

Founded 1915

# FORsooth



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May 2016

Support students



## Boycott Wendy's !

Support CIW



By Kelsey Voit

On Wednesday, March 9, 2016, approximately 100 farmworkers and allies gathered in front of the University of Louisville Ekstrom Library to begin a march across campus. It was the fourth stop on the Coalition of Immokalee Workers 2016 Worker's Voice Tour, which made its way from New York, through the Midwest, and back to Florida in ten days. Their target? Wendy's. Their goal? Justice.

These farmworkers, the Coalition of Immokalee Workers (CIW), are a group of tomato pickers in Florida who are essentially



Kelsey Voit

working in slave labor conditions.

They started organizing in the 1990s for better working conditions and created the Fair Food Program (FFP)—a nationally acclaimed worker-led solution—to which 14 corporations have already signed, including Taco Bell, McDonalds, Walmart, and Fresh Market. By signing onto the FFP, these corporations agree to pay one penny more per pound of tomatoes picked, which has nearly doubled the salaries of workers.

Furthermore, partner farms must establish a system for workers to report sexual harassment without fear of being fired or deported, and guarantee water, shade, and other basic human rights. Sounds simple and fantastic, right?

Well, Wendy's doesn't seem to think so. The Wendy's corporation is the last of the five major fast food chains that has not signed the agreement. Their management is well aware of the CIW's demands. Wendy's has been refusing to meet with the CIW for the past three years, even though Wendy's current CEO, Emil Brolick, was the CEO of Yum! Brands when they signed the agreement.

Furthermore, Wendy's has shifted their purchasing of tomatoes to farms outside of Florida, largely ones in Mexico—farms which are not regulated by the nationally acclaimed Fair Food Program and whose conditions are even worse than those in Florida. Wendy's is trying to avoid their



The Coalition of Immokalee Workers (CIW) and U of L students marching on the University of Louisville campus on March 9, 2016.

corporate responsibility and is actively choosing to perpetuate systems of injustice.

So why have a march in Louisville and specifically at the University of Louisville? For one, Louisville has been an integral location for the CIW and is considered the birthplace of the Fair Food movement, as Taco Bell was the first victory in the campaign—a victory which was actually

won exactly 11 years prior to the date of this march. The university has been attracting some attention recently because the Cardinal Student/Farmworker Alliance (Cardinal SFA: the U of L affiliate of the national Student/Farmworker Alliance) announced their joining of the national student boycott of Wendy's in January.

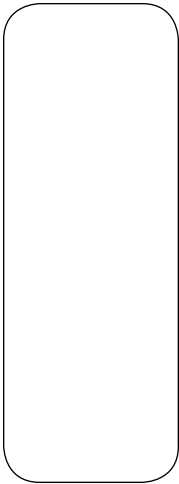
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## Gun-violence activists respond to NRA convention being held in Louisville

By David Horvath and Sowers of Justice Network

Many groups in Louisville will unite to provide a counter-voice to the National Rifle Association (NRA) Annual Meeting being held in Louisville on May 19 – 22, 2016.

The Sowers of Justice Network is working with Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense, Faiths United to Prevent Gun Violence, Hood2Hood, Stand Up Sunday, Dominican Sisters of Peace, Hands across Louisville, and other organizations and congregations.

Sowers of Justice has been busy collaborating efforts, collecting stories, and having community conversations among groups and individuals concerned about the proliferation of guns.

The Sowers of Justice Network was established by people of faith as a means to share the message of non-violence and social justice in our community. We believe in the radical gospel of peace and justice and strive to give voice to this by bringing people of like mind together around a common cause.

Our primary focus in the past year has been to help address the devastation that guns bring to our community through homicide, suicide, and personal injury.

In the fall of 2015, we convened the "Sowing a Non-Violent City" conference that evolved into ideas for actions that

continue to this day, with the present focus on coordinating a response to the NRA Annual Meeting in May.

Shameka Parish-Wright ([shamekapw@gmail.com](mailto:shamekapw@gmail.com)) has been hired by Sowers of Justice to assist with this effort. Shameka is a local community organizer who has had personal experience with gun violence. She is helping ensure that every voice is heard and that activities are coordinated and communicated. Shameka maintains a calendar of gun-violence related events that is updated frequently at this website: [owersofjusticenetwork.org](http://owersofjusticenetwork.org)

Sarah Crockett Zarantonello ([sarahczarantonello@gmail.com](mailto:sarahczarantonello@gmail.com)) is assisting with community art and story projects through FORWARD Radio ([forward-radio.net](http://forward-radio.net)).

Please contact Shameka or Sarah for information or to assist in their efforts.

The next meeting of our action group addressing gun violence is May 1, 2016 at 3:00 pm at Plymouth United Church of Christ, 1630 West Chestnut St. All are welcome.

An up-to-date schedule of events and other information can be found on the Sowers of Justice website: [sowersofjusticenetwork.org](http://sowersofjusticenetwork.org)

It is important that our community hear the voice of people—other than the NRA—who believe that guns are not the solution and that peace and non-violence are viable alternatives for our city.



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# Boycott Wendy's (continued from page 1)

But before that, Cardinal SFA sought to meet with Junior Bridgeman, owner of the U of L Wendy's franchise. Bridgeman is the largest Wendy's franchise owner. He is a U of L alumnus, a former basketball player, and a current member of the University of Louisville Foundation Board. But long story short, he refused to meet with the students.

Because U of L is one of the few college campuses with a Wendy's franchise, and because it is located in such a historically significant city for the campaign for fair food, the CIW chose to stop at U of L for a march to Wendy's.

With cries of "Boycott Wendy's" and "Si se puede," U of L students, community members, and CIW farmworkers energetically departed the Ekstrom Library and marched through the center of campus to the Swain Student Activities Center—the location of the Wendy's restaurant on campus—drawing attention from students nearby.

Upon arrival outside of Wendy's,

marchers picketed while a small delegation entered into the store. The managers rudely ignored the delegates as they slammed the restaurant door in their faces. The marchers responded with a chant, "We'll be back!" and ended the day with a rallying call for justice.

Sign the pledge to boycott Wendy's at: [goo.gl/forms/MJF1eM2LAU](http://goo.gl/forms/MJF1eM2LAU)

Learn more about the campaign at: [ciw-online.org](http://ciw-online.org)

*Kelsey Voit is a Geography major and Social Change minor at the University of Louisville. She is passionate about the environment and social justice and is involved in such groups as the Cardinal Student/Farmworker Alliance, the U of L Student Activities Board Engaging Issues Committee, the U of L Engage Lead Serve Board, and the Kentucky Student Environmental Coalition. In addition, Kelsey loves biking, music, food and people. You can reach her at: [kavoit7@gmail.com](mailto:kavoit7@gmail.com)*



The Coalition of Immokalee Workers (CIW) with U of L students and allies marching toward the Wendy's restaurant on the University of Louisville campus on March 9, 2016.



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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.



FORsooth is published by the Louisville Chapter of the Fellowship of Reconciliation (FOR).

Send submissions for news stories or commentaries to "FORsooth Editor" at: [louisvillefor@gmail.com](mailto:louisvillefor@gmail.com)

Send submissions for the Peace Calendar to: [calendar.peace@gmail.com](mailto:calendar.peace@gmail.com)

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Since 1915, the Fellowship of Reconciliation (FOR) in the United States has led campaigns to obtain legal rights for conscientious objectors, win civil rights for all Americans, end the Viet Nam 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. We invite you to join us in this endeavor. Membership consists of signing the FOR Statement of Purpose indicating that you agree with FOR's goals. Please sign up online at: [forusa.org](http://forusa.org)

### Louisville FOR Co-chairpersons:

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**Join the Sowers of Justice Network:**  
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**Tuesday April 19th at**  
**809 S. 4th St. 5:00-7:00 pm**

**This workshop will focus on creating a shared visual culture around ending gun violence**

**For more information contact:**  
**[wfmp.louisville@gmail.com](mailto:wfmp.louisville@gmail.com)**

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# Empower Kentucky with KFTC



## By the KFTC Staff

“Empower Kentucky” is a campaign by Kentuckians for the Commonwealth (KFTC) to engage people from all walks of life in conversations about their ideas and vision for a bright energy future. Those conversations are happening in public forums, listening sessions, house parties, workshops, and scores of interviews to listen and learn.

