

Lehigh County Conference of Churches: Justice and Advocacy

The *Growing* Economic Divide: Which Side Are You On?

Saturday, October 29, 2011

8:30 am - 3:30 pm

Zion's Reformed UCC

620 Hamilton Street

Allentown, PA 18101



United for a Fair Economy: **Popular Education Workshops**
with **Steve Schnapp**, UFE Education Coordinator

The Economic Divide: Which Side Are You On?

Many people feel stressed by the current economic climate in America – high unemployment, housing foreclosures, rising cost of health care, and cutbacks in public services. Our program uses role play and a number of “popular education” techniques to explore the roots and consequences of the economic divide in America and how we can be engaged in promoting greater economic equality.

Program:

- **The Growing Divide Workshop**
- **Biblical Roots of Economic Justice: Sabbath, Jubilee and God's Economy**
- **Closing the Racial Wealth Divide Workshop**
- **Closing the Divide: Planning for Action**

Continental breakfast and lunch are included (suggested donation: \$5)
(students or unemployed: \$2, or what you can afford)

Sponsored by the Lehigh County Conference of Churches - Justice and Advocacy Committee and Lehigh Valley partner organizations.

Space is limited and preregistration is required – by Oct. 26

*See details and program updates at wealth.pprj.org or contact the LCCC office at 610-433-6421 or Bob Walden at ja-msc@ppjr.org.

The *Growing* Economic Divide: Which Side Are You On?*

Saturday, October 29, 2011

Zion's Reformed United Church of Christ

8:30 am **Registration;** displays, coffee/tea & conversation

9:00–12:00 **Welcome,** Devotions, Introductions, Overview

The Growing Divide Workshop (led by Steve Schnapp) reviews recent changes in U.S. income and wealth distribution and examines policies - or "rule changes" - that have fueled inequality. Lays out a range of strategic initiatives and specific and immediate steps we can take to reverse the growing gap between the rich and everyone else.

Biblical Roots of Economic Justice: Sabbath, Jubilee and God's Economy

12:00-12:45pm **Lunch**

12:45-3:30 **Closing the Racial Wealth Divide Workshop** (Steve Schnapp)
This workshop helps participants critically examine the way in which race shapes the distribution of resources and privilege in the U.S. We use several participatory activities and dialogue to analyze the role of government in supporting (for people of European descent) or blocking (for people of color) the accumulation of assets and, in effect, helped create economic apartheid in the U.S. The workshop also reviews strategies, campaigns, and actions that will help close the racial wealth divide and promote create greater economic equality in general.

Closing the Divide: Resources & Planning for Action

Where do we go from here - organizing for follow-up in the Lehigh Valley.

* This is a tentative schedule; please check the web announcement for program and schedule updates, and for program details, directions, and parking information, at wealth.pprj.org or Email: ja-msc@ppjr.org or call the LCCC office at 610-433-6421.

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