



Founded 1915

# FORsooth

## Why race is crucial to labor struggle

by Carla Wallace

Race and racism are central to this nation’s history. They are defining elements of institutional inequality, and affect every issue we care about. When we ignore this reality, we not only fail to honor all of us, across color lines, but we weaken our ability to build the kind of people power necessary to make transformative change.

Anne Braden told anyone who would listen, that we live in a society built on racism. She believed that the fight against racism would lift all of us, saying that history showed that when a struggle was mounted against racism, a struggle that involved whites and people of color, a better society could be won for all of us.

The failure to address the impact of race and racism has been pervasive in too much progressive writing and conversation on the current struggles of workers to defend bargaining rights across this country, including in my beloved FORsooth newspaper. But it is not only in this publication, and not only when it comes to labor rights. It happens in our work and our writing on peace, on the environment, on lgbt rights, and on women’s equality, to name just a few.

Few historic moments make the point of the intersection between race and labor rights more clearly than Dr. Martin Luther King’s assassination while leading black sanitation workers in the effort to unionize. Yet, in the current discussion over the nationwide attack on working people’s right to collective



Carla Wallace

bargaining, all too often the conversation about what is happening, and what is to be done avoids the very strategy that could actually build the sustainable power needed to protect the rights of all workers.

People of color are disproportionately represented in the public sector, where the front lines of the attack on bargaining rights is taking place. In its support for workers fighting to preserve collective bargaining, ColorOfChange.org writes, “More than just protection from discrimination, collective bargaining has won Black workers fairness in pay and advancement, access to health insurance and retirement savings, and basic worker safety protections. This is especially true for Black public-sector workers... and government work is second only to health and education services in concentration of Black workers.”

Widespread public opposition to the attacks on workers rights, most dramatically shown in the valiant struggles of the people of Wisconsin, has a chance to hold back this escalating attempt to undermine working families, but only by squarely challenging the racial edge in these attacks.

In a May 2011 article, “Slash-and-burn,” in The Texas Observer, Bob Moser argues that the conservative lawmakers operate from a place of “willful race-blindness.” He writes that it is the “unconscious habit” of white supremacy W. E. B. DuBois wrote about in 1930.

All white people get psychological and economic privileges based on our race. Part of this privilege for a large sector of working and middle class whites in this country has been less vulnerability to the poverty and repression that has been part of life for far too many poor and people of color well before the recent economic downturn.

If the attacks on collective bargaining rights for public sector workers disproportionately impact people of color, if the attackers are part of the “unconscious habit” of white supremacy, and if those who have “suffered less” have ignored the racism so thoroughly integrated into the fabric of our history and system, then any fight back must place these realities front and center in a strategy to defend workers rights.

The public sector, including the right of its workers to bargain collectively, is vulnerable because too many white people

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## 34th Street renamed Louis Coleman Jr. Drive

by Gracie Lewis

On Sunday, May 22, there was a motorcade and gathering to celebrate the renaming of 34th Street after the Reverend Dr. Louis Coleman, Jr., a man who spent his life fighting the Good Fight.

Rev. Louis Coleman died on July 5, 2008. Metro Councilwoman Judy Green introduced an ordinance to rename 34th Street after Rev. Coleman. Passing the ordinance was an uphill battle because some

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Rev. Louis Coleman  
photo credit Bud Dorsey

## Hundreds march on Blair Mountain to save site of historic labor battle

by John Hennen

Few Americans are aware of the Battle of Blair Mountain, the largest armed conflict in US history since the Civil War. The battle was fought in Logan County, West Virginia, in late August and early September in 1921. The struggle engaged unionizing coal miners and a private force led by Logan County Sheriff Don Chafin. Ten thousand or so union supporters squared off on the crest of Blair Mountain against Chafin’s army of about three thousand.

Mingo was the scene of a long and bitter strike during which striking miners and their families had been forced out of company homes and into tent cities. On August 1st, 1921, Sid Hatfield, the pro-union police chief of Matewan, and a hero to miners for killing several despised Baldwin-Felts detectives in a shootout in 1920, was himself murdered by Baldwin-Felts operatives. Hatfield’s killing was the spark.

Marching over fifty miles from Marmet, the miners and allies vowed to unionize all of Logan and Mingo counties and liberate their fellow workers from martial law. Along a ten-mile front on the ridges of Blair Mountain the marchers and Chafin’s men fought it out.

Only when President Harding gave in to the pleas of Gov. Morgan and sent in federal forces did the miners hold fire. In the aftermath, hundreds of union activists were tried on charges of trespass, assault, murder, and treason against the state. Few were convicted of major crimes, but the UMW was broken until its resurgence during the New Deal era.

This past June 4, 2011, another struggle unfolded. The site of the 1921 battle is now in danger of being destroyed by Arch Coal and

Alpha Energy, multinational corporations seeking permits for mountaintop removal operations on the very ridges where the battle was fought.

Alarmed at the threat, the Friends of Blair Mountain have been organizing to have the site listed in the National Register of Historic Places. They were within an eyelash of victory when in 2009 the state, under pressure from the coal industry, “recalculated” opposition to the designation, and the federal government reversed its decision.

The Friends, led by archaeologist Harvard Ayers, historian Barbara Rasmussen, and historian Chuck Keeney (the great-grandson of District 17’s president Frank Keeney during the battle), turned to Appalachia Rising for support. Appalachia Rising is a grassroots organization using nonviolent direct actions to end strip mining and support self-determination in Appalachia.

About two-hundred marchers set out from our base in a warehouse in Marmet on June 6, in blistering heat but high spirits. Averaging about nine miles per day, we faced obstacles from the outset. Reservations for campsites along the way were suddenly cancelled, just one indicator of the reach of King Coal in West Virginia.

Each roadblock, however, fortified the marchers’ solidarity. Organizers stitched together an amazing shuttle system to return us to the Marmet home base each night. Days were brutally hot, but our team of volunteer “street medics” kept everyone hydrated and sunblocked. A mobile kitchen and toilet barges kept us fed and comfortable. No one received a nickel of pay.

The thing that impressed me most about that week was the commitment and

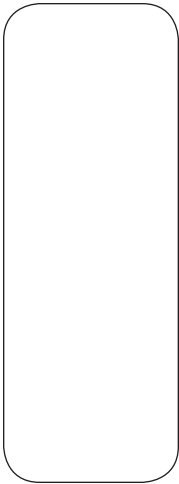
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# U of L to Launch Program in Peace, Justice, and Conflict Transformation

by Russ Vandenbroucke

With financial support from FOR, three University of Louisville undergraduates attended “Partnering for Peace,” a student conference sponsored by the Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies at Notre Dame University. The conference, an annual event since 1993, ran April 1-2. The students’ trip marks the latest in a series of developments at UofL including the creation of a program in Peace, Justice, and Conflict Transformation that officially begins with the 2011-12 academic year.

Cynthia Dill, Emma Dill, and Samuel Battcher were among over 100 students attending the conference, which focused on fostering peacebuilding among individuals, organizations, and government entities. They attended seminars and panels such as “Refugees and International Displaced Persons,” “Interreligious Dialogue as a Peacebuilding Tool in Mindanao,” “The Role of Civil Society Organizations in Enhancing the Christian-Muslim Relations in Bethlehem,” and “Can There Be Justice for Terrorists?” The UofL students also shared a private dinner with Colman McCarthy who delivered the keynote address, “How to Be a Peacemaker.” McCarthy, a syndicated journalist for The Washington Post from 1969-1997, founded the Center for Teaching Peace in Washington in 1985.

University of Louisville Provost Shirley Willhnganz recalls that when the Muhammad Ali Center at Uof L was first being planned the university explored starting a program in conflict resolution. A decade later that interest is being incorporated into the new program. Its recent genesis began with brainstorming during the fall of 2009 between faculty members Barbara Burns (Psychological and Brain Sciences) and myself that led to

a series of regular meetings among faculty, staff, and students.

I was part of a team of UofL professors (with Burns, Joy Hart of Communications, Paul Salmon of Psychological and Brain Sciences, and me) selected to attend “Teaching Peace in the 21st Century,” a program also run by Notre Dame’s Kroc Institute in June, 2010. Our participation had been underwritten by J. Blaine Hudson, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, and John Hale, Director of Liberal Studies. And the Kroc Institute helped us recognize that rousing the interest of faculty and staff and securing support from the administration were significant steps we’d already achieved towards creating the new initiative.

A number of existing programs at UofL align with the goals of Peace, Justice, and Conflict Transformation. For example, the annual Grawemeyer Award for Ideas Improving World Order was recently given to Trita Parsi for his work on improving relations between Iran and Israel in the hope of achieving lasting peace in the Middle East. Similarly, the Muhammad Ali Institute for Peace and Justice works with undergraduates and the Louisville community to advance peacebuilding, social justice, and the prevention of violence. In addition, the President and Provost have made strong commitments to sustainability in operations, teaching, research, service, community outreach, and finances. The sustainability movement at UofL includes promoting a peaceful and just world as well as a more environmentally sustainable community.

Also on campus, the Anne Braden Institute for Social Justice Research bridges the gap between academic research and social justice advocates who might benefit from that research. The university’s PEACC program (Prevention, Education, Advocacy, Campus & Community) focuses



Russ Vandenbroucke (L), Joy Hart, and Paul Salmon at the Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies at Notre Dame University.

Photo Credit: Matt Cashore, University of Notre Dame

on domestic, dating, and sexual violence.

Among academic programs, the minor in Social Change gives students an opportunity to study how people change their social environments and respond to change within them. The Liberal Studies program offers eligible students the opportunity to create an individualized interdisciplinary curriculum focused on Peace Studies.

Faculty affiliated with the Peace, Justice, and Conflict Transformation program are working to create an undergraduate certificate for 2012 that would include training in mediation, a culminating service learning project or internship, and a series of electives from a roster of over 150 courses that reflects the omnidisciplinary nature of Peace Studies as a window to understand the world. Representative

courses include: Anthropology of War; Intercultural Communication; Conflict Management; Globalization and Diversity; Race and Gender Issues in Criminal Justice; Language, Protest and Conflict in the Global Community; Peace and Violence in Children and Adolescents; and Philosophies of Peace.

For Dill, a senior from Newport, Kentucky, the conference provided the opportunity to meet students from around the country and abroad: “I learned a lot. I now see ways to pursue a career that will allow me to work in a local community with the perspective of a global citizen.”

