

FORsooth

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May 2002

Taxes support unneeded arms buildup, speakers show



—photo by Cathy Ford

Krik Owens, rear, and Linda Meadows, show passersby on April 15 that nearly half of income tax money goes for weapons.

*by George Morrison
FORsooth editor*

The 30 percent increase in military spending President Bush won since Sept. 11 is going overwhelmingly for unneeded pet projects having nothing to do with stopping terrorism, an Episcopal rector and peace activist said two days after millions of Americans paid their taxes to make the increase possible.

Rev. Polk Culpepper, rector at Calvary Episcopal Church, told the Louisville FOR's Third Thursday Lunch April 17 that the post 9-11 military budget boosts military spending to \$343 billion.

"However, only a tiny fraction of the 343 billion is spent in Afghanistan," Culpepper said at the monthly lunch. "Secondly, most is going for pet projects on the wish list of contractors and key lawmakers for years which have nothing to do with 9-11. This is also known as war profiteering."

Joining Culpepper on the stage at the Rudyard Kipling restaurant were three people who told how they refuse to allow April 15 to be a day of uncritical support for U.S. foreign and military policies.

Nancy Jakubiak, David Brown Kinloch and George Edwards described varying ways to divert income taxes from the military — which consumes 46 percent of income tax money this year — to human needs and nonviolence.

Culpepper said such a transition is urgently demanded by his faith.

"As a Christian, the bottom line for me is this: if X amount of money is spent on military expenditures, that means that it is not available to help alleviate poverty. It's not available to help clothe the naked or house the homeless or to support efforts for peace and justice in our world, all of which are mandated by my faith tradition."

He said the unneeded weapons systems include F-22 fighter planes designed to battle Soviet planes never built, artillery systems called too cumbersome to transport to likely battlefields of the future and submarine-launched missiles "which will not help to keep one terrorist out of American airplanes."

Culpepper said the military hikes will cost Americans dearly.

"There have been substantial cuts in social program spending. For example, job training programs were cut by 545 million. The justice and labor department budgets have been cut. There's no new money for commerce, agriculture or the interior departments. Increases for education and the environment are included in the 2003 budget but the increases don't match the rate of inflation."

Jakubiak, a former employee of the U.S. Department of Defense working in the Penatgon who became active against U.S. policies after the Iran Contra scandal,

has opposed all this by simply not filing income tax forms, beginning in 1998.

Her third trip to Chiapas, Mexico, where indigenous people were fighting nonviolently against global economics and a U.S.-backed military convinced her to stop paying income taxes, she said.

"The militarization was just getting worse. The people were getting poorer. But you had these people were still in resistance who were living in their autonomous communities, failing to take money from the government, living on their own, women protecting themselves by throwing rocks at soldiers," Jakubiak said.

"That was really bothering me — that I could go home and be safe and secure and they had to continue to live this way. And part of that was my government's fault, and part of that was my funding my government."

The recent U.S.-financed offensive by Israel solidified Jakubiak's determination to resist war taxes, she said.

"I'm perfectly willing to go to federal prison if I have to," Jakubiak said. "It's my way of being in solidarity with all those folks that my government is just murdering.... People have called me a felon. People in the peace community have called me a felon... I guess I am, but I'd rather be a felon than a murderer."

Kinloch, who saluted Jakubiak for her

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Louisvillians risk safety to speak for peace in Mideast

*by George Morrison
FORsooth editor*

Five Louisvillians looked down the barrels of tanks and guns March 28 to April 7 to speak up for a peaceful settlement of the Middle East conflict.

Angelyn Rudd, Dennis Bricking, Cindy Scheldorf and sisters Carla and Sharon Wallace huddled with Palestinians under fire in the occupied West Bank as part of the International Solidarity Movement, through which dozens of people visited the region to express solidarity with Palestinians and Israelis trying to end the occupation nonviolently.

Although it wasn't planned that way, the trip happened during the height of the offensive that the Israeli government said it launched to counter terrorism by Palestinians.

Buildings were destroyed, civilians on both sides were killed and nearly every young Palestinian male in many villages was rounded up.

The offensive made it impossible to make planned symbolic gestures, such as replanting uprooted olive trees, but

members of the delegation said the fact that they were there during the violence made the trip more meaningful.

"It far surpassed my expectations," said Rudd, who along with three others spent a night with Palestinian families in a refugee camp. "I would have been really happy if one child, one Palestinian child, rested easier for a night because we were there."

Beyond that, Rudd hopes the delegation's many public appearances since returning will help steer the U.S. away from the militarism and corporate globalism she sees at the root of the troubles in the Mideast and elsewhere.

"If people will open their eyes to this... they will be able to see a pattern of how we're repeating our oppression of countries over and over again," she said. "That's why we have to work to change U.S. foreign policy now for peace in the Middle East as well as the rest of the world," she said. "My passion is really connecting the different oppressions together so... we can all be there for each other and we can all stand up against the corporate powers."

(continued on page 6)



—photo by Cindy Scheldorf

Sonia deVries, her daughters Carla and Sharon Wallace, Angelyn Rudd and Dennis Bricking, stand in front of the rubble of a medical clinic in Bethlehem destroyed during the Israeli offensive in the West Bank. They faced danger in March and April to stand for a peaceful and just settlement of the conflict.

Fellowship of Reconciliation

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Merton and his planet

Activists, scholars to gather for dialogue on environment

Using methods pioneered by renowned monk Thomas Merton, 16 international leaders in fields related to the environment and spirituality will travel to the Abbey of Gethsemani near Bardstown, Ky. for five days of contemplative dialogue as part of *Thomas Merton Retreat 2002: Spirituality and the Environment*.

After the retreat, the leaders will speak at a public forum at the Brown Theater in Louisville Friday, June 14 at 7 p.m. During the forum, members of the public will be able to engage in dialogue with the retreat participants about their experience at Gethsemani. The Brown Theater is at 315 West Broadway in downtown Louisville. The forum is free and open to the public, although a \$10 donation is suggested.

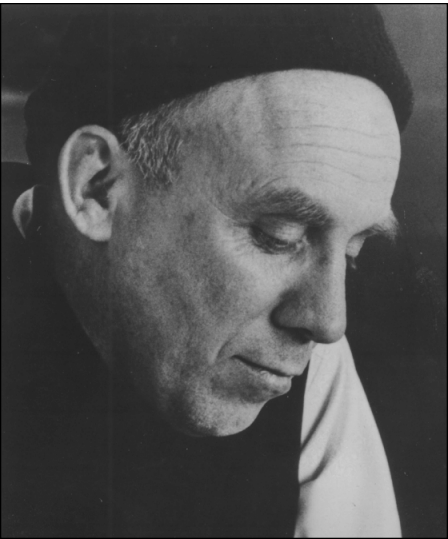
The retreat, which is closed to the public, is based on methods of interaction Merton suggested and begins June 10 at the Abbey of Gethsemane. Over the following four days it is to include small and large group conversations, individual and communal reflection, and prayer.

The Thomas Merton Foundation, which is sponsoring the retreat and forum, said: “The current list of retreat participants includes individuals from South Africa, Brazil, The Philippines, Australia, India, Mexico and the United States. Among the participants are scientists, environmental activists, writers, a Merton expert, a ‘green’ architect, a renowned international broadcaster, and a leader in efforts to make the oil industry more environmentally responsible.”

The foundation said the June 14 public forum will be made available to people throughout the world via the Internet with a live audio-webcast available through www.newdimensions.org, the web site of New Dimensions Broadcasting Network and through the Merton Foundation, whose website is at www.mertonfoundation.org.

