

FAITH &

CONSCIENCE & CONTEMPLATIVE DIALOGUE IN PUBLIC LIFE

POLITICS

A Journey Through History, Towards a Better Future

THE FAITH & POLITICS INSTITUTE'S CIVIL RIGHTS PILGRIMAGE FOR SENATORS

■ A pilgrimage is a journey to sacred places both to honor the events that took place there, but also to take in history by experiencing it, Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist, M.D. (R-TN) reminded his colleagues at the beginning of the The Faith & Politics Institute's Civil Rights Pilgrimage for Senators in February. "We all have a riverbed of experiences that channels our thoughts, our responsibility. This weekend, we're going to experience so many things that will go into that riverbed. And whatever experiences we have, the ten [Senators] exposed to them

will use that as a catalyst to improve, to move America forward to a better future."

A bi-partisan group of nine additional Senators joined co-leaders Frist and Representative John Lewis (D-GA) during the Pilgrimage, held February 13-15. Together with luminaries of the Civil Rights Movement, the Senators and guests journeyed to sites in Montgomery, Selma, and Birmingham, Alabama and to Nashville, Tennessee.

During the journey, participants listened to first-hand accounts of the non-violent

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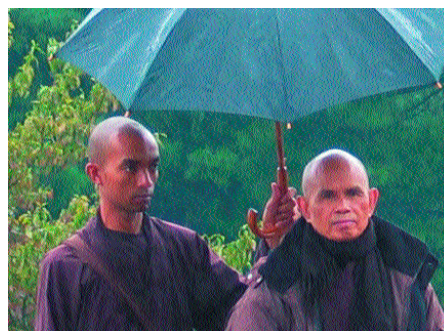
Sen. Sam Brownback (R-KS), Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist, M.D. (R-TN), Rep. John Lewis (D-GA) and Sen. Jon S. Corzine (D-NJ) lay a wreath at the Civil Rights Memorial in Montgomery while Jack Kemp, former Congressman, and Sen. Norm Coleman (R-MN) look on. Sen. Frist and Rep. Lewis co-lead the three-day pilgrimage with Senators Brownback and Corzine acting as honorary co-chairs of the delegation.

The Miracle of Mindfulness on Capitol Hill

■ In the midst of hectic Hill schedules, congressional members and staff often find little time for spiritual reflection, little space to deepen the connections between their faith and their vocation of politics.

On September 10, as part of our annual Capps-Emerson Lecture series, The Institute invited the Venerable Thich Nhat Hanh, renowned Buddhist monk and teacher, to share his philosophy and teachings of mindfulness with Members of Congress and others who work in the environment of Capitol Hill.

Mindfulness, Thich Nhat Hanh explained, is an inward awareness of the



The Venerable Thich Nhat Hanh (right) leads a walking meditation during a three-day retreat for members of Congress sponsored by The Institute. A member called the retreat "one of the most enlightening spiritual experiences I have had in years."

present moment that inextricably leads to positive outward engagement. This heightened engagement, then, has the potential to change the world.

The lecture exposed the approximately 400 people in attendance to another way of thinking about the intersection of one's faith journey with one's secular vocation. Thich Nhat Hanh also shared his vision of mindfulness in the work place – being present to those around you. Such mindfulness, he said, generates a ripple effect, creating a more humane and understanding work environment that expands into the whole world.

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Annual Congressional Reception

EVENT DRAWS 33 MEMBERS OF CONGRESS

■ Celebrating the Institute's work and honoring those who make our programs possible, 33 Members of Congress joined friends of the Institute for the 11th Annual Congressional Reception. Co-chaired by Representatives Eddie Bernice Johnson (D-TX) and Fred Upton (R-MI) with a host committee of over 100 Members of Congress, the event showcased highlights of the Institute's 2003 Congressional Pilgrimages to Alabama and South Africa. The warmth and excitement generated by the familiar voice of civil rights luminary

Dorothy Cotton and the premier of a video documentary by D.C. students of their Alabama experience, made for a memorable evening.

