

**Rev. Dr. Johanna Bos to speak at Roe v. Wade dinner**



KRCRC is thrilled to announce that Dr. Johanna van Wijk-Bos will be the keynote speaker at the January 26, 2008 Roe v. Wade dinner.

Dr. van Wijk Bos is Dora Pierce Professor of Bible and Professor of Old Testament at Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary (LPTS) where she teaches courses in Hebrew language, exegesis of the Hebrew Bible, biblical theology, preaching from the Hebrew Bible, liberation theology and feminist theology. She has served as Director of the Women’s Center at the Seminary which is an integral part of the Seminary with a number of stellar program offerings, and is currently the Faculty Liaison for the Center.

She is an active member of the Presbytery of Mid-Kentucky and has worked with Voices of Sophia to advance the cause of full inclusion and equality of women in the Presbyterian Church. She is also cofounder of More Light at LPTS, the first Seminary chapter to be a part of the More Light network in the Presbyterian denomination. More Light works to achieve GLBT (Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual/ Transgendered) inclusivity within the Presbyterian denomination.

In the local community she is active in the American Civil Liberties Union and as a member of the Kentucky Coalition for the Abolishment of the Death Penalty. Johanna has worked with the local and state-wide Fairness campaign on behalf of justice for all people regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity and occasionally is able to work with the local branch of Jobs With Justice.

We hope you will join us in experiencing what will surely be both an informative and inspirational talk! Use the enclosed envelope to reserve your dinner seats.

**Inner Voices of Kentuckiana to sing at Roe v. Wade dinner**

If you’ve never heard the Voices of Kentuckiana sing, here is your opportunity to get a taste. Although we will not have the full choir, an ensemble called the Inner Voices of Kentuckiana, has agreed to “sing for their supper” at the Roe v. Wade dinner. Having just finished their busy holiday season, we are delighted they are able and willing to share their music and voices with us. Join us in what will surely be one of the most memorable Roe v. Wade celebrations ever! *Use the enclosed envelope to reserve your dinner seats!*



**First sex ed conference a roaring success**

In an effort to reduce the number of unintended pregnancies and disease in our community, KRCRC organized its first ever conference on the benefits of comprehensive sexuality education. Held on Thursday, November 8th at St. Matthews Episcopal Church, the conference was attended by a total of 35 people representing various churches, faith groups, and community organizations.

The keynote speaker, Rev. Steve Clapp of Christian Community, an organization that does research on congregational life in North America, reported on the results of his research on teenagers, sexuality and religion. His book, *Faith Matters*, which is the written report of this research, was (and is) available for purchase.

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## Perspectives from the chair

by Anne Maron, Chair, KRCRC Board of Directors

Thank you to those of you who responded to our recent, once-a-year fund-raiser letter. We ask for money because we are a non-profit, volunteer organization trying hard to provide services (newsletter, toll-free telephone, all-options clergy counseling) and educational opportunities (clergy training, Town Hall meeting, Roe v. Wade dinner, comprehensive sexuality conference) to support women and girls in our community. We also collaborate with other organizations such as Planned Parenthood, the National Council of Jewish Women, the A-Fund, and the ACLU Reproductive Freedom Project to lobby in Frankfort and to confront threats to reproductive justice and choice.

We have a unique role in the fight for reproductive justice and choice. We represent the faith community in Kentucky. We receive support from St. Matthews Episcopal Church which lends us meeting facilities. Fourth Avenue United Methodist Church also lends us space for assembling our newsletters. The First Unitarian Church has been a long time supporter, also lending space and making an annual financial contribution. The Friends Community has also provided annual contributions as well as hosted meetings. We are deeply appreciative of this support.

The truth is, however, that it is not enough. We find ourselves wondering if we can go on.

We must go on. This group has a unique role and a unique voice. We bring the power of faith to the fight and yet too few faith-based institutions support us. We are wondering what to do about that.

One idea we are beginning to talk about is the formation of a Board of Advisors, to consist of members of the clergy and other community leaders interested in the fight we fight. The Board of Advisors' role would be to bring prestige, credibility and fund-raising networks and other resources to our working board. The Board of Advisors would meet twice a year. Let us know if you have an interest or if you have ideas for what the Board should do or look like. We would really appreciate whatever support you can offer.

We are the Voice for Choice. Please help!

*Use the enclosed envelope to make a donation and/or to reserve seats for the Roe v. Wade dinner! Credit card donations may be made through the KRCRC web site: [www.krcrc.org](http://www.krcrc.org).*

## Voice for Choice

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Kathy Schroerlucke and Emily Burroughs, Editors • JoAnn Burch, Distribution Coordinator



**Next issue:**

**Submissions deadline: March 12, 2008.**

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**KRCRC**

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# Make your reservations now for the 2008 Roe v. Wade dinner

The annual KRCRC Roe v. Wade dinner is going to be extra special this year. We are so very lucky to have Rev. Dr. Johanna Bos to speak and the Inner Voices of Kentuckiana to sing! The dinner will be catered by Linda Harkins and the menu is designed to satisfy your appetite, whether you are a carnivore or a vegan.

We are excited to announce that KRCRC will give the Dr. David Gunn Award to Amanda Kreps-Long, who will return to Louisville to receive the award. Amanda served as the Director of the ACLU Reproductive Freedom Project in Kentucky for many years. She has been a tireless champion for reproductive freedom in Kentucky.