Retreat and forum participants slated to appear include:

- Rev. Sally Grover Bingham, an Episcopal priest and environmental activist for 20 years. She currently serves on the national board of Environmental Defense and is the founder and executive director of The Regeneration Project, a nonprofit ministry focusing on a response to global climate change.



— Photo courtesy of *The Record*

Thomas Merton

She has brought widespread attention to the linkage between ecological issues and the Christian Faith, the Merton foundation said Bingham has received many awards and the Regeneration Project received international Global Energy Award 2002.

- Dr. S. Madhavan Nair, programme director for the Centre for Environment Education, (CEE) New Delhi, India. He is an eminent Naturalist, Museologist and Environment Educator of international repute. He is the Founder Director of India’s National Museum of Natural History in New Delhi, which he served for more than 20 years.
Prior to this he was on the faculty of the M. S. University of Baroda and the Birla Institute of Technology and Science. Before joining CEE he worked as Director – Education at World Wild Life Fund – India, in which capacity he also headed a project, ‘The Vrindavan Conservation Programme’ involving spirituality and Nature Conservation at the birthplace of Lord Krishna.
- Peter C. Frumhoff, director and senior scientist of the Global Environment Program at the Union of Concerned Scientists (UCS). Under his guidance, the UCS Sound Science Initiative currently helps more than 3,000 scientists across the

U.S. raise public and policymaker understanding of the scientific basis for effective solutions to the problems of climate change, the spread of invasive species, and land-use change. Increasingly, such outreach by scientists is strengthened by partnerships formed with faith communities, the foundation said.

A former professor at Harvard University and the University of Maryland, Dr. Frumhoff was a lead author of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change’s recent Special Report on the role of forests and land-use.

- Barry Lopez, an essayist, author and short story writer who has worked with the evolutionary biologist Edward Wilson to design a new undergraduate major that brings the humanities and sciences together. In his non-fiction, Lopez often writes about the relationship between the physical landscape and human culture. In his fiction he frequently explores issues of identity, ethics and intimacy.
His books include *Arctic Dreams*, for which he received the National Book

Award, and *Of Wolves and Men*, for which he received the John Burroughs Medal. The foundation said Lopez travels widely — most recently to Cuba, Greenland, Belize and Antarctica — and has had a long-standing interest in indigenous peoples, natural history, geography, and oral literature.

The foundation said that although Merton (1915-1968) died during the early years of the recent upsurge in environmental activism, he often referred to the environment in his many writings.

In his journal entry for September 4, 1941, the foundation said, Merton recounts his struggle during a recent retreat, finally resolving “there is nothing in the Trappist discipline to prevent you loving nature the way I meant it then and do now: loving it in God’s creation, and a sign of His goodness and Love.”

Persons interested in attending the June 14 public forum should contact the Thomas Merton Foundation at (502) 899-1952. Fax 899-1907. E-mail: ttaylor@mertonfoundation.org.

Refugee backers seek calls, emails

Advocates for refugees are asking people concerned about their plight to press the Bush Administration to honor a presidential determination signed by President Bush to admit 70,000 refugees into the nation this year.

“At this point, the U.S. refugee resettlement program continues to lag,” a flier from Church World Service said. “Refugees continue to wait in crisis situations and their

families waiting to be reunited with loved ones worry about their safety.”

The organization asked people to call the White House comment line at 202-456-1111 or send e-mail to president@whitehouse.gov asking the president to fulfill the determination.

For more information, contact Joan Maruskin at Church World Service at jmaruskin@churchworldservice.org.



Taxes (continued from page 1)

courage, told the lunch he and his wife, Cindy Brown Kinloch, have for 12 years withheld the proportion of their taxes equal to what is spent on the military.

He said he has told the Internal Revenue Service the fines levied against them every year are “a religious persecution tax.”

This year, the couple’s having had a child and their reduced hours working have resulted in them owing no income tax (they still owe self-employment tax, he said).

“Maybe we need to have some more kids,” Kinloch said, sparking laughter.

He and Edwards urged support for the

Religious Freedom Peace Tax Fund, a bill in the U.S. House of Representatives (House Resolution 1186). The bill, which has 33 sponsors in the House, would allow taxpayers to pay their full amount owed, but divert their tax payments away from the military to social needs.

They said it would effectively legalize the sort of resistance the Brown Kinlochs and Edwards and his wife Jean have done for years.

They said May 16 has been established as a call-in day for the bill, and asked for calls to U.S. representatives.

PEACEMAKER TRAINING INSTITUTE IN CARBONDALE, IL

• August 3-13, 2002

PTI is an FOR program that offers training for young people interested in becoming more effective peace and justice activists. Those between the ages of eighteen and twenty-five are cordially invited to this training at Carbondale, IL .

Application deadline is July 1, 2002. Cost: \$300-375. Some scholarship assistance available as well as fundraising suggestions from FOR, Nyack. Sponsorship may also be possible through your local organization. Participants must arrange their own transportation. Request application from FOR, Box 271, Nyack, NY. 845/358-4601. fax: 845-358-4924 www.forusa.org. Contact Maryrose Dolezol, PTI Coordinator, at the Nyack number. Or call Joe Monahan, 618/536-1286 or Joel Landry, 618/529-4284.



FORsooth

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87 Years on Peace Frontiers

Since 1915, the Fellowship of Reconciliation in the United States has led campaigns to obtain legal rights for conscientious objectors, win civil rights for all Americans, end the Vietnam War, oppose U.S. intervention in the Third World, and reverse the superpowers’ arms race. An interfaith pacifist organization, the FOR has members from many religious and ethnic traditions. It is part of the International Fellowship of Reconciliation, with affiliates in 40 countries.

In the development of its program FOR depends upon persons who seek to apply these principles to every area of life. If you are not already a member, we invite you to join us in this endeavor. Membership consists of signing the Statement of Purpose, indicating that you agree with FOR goals. To receive more information, please call 458-8056.

Co-chairs: Mary Horvath 583-4670
Pat Geier 456-6586

Death penalty debate doesn’t pause for blood donation

by T. Joseph Hardesty

It’s 10:30 am in this large Midwestern City March 2 and I had just completed the lengthy medical questionnaire, the first of several steps in the process of donating platelets with the Red Cross. Little did I realize that *this* donation would be anything *but* “ordinary.” I had been doing this for years and, as a result, have gotten to know some of the staff quite well. We discuss our children’s birthdays, show their pictures to each other, discuss the state of the economy, what movies are hot at the box office, etc. — it’s just the way people are in a friendly town such as mine. One part of my life, however, that I had never been very outspoken about were my feelings regarding the death penalty.

Several years ago we executed a man here, the first in many years, for the rape and murder of a young woman. I was married then and was very busy trying to start and build a business as well as keep my children from running out into the street while at play or, for that matter, killing each other over who gets the PlayStation next. I was just too wrapped up in my own life to really care that someone was going to fry. I didn’t even know that my state was debating the use of the electric chair verses lethal injection - it didn’t matter to me — then.

Two years later, in 1999, a second man was being led to the death house and the papers were again full of front-page stories and letters to the editor. I noticed the ones voicing their sympathies to the victim’s family and ones expressing a desire for revenge but this time more articles and letters were also bringing to light the questionable process and practice of putting the condemned to death.

The certainty of putting innocent people to death; the shocking cost of legally depriving a person of his or her life and how we are much more likely to put people of color to death for killing a white person than we are to put white people to death for killing a person of color really began to make me think. He died anyway — this time by lethal injection.

I thought more about capital punishment in those days, read a good book on the subject detailing the history and use of it in my state and finally, I prayed a lot about it... and then prayed some more. Soon I came to the conclusion that I could not, in good conscience, support the continued use of death as a penalty for murder. I found that it was doing absolutely no good as a deterrent and, if anything, the death penalty has made my community more violent, not less.