Russ Vandenbroucke is a Professor in the Theater Arts Program at the University of Louisville.

## Empathy and Ethos

by Tom Louderback / Part of an occasional series of columns on our enduring search for goodness.

It appears likely that author and philosopher Rebecca Goldstein is herself “the atheist with a soul” who is the main character of her 2010 novel, 36 Arguments for the Existence of God (Vintage Books). Folks from all corners of modern civilization’s ongoing faith vs. reason argument populate this story. Other characters include “a goddess of game theory,” a Hassidic math genius, the disciple of a messianic cult, and an anthropologist seeking biochemical immortality. Relatives and friends of Goldstein, perhaps?

The novel tells the story of the world’s best-selling atheist author, a fictional character named Cass Seltzer. We’re told that Seltzer is a famous psychologist who has studied religious experience his entire career—many of his books “edging out cookbooks and memoirs written by household pets.” As the novel begins, Seltzer is surprised by the success of his most recent book, however. It’s not his best effort, and he recognizes that it’s really nothing new.

It turns out the book’s appendix is what everyone wants to read; not so much the book itself. There Seltzer has added a list of 36 arguments for the existence of God, each logically analyzed and demolished. We don’t need these arguments to feel the “qualities of religious experience,” Seltzer claims. Our sense of spirituality can continue and grow without them.

Contemplating his good fortune on a cold night later in the novel, Seltzer even feels “moved by powers beyond himself.” How can he deny, he asks himself, “the sense that the universe is personal, that there is something personal that grounds existence and order and value and purpose and meaning?” So, he knows that moments



of transcendent happiness are real. But, he believes that he has always found reliable explanations for these experiences in his psychological research.

Seltzer’s list is also attached as the appendix to Goldstein’s novel. Here you find the many familiar arguments for the existence of God; cosmological, ontological, and teleological. Others are based on prayer, moral truth, altruism, free will, and personal purpose. Finally, there is the Argument from the Abundance of Arguments. It’s said, in this instance, that the sheer number of reasons makes a plausible case.

Goldstein, the author, is a committed atheist, the sister of an orthodox rabbi, and the spouse of another committed atheist, author and psychologist-philosopher Stephen Pinker. Yet, she does not seem to be interested in reproving the faithful for their supposed emotional insecurities—like Richard Dawkins and Christopher Hitchens. Her writing is soulful. She comes across thoughtful and compassionate.

Maybe this novel would make a good discussion guide for those stouthearted enough to examine all of sides of these arguments. It seems like Goldstein had precisely this in mind.

### FOR’s Mission Statement

The Fellowship of Reconciliation seeks to replace violence, war, racism and economic injustice with nonviolence, peace and justice. We are an interfaith organization committed to active nonviolence as a transforming way of life and as a means of radical change. We educate, train, build coalitions, and engage in nonviolent and compassionate actions locally, nationally, and globally.



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#### 95 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.

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# Activists agree with climate change deniers: Scientists made big mistakes

by Sarah Lynn Cunningham

What does the steering committee of the Louisville Climate Action Network (LCAN) have in common with climate change deniers? We agree that climate scientists have made serious errors in their calculations about global climate change. But, contrary to the deniers, the scientists were mistaken in underestimating the problem.

New findings show that climate change is an even clearer and more present danger than scientists had feared. Still, entrenched bipartisan political deadlock maintains the status quo--or erodes it.

Tea Party activist Rep. Michele Bachmann (MN-R) told Right Online that she is “not convinced in the scientific evidence that human activity is the cause of global warming.” Time Magazine recently noted that, “Last year, [Sen. Mitch] McConnell pressured South Carolina Republican Lindsey Graham to abandon bipartisan collaboration on climate change.” Kentucky Gov. Steve Beshear, a Democrat, recently told the EPA to “get off our backs” for protecting waterways from the ravages of mountaintop removal.

Even governors who previously acknowledged the scientific consensus on climate change, such as presidential hopefuls Mitt Romney, Jon Huntsman and Tim Pawlenty, are backing away and refusing to embrace solutions that cut pollution as well as costs.

Progress on the climate front will have to come from the grassroots.

Our own local grassroots climate action organization, LCAN, recognizes the many benefits of reducing our nation’s carbon footprint: A cooler climate. Fewer asthma and heart attacks. More mountaintops. Cleaner, free-flowing streams. Lower utility



Sarah Lynn Cunningham

drives. Diminished political influence by the fossil fuels lobby. Less military violence overseas. Perhaps better physical fitness, too. But what can you do?

## Simple Steps

Relamp with Energy Star-rated lighting. Compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs) and newer LED technologies provide the same amount of light, in more natural colors, without the flicker and hum of older technologies. All fluorescent lamps, however, contain tiny amounts of mercury, so handle them with care and dispose of spent lamps properly. Louisville households may dispose of them at no cost at HazBin (call 311 for details) and local HomeDepots.

Walk, bike, ride TARC or carpool. These time-tested modes of transportation increase social engagement. Moreover, a civilized community must offer adequate public transportation to its residents too young, too disabled, too poor or too addicted to substances to use private transportation. Walking and bicycling, of course, also burn calories and boost fitness. Even just walking to and from the bus stop, and to midday lunch spots, has been shown to reduce weight. When you must drive, keep tires properly inflated, accelerate gently and obey speed limits.

Reduce the food-miles on your plate by consuming local produce.

Check to ensure that computers have been set to “Max Battery” or a similar power-saving setting. (They’re shipped with that software turned off.) Turn electronics off at the end of the day. Unplug “energy vampires”—chargers and equipment with instant-starts—that you don’t use every day. Use ceiling fans, and raise the AC thermostat by 2°. Wear a sweater, and drop the furnace thermostat by 2°. Install low-flow shower heads and faucet aerators. Launder in cold water.

Reduce, Reuse and Recycle. Avoid printing hard copies; store files on hard

drives and let your computer find them when you next need them. Buy paper with at least 30% post-consumer recycled content.

Avoid oil-based Styrofoam and throw-away plastic. Use a ceramic mug at work, too. Ask restaurants servers to wrap your leftovers in recyclable aluminum foil if they don’t offer truly biodegradable boxes. Call 311 to ensure that you’re recycling everything that you can, via curbside collection programs or drop-off centers.

Buy only Energy-Star-rated electronics. And don’t let your discarded electronics end up in a developing nation, where unsuspecting workers, including children, are paid a pittance to strip out heavy metals without health protections. If the retailer won’t include proper disposal with your purchase of new equipment, call 311 for DIY options.

Install a programmable thermostat to allow you to save money at night and while you’re at work or school; it could easily pay for itself within the first month.

Don’t like seeing Kentucky’s mountains irreparably scarred by mining? Switch to green power, now available from LG&E. It’s certified from renewable sources, and inexpensive (\$5 per 300 kilowatt-hours). Signing up on-line ([www.lge-ku.com/green](http://www.lge-ku.com/green)) is easy and fast with your LG&E account number in hand. Even if you can only afford to add \$5 worth to your monthly bill, it’s critically important that LG&E, the Kentucky Public Service Commission and elected officials not conclude that customers don’t want clean energy.

## Bigger Steps

Live close to where you work, attend school, shop, etc.

Consider a thorough energy audit to identify how you can improve your home’s energy performance ([www.ky-homeperformance.org/CountyInformation.aspx?County=Jefferson](http://www.ky-homeperformance.org/CountyInformation.aspx?County=Jefferson)). At minimum, sign up for LG&E’s \$25 energy audit ([www.lge-ku.com/resaudit/default.asp](http://www.lge-ku.com/resaudit/default.asp)). If you use air conditioners, have them inspected by your HVAC contractor or via LG&E’s \$35/unit inspection program ([www.lge-ku.com/ac/ac\\_details.asp](http://www.lge-ku.com/ac/ac_details.asp)).

Consider foam insulation. It insulates and blocks energy losses via the tiny gaps that commonly add up to several square feet. Tighten, weatherize, or replace leaky doors and windows. Need a new roof? The lighter the color, the better it will reflect light and reduce interior heat gain. Replace wasteful toilets and faucets with more efficient models.

Plant deciduous trees on the south and west sides of the building, and evergreen trees and shrubs on its north side. Consider low-maintenance landscaping. Learn more from

the Lawn Care for Cleaner Air program sponsored by the Air Pollution Control District ([www.louisvilleky.gov/APCD/lawncare/LowMaintenanceLandscaping.htm](http://www.louisvilleky.gov/APCD/lawncare/LowMaintenanceLandscaping.htm)).

Always buy the most efficient HVAC equipment possible. Replacing equipment before it fails often makes good sense. (For example, besides the lower costs of geothermal heating and cooling, the IRS offers a 30% tax credit on buying and installation.)

There are 30% federal tax credits available for solar hot water systems or photovoltaic panels, too.

Buy the smallest, greenest automobile that meets your true needs. Visit this site ([www.greenercars.org/highlights\\_greenest.htm](http://www.greenercars.org/highlights_greenest.htm)) for a list of the greenest of each vehicle type.

## Citizen Power

None of these steps will suffice if we don’t change public policy, too. Express your support for full enforcement of the Clean Air Act and the adoption of effective carbon reduction policies. Tell candidates and officials that green issues are crucial to you. Pay attention and act when important hearings are held.

Locally, ask our new mayor Greg Fischer when and how he will begin adopting the recommendations in the Louisville Climate Action Report--crafted in 2009 by the Partnership for a Green City, with input from dozens of local experts.

And please help us spread the word. LCAN provides free presentations on the problems of—and solutions to—global climate change. We offer free brochures with local information on reducing your carbon footprint. We’d welcome your organization to the network. Just visit us at [louisvillecan.org](http://louisvillecan.org).

Sarah Lynn Cunningham, Director, Louisville Climate Action Network (LCAN), [www.louisvillecan.org](http://www.louisvillecan.org).



Photo credit – TARC

## 34th Street renamed Louis Coleman Jr. Drive *(continued from page 1)*

of the people in Portland collected petitions to it. A compromise was made. The name change would begin at 34th and Market Streets and end at Duvalle Drive.

The motorcade began to move out around 2:00pm. Cars with flags and signs processed. After the motorcade we gathered to honor Rev. Coleman at his church, the First Congregational Methodist Church at 39th Street and Garland Avenue.

