



**Labor-Religion Coalition
of the Capital District**
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NEWS ALERT

For Immediate Release: March 2, 2010

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People of faith address the economic crisis:

Lunchtime presentation following panel discussion will highlight Pathways2theFuture, a model response to the emergency of joblessness

WHAT:

This two-part program open to the public will feature reflection by three religious leaders on the worst economic crisis in generations. It will be followed by presentations on “Good Jobs” with a focus on **Pathways2theFuture, a program fast tracking 200 Capital Region young adults into the world of work.** The event marks the end of the Labor-Religion Coalition’s 40-Hour FAST, “From False Idols to Moral Vision.” It reminds us that there are dire consequences when people and nations worship false idols, be it the golden calf or the Wall Street bull. **A golden calf, constructed by children from the AUMS after school program, will have a role in the program.**

WHEN: Wednesday, March 3

10 -11:30 AM—Panel Discussion: How faith leaders respond to the economic crisis

Noon -1 PM — Good Jobs program featuring Pathways2theFuture during the breaking-the-FAST lunch. **Panelists and “Good Jobs” speakers will be available for interviews at 11:30 AM.**

WHERE:

Gymnasium at the **Sr. Maureen Joyce Community Center, 340 First St. in Albany.** From Clinton Avenue, turn at Judson, then onto First Street.

WHO:

The Rev. Cass Shaw, General Presbyter, Albany Presbytery
Rabbi Theodore Lichtenfeld, Congregation Agudat Achim, Schenectady
The Rev. Deartrice A. DeWitt, United Church of Christ, Albany
Larry Gambino, member, Social Responsibilities Council, First Unitarian Universalist Society of Albany
Peter Fish, Executive Director, Albany United Methodist Society/ AUMSAmeriCorps
The Rev. Maurice Drown, Career Pathways Project Director
Janice Williams Meyers, Political Organizer, 1199 SEIU, United Healthcare Workers East
Annie Dyess, AUMS Food Pantry Coordinator

WHY:

All economic life should be shaped by moral principles such as the right to economic initiative, to productive work, to just wages and benefits, to decent working conditions as well as to organize and join unions or other associations. **Pathways2theFuture is an accelerated jobs program shaped by these principles.** Its focus on young workers and communities of color who have been hit especially hard by the economic crisis along with its engagement with local employers, community partners and mentors, make it a strong model. It is one way our community can address the suffering caused by joblessness in a way that serves human dignity and the common good. #####