Eventually I realized that since I couldn’t find a good reason to keep and use

the death penalty then I could not expect or allow anyone to sentence a person to death on my behalf. More reading and studying of the issue served only to confirm my belief that death row really must go. I began getting involved with others who came to the same conclusion as I had and together we began working to repeal the death penalty statutes in my state. Meanwhile I continued to visit the Red Cross center, as I’m doing right now, to donate platelets.

While the nurse pricked my finger to make sure my iron count was adequate, I took a risk and walked outside of my “comfort zone” to learn her feelings on the death penalty. Overhearing on television that a fifty-year-old man was recently arrested in California for the kidnapping, rape and murder of a young girl was all the help I needed. “I hope they fry that son of a bitch,” the nurse said. A look of confusion appeared only briefly on her face when I mentioned that the man in jail hadn’t been convicted yet nor did she seem to care that death penalty cases such as his quickly bankrupts a county’s and state’s judicial budgets.

It didn’t matter — she was angry as hell and she wanted blood. No amount of reasoning was going to deter her from believing that injecting a lethal dose of poison into someone’s veins and not time and forgiveness — though difficult as this

would be — are the only ways to bring closure and peace to a grieving family. I cast my eyes to the floor admitting to myself that she’s hurting too much to see the consequences of putting another person to death. My iron count was adequate and with a shaking hand I signed the donation form. Being escorted to the donation table I felt as if I were a dead man walking.

I kept telling myself over and over that I’m only donating platelets. These people mean me no harm. This woman is someone’s mother. She’s a good wife and good employee and she teaches Sunday school. Why do I feel so bad? Why can’t I look at her?

I lay down on the table and tried to breathe deeply to relax. She places a blood pressure cuff above each elbow and inflates them to find and mark my veins. “She’s not going to kill me ...I’m only donating platelets” is a mantra I continue repeating. Avoiding eye contact I look out a large plate glass window to my right and imagine seeing a room full of people — some weeping, some filled with hate — cursing the day I was born.

“Squeeze and hold..., squeeze and hold..., squeeze ...and release.” I close my eyes as she plunges a needle into my vein. Thirty seconds later she skillfully inserts a needle into a vein of my other arm — both are stretched out at right angles to my body. So this is how it feels to be put to death. I grieve in solidarity for the men and women who have died this way and ask: My God, what are we doing to ourselves?

The writer is the chairman of the Louisville chapter of the Kentucky Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty and a member of the Louisville Catholic Worker Community and St. William Catholic Church. Contact him at joe_hardesty@hotmail.com.

The Fellowship of Reconciliation National Conference

Manhattan College - Riverdale, NYC

June 15 - 19, 2002

Join peacemakers from 40 countries in exploring the power of nonviolence to bring peace with justice to the world.

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Dorothy Cotton

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The Power of Nonviolence

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US Campaign to Ban Landmines

Panel Discussions:

Nonviolence and Social Change - the Colombian Peace Community

The Middle East -Crucible for Three Faiths

...and many more!

May 2002

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Letters to
FORsooth

Israelis' rights

As a long time supporter of FOR and one who believes deeply in our mission, I feel very concerned about your continued support of Palestinian terrorists. As a Jew, I am deeply offended that there appears to be no recognition on your part of the Jewish right to maintain a state free of terrorism.

I have never received an email or read an article in FORsooth, which I worked to create and have contributed money to publish, expressing any sympathy for the victims of terrorism in Israel.

As a mother, I am deeply saddened every time I see the beautiful young face of a suicide bomber and I always wonder if the money used to fund terrorism, to pay for bombs, and to teach hatred in Palestinian schools might have been better spent educating their young people and helping them to fight oppression more constructively than killing both themselves and other innocent people.

As a pacifist, I can never feel that what is happening in the Middle East is right, but morally and spiritually I wish that all of the suffering there could be acknowledged.

Sincerely,
Kate Rudd Sarfin
Louisville

Editor's note: A statement by the national FOR about Israeli and Palestinian deaths is on page 7.

Job protections

A friend of mine was recently accused of misconduct by her employer and promptly fired for it. Obviously, I do not know all the relevant facts. But, it appears to me that the employer listened to just one side of the story. My friend hadn't done anything wrong, she told me.

Others had grotesquely distorted her words and actions, she explained. Anyway, they booted her out following a brief meeting with the personnel manager, her 16 years of service with the company notwithstanding.

When she called an attorney later the same day, he immediately asked these two questions.

"Are you a labor union or civil service employee?" "No," she answered.

"Do you have an employment agreement?" "No," she answered again.

"You work entirely at the pleasure of your employer under Kentucky law," he said. "There are no due process issues, here. I'm sorry. There is really nothing you can do about this under state law."

It is horrifying to be told that you don't have any right to defend yourself, isn't it!

Sincerely,
Tom Louderback
Louisville

Farmworkers from Florida are Calling All People of Faith to join them on

**Thursday, May 16, 2002
8am—10am**

**Tricon Global HQ
1441 Gardiner Lane
Louisville KY**

*to stand in support of their demands
for fair wages and working conditions.*

Background: Since 1997, tomato pickers in Immokalee, Florida's largest farmworker community, have been organizing for the right to join in talks with the state's corporate tomato growers to find ways to improve farm labor conditions and raise the crop picking piece rate. Despite signature drives, several community-wide work stoppages, a 230-mile march across South Florida, and a 30-day hunger strike by six members of the Coalition of Immokalee Workers (CIW) — ultimately ended by the intervention of former President Jimmy Carter — the growers continue to refuse to meet with farm worker representatives and the picking piece rate remains nearly unchanged from pre-1980 levels. When workers discovered that Taco Bell is a major buyer of the tomatoes they pick, they informed company executives in January, 2000 of the deplorable wages and working conditions in Florida's fields and requested a meeting to discuss possible solutions. Due to growing public pressure, Taco Bell met with CIW representatives in March, but no action was taken. This shareholder action is the next step.

Members of the Coalition of Immokalee Workers are largely Latino, Indigenous, and Haitian farmworkers, organizing for better wages and working conditions in Florida's fields. They are asking us to support their effort at speaking to shareholders on May 16, and until resolution, support the Taco Bell Boycott.

**Farmworkers are traveling from Florida
to stand witness outside the shareholders meeting
on May 16 while others are addressing
the shareholders inside the meeting.**

*Standing in solidarity with these workers
will strengthen their message and
impact the negotiations.*

**FACT: A worker would have to pick 2 tons
of tomatoes in a day to make \$50.**

Other activities for the day include informational leafleting
in front of Taco Bell restaurants and a community forum.
For more info or to volunteer, please call KY JwJ at 625-3724.

From the Midwest to the Mid-south, supporters are traveling to Louisville to be part of this action. We hope to see you: Justice and witness Ministries of the United Church of Christ, Kentucky Jobs with Justice, the Coalition of Immokalee Workers, the Kentucky Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression and the Kentucky Interfaith Taskforce on Latin America and the Carribean.

From Pakistan to Paintsville, workers movement lives

After more than two decades of management's repression of Pakistani steelworkers, production in the steel mills came to a standstill March 8, when thousands of workers took control of all the plants and blocked the national highway. One demand was for a probe into the country's worst industrial accident, which happened in June 2001 in a steel mill, killing nine and injuring two.

The workers explained that the mills were not even carrying out the required plant maintenance, owing to which accidents had happened even after the June disaster, and were showing the money thus saved as profit.

The administration hastily agreed to most of the workers' demands. "This is one of the most important victories of the Pakistani proletariat in recent times..." wrote observer Sadaf Zahra.