We marched in singing, “Ain’t Gonna Let Nobody Turn Me Around.” A welcome was given by the Rev. Marvin Malone. Gordon Bell. A song was led by the First Congregational Methodist Choir. The late Rev. Coleman’s grandson played one of his favorite songs, “This Little Light of Mine,” on the harmonica.

Mattie Jones, chair of the celebration, told us all about the need for us to pick up the torch and “continue his legacy.” The Rev. Charles Elliott, civil rights activist called Rev. Coleman our “Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.”

Rev. Coleman took a stand on police brutality and fought long and hard with other

social justice groups to create a police civilian review board. When Derby came around he was concerned about racial profiling, our community being put in “lockdown,” and minority businesses unable to benefit from the \$100 million dollars the Derby generates.

Activists in the Civil Rights Community were given an opportunity to reflect on their “treasured moments” with the Rev. Louis Coleman. John Johnson, Executive Director of the KY Commission on Human Rights spoke about what Rev. Coleman would most likely be doing if he were alive today. He would be declaring “war on unemployment.” While the nation may be experiencing 9% unemployment, in the African American community we’re experiencing 16% unemployment--40% among our youth! Rev. Coleman would be organizing the community to select the next Superintendent so that our children can learn and experience a better quality of life.

Carla Wallace had met Rev. Coleman when she traveled with her father, the late Henry Wallace to social justice meet-

ings. Carla talked about how Rev. Coleman spoke out against the police killing of Adrian Reynolds. She talked about how they had handcuffed James Taylor and shot him 11 times. We surely did protest, and it went on for about a year. Rev. Coleman wanted everyone to be treated fairly and he supported the Fairness Campaign and especially in its campaign against hate crimes.

Rev. Coleman was also a long time advocate against “environmental racism.” He spent years bringing in experts to talk about the effects of Rubbertown on our health. Rev. Coleman met with state and local officials to help create the Star Program. He would even get up in the middle of the night when someone called him about a strange odor in Rubbertown and go out to take samples.

But what I particularly loved about Rev. Coleman was his constant struggle for AFFIRMATIVE ACTION. Rev. Coleman with the Justice Resource Center in 2001, established the National Black Chamber of Commerce.

There were approximately 323 people hired to build the KFC Yum! Center. Rev. Cole-

man recruited black men and women to secure 62 of these positions. Although the goal of the project was 20% for minorities and women, there was 23% minority participation. Because of the success of the Yum! Center project, civic leaders made a continuing commitment to include 20% minority participation in other major projects at the University of Louisville and the University of Kentucky.

Acknowledgements were made of the other civil rights activists such as Suzy Post with the Metro Housing Coalition, Jean Edwards of the Fellowship of Reconciliation, Tom Moffett for Kentucky Alliance, the former Judge Delahanty, and others.

Councilwoman Judy Green, District 1 representative, presented to the family a street sign, Louis Coleman, Jr. Drive as well as another to his church for the Rev. Louis Coleman Jr. Community Center. Rev. Coleman’s legacy lives on. No justice, no peace!

Gracie Lewis is a tireless civil rights activist living, working, educating, and organizing in Louisville.



# Warrants issued for 1989 murder of Jesuits in El Salvador

by Jim Flynn

The long arm of justice has finally reached into part of the shameful past of El Salvador’s military. According to the New York Times on May 30, Eloy Velasco Nuñez, a judge on Spain’s National Court issued arrest warrants for 20 of the top military leaders of El Salvador’s civil war.

They have been accused of planning and executing the midnight massacre of 6 Jesuit priests at the University of Central America in San Salvador on November 16, 1989. The housekeeper and her 15 year-old daughter, Julia Elba Ramos and Celine Maricet Ramos, were also martyred that bloody night.

The current rector of the university, Rev. Andreu Oliva, commented: “when justice can’t be obtained in the country where the crimes were committed, it’s important that the process go forward.” Five of the six Jesuits were born in Spain, allowing the judge to employ the doctrine of universal jurisdiction to prosecute crimes committed outside the country. This doctrine had also been used to bring charges against the Chilean dictator Augusto Pinochet.

Along with others from Kentucky, I have been to the place of the Jesuits on the campus of the University of Central America a number of times, the first just two years after that horrible night. Each time I have been there, I experience an overwhelming feeling of being on holy ground, ground literally soaked in blood.

Three of the Jesuits, including Fr. Ignacio Ellacuria, the rector of the university at the time, were dragged out of their beds to the court yard where they were brutally murdered. A soldier even carved the brain out of Fr. Ignacio’s head after his death.

Today there is a memorial to their martyrdom in the university library with memorabilia from that night. Blood stained clothing, books singed with fire, even a straight line of bullets riddling a bible, and a bullet hole in the heart of a picture

of Archbishop Oscar Romero murdered 9 years before on March 24, 1980.

It is often reported that 20 of the 24 Salvadoran soldiers who participated in the massacre that night were recent graduates of the School of the Americas in Ft. Benning, Georgia. Who taught someone how to carve out a brain?

Asad twist to the story: early afternoon of November 15, the Jesuits’ gardener sought safety in the priests’ living room for his wife and daughter. He feared for their lives because the civil war was erupting right in the heart of San Salvador. I saw a picture of the two of them huddled together on the couch and bloodied from their fatal wounds.

The gardener later planted a rose garden where the bodies of three Jesuits were found by Bishop Chavez and others later in the morning of November 16, 1989. Today there is a monument in that garden with the names of all 8 victims, with rose bushes flowering all around.

The six Jesuits are buried in the floor of the chapel on the campus of the university. The two women are buried in their home town.

Six names of the Jesuits are inscribed in the rose garden monument: Ignacio Ellacuria, Segundo Montes, Ignacio Martin-Baro, Amando Lopez, Juan Ramon Moreno, Joaquin Lopez y Lopez.

Some named in the indictment from Spain are Rafael Humberto Larios, Salvador’s defense minister at the time, Juan Orlando Zepeda, vice defense minister, Rene Emilio Ponce, leader of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Inocente Orlando Montano, vice minister of public safety.

Finally the long arm of justice has reached some of the murderers who until now acted with impunity. Justice delayed is not always justice denied.

*Jim Flynn is a Roman Catholic priest and longtime advocate for the poor, marginalized, and oppressed in Central America.*



Bible through which bullets passed during the 1989 murder in El Salvador.

## Racial Healing Initiative launched

by Tiffany B. Gonzales

A gathering of men who live in and around the Russell Neighborhood was recently asked, “What does a healthy community look like?” The men talked about having safe spaces for children to play, employment for young people, and fresh fruits and vegetables available. They raised concerns about the lack of jobs and grocery stores but the abundance of liquor stores in their neighborhood.

Their conversation was a “Health Equity Dialogue.” These group discussions led, by the Louisville Metro Department of Public Health and the Wellness Center for Health Equity (CHE), aim to help people learn what health equity is and to identify the root causes of health problems in their neighborhoods. The dialogues offer a starting point for community members to take social action that will produce policy changes to promote health equity.

On this Saturday, the dialogue was sponsored in part by Louisville’s Racial Healing Initiative, which is led by the CHE and its partners. The partners include two programs of the University of Louisville College of Arts & Sciences (the Dean’s Outreach program and the Anne Braden Institute for Social Justice Research), as well as Race Community and Child Welfare (RCCW); Metro Louisville Human Relations Commission; and Women in Transition. This local initiative is one of 119 projects funded across the country by the W. K. Kellogg Foundation’s Racial Equity Initiative called “America Healing.”

“Structural and institutional racism touch every area of our community,” says Annetta Arno, director of the Center for Health Equity. “Community collaboration is essential to addressing them. Together, our community partners are using their areas of focus, whether history, health equity, addressing disproportionality, or teaching civil and human rights, to strengthen community engagement. The hope is that this approach will have a greater impact.”

The Kellogg Foundation developed the America Healing initiative to “support programs that promote racial healing and address racial inequity--and seeks to honor the mistakes of the past and address the structural racism that persists today in America”. CHE was awarded the two-year grant in August 2012. In Louisville the initiative has five project components, each working towards racial healing in a different way.

A “Health Equity Report,” produced by CHE, will examine the neighborhood conditions that affect the health of all Louisville residents and analyze the root causes of health inequities in our city. The report will include data by neighborhood about social and economic conditions such as housing, education and food access. The Health Equity Report will be a tool for neighborhood



Tiffany B. Gonzales

residents to address local health concerns.

A second project is a local adaptation of the Undoing Racism™ curriculum of the People’s Institute for Survival and Beyond. This project, headed by RCCW, involves convening a group of nearly 30 local residents this summer to confront racism in the community and develop the curriculum. The outcome will include a foundation in Metro Louisville civil rights history.

A third project underway is the Youth Leadership Institute led by outreach staff and student interns of UofL’s College of Arts and Sciences. This project involves over 30 youth who gather on Saturdays to participate in team-building and leadership exercises, human rights education, and anti-racism activities. In addition, they will produce video stories that will be screened across the city in the fall of 2011.

U of L’s Anne Braden Institute will host a “Healing History Academy” starting in August. The Academy is a group of 25 residents from across the county who will meet together for six months for an intensive study of 20th-century local racial and social history with educators, artists and advocates. Academy graduates will use that knowledge to implement a racial healing program next spring for their own neighborhood or workplace.

Finally, the Racial Healing Initiative plans to develop local policy recommendations that will address structural racism in our city. The Center for Health Equity is facilitating this process, but change will be led by people like the Russell neighborhood residents who gathered to take part in the recent Health Equity Dialogue.

*Tiffany B. Gonzales, MSW, is a community health specialist with the Louisville Metro Public Health & Wellness Center for Health Equity. Questions about this project or about participating in it may be directed to Annetta Arno at 502-574-6616, arneta.arno@louisvilleky.gov.*

## Protesters condemn Chiquita’s Colombian paramilitary connections

by Stephen Bartlett

On May 26, 2011 Chiquita International Brands held its annual shareholder meeting at its skyscraper headquarters in downtown Cincinnati, Ohio. Although the horizontal glass panes overlooking the Ohio River were sparkling and its fountain ebullient, Chiquita was having a bad day.

Protesters from four states gathered in the wake of the recent release of 5,500 pages of documents acquired by the Justice Department to condemn Chiquita Brands for its longstanding payments to two paramilitary organizations in Colombia linked with thousands of death-squad-style murders and to demand compensation for their victims.

