

FORsooth

Volume 14, No. 6

A publication of the Louisville Chapter of the Fellowship of Reconciliation www.louisville-for.org

June 2003

Boycott tops goal, is continued; malls quiet on impact

by George Morrison
FORsooth editor
and Eddie Davis
contributing writer

Operators of the Louisville shopping malls it targeted offered little or no comment, but organizers of the March 5-to-May 31 boycott declared the “shop Indiana” campaign a success and announced at a press conference June 4 that the boycott is being extended indefinitely.

Justice Resource Center director Rev. Louis Coleman, said the boycott of Louisville malls, called to prompt the business community to support creating a meaningful police civilian review board, achieved its goal of documenting a shift of at least \$100,000 of spending to Southern Indiana malls and stores.

Organizers asked boycotters to bring receipts to the Justice Resource Center on Cecil Avenue so the effects of the campaign could be tabulated.

“Our goal was a hundred thousand dollars in 90 days,” Coleman said in an interview after the press conference. “We reached that on the 89th day.”

The final tally was about \$102,000 spent in Indiana, he added. A celebration June 6, after FORsooth’s deadline, was to feature activist Dick Gregory, Coleman said.

He said the decision to extend the boy-

cott was prompted by new Metro Louisville police chief Robert White’s decision in June 4 to give written reprimands, but no other punishment, to two officers involved in the fatal shooting of handcuffed suspect James Taylor, who officers said was trying to attack them with a box cutter before they shot him 12 times. Taylor’s death was the seventh by a Louisville resident in police or jail custody since 1998.

Coleman, whose center called for the officers in Taylor’s case to be fired, said boycott organizers had planed to relax a bit after the May 31 ending, but White’s decision changed that.

“This city does not let you relax,” he said.

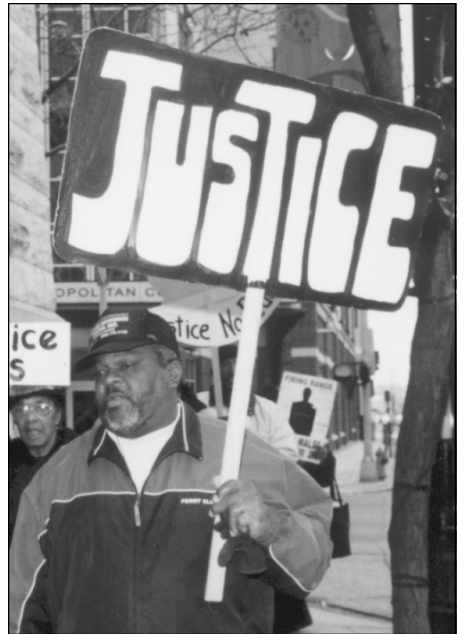
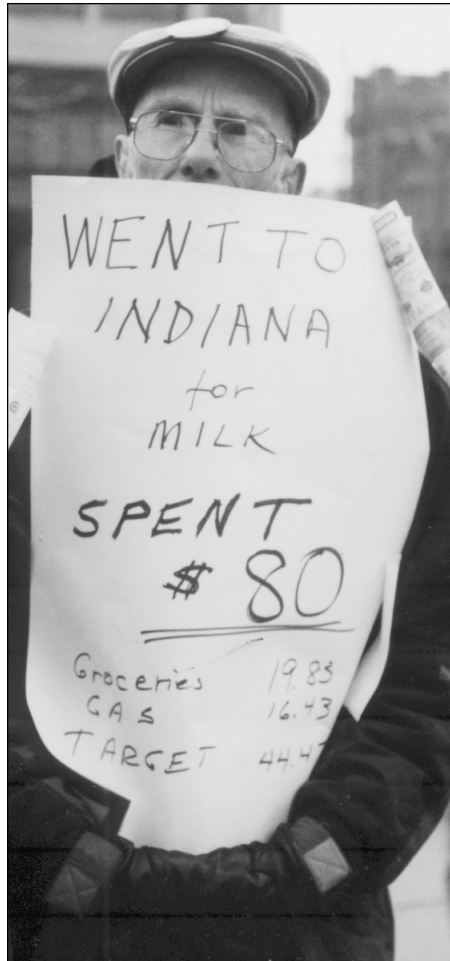
While Justice Resource Center organizers were pleased with the boycott’s results, managers or spokespersons for Malls in Louisville and Southern Indiana were mostly mum.

Calls to representatives of Oxmoor Center, Bashford Manor Mall and the Jefferson Mall—all in Louisville — and the River Falls Mall in Clarksville, Ind. went unreturned.

However, Amy Whittinghill, marketing director for the Green Tree Mall in Clarksville, said the numbers there don’t reflect the idea that shoppers crossed the Ohio River to boycott Louisville.

“Our traffic numbers have remained

(continued on page 2)



— photos by Eddie Davis

A sign, left, documents the impact of one trip to Indiana. Rev. Louis Coleman, above, said boycotting Louisville malls can prompt the business community to back civilian police review.

Bush censorship can’t stop plea for help for Colombia

by George Morrison
FORsooth editor

A professor from Colombia told the Louisville FOR Third Thursday Lunch May 8 the Bush Administration is censoring news from his country and helping defame its peace communities, citing his own presence at the podium as evidence.

Professor Elkin Ramirez, a human rights activist in Medellin, Colombia, told the lunch crowd that he was a substitute speaker for Gildardo Tuberquia, a member of the Peace Community of San Jose de Apartado, Colombia, one of more than 50 such communities which have worked to end war and injustice in the nation.

Tuberquia was to talk about the community’s efforts to stop the war between leftist FARC guerillas and the government and its rightist paramilitaries and to reverse the government’s forced displacement of villagers.

The U.S. State Department denied Tuberquia a visa because the department uncritically accepted Colombian government claims that members of the Peace Communities are tied to the leftist guerillas, Ramirez said.

He called those claims false and part

of a massive effort to discredit the Peace Communities, an effort that has resulted in murders and torture of innocent people by the government or paramilitaries.

“The relationship between the Peace Communities and FARC is a myth the military promotes,” Ramirez said through translator Jutta Meier-Wiedenbach, the national FOR’s coordinator of its Colombia program. “Lawyers for the Peace Community gathered evidence that members of the Peace Community have been the victims of setups. Witnesses have been bought off.... One person said people from the 17th Army brigade offered money to falsely claim Peace Community (members) were linked to the guerrillas.”

As groundless as Ramirez said those claims were (he noted that the leftist FARC guerillas, as well as government forces, have killed community members), the U.S. accepts and acts on them.

“The embassy of the United States has taken them as reason to deny a visa to one member of the Peace Community who was to speak to you today,” he said.

The lunch marked the second known example of Bush Administration censorship geared toward keeping Louisville area

people in the dark about Latin America. In 2001 the administration blocked visas for Cuban labor leaders (on the grounds that they were Cuban government officials and therefore ineligible for entry into the U.S.), preventing them from visiting several U.S. cities, which they had done with no U.S. interference the previous year.

Ramirez said that false linking of the Peace Communities to guerillas has resulted in torture and “disappearances” of San Jose de Apartado members to punish the village for supposedly collaborating with FARC.

He said the FOR’s sending volunteer observers to the communities since February 2002 has helped reduce violence and should be continued.

He said getting the word out, despite

Colombian and U.S. government attempts to censor information, is also crucial.

A brochure distributed at the lunch urged concerned people to call and write congressional representatives asking them to consider alternatives to the military aid to Colombia stepped up since the 1990s. It also said people can help by contributing money to the FOR Colombia Program and considering volunteering as observers, who have ridden on horseback to San Jose de Apartado.

The brochure quoted the village’s Peace Community representatives, who Ramirez said are democratically elected, as saying: “We thank FOR for being here with us, offering your support to a community that day after day says no to impunity and to war. We are happy about your presence here – it makes us flourish.”



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Know your subjects, try for rapport, lobbyists advised

by Eustace Durrett
and Ike M. Thacker IV

“I think your proposal is the right thing to do. But before I’d vote for it, there’s something you need to do. I want you to find one other member of the council who’s willing to support it. Then, you’ll have my vote. But I won’t be left hanging on the cliff twisting in the wind, all by myself.”

