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# NEWS FOR THE COMMON GOOD

Minnesota Council of Churches

January 20, 2011



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## News

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### Fill 300 Food Shelves

*Mission impossible? Not if you help.*

Focus on the statewide fight against hunger. Plan now to host a food drive as part of the March Campaign sponsored by Minnesota FoodShare. [Plan it. Promote it. Register and Report it.](#)

### Call for Art in "Search for Enough"

**Deadline for art entries—April 29, 2011**

As part of a campaign to discuss the concept of Enough—What is enough? Who has enough? Access to Enough for all—artists are invited to submit their depiction of ENOUGH—in painting, photography, story, drama, poetry, song, video, sculpture, dance, fiber. Sponsored by A Minnesota Without Poverty and partners. For more information see

[www.mnwithoutpoverty.org/resources/documents](http://www.mnwithoutpoverty.org/resources/documents)

### "Enough for All" Gathering Highlights Video

If you missed the statewide gathering of A Minnesota Without Poverty last month, see the highlights in this [great 4-minute Youtube video](#).

MINNESOTA  
COUNCIL OF CHURCHES



People of faith  
strengthening communities

**Get involved:** Adult forums, guest preaching, volunteer opportunities, and advocacy training.

Stay in touch with the [Minnesota Council of Churches](#) on **Facebook**.

## Upcoming Events

### Leading Adaptive Change Workshop

**Saturday, January 29, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.,**

**Normandale Hylands UMC, 9920 Normandale Blvd., Bloomington.**

For laity and clergy to learn from Gil Rendle about the leadership demanded by the culture and mission field. You will become familiar with the concepts of adaptive change and how the times we are in do not respond to a simple quick fix or trying to do what we have always done better or harder. The new leadership is about becoming a learning community and creating the space for the community to discover a new path forward. \$10. Register at <https://events.minnesotaumc.org>.

### Interfaith Forum with Congressman Keith Ellison

*The Generosity of Inclusion: Everybody Counts, Everybody Matters*

**Thursday, February 24, Noon – 1:00PM**

**Westminster Presbyterian Church**, Nicollet Mall and 12<sup>th</sup> Street, Minneapolis  
President Obama recently called on the citizens of our nation to elevate expectations for civil discourse in this country and to speak with each other in ways that will heal, not wound. At this forum Representative Keith Ellison will offer his own message of tolerance, understanding, and civility. Music precedes the presentation at 11:30AM; public reception with Representative Ellison follows at 1:00PM. Free and open to all. Co-sponsored by Minnesota Council of Churches. Questions? Contact Susan McKenna, 612-332-3421, or

giveMN.org



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## REGISTER NOW: Interfaith Youth Day of Service

**Monday, February 21, 2011**

**Blake School Upper School, 511 Kenwood Parkway, Minneapolis**

Calling all youth and youth leaders! Join the Interfaith Youth Leadership Coalition for the sixth annual Twin Cities Interfaith Youth Day of Service. The day includes an opening rally with speakers and entertainment, service projects with many local organizations, and workshops on creative expression and leadership for a multi-faith, multi-cultural world. Transportation to and from service sites and lunches and snacks are provided. Since this event fills up quickly, reserve a space for your group now, by February 11!

This event is designed especially with youth 7th-12th grade in mind, but volunteers of all ages are welcome to join us (children under the age of 12 must be accompanied by a parent/guardian). Registration materials are available at [www.spacc.org/interfaith](http://www.spacc.org/interfaith) or by contacting Meghan Paul-Cook at [mpaul-cook@spacc.org](mailto:mpaul-cook@spacc.org) or 651.789.3852. Interested in volunteering behind the scenes at the event? Please contact Meghan. The Interfaith Youth Leadership Coalition is a program of the Saint Paul Area Council of Churches in collaboration with the Jewish Community Relations Council of Minnesota and the Dakotas and the Islamic Civic Society of America.

## Facilitating Difficult Discussions

**Tuesday, March 22, 2011, 9:00 AM - 3:30 PM,  
United Theological Seminary, Strobel Room (McMillan #209)**

Learn about the dynamics of polarized conflict and practice powerful tools that promote compassionate and respectful communication. Explore how to bring a peaceful and faith-filled presence to conflict, allowing disputes to deepen rather than harm the fabric of relationship in our communities. Instructor: Rabbi Amy Eilberg. Fee: \$60 / \$30 students. [Downloadable registration form](#).

## Advocate

### JRLC Day on the Hill

**Thursday, February 17, 2011, 8:30 – 3:30**


**Saint Paul RiverCentre and Minnesota State Capitol**

Each year hundreds of Minnesotans from across the state join come together to speak with their legislators about issues of poverty, fair taxation, human rights, health care, children, and more. JRLC members from the Islamic, Jewish, Protestant Christian, and Catholic communities join their voices in sending a message to our elected officials that people of faith demand fair and just policy that protects and benefits all people. [Click here to register](#).

## Resources

### Anti-Racism Resources

Often we think of racism only on a personal level, but an ongoing injustice in the Church and in our society is the sin of systemic racism. It plagues us by giving privilege to some at the expense of others. Through sharing our stories and learning how racism still affects us today, together we can dismantle systemic racism and become a church that welcomes all equally. [Visit the new Episcopal anti-racism web page](#) to find more information about this topic, including access to the updated training manual.



For more information contact:  
Minnesota Council of Churches  
122 W Franklin Ave, Ste 100  
Minneapolis, MN 55404  
612-870-3600  
[news@mchurches.org](mailto:news@mchurches.org)

*More than 1 million people of faith strengthening communities.*