Having paid \$1.7 million to the most notorious Colombian paramilitary group, the AUC (United Self-Defense Forces of Colombia), from 1997 to 2004, for protection services, Chiquita Brands found itself funding what the US government labelled a “terrorist” organization. The Washington Post also reports, in addition, that a 2003 Organization of American States Report records a Chiquita subsidiary as having unloaded illegal shipments of arms. (The report, however, did not indicate that the subsidiary, Banadex SA, at the time was aware of the cargo’s’ illegal contents.)

When Chiquita’s board member Roderick M. Hills inquired in 2003 with the Bush administration’s Assistant Attorney General Michael Chertoff about the “dilemma” (to quote Chiquita CEO Fernando Aguirre) of making payments to certified terrorists, no answer was given or action taken.

But when former Chiquita Brands attorney and now US Attorney General, Eric Holder, directed the DOJ to settle with Chiquita for a \$25 million fine, while not pursuing criminal indictments against Chiquita executives, the cat was out of the bag. Chiquita had pleaded guilty.

Even the pro-US Colombian government has considered extraditing Chiquita executives for these crimes. It may, however, be difficult

for them to bite the hand that feeds them through Plan Colombia military aid. Nevertheless protesters organized by Witness for Peace and labor unions (including the Steelworkers local, SEIU regional) are asking Chiquita shareholders to initiate a program of compensation for the paramilitaries’ victims.

Lawsuits have also recently been filed across the United States against Chiquita. The suits are being consolidated before a south Florida Federal judge. MSNBC quotes Terry Collingsworth, a lawyer for the plaintiffs: “A company that pays a terrorist organization that kills thousands of people should get the capital punishment of civil liability and be put out of business by punitive damages.” Chiquita claims its payments were extorted by the paramilitaries.

Especially relevant today is what Chiquita’s experience says about the attempt to move a Colombia-US Free Trade agreement to the floor of Congress, and to portray Colombia as “making progress” in its human rights record. (Note: Colombia surpasses even Sudan as the country with the most internally displaced persons in the world, currently more than 5 million!)

Both Democrats and Republicans in the U.S. Congress desperately want more free trade agreements. It seems clear that if such an agreement is possible anywhere in Latin America, pro-US Colombia has to be on the short list of candidates, along with Panama.

Once the local police in Cincinnati had cut off the protesters’ bull horn and silenced their drums and maracas, protesters were left mainly with their questions and their indignation.

In the shadow of Chiquita’s cold-hearted skyscraper, Karen Hanson of the Ohio Conference on Fair Trade asked: “Wouldn’t a Colombia-US free-trade agreement simply legitimize the kinds of corporate free-reign that has fueled such violent crimes in Colombia?”

*Stephen Bartlett is a board member of the Kentucky Interfaith Taskforce on Latin America and the Caribbean (KITLAC).*



# Now’s time for the government to invest more, not less!

by Thomas Lambert

With the current US annual budget deficit surpassing \$1 trillion and total US cumulative debt over \$14 trillion, many argue that now is the time for the federal government to show fiscal restraint, to cut many programs, and to shrink the size of our government. This is the worst possible prescription for today’s ailing and struggling economy. An even worse idea is the proposal for a balanced budget amendment to the US Constitution.

It is apparent now that the US economy is in bad need of more stimulus, especially more spending and tax breaks for working class families, not less. These are families whose spending is important to any economic recovery. After peaking at a little over 10% in early 2009, the US unemployment rate stills hovers around 9% and does not appear to be trending downward despite the fact that the recession officially ended in July 2009, according to the US Department of Commerce.

Even scarier than a “jobless recovery” is the fact that the number of people actually participating in the labor force has actually shrunk. That is, after counting both employed and unemployed (the two components that make up the labor force in a labor market) our nation now has fewer people in the labor force than was the case before the Great Recession started in December 2007.

In other words, millions have completely dropped out of the labor force because they cannot find work. A US Bureau of Labor Statistics metric that combines measures of unemployment, “underemployment” (those working part time but wanting full time work), and discouraged workers (labor force dropouts who have given up looking for work) shows almost 17% of the potential workforce of the US as underutilized as of last year. That’s around 26 million people.

Underutilization on this scale imposes a horrific cost not only upon the current economy but also on future generations. It is known that high school and college students who graduate during bad economic times will always earn slightly less than their counterparts who graduate during better times, even after adjusting for differences in career starting dates.

For those who lose a job, conservative estimates indicate that it will take 3-6 months of full time work to make up for each month of work lost before they will have returned to their former standards of living. Therefore, someone who goes without work for 6 months typically needs 18 months or more employment just to dig out of the hole unemployment created.

Meanwhile, cities and states are cutting crucial governmental services and laying off workers just when spending by the state is needed to keep local economies going. Instead of Congress debating whether



Thomas Lambert

municipalities should be allowed to declare bankruptcy, Congress should be debating how much money to give local governments to help them fund school districts, police, fire and other important services.

Nobel Prize winning economists Joseph Stiglitz and Paul Krugman have both argued that the 2009 economic stimulus plan was not enough. Both hold that the amount should have been double the almost \$800 billion in tax cuts and spending. Budget deficits and large debts are bad over the long run, but can be dealt with later when

the US economy has healed and is generating jobs and income for a greater number of households.

Cutting spending now will only make a bad economic situation worse. For strong evidence, look no further than the 1930s when in an effort to show fiscal prudence, the Roosevelt administration decided to try to balance the federal budget through spending cuts and tax increases in 1937. The result later in 1938 was an increase in the unemployment rate from around 14 to 19% (unemployment had been falling since its high of 25% in 1933) and a drop in real Gross Domestic Product (GDP). The downturn in 1938 became known as the “recession within the Great Depression.”

Conservative policies, like those promoted by Senator Rand Paul (R-KY), will produce a similar effect and throw the economy into a downward spiral where the Treasury will cull even less revenue, more people will be thrown out of work, and many businesses will either close or adapt to diminished sales. This is why most economists, whether on the left or right, generally oppose a balanced budget amendment to the US Constitution. Rejuvenating a very sick economy should come first. We can fix the debt problem later.

*Thomas Lambert is a lecturer in economics at Indiana University Southeast, lamberththomas@hotmail.com.*

## US left should support Palestinian acknowledgment

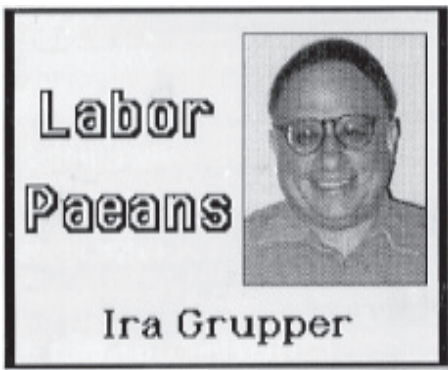
There have been two recent developments around the Israeli-Palestinian situation. Peace in the world affects the US labor movement, so this Labor Paeans will concentrate on it.

The New York Times reported (May 5): Hamas and the Palestinian Authority “signed a historic reconciliation accord... vowing common cause against Israeli occupation.” The next day Hamas leader Khaled Mishal issued a statement implicitly accepting a Palestinian state, alongside Israel, and demarcated by the 1967 border.

So, we now have the leading political organizations in the Occupied Territories in consensus on accepting the 1967 border as an approach to resolving this conflict. This includes Fatah, Palestinian Peoples Party, and the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP).

I have a dear friend, Yossi Khen, who was born and raised in Israel. He was a sergeant in the Israeli army (IDF) in 1973 when he publicly stated his refusal to serve in the Occupied Territories (West Bank and Gaza). He would not pick up arms against his Semitic cousins, the Palestinians, and spent time in an Israeli military jail as a result.

Yossi left Israel and moved to the United States. We met in the 1980s, while we were both active in New Jewish Agenda (NJA), an amazing group of 5,000 US and Canadian Jews calling for a state of Palestine, next to the state of Israel, both with secure and recognized boundaries. NJA closed shop in 1993.



Well, Yossi, along with Los Angeles area Jewish peace activists Jeff Warner and Estee Chandler, recently circulated a petition ([www.petitiononline.com/USfor67/petition.html](http://www.petitiononline.com/USfor67/petition.html)): “We urge the United States Government to join the international community in recognizing Palestine alongside Israel on the 1967 borders, with its capital in East Jerusalem.

“...The peace negotiations between Israel and Palestine have been deadlocked for many years. They have failed to reach any substantial agreements. Meanwhile Israel has expanded its settlements that effectively appropriate 40% of West Bank land slated for a Palestinian state.

“The Palestinian Liberation Organization/Palestinian Authority (PLO/PA) accepted the existence of the state of Israel in 1988, and has stated many times they are ready to accept a Palestinian state on the 1967 lines (the ‘Green Line’ of the

1949 Armistice agreement brokered by the United States).

“Recognition of Palestine on the 1967 border will jump-start, not negate, Israeli-Palestinian negotiations. Negotiations will be needed to assure an orderly end of the occupation and to arrange thousands of issues of mutual concern including, but not limited to, land swaps, access to religious sites in the old city of Jerusalem, and water resources.

“We urge the United States to honor the democratic movement that gave rise to the Arab Spring, and support the Palestinian request for statehood in the United Nations.”

How do liberal and left US groups respond to these monumental events? J Street calls itself “the political home for pro-Israel, pro-peace Americans. The organization gives political voice to mainstream American Jews and other supporters of Israel who, informed by their Jewish values, believe that a two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict is essential to Israel’s survival.”

J Street seems not yet ready to back this initiative, supporting instead President Obama’s call for beginning negotiations. Yet, Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu’s recent speech to the US Congress made it clear that he was closing the door to meaningful negotiation.

The Palestinians are thus left with no alternative but to go to the UN and the world community. J Street needs to reconsider its approach, to take the bold step and welcome

the Palestinian initiative.

Then we have Jewish Voice for Peace (JVP), “the largest US-based grassroots organization dedicated to promoting full equality, democracy and self-determination for both Israelis and Palestinians.” And US Campaign to End the Israeli Occupation, “a diverse coalition working for freedom from occupation and equal rights for all by challenging US policy towards the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.”