That was the response of James Johnson, playing the role of a county official, to a purported constituent in a skit that was part of a seminar on effective lobbying April 12 presented at the University of Louisville.

Johnson himself is a former elected county official of Eagle County, Colorado, which includes Vail. Currently, he is executive director of Kentucky Jobs with Justice and chairperson of the Coalition for the People’s Agenda.

The seminar, called “How To Get City Hall’s Attention,” was sponsored by the Progressive Student League, Fairness, Citizens Against Police Abuse, and Kentuckians For The Commonwealth. These groups also provided discussion leaders and facilitators.

The session began with the question, “What Is Lobbying?” The answer was that lobbying is:

- Asking your boss, teacher, parent, or legislator for something you need.
 - Asking for what you want from somebody who has the power to give it.
 - Meeting with an elected representative to tell her what you think about a certain issue or bill and trying to get her to take action on it.
- The balance of the seminar was divided into several subject areas, with a number of points under each one.
- Tips for lobbying, grouped under headings, were:

GETTING A HEARING

- Study the issue to the point that you can present it clearly and precisely. Request a meeting by letter or phone call. If necessary, call the legislator at home, if his number is listed. Usually, if listed, the legislator does not mind being called at home. Let her know that you are a constituent, if you are. Also, let the legislator know that this is a constituent issue, if it is; and
- Form a team of two or three persons to go with you. The team should be balanced and diverse by gender, age, etc., and should be somewhat knowledgeable about the particular issue that will be discussed.

TEAM PREPARATION:

Define the role of each team member and appoint a leader or point person and make sure that each team member is clear on strategy.

THE LOBBY VISIT:

- Keep things on track, get your point across briefly in a clear manner, have each team member speak about his or her particular insight on the matter, listen to the legislator to know his position on the issue.
- Never get into a “back and forth” with the legislator. Do not make an enemy of her. Try to establish rapport.
- Find out what he is willing to do; find out what the legislator might need from you. If you don’t know the answer to any question she might ask, admit it. Tell her that you will try to find out. The legislator does not expect you to be a walking/sitting encyclopedia on the subject.

AFTER THE MEETING:

- Debrief (including whether the legislator is worth a follow-up).

- Write the legislator a “thank you” note for the meeting, regardless of support; and if this was a project for an organization, write up a report for the record.

TWO OTHER IMPORTANT POINTS

You do not have to be an expert on the issue or be a professional; and nothing beats face-to-face discussion.

It was also pointed out that developing a power grid of the legislative body being dealt with can be a useful and perhaps necessary tool. As an example, a power grid was developed for the Louisville Metro Council at the seminar. The grid was built on who’s to the left, who’s in the middle, and who’s to the right of center in the context of the council.

At the close of the session the following very important admonition was given: Have fun!

Eustace Durrett is an activist for rail transit. Ike Thacker is a cashier in a grocery store. Both are members of Louisvillians in Favor of Equality.

City gets C+ in LIFE report

A new organization promoting economic, racial and social egalitarianism praised Louisville’s living wage ordinance in its initial quarterly report, but faulted the new metro government for failing to pass a strong civilian review board.

Louisvillians in Favor of Equality (LIFE) issued its first “Metro Louisville Report,” which is to come out four times a year. It gave the new Metro Council, which replaced city and county governing bodies after merger took effect in January, a “C+,” adding that the grade denotes performance “above average but with room for considerable improvement.”

The report noted that the living wage ordinance, enacted by the Louisville Board of Aldermen and women just before merger, has an uncertain future on the merged council and under fourth-term mayor Jerry

Abramson. It said city auditor Mike Norman has claimed the increased wages and expansion of health benefits for metro workers would cost the city \$67.7 million, but countered that even an economist opposed to the living wage ordinance said it would not be inflationary. It also noted that opponents presented little or no evidence the living wage would harm the city’s economy and said a Catholic Charities representative has backed the ordinance.

On police use of force, the report echoed concerns of many activists that the police civilian review board hastily enacted in February has no subpoena power or staff to investigate complaints about police.

For a copy of the report or more information about LIFE, contact Ike M. Thacker IV at (502) 473-2659 or Eustace Durrett (502) 459-6361.

Civil rights fete set July 29

The Kentucky Civil Rights Hall of Fame will induct new members July 29 from among 47 nominees.

Kentucky Commission on Human Rights information officer Victoria Dempsey said about a dozen are expected to be inducted. The commission founded the Hall of Fame in 2000.

The nominees include living and deceased people.

One is Willie Gray, a Louisville activist

with the Kentucky Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression and many other groups. He died in 1998.

The inductions will be announced during a ceremony at 2 p.m. July 29 in the atrium of Union Station, 100 West Broadway in Louisville, the commission said. Tickets cost \$15 and help fund the event.

For tickets or more information, contact Glenda Green at (502) 595-4024 or 1-800-292-5566.



Boycott *(continued from page 1)*

consistent with last year’s,” she said. “We have not seen a surge in traffic.”

Still, Coleman said the loss of more than \$100,000 in sales should give the Louisville business community pause to consider working with reformers seeking a stronger civilian review board than the one Louisville hastily enacted in February. That board has no staff to investigate complaints against police and must rely exclusively on

police internal investigations, which is largely the same process used before the board was created.

“We feel very strongly that the leadership in the business community can resolve a lot of our issues,” Coleman said, adding that pollution and police abuse are among those. “They have yet to get in contact with us and attempt to resolve these outstanding issues.”

HELP US SAVE FREE SPEECH

Kentucky’s system of partial-public funding of our elections for Governor puts people above money in our state elections. Thus, it helps secure freedom of speech for ordinary citizens like us. This system makes it much harder for big money to choke out our individual voices.

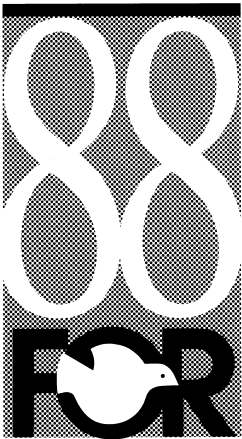
Your contributions in any amount will help us save free speech in Kentucky.

www.commoncause.org

A CHICKENHAWK

A public person, generally male, who fervently advocates military solutions to political problems, but who avoided the opportunity to serve in war, himself.

www.nhgazette.com/chickenhawks



Founded 1915

FORsooth

is published by the Louisville chapter of the Fellowship of Reconciliation.
Send submissions for news stories or commentaries to
2236 Kaelin Ave., Louisville, KY 40205, e-mail: <edwardsfor@aol.com>.

Staff

Editor George Morrison
Calendar editor Jean Edwards
Production manager Barbara Powers
Bulk mailing Beverley Marmion

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

END THE ISRAELI OCCUPATION OF PALESTINE

*Call upon the U.S. to be a friend
to both Israelis and Palestinians*

AT THE VIGIL

12 Noon – 1:00 PM each Friday
Corner of 6th Street & Broadway
Louisville, Kentucky

Louisville Committee for Israeli/Palestinian States (502.451.5658)
Fellowship of Reconciliation (FOR)/Louisville Chapter (502.458.8056)
American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC)/Kentucky Chapter (502.893.9828)

Lessons for activists are found over time, space



This column is being put to bed a few days before the scheduled return of Sharon Wallace and Mateo Bernal to Louisville. They have spent the last few weeks in Israel and the occupied Palestinian territories, where they went to join with the International Solidarity Movement (ISM), a non-violent group supporting the Palestinian anti-occupation struggle.

Mateo spent some of his time in jail, having been picked up by the Israeli army for the crime of escorting Palestinian children from school in the Tulkarem refugee camp, after Israel invaded it. I will be in Seattle and environs when they are scheduled to return, so let this serve as a warm thank you (*shukran* in Arabic, *todah* in Hebrew) for their commitment to social justice.

At this writing President George Bush is on his way to the Middle East to push the Road Map.

Just as it took a right-wing professional Neanderthal, Richard Nixon, to recognize Communist China, so, maybe Bush will accomplish something. Maybe.

