



October 25, 2016 Connections Newsletter Edition  
Click on the **headlines** below to read any of these stories.



## Coming Together

### **Sankofa Journey to Harmony: Pursuing Racial Harmony in our Relationships**

We have a dream that pastors of the Twin Cities would pursue racial harmony by exploring in depth our troubled past so we can move forward and fulfill our calling to oneness as the Body of Christ. Transform Minnesota is launching its first-ever Sankofa Journey to Harmony visiting Civil Rights sites in February 2017. Read about how this spiritual journey impacted the friendship between Rev. Terrance Rollerson and Pastor Andy Gray, pastors at the The Urban Refuge Church.



### **Pastor's Column: Three Truths As I Stare At My Ballot**

Dr. Matthew St. John, lead pastor of New Hope Church in New Hope writes about three truths he knows this election season: "God is in charge, and His say is final. I must respond to what my Spirit-shaped conscience dictates, and offer charity to those whose choices differ from mine. I must honor the candidate that is victorious."



### **Star Tribune: Choice of Trump vs. Clinton Leaves Evangelicals Reeling**

Here's an excerpt of **Carl Nelson**, President of **Transform Minnesota's** interview for a recent Star Tribune article: *"For a long time, we've placed too much hope in government to solve the injustices of society. The church never should have become so dependent on government to achieve its goals," said Carl Nelson. Evangelicals care deeply about immigrants, the poor, the vulnerable. But they're also committed to the sanctity of life and their religious freedoms. That "puts us at odds with both political parties," Nelson said.*



## Holy Sexuality

### **Videos of Dr. Christopher Yuan's Testimony and "A Christian Response" Talk + Practical Suggestions on Ministering to the Gay Community**

With his powerful testimony of God's faithfulness, grace and ability to personally transform his life, Dr. Christopher Yuan shared with more than 300 people at Hope Community Church on how his life experience and spiritual transformation taught him how Christians need to respond to homosexuality in a compassionate, redemptive manner. Watch the videos of Dr. Yuan's testimony, and his talk on how Christians should respond to homosexuality. Also read Dr. Yuan's practical suggestions on how to minister to Christians with homosexual feelings & how to share Christ with those in the gay community.





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## Church Impact

### Engaging our Divided Nation - Q Commons Minneapolis

As we are on the brink of one of the most controversial Presidential elections in recent history, we are seeing more and more division among Americans. The following speeches from Q Commons Minneapolis presenters brought hope, restoration, humility and grace as we engage our divided nation.



### Living with Conviction in a Pluralistic World

Rob Vischer, Dean of the University of St. Thomas School of Law remarks on how the remedy for our polarized political culture is the restoration of relationships. Vischer encourages civil friendships that are lived out in a spirit of solidarity with one another; emphasizing that our political life is shaped not by election results, but by the attitudes of citizens.

### Graceful Convictions: Living Well with One Another When We Disagree

Meghann Kantke, an attorney at Gray Plant Mooty in Minneapolis remarks on the value of expressing kindness and graciousness, while staying true to our convictions. She taught how the Jesus way is grace and truth - of real kindness and honest humility without compromising our convictions. We have to believe that everyone - even people we disagree with - are worthy of kindness and that they have something to teach us.

## Events Calendar

- **November 1 Live Dead: a call to action**, Cedar Valley Church, Bloomington 7-8:30pm
- **November 1 Provoke and Inspire Seminar**, Wooddale Church, Loring Park Campus 6:30-9pm
- **November 4-5 Crisis Management Seminar**, Bethlehem Baptist Church North Campus
- **November 5 Clean Comedy Night**, Revive Brooklyn Park Church 7pm
- **November 5 Make It Zero**, Trinity Church, Lakeville 9am-Noon
- **November 5 Better Together - A Love & Money Story**, Music Box Theater, Mpls 6-9:30pm
- **November 9 Clergy Training Program**, Living Word Christian Center, Brooklyn Park 8am-4pm
- **November 9 Entangled in Email**, Elim Church, Minneapolis 8:30-11am
- **November 10 TCAMP: Contextualization - How far can & should we go?** Location TBD 12-1:30pm
- **November 17-19 Lee Strobel Events**, Bethel University and First Baptist Church Cambridge
- **November 19 Marriage Booster Retreat**, Landmark Event Center, Bloomington 9am-5pm

### Who We Are

Transform Minnesota exists to connect Christian leaders, develop Biblical solutions and equip churches that transform communities.