Both these groups have been longtime and steadfast supporters of a just solution to the Israeli-Palestinian impasse. Yet, neither will support this new Palestinian statement. Respectfully, they need to support these Palestinian organizations, and the various NGOs, based in the Occupied Territories as they now take their campaign to the UN.

Both Palestinian Authority and Hamas, seemingly against so many odds, are calling jointly for a Palestinian state. They did not call for Israel to cease to be, so I conclude they are calling for two states. Repeat: two states. And, last time I looked, they held state power.

We might do well to heed Isaiah: “Make the heart of this people calloused/ make their ears dull, and close their eyes./ Otherwise they might see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their hearts, and turn and be healed.”

*Contact Ira Grupper at [irag@iglou.com](mailto:irag@iglou.com).*

## Race is crucial *(continued from page 1)*

have bought into the lie that attacks on people of color are not about us.

In his July 5, 2010, blog article, “Of Collateral Damage and Roosting Chickens: Reflections on Racism, the Economy and the High Cost of White Ambivalence,” white anti-racist author Tim Wise reflects on a message from a white unemployed worker angry that Wise has addressed the impact of hard times on people of color. Wise points out that “the irony of the current economic and social predicament facing many white people is precisely the existence of racism, racial bias, and white racial ambivalence towards people of color and their plight ... warning signs were ignored in large measure because they seemed not to impact white Americans.”

Those of us who are white need to be talking with other white people about the need to challenge racism, both on the individual and institutional level. We need to do this so that people of color are not left to wage the struggle for justice with far too few of us who are white standing up, too. We need to do this because it is only together that we can mount a fight back that has any chance of helping us all survive.

*Carla Wallace is board member of the Carl Braden Memorial Center as well as a longtime anti-racist and Fairness activist in Louisville, [www.carlbradencenter.org](http://www.carlbradencenter.org). She also serves on the Leadership Team of Us for All of Us, [www.usforallofus.org](http://www.usforallofus.org).*

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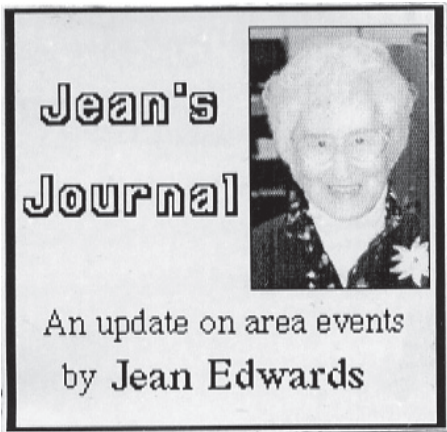
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# A TREE GROWS ON KAE LIN AVENUE

A dogwood tree! Not just any dogwood tree, mind you, but a very special “Cornus kousa”, said to have been introduced into the United States from Japan or China. A late bloomer, a flowering dogwood growing nicely on the front lawn of the house where George Riley Edwards lived until his death on June 2, 2010.

A dogwood tree, planted in his loving memory by devoted friends, Bill and Diane Houghton who came to know George through the congregational life at Central Presbyterian Church.

A special tree, strong and resilient, eloquent and bold when it flowers, steadfast and reliable -- a perfect metaphor for George. He loved trees and studied them carefully especially when he worked on the Appalachian Trail.

At the base of the tree planted in his memory a cast aluminum plaque bears the following inscription: (taken from the Peaceseeker Award presented to George Riley Edwards by the United Presbyterian Peace Fellowship at the 186th General Assembly, June 24, 1974.)

A professor of peace to hundreds of students;  
A witty and eloquent advocate of the riches of conscience;  
A scholar of nonviolence for the whole church of Christ,  
And a tireless traveler across bridges of reconciliation.

George Riley Edwards (1920-2010)

*May the beauty of his life shine forevermore*

# AN AMAZING, BUT TRUE F.O.R STORY

Mark Johnson, Executive Director of the national Fellowship of Reconciliation, told this amazing story at the Third Thursday Lunch last April to illustrate how the FOR has made a difference through the power of committed individuals.

He said that earlier this year we learned that our FOR comic book *Martin Luther King and the Montgomery Story* helped inspire the success of Egypt’s peaceful, nonviolent movement for democratic representation. Just three years ago the Egypt Director of the American Islamic Congress (Dalia Ziada) requested our permission to reprint this comic book in order to link civil rights groups throughout the Middle East and North Africa. 2000 copies were distributed in Arabic and Farsi and were shared in Tahrir Square during those tense days and identified as contributing to the air of peaceful revolution in Egypt.

The national FOR office has been inundated with requests for reprints of the comic book in a variety of languages. First published in 1958, it was conceived by the late Alfred Hassler, a former FOR executive director.

In responding to so many requests for the comic book, *Martin Luther King and The Montgomery Story* the national office first considered reproducing it as a pdf and sending it out in that less expensive format, but now they realize that the significance of this historical document deserves to be circulated in its original format.

They are asking all of us to help get this done. Will you help? Your gift will go to creatively promote peaceful nonviolence as the way to make change – in Egypt, Iraq, Wisconsin, and around the world! Become a part of this important history.

Please send a check today. The address remains: Box 271, Nyack, NY 10960. Please indicate on the memo line that your check is for the comic book.

# ABOUT AFGHANISTAN – Troops Moving Out, Drones Moving In

Many articles have been written in recent days about getting our troops out of Afghanistan. It seems that President Obama has committed to removing some US troops. In addition, it is expected that this longest war in U.S. history will become much longer.

However other writers have indicated that we may not be hearing the whole story. Behind the scenes, in small print, there have been suggestions that the whole focus of the war in Afghanistan may be changing. Instead of depending on our troops to fight this illegal war we intend to continue the war through the use of U.S. armed drones.

David Ignatius in his article (C-J, 12/1/10) explains that “It has become easier for the United States to kill suspected terrorists than to capture and interrogate them. Predator and Reaper drones, armed with Hellfire missiles, have become the weapons of choice against al-Qaida operatives in the tribal areas of Pakistan.”

To many of us in the peace movement, the use of drones brings us to the ultimate lowest level of cowardice, civility and human behavior. We have spoken out against them many times.

Ignatius states that the pace of drone attacks on tribal areas has increased during the Obama presidency while efforts to capture al-Qaida suspects have virtually stopped.

## FINANCIAL REPORT

### June 2011

<b>BEGINNING BALANCE</b> .....	\$10,270.51
Donations & Honorariums .....	415.00
<b>TOTAL</b> .....	<b>\$12,685.51</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES:</b>	
<b>FORsooth</b> Editing .....	\$100.00
<b>FORsooth</b> Layout .....	100.00
<b>FORsooth</b> Mailing.....	200.00
<b>FOR</b> National Dues .....	100.00
FOR National .....	202.00
Office Expenses .....	6.28
	<b>\$708.28</b>
	<b>708.28</b>
<b>ENDING BALANCE</b> .....	<b>\$9,977.23</b>

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# Louisville’s experience portends right wing retreat

A Kentucky law passed in the 1930s made it much easier for small neighborhoods to incorporate as cities than for larger ones to annex them, so by the mid-1980s, when I started covering local government as a self-employed writer for the Courier-Journal, I was handed a whopper assignment of profiling the mayoral and commission elections of 25 suburban cities in Jefferson County.

Over months in late 1985, interview after interview I conducted with candidates featured them answering my opening question, “Why are you running?” with the refrain: “I’m a retiree and I’m home all day, so residents can reach me.” Pretty dull and demoralizing for an ideologically minded political science major who aimed for a career writing about great issues.

Then I reached Robert M. Fletcher, a candidate for mayor in Moorland, a middle class residential city which gave no reason on election filing documents to think it would offer any break from the monotony. Expecting the same ‘ole response, I asked why he was running.

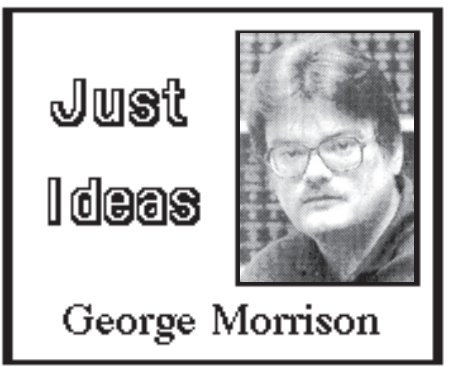
“Because of the way they like to spend money!” he said emphatically. Whoa, did I hear a genuine issue there? Suddenly, my education was at work, as Fletcher told me the decorative street lights the Moorland City Commission had bought were an extravagance and Moorland’s one-person police force should be discontinued, since Jefferson County officers could patrol the streets without cost to the city.

Fletcher’s crusade for less government carried the day, as he beat incumbent James Guy 69 to 65 (no, that’s not a proportion, those are the actual vote totals; remember, Kentucky law results in lots of very small cities).

So, those London-style mock gaslights illuminating Moorland’s streets—along with its sole person in blue—by all logic were soon history, right? In fact, the trendy street lights were still there when I drove through the neighborhood on a recent afternoon, and local police protection is still a fact of life. Both those findings are complicated by the fact that Moorland merged in the late 1980s with neighboring Lyndon, which has its own police force.

Before that merger, however, Fletcher’s efforts to cut spending died, and he resigned as mayor one year after being elected—a year marked by meetings sometimes disrupted by angry residents. A prime source of the agitation was a move Fletcher backed to outsource to the private sector the city’s positions of clerk and treasurer.

Does any of this sound familiar?



Twenty-five years before the Tea Party-driven right wing of the Republican Party launched its assault on what it saw as President Obama’s decorative street lights, the Tip O’Neill declaration that “all politics is local” was borne out in a small suburb of Louisville.

Of course, the parallels are limited. Privatizing is privatizing, but gas light facades atop utility poles aren’t Social Security. And you’ll notice neither party’s Congressional leadership is talking about cutting the only things analogous to the Moorland police officer, homeland security or the Patriot Act.

But today’s situation makes me think right away of Fletcher’s first words to me—that indignant tone of “the way they like to spend money” is exactly the mood that carried the 2010 elections.

And here’s betting that mood doesn’t last much longer. Although the Rand Pauls of this movement aren’t going to quit in disgust as Fletcher did, I expect their zeal will head for the exits as those elected last year discover that the people deep down don’t want ideological shifts, but economic improvement.