As chronicled by press statements issued by the Congress of South African Trade Unions, we can report a stunning workers' victory:

April 4 NUMSA Strike: Today, nearly 1,000 workers belonging to the National Union of Metalworkers of South Africa at



Rustenburg Base Metal Refinery Company – a subsidiary of the Anglo-Platinum – have commenced with their protected strike.

The dispute was triggered by the company unilaterally changing the old medical aid scheme (Goodhope medical) and introducing a new scheme (Anglo-Platinum). Workers oppose this plan because of limited benefits: the scheme has a majority of white medical doctors who do not reside where the workers stay; it does not cover workers after retirement; it forces workers to contribute 10 percent more; and it excludes extended family members.

April 11 NUMSA Victory: Today, in the Johannesburg Labour Court, Judge Landman ruled that the change from Goodhope medical aid to Anglo-platinum medical aid is a breach of the conditions of employment because workers will be required to contribute an extra 10 percent. The judge ruled also that the company has no power to change the medical aid society of the workers without their consent.

But what of those who have no appeal to or protection from a labor board? John Sweeney states on March 27: The AFL-CIO is very disappointed by the Supreme Court's five-four decision today... invalidating the limited backpay remedy that the National Labor Relations Board has crafted for cases in which undocumented workers have been discharged by their employers in violation of the National Labor Relations Act. By forbidding the NLRB to remedy even a portion of the harm caused by an unlawful firing, the Court's decision allows employers to, in dissenting Justice Breyer's words, "violate the labor laws at least once with impunity."

Now for the other end of the spectrum:

Although a deferred prosecution agreement was never intended for serious, repeat wrongdoers like Arthur Andersen, the Justice Department, using such an agreement, will possibly drop its indictment of Arthur Andersen and put the accounting firm on probation for a period of time. If Andersen doesn't get caught engaging in further wrongdoing during this period, the firm's criminal slate will be wiped clean, Russell Mokhiber and Robert Weissman reported in an article headlined "Don't Defer, Don't Prefer – Prosecute."

In 1996, the United States Attorney in Connecticut agreed to defer prosecution of a federal criminal investigation of Andersen's endorsement of a misleading financial prospectus by Colonial Realty Company, which went bankrupt in 1990. Andersen paid \$10.3 million to resolve its potential criminal liability and was placed on probation for 90 days. The bankruptcy sunk thousands of investors. Connecticut Attorney General Richard Blumenthal has said recently that "in Colonial, Andersen also inexplicably destroyed an unknown number of documents and electronic files."

Back to the workers' world: Council Speaker Gifford Miller introduced the NYC Living Wage Bill, Intro 66, to the New York City Council. As opposed to the minimum wage, the living wage is that which is necessary for a family to pay its bills. The proposed NYC wage will start at \$8.10/hour for employees who are covered by a health plan; those without a health plan will receive an additional \$1.50/hour premium.

As an illustration of the need for a living wage, Jefferson County has seen a median *rent* increase of 6.5 percent while the median *income* fell 4.8 percent from 1980 to 1990, according to Maria Price of Kentucky Jobs with Justice, which has been working diligently along with others to promote the living wage in Louisville. On April 4 at Zion Baptist Church, for example, an event commemorated the anniversary of Dr. Martin Luther King's assassination, celebrating his commitment to worker's rights and emphasizing their inextricable link with civil rights.

Working for their own rights, nurses traveled to Frankfort from across Kentucky on March 28 to appear at a hearing on House Bill 91, the bill to assure safe staffing and end forced overtime in hospitals and nursing homes. Rep. Joni Jenkins (D), sponsored the bill at the request of the Nurses Professional Organization.

Among nurses who testified was Sandy Dings of Paintsville, who was fired when she protested nurses' being given more patients than they could safely care for. The NPO's bill would add protection so that nurses would be freer to stand up for good staffing standards without losing their jobs.

Kentucky has not yet joined the states that have already set minimum nurse-to-patient ratios and protected nurses from required overtime; unfortunately, the bill will go no further this session. However, the representatives clearly felt pressure and admitted that this problem is not going away.

Already, on April 2, the House passed Resolution 290, sponsored by Rep. Jenkins and Rep. Mary Lou Marzian. The resolution acknowledges the validity of the nurses' concerns, e.g., that many "hospitals and facilities have reduced staffing to often dangerous levels. It also states that the Kentucky NPO has worked for the benefit of patient safety, enumerating their proposals in HB 91. We haven't won the pool game as yet, but we've placed the balls in a winning position.

Let us take a moment to mourn the loss of life in the occupied West Bank town of Jenin, and the Israeli refusal to allow the UN to investigate to see if war crimes were committed. The Palestinian dead were poor and working class people, as were most of the Israeli IDF soldiers who did the killing. This senseless slaughter serves only the arms manufacturers, who have a neat way to test new weaponry. "You have shed blood abundantly, and you have made great wars. You shall not build a house unto My name, because you have shed much blood upon the earth in my sight..." (I Chronicles 22:8-9).

Contact Ira Grupper at irag@iglou.com.



The Demise of Democracy: The Rise of Corporate Power

The Duluth Entertainment and Convention Center

July 28-30, 2002 * Duluth, Minnesota

Topics: Money and Politics, Media and Public Opinion, Globalization, Corporate Governance, Consumerism and Corporate Welfare

Speakers: Paul Wellstone (tentative), John Stauber, David Korten, Marjorie Kelly, John De Graaf, Paul Templet, John Nichols, Monika Bauerlein and many others

Workshops: Conducted by panels composed of leading national activists. The workshops are designed to educate and engage conference participants, to identify solution strategies and the skills necessary for their implementation, to strengthen connections between those currently working on these issues, to establish new coalitions and working groups.

Early Registration Fees:

Large Organizations: \$100; Small Organizations: \$50(*\$25); Students: Free

* \$25 Scholarships available to first 100 small organization registrants

Please see www.isfusa.org for more information

Contact: Sue Mageau smageau@isfusa.org Phone: (218) 525-4781

The Democracy Revitalization Project is a collaborative effort between
The University of MN, Duluth's Center for Ethics and Public Policy (CEPP)
The Institute for a Sustainable Future (ISF)

Major funding provided by The University of Minnesota McKnight Arts and Humanities Endowment

Peace in Mideast

(continued from page 1)

Some of the Louisville visitors were trapped in a hotel in Bethlehem during gunfire outside, refusing an Israeli offer of evacuation.

“Once the tanks surrounded the community and it was declared a war zone, people weren’t allowed out on the streets,” Bricking said. “We weren’t allowed out of the hotel. There was a time when we were without electricity.”

Rudd said contact with Louisvillians, particularly Palestinian-American professor Ibrahim Imam, boosted morale throughout the trip.

“We had cell phones. We talked to Ibrahim every few hours and news reporters called every night to see how we were doing and that was very comforting,” she said.

Some in Louisville, particularly talk show callers, called the delegation biased against Israel because they did not visit Israeli suicide bombing victims. Bricking said the curfew prevented delegation members from doing that, which they had

planned to do.

Sharon Wallace said most Palestinians support non-violent means of winning a homeland.

“It’s clear that the majority of Palestinians do not support the suicide attacks,” she said. “According to their religion, it’s wrong to kill people.”

She added: “We will not stop any of the violence unless we address the issue of the occupation and Palestinian rights.”

Bricking said the destruction was so overwhelming, that he believes a “Marshall Plan” will be needed, referring to the plan that rebuilt Europe after World War II.

“What I know is – more than I did before – that there are people there just like us who want to live their lives and maybe make a living, put their kids through school,” Bricking said. “The ones we talked to were not for suicide bombers... Some of them said they wanted peace so a normal society could come back.”



