

Duke Center for Reconciliation

Leadership Gathering – May 12 to 15, 2008

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From May 12 to May 15 I attended the Duke Center for Reconciliation's Leadership Gathering at the campus of Duke University. It was a time in which many well known leaders in the field of reconciliation – Barbara William-Skinner, Chris Rice, Brenda Salter-McNeil, Michael Emerson, to name a few – came together to discuss new directions we need to go as we look at issues of reconciliation. It was a time of refreshing, getting with old friends, and of making important contacts for Mosaix Global Network. Mosaix's role in the work of reconciliation is to encourage the development of multiracial ministries that will facilitate the process of racial reconciliation. After my time in North Carolina many more leaders were aware of the network and the valuable role we have to play.

At the Gathering we listened to the journey of many "old-timers" and "newcomers" to the movement of reconciliation. We also broke down into small groups to discuss the needs and visions of the different ministries. We heard presentations from leaders of different theological perspectives, races and genders, but all who shared a desire for reconciliation. I can honestly say that I did not agree with everything that was said but I was heartened by the fact that so many talented individuals had a true heart for reconciliation.

The Gathering also allowed me to encounter a fellow supporter of Mosaix – Alvin Sanders. He is now the Director of Reconciliation at the Evangelical Free Church of America. He has been a faithful supporter of Mosaix and is eager to figure out what role he might play in supporting Mosaix in this new position at EFCA. As I left the Gathering I ran into Curtiss DeYoung at the airport. He is from Minneapolis and they are planning a conference similar to the ones that have been organized through Mosaix. We briefly discussed how the network may be able to help and agreed to set up future discussions regarding Mosaix's role in that conference.

Encounters like this one indicate the need we have as an organization to find ways to work with other like-minded organizations. As we grow as an organization we will get more opportunities to share our message. May the Lord allow us to develop into the type of vessels we need to be to deliver that message.