



NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

11TH NATIONAL WORKSHOP SET ON CHRISTIAN-JEWISH RELATIONS

WASHINGTON--With Liberty and Justice for All? Jews and Christians in the American Experience is the theme of the 11th National Workshop on Christian Jewish Relations. The workshop will be held at the Omni Hotel and Convention Center, Charleston, South Carolina, March 27-30, 1989.

Churches and synagogues in North and South Carolina have joined forces to hold the workshop, the oldest and most prestigious interfaith event in North America. Held every 18 months, the workshop attracts scholars, theologians and religious leaders from around the world.

The Carolinas workshop, first ever in the southeast, will take place in a city that lays claim to the oldest Presbyterian, Lutheran, Roman Catholic and Southern Baptist churches in the United States. Charleston is regarded as a community with a unique history of religious tolerance.

The theme of the 11th workshop will focus on the common heritages and challenges which Jews and Christians face as

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NATIONAL CATHOLIC OFFICE FOR INFORMATION

1312 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE, N.W. - WASHINGTON, D. C. 20005

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Americans. It will explore the interplay of religion, culture and society in the American story.

Plenary sessions will probe such topics as "Religion and the American Experience"; "Religion and the Shaping of America"; "America and the Shaping of Religion"; "Scripture, Tradition and Justice in the American Experience"; "Religion, Power and Powerlessness in Today's America"; and "Jews and Christians in Search of a Just Society."

National sponsors for the Workshop include the National Conference of Catholic Bishops (NCCB), the National Council of Churches, the Southern Baptist Convention Home Mission Board, the American Jewish Committee, the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, and the National Conference of Christians and Jews. Locally, the event will be sponsored by more than twenty religious bodies and educational institutions in North and South Carolina.

A Steering Committee representing churches and synagogues throughout the Carolinas has been involved in planning the National Workshop for more than three years.

Among those having accepted invitations to speak at the Workshop are Joseph Cardinal Bernardin, Archbishop of Chicago; Dr. Albert Vorspan, Vice President of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations; Dr. Henry Levinson, Professor of History at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro; Father John

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Pawlikowski of Chicago, internationally recognized scholar in Christian-Jewish relations; Dr. Henry Feingold, Professor at Baruch College (City College of New York); Sister Nadine Foley, O.P., Prioress of the Adrian Dominican Sisters in Adrian, Michigan; Dr. Susanna Heschel, daughter of the late Abraham Heschel and Professor at Southern Methodist University; Dr. Timothy Smith, Professor of History at Johns Hopkins; Rev. Nancy Hastings-Sehested, minister of Prescott Memorial Southern Baptist Church in Memphis; Dr. PHEME Perkins of Boston College; Rabbi David Saperstein, Executive Director of the Religious Action Center in Washington, D.C.; and noted holocaust scholar, Dr. Deborah Lipstadt of Los Angeles.

In addition to the plenary lectures, the National Workshop will include some two dozen topical seminars and five academic symposia. More than 60 scholars and religious leaders have been invited to lead small group sessions on religious and social issues ranging from peacemaking in a nuclear age to the psychological roots of prejudice.

Several special events are also planned, including a multi-media celebration of America's religious traditions; and a symposium led by Southern writers on religion and the South.

Recent workshops, held in Boston, St. Louis, Baltimore and Minneapolis, have attracted hundreds of scholars and religious leaders of national and international reputation. Between

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1,000 and 1,200 participants are expected to attend the Charleston event. The National Chairperson for the Carolinas workshop is Dr. Eugene J. Fisher of the NCCB Secretariat for Catholic-Jewish Relations. For information, contact General Chairperson, Rev. Russell B. Norris, P.O. Box 3663, Columbia, SC 29230 (803/786-7115).

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