Six “A Seat at the Table” community conversations are taking place in April and May, one in each congressional district. In Louisville, the gathering will be on Tuesday, May 24 at 6 to 9 PM at the First Unitarian Church, 809 S. 4th St., Louisville, KY (4th and York St). The event is free, but tickets are required. For tickets, visit: [www.empowerkentucky.org/events](http://www.empowerkentucky.org/events)

During these events, participants will enjoy a locally-sourced meal, consider their relationship with energy, and share their vision and ideas about Kentucky’s energy future.

Serena Owen’s story illustrates why these conversations are needed. Her story is, unfortunately, a familiar one. She explained, “I grew up in the West End of Louisville where coal plants and chemical plants emit pollution into the air. Like residents in many other low-income and people-of-color communities, residents in my neighborhood have many negative health impacts due to a heavy burden of toxic air pollution.

“My son, who’s about to graduate from college, was born in Louisville and developed asthma at an early age,” added Owen, who now lives in Elsmere in northern Kentucky. “The smell was so disgusting that as a teenager I remember being too embarrassed to invite friends into the West End to visit with me.”

Sean Hardy also is a native of West Louisville. He said, “The West Louisville neighborhood is one that has provided both economic empowerment and home ownership to many African Americans throughout the years. It is also a community of low-income families, the elderly, and other vul-



Serena Owens

nerable populations who have lived with the long-term effects of power plant pollution.

“All of the polluting industries in this area negatively impact the air quality of Jefferson County, accounting for 42 percent of our city’s total air emissions, and causing increased instances of asthma in children and various types of cancer in older adults.”

That meant cancer for Hardy’s grandmother. “I realized her cancer could have very well been caused by the air quality, because colon cancer is one of those things that people are at risk for with this exposure to over 100 different chemicals floating around in the air. That really made it personal for me.”

These health concerns are some of the reasons Owen and Hardy are working with KFTC on the Empower Kentucky Plan.

Last August, the U.S. EPA released the Clean Power Plan Rule requiring each state to significantly reduce its carbon dioxide pollution by 2030. That’s a big challenge for states like Kentucky that rely almost solely on burning coal to generate electricity.

Owen and Hardy see this as an opportunity to transform Kentucky’s energy economy, creating thousands of clean energy jobs, like other states have already done, while addressing the health and quality of life issues that impact their families and so many other Kentuckians — where coal is

mined, where it is burned, and where the waste is disposed.

Cutting carbon pollution will mean a reduction in numerous other dangerous air pollutants. The EPA estimates that meeting the Clean Power Plan goal will prevent, each year, 3,600 premature deaths, 1,700 heart attacks, 90,000 asthma attacks, and 300,000 missed workdays and schooldays across the nation.

Every dollar invested through the Clean Power Plan will result in \$4 in health benefits, the EPA estimates.

“It won’t be easy to transform the ways we generate and use energy in Kentucky,” Owen acknowledged. “Our economic, energy and political systems have long been shaped by fossil fuels, especially coal.” KFTC’s Empower Kentucky program to gather public input stands in contrast to the Bevin administration’s decision to cancel its plans to meet the “meaningful public



Sean Hardy

engagement” required under the Clean Power Plan, and to not submit a plan to the EPA at all.

“Governor Bevin canceling the planned public hearings doesn’t mean climate change is canceled,” pointed out Elizabeth Sanders, a KFTC Executive Committee member from Eastern Kentucky. “It doesn’t mean the economy in East Kentucky and across the state has miraculously recovered. It is our responsibility as Kentuckians to move forward with a shared vision for our energy future. Our future can’t afford to wait for any of our political leaders who pay lip service to a bright future with both feet planted firmly in the past.”

Owen said, “The Empower Kentucky plan will lay out ways to make our communities more livable, strengthen our economy, and support a just transition for workers and communities while meeting or exceeding the EPA’s targets for pollution reduction. It’s part of a long-term organizing strategy to build the political will necessary for a clean energy transition.”

She added, “Kentucky could — and we believe should — comply with the Clean Power Plan by investing in home-grown solutions and a just transition for communities and workers by significantly expanding energy efficiency and renewable energy, especially in communities most affected by pollution and economic distress.”

Hardy said, “As the Clean Power Plan includes ambitious goals for Kentucky, I am encouraged to see it also includes incentives for bringing renewables and energy efficiency programs to low-income communities. Vulnerable communities like mine must be engaged as Kentucky’s plan is developed. This is our opportunity to make sure the voices of directly impacted communities across the Commonwealth are heard.”

*Jerry Hardt is Communications Director for Kentuckians for the Commonwealth (KFTC). He can be reached at: [jhardt@kftc.org](mailto:jhardt@kftc.org)*

## The FORsooth newspaper needs you

This little progressive newspaper needs your help.

We have been working to improve it for the past three months. Now we need your help to make it even better.

- **Do you have any suggestions for improvements?** We want to hear them. Please email your thoughts, comments, ideas, and suggestions to [russgreenleaf@yahoo.com](mailto:russgreenleaf@yahoo.com)
- **Do you know someone who has excellent English writing skills?** If you think they might like to help edit this newspaper, please send their email address or phone number to [russgreenleaf@yahoo.com](mailto:russgreenleaf@yahoo.com)

FORsooth is now edited by an editorial team (rather than by a single chief editor as it had been in the past). The more volunteer editors we have, the easier it is for everyone. “Many hands

make light work.” So please put us in touch with anyone who has excellent English skills and might want to help.

- **Do you know any graphic artists?** Anyone who has experience using Photoshop, Microsoft Publisher, or other graphic-arts software? If you think they might like to help improve this newspaper, please send their email address or phone number to [russgreenleaf@yahoo.com](mailto:russgreenleaf@yahoo.com)
- **Do you know about any interesting progressive activism that is going on in Louisville?** We want to publish an article about it. Email those article suggestions to [russgreenleaf@yahoo.com](mailto:russgreenleaf@yahoo.com)
- **Do you know anyone who is involved in that activism?** And who might want to write an article about it? We want them to write that article. Email their contact info to [russgreenleaf@yahoo.com](mailto:russgreenleaf@yahoo.com)

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Then try joining the party every third Thursday of the month at 6:30 pm when we fold and label the FORsooth newspaper. With all the great people and interesting progressive conversations, it’s so much more than just folding a newspaper.

Come any third Thursday of the month (except for July and December) at 6:30 pm, at the Winn Center at the Presbyterian Seminary, 1044 Alta Vista Rd. For details or directions, call 451-5658 or email: [fordhoff@bellsouth.net](mailto:fordhoff@bellsouth.net)

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# Dr. Muhammad Babar speaks about islamophobia at the Third Thursday Lunch



Dr. Muhammad Babar

By Russ Greenleaf

Dr. Muhammad Babar spoke about islamophobia to over 60 people at the Third Thursday Lunch on March 17, 2016 at the Vis a Vis restaurant at 4th and Oak St.

Islamophobia means fear and hatred of Islam and Muslims.

Dr. Babar said, “Every tragedy or hateful incident gives us an opportunity. When vandals painted hateful graffiti on the River Road Islamic Center last September, we used it as an opportunity to bring people together. Around 1,000 people of all faiths came together to repaint the walls that had been defaced.”

He added, “We see the same thing in current events. There is a lot of hatred and anger toward Muslims today. Politicians use Muslims as pawns and scapegoats. They demonize Muslim refugees, even helpless women and children. But we can find opportunities to respond in a way that will promote a more inclusive society.”

Dr. Babar is a Louisville physician, President of the Pakistan-American Alliance for Compassion and Education, and a board member of the Center for Interfaith Relations.