Please join this year's honorary co-hosts Senator Bill Frist, M.D., Senator Tom Daschle, Speaker of the House Dennis Hastert and Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi for the 12th Annual Congressional Reception, June 23 from 5-7 pm. For more information contact Beth Brent at 202-546-1299.



Rep. John Lewis (D-GA) and House Democratic Leader Rep. Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) pose with proud parents Susan Burton and Dan Hall and their newly adopted daughter Maya at the 2003 Congressional Reception.

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Members' Retreat Explores Forgiveness, Reconciliation

■ In January, eight Members of Congress and five of their spouses came together to reflect on "The Human Moment" with South African author and psychologist Pumla Gobodo-Madikizela during the second annual Members retreat sponsored by The Faith & Politics Institute. The three-day retreat culminated in a commitment by the three Republicans and five Democrats to work together on the issue of restorative justice.

Gathering at the Immaculate Heart Community Center for Spiritual Renewal in Santa Barbara the weekend of January 23-25, 2004, participants listened as Gobodo-Madikizela, author of *A Human Being Died That Night: A South African Story of Forgiveness*, shared stories and lessons from South Africa's Truth and Reconciliation Commission through video and her personal encounters. In each painful and inspiring story of victimization, ownership of wrongs, forgiveness, and reconciliation, a common thread existed, said Gobodo-Madikizela: the sharing of stories by both sides led both offender and victim to value the humanity in each other.

Retreat participants also were challenged to think of personal moments when they were hurt by someone else or were the perpetrator in hurting another.

The retreat led members to a deeper understanding of restorative justice – not

only job training for former inmates, but also restoration and reconciliation that encompasses victimizers and victims, that brings families together to share their stories and appreciate their common human bond. This greater understanding led members to their commitment to continue a common search for ways to include restorative justice ideas in the work of Congress.



Above: Retreat facilitator Pumla Gobodo-Madikizela, Chaplain of the House Fr. Dan Coughlin and Rep. Kay Granger (R-TX) converse during the weekend retreat. Top: Participants in the 2nd Annual Members' Retreat in Santa Barbara, CA.

"Spirit-filled" Moments

ANNUAL CONGRESSIONAL STAFF RETREAT GIVES WEEKEND OF CALM

■ Hurricane Isabel postponed the annual congressional staff retreat, but did not dampen participant's enthusiasm. Originally scheduled for September, participants finally gathered the weekend of October 24-26, 2003 in Nags Head, NC.

During the retreat, Marilyn Williams led participants through the topic *Why Public Service?: Spiritual Reflections on Vocation*. The retreat gave congressional staffers a chance to rediscover how their spiritual journeys impact their life stories.

According to one participant, the retreat was "restorative and restful; a time to slow down and make the spiritual connections in my life that I am usually too busy to make."

Saturday night, after a day of reflective sharing and the evening communal meal, one staffer noted a unique calmness emerging. "This," she said, "is truly a spirit-filled moment."



Institute President Doug Tanner and Jacob Gillison of Rep. John Lewis's office share with each other in the morning sunlight of Nags Head, NC.

A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



As I write, the blossoms have fallen from Washington's legendary cherry trees, and green leaves have come forth in their place. Spring will soon yield to the fullness of summer, to be

followed by the harvest and seed-scattering of autumn, then the dormancy of winter. How well will we—particularly those of us who spend day after day at our desks, absorbed in our unending tasks—notice any of nature's signs? Will we receive the distinctive gifts of each season? Will we ponder a season as metaphor for our own lives? For the lives of our institutions, our organizations, our communities?

