
Understanding history to better inform the present, and the future.

From the earliest days of the presence of the Bahá'í Faith in North Carolina, it has appealed to the diverse peoples in the state, just as it has to people across the country and world. Throughout the Faith's long history in North Carolina, Bahá'ís have crossed the color line repeatedly, as evidenced by family histories and building community from Wilmington to Asheville. Come with us on an adventure of learning the names, the lives, and the places of a growing, statewide community - from the earliest North Carolinian newspaper mention of the religion in the 19th century and the Faith's uninterrupted presence since 1918, to achieving a community of 20 adults during World War II, 100 by the late 1960's, 4500 believers circa 1998, and 5,800 in 2010.

The seminar will cover the remarkable parallels in the first century of Christian and Bahá'í eras, and then see Bahá'ís come to the state or adopt the religion and form communities. The seminar will explore how Bahá'ís changed the ways they lived their lives, supported each other, and put plans of service and teaching into action across the state in the second half of the 20th century. Through their lives and communities, there will be examples of how the Bahá'ís have enacted the principles and priorities of the core issue of the religion - the oneness of humanity - in matters of racial and gender equality. Of all the Bahá'ís that have ever lived in the state and served in international leadership of the religion, three were black men and one was a black woman - without quotas or electioneering.

Seminar Organized by
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Sponsored by
**The Spiritual Assembly
of the
Bahá'ís of Orange County**

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History of the Bahá'í Faith in North Carolina

Summer Seminar
August 3-5, 2018



Friday - August 3rd

Welcome, remember, and discover the 19th century mentions of Bábí history and their remarkable parallels with the first century of Christianity. Then we continue with a brief introduction covering the presence of the Bahá'í Faith in North Carolina.

3 pm Part 1 - Remembering the Bábí Era, and the Parallels with Christianity

(Steven Kolins)

4 pm Part 2 - Virtually Excavating Print History from 1850 onward in North Carolina

(Steven Kolins)



*Please sign & print the daily register clearly,
and gather for a group picture!*

Saturday - August 4th

Presentations on the presence of the Faith in North Carolina from 1850 to the present, and the generations of Bahá'ís.

9 am Firsts; 1850 to 1919

(Steven Kolins)

10 am Glimmerings of Communities; 1917 to 1940

(Steven Kolins)

**** Lunch Break ****

1 pm The First Community; 1941 to 1954

(Steven Kolins)

2pm Pioneers, Conferences and Schools; 1954 - 1961

(Steven Kolins)

3 pm Review and Care of Assembly or Personal Archives

(Charles Uzzell)

4 pm Generations of Faith

(Isabel and Glenn Peirce)

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Sunday - August 5th

Here's a chance to do some of your own research! Bring your laptops and we'll review online resources you can use to find historical information. We will finish reviewing the history of the Faith in the 1960's and 1970's, and start looking at future plans for research. Although we've found so much through historical research, there is yet a lot to be uncovered about the hearts and minds of Bahá'ís moved by the spirit to accomplish great things.

9:30am Sources and Methods for Your Own Research, with Laboratory Session

(Steven Kolins)

11 am Multiple Communities - the 1960's

(Steven Kolins)

**** Lunch Break ****

1 pm Finding Faith in the 1970's

(Faika McNally)

2 pm Closing and Future Plans

(Steven Kolins)

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