His talk was a great example of the informative presentations people hear at the Third Thursday Lunch at 4th and Oak, sponsored by the Fellowship of Reconciliation and Interfaith Paths to Peace. Every third Thursday of the month, lunch is served at

11:30 am, and the talk begins at 12:00 noon. To attend, email: [fordhoff@bellsouth.net](mailto:fordhoff@bellsouth.net)

Dr. Babar continued, “9-11 changed everything. Innocent civilians were the victims. That tragedy led to the US invasion of Iraq and Afghanistan. The weapons of mass destruction were a myth. There were no weapons of mass destruction there. But because of those invasions, the world is more dangerous for all of us now. When the US invaded Iraq and disbanded the Iraqi army, it turned Iraq into a haven for terrorism.”

He said, “We all believe in peace. It’s what all our religions teach. Those invasions and the wars of today are not wars of religion. They are wars of politicians for resources. There is no ‘clash of civilizations’.”

The ‘clash of civilizations’ is a myth promoted by hate-mongering politicians who claim that Muslim countries and Christian countries are destined to be at war with each other because their cultures are allegedly incompatible. Dr. Babar said, “In reality, Muslims and Christians have been living together in peace for centuries.”

There are many misconceptions about Islam. Dr. Babar feels he has to do more to reach out and explain Islam to people.

He said, “There are professional hate-mongers in the US, such as Daniel Pipes who spends millions of dollars to promote hatred against Islam. He invents hateful myths about Islam and spreads them through his nonprofit organization. His organization pays people to do that.”

One of those myths is that Muslims are not speaking out against terrorism. “The truth is,” said Dr. Babar, “Muslims do speak out against terrorism. As early as August 2014, Muslims here in Louisville united to publicly denounce ISIS. But few people heard about it.”

Dr. Babar said, “Hatemongers try to frighten people by saying Muslims want to impose ‘sharia law’ on everyone, and they point to abuses committed by the Taliban and ISIS.

“In reality, every Muslim has his own version of sharia law. Sharia law just means equality. It’s the same concept of equality



Dr. Muhammad Babar and Mayor Greg Fischer at a press conference organized by leaders of the Muslim community in Louisville to publicly condemn terrorism and express sympathy for the people of Brussels, Belgium.

that is the basis of the US Constitution.

“What the Taliban and ISIS do in the name of sharia law is an abuse of sharia law.

“True sharia law is about equality and treating people fairly. So there’s no need for more sharia law here. It’s already embedded in the US Constitution.”

Dr. Babar took questions from the audience.

He noted, “Big corporations benefited most from the Iraq and Afghanistan wars. The billions of dollars spent on those wars could have been spent on education and health care here in this country.”

Someone asked, “What we can do to prevent wars caused by greed?”

Dr. Babar answered, “Have compassion for each other. The golden rule. Share our resources. Islam teaches that my resources come from God, and that some of my resources already belong to others. I have been given those resources to share with others, so I should share.”

On fear of terrorism in the US, Dr. Babar said, “Last year, there were over 300 mass shootings in the US, but only two involved terrorism.

“Since 9-11, the US has lost 45 citizens as a result of terrorism. Many more were lost to gun violence. In the US, your chances of getting hurt from your own furniture are greater than your chances of getting hurt from terrorism.”

One questioner expressed skepticism about Dr. Babar’s reference to the golden rule and offered this interpretation of it: “The golden rule means ‘Them that’s got the gold makes the rules.’”

Dr. Babar responded, “We don’t yield to despair. The poet Rumi said, ‘Come, wherever you are, come. We are not a caravan of despair.’”

“We all believe in one God. Allah. The message of Jesus, of Moses, of Muhammad is love and compassion. People who are killing in the name of their religion are wrong.”

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## Health care victory turned into a disaster – help save Kynect

By Sheila Schuster, Ph.D. and Jim Johnson

“Kynect” is Kentucky’s state-based health insurance exchange, created through the Affordable Care Act (Obamacare) under the administration of Governor Steven Beshear (a Democrat). Coupled with Kentucky’s Medicaid expansion, Kynect has been a model of success for the nation.

Unfortunately, newly elected Governor Matt Bevin (a Republican) has vowed to close Kynect. He wants Kentucky to use the federal health insurance exchange instead of Kynect, and he wants to roll back the Medicaid expansion.

Democratic members of the Kentucky House of Representatives, led by Rep. Darryl Owens of Louisville, have championed legislation to keep Kynect and the Medicaid expansion in place. House Bill 5 to keep Kynect, and House Bill 6 to fund the Medicaid Expansion, both passed the Kentucky House. The bills went on to the Kentucky Senate Health & Welfare Committee on April 11, 2016.

Unfortunately, both bills died in the Republican-dominated Senate Health & Welfare Committee.

In the meantime, the Bevin Administration took a program called “Benefind,” which was developed to work side-by-side with Kynect, and tried to use it to enroll Kentuckians in Medicaid or in a qualified health plan. Benefind was not designed for this purpose. The roll-out has been a disaster.

Tens of thousands of Kentuckians have lost the benefits they rely on because Benefind is not working. Even more alarming, some Kentuckians are losing other benefits like SNAP (food stamps), KTAP, and waivers— in addition to losing their health coverage. These services are vital to the health and well-being of our most vulnerable citizens.

More than 51,000 such cases have been identified, according to administration officials. Many are still without benefits, despite Bevin’s commitment to keep Kentuckians covered in April.

### What Can You Do?

Advocates have been asked by Medicaid Commissioner Stephen Miller to try to identify all of those Kentuckians who have been dis-enrolled or have lost benefits and have not been able to regain them.

Please circulate this very short survey to everyone and every organization you know and share it through social media. It is very important that we try to reach as many folks as possible so that benefits can be reinstated, based on the information they provide.

Here is the survey link:  
<http://bit.ly/1qvqdbE>

If you know of folks without internet access who need to fill out the survey, please have them call 502-974-1504. We will be happy to assist them to complete the survey and gather their story and information by phone, at their convenience.

For more information, please contact:  
Kentucky Voices for Health:  
[kentuckyvoicesforhealth.org](http://kentuckyvoicesforhealth.org)  
Kentucky Equal Justice Center:  
[kyequaljustice.org](http://kyequaljustice.org)  
Kentucky Center for Economic Policy:  
[kypolicy.org](http://kypolicy.org)

Sheila A. Schuster, Ph.D. is a licensed clinical psychologist with graduate degrees from Purdue University and the University of Louisville. After twenty-seven years of practice as a child psychologist, Dr. Schuster now devotes her full-time work to

public policy advocacy on mental health and disabilities, health care, and social justice issues. She is Board Chair of Kentucky Voices for Health and is Executive Director of Advocacy Action Network. She can be reached at: [kyadvocacy@gmail.com](mailto:kyadvocacy@gmail.com)

Jim Johnson is a retired Jefferson County Public School teacher. He has been involved in the Louisville Peace and Justice community since 1985. He is currently the facilitator for the Fellowship of Reconciliation affiliate “Aim Higher” and is a member of the Fellowship of Reconciliation (FOR). He can be reached at [jimpeace8@att.net](mailto:jimpeace8@att.net)



Sheila Schuster



Jim Johnson



# Does Israel practice apartheid?

By Russ Greenleaf

Some people think it's wrong to say that Israel practices apartheid. What is "apartheid?" It is a word in the Afrikaans language that means "separateness." It's the word South Africans used when describing the system of racial segregation and discrimination against people of color that was enforced by South Africa's laws before 1994. Since that time, the word "apartheid" has come to mean any system of racial segregation.

Does Israel practice apartheid? The Israel Lobby and its supporters don't want people to use that word to describe Israel's treatment of the Palestinians. They say people shouldn't use the word "apartheid," because Israel's policies toward the Palestinians don't exactly match South Africa's pre-1994 policies toward people of color. They point out, for example, that "Arab" citizens of Israel have the right to vote and practice their religion.

