God in Christ to build this new "temple of God's Spirit"

- a. Election, Redemption and Predestination from a "body of Christ-living-out-reconciliation-and-justice" perspective - Ephesians 1
- b. The power of God's mercy and grace in Christ to produce a reconciled and just/righteous community - Ephesians 2

### 3. Looking forward: Ephesians 4, 5 and 6 The application of reconciliation and justice in the church

- a. The unity of the Body in the diversity of its gifting and the unleashing for its calling - Ephesians 4:1-16
- b. The justice/righteousness of the Kingdom versus the injustice/oppression of the world - Ephesians 4:17-5:20
- c. The humble, faithful restoration and demonstration of justice and righteousness versus injustice/oppression in the family, commerce, government and the unseen powers of the universe - Ephesians 5:21-6:20

# discussion notes

## Small Group Questions

1. While acknowledging vision and mission statements of churches can legitimately vary in their expression, some things are universal to all churches in all contexts. Are the themes of reconciliation and justice (in some form or other) a part of your church's vision?
2. What do you think the surrounding culture sees when they look at your congregation as it relates to these issues?
3. Do you think your congregation members have a sense of corporate election and predestination around the "uniting of all things under Christ" stated in Ephesians 1:9-10?
4. Does the preaching at your church, in some way, include the power of the Cross for this reconciliation and justice/righteousness?
5. Do the members of your church see themselves as being equipped and unleashed both personally and corporately to manifest God's reconciliation and justice?
6. Do the members of your church see the brokenness of sin as having an unjust/oppressive element, and do they see holiness and righteousness as acts of justice, in the sense of restoring what is right?
7. Do the members of your church think of humble, faithful servanthood and enduring the sufferings of Christ as essential to the advance of the kingdom?



# plenary session 2

## Practicing Justice in the Rural Church Community

*Kenny Foster, Grace Church, Dover, DE*

The Kingdom of God includes the city as well as the country. It is simultaneously urban and suburban, cosmopolitan and country.

What is true about reconciliation and justice for the metro area is equally true for the countryside as well. However, practicing reconciliation and justice in a rural church and community presents different challenges than those of the city. Having an agreed upon definition of justice and reconciliation is essential. Preaching the message of reconciliation and justice in a rural setting is imperative. Living the message is transformational! Adapting to your rural context while remaining true to the message requires patience and commitment to a long walk with rural folks.

This Plenary session on reconciliation and justice in the rural church and community will inform and instruct us on the protocol of heaven, a pattern for preaching, the power for sustaining change, a pattern for practice and a price to be paid.

The challenge for the church of the city and the church of the country is that they recognize their mutual need of Christ's grace and each other. Since the kingdom of God is both urban and rural then the city shouldn't forget the country and the country shouldn't forget the city.

### Small Group Questions

#### Small Town Reconciliation and Justice

##### I. The Protocol of the Kingdom

What socio-economic group does God chose to identify with in scripture?

Why is it important to recognize this protocol of the Kingdom? Why is it an important thing to remember in a rural context?

##### II. A Pattern For Preaching

What are the four elements of John's preaching in the wilderness?

Why is Jesus' coming an essential ingredient in preaching in a rural context?



# discussion notes

## III. The Power For Change

What are some of the challenges to reconciliation and justice in rural areas?

In what way does John's confession of his unworthiness set him up for a power shift?

## IV. A Practice for Social Living

How do you determine the issues of reconciliation and justice in your setting?

What are some things that the city and small towns have in common?

Is it better to make a big splash in a small pond or is it better to make small ripples to change the current?

## V. A Price to be Paid

How did John the Baptist get into trouble with the government?

Is it possible to pursue reconciliation and justice in a rural church and community and not get into trouble? (Explain your answer)

What price are you prepared to pay in the pursuit of reconciliation, justice and peace?

Dream of what the world would look like if country churches and city churches worked together to pursue reconciliation and justice.



# plenary session 3

## PANEL DISCUSSION

### Reconciliation from U.S. Minority Perspectives

*Duke Kwon, Grace Presbyterian, Washington, D.C.; Irwyn Ince, City of Hope, Columbia, MD;  
Jacinto Hernandez, Covenant Presbyterian, Harrisonburg, VA; Leon Mukendi, New City Fellowship, St. Louis, MO*



RJC 2013  
photo courtesy of Paul Heirendt



*Scripture tells of a heavenly city where chosen people from every nation and tongue gather together to worship God. When Jesus returns we will finally see this city perfected, the way it was meant to be. But even now we see vivid glimpses of it in our local congregations. In cities around the world, believers are joining hands across cultural barriers and lifting their voices together in praise of their Savior.*

*Many musicians leading this worship have been trained at New City Fellowship. This site hopes to further extend this movement, offering music, video, instruction, and reflection for those who want to take part in the vision of cross cultural worship.*

*Like the New City congregations that support us, we are passionate about the Biblical view of racial reconciliation through Christ. Yet we recognize the difficulty of cross-cultural ministry. Our unique histories and dreams, beliefs and biases, images and idioms, often seem at odds. But through the Lord our different lives interlock. In Christ we find the places where the pieces bind.*

