

2013 Piedmont NC Come to the Table Conference

Program with links to Speakers' Websites and Resources

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA - GREENSBORO
ELLIOTT UNIVERSITY CENTER
1400 SPRING GARDEN STREET, GREENSBORO, NC 27412
Tuesday, February 19th

INTERFAITH PERSPECTIVES ON FOOD AND FARMING

The Theology of Food & Agriculture: How Faith Can Guide and Inspire our Work

How does faith inspire and guide our work on issues of hunger, health and agriculture? Hear stories about the practical application of diverse faith perspectives from leaders in this movement

Laura Beach, [Longtown United Methodist Church](#)

Joy Williams, [Partners in Health and Wholeness](#)

Rabbi Guttman, [Temple Emanuel](#)

Anna Awartani, [Zaytoon Mediterranean Café](#)

Facilitator: Frank Dew, [Greensboro Urban Ministry](#)

10:00 - 11:15 AM: BREAKOUT SESSION I

Understanding Food Insecurity in the Piedmont

Many families in central North Carolina don't know where their next meal is coming from and many more are only a paycheck or health problem away from needing emergency food assistance. Hear from hunger relief ministries and those who work with food insecure families about the root causes and effects of food insecurity in the Piedmont and learn how ministries and organizations are addressing this challenge.

Don Milholin, [Out of the Garden Project](#)

Jenny Hudson, [Interactive Resource Center](#)

Facilitator: Frank Dew, [Greensboro Urban Ministry](#)

- Use the "[Map the Meal Gap](#)" in America to find information about food insecurity in your region.
- Learn more about getting involved with [summer food programs](#)

Understanding Agriculture in the Piedmont

Get an overview of agriculture in the Piedmont from people who've worked here with farmers and farmer organizations for years. This session will cover a range of topics including socially disadvantaged farmers, challenges that face small and family farms in the region, and statewide initiatives to support environmental farming practices. You will leave with practical suggestions for how to better support family farmers in your community.

Dorothy Barker, *Operation Spring Plant*

John O'Sullivan, [Center for Environmental Farming Systems \(CEFS\) at N.C. A&T](#)

Karen McAdams, [McAdams Family Farms](#)

Facilitator: Archie Hart, [NC Department of Agriculture](#) and [RAFI-USA](#) Board Member

- Read the [Come to the Table CSA Fact Sheet](#) to learn more about how community supported agriculture can help support local farmers

Supporting Farmers, Supporting Families: How Can Local Food Be More Accessible?

Learn what the challenges are to making fresh and local food accessible and what creative solutions organizations and farmers have come up with to make healthy local food affordable and practical for all members of their communities. You'll hear about local and regional initiatives as well as hearing from a nationally recognized model in Philadelphia.

Haile Johnston, [Common Market Philadelphia](#)

Margaret Gifford, [Farmer Foodshare](#)

Manju Rajendran, [Vimala's Curryblossom Café](#)

Sarah Blacklin, former [Carrboro Farmers Market](#) Manager

- Learn more about farmers markets accepting SNAP from the resources listed in [Come to the Table's Farmers' Market Factsheet](#)
- See a bio of Haile on the IATP fellows [website](#) and video of Haile at the ["Food, Faith, and Justice" Conference](#)

Addressing Racism in the Food System (#1)

Anyone working to create an accessible and healthy local food system will inevitably run into issues of race and class during the process. This session will be guided by experienced trainers who provide a framework for thinking about race and class in the context of food and agriculture and can give suggestions for how to address racism in the context of your work.

Malik Yakini, [Detroit Black Community Food Security Network](#)

Cristina Rivera Chapman, [Tierra Negra Farm](#)

Tahz Rufus Walker, [Tierra Negra Farm](#)

Jes Kelly, Educator

- See a bio of Malik on the [IATP Fellow website](#) and view videos of him in [Detroit](#) and an [excerpt](#) from his keynote address at the Come to the Table Conference

11:30 - 12:45 PM: BREAKOUT SESSION II

Community Gardening 101

Community gardens are gaining ground as a way to feed and educate families, connect members to Creation and encourage fellowship within congregations and across racial, economic and generational lines. Find out what it takes to get a garden started and how to keep it growing in the years to come.

Karen Neill, [Guilford County Cooperative Extension](#)

Tim Gwyn, [Beloved Community Center](#)

Facilitator: Mary Jac Brennan, [Forsyth County Cooperative Extension](#)

- Read the [Come to the Table Community Gardening Fact Sheet](#) for helpful resources and links
- Check out Cooperative Extension's [Community Garden website](#) and a useful [slideshow](#) from Cooperative Extension presenters at the Eastern NC Come to the Table Conference.

Community Organizing 101

Food and farming can bring people together, but starting a ministry that crosses denominational, political, racial and economic lines can be a challenge. Learn the basics of organizing a ministry or project that builds relationships and engages diverse communities.