—photos by Joe Roehrig

Dennis Bricking, left, smiles while Carla Wallace gets a hug at Louisville’s airport after returning from the Mideast. Backers, right, show their support.

FEAR OF IRAQ INVASION MOUNTS

A world-wide effort is underway to prevent more attacks on Iraq, the next target in the war on terrorism. The latest rumor is that a massive invasion is planned for January.

In the past eleven years, the US has led a devastating economic and air assault on Iraq in an effort to weaken Saddam Hussein. Over a million people have been killed (including an estimated average of 150 children a day.) Two UN humanitarian coordinators, Denis Halliday and Hans von Sponeck, resigned their posts rather than cooperate with policies they deemed genocidal.

A splendid article by Kathy Kelly, founder of **Voices in the Wilderness**, can be found in *Fellowship*, March/April 2002, entitled “**The Long Wait.**” She strongly criticizes that “Oil for Food” program stating that after five years it is clear that the US is simply interested in finding excuses to maintain sanctions. Over \$4 billion in desperately needed items remains on hold.

The **FOR NATIONAL CONFERENCE** (June 15-19) at Manhattan College in New York City will campaign, working with AFSC and Pax Christi, to gather support for shipping water purification equipment to Iraqi civilians in violation of US/UN economic sanctions. They are also promoting the **PEACE PLEDGE**, part of the **Campaign of Conscience**, to halt escalation of the US war in Iraq. (For a copy, see the April issue of **FORsooth**, page 6) Please sign on if you have not already done so. Join others pledging opposition to the war against Iraq in a powerful, pro-active peace movement, promoting a more peaceful and just global community.

The Louisville **FOR** Chapter will help to sponsor a student, Farah Mokhtareizadeh to participate in the **Walk to Iraq** planned by **Voices in the Wilderness** to begin on May 22. (See calendar)

Jean's Journal

An update on area events by Jean Edwards

Bloc) suggests that it was after the demolition of some 50 homes in the Rafah refugee camp

Or perhaps it was when Colonel Yig’al Shochat, who had lost a leg in the Yom Kippur war, called upon his comrades, the airforce pilots, to refuse to execute orders that are manifestly illegal, such as bombing Palestinian towns.

“Suddenly the public woke up to the possibility that war crimes are being committed in its name.” Avnery wrote. “The mental block was broken, a public debate about war crimes, and consequently about the occupation itself, began.”

All of the above describes the hopeful situation of last February. What shall we say today, with refugee camps looking as though they have been struck by an earthquake, where terrorists and innocents alike have been killed in large numbers, with homes blown up and bulldozed and refugee camps besieged? Was Sharon’s intent to eradicate terrorism or to cripple the Palestinian spirit? asks David Lamb writing in the *Los Angeles Times*. (See the *Louisville Courier-Journal*, 4/21/02, All)

George Morrison, editor of this newspaper **FORsooth**, spoke of his disbelief and absolute horror when he saw the photographs taken by Cindy Scheldorf when she went with the Louisville delegation to Palestine in early April.

DEATH PENALTY LEGISLATION MOVES FORWARD

A sad mood prevailed when the small death penalty coalition gathered for its monthly meeting on April 23. The Kentucky legislature had failed to enact any of our proposed legislation, failed even to bring it up before the committee in order to get it out for a vote. We thought it was all over. The hard work of lobbying and traveling to Frankfort by so many volunteers, and especially by Father Patrick Delahanty, was all for nought.

Then Carl Wedekind came forth with news he had just heard on his cel phone as he was driving to the meeting. It so happened that **Representative Jim Wayne** had introduced two amendments on the death penalty to the budget bill at the special session of the legislature. Calling for a two year moratorium while more study can be done, both were approved. One will ban spending state money to execute anyone who was 16 or 17 years old when the crime was committed. This will save the life of Kevin Stanford.

The other amendment will prohibit use of state funds to execute anyone on death row who is mentally retarded. Upon hearing this news, our dedicated committee members expressed disbelief and then shouted for joy. It seems that miracles do still happen, even in the Kentucky state legislature.

CONFUSED ABOUT WHICH CANDIDATES DESERVE YOUR VOTE IN THE MAY PRIMARY? **Call the Fairness Campaign, 893-0788.** They can send you an excellent summary and evaluation of all of the candidates. **WORK FOR PROGRESSIVE CANDIDATES, AND VOTE ON MAY 28.**

PEACE MOVEMENT SWELLS IN ISRAEL

The above headline refers to a peace rally in Tel Aviv, Israel last February when an estimated 10,000 Jews and Arabs from all over Israel filled the large Tel Aviv Museum plaza. Hope and enthusiasm were in the air as reported in “Muste Notes” (Winter 2002).

The announcement by 50 reserve officers and soldiers that they refuse to serve in the occupied territories had broken a dam. Public opinion polls showed that nearly a third of the Jewish public supported the refuseniks.

Despair was left behind as the demonstrators now demanded action. It is difficult to fix the exact moment when the mood changed. Uri Avnery, founder of “Gush Shalom” (Peace

*Join Us to Plan Direct Action
To Stop Violence
in Israel and Palestine
And to Prevent War Against the
People of Iraq*

**Who: Fellowship of Reconciliation /Pax Christi
Working Group to Prevent War Against Iraq**

When: Wednesday, May 22, 2002 at 7 p.m.

Where: The Clifton Center, 2117 Payne St., Louisville

For Details: Call 899-1952

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The many faces of Buddhism are evident in Louisville

by Bronson Rozier

Buddhism is often misunderstood as a religion that calls for removing oneself from the world and denying feeling and caring. There certainly is a strain within the very broad tradition of Buddhism that lends to that interpretation. However, built upon the solid foundation of the root teachings of the Buddha, there is a way that very much involves itself in the world. To simplify, this tradition is called The Mahayana or (great way or vehicle).

I would like to share and introduce the teaching I follow, and was fortunate enough to be ordained five years ago in the Mahayana Way taught by the Ven. Thich Nhat Hahn and the Tiep Hien Order of Interbeing. I feel these teachings and practice of Vietnamese Zen are particularly important, in these “times that try peoples souls” no matter what religious tradition you may or may not follow.

The name of our Order, Tiep Hien, explains much about our teachings. The key to our practice is mindfulness, awareness or to be “in touch with” or “Tiep”. What are we to be in touch with? The answer is reality, the reality of the world and the reality of the mind. That is, our `inner’ life-feeling, habitual thinking and acting, etc. It also involves looking deeply past outer appearance to see our true mind. When practicing this way we see that what-ever our mind focuses on is also mind, and

to be able to truly see `within’ ourselves we must be in touch with the “outer world.” This is everything around us the animal, vegetal, and mineral realms.

If we want to be in touch, we have to get out of our shell and look clearly and deeply at the wonders of life — the snow-flakes, the moonlight, the songs of the birds, the beautiful flowers — and also the suffering — hunger, disease, torture, oppression; the September 11th terrorist at-

deeply enough the meaning of Mahayana.” That if we understand deeply enough the interconnectedness, or “interbeing” nature of things, we will see with equanimity the suffering of others and our individual suffering. Those that our government killed in Afghanistan and the killing done with the terrorist bombing causes suffering that are equally our suffering. Those killed by suicide bombings in Israel and the Israeli occupation are equally our tragedy.

awake here and now and to act in a way to manifest the Kingdom of Heaven, Awakening, or the Pureland now.

Our tradition’s founder, Lieu Quan of 18th century Vietnam, says “for awakening, wisdom (insight) and action must go together.” Understanding this, we realize that meditation, while essential, is only a small part of our practice. Accordingly, we aspire to bring our practice into the world for the benefit for people, animals, plants and environment practicing the Bodhisattva, Ideal. We wish to become an oasis of resistance to the modern ills of a fast paced life oriented to excessive consumption and the resulting war and exploitation.

