

**“RESPONSES TO GREENSBORO’S HOUSING ISSUES
FROM A SPIRITUAL PERSPECTIVE”**

**Facilitated by Gary Paul Kane
Executive Director, The Center to Create Housing Opportunities
Wednesday Evenings: September 12 – October 10**

Week 1: September 12 – “Housing 101 – An Introduction to Housing and Housing Needs”

Who are the people who are homeless, and why? What are the housing options for lower income people - public housing, low income housing, affordable housing, workforce housing? What about people living in deteriorated neighborhoods or substandard housing? What homeownership opportunities are available?

Greensboro’s housing needs. Causes and perpetuation of poverty. Empowerment.

Gary Paul Kane, Cindy Higgins,

Week 2: September 19 – “Rehabilitating Housing and Restoring Neighborhoods”

Afternoon tour of substandard housing and declining neighborhoods provided by the Greensboro Housing Coalition (by advance reservation). Evening discussion: What is being done to rehabilitate housing and restore neighborhoods? How do RUCO and “Housing Greensboro” contribute? Examples: Eastside Park, Southside, Willow Oaks. What can be done to restore neighborhoods and what will it take? How can we contribute toward empowerment of people living in substandard housing or deteriorating neighborhoods?

Healthy Homes Tour of Greensboro Neighborhoods 3:00-6:00 p.m.

Panel – Moderator: Andy Scott; Panelists: Beth McKee Huger, others

Week 3: September 26 – “Homelessness”

Who are the people who are homeless and why are they homeless? What resources exist for those who are on the verge of becoming homeless or who have become homeless? Shelters – who is served, who isn’t? Is there a place for those who are inebriated? What about single men and couples – single room occupancy housing? What is ‘Chronic Homelessness’ and what is being done to address it? What social services must be coupled with housing? What are some of the best practices to alleviate homelessness?

Guest Speaker – Martha Are

Week 4: October 3 – “Affordable Housing”

What is “affordable housing?” Public housing; federally subsidized housing; workforce housing; homeownership. What can be done to provide better housing for lower income people? How can homeownership opportunities be provided? What are the obstacles to the development of “affordable housing?” What is being done to accommodate the immigrant and refugee population? What can be done to help lower income people build wealth through housing?

Guest Speaker – Evan Covington-Chavez (Self-Help), others

Week 5: October 10 – “Does Westminster Have a Role?”

Discerning our long term local outreach focus. How do we respond to the challenge of housing and empowerment in the context of a spiritual journey? Various implementation models. What are other communities doing to address housing needs? Discuss helping people access jobs, micro businesses; education; economic empowerment; social services. Formation of the Gate City Company in Greensboro. Next steps.

Guests: Paul Valdes, others