Guns and troops are not the only way to control a populace. On June 2 the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) voted to allow media and print corporate conglomerates to own multiple radio and television stations, and newspapers, in the same viewing area. So, Fox television (owned by billionaire Rupert Murdoch), the Gannett newspaper chain, Clear Channel (which overseas over 1,200 radio stations for President Bush's confidante, Lowry Mays), ere, can now legally concentrate ownership in all local viewing markets across the United States.

Yet and still, everyone is free to express views that may differ from mainstream thought, right? Pacifica Radio owns several listener-supported stations, broadcasting news and quality cultural entertainment rarely found on for-profit outlets. Two of its stations, WBAI-FM in New York City, and KPFA in Berkeley, California, recently reported that their outside telephone lines were disconnected during fundraising marathons. WBAI estimated its loss of potential donations at over \$100,000.

IndyMedia reports: "Prior to its coverage of the February 15th anti-war rally in New York City, two NYPD officers were caught yanking out the phone lines of host network, Pacifica Radio (WBAI), just after it began its nationwide coverage of the day of protest."

Will the Bush administration respond to this domestic terrorism by enlisting the aid of the Department of Homeland Security?

While we are on the topic of the war on terrorism, The Observer (London) reports, in a byline by Antony Barnett and Solomon Hughes: "James Woolsey, former CIA boss and influential adviser to President George Bush, is a director of a U.S. firm aiming to make millions of dollars from the 'war on terror'.... Paladin Capital... was set up three months after the terrorist attacks on New York and sees... September 11 as a business opportunity which offer(s) substantial promise for homeland security investment." "

These financial flatulences of derring-do are not to be left unmatched by our commander-in-chief. President Bush's military plane landed on the aircraft carrier U.S.S. Lincoln recently, and Democrats have demanded an investigation into its cost to us taxpayers.

One estimate: \$800,000-to-1,000,000 for the extra day the carrier remained out at sea, and this doesn't include numerous other expenses.

But surely Mr. Bush's penchant for pro-activity must extend to the disabled. Why, then, would over one hundred disability activists, including dozens in wheelchairs, block Constitution Ave. in Washington DC for three blocks? ADA Watch reported March 13 that: "Disability Rights activists from ADAPT shut down Constitution Avenue yesterday in front of the U.S. Department of Justice, forcing a meeting with Assistant Attorney General, Ralph

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The Louisville Hiroshima/Nagasaki Commemoration Committee

presents

STOP THE MILITARIZATION OF SPACE



featuring

Bruce Gagnon

International Coordinator of the Global Network
Against Weapons and Nuclear Power in Space

*The Global Network seeks to create a new consciousness about space
and how it is being used for U.S. military control of the Earth*

Central Presbyterian Church

Fourth & Kentucky Streets / Louisville, Kentucky
(please use Kentucky Street entrance)

Sunday, July 27, 2003
6:30-8:30 PM

*"When we look up at that beautiful moon on a clear night, we must remember that for centuries
our ancestors have wondered at the mysteries of the heavens. We must create a global movement to prevent
the bad seed of war from moving into space. We must keep space for peace." — Bruce Gagnon*

Reflection in music and prose by Harry Pickens

International jazz pianist and educator

Appreciation is expressed to the following community organizations that have endorsed and publicized this annual event:
Catholic Charities; Church Women United; Committee for Israeli-Palestinian States; Dominican Sisters of St. Catharine;
Episcopal Diocese of Kentucky; Episcopal Peace Fellowship; Fellowship of Reconciliation, Louisville Chapter;
Interfaith Paths to Peace; Kentuckiana Disciples Area; Kentuckiana Interfaith Community;
Kentucky Interreligious Taskforce on Latin America and the Caribbean; Louisville Committee to End the War Against Iraq;
Louisville Friends Meeting; Louisville Women-Church; Paddlewheel Alliance; Pax Christi Louisville; Peace Education Program;
Physicians for Social Responsibility, Louisville Chapter; Presbytery of Mid-Kentucky Mission Unit; Sisters of Charity of Nazareth;
Sisters of Loretto; Space Exploration & Theology Institute; Ursuline Sisters of Louisville.

Donations gratefully accepted

Be alert to Earth's ties to our health

If we were to take a close look at the condition of the environment's health, we would see an emerging pattern that suggests a crucial connection between a world that is becoming more and more degraded and the decline in health of human beings. It is truly a reason for an Earth alert.

Why do I say this? In times past, chronic disease was not the most vital concern in medical care, but rather, infectious diseases such as cholera, dengue fever, malaria and AIDS. These diseases are still problematic, particularly in countries to the south.

Other infectious diseases are due to human reasons. They include antibiotic resistance (as in multidrug-resistant tuberculosis). Others are caused by over-prescribed antibiotics by physicians and widespread use of antibiotics in industrial agricultural animal production. Still other infectious diseases such as West Nile virus are occurring over a larger geographic area because of global trade, increased travel and global climate changes.

A more alarming health pattern emerging in our country and other western countries, however, is the increase in chronic diseases. They include heart disease, cancer, reproductive disorders, an increase in birth defects and hypertension.

Dr. Ted Schettler, in a presentation at the Ecological Medicine Workshop in Bolinas California, spoke recently about chronic problems that can have environmental causes. They include asthma, depression and other mental health disorders, developmental disabilities, birth defects, lung cancer in women, non-Hodgkins lymphoma, and cancers of the thyroid, kidney, prostate, liver, brain, esophagus, testis and bladder.

This is all very startling. In the United States alone, nearly 12 million children suffer from one or more developmental disabilities. Five to 10 percent of children in public schools are affected by learning disabilities, while three to six percent of all children have attention deficit hyperactivity disorder. United States census figures from 2000 show that special education enrollment rose twice as fast as that of regular enrollment. In a study published in *Environmental Health Perspective* in 2002, it was estimated that \$43.4 billion was spent for lead poisoning, \$2 billion for asthma and \$300 million for childhood cancer in the United States.

Other problems, such as depression and diabetes, disproportionately affect children. More than 40 percent of environmental diseases affect children under age five, even though that age group comprises only 10 percent of the world's population.

If all this weren't shocking enough, it is also true that children with developmental and neurobehavioral disabilities are more likely than other children to end up in prison as they grow up and try to function in society. The New York State Department of Counsel's Office, in a memorandum regarding the implications of the Americans with Disabilities Act says, "About one third of prisoners are unable to perform such simple job-related tasks as locating an intersection on a street map, or identifying and entering basic information on an application.... Young prisoners with disabilities are among the least likely to have the skills they need to hold a job."

Of course, some of the disorders I have mentioned above, such as cancer and birth defects, have a genetic influence. It may be, too, that better detection is making figures higher. Yet, the authors of the book *In Harm's Way* said: "We are now certain that complex interactions among genetic and environmental factors play extremely important roles. It is no longer in keeping with the state of scientific understanding to attribute the bulk of these developmental disabilities to genetic inheritance. Rather we now understand the outcomes are the result of interacting factors among which are exposures to environmental contaminants that are preventable."

We must now begin to look around us in our own backyards and neighborhoods. We must begin paying attention to the health of our children and ourselves. We must be aware of the water we are drinking, the food we are buying in the supermarkets, and the medicines that are being prescribed by physicians. We must participate in these questions in our towns, in our schools, in our churches, and in our own homes.

Sister Rose Marie Cummins is the director of the Dominican Earth Center of the Dominican Sisters of St. Catharine, Ky. Contact her at rosieop@kyol.net

**The Cathedral Heritage Foundation,
Hawley Cooke Booksellers and
The Thomas Merton Foundation**

Present:

A Special Program on Thomas Merton and Spiritual Practices Found in the Inner Life in Judaism and in the Eastern Orthodox Christian Church

Tuesday June 17th, 2003
7 p.m.

**Undercroft of the Cathedral of the Assumption,
443 South Fifth St. in Downtown Louisville.**

The event is free and open to the public.

The program honors the publication of two new books related to Thomas Merton's spirituality. The Cathedral Heritage Foundation, Hawley-Cooke Booksellers, and the Thomas Merton Foundation will host a special evening of activities

The two books being celebrated are new publications of Louisville-based Fons Vitae Press. They are *Merton and Hesychasm - The Prayer of the Heart* and *Merton and Judaism - Holiness in Words: Recognition, Repentance, and Renewal*.