(By "Arab" they mean Palestinian. The Israel Lobby prefers to use the word "Arab" instead of "Palestinian." That's because the Israel Lobby doesn't want to acknowledge that Palestine ever existed. It doesn't want to acknowledge that when Zionist militants took over Palestine in 1948 and changed its name to "Israel," they drove out most of the native Palestinian population. The Palestinians who managed to stay in their homes in what is now called Israel are now called "Israeli Arabs" by the Israel Lobby. Those Palestinians are 20 percent of the current population of Israel.)

So the Israel Lobby says Israel can't be practicing apartheid, because those Palestinians still living in Israel have the right to vote and practice their religion. But let's be honest: having the right to vote and practice their religion does not mean Palestinians have equal rights in Israel.

In the United States before the civil rights movement, many Black people had the right to vote and practice their religion. Yet, despite having those rights, a system of segregation and second-class citizenship was imposed on them. Today we would call that system apartheid. Israel imposes the same system of segregation and second-class citizenship on the Palestinians.

There is abundant evidence that Israel's laws enforce systemic, institutionalized racial discrimination against Palestinians inside Israel:

Almost all Jewish neighborhoods are



Israeli police drag a Palestinian freedom rider off a segregated Israeli bus serving a Jewish-only neighborhood near Jerusalem.

Photo source: *The Electronic Intifada*, [electronicintifada.net](http://electronicintifada.net)

totally segregated. Israel has laws that prevent Palestinians from moving into Jewish neighborhoods. Palestinian neighborhoods inside Israel receive few or no government services—such as road repairs or streetlights—while Jewish neighborhoods have newly paved streets and streetlights (yet Jews and Palestinians pay the same taxes). There are more than 60 laws inside Israel that favor Jews and discriminate against Palestinian citizens of Israel.

This is institutionalized, systemic discrimination based on race. Surveys show that most Israeli citizens agree that the word "apartheid" describes their country's treatment of the Palestinians.

It's much worse for Palestinians living in the Israeli-occupied West Bank:

Palestinians in the West Bank live as a captive native population, under repressive military law, governed by Israeli military courts. They are subject to arbitrary arrest and imprisonment without trial. They have no right to vote. They have no civil rights. Israel shows every intention of making this permanent. This has been called "apartheid" by Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak, by Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert, and by other Israeli government officials. The world's leading expert on apartheid—Archbishop Desmond Tutu—says Israel's treatment of the Palestinians is "worse than apartheid" and "worse than what the South

African government did to us in the days of apartheid."

Israel's laws and policies "institutionalize discrimination and segregation and maintain dominance of one group over another." That is the exact legal definition of "the crime of apartheid" as defined by international law, according to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and the United Nations International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid.

The reality is that Palestinian citizens of Israel (living inside the internationally recognized borders of Israel) are treated like Black people in Kentucky were treated before the civil rights movement. Despite being nominally citizens with the right to vote, they suffer pervasive segregation and discrimination, and are denied equal rights.

Palestinians in the Israeli-occupied West Bank are treated like Black people in Mississippi were treated before the civil rights movement. They have no civil rights and no right to vote. They live as a subjugated population, totally at the mercy of the dominant race (Israeli settlers and soldiers) who kill Palestinians with impunity for the slightest offense, or for doing anything perceived as threatening.

More and more people are realizing that if pre-civil-rights Kentucky and Mississippi were apartheid, then Israel and the Israeli-

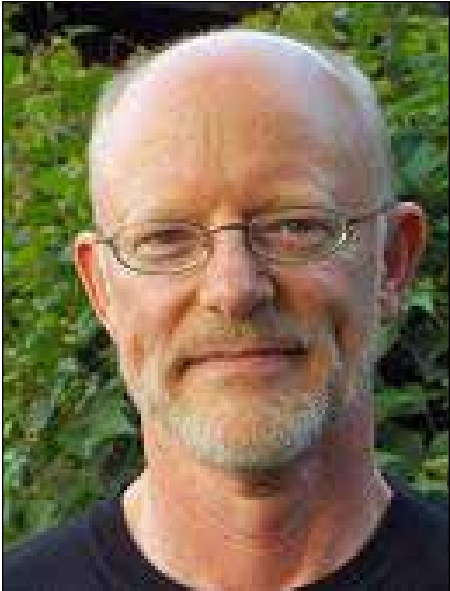
occupied West Bank are apartheid. People are realizing that if the Montgomery Bus Boycott directed at Alabama's policies was justified, then the Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions movement (BDS) directed at Israel's policies is justified. If the Montgomery Bus Boycott did not unfairly single out Alabama, then the BDS movement does not unfairly single out Israel.

That's why more and more people are joining the BDS movement—a nonviolent movement for justice and peace that includes people of all faiths, including many people of the Jewish faith. The Fellowship of Reconciliation (FOR) has officially joined the BDS movement.

BDS is a moral and religious imperative, says Jewish civil rights attorney Bob Herbst in the Huffington Post. "It is time to administer some tough love, to persuade the Israeli people and their government that the occupation must come to an end.... We know from the South African experience that when a nation is not disposed to rid itself of the stain of discrimination and oppression, outside pressure in the form of BDS can assist it in doing so."

See more at: [bdsmovement.net](http://bdsmovement.net)

*Russ Greenleaf is a Jewish peace activist and writer in Louisville, Kentucky. He is a member of the Louisville Committee for Peace in the Middle East and the Louisville Fellowship of Reconciliation (FOR). Contact him at [russgreenleaf@yahoo.com](mailto:russgreenleaf@yahoo.com)*



Russ Greenleaf



## The FOR Statement of Purpose

By the FOR National Council

*This FORsooth newspaper is published by the Louisville Chapter of the Fellowship of Reconciliation (FOR). It's probably been a while since we reminded readers of who we are, what we believe in, and what we stand for as the FOR. Our organization's statement of purpose is below.*

*If you like what you see, please join us. Go to this website and click "Join FOR": [forusa.org](http://forusa.org)*

*Sign the FOR Statement of Purpose and become a lifetime member of the Fellowship of Reconciliation for free!*

### The FOR Statement of Purpose

The Fellowship of Reconciliation is composed of people who recognize the essential unity of all creation and have joined

together to explore the power of love and truth for resolving human conflict. While it has always been vigorous in its opposition to war, FOR has insisted equally that this effort must be based on a commitment to the achieving of a just and peaceful world community, with full dignity and freedom for every human being.

In working out these objectives, FOR seeks the company of people of faith who will respond to conflict non-violently, seeking reconciliation through compassionate action. FOR encourages the integration of faith into the lives of individual members. At the same time it is a special role of FOR to extend the boundaries of community and affirm its diversity of religious traditions as it seeks the resolution of conflict by the united efforts of people

of many faiths.

In the development of its program, FOR depends upon persons who seek to apply these principles to every area of life. FOR members:

Identify with those of every nation, race, gender, sexual orientation and religion who are the victims of injustice and exploitation, and seek to develop resources of active nonviolence to transform such circumstances;

Refuse to participate in any war or to sanction military preparations; work to abolish war and promote good will among races, nations and classes;

Strive to build a social order that will utilize the resources of human ingenuity and wisdom for the benefit of all, an order in which no individual or group will be

exploited or oppressed for the profit or pleasure of others;

Advocate fair and compassionate methods of dealing with offenders against society; they also serve as advocates for victims of crime and their families who suffer loss and emotional anguish, recognizing that restitution and reconciliation can help to heal both victims and offenders;

Endeavor to show respect for personality and reverence for all creation;

Seek to avoid bitterness and contention in dealing with controversy, and to maintain the spirit of self-giving love while engaged in the effort to achieve these purposes.

Sign the FOR Statement of Purpose and become a lifetime member of the Fellowship of Reconciliation for free! Just go to this website: [forusa.org](http://forusa.org) and click "Join FOR."