If folks are interested in joining in meditation with others who look to these teachings, we meet on Sunday mornings 10 a.m. (EDT) at the Orbis Center, 107 N. Crescent Ave. near Frankfort Avenue in Louisville.

We are also establishing a small circle of friends for intensive study and active practice in this Vietnamese Zen tradition on Thursday evenings with the aspiration to develop the mind/heart of awakening and love and to manifest the Buddha, the Christ and Bodhisattvas in our lives. If you are interested in either type of practice please get in touch with me.

The writer is a lay brother in the Buddhist Order of Interbeing. Fore more information, contact him at (502) 451-2193. E-mail: brozier@bellsouth.net.

National FOR statement on Mideast terror, militarism

“The ultimate weakness of violence is that it is a descending spiral, begetting the very thing it seeks to destroy. Instead of diminishing evil, it multiplies it... Through violence you may murder the hater, but you do not murder hate. In fact, violence merely increases hate... Returning violence for violence multiplies violence, adding deeper darkness to a night already devoid of stars. Darkness cannot drive out hate; only love can do that.”

—Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

The carnage in Israel and Palestine goes unchecked. Random suicide bombings occur in Israeli malls, restaurants, busy street corners, checkpoints. Palestinian cities are under siege by the Israeli Defense Forces; F-16s, helicopters, and missiles terrorize at will. Water tanks are broken, electricity and phone lines cut, people cannot leave their homes. Palestinian men between 15-40 are being rounded up.

Even the Red Cross has no access to the wounded. The Ramallah hospital was forced to bury its dead in a mass grave dug in the parking lot because access to and from the hospital is denied by the IDF; even medical aid vehicles and ambulances and personnel are being attacked and turned back.

We condemn in the strongest terms those who kill and terrorize, whether suicide bombers or government-sanctioned, uniformed bearers of weapons. Little of the violence can even be called revenge. The suicide bomber may have legitimate grievances, and may think of his or her act as justified by previous violence and killing; yet the target is not the perpetrator of violence but rather innocent persons.

The Israeli government may likewise be responding to outrageous violence, but its collective punishment mostly affects the innocent. It is a ghastly ricochet of violence back and forth, with most of the victims being bystanders.

We praise in the strongest terms the peacemakers whose work is mostly unreported on by the media. We include the Israeli and Palestinian Bereaved Families for Peace comprised of the Parents’ Circle in Israel and the National Movement for Change in the Palestinian Authority, all relatives of those killed in the conflict. They joined together to exhibit 1,050 flag-draped caskets, first in Israel and then in Boston, Washington D.C. and New York City.

In the midst of their grief, these families called on the U.N., the U.S., and the

European Union to demand an end to all the violence and a return to negotiations to end the conflict; Rabbis for Human Rights, who write, “Slavery takes many forms and Pharaoh appears in many guises. Today Israelis are enslaved by fear and anger.... Israelis and Palestinians have each suffered so much that they can only see themselves as victims and the other as Pharaoh.

“Pharaoh dominates when our own anger and fear render us incapable of recognizing the image of God in every human being;” the more than a thousand Israeli soldiers who, on principle, refuse to serve in the occupied territories. And the Israelis and Palestinians who work side-by-side to rebuild homes and replant trees bulldozed by Israeli authorities; Palestinian groups such as the Center for Rapprochement, Wi’am, the Israeli Committee Against House Demolitions, the International Solidarity Movement and the Center for Conflict Resolution and Reconciliation.

Violence on the scale and duration that is occurring in Israel/Palestine could not continue without the financial, military, diplomatic and moral support of the United States. As residents of the United States, we feel it is necessary to acknowledge our nation’s role in the violence. The United

States has aided, both financially and through the power of its United Nations Security Council veto, a situation in which Israel has occupied and built numerous settlements on Palestinian territories while Palestinian civilians are denied international protection. The inhabitants of the territories have not been accorded dignity or self-determination.

The United States has supplied arms on a massive scale throughout the region and to Israel in particular. The US has provided the funding and weapons that have perpetuated the occupation and settlement expansion, which stand as roadblocks to peace.

Our country must work with Arab states to de-fund this bloodbath and fund the peacemakers who seek to bring healing. We can start funding the peacemakers without our government.

Continued US funding should be conditioned on strict observance that US weaponry be used only for defensive purposes and not to sustain an illegal occupation, and without violating fundamental human rights and international law. Furthermore, the United States and other wealthy nations should take up Martin Luther King’s proposal shortly before he was killed: begin a “Marshall Plan” in the region to dry up the pools of misery and poverty in which desperation and violence thrive.

People on both sides of the conflict are realizing that the current path is a tragic dead-end. Israeli Rear Admiral Ami Ayalon (retired) and the Saudi Initiative approved by the Arab League have made parallel proposals for a just peace. They are hopeful starting points for a peaceful resolution of the conflict.

We, like they, support a solution which provides for an immediate end to the violence; sovereignty and security of Israel within its 1967 borders; withdrawal of Israeli forces from the occupied territories of Gaza and the West Bank; sovereignty and self-determination for the state of Palestine; the right of return for refugees who fled their homes during the war; Jerusalem as the shared capital of both states; and respect of the human rights of all people both, in Israel and Palestine. We call on the government of the United States to apply all its influence in creating such a solution.

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FINANCIAL REPORT	
BEGINNING BALANCE	\$5,451.49
DONATIONS	<u>892.10</u>
(\$475 for Washington, DC trip)	
EXPENDITURES: (Dec-Jan)	
FORsooth Editing	\$150.00
FORsooth Printing	200.00
FORsooth Mailing	170.00
FOR National Dues	60.00
Office Expense	<u>97.85</u>
	\$677.85
ENDING BALANCE	<u>\$677.85</u>
	\$5,665.74
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PLEASE SEND CONTRIBUTIONS TO:	
Tim Scheldorf, Treasurer Fellowship of Reconciliation 2917 Beaumont Road Louisville, KY 40205	



Calendar for peacemakers

(continued from page 8)

July 30-Aug 12 **WITNESS FOR PEACE DELEGATION TO COLOMBIA** – to observe and report on the impact of US military aid to Colombia, to hear testimony from those directly affected, and to conduct a nonviolent witness at Ft. Benning SOA. **Apply by June 15.** Contact Carol Richardson, 1/614-447-9227. Send \$100 with application. (Note: Gail Phares, SE Regional Coordinator, just returned from leading a delegation of 37 U.S.labor leaders and environmentalists, reports that dozens of labor organizers and human rights activists have been murdered in recent months. There are daily massacres of civilians.)

