



**North Carolina Council of Churches**

# 2015 Legislative Seminar

**Greenwood Forest Baptist Church**

**110 Southeast Maynard Road, Cary**

**April 14, 2015 9:15 a.m.-3:30 p.m.**

**(Check-in begins at 8:30 a.m.)**

Held every two years, the Seminar equips people of faith with the information they need to be advocates on issues before the NC General Assembly.

The Rev. Dr. David Forbes, Dean of the Shaw Divinity School, will lead opening worship, and three workshop sessions will follow. Closing worship will be led by Greenwood Forest pastor the Rev. Ben Boswell.

The cost is \$15 for students, \$25 for all others, and that includes arrival snacks and a boxed lunch by the Interfaith Food Shuttle's Catering with a Cause.

Register at [www.ncchurches.org](http://www.ncchurches.org) or by calling 919-828-6501.



**Workshop Session I – 10-11 a.m.**

**Revenue Shortages, Spending Cuts** – Tazra Mitchell, Policy Analyst, and Cedric Johnson, Policy Analyst, NC Budget and Tax Center

**Immigration: Neighbors Among Us** – Ivan Parra, Executive Director, NC Latino Coalition, and Jennie Wilburn, Program Associate, NC Council of Churches

**Public Higher Education: A Time of Challenges** – Kevin FitzGerald, Senior Vice President and Chief of Staff, University of North Carolina System, and David Rice, Executive Director, Higher Education Works

**The Environmental Protection Struggle** – Marilyn Marsh-Robinson, Partnerships and Alliances Manager, Environmental Defense Fund

**Labor and the Workplace: Standing up for Workers** – Adam Orlovich, Campaign Manager, NC AFL-CIO

**Guidelines for Grassroots Advocates** – George Reed, Executive Director, NC Council of Churches

**Workshop Session II – 11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m.**

**Revenue Shortages, Spending Cuts** – Tazra Mitchell, Policy Analyst, and Cedric Johnson, Policy Analyst, NC Budget and Tax Center (Repeat)

**Public Education and the Privatizers** – Ann McColl, Attorney, and Chris Fitzsimon, Director, NC Policy Watch

**The GLBTQ Dimension: Policies at Stake** – Chris Sgro, Executive Director, Equality NC

**Crossroads for Voting Rights** – Isela Gutiérrez, Associate Research Director, Democracy NC

**Medicaid: The Expansion Debate** – Jonathan Oberlander, Professor of Social Medicine and Health Policy & Management, UNC School of Medicine and Gillings School of Global Public Health

**Legislative Decisions Affecting NC's Judiciary** – Ran Coble, retired from the NC Center for Public Policy Research

**Workshop Session III – 1:45 -2:45 p.m.**

**Helping Progressives Keep the Faith** – the Rev. Dr. Rodney Sadler, Associate Professor of Bible, Union Presbyterian Seminary

**Gerrymandering: Consequences and Cures** – Jane Pinsky, Director, NC Coalition for Lobbying and Government Reform

**Our Teachers: Seeking More Respect** – Rodney Ellis, President, NC Association of Educators

**The Governor's Role** – Chris Fitzsimon, Director, NC Policy Watch

**Contact the Council**

**Call: 919-828-8601    Email: [info@ncchurches.org](mailto:info@ncchurches.org)    Visit: [www.ncchurches.org](http://www.ncchurches.org)**