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*Tim Scheldorf, FOR Treasurer, 2917 Beaumont Road, Louisville KY 40205*



# A Christian Peacemaker in Palestine

By Cory Lockhart



Cory Lockhart

*This article is an adaptation of a blogpost I wrote while serving with Christian Peacemaker Teams (CPT) in November/December 2015 in Hebron, Palestine. Hebron is a Palestinian city in the West Bank that is home to 215,000 Palestinians. Parts of Hebron are under full Israeli military control. The Israeli army recently declared some parts to be “closed military zones,” further restricting the rights of Palestinian residents there. Three thousand Israeli soldiers are there to protect about 800 Israeli settlers. All Israeli settlements in Hebron are illegal under international law.*

I arrived in Hebron on Saturday November 14, 2015. Today is Tuesday November 17. The following gives a picture of what “calm” days look like here.

Saturday was an unsettlingly quiet day in the Old City of Hebron. Few people were out on the streets, few shops were open; there was a palpable heaviness in the air.

On Sunday, two of us tried walking through the Israeli checkpoint by the Ibrahimi Mosque, where our colleagues have been denied entry lately. In the morning, without wearing our Christian Peacemaker Team (CPT) vests, we walked

through with no problems. Getting through gave us the chance to see some Palestinian friends. The Israeli military had forced them to close their shops. We were happy to see the doors open that day.

Later in the day, when we tried to go through the checkpoint wearing our CPT vests, the Israeli military stopped us between two sets of turnstiles and told us to turn around. As we asked why we weren’t allowed to pass, the border police officers made a big show for us. They moved suddenly towards the checkpoint exit, a young male officer standing, a young female officer down on one knee, both pointing their guns at some unknown threat behind us. We stood unmoving; we were not impressed. After the show, the female officer told us that only a particular monitoring organization was allowed in the mosque area. We turned around, as calmly as when we had entered.

After that encounter, the day again offered an uneasy quiet until we received a 10:00 PM call that Israeli forces had arrested 13- and 14-year-old boys. We put on our CPT vests and went out to investigate. A number of people, including the mothers of the boys, were gathered outside the military base where the boys had been taken. By the time we arrived, the boys had been moved. I approached the gate to ask where the boys were.

“At the police station,” an Israeli soldier barked after I repeated the question a few times.

“Which one?”

“I don’t know!”

In response to another human rights defender, the soldier said the boys would be released soon.

“When is soon?” she asked.

“It could be ten minutes; it could be ten hours.” His back was turned from us as he talked from behind the tall metal gate. Other soldiers watched us from two roofs above.

The mother of one of the boys was crying, panicking at the thought of her son being abused by soldiers. A video of an Israeli interrogation of a young Palestinian boy had been going around on social media. Knowing about this, I understood her fear. All I could do was put my hand on her



Israeli soldiers arrest young Palestinian boys for stone-throwing. The “proof” for such arrests is often dust on the boys’ hands.

shoulder, my arm around her when she would let me, so that maybe she would know she wasn’t alone. My own sense of helplessness only made me more aware of how helpless she must have felt.

Thankfully, the boys were released later that night.

Monday: Israeli forces lobbed a sound bomb and two canisters of teargas at school children as they walked to school.

We visited a Palestinian school where Israeli soldiers had recently entered and harassed students and teachers repeatedly.

We saw Israeli soldiers take and search the purses of two Palestinian women, who were doing no more than standing in the street talking.

Tuesday: Israeli border police yelled “Peace and love” and made peace signs and heart symbols with their hands before teargassing the school boys they were yelling to.

We got news of massive night invasions by Israeli soldiers into Palestinian homes — one family with three children under the age of 10 reported three invasions in that single night.

We witnessed the arrest of 10- and 11-year-old brothers; Israeli soldiers threatened us for documenting it.

We saw that Israeli forces moved a checkpoint nearer to a Palestinian kindergarten, thus making the “simple” task of going to school that much scarier and more difficult for young children — preschoolers.

An Israeli settler issued death threats to my colleagues; he had an American accent, they said. Many of the settlers in Hebron are from the U.S.

These are only the things we know about. There is always more going on than we hear about.

Much of the above is typical; they are everyday occurrences or nearly so, for the Palestinian people in Hebron.

Those were my first four days. The days that followed provided many similar stories—and too many new ones—that deepened my already deep well of sorrow. There are such significant highs and lows each time I am here.

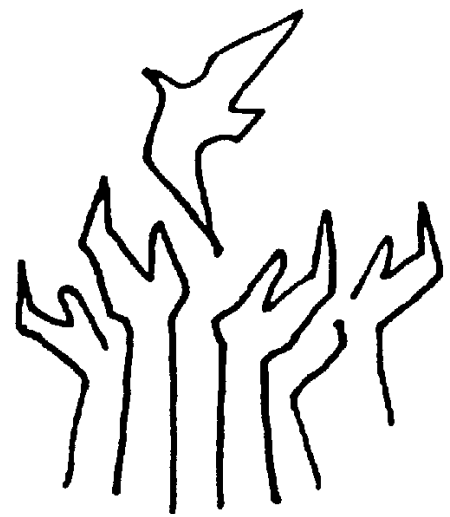
I tried to appreciate the highs that sometimes came from time with friends, that sometimes came from the laughter and resilience of children, that sometimes came from the generosity and hospitality of strangers.

I dreaded the lows, but knew that I could take myself away from them, unlike the Palestinians who live here.

My hope always is to share these stories faithfully, so that your heart may know a small piece of the blessing and burden of this place through glimpses of our days.

*Cory Lockhart is a Program Associate at JustFaith Ministries in Louisville, Kentucky. She is a reservist with Christian Peacemaker Teams. Contact Cory at: corylealoc@gmail.com*

*To read more of her writing, visit her website: walkingthewalk.co*



A Palestinian home in Hebron ransacked by the Israeli army. These home invasions often are perpetrated in the middle of the night without warning, while the family is home.

## Like these articles?

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# On superhero philosophy and other (very) weighty matters

By Isaac Marion Thacker IV



Isaac Marion Thacker IV

There is so much destitution and discrimination in this country today that one hardly knows where to begin in expressing his (or her) dismay and even anger. We lost one-third of the Black middle class, at least temporarily, in the latest near-depression. The U.S. Census Bureau (not some left-wing “ideologue”) reported, incredibly, that almost half the country is poor or near-poor. Only about 20 to 30 percent of poor people receive any cash government help. Wages, even as unemployment is cut in half, are stagnant. Even in the booming nineties, the median income hardly changed for the better. Women still make only around three-quarters of what men do for equal or in some cases identical jobs. Are we really in the twenty-first century?

Meanwhile, Reagan’s own 1980s wonder-boy budget director David Stockman reports on CNN that the wealth of the top five percent of the U.S. population has quintupled from \$8 trillion to \$40 trillion in my adult lifetime (i.e., since 1985). This is more than twice GDP. That wealth, in the wake of the Citizens United decision, is used by obscenely small groups of people or even individuals to create a political system where “all of the above” are obfuscated and obscured into a haze that many or most U.S. citizens seem unable to see through. Donald Trump actually wins Republican primaries—lots of them—four years or so after Mitt Romney struggled mightily to cook his books in a way that made it appear that at least (a meager) 14 percent or so of

his income was paid in federal taxes. But let’s go back to David Stockman’s report. What does the quintupling of rich wealth mean? That maybe John McCain had “only” two houses in 1985 but now has 11 (or was it seven—he didn’t even know). That maybe Mitt Romney’s wealth was “only” \$50 million rather than a quarter of a billion dollars. Such examples could go on for a long time, but I think the point is clear. And benighted people who defend this clinically insane utter nonsense say the rich «work so hard.» First of all, I don’t believe that—or that they do harder things when they do work than the rest of us. Business is just arithmetic, plus I guess percentages. In school, people went into business majors because they were more lucrative—and easier—than other fields of study. Millions of people do more difficult numbers-juggling every day just to get by than most CEO’s do in their “work.” Anyway, do the rich really work five times harder now than just three decades ago? The very notion is absurd. We are being played for idiots, being led around by the nose like this!