If jobless Americans start going back to work and those who have always been working become confident they will stay employed, then the national imperative that we cut spending will give way to a wish list of new bridges, road projects, and those politically sexy research grants that produce jobs and a sense of progress.

Didn’t we feel the same type of big chill when “going green” went from national purpose to commercial buzz words to forgotten phrase?

Though the dominant paradigm has been that we’re in a sea change brought by the Tea Party, the mini-example of Moorland shows that the nation’s pragmatic, overall centrist beat has a way of going on.

George Morrison is the former editor of FORsooth. Contact him at klm86@att.net.

# Blair Mountain (continued from page 1)

sacrifice I saw from a generation of young people who are so often accused of being detached, shallow, and unconcerned with social justice.

By week’s end, on Saturday, June 11, marchers were joined by close to 1,000 supporters for a rally at the base of Blair Mountain. At about 2:00pm, we embarked on the final 2 ½ miles up the mountain, joined by five or six hundred of the rally-goers. About two miles up the mountain, 150 of us, following strategically-placed red flags, suddenly broke off and ran up a side-trail onto coal company property.

This was trespass, of which we were well aware as we clambered over an iron-bar fence. A Wackenhut security agent parked on the other side videotaped everything. We hiked over a mile up a rocky trail until one of our team announced we were officially on the battle site. The group erupted in cheers and singing, joined by a couple of state troopers (who were very professional during the entire march). We had “reclaimed” the battlefield for the people of West Virginia and for the nation.

The first Battle of Blair Mountain remains a symbol of the industrial warfare that built the US labor movement and the middle class. The second Battle of Blair Mountain

may well become a symbol in the struggle to reverse the destruction of the shared health and prosperity that threatens us today.

See [www.marchonblairmountain.org](http://www.marchonblairmountain.org), for pictures, video, and commentary on the recent march; [www.friendsofblairmountain.org](http://www.friendsofblairmountain.org), for information on how you can help save Blair Mountain; and [www.appalachiarising.org](http://www.appalachiarising.org), the website of the growing Appalachian direct action movement.

John Hennen is an associate professor of history at Morehead State University and a director of the Kentucky Labor Institute ([www.kentuckylaborinstitute.org](http://www.kentuckylaborinstitute.org)).

## CORRECTION

A caption on page 4 of the May edition of FORsooth incorrectly indicated the number of years the Fellowship of Reconciliation’s Third Thursday Lunch has been presenting programs. The actual number is 16 (sixteen) years.



# International peacemaking and the anti-war movement

On Thursday, April 21, the Fellowship of Reconciliation's Executive Director, Dr. Mark Johnson, joined members of the Louisville FOR and others at the Rudyard Kipling restaurant for Third Thursday lunch. What follows is drawn from the talk he delivered there, which was itself from an article that appeared in the fall 2010 issue of the journal, Political Theology.

The anti-war movement is alive, if not well. It is committed and active in international peacemaking at an increasingly systemic and structural level. But the forces aligned to contain its impact are also increasingly sophisticated. Case in point: over the U.S. 2010 Memorial Day weekend, a flotilla of vessels carrying humanitarian aid to the Palestinians of Gaza was attacked in the dead of night by Israeli naval forces; at least nine people were killed. Some boats were escorted to the Israeli port of Ashdod, where tents had been erected for processing over 600 activists on those boats to be imprisoned or sent home. Consider the logistics of six ships carrying members of government from European nations and at least 30 countries overall, at least one Nobel Peace Prize winner, and loaded with goods for reconstruction, education, health care. This is a testament to the capacity to organize. And this was on the heels of 1,400 people from 42 nations who gathered in Egypt at the beginning of the year to enter Gaza in protest of a continuing blockade of that prisonlike encampment. From the earliest days of a six-month organizing effort, a faith-based grounding in Gandhian Satyagraha was a part of the planning process. Training in active nonviolence took place in full public view in downtown Cairo and served, over the course of the week, to shift the engagement with the police force containing the protests. Banner headlines and full-color photographs were on the front page of major Egyptian newspapers. "Flash crowds," cell phones, and small group meetings in a dozen languages coordinated a continually shifting response to the Egyptian government's pressures. Despite the failure to move more than 100 of those who came to Egypt across the border into Rafah, a global response of the digital media carried the messages of the protest around the world. One key reason that the May attack on the flotilla generated a rapid and internationally broad outcry was the December protests in Cairo. But part of the well-orchestrated response by the governments of Israel, Egypt, and the

United States to claim a "high moral ground" of international law linked to a threat of global terrorism is also evidence of a closely linked learning curve to begin a rhetorical rebuttal even before there is an actionable event. The movement is alive with the logistical capacity to engage global issues in contested environments and across broad cultural ranges. But the impunity of the state to take lives as its response to the challenges of the peace movement suggests it is not entirely well. The gap between civil society and even the most democratically elected governments is expanding, just as the gap between the rich and the poor as a part of the global economy is growing. And these are integrally related gaps. The facility of digital media and the focus on universal human rights have globalized the peace movement and accelerated the rhetorical response to injustice. (I am not for the purposes of this argument going to make fine distinctions between the peace movement and an anti-war movement.) And yet the evidence of successful actions is lacking and the experience of the movement in the United States is highly ambiguous in terms of effectiveness. This is partly because the movement has failed to sustain and deepen recognition of the nexus identified by Martin Luther King, Jr. in April, 1967, and others before and since, between the costs of war abroad and the disintegration of economic wellbeing at home. Under the stress of recession the government uses the lever of enlistment as a magnet for creating commitment if not loyalty to warring among the economically most depressed. A fragile global economy resting on fractured monetary policies and over extended credit structures, on pension funds imbued with weapons manufacture and trade, and a more general militarized economy, and small circles of decisionmakers beyond the reach of regulators and the public interest which retains an almost magical capacity to maintain the status quo, defuses the peace movement. A catalogue of tests of the capacity to bring the witness of the peace movement to bear on injustices today would range across the world and would include the fate of indigenous farmers and agrarian peace communities on the borders of rain forests in Latin America; communities of various ethnicities, religions, and gender orientations in Africa; contests of occupation throughout the Middle East; communities of resistance in Sri Lanka, India, China;

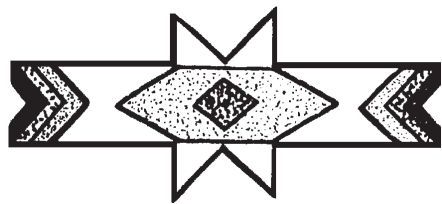



Dr. Mark Johnson

antimilitarists in Japan; and victims of structural violence epitomized by a racially corrupted justice system in the United States. Each reference will have triggered an image of violence and oppression and brought to mind a web-based campaign using tactics of petitions, letter writing, demonstrations, fundraising, and a calendar of liturgical reflection and prayer. Beyond these educational and awareness-building efforts, which provide the opportunity for "impulse compassion," there are methods that involve more substantive commitments, additional training, and institutionalized support. The most active efforts or tools of response are (1) civilian diplomacy, (2) protective accompaniment, (3) track-two dialogue and negotiation, and (4) a nascent and nervous conversation across the bridges that link peacemaking to peacebuilding, peacebuilding to humanitarian assistance, and humanitarian assistance to a sanitized military agenda. The continuum can be seen as one of increasing commitment and heightened risk-taking by the participant. 1. Civilian Diplomacy gained some prominence during the Cold War when Western citizens traveled to the Soviet Union on exchanges for trustbuilding among peoples. Samantha Smith gave the practice tragic attention when she and her father died in an air crash returning from England where a film was being made of her contacts, and her work was celebrated by Mikhail Gorbachev and Ronald Reagan. The practice of sending delegations, prepped for public exchanges and primed for a transformational visit abroad that lends and leads to a legitimization of advocacy for peace, has been tested for decades throughout the world, including notable engagements with Nicaragua, the Philippines, South Africa, Cuba, and, today, Iran. Interfaith PeaceBuilders (ifpb.org), Witness for Peace (witnessforpeace.org), and Fellowship of Reconciliation (FOR, forusa.org) delegations are among current practitioners in Latin America, Israel/Palestine, and Iran. Some efforts focus on culture, such as an annual conference in Fez, Morocco. Others focus more specifically on inter-religious dialogue, such as those hosted by the Center for Interfaith Dialogue in Iran, which has hosted FOR delegations during the past three years. 2. Protective Accompaniment is a response to an invitation from communities at risk from conflicts among forces, often including military, paramilitary, and armed resistance groups, to support community leaders when they leave the relative security of their homes to travel on official business through conflict zones. Peace Brigades International (peacebrigades.org), Christian Peacemaker Teams (CPT, cpt.org), Presbyterian Peace Fellowship (presbypeacefellowship.org), and FOR maintain teams in Colombia. CPT has also used the practice in Palestine, Iraq, Mexico, indigenous America, and parts of Africa. An Abdul Ghaffar Khan-inspired global cadre of trained accompaniers, organized through the Nonviolent Peaceforce, represents the fullest extension of this vision, though the challenges of securing adequate funding constrains its complete implementation. NVPF has been most active in Sri Lanka and the Philippines. 3. Track-two Diplomacy has a rich history and some prominent successes in leading to formal, negotiated peace treaties by quiet exchanges over extended periods of time through trusted civilian allies working on behalf of public figures who are careful about public association until a breakthrough is assured. Some relationships grow out of academic programs housed in schools of international affairs. Others convene in the form of conferences, as did a gathering of Tibetans and Chinese in Switzerland last year under the auspices of the International Fellowship of Reconciliation. 4. The Most Difficult Frontier of international peacemaking is at the interface

