

The Reverend Johnny W. Wray to Lead 2008 REAL PEOPLE, REAL FAITH Seminar, January 25-26

The 2008 Real People, Real Faith Seminar will feature Johnny Wray, the Administrative Director of and the Minister for the Week of Compassion of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) at Sandy Springs Christian Church, on Friday and Saturday, January 25th and 26th.

Since October 1992 Johnny has led and interpreted our Disciples benevolent ministries through the Week of Compassion, offered on our behalf and in close cooperation with Church World Service, One Great Hour of Sharing, and other denominational partners and organizations. Together we have provided emergency aid wherever disasters occur and participated in funding developmental projects. During that time he has traveled in five continents in order to interpret Week of Compassion to Disciples.

In 2007, Week of Compassion lists grants to over 250 natural and human-caused disasters including floods and storms in North America, the tsunami in the Indian Ocean, and the wars in Bosnia and Darfur; and to 96 development and humanitarian projects, primarily in Third World countries.

Prior to moving to Indianapolis, Johnny served congregations in Tennessee, Kentucky, and his native Mississippi. He graduated from Lexington Theological Seminary, where he majored in social ethics and from Millsaps College in Jackson, Mississippi, where his major was political science.

**Register now for the
2008 REAL PEOPLE, REAL FAITH,
Friday and Saturday,
January 25th and 26th.
\$25.00 for both days; \$15.00 for one day.
\$12.50 for youth
Limited scholarships are available
on request.
Child care provided.**

Please contact the church office, 404.256.2582, for more information or to make your reservation before Wednesday, January 23rd or list your reservation on the Real People, Real Faith display in the Centrum. We look forward to sharing this event with you.



Johnny W. Wray (right) speaking with a colleague in Darfur.

“A Sartoriology* of Compassion: A New Wardrobe in an Old World”

Scripture Texts: Colossians 3:1-4, 9b, 10a, 12-17
John 13:3-9, 12-17

FRIDAY, JANUARY 25th, 6:00 pm to 8:45 pm

Dinner at 6:00, followed by the First Presentation: Johnny Wray will lay out his personal faith and thoughts about compassion, focusing on the texts above and Paul’s exhortation to the Colossians (3:12) to clothe yourselves in garments of faith, the first of which is compassion.

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Real People, Real Faith continued

SATURDAY, JANUARY 26th, 8:30 am to 12 noon

Doors open at 8:30, followed by the Second Presentation at 9:00: Johnny will describe how he sees compassion working in our community and world.

Break with light brunch, followed by the Third Presentation: Johnny will offer vignettes of people from around the world who have powerfully and poignantly embodied compassion.

A period for q/a will follow each presentation.

* "Sartoriology" is the conceptual understandings of the craft of tailors and seamstresses as they transform fabrics into clothing.

The mission of the Real People, Real Faith Seminar, now in its fourth year, is "to bring dynamic and faithful Disciples teachers and leaders to the congregation of the Sandy Springs Christian Church and to our sister congregations and to inspire us to grow in our faith, understanding, and discipleship."

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WEDNESDAY WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY Room 207, 10:00 am, led by Landa Simmons

The Wednesday Bible study resumes on January 16th. The class will listen to and discuss Dr. Bart Ehrmann's lecture series on early Christianity entitled, "From Jesus to Constantine." Dr. Ehrmann teaches at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill and has received numerous teaching awards. This lecture series has already received rave reviews from the group. Everyone is welcome.

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REMINDER: If you enter Amazon.com by clicking on a book or other link **through the Georgia Disciples website: www.gadisciples.org/bookstore**, you can search for other items in addition to books (including electronics, clothes, even groceries)... and **Camp Christian receives the commission.**

Adult Christian Education

It's not just for children and youth anymore.

Sunday Classes - 10:00 am

What the classes are studying during - Winter 2008

**BELIEVERS SHARING,
Campbell-Stone Sandy Springs
Facilitator: Barb Duren**

The class is studying the Gospel of Luke. In January study theme is "The Awareness of God's Instruction." The February theme is "God Summons Us to Respond."

**CHALLENGER CLASS, Rooms 201-203
Co-Facilitators/Teachers: Landa Simmons and
Dick Mitchell**

The class continues its examination of the Christian life with a study of the question posed by Jesus in each of the Gospels: "What must I do?" During the Fall 2007 the class examined the 10 Commandments, This winter and spring it will take a close look at different New Testament answers to this question to Jesus.

**GATEWAY CLASS, Room 205
Facilitator, Shelton Blackburn**

The class is considering future directions.

**GENESIS CLASS, Room 120
Facilitator: Teresa Bensch**

The class is currently studying World Religions, using Lewis M. Hopfe's book titled World Religions as their guide along in with several other sources. The study will include Hinduism, Buddhism, Chinese and Japanese Religions, Judaism, Islam, and various sects within Christianity.

**OMNI (Open Minded to New Insights)
CLASS, Room 214 (Church Parlor)
Teacher: Frank McDonald**

Having completed their study of the Gospel of John, the class will be initiating a study of Paul's letters, looking through 1st century Mediterranean socio-cultural-religious lenses.

**PEOPLE of the PARENTHESES, Room 207
Facilitator: Bob Roper and led by class members**

The class explores various topics, relating them to spirituality and getting feed-back from class members who together represent centuries of living.

Larry Steinmetz, Editor