Will Robinson, [RAFI-USA](#)

Manju Rajendren, [Vimala's Curryblossom Café](#)

Addressing Racism in the Food System (#2)

Anyone working to create an accessible and healthy local food system will inevitably run into issues of race and class during the process. This session will be guided by experienced trainers who provide a framework for thinking about race and class in the context of food and agriculture and can give suggestions for how to address racism in the context of your work. (This session is a repeat from the morning Addressing Racism session)

Malik Yakini, [Detroit Black Community Food Security Network](#)

Cristina Rivera Chapman, [Tierra Negra Farm](#)

Tahz Rufus Walker, [Tierra Negra Farm](#)

Jes Kelly, Educator

Farmworkers: Supporting Those Who Harvest Our Food

Those who labor in agriculture are essential to bringing food to our tables, but the living and working conditions of farmworkers are not widely understood or acknowledged. Learn some of the facts about the lives of those who work in the fields and find out how your ministry or organization can support a harvest of dignity.

Wesley Morris, [Beloved Community Center](#)

Ana Maria Reichenbach, [Farm Labor Organizing Committee \(FLOC\)](#)

Facilitator: Nadeen Bir, [Student Action with Farmworkers \(SAF\)](#)

- View FLOC's [powerpoint](#) presentation
- Read [Oxfam's Report](#) on Human Rights' Abuses in the Tobacco Industry and learn more about the [Farmworker Advocacy Network \(FAN\)](#)

2:00 - 2:45 PM: KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Gain a national perspective on issues of hunger and agriculture by learning about the inspiring work of the Detroit Black Community Food Security Network and an exciting local food aggregation and distribution model in Philadelphia. Malik Yakini and Haile Johnston will discuss how lessons learned in their communities are relevant to North Carolina

Malik Yakini, [Detroit Black Community Food Security Network](#) & [IATP](#) Fellow

Haile Johnston, [Common Market Philadelphia](#) and [IATP](#) Fellow

3:00 - 4:15 PM: BREAKOUT SESSION III

Recipes for Change: How Congregations Can Nourish Body and Soul

As people become aware of the connection between health and food, many congregations are making health central to the practice of their faith and ministry. Learn about resources for clergy and lay people interested in health ministries and hear some examples of projects in the area.

Willona Stallings, [Partners in Health and Wholeness](#)

Bishop Donagrant L. McCluney, [Southerners on New Ground \(SONG\)](#)

Emily Ford Yoon, UNC-Chapel Hill and [Carolina Core](#)

Facilitator: Shannon Axtell Martin, [Partners in Health and Wholeness](#)

Finding Support for Your Ministry

The economic downturn and the volume of new ministries and projects make it difficult to secure grant funding. That's not always a bad thing. Learn when applying for a grant makes sense, when it doesn't and how to find creative and useful support within your community.

Monica McCann, [Resourceful Communities Program](#)

Donna Newton, [Guilford Nonprofit Consortium](#)

Jay Leggett, First Baptist Church in Lumberton, NC

Facilitator: Edna Rodriguez, RAFI-USA

- Read Resourceful Communities Program's handouts here: "[Tips for Relationship-Building with Funders](#)", "[The Search for Grants Sources](#)", and "[Grant Proposal Checklist](#)"
- Check out the consortium's [resource page](#) for handouts on best practices in non-profit management

Youth Organizing: How Young People are Changing the Food System

Farming and gardening offer opportunities for young folks to understand where their food comes from, become more engaged in their church and community and learn critical life skills. Youth aren't the only ones benefitting from these programs; the impact that young people are making on the food system is significant! You will hear from three compelling projects that engage youth in food and agriculture.

Chas Edens, [Anathoth Community Garden](#)

Nilisha McPhaul, [SEEDS](#), Durham

Xena Erkisen, [Interfaith Food Shuttle](#), Raleigh

Facilitator: Santos Flores, [SEEDS](#), Durham

Farming Opportunities for Immigrants and Refugees

The Piedmont has large communities of recent immigrants and refugees, many of whom come from agricultural backgrounds and have expertise in farming, community health and organizing. Learn about local grassroots projects that help these communities navigate some of the obstacles here in food production and marketing.

Kelly Owensby, [Transplanting Traditions Farm](#)

Der Xiong, Immigrant Agriculture Program Coordinator at [Catawba Cooperative Extension](#)

Kwol Ksa, [Montagnard Women's Learning Group](#)

Astrid Lumbu, Congolina Farm

Facilitator: Andrew Young, CNNC/UNCG + Guilford College

- Check out photos and materials from the session on [Andrew's blog](#).

Come to the Table is a project of the Rural Life Committee of the North Carolina Council of Churches, coordinated by RAFI-USA with support from The Duke Endowment.

Come to the Table: <http://www.rafiusa.org/cttt> &

<http://www.facebook.com/cometothetablenc>

North Carolina Council of Churches:

<http://www.nccouncilofchurches.org>

The Duke Endowment: <http://www.thedukeendowment.org>

Rural Advancement Foundation International-USA: <http://www.rafiusa.org>