I spent a four-month sabbatical last fall and winter doing mostly just that. Kathy and I have a home on the Eastern Shore of Virginia, near where Occoanock Creek empties into the Chesapeake Bay. I spent most of the sabbatical there. It took me a while to let go of uncompleted work tasks, and to see that their inevitably unending nature would forever keep me from being "caught up." Finally, my mind slowed down. Late one afternoon we heard the honking of geese and looked out to see the flock flying down the creek in perfect formation. Kathy asked, "Have I been missing that every evening, listening instead to NPR?" Yes—and so had I. We don't need "the news" three times a day, even when we're in Washington. We just get caught in thinking we do.

What I believe most people in politics do need is a deeper awareness of what the Vietnamese monk Thich Nhat Hanh calls "the present moment." Allowing ourselves to be fully awake changes us. It prepares us to experience what South African Pumla Gobodo-Madikizela has called "the human moment" when we see beyond the boundaries that divide us and know our common humanity. It enables us to recognize the gifts and cultivate the potential of each season of the Spirit.

The recent retreats for Members of Congress with Thich Nhat Hanh and Pumla Gobodo-Madikizela, the Civil Rights Pilgrimage for Senators led by Congressman John Lewis and Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist, and the continually developing relationship with counterparts in South Africa represent a new season in the life of The Faith & Politics Institute. May we become fully aware of its gifts and extraordinary potential.

Doug Tanner

A JOURNEY THROUGH HISTORY TO REFLECT ON OURSELVES

MONTGOMERY

Visit Dexter Avenue King Memorial Baptist Church

Silent Vigil at the Civil Rights Memorial ▶▶

Tour the Rosa Parks Museum

Dinner and Discussion at historic First Baptist Church ▶▶



SELMA

Tour National Voting Rights & Slavery and Civil War Museums ▶▶

Visit the Brown Chapel, listen to civil rights lawyer J.L. Chestnut speak ▶▶

Walk Across the Edmund Pettus Bridge



BIRMINGHAM

Visit the 16th St. Baptist Church ▶▶

Tour Kelly Ingram Park

Tour and Dinner at the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute



NASHVILLE

Attend worship at 1st Baptist Church Capitol Hill ▶▶

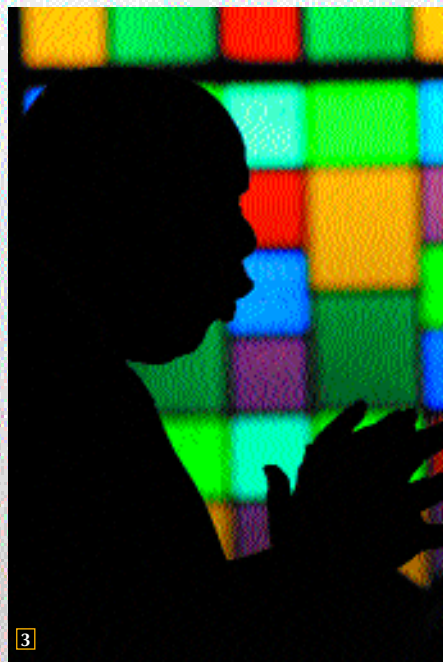
Panel discussion with lunch counter sit-in participants at the Nashville Public Library



IMAGE & VOICE

Reflecting on the Civil Rights Pilgrimage for Senators

"I have experienced a mix of emotions during this pilgrimage. I was deeply saddened after walking through the park where Bull Conner unleashed the dogs and fire hoses on the children of Birmingham. But I leave uplifted. The courage of those, black and white, who brought an end to



