

**Grab the grub**

RALEIGH — A fish dinner will be held at St. John's MCC, 805 Glenwood Ave. on Sept. 18 from 11 a.m.-6 p.m.

All plates include fish, two vegetables, rolls and dessert. Cost is \$6.

All proceeds will go to support the ministries of the church.

To pre-order, volunteer or for more information, call 919-834-2611 or email churchadmin@stjohnsmcc.org. For a full listing of all church-related activities and commentary, visit www.stjohnsmcc.org.

**Tapestry to be sung**

RALEIGH — The Triangle Gay Men's Chorus will present "Threads of Hope: A Concert Celebrating NC GLBT Pride" on Sept. 25 from 8-10 p.m. at Long View Center, 118 S. Person St.

John-Philip Mullinax is director.

Special guest is the Gay Men's Chorus of Charlotte.

A portion of the proceeds from the concert will benefit the Alliance of AIDS Services-Carolina.

Tickets are \$12 in advance and \$15 at the door.

For purchase and more information, email info@tgmchorus.org or visit www.tgmchorus.org.

**Come out, wherever you are!**

RALEIGH — The LGBT Center of Raleigh and its Board of Directors will host a coming out fundraising party on Oct. 17 at Moore Square, 200 S. Blount St., from 5-9 p.m.

There will be food, wine and beer to purchase and free, live entertainment to enjoy, along with the companionship of the gay and gay-friendly community from all of Eastern North Carolina.

This is just one of many events to help build the foundation of a much-needed community center for all LGBT people and their friends.

Entry is free. However, financial support in the way of contributions will enable the Center to become a reality. Become a member at the Founders level by being one of the first 1,000 people to donate \$100 each. However, contributions of any size will be equally welcome.

For more information, mail to 514 Daniels St., #152, Raleigh, NC 27605, email lgbtcenterofraleigh@gmail.com or visit lgbtcenterofraleigh.com.

**WESTERN**

**Conclave slated**

GRANITE FALLS — On Sept. 11-13, LGBT-affirming churches from across the Southeast will gather to worship, celebrate and "grow in grace" with like-minded "brothers and sisters." The Healing Rain Conference 2009 will be held at the Quality Inn and Suites, 1725 13th Ave. Dr. NW.

Pastor David Thomas, Abundant Grace Church, says that it will be a time to refresh and renew one's "relationship with the Lord and His people."

There is no fee for the conference. Food will be provided Friday evening, Saturday and

Sunday morning at no cost.

Special guests include: Apostle Dale Jarrett, Washington D.C.; Janice Lacount, Dallas, Texas; and Pastor Sherry Phillips, Bluefield, W.Va.

A special rate of \$69 per night is available at the hotel for those who alert the reservation department or clerk.

For more information, call Thomas at 828-638-0566.

**Annual retreat sets date**

MAGGIE VALLEY — The Cross & The Rainbow, a spiritual retreat for lesbian and gay Christians, will be held Oct. 9-11 at the Living Waters Reflection Center. It is sponsored by The Diocesan Ministry for Gay and Lesbian Catholics, a project of the Diocese of Charlotte, N.C.

This is the 11th year for this weekend get away. Participants are surrounded by a warm, welcoming atmosphere which prompts making new friends, renewing old ones, sharing stories of faith and strengthening one's relationship with God.

The event director will be Sr. Fran Grady, who specializes in nature and art retreats.

Group sessions and meals, a mountain hike, a Catholic Mass (all are welcome) are coupled with personal quiet, reflective time.

Cost for the event is \$90 and includes a semi-private room, six meals and retreat sessions.

For more information or to reserve a spot, mail David Ferguson, P.O. Box 12451, Charlotte, NC 28220, call 704-921-5711, email devensleigh@aol.com (retreat in subject line) or visit www.catholicretreat.org.

see **NC News Notes** on 15



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