This June 17 evening is dedicated to Dr. Kenneth Zegart, in whose honor his friend, Eleanor Bingham Miller, made the publishing of *Merton and Judaism* possible.

The program for the evening will include a book sale and a number of presentations. For further information, please contact Terry Taylor, Executive Director of the Cathedral Heritage Foundation at (502) 583-3100 ext.18. Or e-mail him at terry@cathedral-heritage.org.

BRUCE GAGNON *(a brief biographical sketch)*

Bruce Gagnon is the Coordinator of the Global Network Against Weapons & Nuclear Power in Space. He was the organizer of the Cancel Cassini Campaign (launched 72 pounds of plutonium into space in 1977) that drew enormous support and media coverage around the world and was featured on the TV program 60 Minutes.

Between 1983 and 1998, Bruce was the State Coordinator of the Florida Campaign for Peace & Justice, and has worked on space issues for the past 17 years. In 1987, he organized the largest peace protest in Florida history when over 5,000 people marched on Cape Canaveral in opposition to the first flight test of the Trident II missile.

Project Censored (from Sonoma State University, CA) named a story on space weaponization by Bruce as the 8th Most Censored story in 1999.

Bruce has traveled to and spoken on space in England, Germany, Mexico, Canada, France, Cuba, Puerto Rico, Japan, Greece and throughout the U.S.

He has also spoken on many college campuses, including: Loyola University, Drake University, Webster College, Cornell University, University of Michigan, Cal Poly Institute, University of Pittsburgh, California Institute of Technology, University of Oregon, University of Alaska Anchorage, Marquette University, Brown University, Hunter College, and the University of Florida.

In 2003, Bruce was appointed by Dr. Helen Caldicott as a Senior Fellow at her Nuclear Policy Research Institute, where he also serves on her Advisory Board.

His articles have appeared in *Earth Island Journal*, *National Catholic Reporter*, *Fellowship*, *Toward Freedom*, *Gainesville Sun*, *CounterPunch*, *Space News*, and *Red Pepper* (UK).

In 1968, Bruce was Vice-chair of the Okaloosa County (Florida) Young Republican Club while working on the Nixon campaign for president.

Bruce is a Vietnam-era veteran, and began his career by working for the United Farmworkers Union in Florida organizing fruit pickers.

Monday Lunch with Bruce Gagnon

July 28, 2003 – 11:30 AM

Rudyard Kipling Restaurant

422 West Oak Street • Louisville, Kentucky

“The Price of Endless War”

It gives us great pleasure to announce that Bruce Gagnon will be able to stay over for a second presentation on Monday morning to speak on a topic for which he is also well qualified. The price of the lunch will be \$6. Please make reservations by calling Jean Edwards, 458-8056.

Sponsored by the Hiroshima/Nagasaki Commemoration Committee, 502/458-8056
The lunch is co-sponsored by Jobs with Justice, 502/625-3724

Would you drop a bomb on this child?



Then why do you pay someone who would?

All U.S. citizens are required to pay for war through their taxes. The Peace Tax Fund would allow people opposed to war because of deeply-held moral or religious beliefs to stop paying for it.

This Bill, the proposed Department of Peace and other alternatives to paying war taxes will be explored

Saturday, June 28, 2003

9:00 am to 12:30 pm

Central Presbyterian Church

4th & Kentucky

Louisville, Kentucky

For more information contact



Fellowship of Reconciliation

Dennis Bricking

(502) 895-8516

dbricking@laslou.org

Pat Greier

(502) 456-6586

pgeier@fastmail.fm

Changes in education are plentiful

by Corrine McCann

Yippee! Yahoo! Yeah! The last day of school! I, too, rejoiced with the children at the end of the school year. Summer vacation — time to sleep in, to play, to stay up later at night. Time for this substitute teacher to reflect on the differences in the rigors of education, in the way classes are experienced, and in the diversity of the children as compared to a quarter century ago

Here in Utah there is a high demand for teachers and for substitutes. I was one of the lucky ones called often to sub for the elementary grades for the Logan City Schools. The ways and means of education have changed a lot over the years. No longer do teachers have complete command of their students. Doors to the classroom are left wide open for most of the day for easy access as a constant parade of ins and outs occurs throughout the school day.

Teachers for English as a Second Language (ESL), teachers for special reading groups, psychologists, counselors, parents and aides come and go taking along or leaving behind children. It's all a part of the no child left behind legislation and a variety of other needs that were not identified or perhaps addressed in other ways in previous times.

Administrators and teachers work hard to meet endless demands and requirements. All of this is, I suppose, for the good of the individual student. However, it plays havoc on the rest of the group and on the homeroom teacher trying to keep focus, continuity, and concentration on math or language skills. Children are up and down in their seats going to computers to test themselves on their progress in reading.

When assignments are finished early, away they go to independent learning activities, getting an extra math paper, a puzzle, or another learning aide in order to give the other students time to catch up. Attention spans seem much shorter than in years gone by. Is it a reflection of the rest of our society where we seem to be flitting like flies from one task to another.

Remember, I am speaking as a substitute. No doubt the permanent classroom teacher has a better understanding of how the class learns and participates on a daily basis.

The school children in the class that I am about to further describe live near Utah State University. Some of their parents are either students or professors at USU. I noticed that these children are diverse culturally, ethnically and religiously. Such diversity may not be the norm in some schools across the nation, but I believe it is a sign of times to come.

This first grade class has an enrollment of 26 children. Four are from the Middle East and the little girls wear scarves as headcoverings each day. I didn't ask, but I think they are Muslim. Six children are Mexican. These children leave every day for ESL and they speak Spanish to one another. They are very solicitous and devoted, helping to explain directions to the other Mexican children whose families don't speak English at home. They wear crosses, medals and crucifixes, which indicate Catholicism.

Another exceptionally bright little girl is from India. She is from a family of nine children. On the playground during recess one day she told me about her little sister who died before her family came to America. Shakeela's mother wears a sari and has the third eye of god tattooed on her forehead indicating Hinduism. One boy is African, from Nairobi. I think the rest of the children are either WASP or Latter Day Saints.

The Mormon children have a language of their own as they speak of testimonies, primary, family home evening, brothers and sisters going on or returning from missions. Mormons are by far the largest religious and cultural group in Utah. Eighty percent of the population is Latter Day Saints.

All of this preceding information is with me as I reflect on the end of the school year. It also confirms my belief that the recitation of the pledge of allegiance to the flag and school prayer are no longer appropriate in public schools. We live in a multi-cultural society and diversity of custom and belief is the name of the game. Why should children from Mexico, India and Africa pledge allegiance to a flag and to the United States of America?

Why should Hindus pray to one God or to a Heavenly Father when they believe in many gods? Would we as Americans want to pledge allegiance to Africa or want to pray to a foreign god or in an uncomfortable way and position should we live for a time in a foreign country? Do we have the right to impose these customs on others or to make them feel further ostracized should they opt out?

Some food for thought for what I hope will be a long, lazy, and restful summer for teachers, students and parents alike. Yippee! Yahoo! Yeah! It's time for summer vacation.

Corrine McCann lives in Logan, Utah. She is the former Earth education director for the Dominican Sisters in St. Catharine, Ky. E-mail her at corrinemcoppa@yahoo.com.

**SHALOM POTLUCK DINNERS
SIX WEDNESDAY NIGHTS
DOUGLASS BOULEVARD CHRISTIAN CHURCH
2005 Douglass Boulevard
6:30 pm**

For more details, call David & Rosie Sprawls, 458-8061. (Child care available)

June 25, 2003

"Peace, Justice, Race and the Police"

Lt. Col. Philip Turner, Metro Louisville Police Department

July 2, 2003

"Interfaith Path to Peace - What Would Peace Look Like?"

Harry Pickens, Former Director, Interfaith Paths to Peace

July 9, 2003

"Peace, Justice and the Environment"

Bill Somplatsky-Jarman,

Head of Environmental Ministries for Presbyterian Church, USA

July 16, 2003

**"Israeli Perspectives on Conflict and Hope for
Peace in the Middle East"**

Rabbi Bradley Tecktiel, Keneseth Israel Synagogue

July 23, 2003

"Parenting for Peace and Justice"

**Petie McClean, Associate Minister,
First Christian Church, Glasgow, KY
(Disciples of Christ)**

July 30, 2003

"Crime and Punishment"

Mary McCarthy, Kentucky Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty

US labor agency wants your boss to get more, you less

by *Ivonne Rovira*
contributing writer

How ironic that at a time the Bush Administration is crying about how unfair it is to tax dividends for millionaires, they have no qualms about taking a big bite out of your paycheck.