1. Jack Kemp, former Secretary of Housing and Urban Development and Sen. Norm Coleman (R-MN) converse beside one of the sculptures in Kelly Ingram Park. 2. Rep. John Lewis (D-GA) at 1st Baptist Church in Montgomery with Ted Kravovil, Lori Otto, Tim McBride, Sen. Sam Brownback (R-KS) (seated), and Sen. Jeff Sessions (R-AL). 3. Rep. John Lewis (D-GA). 4. Pilgrimage participants join in songs of the Civil Rights Movement. From left, Sen. Bill Frist, M.D. (R-TN), Rev. Dr. Bernard LaFayette, Rose Sanders, Dorothy Cotton, Rep. John Lewis (D-GA) and Rev. Doug Tanner. 5. Sen. George Allen (R-VA), Guillermo Hysaw, Rep. John Lewis (D-GA) and Sen. Mike DeWine (R-OH) examine a drawing of black members of Congress from the Reconstruction Era at the Voting and Civil Rights Museum in Selma. 6. Walking across the Edmund Pettus Bridge are Jack Kemp, Sen. Jon Corzine (D-NJ), Sen. Sam Brownback (R-KS), Rep. John Lewis (D-GA), Sen. Mike DeWine (R-OH). 7. Civil Rights luminary Dorothy Cotton. Background: Pilgrimage participants join in prayer at the Civil Rights Memorial in Montgomery. Visible from left, Sen. Norm Coleman (R-MN), Sen. Richard Shelby (R-AL), Sen. Bill Frist, M.D. (R-TN), Harrison Frist, Rep. John Lewis (D-GA), Sen. Jon Corzine (D-NJ).

DOWN LIKE WATERS
 LIKE A MIGHTY STREAM

segregation, lifts me up. There is more work to be done. But I am hopeful. Faith and courage can and will triumph over evil.”

■ *Sen. Norm Coleman (R-MN)*

“To be led on this pilgrimage by John Lewis was a very special gift. To hear from John and from other civil rights pioneers is something my family will always remember.”

■ *Sen. Mike DeWine (R-OH)*

“We are struck by the power of visiting historic places and hearing first-hand accounts of great courage. As many have said, there is more work to do and we must continue to fight discrimination in all of its forms and find those places where we need to ‘get in the way.’”

■ *Lisa Piccione, Delta Airlines*



movement that brought down the institution of segregation in the United States. Among the civil rights leaders that spoke to participants were Dorothy Cotton, Rev. Bernard LaFayette, Diane Nash, J.L. Chestnut and Bob Mants.

“There are four branches of government,” LaFayette told the group in a discussion of the non-violent strategy of the movement. “What Martin Luther King did was use the fourth branch of government, the people, to move the other three. Nonviolence is the insistence that problems can be worked out by sitting down and talking and never giving up. [During the movement] our goal was to lessen the power of our enemies. The way we did that was by making them our friends.”

In visits to historic churches and museums like Brown Chapel and the Voting Rights Museum in Selma, participants learned of the changes the movement created in society, but also of the challenges that blacks still face. Rose Sanders, a lawyer in Selma, spoke of the pain caused by being denied admission to Alabama University School of Law, although she was admitted to Harvard, and of the obstacles her son faced in public schools. Others told the Senators of fears within the black community that voting rights would be lost if temporary portions of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 were not extended or made permanent by 2007.

On the final day of the Pilgrimage, participants attended a special worship at the First Baptist Church, Capitol Hill in Nashville where Lewis, LaFayette, and other movement leaders such as Diane Nash and C.T. Vivian studied non-violence with Rev. James Lawson and planned a campaign to desegregate the city’s lunch counters.

On the final evening of the Pilgrimage, Frist shared that after the inspiration of the weekend, he felt the most difficult part of their journey was only beginning: to return to Washington and act on what they had experienced, not only on issues of civil rights in the U.S., but also on issues such as HIV/AIDS and its impact on Africa.

In response, Congressman Lewis expressed his hope to the Senators that the Pilgrimage would help to transform discourse in Washington. “I truly believe, Mr. Leader, that God is at work here,” he said. “This weekend, we’ve been building bridges, bridges of understanding. We’ve been laying down burdens, burdens of fear and separation. We’ve been creating circles of trust in the U.S. Congress.”

