



The People's Platform: A Seat At the Table

Sunday, August 16, 2015

3:00 PM – 4:30 PM

www.noahtn.org ♦ #thedecision



The Temple Church

3810 Kings Lane ~ Nashville, TN 37218 ~ 615-876-4084

Rev. Darrell Drumwright, Senior Pastor



Nashville Organized for Action and Hope | PO Box 331144 | Nashville, TN 37203

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Program Agenda

Moderators: Rev. Edward L. Thompson & Greg Easterly

- 3:00 **Welcome** Rev. Darrell Drumwright, The Temple Church
- 3:02 **Acknowledgements** Rev. Edward L. Thompson
- 3:05 **Blessing**
 - Rev. Carmen Emerson ----- Greater Nashville Unitarian Universalist Congregation
 - Rashed Fakhruddin ----- The Islamic Center of Nashville
 - Martin Sir----- The Temple (Congregation Ohabai Sholom)
 - Rev. W. Antoni Sinkfield----- Greater Bethel AME Church
- 3:07 **Purpose of the Meeting** Greg Easterly
- 3:10 **A Brief Word from Nashville’s Vice-Mayor Elect** David Briley
- 3:13 **Meeting Guidelines** Elizabeth Waites

3:15	Candidate Opening Statements (90 seconds per candidate)	
3:19	Affordable Housing Task Force Synopsis	Paulette Coleman
3:21	Affordable Housing Task Force Questions	Greg Easterly (3 questions, 2 minute answers per candidate)
3:36	Criminal Justice Task Force Synopsis	Pat Halper
3:38	Criminal Justice Task Force Questions	Rev. Edward L. Thompson (3 questions, 2 minute answers per candidate)
3:53	Economic Equity Task Force Synopsis	Benny Overton
3:55	Economic Equity Task Force Questions	Greg Easterly (3 questions, 2 minute answers per candidate)
4:10	Last Question	Rev. Edward L. Thompson “Why should NOAH voters choose you over your opponent?” (2 minutes per candidate)
4:15	Candidate Closing Statements (90 seconds per candidate)	

- 4:18 **Contributions and Membership Request** Rev. W. Antoni Sinkfield
- 4:27 **NOAH’s Call to Action & Closing** Maura-Lee Albert



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Background Information for NOAH Questions

AFFORDABLE HOUSING & GENTRIFICATION

Nashville's growth has caused an incredible housing crisis – with low-income and middle class families unable to find housing that is indeed affordable. Residents in many professions that pay more than minimum wage, such as teachers, police officers, bank tellers and nurses are struggling to find affordable housing.

PROPOSALS FOR RESOLUTION

Preserve and produce affordable housing through recurring funding for the Barnes Housing Trust Fund, inclusionary housing policies, and creative uses of federal, state and local funds. ❖ Prevent displacement through home repair assistance, property tax relief for longtime residents, homeowner education and other efforts. ❖ Create a structure of accountability for affordable housing needs, such as an adequately staffed Mayor's Office of Affordable Housing. ❖ Appoint strong advocates for affordable housing to the Board of the Metro Development and Housing Agency and the Metro Planning Commission.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Metro jails should not be a mental health facility, yet over 25% of the inmates are mentally ill.

65% of the misdemeanor court cases in 2013 were for drivers' license cases, clogging the jail & courts. These violations often mount up to thousands of dollars in fines (which go up if the offenders can't appear in court due to work schedules or lack of notification), preventing people from legally driving to work.

Tensions exist between some communities & the police largely because 44% of drug arrests and 39% of traffic stops involve African-Americans, which make up only 28% of our population. NOTE: Studies show that all races use drugs at similar rates.

In 2013, 44% of MNPS students were African-American, but African-American students made up 72% of out-of-school suspensions and 77% of expulsions – overwhelmingly for non-violent violations of school rules – placing more children into the “school-to-prison” pipeline.

PROPOSALS FOR RESOLUTION

Reduce Metro Jail population & General Sessions docket by 50% with alternatives to arrests, such as problem-solving solutions and restorative-justice options. ❖ Eliminate racial disparities in police stops, school suspensions & Juvenile Court referrals

ECONOMIC EQUITY & JOBS

Income & wealth inequality are at levels not seen since before the Great Depression. In Nashville, poverty has been increasing, with 20% of our population in poverty. Low & moderate-income communities are not benefitting from the city's economic growth.

Council District 19 has downtown's amazing growth and the highest poverty rate in Nashville. In addition, 16 of the 35 Council Districts show major growth in poverty.

Metro offers millions in tax incentives to companies to expand or relocate here but often the details of such deals, including jobs created & training provided for local residents, are not clear.

By 2019, 115,000 new jobs will be created here and the Nashville Chamber of Commerce reports there are not enough skilled workers to fill these jobs.

PROPOSALS FOR RESOLUTION

Promote transparency in public projects and incentives given to companies, to show amounts received and jobs created. ❖ Institute local-hiring and training requirements to fill jobs with formerly underemployed and unemployed Davidson County residents through high-quality training programs, apprenticeships and existing educational programs. ❖ Attach tangible and measurable community benefits to projects in high-poverty areas that will aid low- and middle-income residents through equitable neighborhood economic development. (ex: Community-Benefit Agreements) ❖ Expand the Mayor's Office of Economic and Community Development to include a task force on community-wealth building initiatives for low- and middle-income residents, including employee-owned, co-operative businesses



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NOAH Executive Committee

Officers

Chairperson.....Rev. Edward L. Thompson (*Interdenominational Ministers Fellowship*)
Vice-Chairperson..... Benny Overton (*United Auto Workers*)
Treasurer.....Nell Levin (*TN Alliance for Progress*)
Secretary..... Rev. Gail Seavey (*First Unitarian Universalist Church of Nashville*)

Committee Chairs

Personnel.....Bill Howell (*Edgehill United Methodist Church*)
Recruitment (Membership) Dr. Judy Cummings (*New Covenant Christian Church, DOC*)
Training..... Pat Halper (*The Temple - Congregation Ohabai Sholom*)
FinanceRev. W. Antoni Sinkfield (*Greater Bethel AME Church*)

Emeritus Member

Rev. Raymond Bowman(*Spruce Street Baptist Church*)

Thank You

to Pastor Darrell Drumwright, the staff and members of



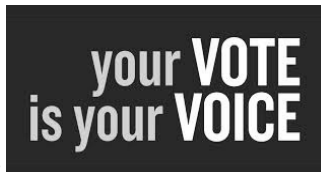
The Temple Church
Ministry On Purpose



for being so accommodating to NOAH and the residents of
Nashville who want to have “A Seat At the Table”



can move mountains, because



Run-Off Election: September 10th

Early voting: August 21st – September 5th

*** The Election Commission has a table set up, if you need to change your address ***