So, how does one respond to such utterly unacceptable ignominies? The temptation is to vent one’s anger violently. But there is one thing—since we’re talking largely about money here—that one can “take to the bank.” Harming or killing any living being, especially a human, only adds to the carnage. An eye for an eye and, as Gandhi said, pretty soon the whole world is blind (and then, often, dead). Superheroes from Batman to Superman and virtually every one in between turn even the vilest villains over to “justice” rather than ever killing or even harming them.

The situation here outlined will not persist. It is unsustainable. There are too many of us and too few of them. People are getting wise that—since Ronald Reagan’s coronation at least—they have been royally rooked. Viva the 99 percent! We will win! Si se puede!

*Isaac Marion Thacker IV (Ike Thacker) is an advocate for political, social, and especially economic democracy who focuses often on housing issues. He may be contacted at: ike.thacker@gmail.com*

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# Regular Meeting Times for Area Organizations

- 15 THOUSAND FARMERS – 15th day each month, [www.15thousandfarmers.com](http://www.15thousandfarmers.com)  
AMERICANS UNITED FOR SEPARATION OF CHURCH AND STATE –  
Every third Friday at noon at Sullivan University, [www.au.org](http://www.au.org)  
(Contact Paul Simmons at 502-608-7517) [pdsimmons14@gmail.com](mailto:pdsimmons14@gmail.com)  
AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL – (Sharon 637-8951)  
APPAP (American Palestine Public Affairs Forum) – [www.appaf.org](http://www.appaf.org) (664-2761)  
AUDUBON SOCIETY OF KENTUCKY – [www.audubonsocietyofky.org](http://www.audubonsocietyofky.org)  
BECKHAM BIRD CLUB – 2nd Saturday, 7PM, [www.beckhambirds.org](http://www.beckhambirds.org)  
BREAD FOR THE WORLD – Last Monday every other month (239-4317 for details)  
CAPA [Citizens Against Police Abuse] – 2nd Thursday (778-8130) Meet at Braden Center, 3208 W. Broadway  
CART [Coalition for the Advancement of Regional Transportation] – 3rd Wednesday, Union Station, TARC Board Room  
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. [www.commoncause.org/ky](http://www.commoncause.org/ky)  
COMMUNITY COALITION ON THE HEALTHY HOMETOWN – Every Monday, 5:30PM (502-574-6209)  
COMMUNITY FARM ALLIANCE OF KENTUCKY – (859-351-4508) [cfaky.org](http://cfaky.org)  
COUNTER RECRUITMENT, “Aim Higher” – 1st Sunday, 7pm (899-4119)  
EARTHSAVE POTLUCK – 2nd Saturday, 6PM (502-299-2520) [www.LouisvilleEarthSave.org](http://www.LouisvilleEarthSave.org)  
ELECTRIC VEHICLE OWNERS OF LOUISVILLE (EVOLVE) – Monthly meetings.  
Join us on Facebook. Contact [stuartungar@icloud.com](mailto:stuartungar@icloud.com)  
FAIRNESS CAMPAIGN – Quarterly community dialogues and volunteer opportunities (893-0788)  
FDR/LINCOLN LEGACY CLUB – 1st Thursday, [papajohn15@bellsouth.net](mailto:papajohn15@bellsouth.net)  
FELLOWSHIP OF RECONCILIATION (FOR) – 2nd Thursday (609-7985 or 899-4119)  
FOOD IN NEIGHBORHOODS COMMUNITY COALITION – 2nd Tuesday, 6:30PM (502-819-2957)  
FORWARD RADIO PROJECT – 1st Thursday, 6:30 p.m. (502-296-1793) [FORward-Radio.net](http://FORward-Radio.net)  
FRIENDS FOR HOPE (Support Group for Adult Cancer Survivors) – 4th Wednesday at 6:30 PM (451-9600).  
FRIENDSHIP FORCE OF LOUISVILLE – 2nd Tuesday (893-8436)  
GREATER LOUISVILLE SIERRA CLUB – 3rd Tuesday, 7pm. (502-644-0659)  
GREEN CONVENE – 2nd Tuesday, 6:30PM, [www.greenconvene.org](http://www.greenconvene.org)  
HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION ADVOCACY BOARD – 1st Monday, 9AM (502-574-3631)  
HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION ENFORCEMENT BOARD – 1st Monday, 9:30AM (502-574-3631)  
HUMANISTS OF METRO LOUISVILLE – 2nd Monday, 7:00pm (896-4853)  
INTERFAITH PATHS TO PEACE – 3rd Wednesday, every other month. (214-7322)  
IRFI [ISLAMIC RESEARCH FOUNDATION INTERNATIONAL, INC.] – Sundays at 6:00 PM (502-423-1988)  
JEWISH VOICE FOR PEACE – [levyjeffrey@rocketmail.com](mailto:levyjeffrey@rocketmail.com) (502-912-4319)  
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)  
KENTUCKIANS FOR SINGLE PAYER HEALTH CARE – 1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month, 5:30 PM. Board Room on the Mezzanine of the Louisville Free Public Library. [www.kyhealthcare.org](http://www.kyhealthcare.org) 636-1551  
KFTC [KENTUCKIANS FOR THE COMMONWEALTH] – 2nd Monday (589-3188)  
KITOD [KENTUCKIANA INTERFAITH TASKFORCE ON DARFUR] – (553-6172)  
KY ALLIANCE AGAINST RACIST & POLITICAL REPRESSION – 1st Tuesday, 6:30 p.m. (778-8130)  
KY COALITION TO ABOLISH THE DEATH PENALTY – (502-636-1330) [kcadp.org](http://kcadp.org)  
KITLAC [KY INTERFAITH TASKFORCE ON LATIN AMERICA & THE CARIBBEAN] – (502-435-3265) [kitlac@mailforce.net](mailto:kitlac@mailforce.net)  
KRCRC (KY RELIGIOUS COALITION FOR REPRODUCTIVE CHOICE) – (866-606-0988) [krerc.org](http://krerc.org)  
KY WATERSHED WATCH. Volunteer water quality monitoring and training around the state every month. Call 800-928-0045  
LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS (502-895-5218), [lwvlouisville.org](http://lwvlouisville.org)  
LOUISVILLE COMMITTEE FOR ISRAELI/PALESTINIAN STATES – 3rd Sunday (451-5658)  
LOUISVILLE COMMITTEE FOR PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST (LCPME) – (473-8435)  
LOUISVILLE FORUM – 2nd Wednesday, Noon (502-329-0111) [louisvilleforum.org](http://louisvilleforum.org)  
LOUISVILLE PEAK OIL GROUP – 2nd Saturday (425-6645)  
LPAC [LOUISVILLE PEACE ACTION COMMUNITY] – (456-6914)  
LOUISVILLE SHOWING UP FOR RACIAL JUSTICE (LSURJ) – Monthly meetings for learning and action (502-558-7556)  
LOUISVILLE WOMEN CHURCH – Meditation every Sunday (473-8435)  
LOUISVILLE YOUTH GROUP – Friday nights (502-587-7755), [louisvilleyouthgroup.com](http://louisvilleyouthgroup.com)  
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](mailto: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] – (588-2008, [namilouisville.org](http://namilouisville.org))  
NATIONAL ACTION NETWORK, LOUISVILLE METRO CHAPTER – 4th Sunday of each month, 5 p.m. ( 778-8624 or 470-362-0317)  
PARENTS, FAMILIES & FRIENDS OF LESBIANS AND GAYS (P-FLAG) – (233-1323; [pflaglouisville.org](http://pflaglouisville.org))  
PEACE EDUCATION PROGRAM — (589-6583) <http://www.peaceeducationprogram.org>  
RESULTS (a hunger lobby) – 2nd Saturday (451-4907)  
SICKLE CELL ASSOCIATION – 3rd Saturday (502-569-2070)  
SIERRA CLUB INNER CITY OUTINGS – 2nd Thursday, 7:30 PM (558-0073)  
LOUISVILLE SHOWING UP FOR RACIAL JUSTICE. Learning, support and action (558-7556).  
SOCIAL CHANGE BOOK CLUB – 3rd Monday, [www.greenlistlouisville.com](http://www.greenlistlouisville.com)  
SOWERS OF JUSTICE NETWORK – [sowersofjusticenetwork.org](http://sowersofjusticenetwork.org), [sowersofjusticenetwork@gmail.com](mailto:sowersofjusticenetwork@gmail.com)  
STAND UP SUNDAY/STAND UP LOUISVILLE – Every Sunday 3:00 3208 W. Broadway [chelm416@gmail.com](mailto:chelm416@gmail.com)  
URBAN LEAGUE YOUNG PROFESSIONALS – 2nd Monday, 6PM (502-561-6830)  
VETERANS FOR PEACE, Louisville Chapter 168 – (502) 500-6915, [CRawertTrainer@twc.com](mailto:CRawertTrainer@twc.com)  
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 emailing [calendar.peace@gmail.org](mailto:calendar.peace@gmail.org)*