Ever since the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, when you work over 40 hours, by law, your boss has to pay you time-and-a-half in money, the Economic Policy Institute said.

That’s what spelled the end of the 60- and 70-hour work weeks our grandparents worked before President Franklin D. Roosevelt. That’s what made the 40-hour week a fact of American life. As the Economic Policy Institute noted, it’s the most “family-friendly” legislation ever passed.

But reverse Robin Hood is once again the order of the day. On March 27, the Bush Administration’s Labor Department proposed new rules that would repeal the 40-hour work week and affect more than

80 million workers now protected by the Fair Labor Standards Act, a move that would shift millions of dollars from workers to corporations.

Here are what the proposed Bush rules would do:

- Workers previously entitled to overtime could be denied that money simply by allowing employers to reclassify them as managers — even if these workers get no raise or supervisory duties.
- The rules would exclude automatically a large number of low-income workers.
- By adding an income limit, certain middle-income workers would no longer qualify for overtime protections because they make too much money. (Note that the companies never get the shaft because THEY make too much money!)
- **The rules would strip many workers in aerospace, defense, health care, high tech and other industries of their overtime protection.**

In saving big corporations millions of dollars they now have to pay their workers, the Bush Administration is looking out after its own cash. Bush got more than \$150 million in campaign donations from pro-business interests, the Center for Responsive Politics said.

Instead of having to pay you overtime, your boss would be able to substitute comp time. He would decide when — or even if — a worker gets to take his or her comp time. The legislation provides no meaningful protection against employers requiring workers to take time off instead of cash and no protection against employers assigning overtime only to workers who agree to take time instead of cash.

Not satisfied with this much harm to working Americans, two GOP bills in Congress would cut your pay even more. The U.S. Senate bill (S. 317) is called the Family Time and Workplace Flexibility Act. The House version (H.R. 1119) is

called the Family Time Flexibility Act. The “flexibility” here is the flexibility to work longer hours for less money. Where’s the “Family Time” in that?

These bills would let employers delay paying your overtime wages for as long as 13 months. So if the company goes bust, or the boss runs off to the Cayman Islands with the cash, or you get another job, you’ll literally never see your money. Even if none of this happens, your company can use your overtime money as a no-interest loan for 13 months. With interest at six percent, that’s a big incentive to hold back your overtime pay!

You’ve heard Bush supporters tell you that you can spend your money better than the government can. Be sure to write, e-mail or call to say you can spend your money better than your employer can, too.

The writer, of Louisville, is an activist for campaign finance reform.

Policies are a disgrace, Bush told

The following is a letter to President George W. Bush written May 15, reprinted in FORsooth by permission:

President Bush:

In 2001, less than six months after taking office, you gave many taxpayers a \$300 tax refund. I myself received a check and considered it to be little more than a bribe in your bid for the presidency — I decided that I would not keep the money. Instead, I resolved to give my \$300 refund away, dividing it evenly among six organizations that are doing good works across the United States and around the world — working for peace and justice, advocating for environmental stewardship and resource conservation, fostering cross-cultural education and understanding and generally promoting a more sustainable human society.

Unfortunately, I hesitated just long enough to find myself in a financial pinch and soon felt unable to follow through on my resolution. But I’ve kept the idea in mind for nearly two years, and despite the fact that the non-profit organization I work for is still struggling with its own fiscal crisis, I am ready to make good on my earlier commitment to give that money away.

If I tried to include in this letter my feelings about your presidency to date, I would probably never finish, so I’ll keep my comments brief. Your war in Iraq was a disgraceful and highly illegal act, bringing our country to a new low in international relations and doing nothing to make the world a safer place — but it sure was a convenient distraction from the corporate scandals and economic collapse we were seeing here at home! Your administration is stocked with corporate lackeys who are moving quickly to line their own pockets and those of their friends, consolidating even more wealth at the expense of most of the rest of us — your current tax cut proposal is voodoo economics at its worst.


You are busy rolling back the hard-won environmental protections that so many people have worked decades for and are actively pushing to dismantle affirmative action. You talk about “freedom for Iraqis” while quietly maneuvering to take the right of women (both here and abroad) to have reproductive control of their bodies. You continue to promote energy development from fossil fuels and relax pollution standards, while renewable energy sources languish with little or no funding. And on and on. I am eagerly awaiting the presidential election of 2004, when I believe you will be decisively voted out of the office that I’m not convinced you won fairly in the first place.

In the meantime, I feel good about \$300 less going to our swollen military budget and being directed instead to nonviolent organizations working for real change. If you decide to give another refund before leaving the White House in January 2005, I’ll be happy to send it along to these or other deserving groups.

Sincerely,

Brett Kelter
La Grande, Ore.





International Solidarity Movement
International Solidarity with the Palestinian People

The Louisville Middle East Peace Delegation and Louisville Committee For Peace in the Middle East

Report Back and Return Celebration "Peace-Making in a Dangerous Time"

Saturday, June 21, 2003, 6:00pm-8:00pm
Central Presbyterian Church
4th and Kentucky Streets
Potluck Dinner and Presentation
Wheelchair accessible

Sponsored By:
The Peace and Justice Community in Louisville
For information call 599-0261 or 541-0758

Two Louisville area peace activists recently traveled to the occupied Palestinian West Bank and Gaza Strip to join the International Solidarity Movement (ISM), a group that follows non-violent direct action tactics with volunteers from around the world to oppose the illegal Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza. The work of these volunteers has become increasingly dangerous. The Israeli army has recently killed one volunteer and wounded two seriously. Two of the three are US citizens and the third is a British national.

Working with Palestinians in a refugee camp near Tulkarem, Mateo was arrested by the Israeli Military on May 24. He and another ISM volunteer were accompanying a group of school children to school when the Israeli military began an incursion into the camp. Though given permission to escort the children back to their homes, the activists were then arrested when they tried to leave the camp. Israeli authorities attempted to deport Mateo against his will and Mateo fought such action through an appeal. Israeli authorities agreed to allow him to say in detention while an appeal was heard and bail posted.

Sharon Wallace, who also participated in ISM activities a year ago, worked on a number of ISM projects in Tulkarem, accompanying ambulances, and serving as a human rights observer during Israeli Military operations in the camp that destroyed houses, prohibited services and enforced a strict curfew. She also attended a labor conference in Ramallah.

Contributions will be directed to support the work of the International Solidarity Movement and future Louisville delegation

KEEP SPACE FOR PEACE!

The Hiroshima/Nagasaki event this year will lead us into a new consciousness about space as we understand more about U.S. plans for military expansion into space. Our speaker will be **Bruce Gagnon**, *International Coordinator of the Global Network Against Weapons and Nuclear Power in Space* (globalnet@mindspring.com) See the flier in this issue of **FORsooth**, and mark your calendar for Sunday evening, July 27, and Monday lunch on July 28. Call 458-8056.



ALTERNATIVES TO PAYING WAR TAXES

Since the beginning of the buildup for Iraq War II, there has been a groundswell of concern voiced about the use of our tax dollars to pay for war. In response the Louisville **FOR** chapter is planning a workshop to address this issue. **Dr. Phil Schervish**, Dean of Social Work at Spalding University, will preside. Dennis Bricking and Polk Culpepper are on the planning committee.

A new video, “**Compelled by Conscience**,” produced by the National Campaign for a Peace Tax Fund, will be shown. All U.S. citizens are required to pay for war through their taxes. The Peace Tax Fund legislation would allow people opposed to war because of deeply-held moral or religious beliefs to stop paying for it. The portion of their taxes that goes to fund the military would be used for non military purposes.

There will also be a discussion of the proposed Department of Peace, and there will be testimony by individuals engaged in alternatives to war taxes. Late news is that a real pro on this topic, **David Waters** from Birmingham, will be coming.

