



John E. Fellers, M.Div., D.D.
1935 - 2007

The Rev. John Fellers, was former Senior Pastor at St. Paul's United Methodist Church and Senior Fellow and Executive Director of the Institute for Religion and Health, now the Institute for Spirituality and Health.

John began his career in the ministry as an Associate Pastor at St. Paul's and later founded the Clear Lake United Methodist Church in 1964. He returned to St. Paul's to serve as Senior Pastor from 1976 to 1985.

He was also Senior Pastor of the First United Methodist Church in Shreveport, La. At the time of his death he was a Senior Fellow of the Institute for Religion and Health founded at the Texas Medical Center in 1955. He was the Executive Director from 1995 to 2005.

Fellers, who was raised in Houston, earned a bachelor's degree in history and government from the University of Houston and his master's from the Candler School of Theology at Emory University. He also served as president of the Methodist Lon Morris College in Jacksonville, Texas. He was an Adjunct Professor at the Houston Graduate School of Theology and St. Thomas University.

Fellers authored three books: *Getting to Know a Loving God*, *Secrets for Successful Living* and *An American Cathedral: A Centennial History of St. Paul's Methodist Church, Houston*.

TITLE OF PRESENTATION:

*"Transforming Conflict:
Across the Street & Across the Ocean"*

Conflict transformation is vital to building sustainable peace locally and globally. Moving beyond conflict resolution or management, those who commit to transforming conflict see these issues in a different way: as life giving opportunities to create constructive change processes that reduce violence and increase justice in our direct personal interactions and in the structures of our societies.

They also understand that they must be the change they wish to see in the world. Engaging in conflict transformation requires directly addressing our concerns about identity and building relational containers strong enough to hold the energy of our differences.

Such peacemakers recognize that they must renovate rusty, seldom used tools of dialogue and principled negotiation and put them into the service of truth, forgiveness, and correction of structural injustice, all essentials for building peace in our homes, neighborhoods and the world.



Randall E. Butler is the founding director of the Institute for Sustainable Peace. He has been president of Butler Mediation Services since 1995. Formerly a partner in the law firms of Fulbright & Jaworski, L.L.P., and Cook, Butler & Doyle, L.L.P., Mr. Butler practiced for eighteen years as a trial lawyer. On January 1, 1999, Mr. Butler left his litigation practice to focus full time on mediation, conflict transformation and peacemaking. He has taught a graduate level course in International Conflict Resolution and has extensive experience designing and conducting creative processes for resolution of complex disputes involving large numbers of parties involving companies varying in size from the Fortune 500 to local private concerns. Mr. Butler's passion for resolving conflict took him to the ROM Leadership Development & Peace Gathering in the Balkans in the summer of 2002 where he taught generative dialogue and conflict resolution skills to future leaders from Serbia, Croatia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Kosovo, Albania, Macedonia and other neighboring countries. He has returned each summer since then to help lead that project and it was that work that gave rise to his vision for an action/research peace institute. The Institute for Sustainable Peace was founded in January of 2007. Since then Butler has led the Institute in its conflict transformation work with leaders of the Sudanese Diaspora in America. In October 2009, he accepted the invitation of leaders in Sudan to come to Khartoum and Juba for meetings to prepare for conflict transformation projects there. Other projects, in Houston, include facilitation of a Jewish Muslim Dialogue Group and a grass roots project in partnership with the Mayor's Office of the City of Houston, AISD, and Texans Together.



The Institute for Spirituality and Health is one of the oldest organizations in the Texas Medical Center and celebrated its fiftieth anniversary in 2006. Formerly known as the Institute of Religion, the organization changed its name to better reflect a vision that "Medicine recognizes the role that spirituality plays in maintaining and restoring optimal health."

The Institute sponsors programs relating to spirituality and health. These include the *Psychotherapy and Faith Conference*, *Rabbi Hyman Judah Schachtel Lectureship* and the *McGovern Nurses Conference*.

If you would like more information about programs at the Institute, please visit our website:

www.ish-tmc.org

or call

Jerri Doctor
713-797-0600 x 109.

Please RSVP to Jerri Doctor by Thursday, May 20 at 713-797-0600 or register online at www.ish-tmc.org. Gifts to The Fellers Fund would be greatly appreciated.

\$25. for the event.
A continental breakfast will be served.

The Institute for Spirituality and Health does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, disability or age in admissions to our programs, activities or employment.

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John E. Fellers Lectureship

3rd ANNUAL

John E. Fellers
LECTURESHP



presents

Randall Butler,
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
The Institute for Sustainable Peace

*"Conflict Transformation
Across the Street and Across the Ocean"*

TUESDAY, MAY 25, 2010

7:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

FONDREN HALL
St. Paul's United Methodist Church
5501 Main Street
Houston, TX 77004