*A pastor's gracious words or a deacon's loving deeds, in their own way, can help to heal racial fallout. Likewise, **a musician's songs of praise can unite peoples who were once divided.** The challenge of the cross-cultural worship leader is to search out the cultural angles that connect the grooves that go together.*



## **Songs from the 2014 Reconciliation and Justice Conference available for FREE download from [ncfmusic.com](http://ncfmusic.com):**

**Lord Receive My Praise** - Jeff Rakes, Grace Church, Dover DE [[jrakes@gracedover.com](mailto:jrakes@gracedover.com), [jeffrakes.bandcamp.com](http://jeffrakes.bandcamp.com)]

**Nitamwimbia Bwana (Ameniona)** – Swahili, composer unknown

**May the Mind of Christ My Savior** – Words by Kate B. Wilkinson, Music by James Ward, New City Fellowship – Glenwood, TN [[jward@newcityfellowship.com](mailto:jward@newcityfellowship.com), [jameswardmusic.com](http://jameswardmusic.com)]

**Jesus My Great High Priest** – words by Isaac Watts, Music by Kirk Ward, New City Fellowship – University City MO [[kirk@ncfstl.org](mailto:kirk@ncfstl.org), [kirkwardmusic.com](http://kirkwardmusic.com)]

**Be Still, God Will Fight Your Battles** – traditional African American

**Hear My Cry** – Kirk Ward, New City Fellowship – University City MO [[kirk@ncfstl.org](mailto:kirk@ncfstl.org), [kirkwardmusic.com](http://kirkwardmusic.com)]

**Anyataka**- Lingala, composer unknown

**Baraka Za Mungu (Upande, Upande)** – Swahili, composer unknown

**Hold To God's Unchanging Hand** – words by Jennie Wilson, music by F.L. Eiland, public domain

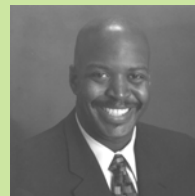
Almost all the other songs from the conference can be purchased through [praisecharts.com](http://praisecharts.com) or *the African American Heritage Hymnal* ([amazon.com](http://amazon.com))

*The next New City Music Conference is tentatively scheduled for summer 2015*



**pastor barry henning**  
**new city fellowship, st. louis, mo**

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 four adult children and 19 grandchildren.



**pastor irwyn ince**  
**city of hope church, columbia, md**

Irwyn lives in Columbia, MD where he helped to plant City of Hope Church in 2007. Irwyn had strong views on race prior to becoming a Christian, and the Lord, through his word, confronted those views. This developed in him a "holy-discontent" with the mono-ethnicity of most local churches. So, City of Hope is striving, by grace, to pursue the belief that the gathering of people from diverse backgrounds, ethnicities and cultures is the natural outworking of a rich covenantal theological commitment. In those moments when Irwyn isn't pondering the implications of this "rich covenantal theological commitment," he's enjoying the suffering and glory that comes from a great Crossfit workout at a local Crossfit gym! He and his wife Kim have been married 21 years and have four children, Jelani (21), Nabil (17), Zakiya (15), and Jeremiah (9).



**pastor kenny foster**  
**grace church, dover, de**

Kenny Foster is a husband, father, and Pastor currently serving at Grace Church (PCA) in Dover, DE. Kenny serves as an Associate Pastor with a focus on Community Outreach. Pastor Foster also serves as the Executive Director of a non-profit, Christian community development organization, named "Grace For Dover."



**pastor jacinto hernandez**  
**covenant presbyterian,**  
**harrisonburg, va**

Jacinto was born and raised in Veracruz, Mexico. He studied at the Seminario Nacional Presbiteriano de México in Mexico City. He and his wife, Sandy, have been married 27 years and have two daughters. Jacinto and his family have lived in Virginia and served at Covenant Presbyterian Church since 2002, when they moved to the U.S. Jacinto enjoys reading, listening to music, spending time with his family, and participating in triathlons.



**pastor duke kwon**  
**grace dc - meridian hill,**  
**washington, dc**

Rev. Duke Kwon spent his early years in Southern California, then journeyed to the East Coast for his undergraduate studies at Brown University (A.B., Political Science). After working at a management consulting firm for a time, he began his formal training for pastoral ministry at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, where he received a Master of Divinity and Master of Theology (New Testament) degrees. Duke served on the staff of a university-based ministry (RUF) and local church in Providence, RI until 2004, when he joined the Grace DC community as part of the Downtown congregation's pastoral team.



**pastor leon mukendi**  
**new city fellowship, st. louis, mo**

Leon was born in a small city, Kamina, in Congo. Baptized in the Catholic church at the age of 11, his real commitment to Jesus took place in August 1988 in a local Pentecostal church. God, by His grace, moved Leon from the war-torn country of Congo to the United States in May of 2000, and he came to NCF just one week after his arrival in the U.S. Leon is married to Adolphine Mujinga, and they have 12 children.