The workshop on Saturday, June 21, will be from 9:00 to 12:30 at Central Presbyterian Church, corner of Fourth and Kentucky. Free and open to everyone. For more information call Dennis Bricking, 895-8516. e:mail: dbricking@laslou.org

COMMITTEE NAME CHANGE

At the last meeting of the Committee to Stop the War Against Iraq, a new name was chosen to reflect the broader goals of pursuing peace and justice locally and worldwide. The group will be called “The Louisville Peace Action Community” (**L-PAC**)

The e-mail (**pcunity**) will also be under a new name. The web page <http://louisvillepeace.org> will continue with an improved organization and broader participation. Peace vigils will continue on every first Sunday at Douglass Loop, 8:00-9:00 pm. Bring a sign to express yourself.

The new mission statement reads as follows: “**The Louisville Peace Action Community is a group of individuals dedicated to peace, justice, and world community. Our goal is to educate ourselves and impact public opinion through creative, nonviolent action, the use of technology, and lifestyle changes.**”

The new facilitators are Ellen Schagene, Judy Munro-Leighton, and Ken Nevitt
Call Ken at 558-9124.

Lessons for activists

(continued from page 3)

Boyd. ADAPT demanded that the DOJ initiate action against the states that are violating the civil rights of people with disabilities by not providing long term support services in the most integrated setting as required under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the Supreme Court’s Olmstead decision.”

Well, surely there must be some surcease from all of this anti-government rancor, perhaps in sunny Mexico. The Mexico Solidarity Network reports: “Republican leaders in Congress approved a resolution (recently) linking a new bilateral agreement with Mexico on immigration with opening Pemex to private investment by US oil companies. A new immigration agreement is one of the principal goals of the Fox administration, which also favors privatization of Pemex and the electrical industry.

“Pemex provides about one-third of Mexico’s federal budget and there is a near national consensus against privatization. The Republican initiative was widely condemned as meddling in Mexico’s internal affairs. Democrats characterized the proposal as “anti-immigrant” and an effort to gain votes in the Mexican-American community. Mexico’s ambassador to the U.S. declared, “Pemex is not part of our bilateral agenda.”

Just wait until China enters the World Trade Organization in 2008 and gives Mexico a run for its low-wage production.

Mexico is not just sunny; it also is naughty. President Bush punished Mexico for its lack of support in the United Nations over the invasion of Iraq by canceling the official Cinco de Mayo celebration scheduled for the White House. Mexico has produced magnificent civilizations, including the Aztecs and the Maya. She has withstood conquest by Cortes in 1521 and Spanish oppression until 1821.

Then Mr. Bush’s forebears imposed the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, and the U.S. stole all Mexican land north of the Rio Grande. So maybe Mr. Bush’s cancellation of a Washington D.C. Cinco de Mayo celebration will not be the worst thing to happen to U.S.-Mexico bilateral relations.

And how are good neighbor policies faring locally? Louisville now has a Living Wage,

although \$9 per hour, plus federal earned income tax credits, daycare and education help, is not enough for a family to live on! It costs an average \$581/month to rent a two-bedroom apartment hereabouts, maybe a good fifty percent of the net income of the new wage.

Given that Mayor Jerry Abramson had vowed to veto the original Living Wage ordinance passed in December whose figures more closely approached a livable hourly pay, and that our local legislature, Metro Council, has little sympathy for workers’ issues, there was a division among Living Wage proponents as to how to proceed. Some felt we should accept it, others felt it should be rejected.

So, let’s think back to the Democratic National Convention of 1964. African Americans were excluded from the Democratic Party of Mississippi, and formed the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party (MFDP).

The magnificent MFDP leader Fannie Lou Hamer gave testimony so powerful that Pres. Lyndon Johnson, who needed the racist Dixiecrat vote to win re-election, called a news conference to coincide with the evening television news, so as to blunt Mrs. Hamer’s impact (thankfully, he did not succeed).

The racially integrated MFDP delegation wanted all 41 seats. The liberal wing of the national Democratic Party fashioned what it felt was a fair compromise: 2 seats for the MFDP, 39 seats for the incumbent segregationists. It was left to Johnson’s vice president, Hubert Humphrey, to defuse and deflect the MFDP “Challenge.

Many of the more conservative leaders of the civil rights movement urged acceptance, but Mrs. Hamer was adamant: “We didn’t come here for no two seats.”

Whether the choice before the proponents of Living Wage was similar to the decision Mrs. Hamer and the other valiant MFDPers faced — well, I’ll leave that to you, dear readers. But the MFDP used this historic episode to build and to grow and to make its influence felt. With regard to the Living Wage — so must we.

Contact Ira Grupper at Irag@iglou.com.

KEEPING IN TOUCH WITH THE F.O.R. NATIONAL OFFICE

We are feeling much more connected nowadays to the Nyack office by means of the **FOR-ActionNetwork@list.forusa.org** If you are not receiving this free electronic newsletter, do send in your e-mail address and ask to have your name added. It is a great way to find out what ideas and frustrations are circulating nationally.

The May 28 news told of the needless and tragic death of 57 year old Harlem resident, Alberta Spruill, the result of an early-morning New York Police Department raid which targeted the wrong apartment. All New York area **FOR** members were urged to attend a special community event, “**Humanizing Criminal Justice**” - a series of six community forums designed to inform and create dialogue around the realities of the criminal justice system. Elaborate plans were outlined for each evening session. These discussions and protests in New York mirror on-going ones in Louisville since the murder of James Taylor by police detectives when his hands were handcuffed behind his back.

It is good also to be on the **FOR** mailing list to receive the quarterly newsletter, *FOR Witness*. The April issue announced a major training event for June in the transforming process of nonviolence; and readers were invited to register. However, it was filled, with a waiting list, the day before that issue was mailed! But have patience. Two more are planned. Keep in touch.

Letters from the new national director, **PAT CLARK**, are very inspirational for me. In her spring letter she spoke of what we *don’t* know because “The moment bombs fell, it seemed as if the media, including newspapers from which we’d expected better things, let themselves be co-opted into the Administration’s weapons of mass *distraction*.”

Then she proceeded to discuss what we *do know!* “We know we helped organize the largest, most broadly based, and most articulate and responsible peace movement in world history. ... Things like 603 simultaneous demonstrations uniting the voices of millions.

Never before, such a witness of spiritual leaders, across a wide spectrum of faiths. Never before, quite such a diversity among those who want peace. All ages. Unions and business executives. academics, and children. ...”

After describing the FOR delegations that have been welcomed in Palestine, Jordan and Israel as well as Colombia, Puerto Rico, and even in Iraq, she concludes, “Yes, these times are unlike any others. ... **FOR** is also working on the long-range struggle to cleanse the world of the barbaric and anachronistic absurdity of war. **This may be the century to do it.”**

More inspiration is to be found in *Fellowship*. You will want to ponder the May/June 2003 issue which includes an article by **Walter Wink**, “**The New Worldview: Spirit at the Core of Everything.**” Check it out with e-mail: fellowship@forusa.org or www.forusa.org You’ll be glad you did.

ISM VOLUNTEERS RETURN

It was a joyful celebration on Friday night, June 8, at Louisville International Airport when many supporters gathered to welcome Sharon Wallace and Mateo Bernal. They returned from three weeks of activities with the International Solidarity Movement (ISM), a nonviolent direct action campaign to help end the Israeli occupation of Palestinian West Bank and Gaza Strip, led by Palestinians and including peace activists from Israel and around the world.

Their stay was one week longer than intended because Bernal was arrested and held in an Israeli jail after he and two other volunteers befriended about 15 school girls (ages 9-11) who were on their way to school when the curfew alarm was announced by loudspeakers. It was about 7:00 am, outside the Tulkarem Refugee Camp when the army started a heavy invasion, according to an e-mail report from Gush Shalom (forwarded from Germany). Three tanks, multiple armored personnel carriers, a D-9 bulldozer, hummers and jeeps all rolled in, and the girls were left stranded, crying and paralyzed in fear of the Army’s sound grenades and random firing of “rubber bullets”.