# Calendar for peacemakers

*Please e-mail us information about your peace and justice events to [calendar.peace@gmail.com](mailto:calendar.peace@gmail.com) by the first Wednesday of the month.*

Apr 27 (Wed) **LOUISVILLE COALITION FOR CEDAW BOOK DISCUSSION** “Asking for It: The Alarming Rise of Rape Culture and What We Can Do” 6–8:30 PM, Laws Lodge, 1044 Alta Vista Rd., Louisville, KY. Book by Kate Harding; discussion led by coalition member Diane Kyle.

Apr 28 (Thu) **DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES FOR THE JUNE ISSUE OF FORSOOTH.** (Every fourth Thursday) Send articles to [russgreenleaf@yahoo.com](mailto:russgreenleaf@yahoo.com) or call 502-264-2437.

May 1 to May 29 **THOMAS MERTON: A FAMILIAR STRANGER.** The Frazier Museum. An exhibit of photos that examines race, nonviolence and compassion as expressed in Merton’s own words. Photos borrowed from the collections of The Thomas Merton Center at Bellarmine and the photographic archives of The Courier-Journal. Visit [www.mertoncenter.org](http://www.mertoncenter.org).

May 1 to Jun 30 **SHINING A LIGHT.** Muhammad Ali Center. This year’s international photo exhibition is inspired by the United Nation’s Girl’s Education Initiative. Behold images of people working the right to education all over the world. Visit [www.alicenter.org](http://www.alicenter.org).

May 1 to Sep 23 **MUSINGS ON THE JAPANESE RURAL LANDSCAPE.** The Crane House. See the etchings of Tanaka Ryohei. A unique body of work that combined Japanese and Western influences. Visit <http://www.cranehouse.org>.

May 1 (Sun) **“AIM HIGHER”** focusing on military counter-recruitment. Every first Sunday at 7 PM. 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 or e-mail [FORnonviolence@gmail.com](mailto:FORnonviolence@gmail.com).

May 1 (Sun) **OUREARTH NOW YOUTH ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP.** Kentucky Power & Light at Bardstown Road Presbyterian Church, 6PM to 8pm. Every Sunday. Learn more about the issues and what you can do. Call 509-9636 for more information.

May 2 (Mon) **BICYCLES FOR HEALTH AND CLEANER AIR.** Louisville Bicycle Club, Every Monday, weather permitting. Fat Forty at 8:45AM. Recovery Ride at 6:45PM. Visit [www.louisvilleky.gov/bikelouisivlle](http://www.louisvilleky.gov/bikelouisivlle).

May 4 (Wed) **NATURE PRESERVE VOLUNTEERS.** Blackacre State Nature Preserve. Every Wednesday, 9AM to Noon. Help care for gardens, trails, and farmland. Visit [www.blackacreconservancy.org](http://www.blackacreconservancy.org).

May 4 (Wed) **NOONTIME INTERFAITH MEDITATIONS.** Every Wednesday from 12:10 to 12:30 at Christ Church Cathedral, Downtown. Weekly rotation includes Zen Buddhist silence, Lecto Divina, Vipassana Buddhist practices, and Creative Visualization. Visit <http://paths2peace.org>.

May 4 (Wed) **CITIZENSHIP TUTORS.** Kentucky Refugee Ministries, 6:30 to 8:30PM. Every Wednesday & Thursday, 11AM to 1PM. Help students study for the citizenship exam. Ask about our other volunteer opportunities. Call 479-9180 Ext 57 for more information.

May 4 (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.

May 4 (Wed) **DEADLINE FOR LISTINGS IN THIS PEACE CALENDAR.** For publication in the June issue of FORsooth. (Deadline is every first Wednesday) Please email new or updated calendar listings to [calendar.peace@gmail.com](mailto:calendar.peace@gmail.com).

May 5 (Thurs) **KENTUCKY SINGLE PAYER HEALTH CARE.** Every first & third Thursday, 5:30PM at Main Public Library (in the mezzanine) at 4th and York St. Call Kay Tillow 502-636-1551 or email [NurseNPO@aol.com](mailto:NurseNPO@aol.com).

May 6 (Fri) **FRIDAY NIGHT ON THE STREET.** Wayside Christian Mission. Every Friday. Learn first-hand about homelessness. Hear testimonies. Ask questions. Serve a meal. Bring a sleeping bag. Visit [www.waysidechristianmission.org](http://www.waysidechristianmission.org).

May 6 (Fri) **A GLIMPSE OF ETERNITY.** The Louisville Astronomical Society at dusk in Tom Sawyer Park. Every 2nd Friday. Look through telescopes at planets, our moon, stars, double stars, the Orion nebula and other wonders. Visit [www.louisville-astro.org](http://www.louisville-astro.org).

May 7 (Sat) **JEFFERSON MEMORIAL FOREST VOLUNTEERS.** Land Stewart Project. Every first Saturday, 9AM to Noon. Also, Wednesdays. Help improve landscape and protect native flora. Visit [www.louisvilleky.gov/metroparks/jeffersonmemorialforest](http://www.louisvilleky.gov/metroparks/jeffersonmemorialforest).

May 7 (Sat) **HOME REPAIR VOLUNTEERS.** Fuller Center for Housing of Louisville. Every Saturday. All skill levels. Ask about our other volunteer opportunities. For more information, call 272-1377.

May 7 (Sat) **SACK LUNCHES FOR THE HOMELESS.** Every Saturday, 12pm to 2PM, Bates Community Development Corporation, 1228 S. Jackson Street. Call 636-0573 for more information.

May 7 (Sat) **CANVASS NEIGHBORHOODS FOR FRESH FOOD.** Saturdays and Sundays. Join us any time. Fresh Stop Project volunteers take orders door to door for locally grown fruits and vegetables. Visit <http://newrootsproduce.org>.

May 7 (Sat) **SUPPLIES OVER SEAS RECYCLING.** SOS office in Clifton. Saturdays, 9AM. Help sort through surplus medical supplies for distribution to overseas agencies. Other volunteer opportunities too. Visit [www.suppliesoverseas.org](http://www.suppliesoverseas.org).

May 7 (Sat) **LOUISVILLE COMMUNITY AGRICULTURE.** Every Saturday morning. Also, other days and times. 26 farmers’ markets from California neighborhood to Norton Commons. Visit [www.louisvilleky.gov/HealthyHometown](http://www.louisvilleky.gov/HealthyHometown).

May 7 (Tues) **OLMSTEAD PARK VOLUNTEERS.** Olmstead Park Conservancy, at Bingham, Cherokee and Seneca Parks, 10AM. Every Saturday and Tuesday this month. Help maintain and restore our urban forests. Visit [www.olmsteadparks.org](http://www.olmsteadparks.org).

May 8 (Sun) **VIGIL FOR PEACE.** 4PM to 5PM, every second Sunday. A remembrance of all those suffering from conflicts in the Middle East. Bring a sign. Bardstown Road at Douglass Blvd. Sponsored by LPAC (Louisville Peace Action Community) and Veterans for Peace Chapter 168. For more information, call Harold Trainer at 502-387-9490.

May 9 (Mon) **LUNCH & LEARN AT CATHOLIC CHARTIES** Catholic Charities of Louisville St. Anthony Campus, 11:30AM. Lean what you can do for refugee and immigrant families and other families in need. Visit <http://cclou.org>.

