



For Immediate Release

Media Contact: Matt Garfield, Director of Communications, Covenant Presbyterian Church, 704-804-7565, matt.garfield@covenantpresby.org.

Charlotte, N.C. – December 20, 2016 In October, Charlotte received a wake-up call: As demonstrators took to the streets to call attention to racial injustice, many people awakened to the reality that our community is not of one mind about who we ought to be as a city. The officer-involved shooting of Keith Lamont Scott prompted difficult conversations in our homes, workplaces and houses of worship.

In response, Covenant Presbyterian Church, CN Jenkins Presbyterian Church and the Women's Inter-Cultural Exchange will host a series of multi-cultural community dialogues at Covenant intended to elevate the voices of diverse Charlotteans. Together, we will seek a deeper understanding of implicit bias and systemic racism in our city and the broader culture. Our goal is to build trust and expand opportunity regardless of race, income and status.

Wednesdays January 11, 18, 25, February 1 and 8. The public is welcome.

6:30 – 8 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall at Covenant Presbyterian Church, 1000 East Morehead Street

Session 1: Who are We? Hearing the voices of diverse Charlotteans: Speakers will represent American Indian, Asian, Black, White, Latino/Hispanic and mixed race individuals

Session 2: Who Am I? Understanding implicit bias: Dr. Vernon Gettone will facilitate an interactive session to explore and understand personal bias.

Session 3: Charlotte's Wake-up Call: What we found when we dug deeper: Speakers Toussaint Romain and Brenda Tindal will give historical and contemporary views on racial inequality and white privilege in Charlotte.

Session 4: Investing in a Better Future: Affordable Housing in Charlotte: Speakers Terry Shook, Hugh McColl and Rev. Dr. Robert Scott will share their own commitments to and models for investing in affordable housing as an avenue for addressing racial inequality and economic opportunity.

Session 5: What Have I Learned? What do I do now? Spiritual and moral leaders of diverse backgrounds will offer ways for participants to make their own commitments to building trust and opportunity across race and culture.

Childcare available from 5 – 8 p.m.

Hot Dinner and Salad Bar, served from 5-6:30 p.m.

\$5 for children, \$7 for adults with a household maximum of \$25.

Make dinner reservations (appreciated, but not required) to reservations@covenantpresby.org or 704 333 9071.

Collaborative Series hosted by Covenant Presbyterian Church and presented by Women's Inter-Cultural Exchange
www.covenantpresby.org/ www.wi-ce.net



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About the Women's Inter-Cultural Exchange

The Women's Inter-Cultural Exchange, founded in 2006 and based in Charlotte, North Carolina, builds bridges of social capital among women of diverse cultures, fosters cross-cultural awareness and develops infrastructure for community dialogue, engagement and programs. For more information, go to: www.wi-ce.net. The Women's Inter-Cultural Exchange offers programs that promote thought-provoking exchanges around the topics of diversity, the importance of racial/ethnic identity trust between groups and how to develop cultures in which everyone can thrive. Beyond the participant's individual growth, key benefactors are also the businesses, corporations and communities where these women work and live.