



North Carolina  
Council of Churches

Keeping Sacred Spaces Sacred  
September 20-23, 2016



Dear Friends,

Please save the date for one of the following workshops this fall across North Carolina. Registration is limited to the first 50 people at each site. Workshops will run from 10 am–2 pm:

- Tuesday, September 20; St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 401 East 4th Street, Greenville
- Wednesday, September 21; First Presbyterian, 305 East Main Street, Durham
- Thursday, September 22; Selwyn Presbyterian, 2929 Selwyn Avenue, Charlotte
- Friday, September 23; First United Church of Christ, 20 Oak Street, Asheville

The polarization of our nation and our communities in this election year is perplexing and painful. Adding to the frustration for many of us are the troubling and sometimes bizarre ways politics and religion are entangled. The North Carolina Council of Churches believes that when churches are used for political purposes and when politics is used to advance contentious religious dogma the integrity of both is undermined. We have, therefore, partnered with Americans United for Separation of Church and State to offer faith leaders a workshop on Church and State relations. “Keeping Sacred Spaces Sacred” will engage the following issues:

1. What can faith communities and faith leaders legally discuss about the social/political issues of this campaign season?
2. What current legislation is pending in the US Congress and in the NC General Assembly that pertains to the relationship of church and state?
3. How can those called to be faith leaders enable their communities to see the “political” issues through the lens of faith and become advocates for the good of all, especially for “the least of these”?

Registration is \$15 to cover coffee, lunch, and snacks. Please use this link, which includes payment options: <http://goo.gl/forms/XHtkxlxcq6x2LA2u1>.

Please join your ecumenical and interfaith colleagues for this important discussion at this critical time for our country.

Sincerely,

Jennifer E. Copeland  
Executive Director  
North Carolina Council of Churches

Bill Mefford  
Faith Outreach Specialist  
Americans United  
for Separation of Church and State