

## NC NAACP Leader to Speak at ASU Monday

Written by Ashley Wilson  
Monday, 28 October 2013 15:05

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Reverend William Barber II, President of the North Carolina NAACP and leader of the Moral Monday movement, will speak on "The Necessity of a Moral Movement in North Carolina and the Nation" at the Schaefer Center for the Performing Arts on the Appalachian State University campus at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 28.

Barber's platform issues are defending civil and human rights and fighting for voter rights, fair redistricting, health care reform, worker rights, protection of immigration rights, and other causes in defense of minorities, the poor, women, and working people.

At a press conference Monday afternoon, Barber said North Carolina is at a moral crossroads.

"It is not about being Democrat or Republican," he said. "It's not about being liberal or conservative. It's about doing what's right."

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Since the Moral Monday protests began in April 2013, over 900 people have been arrested. It is estimated that weekly attendance at the protests when the N.C. legislature was in session was 2,500 people. Barber said the state's leaders are using their power to harm people rather than help.

"They are using our system to disadvantage the already disadvantaged," he said. "They are attempting to criminalize democracy."

Barber said the ASU event is the 22nd gathering of Moral Monday-related activities in the state and the ninth outside of Raleigh.

Rev. Barber is a cum laude graduate of North Carolina Central University and holds both a Master of Divinity Degree from Duke University and a doctorate from Drew University. In addition to his presidency of the state NAACP, he is pastor of the Greenleaf Christian Church Disciples of Christ in Goldsboro, NC.

Organizers of the Oct. 28 appearance by Rev. Barber have requested that there be no signs or demonstrations at the Schaefer Center.

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On October 12 at the final session of the NAACP state convention in Rocky Mount, Rev. Barber announced the next round of civil action he will be leading against the Republicans in Raleigh:

1. Petition Gov. McCrory to call a Special Redemptive Legislative Session to rescind the stripping of unemployment insurance benefits to 100,000 families and of Medicaid health benefits to 500,000 families.
2. Educate the public about the ethical conflict of interest inherent in Art Pope's current reign as state Budget Director. Pope's private and immense propaganda/financial networks support and validate his public role as a powerful state employee who writes the take-from-the-poor-and-give-to-the-rich state budget.
3. Insist on the North Carolina Constitutional guarantee that all children enjoy the right to a sound, basic education. The NC NAACP will join with other civil rights organizations to file legal action to challenge the cuts to public education as unconstitutional.
4. Wage a spirited fight against the monster voter suppression law in the court houses, at the polls, and in the streets, and work to have it declared unconstitutional by the 2014 elections.

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5. Organize the largest People's Assembly in the state's history, "All Roads Lead to Jones Street," in Raleigh on February 8th, 2014.