May 10 (Tues) **MOVIMENIENTO DE MUJERES LATINA – LATINA WOMEN’S MOVEMENT,** La Casita Center, Every second Tuesday, 5:30PM. Network, mentor, find friends and share. Call 322-4036 for more information.

May 10 (Tues) **FREE HOME ENERGY EFFICIENCY SEMINAR.** Energy Pros Sustainable Home Education Group, 6:30PM to 8:30PM. Learn the basics. Visit [www.theenergypros.net](http://www.theenergypros.net).

May 10 (Tues) **AMERICANA COMMUNITY CENTER.** Orientation at 7PM every second Tuesday. Learn how you can help immigrant families learn practical skills, join social networks, and improve language skills. Call 366-7813 to RSVP.

May 10 & 12 **OPEN MIC DEBATES: LOUISVILLE METRO COUNCIL** Kentuckians For The Commonwealth and other organizations. Hear the candidates and ask questions. Visit [www.kftc.org](http://www.kftc.org).

May 11 (Wed) **Y-NOW CHILDREN OF PRISONERS MENTORING.** Luncheon at YMCA Safe Place. 2nd Wednesday each month. Learn how you can help break the cycle through mentoring and encouragement. RSVP to 635-5233.

May 17 (Tues) **SELF-ADVOCACY CONNECTION OF METRO LOUISVILLE.** The Council on Developmental Disabilities. Every third Tuesday, 6:30PM. Join committed volunteers working together to promote equal rights, inclusion, self-advocacy, support and education in all realms of life. Call 584-1239.

May 17 & 24 **REAL PEOPLE, REAL CHALLENGES, REAL SOLUTIONS.** Volunteers of America Family Emergency Shelter, morning and evening sessions. One hour interactive tour of VOA’s work and programs for self-determination. For more information, call 636-4660.

May 17 to 21 **FESTIVAL OF FAITHS.** Walk the pathways of nonviolence with your neighbors and visitors from around the world. Our program begins with a discussion of the sacred wisdom of the subject by Arun Gandhi, Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz and Rev. Allan Boesak. Visit <http://interfaithrelations.org>.

May 18 (Wed) **COMPASSIONATE LOUISVILLE.** Noon, meeting locations rotate. Help monitor the progress of Louisville’s ten-year campaign for compassion. Call 214-7322 or visit <http://compassionatelouisville.org> for more information.

May 19 (Thurs) **OPEN-DIALOGUE WITH POLICE.** Louisville Metro Police Department at local community centers, 6PM. Learn about things police officers do. Talk with law enforcement officials and help build relationships and mutual understanding. Visit <http://louisvilleky.gov/government/police>.

May 19 (Thurs) **MENTAL ILLNESS SUPPORT & ADVOCACY.** NAMI Louisville every third Thursday at 3PM. Also Saturdays and Sundays. Support group for families. Draw on years of experience. Visit [www.namilouisville.org](http://www.namilouisville.org).

May 19 (Thurs) **COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN (CASA).** Orientation, Noon to 1PM. Learn how you can help defend the rights of abused and neglected children in our community. Call 595-4911 to RSVP.

May 19 (Thurs) **FORSOOTH LABELING.** Presbyterian Seminary, Winn Center. 6:30 PM. Every 3rd Thursday. We need volunteers! Many hands make light work, and the opposite is also true! So please join us if you can. Call 451-5658 for more information.

May 24 (Tues) **FREE NONPROFIT STARTUP CLINC.** Center for Nonprofit Excellence, 3:30PM. Learn the fundamentals and how to avoid the pitfalls. Visit [www.cnpe.org](http://www.cnpe.org).

May 25 (Wed) **GREATER LOUISVILLE REENTRY COALITION.** St. Stephen Church, 1:30PM. Every 4th Wednesday. Join our network of people and organizations working together to improve the reentry process. New topic each month. <http://www.louisvillereentry.org>.

May 26 (Thu) **DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES FOR THE JULY ISSUE OF FORSOOTH.** (Every fourth Thursday) Send articles to [russgreenleaf@yahoo.com](mailto:russgreenleaf@yahoo.com) or call 502-264-2437.

May 30 (Mon) **MEMORIAL DAY INTERFAITH SERVICE.** Interfaith Paths, 11PM. Remember military and civilian casualties of war. Representatives of all the world’s great religions participate. Visit <http://paths2peace.org>.

Jun 13 to 16 **PEACECASTERS SUMMER CAMP.** Peace Ed at Central Church. Register today. Explore and deepen your skills of affirmation, communication and cooperation and mentor students 12 to 17 years old. Visit [www.peaceducationprogram.org](http://www.peaceducationprogram.org).

## OUT OF TOWN

May 1 & 11 **NATURE CONSERVANCY OF KENTUCKY.** Lexington, KY. Join our birding hike in Mantle Rock Nature Preserve or our plant clearing project in the Wallace Nature Preserve. Visit [www.nature.org/Kentucky](http://www.nature.org/Kentucky).

May 1, 13, 14 or 21 **KENTUCKY WATERSHED WATCH TRAINING.** Kentucky Division of Water at various locations. Learn how to collect and monitor data, screen for quality problems, and measure baseline conditions. Call 800-928-0045 for more information.

May 2 (Mon) **KENTUCKY MIGRANT NETWORK COALITION.** Lexington KY at the Cardinal Valley Center, 12PM. Every first Monday. Get better acquainted with Kentucky’s immigrant and refugee families. For more information, call 859-258-3824.

May 3 to 25 **KENTUCKY ACLU / FAIRNESS ORGANIZING MEETINGS.** Help us build Fairness committees in Bowling Green, Elizabethtown, Frankfort, Northern KY, Owensboro, and Shelbyville. Visit [www.aclu-ky.org](http://www.aclu-ky.org).

May 5 (Thurs) **INTERFAITH PRAYER VIGIL FOR PEACE.** Lexington, KY at West Main and Broadway, 5:30PM to 6:30PM. Every Thursday for eleven years. For more information, Call 859-327-6277.

May 19 (Thurs) **ORGANIC AGRICULTURE WORKING GROUP.** KSU Research Farm, Frankfort, KY. Every third Thursday. Participate in efforts to develop local food economies with the Community Farm Alliance and others. Visit [www.communityfarmalliance.org](http://www.communityfarmalliance.org).

**PEACEMAKING EVENTS AT THE LOUISVILLE FREE PUBLIC LIBRARIES.**  
**Visit [www.lfpl.org](http://www.lfpl.org) for more information.**

May 3 (Tues) **HOOR OF POWER BOOK DISCUSSIONS.** Newburg Public Library, every first Tuesday, 6:30 PM. Discuss books on personal efforts to overcome the challenges of abuse, oppression, deprivation, discrimination or disabilities.

May 4 (Wed) **ENGLISH CONVERSATION CLUB.** Every Saturday at the Iroquois & Newburg Public Library Branches, 3PM. Also Main Library & Bon Air Library on Wednesdays at 7PM.

May 12 (Thurs) **ANIME AND JAPANESE CULTURE CLUB.** Main Public Library, 5:30pm. Re-discover Japanese culture through Anime animation. Also, Southwest Public Library and Shively Public Library on Monday and Saturday.

May 13 (Fri) **AFRICAN AMERICAN ARCHIVES TOUR.** Western Public Library, 10:30AM. Peruse the great books in our collection. Watch a short documentary.

May 21 (Sat) **CULTURAL SHOWCASE: BERBERS OF ALGERIA.** Iroquois Public Library, 1PM. Meet your neighbors who originated from Algeria. Hear more about their history, customs, and language.

May 24 (Tues) **FUNDRAISING FOR NON-PROFITS.** Main Public Library, 6PM to 8PM. Identify sources and practice writing better grant proposals.

May 28 (Sat) **BLACKS IN MASS MEDIA.** Bon Air Public Library, 2PM. A discussion of the visual imagery and portrayal of African Americans.