between the work of humanitarian aid groups when entrained to noncombatant roles for military personnel. Apparently driven by at least three considerations, the direction makes traditionalists and purists in the peacemaking community very nervous, with good reason. First, charity follows the money, and the military, especially the U.S. Department of Defense, is where most of the money is. Second, mounting evidence that the basic issues of social injustice cannot be solved by armed conflict turns the military to other methods, including those of nonviolence and conflict transformation. Third, the argument is made that security and diplomacy have greater potential when informed theoretically and delivered in practice by individuals committed to nonviolent social change. During the current period of transition, however, there are two risks. The first is that sharing space and mission in the tense environments of conflict puts unarmed peace workers at risk of death. The second is that the process may simply be one of finding new ways to coopt innocents to an agenda which does not serve their fundamental interests, but rather those of the occupying military force and the government it represents. To continue to advance the techniques of international peacemaking in ways that will see them more widely and successfully applied to problems of injustice in areas of conflict will require resolving a set of challenges that have more to do with hegemony and impunity in service to the current distribution of power in the world than anything else. This is a set of conditions which threaten to totally disenfranchise citizens of their right and power to question policy and to change practices of their governments. I think, as evidenced by researchers such as George P. Lakoff, and to which we have been acculturated by George Orwell, we need to work our way back out of a corruption of language and morals to a new level of transparency and truth. The anti-war movement lives in a condition of constructed paradox, Orwellian and Malthusian. Language cannot be controlled to produce consistent meaning; the skills of discernment are under attack; the language of motivating participation has been corrupted. Denied legitimate attention by the Fourth Estate, the movement accepts an internal critique that it is dying or is dead. Successfully marginalized and manipulated by a politicized media, it is dismissed by global pundits within governments or entrained to them. Starved of financial resources controlled by corporate structures which shape markets and the academy to exclude and divert philanthropic and intellectual resources, the anti-war movement is characterized as insurgency, equated with nonstate enemies of the status quo, and put on the defensive in its relationship to civil society. The root paradoxes thus are located at the intersection of language and culture. Governments, the press, and corporations succeed in confusing the public by disrupting the discernment of truth and inhibiting creative intelligence. They poison the possibility of critical will by diluting community with distrust. The faith community is in a state of transition across a variety of axes. Historically mainline or orthodox Judeo-Christian communities, which have produced prophetic voices at the margins, are in decline, and thus the prophetic messages are pushed further into the periphery as threats to a more rapid decline. A rise in both Pentecostal and individualized spirituality focus on personal salvation rather than social conscience. The issues of pluralism have not matured to the point where the multitudes of organizations and the growing proximity of different faith communities have created sustainable strategies of cooperation and response. A purposeful engagement in interfaith dialogue and the intentional practice of nonviolent community is urgently needed on a widely distributed basis to prepare the ground for progress. The most articulate analysts of these conditions need to be identified and circulated as a "living currency" for a new economy of speaking truth to power as the basic exchange of trustbuilding. They must recapture the language of moral authority which belongs to prophetic practices. To paraphrase David Abram, we must write, sing, and weave the human species back into the world. There is good reason to expect the international peacemakers could be responsible to that task.

www.forusa.org





**See the Real Face of Cuba!**  
The Henry Wallace Brigade and The Kentucky Interfaith Taskforce on Latin America and the Caribbean invite you to welcome and celebrate the

**22nd US/Cuba Pastors for Peace Friendshipment Caravan**

**Tuesday, July 12, 2011  
6:30-8:30 p.m.**

**Featuring: Presentation by the Caravanistas and a "Local Connections: Special Remembrance of Reverend Lucius Walker (1930-2010)"**

**Casa Latina/Chapel of St. Philip  
236 Woodbine Street  
Louisville, Kentucky**

**Free and open to the public – donations encouraged.  
Pot Luck - Bring a Dish to Share**

Hearing from local folks who knew and worked with him, we will also be commemorating and lifting up the life of Rev Lucius Walker, Jr. Rev. Walker was the founding director of IFCO/Pastors for Peace, who for 20 years gave prophetic and visionary leadership to our caravans to Cuba in defiance of the US blockade, and who died peacefully in September 2010.

In July 2011 the caravan will travel in school buses, trucks and cars along 12 different routes, visiting 130 US and Canadian cities. At every stop the caravan helps educate people about the blockade while collecting construction supplies and tools, medical supplies and equipment, educational and cultural supplies, to be donated to sisters and brothers in Cuba. You can join the caravan as it passes through Louisville on July 12th.

**Email [kitlac@mailforce.net](mailto:kitlac@mailforce.net) or call David at (502) 479-9262 for information or how you can donate to this effort**





# Calendar for peacemakers

July 1 (Fri) **HEALING HISTORY ACADEMY.** Anne Braden Institute for Social Justice at UofL. Register for an exciting journey to parts of Louisville and U.S. history your textbooks never taught. Meet local educators, artists, performers, historians, and community advocates. Consider the meaning and unfinished business of social and racial justice movements of the 20th century. One meeting per month beginning August. Entirely Free. Visit *al.comm.louisville.edu/abi/?page\_id=655* or call 852-6142.

July 1 (Fri) **LOUISVILLE & THE PEACE CORPS.** Exhibit at Ekstrom Library UofL. Louisvillians who have served in the Corps and the wide variety of sustainable development work done by volunteers around the world since 1961. Exhibit closes August 18th. Visit *louisville.edu/sustainability/events.html*

July 2 (Sat) **ENGLISH CONVERSATION CLUB.** Every Saturday in July and August at Newburg Branch Public Library, 3PM. Also Main Library on Thursdays at 7PM. Practice conversational English with neighbors and friends from many parts of the world. Visit *www.lfpl.org*

July 2 (Sat) **LOUISVILLE COMMUNITY SUPPORTED AGRICULTURE.** Every Saturday morning in July and August. Also other times. Visit some of Louisville’s 23 Farmers Markets from California neighborhood to Norton Commons. For locations, days, and times see *www.louisvillecsa.com*

July 3 (Sun) & Aug 7 (Sun) **“AIM HIGHER”** focusing on military counter-recruitment. Every first Sunday at 7 PM, 2236 Kaelin Avenue at the FOR office. Discuss conscientious objection, military recruitment, and the possibility for high school students to “opt out” of having their names given to recruiters. Call Jim Johnson, 262-0148.

July 6 (Wed) & Aug 3 (Wed) **THE LOUISVILLE SUSTAINABILITY FORUM.** Every first Wednesday. Sustainability and relationships that create a community for change. Bring your lunch. Noon to 1:45 PM, Passionist Earth & Spirit Center, the Barn at 1924 Newburg Road.

July 6 (Wed) **NOONTIME INTERFAITH MEDITATIONS.** Every Wednesday from 12:30 to 12:50 at Christ Church Cathedral, Downtown. Weekly rotation includes Zen Buddhist silence, Lectio Divina, Vipassana Buddhist practices, and Creative Visualization. Visit *paths2peace.org*

July 9 (Sat) & Aug 13 (Sat) **PEAK OIL.** Every 2nd Saturday, Main Library, 4th & York, Mezzanine, Boardroom. 9 AM. Call George Perkins, 425-6645.

July 9 (Sat) **TOM WALLACE LAKE ECOLOGY.** Family Canoe Day, 10AM–2pm. Rent a canoe, observe, and study the incredible inhabitants of Tom Wallace Lake. Visit *www.memorialforest.com*

July 10 (Sun) & Aug 14 (Sun) **VIGIL FOR PEACE.** Every second Sunday. A remembrance of all those suffering from conflicts in the Middle East. Bring a sign. 5-6 PM, Bardstown Road at Douglass Blvd. Sponsored by LPAC (Louisville Peace Action Community). For more information, call Harold Trainer at 387-9490.

July 12 (Tue) **US/CUBA PASTORS FOR PEACE SHIP-MENT CARAVAN.** A time to remember Rev. Lucius Walker. 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Bring a dish to share. Call David Horvath, 479-9262, or e-mail kitlac@mailforce.net.

July 13 (Wed) & Aug 10 (Wed) **KITLAC** (Kentucky Interfaith Taskforce on Latin America and the Caribbean). Every second Wednesday at Louisville Presbyterian Seminary (Winn Center). 7:30 PM. For more information, call David Horvath at 479-9262 or Pat Geier at 456-6586.

July 14 (Thurs) & Aug 11 (Thurs) **THE FDR/LINCOLN LEGACY CLUB.** Every second Thursday of the month, for those interested in learning about fair trade and the American system of economics of Hamilton and Clay. 6:30 PM, 1838 Frankfort Ave. For more information, contact John Miller at *papajohn15@bellsouth.net*.

July 14 (Thurs) & Aug 11 (Thurs) **APPAF** (American Palestine Public Affairs Forum). Every second Thursday. A documentary film exploring the situation in Middle East will be presented. 7 PM, Louisville Presbyterian Seminary, 1044 Alta Vista Road, Nelson Hall, Room 119. For more information, call Bashar Masri, 773-1836.

July 14 (Thurs) **BOOK TALK BY AMANDA LITTLE.** With local film producer Gill Holland, Little will discuss her recent book, *Power Trip: The Story of America’s Love Affair with Energy*. Louisville Free Public Library, 301 York Street, 7pm. The event is free, but tickets are required; order online or call 574-1644. *www.lfpl.org/upcomingevents.htm*

July 15 (Fri) **SPANISH DANCE BY FLAMENCO LOUISVILLE.** BLU Italian Grille, Downtown, 7–9PM. Every second Friday. Authentic flamenco music and dance. Andalucía style. Also Spanish cuisine. Visit *www.flamencolouisville.org*

July 21 (Thurs) **THIRD THURSDAY LUNCH.** Rudyard Kipling Restaurant, 11:30 AM. This would be our usual monthly meeting location and time, except that, we take off the summer. See the next issue of Forsooth for future meetings. For more information, contact Jean Edwards at 458-8056 or *edwardsfor@bellsouth.net* or Cathy Ford at 458-1223 or *fordhoff@bellsouth.net*.

July 21 (Thurs) & Aug 18 (Thurs) **KENTUCKY SINGLE PAYER HEALTH CARE.** Every third Thursday, 5:30 PM. First Unitarian Church, 809 South Fourth Street. Call Kay Tillow, 636-1551.

*Please recycle FORsooth to a friend, and please ask her or him to do the same.*

July 22 (Fri) & Aug 26 (Fri) **SPIRITUAL MOVIE NIGHT.** Unity of Louisville in the Chapel with Interfaith Paths to Peace and others at 7PM. Free and open to the public. Visit *paths2peace.org*

July 23 (Sat) **WORLD PEACE COFFEHOUSE.** Baha’i Center, 3808 Bardstown Rd. at 7:30PM. With Interfaith Paths to Peace. Celebrate human creativity and social change. Music by Michael Kessler. Visit *paths2peace.org*

July 25 (Mon) & Aug 22 (Mon) **F.O.R. STEERING COMMITTEE.** Presbyterian Seminary, Nelson Hall, Room 10, 7:30PM. Every fourth Monday. Visitors invited. For more information, call Pat Geier at 456-6586 or Peter Fosl at 291-2506.