Two weeks after the Pilgrimage, Senators Frist and McConnell recounted, on the floor of the Senate, the inspiration they had gained from their experiences during the Pilgrimage and called on the Senate to make permanent all portions of the Voting Rights Act, “not only to allay fears, but to enshrine the progress of the past.”

THANK YOU

The Civil Rights Pilgrimage for Senators took a lot of work and we’d like to thank everyone who contributed their gifts, time and energy for their indispensable help, including the following: Senators Bill Frist, M.D., Jon S. Corzine, Sam Brownback and their colleagues; Senate Sergeant at Arms and his staff; U.S. Capitol Police Sergeants and Special Agents; Civil Rights Luminaries Mrs. Johnnie Carr, Attorney J.L. Chestnut, Mrs. Dorothy Cotton, Rev. Dr. Bernard LaFayette, Rep. John Lewis and Mr. Bob Mants; Congressional Staff from both Chambers; Mayors Bobby Bright (Montgomery) and James Perkins (Selma); Management and Staff of the Rosa Parks Museum, the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute, the National Voting Rights and Slavery & Civil War Museums; the pastors and congregations of the following churches: First Baptist & Dexter Avenue King Memorial Baptist (Montgomery), 16th Street Baptist (Birmingham), Brown Chapel AME (Selma), and First Baptist Capitol Hill (Nashville). We’d also like to thank the following donors who made The Institute’s programs and the Civil Rights Pilgrimage for Senators possible.



DINNER WITH THE ARCHBISHOP

Following up on to the 2003 Congressional Delegation to South Africa, the Institute invited CODEL participants to a dinner with The Most Reverend Njongondulu Ndungane, Archbishop of South Africa for the Anglican Church and successor of Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu.

In his comments to the participants, Ndungane stressed the need to continue a partnership between the United States and South Africa to consolidate the process of reconciliation in his country.

The Archbishop recalled a saying to those gathered: "We have not inherited the world from our parents, we have borrowed it from our children."

"If we can live that out," he continued, "what a hope. This partnership could show that we can work together for the common good – that God has provided for our need, not our greed."



Top & second left: Archbishop Ndungane addresses dinner participants. Second right: Rep. Lois Capps (D-CA) converses with Archbishop Ndungane during the meal. Third: Rep. Amo Houghton (R-NY), Rev. Doug Tanner, President of the Institute and Rep. Jim McDermott (D-WA) talk before the meal. Bottom: Rev. David Beetge, Archbishop Ndungane and Bishop John Bryson Chane of Washington, DC share a laugh during the evening.

The Capital to Capitol Program

INITIATIVE BRINGS DC STUDENTS TO CAPITOL HILL

■ On December 16, six District of Columbia students attended a diversity-training workshop on Capitol Hill along with congressional staffers. The training was the final event in the year long Capital to Capitol Program, sponsored by The Faith & Politics Institute.

Created to narrow the divide between the two realities of Capitol Hill and the nation's capital, the program brought ten young leaders from D.C. high schools into contact with congressional leaders and staff. The program also included preparation, participation, and follow-up activities by the students for the Institute's March 7-9, 2003 Congressional Civil Rights Pilgrimage to Alabama.

From the program, students gained a deeper understanding of the history of the Civil Rights Movement and the impact that the Movement has on their lives today. But the students also gained valuable experience and relationships from interacting with Members of Congress and Congressional staffers. In turn, congressional Members and staff gained personal insight into the lives and important issues of the District's youth.

"On the [Pilgrimage], I learned and experienced many important things," said Maria Hart, a student at Anacostia Senior High School. "I learned that you shouldn't take anything for granted. I learned who John Lewis is, and I am proud to say that I know him. This was the BEST experience of my life."

Following the trip, the students came together again several times for debriefing and to create a video of their experiences. The final debriefing event was the diversity training.

During the daylong event led by Dr. Valerie Batts, participants studied a model for understanding the "isms," such as racism, classism, and sexism, that remain a part of today's society.



