

GLAD TIDINGS

YOKEFELLOW FALL TRAINING SESSIONS...

by Sarah Carver

Even though we are in the Summer season, with heat and humidity prominent, it is time to start thinking about Fall. Our Yokefellow Executive Committee and Board of Directors hope that you will join us for something new – 3 Fall Training Sessions! Have you ever attended a Yokefellow training session? Has it been a long time since you've attended one? Are you new to Yokefellow and want to learn more about our ministry? **Please make every effort to attend a training session this coming Fall.** It will be a time to learn, meet new people, share in food and fellowship, and reaffirm the importance of our ministry together. Yokefellow coordinators and volunteers are invited to attend these sessions. One will be held in the Mountain/Western region of the state, one in the Central/Triangle region of the state, and one in the Coastal/Eastern region of the state.

The Annual Meeting will take place at the Coastal/Eastern training session this year (*see more information about this below*). You do not need to attend all three sessions. Simply choose the one closest to you! Further details about each of these training sessions will be provided in a letter sent to each of you as well as in this newsletter. In order to have an accurate headcount for each session, it is important that you RSVP to the Yokefellow office at least 2 weeks prior to the training session. We look forward to seeing you in the Fall!

May your Summer season be full of fun, rest, family, friends, and time away! Grace and peace to you all.

WHAT ABOUT THE ANNUAL MEETING?

As many of you know, the Yokefellow Annual Meeting has usually been held in Burlington each October. The Board of Directors has voted to try something new – sort of a “movable Annual Meeting”. As I mentioned above, we are going to offer 3 Fall training sessions. This year, the Annual Meeting will take place at the Coastal/Eastern region training session. It will follow the training and will last for about an hour. In 2017, the Annual Meeting will take place at the Mountain/Western region training session. And in 2018, the Annual Meeting will take place at the Central/Triangle region training session. This is what we mean by “movable”. The Annual Meeting will rotate from one region to another each year. We hope this will provide everyone a chance to attend an Annual Meeting that is closer to them over the next several years. If you are interested in attending the Annual Meeting this year, you are certainly welcome to come to the training session that occurs prior to the meeting, or you can select to only come to the meeting. Refreshments will be provided.

Where are the Fall Training Sessions Going to Be Held?

In order to lessen the amount of travel for everyone, we invite you to choose the training session closest to you. You are, of course, welcome to attend a training session outside of your region if you wish. **Please RSVP at least 2 weeks prior to the training**, by calling the Yokefellow office (336-724-9801) or emailing (sarah.yokefellowpmnc@gmail.com). **Each session will take place from 10:30am-12:30pm and refreshments will be provided at no cost to you.**

Central/Triangle Region – Saturday, September 10th – at Asheboro Community Church in Asheboro (Address: 801 Sunset Avenue, Asheboro, NC 27203).

Coastal/Eastern Region – Saturday, October 22nd – at Christ Episcopal Church in New Bern (Address: 320 Pollock Street, New Bern, NC 28560). The Annual Meeting will follow at 1:00pm.

Mountain/Western Region – Saturday, November 12th – Details regarding the venue are still in the process of final confirmation, but the location will likely be First Baptist Church in Morganton (Address: 502 West Union Street, Morganton, NC 28655). If there are any changes, those of you who live in this region will be notified.

News and Notes...

Do you have an interest in serving on the Yokefellow Board of Directors? We have several vacant spots to fill this summer. If you are interested, please call or email the Yokefellow office (336-724-9801), or you may contact the president of the board, David Morton, at morton10@centurylink.net. The Board meets 3 times a year (once in the Winter, once in the Spring, and once in the Summer) and requires a commitment of regular and active attendance.

Currently we do not know who the Yokefellow Coordinators are at the following institutions: Brown Creek Correctional, Catawba Correctional, Foothills Correctional, Marion Correctional, Rutherford Correctional, Columbus Correctional, and Sampson Correctional. If you know who one or more of these coordinators are, please call or email the Yokefellow office to inform us. Thank you.

Are you a new volunteer? Are you a volunteer who has recently moved to another address or city in North Carolina? Have you filled out a Yokefellow Volunteer Information Form? Please request a copy of the form from your Yokefellow Coordinator, or call the office to have one sent to you. We need to keep our directory of volunteers updated and in order for us to do that, we need your current contact information. This is very important because we can only communicate with you and send you important information about Yokefellow if we have a way to contact you!

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