The KRCRC Service Award will be given to the Kentucky ACLU Reproductive Freedom Project. RFP's acting director, Amy Irvin, will accept the reward. This is an opportunity to meet Amy and to demonstrate our community's support of RFP and its efforts to preserve reproductive freedom in Kentucky.

The Inner Voices of Kentuckiana will share some beautiful music with us and we have asked them to bring CDs for sale. They are often difficult to find, so bring your wallet and checkbook!

We hope you will join us for the Town Hall Meeting as well as the Dinner. The Town Hall Meeting will provide a forum to discuss the religious foundations of reproductive choice. Members of the clergy from different faith traditions will share their perspectives and join participants in discussion.

Many dinners cost \$50-150 per seat. Our dinner seats are \$35. We keep the fee low so more people may participate. The price covers are cost but we hope many of you will donate beyond the price of the dinner. Seating is limited, so make your reservation EARLY and definitely by January 14.

We look forward to seeing new and familiar faces on January 26. If you've never attended a Roe v. Wade dinner, consider joining us in 2008!

## **Reserve seats by Monday, January 14**

*Use the enclosed envelope: complete form and enclose check. Dinner seats are \$35 per seat (\$25 for students). Tables seat 8 persons.*

### **Date**

**Sat - January 26, 2008**

### **Location**

Thomas Jefferson Unitarian Church  
4936 Brownsboro Rd  
Louisville, KY 40222  
www.tjuc.org

### **Time Schedule:**

4:00-5:30 Town Hall Meeting

5:30-6:00 Gathering

6:00-8:30 Dinner and Program

### **Guest speaker:**

Rev. Dr. Johanna van Wijk-Bos

### **Music:**

Inner Voices of Kentuckiana

### **Gunn Award:**

Amanda Kreps-Long

### **Service Award:**

ACLU Reproductive Freedom Project

### **Dinner Buffet Menu**

Romaine with mandarin oranges, toasted pecans, craisins, sesame dressing and nutcrackers.

Fresh fruit salad

Grilled salmon with Hoisin sauce

Frittata (Italian omelette with vegetables)

Bowtie pasta with vegetable sauce

Garden medley of vegetables

Couscous with marinated vegetables

Fried rice

Corn O'Brian

Rolls/butter

Coffee/tea

Assorted desserts: cheesecakes, apple turnovers, cakes, cookies

Apple cider and non-alcoholic beverages will be available between 5:00 and 6:00 in the Gathering Room.

## First sex ed conference a roaring success, *continued*

The speaker and the research were both fascinating. In his presentation and his book, Clapp emphasizes that abstinence-only education is insufficient to protect teenagers. What works best is abstinence taught along with comprehensive sexuality education in a faith-based setting. Abstinence is emphasized as the healthiest choice, but factual information about the reproductive system, contraception, sexually transmitted infections, healthy relationships, and healthy sexuality are included in this message. With its discussions of dating, marriage, and parenting, comprehensive sexuality education strives to empower teens to delay becoming sexually active, to behave with better judgment, and to grow into sexually healthy adults.



L-R: Susan Barnett (Center for Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention), Courtney Avery (Black Church Initiative), and Rev. Steve Clapp, (Christian Community)

Other contributors at the conference were: Courtney Avery, Director of the Midwest Region of the Black Church Initiative who gave a workshop on “Keeping It Real,” a comprehensive sexuality education curriculum written for African-American teens; Bani Hines-Hudson, a community organizer and sexuality educator, our lunch-time speaker, who urged us to expand our thinking and our alliances and to guard against racism as we do this work; and Lisa Wilner, a sexuality educator at First Unitarian Church, who told us about one of the outstanding and widely-used curriculum called “Our Whole



Bani Hines-Hudson gave an impassioned talk about reproductive justice and the state of sex education today. She challenged our consciousness, our values, and our thinking about sexuality education.

Lives” (O.W.L.). Also on hand was Elizabeth Neale, an educator who teaches parents how to discuss sexuality with their children.

Registrants at the conference each received a folder, expertly designed and assembled by Kathy Schroerlucke, KRCRC board secretary, that contained an excellent resource list of comprehensive sexuality curricula maintained by RCRC among other materials. Emily Burroughs, editor of the KRCRC newsletter, a member of our board and Director of Executive and Community Affairs for Planned Parenthood of Louisville, provided a door prize of materials for use in a comprehensive sex education program.



Panelist L-R: Lisa Wilner, Bani Hines-Hudson, Courtney Avery, and Steve Clapp

Continued on next page

## First sex ed conference a roaring success, *continued*

This conference received very positive evaluations. We are hopeful that we have begun a conversation in some churches and faith-based groups that will lead these organizations to take charge of the education of their teenage constituents.

### Conference Images



**Many thanks to the speakers, volunteers, and participants who made this conference a success!**



# Thank You

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of my grandmother Elenor Robinson

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**Be a champion for choice!**  
Give generously as often as you can!



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for Reproductive Choice

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**RESERVE YOUR SEAT TODAY!**

## **2008 Roe v. Wade Dinner**

**January 26, Saturday**

**Town Hall Meeting - 4:00 pm-5:30 pm**

**Dinner - 6:00 pm**

*Hosted by:*

Thomas Jefferson Unitarian Church

4936 Brownsboro Rd, Louisville, Ky 40222

[www.tjuc.org](http://www.tjuc.org)

**Reserve your seat by Monday, January 14**

*Use the enclosed envelope! See details inside!*