Mateo and his friends informed the Israeli military of their decision to escort the girls out of harm’s way. The officer with whom they talked agreed to let them take the children home. After doing so, and upon attempting to leave the camp at 9:45 am, they were prevented from leaving by Israeli forces refused who claimed that the area that the area was “a military zone” from which exit was forbidden. At this point, a large truck and a military jeep arived and took them away to jail.

It was learned that they were the sixth and seventh foreign peace activists to be detained by Israeli forces in the past two weeks. They were charged with “interfering with a military operation.”

Everyone is invited to celebrate the safe return of Sharon and Mateo and to hear a full report at a potluck dinner on June 21 at 6:00 pm at Central Presbyterian Church, 4th and Ky streets. For more details, call Ibrahim Imam, 244-1580.

TRACY IMPROVES GRADUALLY

An e-mail from Tracy McLellan’s mother, Joanie, dated May 21, 2003, was quite welcome. “Just a note,” she wrote,” to let you know that Tracy is improving and is now in re-hab. He stood for 1 minute, 18 seconds yesterday. I was there and it was a thrill after two months in bed flat on his back. I am hoping for a very successful recovery. His injuries were extremely serious and we almost lost him twice. I am thankful for all of the prayers and thoughts across the country. I am sure this has been the turning instrument in his recovery. The cards, calls and letters have been appreciated. Also the article in **FORsooth**. He was very happy about that.”

Joanie lives in Lansing, Illinois. Tracy is still hospitalized in Madison, Wisconsin, but can now be reached by telephone: 1/608/267-8112.

FINANCIAL REPORT

BEGINNING BALANCE\$6,405.98
DONATIONS 380.00

EXPENDITURES:
FORsooth Editing \$150.00
FORsooth Printing 247.00
FORsooth Mailing 212.00
FOR National Dues 60.00
Doug H. plane ticket 85.00
Checks 15.99
Office Expense 108.09
\$878.08 878.08
ENDING BALANCE \$5,907.90

Please make your check payable to the Fellowship of Reconciliation. Your gift is tax deductible.

PLEASE SEND CONTRIBUTIONS TO:

Tim Scheldorf, Treasurer
Fellowship of Reconciliation
2917 Beaumont Road
Louisville, KY 40205



Calendar for peacemakers

June 15 (Sun) **WITNESS FOR JUSTICE: PROTEST AGAINST POLICE BRUTALITY**, *every* Sunday, sponsored by the Justice Resource Center. Louisville Police Department, 7th and Jefferson, 2:30 pm. Call 774-1116 or 445-2509.

June 17 (Tue) **CELEBRATION OF THE PUBLICATION OF TWO NEW BOOKS FROM FONS VITA PRESS (Louisville-based):** *Merton and Hesychasm: The Prayer of the Heart* and *Merton and Judaism – Holiness in Words: Recognition, Repentance and Renewal*. Cathedral of the Assumption undercroft, 443 S 5th St. 7:00 pm. (See detailed announcement in this issue of FORsooth)

June 19 (Mon) **PRAYER SERVICE FOR PEACE AND NONVIOLENCE FOR THE HEALING OF OUR HEARTS AND WORLD, every Thursday at 12:15.** Twenty minute prayer service followed by a simple lunch. James Lees Memorial Presbyterian Church, 1741 Frankfort Ave (at William Street). Call 896-0172.

June 20 (Fri) **NOON VIGIL FOR PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST**, including a news update. **EVERY FRIDAY AT SIXTH AND BROADWAY**, in front of the Federal Court House (where Senator McConnell’s office is located). We vigil in solidarity with the **“Women in Black”** who vigil every Friday at noon in Israel. Sponsored by the Committee for Israeli/Palestinian States, the American Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee, and the Fellowship of Reconciliation. Call Beverley Marmion, 451-5658

June 20 (Fri) **NEW FARMER’S MARKET ON THE-ATRE SQUARE.** 3:00-7:00 every Friday, featuring fresh produce plus free range eggs, etc, and music too! Call Jeanette McDermott and John Gage, 589-6419.

June 20/21 (FS) **FIRST SUMMIT ON THE ECONOMIC STATUS OF KENTUCKY’S WOMEN**, sponsored by the Kentucky Commission on Women. Frankfort Civic Ctr. \$65. Call 502/564-6643. <http://women.state.ky.us>

June 21 (Sat) **ALTERNATIVES TO PAYING WAR TAXES**, a workshop sponsored by the Fellowship of Reconciliation. Central Presbyterian Church, 4th & Kentucky Streets, 9:00 am to 12:30 pm. Please enter from the parking lot side. Call Dennis Bricking, 895-8516, dbricking@laslou.org Or call Pat Geier, 456-6586 or 454-0019.

June 21 (Sat) **PORTLAND FARMERS’ MARKET OPENS.** Corner of 26th and Portland Ave(in Heid Printing Company’s parking lot), every Saturday morning, 8:00-1:00. On this first day, the Metro Health Department will offer soil tests for lead contamination. Bring two samples of soil from different areas of your yard, labeled, in plastic bags. Call Community Farm Alliance, 775-4041.

June 21 (Sat) **INTERNATIONAL REFUGEE DAY**, planned by Interfaith Paths to Peace and Kentucky Refugee Ministries at the new headquarters for KRM on Cherokee Road at Highland Ave. Late afternoon. Call IPP, 584-1444.

June 21 (Sat) **CELEBRATION AND REPORT BACK FROM ISM VOLUNTEERS.** Hear Sharon Wallace and Mateo Bernal relate their experiences in Palestine with the International Solidarity Movement. Potluck dinner, 6:00 pm, Central Presbyterian Church, 4th & Ky. Presentation at 7:00 pm. Contributions will help support the work of ISM and future Louisville delegations. Call 599-0261 or 541-0758.

June 22 (Sun) **FOURTH SUNDAY INTERFAITH PRAYER SERVICE**, 3:00 pm. Museum of Faiths, 429 W Muhammad Ali Blvd. Silent prayer, music, readings, facilitated dialogue, refreshments. Sponsored by Cathedral Heritage Foundation, Interfaith Paths to Peace & Kentuckiana Interfaith Community. Call Terry Taylor, 583-3100.

June 25 (Wed) **SHALOM DINNER**, featuring **Lt. Col. Philip Turner: “Metro Louisville Police: Justice, Race and the Police.”** Potluck meal at Douglass Boulevard Christian Church. 2005 Douglass Blvd., 6:30pm. (David & Rosie Sprawls, 458-8061)

June 30(Mon) **F.O.R. STEERING COMMITTEE**, Presbyterian Seminary, Nelson Hall, #10, 7:30 pm. Visitors welcome. Call Pat Geier, 456-6586, or Mary Horvath, 583-4670. Note change from regular meeting date.

July 6 (Sun) **CANDLELIGHT VIGIL FOR PEACE**, every first Sunday, remembering all those suffering from conflicts in the Middle East. Bring a candle and a sign if you can. **Douglass Loop**, Bardstown Road at Douglass Blvd. 8:00 pm to 9:00 pm

July 3-13 **US-CUBA FRIENDSHIPMENT CARAVAN, traveling through over 100 US and Canadian cities..** Watch for the date when it will stop in Louisville. Sponsored by IFCO/Pastors for Peace, 402 W. 145th St, NY NY 10031 (212/926-5842) e-mail: cucaravan@igc.org Call David Horvath, 583-4670.

July 4-6(FSS) **WORKSHOP: GUATEMALA AND MAYAN FOLKARTS, a course in the language, culture and thought of another of our world’s oldest cultures, \$125. LED BY NICO AND MILDRED MENCHU.** Sponsored by Open Ground, 981 Rye Lane, Harrodsburg, Ky. (859/375-2411) openground@amisawe.com

July 6 (Sun) **HIROSHIMA/NAGASAKI PLANNING COMMITTEE**, 7:00 pm. Presbyterian Seminary, 1044 Alta Vista Road, Room 10. Call 458-8056.

July 8,9,10 (TWT) **TRAINING FOR EDUCATORS**, for school personnel interested in creating a student mediation program in their schools. \$350, or \$650 for a two-person team. Register by June 27. Call Peace Education Program, 589-6583.