Elfeky Agne of Bell Multicultural High School converses with Viola Brooks of Cardozo High School during the December 16 Diversity Training Workshop."

From the program, students gained a deeper understanding of the history of the Civil Rights Movement and the impact that the Movement has on their lives today.

"I want to congratulate the students for your willingness to tackle these issues," said Jesse Price, a staffer for Rep. Mel Watt (D-NC). "Most of us don't have the same barriers our parents did so it's a knee-jerk tendency to say that we don't have these problems. [But] these issues are dynamic. They are insistent and persistent. We have to constantly be there and be vigilant about these issues that persist."

"This kind of exposure and experience is just amazing," said Sally Schwartz, Director of International Programs for the D.C. Public Schools. "It had a big impact [for all the students.] You can't recreate that in a classroom."

◀ MIRACLES OF MINDFULNESS FROM COVER

The following weekend, nine Members of Congress, eleven family members and nine clergy attended a three-day retreat outside Washington. The retreat, entitled "Leading with Courage & Compassion," focused on deepening the discussion of mindfulness through periods of meditation, deep listening and

suggestions from Thich Nhat Hanh of ways to be more present in daily life.

Traffic lights, he told participants, offer an opportunity to be mindful and slow down. Breathing three times before entering a room or answering the phone prepares a person to listen deeply, which can prevent wrong perceptions that lead to misconceptions, hostility, and lack of compassion.

Pause & Reflect

WALKING IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF GIANTS



By Senate Majority Leader
Bill Frist, M.D. (R-TN)

■ God speaks to each of us in many ways. One is to bring people and spirit together on a single journey to reflect and

inspire. My recent pilgrimage to Alabama and Tennessee with The Faith & Politics Institute and nine Senate colleagues was just such a journey, an emotional and spiritual voyage that touched my colleagues and me in very deep and meaningful ways.

I cannot find the words to express the power of standing on the Edmund Pettus Bridge, shoulder to shoulder with those

who bravely faced the violence of billy clubs and tear gas with love and caring and compassion. Their sacrifice transformed America and continues to reverberate through history.

During the journey we walked in the footsteps of giants, and came closer to knowing them as men and women. Whether at the church where four girls lost their lives in a bombing, or the park where Bull Connor set police dogs on the schoolchildren of Birmingham, those who led the Civil Rights Movement opened their past to us. In vivid detail they shared with us their stories, their hopes, their fears and their passionate effort to make their hope a

reality: that all citizens should be equal, not only before the law, but in every aspect of their lives.

But that hope is not yet a reality. Our work in the Senate must be dedicated to creating an environment where it may become so. That means equal education. It means no child left behind. It means equal opportunity to live the American dream, equal treatment at the doctor's office, equal consideration by the mortgage lender.

In Alabama and Tennessee, we walked in the footsteps of giants. My hope is that we will remember the movement and honor those sacrifices by walking in their footsteps here in Washington.

CONTINUE THE STRUGGLE—WALK IN DIGNITY



By Senator Jon S.
Corzine (D-NJ)

■ In 1956, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. inspired churchgoers in Montgomery, Alabama, with the words, "in the

long run, it is more honorable to walk in dignity than ride in humiliation." As Dr. King said these memorable words at the end of the 1956 Montgomery Bus Boycott, he not only showed the nation how to walk in dignity but also led the nation on a path to understanding that the principles of equality, justice and freedom applied to all Americans.

It was an honor for me to be a participant in the Civil Rights Pilgrimage for Senators this past February. The opportunity to travel and visit sites that changed the course of civil rights in our country was a deeply moving experience. While the history of the Civil Rights Movement has been well-documented, the Pilgrimage gave me a personal connection beyond the text of historical documentation.

As we crossed over the Edmund Pettus Bridge and retraced the steps of the 1965 Voting Rights March from Selma to Montgomery, I thought of the thousands of marchers who, despite the deceptive laws, intimidation, and even physical violence that were used to keep blacks from voting, bravely marched to the state capital to claim their rights.