PEACEMAKER TRAINING INSTITUTE, CARBONDALE, IL, August 3-13, 2002. PTI is an FOR program that offers training for young adults interested in becoming more effective peace and justice activists. Those between the ages of eighteen and twenty-five are cordially invited to this training at Carbondale, IL . **Cost: \$300-375. Some scholarship assistance available as well as fundraising suggestions from FOR, Nyack. Request application from FOR, Box 271, Nyack, NY. 845/358-4601. fax: 845-358-4924 www.forusa.org. Contact Maryrose Dolezol, PTI Coordinator, at the Nyack number. Or call Joe Monahan, 618/536-1286 or Joel Landry, 618/529-4284.**

Calendar for peacemakers

- May 12 (Sun) **NATION RADIO.** Tune in to **NPR 89.3 FM** at 7:00 am for this analysis of current events from *Nation* magazine. 7:00 am. *Every* Sunday morning.
- May 12 (Sun) **MOTHER’S DAY – BENEFIT FOR THE “HOUSE OF RUTH MOTHERS.”** Send \$50 so that a special card may be sent to honor our own mothers or in memory of someone else’s mother. Make check payable to House of Ruth and mail to:607 E. Saint Catherine St., Louisville, KY 40203. Call Sister Julie Driscoll, 587-5080.
- May 16 (Thu) **PROTEST RALLY AT TRICON GLOBAL STOCKHOLDERS MEETING ON GARDINER LANE** (across from the post office) in support of the Immokolee tomato pickers and the Taco Bell boycott. 8:00 am. Call **Jobs With Justice**, 625-3724.
- May 17 (Fri) **NOON VIGIL FOR PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST**, *every Friday* at 6th and Broadway in front of the Federal Bldg where Senator McConnell’s office is located. We vigil in solidarity with the “Women in Black” who vigil in Israel at noon every Friday. Sponsored by the Louisville Committee for Israeli/Palestinian States, the American Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee, and the Fellowship of Reconciliation. Call Beverley Marmion, 451-5658.
- May 18 (Sat) **FORUM TO DISCUSS SAFE, AFFORDABLE HOUSING.** Metro United Way, 334 E Broadway, Community meeting room. 9:00 am to noon. To reserve a seat, call John Nevitt, 583-2822, ext. 248.
- May 18 (Sat) **“GIVE PEACE A DANCE,”** to benefit the **Peace Education Program.** Rudyard Kipling, 422 West Oak Street, 7:00 pm. Light buffet, cash bar, live music: 7:00 “The Olive Trees,” 9:00 “Salsa, R&B, HipHop,” 10:00 “Dugby.” Donation at the door. Call 589-6583.
- May 19 (Sun) **REPRESENTATIVE CYNTHIA MCKINNEY**, Fifth-term Democrat from Georgia: **“The Middle East and Related Topics.”** Sponsored by the American Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee, The Fellowship of Reconciliation, The Committee for Israeli/Palestinian States, the Rainbow Coalition and others. See flyer in this issue of **FORsooth**. Call Dr. Yacoub, 893-9828.
- May 19 (Sun) **PROGRESSIVE FILM SERIES** featuring **“Burn.”** Sponsored by Kentuckians for the Commonwealth (KFTC). At the **BRYCC HOUSE**, 1055 Bardstown Rd, 5:30 pm. Suggested donation \$1-\$5. For further info or to suggest films, call David Anderson, 280-8177.
- May 19 (Sun) **INTERFAITH DISCUSSION: “Seeking Common Ground: Why Dialogue Is Necessary.”** Sponsored by the Kentuckiana Interfaith Community. 7:00 pm. Keneseth Israel Synagogue, 2531 Taylorsville Road. Call Dr. Roy Fuller, 587-6265.
- May 20 (Mon) **F.O.R. STEERING COMMITTEE**, Presbyterian Seminary, Room 10, Nelson Hall, 7:30pm. Visitors encouraged. Call Pat Geier, 456-6586, or Mary Horvath, 583-4670. **PLEASE NOTE CHANGE IN DATE.**
- May 22 (Wed) **FOR/PAX CHRISTI TASK FORCE ON PREVENTING WAR IN IRAQ.** Clifton Center, 2117 Payne St. 7:00 pm. Call Terry Taylor, 899-1952. ttaylor@mertonfoundation.org
- May 22 (Wed) **14th ANNUAL MEETING OF THE METROPOLITAN HOUSING COALITION** featuring **CRIT LUAllen**, Secretary of the Executive Cabinet of Governor Paul Patton. Papa John’s Cardinal Stadium, 2800 S. Floyd St. 5:30 Social Hour, 6:30 Dinner, 7:00 Program. For tickets (\$35 or \$300 for table of eight), make check payable to **MHC** and mail to 333 Guthrie Green, #409, Louisville, KY 40202. Call 584-6858. Don’t miss **THE** Affordable Housing Event of the year.
- May 22 (Wed) **PEACE WALK TO IRAQ LEAVES FROM NEW YORK**, sponsored by **Voices in the Wilderness**. Three individuals from Louisville will participate, members of a musical group known as “The Psalters.” They will cross the border at Amman, Jordan, and then walk to the Basra Children’s Hospital to deliver medical books and money. The Louisville **F.O.R.** is helping to sponsor one member of the musical group, Farah Mokhtareizadeh. More contributions are needed. Make your check out to **F.O.R.** and indicate it is for Farah. Mail to F.O.R., 2236 Kaelin Ave, Louisville, KY 40205. Call Jean Edwards, 458-8056.
- May 27 (Mon) **17th ANNUAL INTERFAITH MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE**, with music from several vocal groups as well as instrumentalists. Prayers from participating faith traditions for those who have died for peace and justice in the past and those who are dying now. Sponsored by **Interfaith Paths to Peace**, at **UNITY CHURCH**, 757 S. Brook Street. 11:00 am. Call Janet Irwin , 584-1444.
- May 31 (Fri) **DESSERTS! DESSERTS!** Come and sample mouth-watering desserts in the Undercroft of the Cathedral of the Assumption, 441 S. Fifth St., 11-3. Fundraiser to benefit **AIDS Service groups** in Louisville. Call 897-3603.
- June 2 (Sun) **HIROSHIMA/NAGASAKI COMMEMORATION COMMITTEE**, Presbyterian Seminary, Room 10. 7:00 pm. Call 458-8056.

WARNING: DATES IN THIS CALENDAR ARE CLOSER THAN THEY APPEAR.

June 5 (Wed) **DEADLINE FOR THE JUNE ISSUE OF FORsooth.** Contact George Morrison, editor, 451-0631. klm@iglou.com For calendar listings, call Jean Edwards, 458-8056.

- June 5 (Wed) **SHALOM DINNER**, featuring **The Rev. Arch Taylor: “Proliferation of U.S. Made Weapons.”** Potluck dinner at Douglass Boulevard Christian Church, 2005 Douglass Blvd. 6:30 pm. Call Rosie Sprawls, 458-8061.
- June 9 (Sun) **INTERFAITH DISCUSSION: “The Future of Faith Relations.”** Sponsored by the Kentuckiana Interfaith Community (KIC). 7:00 pm. Islamic Cultural Center, 14005 Upper River Road. Call Dr. Roy Fuller, 587-6265.
- June 12 (Wed) **KITLAC** (Ky Interfaith Task Force on Latin America and the Caribbean). Presbyterian Seminary, 7:30pm. Call David Horvath, 583-4670 or Pat Geier, 456-6586.
- June 13 (Thu) **FORsooth LABELING** at Beverley Marmion’s, 6:30pm. All hands needed! Call 451-5658.
- June 14 (Fri) **PUBLIC FORUM & DIALOGUE WITH INTERNATIONAL LEADERS PARTICIPATING IN THE “Thomas Merton Retreat 2002: Spirituality and the Environment.”** Brown Theater, 315 West Broadway. 7:00 pm. Free. (\$10 donation suggested) Contact Terry Taylor, 502/899-1952. Fax: 502/899-1907 e-mail: ttaylor@mertonfoundation.org www.mertonfoundation.org (See special article in this issue of **FORsooth**.)
- June 15 (Sat) **JUSTICE IN MOTION: A NEW PRIDE EVENT** to be launched, a 5K walk/run in Iroquois Park, starting and ending at the Amphitheater. (Also a 1K Family Walk) Entry fee \$15 before June 7, \$20 after June 7 and day of race. Fee is optional but will provide a T-shirt, a “goody bag” and chance to win door prizes. Hopefully this exciting venture will raise \$10,000 for the Fairness Education Fund. Come on out and do your part. Call 893-0788.
- June 19 (Wed) **SHALOM DINNER**, featuring **Carla Wallace: “Struggle for Peace in the Middle East.”** Potluck Dinner at Douglass Boulevard Christian Church, 2005 Douglass Blvd. 6:30 pm. Call Rosie Sprawls, 458-8061.
- July 28 (Sun) **“QUESTIONING SECURITY” - Annual Hiroshima/Nagasaki Commemoration Event** featuring **Paloma Galindo, organizer for the Oak Ridge Environmental Peace Alliance**, Oak Ridge, Tennessee. Hosted by the **Soka Gakkai International –Ky congregation**, on Bardstown Road at Richmond Drive. Watch for details in the June issue of **FORsooth**.