July 9 (Wed) **DEADLINE FOR THE JULY-AUGUST ISSUE OF FORsooth. Please note that the July and August issues will be combined.** Contact George Morrison, editor, 944-6460. e-mail: klm86@netzero.com For calendar listings, contact Jean Edwards, 458-8056. e-mail: edwardsfor@aol.com

July 9 (Wed) **KITLAC (Ky Interfaith Taskforce on Latin America and the Caribbean).** Presbyterian Seminary, Nelson Hall, Room 10. 7:30 pm. Call David Horvath, 583-4670 or Pat Geier, 456-6586.

July 17 (Thu) **FORsooth LABELING at Beverley Marmion’s house.** Mark your calendar and join in this therapeutic experience. 6:30 pm. Call 451-5658.

July 17 (Thu) **JOBS WITH JUSTICE, General Membership Meeting.** Learn about upcoming campaigns and how to get involved. Central Presbyterian Church, 4th and Kentucky Streets. 6:00-7:30 pm. Call 625-3724. e-mail: laura@jwj.org

July 27 (Sun) **BRUCE GAGNON**, International Coordinator of the Global Network Against Weapons and Nuclear Power in Space, **KEYNOTE AT THE ANNUAL HIROSHIMA/NAGASAKI COMMEMORATION.** Central Presbyterian Church, Fourth & Kentucky Streets., 6:30-8:30 pm. Call 458-8056.

July 28 (Mon) **“THE PRICE OF ENDLESS WAR: the Economic, Social and Civil Liberties Impact.” LUNCH WITH BRUCE GAGNON.** (See above) Cosponsored by **“Jobs with Justice.”** Rudyard Kipling Restaurant, 422 West Oak Street, 11:30 am. For reservations, call Jean Edwards, 458-8056.

July 29 (Tue) **KENTUCKY HALL OF FAME, Presentations and Inductions.** Sponsored by the Kentucky Commission on Human Rights. Henry Wallace has been nominated. Downtown at the Historic Union Station, 1000 W. Broadway, 2:00 pm. \$15. Call Victoria Dempsey, 495-4024.

Aug 4 (Mon) **BOOK DISCUSSION SERIES CONTINUES, “Getting to the Heart of Peace,”** sponsored by Interfaith Paths to Peace. Professor Gene March will lead the discussion of his own book, *Israel and the Politics of Land*: ATheological Case Study. Hawley-Cooke Booksellers, Shelbyville Road, 7:00 pm. Call Pam Yenawine, 214-7322.

Aug 6 (Wed) **58th ANNIVERSARY OF THE NUCLEAR BOMBING OF HIROSHIMA, JAPAN. NOON PRAYERFUL REFLECTION IN THE GARDEN AT CHRIST CHURCH EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL**, accompanied by the tolling of the bell, recalling those who died and continue to die from the on-going programs of nuclear-related weapons development. 421 S. 2ND St. Call 458-8056.

Aug 9 (Sat) **JAPANESE LANTERN FLOATING CEREMONY**, remembering those who perished in the 1945 atomic bombing of Nagasaki, Japan. Cherokee Lake, corner of Lexington Road & Grinstead Dr. 8:00 pm. Music by Laurie Stiers. Please bring a ground cover to sit on. Call 458-8056.

Sept 13 (Sat) **PEACE RUN 3.** Mark the date. Contact the Peace Education Program, 589-6583.

Oct 12 (Sun) **COMMUNITY HUNGER WALK.** Call Evelyn Vaughn, 239-4317. EYVaughn@aol.com

Nov 8-16 **FESTIVAL OF FAITHS: “Faith and Justice,”** featuring, **Robert F. Kennedy, Jr., Michael Toms, and Arun Gandhi.** Sponsored by the Cathedral Heritage Foundation. Call Terry Taylor, 583-3100.

OUT OF TOWN EVENTS

June 29/30 (SM) **BLOW THE WHISTLE ON U.S. INTERVENTION IN LATIN AMERICA.** Program sponsored by Witness for Peace, at Univ of DC, School of Law Student Center. Sunday, 6:30 pm. Keynotes include a Colombian Human Rights Activist and Rev. Graylan Hagler. Call 202/588-1471. www.witnessforpeace.org

Sept 16 (Tue) **WOMEN’S BUSINESS & LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE**, Radisson Plaza Hotel, Lexington, KY. Early Bird Registration (before 7/15), \$150. Register online: www.womenleadingky.com Or send check to Women Leading Kentucky, PO Box 961, Lexington, KY 40588. Also see www.womenleadingky.com

Oct 16-19 (TFSS) **NATIONAL COALITION TO ABOLISH THE DEATH PENALTY (NCADP) NATIONAL CONFERENCE.** Nashville, TN, Sheraton Downtown Hotel, 623 Union Street. (615-259-2000). For information, call Leona Martin, 202-543-9577. e-mail: lmartin@ncadp.org Register online: www.ncadp.org

Nov 19-21 (WTF) **STOP THE FTAA.** Concerned citizens from all over North America will converge in Miami to voice opposition to the Free Trade Area of the Americas agreement (FTAA). The trade ministers of the hemisphere will launch the final stage of the negotiations. Call 202/234-3440. www.soaw.org

Nov 22-23 (SS) **ACTION TO CLOSE THE SCHOOL OF THE AMERICAS/WHISC AND TO CHANGE OPPRESSIVE U.S. FOREIGN POLICY.** Fort Benning, GA, home of the School of the Americas where repressive Latin American troops are trained as the military muscle to enforce exploitative policies. Call 202/234-3440. www.soaw.org

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

Regular Meeting Times for Area Organizations

AD HOC COALITION FOR AFFIRMATIVE ACTION – (778-8130)

ADDICTION RECOVERY ADVOCATES OF KENTUCKIANA – 2nd Wednesday (585-3375)

AMERICA 2000 DEMOCRATIC CLUB – 3rd Tuesday (451-2155)

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL – 1st Saturday (637-8951)

BREAD FOR THE WORLD – 2nd Tuesday (239-4317)

CAPA (Citizens Against Police Abuse) – 2nd Thursday (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)

COMMUNIST PARTY USA – Saturday evenings (648-8197 or 473-2659)

CONVERSATION CAFE – Wednesday evenings (454-4820)

CONVERSATIONS WITH GOD – Books by Neale Donald Walsch. 1st Monday (468-2305)

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 – 1st Tuesday (456-9540)

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY – Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays & Saturdays (583-6599)

HATE FREE SCHOOLS COALITION – 3rd Thursday (454-3300)

INTERFAITH PATHS TO PEACE – 1st Wednesday (584-1444)

JEFFERSON COUNTY WELFARE REFORM COALITION – 2nd Friday (585-3556)

JUBILEE NETWORK – (583-4670)

JUSTICE RESOURCE CENTER – 3rd Saturday (774-1116)

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 (589-3188)

KY AIDS LIFE ALLIANCE (KALA) – Every Thursday (479-7884)

KY ALLIANCE AGAINST RACIST & POLITICAL REPRESSION – 3rd Monday (778-8130)

KY COALITION TO ABOLISH THE DEATH PENALTY – Last Tuesday (585-2895)

KITLAC (KY INTERFAITH TASKFORCE ON LATIN AMERICA & THE CARIBBEAN) – 2nd Wednesday (583-4670)

KY RAINBOW/PUSH COALITION – (774-4000)

LESBIAN SUPPORT GROUP – 2nd and 4th Thursdays (583-6225)

LPAC (LOUISVILLE ACTION COMMUNITY) – (558-9124)

LOUISVILLE WOMEN CHURCH – 2nd Sunday (456-5261)

LOUISVILLE YOUTH GROUP – Friday nights (454-3300), www.louisvilleyouthgroup.org

METROPOLITAN HOUSING COALITION – 4th Wednesday (584-6858)

MOBILIZING TO END VIOLENCE (MEN) – (449-9044)

NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of Colored 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 (456-9342)

PEACE & COMPASSION BUDDHA CIRCLE/CML – (451-2193, brozier@bellsouth.net)

POWER [PEOPLE ORGANIZED AND WORKING FOR ENERGY REFORM] – 2nd Monday, jointly with KFTC (778-2687)

PROGRESSIVE STUDENTS LEAGUE AT UL – Every Tuesday (635-1292)

RCRC [Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice] – (585-3050)

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.