I listened with great respect and admiration to Representative John Lewis of Georgia reflect on his experiences of nearly fifty years ago. I imagined the marchers reaching the Edmund Pettus Bridge and coming to the top of the hill, only to be met by a phalanx of state troopers awaiting them with tear gas and billy clubs. I thought of them suffering the blows of those clubs and the trampling of the policemen's horses. I was deeply moved by the stories of the courage and determination of these men and women – who returned twice on the strength of their moral purpose and faith that they would ultimately prevail.

These brave Americans demanded the rights guaranteed to every American

under the Constitution. And they refused to be silenced, ignored or defeated.

This march might have begun in Selma, but it did not end in Montgomery. It continues today as we look to bridge gaps in health care, earnings, and education that continue the sad legacy of injustice against some of our most vulnerable Americans. Dr. King so eloquently called on us to continue the march on hunger, poverty, employment opportunity, and most importantly, he said "Let us therefore continue our triumphant march to the realization of the American dream."

Since the march to Montgomery, civil rights activists have looked to that moment for inspiration and courage to persevere in the ongoing struggle to ensure that all Americans have the prospects to secure the full blessings of American opportunity. Today, that struggle continues, and it must belong to all of us.

When that happens, we shall all overcome.

The response of participants to the retreat in confidential evaluations was very positive. Members expressed a realization for the need to slow down and reflect and acknowledged the value in deep breathing, relaxation exercises, and both sitting and walking meditation. The retreat, one Member commented, was a "good mix of the personal and the bigger

picture." Another noted that the weekend was "one of the most enlightening I have had in years."

Member's spouses also benefited. "I came away feeling as if we made new friends with the brothers and sisters," one said. "I'd actually like to take [my son to a retreat] when he is 6 to participate in

their activities. The focus on kindness and appreciating what we have are good lessons for every age."

"All of it was different and all of it was fascinating," a Member concluded, "but the discussion allowed time to sort out how to apply the information to day to day life."

An Anchor in the Storm



HOUGHTON ANNOUNCES RETIREMENT FROM CONGRESS, WILL STEP DOWN AS CO-CHAIR

■ During this election year, the pressures on Members of the House and Senate will become enormous. In seeking solutions to international conflict and domestic challenges amidst the partisanship that arises in an election year, members will find it increasingly difficult to stay in balance.

In this environment, opportunities for reflection and bipartisan discussion are even more valuable. One colleague has called the work of The Faith & Politics Institute a “big park bench in the middle of Congress” where members can find that elusive balance again.

We thank you for continuing to support the work of The Institute and the opportunities you give our elected officials to stay grounded in these challenging times as they seek ways to heal the wounds of our nation and our world.

Handwritten signature of Rep. Amo Houghton.

Rep. Amo Houghton (R-NY)

Handwritten signature of Rep. John Lewis.

Rep. John Lewis (D-GA)

On April 6, Rep. Amo Houghton (R-NY) announced his intent to retire from politics at the end of his current and 9th term in Congress. As co-chair of the Board of Directors of The Faith & Politics Institute, Amo has contributed immense wisdom, experience and vision to the organization. While he will continue to serve on the Board of The Institute, Amo will step down from his position as co-chair at the end of 2004. A fuller recounting of Amo’s gifts to The Institute will follow in our next newsletter. In the meantime, we take this opportunity to acknowledge his decision and thank him for his years of selfless service and irreplaceable leadership.

The Faith & Politics Institute provides occasions for MORAL REFLECTION and SPIRITUAL COMMUNITY to political leaders, drawing universal WISDOM from a range of religious traditions. The Institute encourages CIVILITY and RESPECT as spiritual values essential to DEMOCRACY and strives to strengthen political leadership that contributes to HEALING the wounds that divide our nation and the world.



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