OUT OF TOWN EVENTS

- May 10-12 (FSS) **NO STAR WARS! INTERNATIONAL SPACE ORGANIZING CONFERENCE & PROTEST**, Berkeley, CA. Keynote: **Representative Barbara Lee**, the only person in Congress to vote against the call to war in Central Asia. Hosted by Nevada Desert Experience. Protest planned at Lockheed Martin. Contact: **Global Network Against Weapons & Nuclear Power in Space.** PO Box 90083, Gainesville, FL 32607. (352)337-9274. Globalnet@mindspring.com Coordinator, Bruce Gagnon. See his article in “Fellowship,” Nov/Dec, 2001, and hear him speak at the National Conference.
- June 6-9 (TFSS) **ARAB AMERICANS MOBILIZING FOR EMPOWERMENT**, 19th National Convention, Marriott Hotel, Arlington, VA. www.adc.org/convention/2002/ In Louisville, call Dr. Yacoub Yacoub, 893-9828,
- June 15-19 (SSMTW) FOR NATIONAL CONFERENCE: “THE POWER OF NONVIOLENCE – Exploring Alternatives”** will provide fellowship and dialogue with people from over 40 countries. Manhattan College, Riverdale, NYC Register online: www.forusa.org/events or write FOR National Conference Registration, PO Box 271, Nyack, NY 10960 Tel. 1/845-358-4601 Fax: 1/845-358-4924 Email: conference@forusa.org
- June 19 (Wed) **FOR INTERFAITH PEACE-BUILDER DELEGATION TO ISRAEL AND PALESTINE**, cosponsored by Muslim Peace Fellowship and Jewish Peace Fellowship. A two-week experience traveling throughout the area and meeting with Israeli and Palestinian peace and justice human rights activists, political leaders and settlers. Cost \$2,250, includes air fare from NY, hotels, breakfasts and dinners. If you can go, contact: **FOR Interfaith Peace-Builders, c/o NVI**, 4545 42nd St, NW, Suite 209, Washington, DC 20016. (202/244-0951) Fax: 202/244-6396 E-mail: middleeast@forusa.org
- July 28-30 (SMT) **REVITALIZE DEMOCRACY: The Demise of Democracy – The Rise of Corporate Power.** Conference to discuss Money and Politics, Media and Public Opinion, Globalization, Corporate Governance, Consumerism and Corporate Welfare. Sponsored by The Democracy Revitalization Project. Duluth Convention Center, MN \$25 registration, scholarships available to first 100 small organization registrants. See www.isfusa.org Contact Sue Mageau smageau@isfusa.org If interested in going from Louisville, call George Perkins, 425-6645. He plans to attend.

Regular Meeting Times for Area Organizations

- AD HOC COALITION FOR AFFIRMATIVE ACTION – (778-8130)
- AMERICA 2000 DEMOCRATIC CLUB – 3rd Tuesday (451-2155)
- AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL – Various Tuesdays (637-8951)
- ANTI-RACIST ACTION – Every Saturday (569-1780)
- BREAD FOR THE WORLD – 2nd Tuesday (239-4317)
- CAPA (Citizens Against Police Abuse) – 2nd & 4th Thursdays (778-8130)
- C.E.A.S.E. [Citizens for Equitable Assignment to School Environments] – 3rd Saturday (778-9427)
- CLARK & FLOYD COUNTIES AIDS COALITION – 3rd Thursday (288-2706)
- CLOUT [Citizens of Louisville Organized and Working Together] -(583-1267)
- COMMITTEE FOR ISRAELI/PALESTINIAN STATES – 3rd Sunday (451-5658)
- COMMON CAUSE – 1st Tuesday, every other month (228-1534)
- EARTH SAVE LOUISVILLE – 2nd Sunday (569-1876)
- FAIRNESS CAMPAIGN – Quarterly community dialogues and volunteer opportunities (893-0788)
- FELLOWSHIP OF RECONCILIATION – 4th Monday (456-6586 or 583-4670)
- GREATER LOUISVILLE SIERRA CLUB – 3rd Tuesday (897-3335)
- GREEN PARTY – Every other Saturday (635-5978)
- HABITAT FOR HUMANITY – Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays & Saturdays (583-6599)
- HATE FREE SCHOOLS COALITION – 3rd Thursday (454-3300)
- INTERFAITH PATHS TO PEACE – 1st Wednesday (896-2697)
- JEFFERSON COUNTY WELFARE REFORM COALITION – 2nd Friday (585-3556)
- JUBILEE 2000 – (583-4670)
- KENTUCKIANA NATIVE AMERICAN SUPPORT GROUP – 1st & 3rd Thursdays (635-2817)
- KENTUCKY JOBS WITH JUSTICE (582-3508, ext. 124)
- KFTC [KENTUCKIANS FOR THE COMMONWEALTH] – 2nd Monday, jointly with POWER (473-0464)
- KY AIDS LIFE ALLIANCE (KALA) – Every Wednesday (969-0336, mobile 262-0118)
- KY ALLIANCE AGAINST RACIST & POLITICAL REPRESSION – 3rd Monday (778-8130)
- KY COALITION TO ABOLISH THE DEATH PENALTY – 4th Tuesday (585-2895)
- KY INTERFAITH TASKFORCE ON LATIN AMERICA & THE CARIBBEAN (KITLAC) – 2nd Wednesday (583-4670)
- KY RAINBOW/PUSH COALITION – (774-4000)
- LESBIAN SUPPORT GROUP – 2nd and 4th Thursdays (587-6225)
- LOUISVILLE COMMUNITY OF MINDFUL LIVING (Thich Naht Hanh Tradition) – Sundays (451-2193)
- LOUISVILLE WOMEN CHURCH – 2nd Sunday (456-5261)
- LOUISVILLE YOUTH GROUP – Friday nights (454-3300), www.louisvilleyouthgroup.org
- METROPOLITAN HOUSING COALITION – 4th Wednesday (584-6858)
- NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of Color People) – 3rd Monday (634-1804)
- NAGASAKI/HIROSHIMA COMMEMORATION COMMITTEE – 1st Sunday (458-8056)
- NAMI (National Alliance for the Mentally Ill) – 2nd Monday (245-5287)
- PARENTS, FAMILIES & FRIENDS OF LESBIANS AND GAYS (P-FLAG) – 3rd Sunday (329-0229)
- PAX CHRISTI – Last Wednesday (899-1952)
- PERU PEACE NETWORK (456-4189)
- POWER [PEOPLE ORGANIZED AND WORKING FOR ENERGY REFORM] – 2nd Monday, jointly with KFTC (778-2687)
- PROGRESSIVE STUDENTS LEAGUE/UL (634-5977)
- RCRC [Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice] – (585-3050)
- RELIGIOUS LEADERS FOR FAIRNESS (587-6935)
- RESULTS (a hunger lobby) – 2nd Saturday (451-4907)
- SHADHULIYYAH SUFI SPIRITUALITY GROUP – Thursday nights (893-6122)

Note: If your group would like to be added to this list or if information needs to be updated, please let us know by calling 458-8056.