

## **VOICE Training on Wellspring Wednesday**

### **Dates:**

Four Wednesdays: May 10, 17, 24 and 31

5:30 PM Supper and Community Time (\$10.00)

6:30 PM Worship

7:00 PM Class per syllabus below.

### **Syllabus:**

#### **VOICE, Your Political Power in Election 2017**

Learn the principles and practices by which VOICE, with your help, will organize political power in the run-up to this year's Virginia elections, the results of which will have national impact.

#### **Session 1 May 10**

##### **First Principles of Community Organizing**

First half of IAF DVD The Democratic Promise, Saul Alinsky beginnings

- first rule of change: movement - friction - heat - controversy
- failure of politics
- organize around self interest, passion
- move from protesting to organizing existing social networks -- faith organizations
- relational organizing
- success stories

#### **Session 2 May 17**

##### **Proven Practices of Community Organizing**

Second half of DVD, introduction of IAF structure and discipline

- shift from confrontation to negotiation and compromise
- power with vs power over
- corporate - government - people dynamic
- action cycle: listen - research - build power - action - evaluate - listen
- listen to problems; research issues: actionable and winnable
- insights of experiential learning cycle (Kate)
- power analysis
- iron rule of organizing
- success stories

#### **Session 3 May 24**

##### **Radical Power Building Tools**

- insights of relational organizing
- public vs private relationships
- craft of relational conversations
- roll play and critique
- listening sessions: to identify issues and leaders
- skills to arrange and facilitate listening sessions
- success stories

#### **Session 4 May 24**

##### **Training Into Action**

- VOICE plan for 2017 November election
- recap of problems/issues
- offense/defense
- GOTV objectives
- Metro-IAF national issues
- plans to build power: twinning, listening and relationship building
- UUCA plans and commitments
- individual commitments
- success stories