

METRO DISTRICT VITALITY

New Places for New People | Revitalization | Leadership Development | Social Justice

128 Faith Communities | 70K Members Strong

Laity Academy

Leadership Development - Revitalization

The **S**piritual **A**cademy for **L**eading **T**ransformation (**SALT**) is an eight-month program designed to identify, inspire, train, and support a new cohort of spiritually-mature lay people able to partner with clergy to lead effective change in congregations and communities. The program consists of five pieces: (4) **R**etreats, (3) **S**aturday sessions, a **L**eadership **P**roject, **c**ollaboration with clergy, and small groups. Cost per participant: \$200 (scholarships are available). We presently have 30 seats available.



Website and Online Application:

<http://wnccumc.org/spiritual-academy-for-leading-transformation>

APPLICATIONS DUE **August 1, 2018**

RETREATS

The Cohort will gather four times for a retreat experience: two overnight retreats at Caraway Conference Center and two full-day Saturday retreats at a local church. The purpose of these gatherings will be to inspire, engage, and equip participants with excellent training around transformation leadership, practices, and understanding Adaptive Challenges. The retreats will explore topics like Leading in the Kingdom of God, Leading Self, Leading Others, Leading Change, etc.

Dates: September 15, and November 16-17, 2018; February 1-2, and April 6, 2019

SATURDAY SESSIONS

Participants will gather for **3 Saturday Sessions**, to process and discern content presented at retreats, to network and build authentic relationships while discovering new learning, as well as establishing a community of peers who can help each other translate leadership principles into their contexts.

Dates: October 13, 2018; January 12, and March 9, 2019 at University City UMC, W. T. Harris Blvd, Charlotte

LEADERSHIP PROJECT

Participants will covenant to identify a leadership challenge around which they are being called to make a difference. This could be the launching of a brand new ministry or the development of something already in place. Throughout the SALT process, projects are presented as "Case Studies" for group input and shared learning. If you have additional questions please contact one of the following Lead Team Members...

Mrs. Jatana Royster - jatanaroyster@gmail.com,

Mr. Bruce Fowler - brucemfowler@gmail.com

Dr. Stephanie Moore Hand - shand@wnccumc.org

"To equip the saints for the work of ministry, for the building up the body of Christ." - Ephesians 4:12-16

Connecting with our Communities

New Places for New People

FIFA WORLD CUP RUSSIA 2018



BRING A FRIEND!

FREE PIZZA



You don't want to miss it !!!

Come and watch the game with US !!



**Local:
Hawthorne's
pizza
6621 Monroe rd
Charlotte NC**

**June 17th
1:30 PM**

**Sponsor : Metro Distric
UMC**

World Cup Soccer Party

Do you love soccer? Do you have a passion for connecting with your neighbors? If so, JOIN US Sunday, June 17, @1:30pm to engage with our **Brazilian brothers and sisters** living throughout the Charlotte community as we together watch the FIFA World Cup Soccer match between Brazil and Switzerland.

Meet us at Hawthorne Pizza, 6621 Monroe Rd. Kickoff is scheduled for 2:00 p.m. Great Pizza! Great Fellowship as we together, CHEER for BRAZIL! Invite a friend! Hope to see you at Hawthorne Pizza off Monroe Road. GO BRAZIL!

If you have questions please contact one of the following Lead Team Members...

Samuel Ferreira - Samludiger@gmail.com
David Ortigoza - ortigoza10@gmail.com
Nathan Arledge - nathan@mpumc.org
Stephanie Moore Hand- shand@wncumc.net

#MetroDistrict + #LightOfChristUMC + #MyersParkUMC + #SouthCharlotteMissionalNetwork

Racial Healing - Social Justice initiative

Social Justice - Revitalization



Rev. Mark Andrews, Metro District Superintendent, asked the question has the church made tremendous progress in racial healing and social justice in the 50 years since the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., and the merger of the Central Jurisdiction Methodist Church during his first month as DS of the Metro District, almost two years ago. Out of these conversations grew new revitalization movement called, the [Metro District Racial Healing and Social Justice Initiative \(RHSJi\)](#). RHSJi is an intensive six-month experience designed to engage individuals from Metro District faith communities in courageous conversations about race and social justice in 2018 America and in the local church.

Beginning in April 2018, 37 individuals from 13 Metro District Churches – including white, black and brown congregations - began this journey together. The Cohort's journey included a guided bus tour of Charlotte led by the Community Building Initiative, a two-day workshop with Race Matters for Juvenile Justice, and an eight-hour

facilitated conversation with The Beloved Community Center leaders from Greensboro. Reflective intentional conversations and experiences will occur during the summer months of July and August, with a culminating retreat in September. *Being and Doing*. The individual Cohort participants will prayerfully covenant together, to discern, development and implement strategic action plans. As Dr. Stephanie Moore Hand - Metro District Vitality Strategist reminds us, "Our work together cannot be just about intellectual learning and planning. It also must include deep prayerful discernment, and ACTION!"



Reflections

It has been a rich and challenging **William Horn** from **Central UMC**, the RHSJi has been an enlightening fellowship, sharing and growth which conversations and feelings in a manner. The consciousness and these sessions give me great passion, for positive change towards God's local communities, the WNCC, and

"Being involved in the RHSJi has and eye opening experience for me, participant as well. We have taken a uncovered many of the systemic that affect brown and black people gave a commission to the church, *make disciples of ALL people.*" I

be that catalyst of transformation because of racism that is prevalent within the church. I pray that as we continue on this path to understanding and enlightenment, this movement of *Courageous Conversations*, the ability to *listen to one another*, the balm of *Racial Healing* and the actions towards *Social Justice* will spread throughout our denomination, into Christendom as a whole, and into the uttermost parts of our society. As follower of Jesus, we are still called to be world changers; let's get to work!" - **Rev. Alexis Anthony, pastor - Great Vision UMC**

Thanks to Kelly Mcrell, First UMC, Charlotte, Jared Steward-Ginsberg, Dilworth UMC, Joyce Brooks, Selwyn UMC, and Dr. Stephanie Moore Hand, Metro District Congregational Vitality Specialist, who all serve as the leadership team for the RHSJi. We are grateful to the Duke Endowment and the Metro District Congregational Vitality Team for their support for this initiative. We are grateful to **Rev. Mark Andrews** for his passion, vision and collaborative spirit. It is the intent of the District to host another RHSJ experience in the first quarter of 2019. We, the church, must have uncomfortable *courageous conversations* and *real life experiences* in order for *Racial Healing - Social Justice* and equity to occur. God's Church is the HOPE of the world.

For more information on the 2019 RHSJi Cohort, please contact one of the RHSJi Team Leaders...

igniting,

Mrs. Joyce Brooks - Team Leader
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Ms. Kelly Mcrell -
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Mr. Jared-Steward Gingsburg
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Dr. Stephanie Moore Hand
shand@wnccumc.org

Ready, Set, Let's GO!



experience, so far. **Mr. Charlotte** says, "For me, journey of uncommon hassurfaced challenging powerful and positive shared intent arising from actionable ideas, and hope vision of equality in our the larger UMC."

been a thought provoking and I believe for each journey through time and biases, to some of the ills in today's society. Jesus "Go into all the world and believe we have failed to



"The gospel of Christ knows of no religion but social; no holiness but social holiness." ~John Wesley