July 26 (Tues) & Aug 23 (Tues) **FREE NONPROFIT STARTUP CLINIC** Center for Nonprofit Excellence, 323 W. Broadway. Free advice on how to start a nonprofit organization. Fundamentals, pitfalls, common myths, steps to complete. Visit *www.cnpe.org*

July 28 (Thurs) **WEST AFRICAN DANCE.** Learn more about polyrhythm, basic drumming, and dance movements. Bring your drum. Ages 7 and up. Iroquois Branch Public Library. 2PM. Also, ask about their Cultural Showcase exhibits. Call 574-1720 for more information or visit *www.lfpl.org*

July 28 (Thurs), 7pm. **YERT: Your Environmental Road Trip feature film – LOUISVILLE PREMIERE** (followed by director Q&A). Louisville Science Center, 727 West Main St., Louisville, KY 40202. TICKETS AT: YERT.com

July 29 (Fri) **SUPPORT LOUISVILLE SYMPHONIC MUSICIANS.** Free performance by members of Louisville Symphonic to showcase the value of a full-size fulltime orchestra at Northeast Christian Church, 6:30PM. Includes an “Instrument petting zoo.” Visit *www.necchurg.org*

July 30 (Sat) **NATURE HIKE IN JEFFERSON FOREST.** Learn about native reptiles and amphibians on the Red Trail. On August 27, observe insects on the McConnell Trail. Visit *www.memorialforest.com*

Aug 4 (Thurs) **HEALTH FOR A CHANGE WORKSHOP.** Foundation for a Healthy Kentucky, 9300 Shelbyville Rd, 12th Floor. Practical training for grassroots advocates. Free. Visit *www.healthy-ky.org*

Aug 6 (Sat) **ANNUAL HIROSHIMA & NAGASAKI COMMEMORATIONS.** Events include tolling of the Cathedral Bell, readings from Thomas Merton’s works, the traditional Japanese lantern floating ceremony. Visit *paths2peace.org*

Aug 8 (Mon) **DEADLINE FOR THE SEPTEMBER ISSUE OF FORsooth.** Every second Monday. Contact Peter Fosl, editor, at 291-2506 or *pfosl@me.com*. Please email new or updated calendar listings to *calendar.peace@gmail.com*.

Aug 13 (Sat) **“PEOPLE NOT POISONS.”** Environmental Justice Day in Chickasaw Park, 1PM until 5:30PM. Visit *louisville.edu/sustainability/events.html*

Aug 19 (Fri) **SCRAMBLE FOR PEACE GOLF SCRAMBLE.** Shawnee Golf Course beginning 12:30PM. Join a foursome and support the Peace Education Program. Call the Peace Education Program for more information at 502-589-6583.

Aug 25 (Thurs) **FORsooth LABELING.** Presbyterian Seminary, Nelson Hall, Room 10. 6:30 PM. Every fourth Thursday. We need volunteers! Many hands make light work, and the opposite is also true! So please join us if you can. Call 458-8056 for more information!

Sept 2-4 **LOUISVILLE INTERNATIONAL WORLDVEST.** Enjoy a wide array of ethnic foods. Handmade crafts. Learn more about other cultures and Louisville’s own international community. Visit *www.louisvilleky.gov/MetroParks/specialevents/WorldFest*.

Sep 10 (Sat) **METRO UNITED WAY WALK UNITED.** Iroquois Park. Walk with friends and family to show your support for the educational, mentoring, and community health programs sponsored locally by Metro United Way. As the African proverb says “If you want to walk fast, go alone. If you want to walk far, go with others.” Visit *www.metrounitedway.org*

## OUT OF TOWN

July 1-4 **53RD ANNUAL NORTHWEST FOR REGIONAL CONFERENCE** at the Seabeck Conference Center, Seabeck, Washington. “Toward a Fair, Sustainable Global Economy.” Help analyze problems, discuss solutions, and celebrate our fellowship in the human family. Visit *forusa.org*

July 12 **GO GREEN SAVE GREEN.** St. Catharine College, Springfield, KY. Practical ways to save money and reduce your carbon footprint. Instructor is Tim Darst of Interfaith Power & Light. Also Bardstown campus on the 13th. Visit Continuing Education at *www.sccky.edu*.

July 17-23 **PEACE BUILDING PEACE LEARNING INTENSIVE PROGRAM.** National Peace Academy. One-week learning program for people who want to create significant, meaningful and sustainable change in their communities. Visit *www.nationalpeaceacademy.us*

Aug 5-7 **BUILDING WORKING CLASS POWER.** Annual Jobs With Justice National Conference in Washington DC. Strategize on building a new economy that supports full & fair employment. Visit *www.jwj.org*

## Regular Meeting Times for Area Organizations

911 TRUTH LOUISVILLE (502-609-6020)  
ADDICTION RECOVERY ADVOCATES OF KENTUCKIANA – 2nd Thursday (485-1248)  
AIDS INTERFAITH MINISTRIES (AIM) OF KENTUCKIANA, INC. – 1st Tuesday (574-6085 or 574-6086)  
AMERICA 2000 DEMOCRATIC CLUB – 4th Tuesday (459-0616)  
AMERICANS UNITED FOR SEPARATION OF CHURCH AND STATE – 3rd Thursday, every other month at noon (608-7517)  
AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL – 1st Saturday (637-8951)  
APPAF [AMERICAN PALESTINE PUBLIC AFFAIRS FORUM] – 2nd Thursday (895-8155)  
BLUEGRASS SOCIALIST PARTY, Frankfort – 2nd Sunday (916-768-8079)  
BREAD FOR THE WORLD – Last Monday (239-4317)  
CAPA [CITIZENS AGAINST POLICE ABUSE] – 2nd Thursday (778-8130)  
CART [COALITION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION] – 3rd Wednesday, Union Station, TARC Board Room (893-5172)  
CLOUT [CITIZENS OF LOUISVILLE ORGANIZED AND WORKING TOGETHER] – (583-1267)  
COMMITTEE FOR PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST – 2nd Monday (456-6586)  
COMMON CAUSE – Ad hoc discussions. Continuous engagement. (454-7797)  
COMMUNIST PARTY USA – 1st & 3rd Sundays at 2:00 PM (384-3875)  
COMMUNITY FARM ALLIANCE OF JEFFERSON COUNTY – 2nd Tuesday (775-4041)  
CONVERSATION CAFE – Wednesday evenings (560-0085)  
COUNTER RECRUITMENT, “Aim Higher” – Second Sunday (893-2334)  
EARTH SAVE LOUISVILLE – 2nd Saturday (299-9520) *www.LouisvilleEarthSave.org*  
FAIRNESS CAMPAIGN – Quarterly community dialogues and volunteer opportunities (893-0788)  
FDR/LINCOLN LEGACY CLUB – 1st Thursday, *papajohn15@bellsouth.net*  
FELLOWSHIP OF RECONCILIATION – 4th Monday (609-7985 or 291-2506)  
FRIENDS FOR HOPE (Support Group for Adult Cancer Survivors) – 1st Thursday (451-9600)  
FRIENDSHIP FORCE OF LOUISVILLE – 2nd Tuesday (893-8436)  
GREATER LOUISVILLE SIERRA CLUB – 3rd Tuesday (897-3335)  
HABITAT FOR HUMANITY – Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays & Saturdays (637-6265)  
INTERFAITH PATHS TO PEACE – 1st Tuesday (214-7322)  
IRFI [ISLAMIC RESEARCH FOUNDATION INTERNATIONAL, INC.] – Sundays at 6:00 PM (502-423-1988)  
JOBS WITH JUSTICE KENTUCKY (582-5454)  
JURISDICTIONARY CLUB OF LOUISVILLE – Know the law and how to use it (500-8161)  
JUSTICE RESOURCE CENTER – (345-5386)  
KFTC [KENTUCKIANS FOR THE COMMONWEALTH] – 2nd Monday (589-3188)  
KITOD [KENTUCKIANA INTERFAITH TASKFORCE ON DARFUR] – (553-6172)  
KY ALLIANCE AGAINST RACIST & POLITICAL REPRESSION – 3rd Monday (778-8130)  
KY COALITION TO ABOLISH THE DEATH PENALTY – (541-9998)  
KITLAC [KY INTERFAITH TASKFORCE ON LATIN AMERICA & THE CARIBBEAN] – 2nd Wednesday (479-9262)  
LOUISVILLE COMMITTEE FOR ISRAELI/PALESTINIAN STATES – 3rd Sunday (451-5658)  
LOUISVILLE PEAK OIL GROUP – 2nd Saturday (425-6645)  
LPAC [LOUISVILLE PEACE ACTION COMMUNITY] – (456-6914)  
LOUISVILLE WOMEN CHURCH – Meditation every Sunday (473-8435)  
LOUISVILLE YOUTH GROUP – Friday nights (893-0788), *www.louisvilleyouthgroup.org*  
LOUISVILLIANS IN FAVOR OF EQUALITY (LIFE) – 4th Sunday (384-3875)  
METRO SWEEP FOR ACCESS – 3rd Tuesday (895-0866 or 899-9261)  
METROPOLITAN HOUSING COALITION – 4th Wednesday (584-6858)  
MIGHTY KINDNESS – *mightykindness@gmail.com* (235-0711)  
MUHAMMAD ALI INSTITUTE FOR PEACE AND JUSTICE, at UL (852-6372)  
NAACP [NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE] – 3rd Monday (776-7608)  
NAMI [NATIONAL ALLIANCE FOR THE MENTALLY ILL] – 2nd Monday (245-5287)  
PARENTS, FAMILIES & FRIENDS OF LESBIANS AND GAYS (P-FLAG) – 3rd Sunday (329-0229)  
PEACE & COMPASSION BUDDHA CIRCLE/CML – (451-2193, *brozier@bellsouth.net*)  
RCRC [RELIGIOUS COALITION FOR REPRODUCTIVE CHOICE] – (866-606-0988)  
RESULTS (a hunger lobby) – 2nd Saturday (451-4907)  
SIERRA CLUB INNER CITY OUTINGS – 2nd Thursday, 7:30 PM (558-0073)  
WOMEN IN TRANSITION (WIT) – every Wednesday, 6-8 PM (636-0160)

*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.*