

# AMERICA, MEET YOUR NEW HEALTH PROVIDER: CAPITALISM

By Morgan D. Taliaferro & Michelle Slaughter

I happen to know that the people of Kentucky will suffer if this health care bill passes... It is time to stop calling God by other names when you really want to call God capitalism. –Traci Blackmon, of the United Church of Christ, one of 11 interfaith leaders arrested in an act of civil disobedience in front of Sen. McConnell’s office

The people have spoken. Don’t take our health care away and give it to the wealthy. The right to unlimited wealth shouldn’t trump the right not to die an early death.

For the past seven years Republican leaders built a platform on “repealing and replacing” the Affordable Care Act (ACA), a cornerstone of the legacy of President Barack Obama. Throughout the 2016 election, Donald J. Trump echoed the Republican charge. Naturally, health care reform became number one priority of his administration.

The magnitude of any major change to our current health care system is evident from ever evolving efforts of Republican leaders in Washington, D.C. After almost killing the bill to “repeal and replace” the ACA, the Republican controlled House of Representatives was finally able to pass “repeal and replace” legislation in May. During this time an incredible people’s movement gained momentum.

During the first six months of the Trump administration, we’ve seen a rigorous and arguably historic citizen outcry from every corner of America. This exercise in public



“Bridging the Gap for Healthcare” rally on Roebling Bridge between Covington, KY and Cincinnati, OH, July 9, 2017. Photo by Morgan Taliaferro

protest and activism marks an important layer in our current health care debate. A non-partisan resistance was born upon Inauguration Day, gained steam during the House “repeal and replace” process, and was in full stride, as the Senate Republicans attempted to push through their own ACA “repeal.”

The resistance learned a lot from what happened in the House earlier this year. The House bill appeared to be dead but was revived and passed. Citizen-led groups knew going into the Senate’s “repeal” that they could not let up even if it appeared the “repeal” efforts would fail. Citizens from all walks of life showed up, rallied, protested, sat in, were arrested and made phone calls. They demanded to be heard.

The Republican plan guts Medicaid by \$700 billion over the next ten years to provide tax breaks to the 400 wealthiest households, insurance and drug companies, and large corporations. Do they need help when the 1% owns nearly a third of wealth in this country? When 85% of post-recession income growth went to their pockets? However, Republicans appear to listened to the popular battle cries and added tax cuts for the middle class to the newer version of their failed bill. They proposed abolishing Obamacare taxes on tens of millions of middle-income households which was a broken promise of Obama.

Religious leaders, medical associations and social justice organizations have come out against this bill. It’s been called “sinful,” “immoral” and “mean.” Thirteen pro-life male senators created a bill so egregious for mothers and babies that a non-partisan non-profit that doesn’t involve itself in politics had to take a stand. The March of Dimes’ mission of improving the lives of premature babies is honorable; it’s difficult to imagine anyone hurting their important work. The bill removes maternity care from the list of essential services that insurers must provide. This is problematic because having a baby costs around \$11,000 (not including prenatal visits). One in 10 babies is born premature which costs \$49,000 the first year.

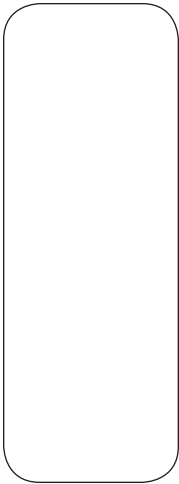
In the Republican health care bill, Planned Parenthood is defunded for a year. (Supposedly it is one year, so it can be used as an election issue.) In Texas, family planning has been defunded to attack pro-choice clinics and lower abortion rates, which has shown to have the opposite effect.

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# THE IMPACTS OF THE SHORT- LIVED METRO LOUISVILLE MINIMUM WAGE: MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING?

By Tom Lambert Any opinions expressed in this article are only those of the author.

Last October, the Kentucky Supreme Court struck down Louisville’s Minimum Wage Law, which had only been put into effect during the summer of 2015. I have written on this topic twice before in this periodical and will now try to briefly summarize what impacts, if any, the law had on Louisvillians during its short life.

The current US federal minimum wage mandates that most employers pay their employees at least \$7.25 per hour. Some occupations are exempt from the federal minimum wage. The Louisville minimum wage law was set to raise the lowest wage paid for most employees in Jefferson County to \$9.00 by the summer of 2017. At the time the law was struck down, the lowest wage allowed to be paid by employers was set at \$8.25 per hour, a dollar over the federal minimum wage. As the ordinance was being considered by the Louisville Metro Council in the fall of 2014, I testified that I did not think that a local minimum wage law would have much of a negative impact except to maybe slow down hiring by some employers, especially employers in retail industries (clothing stores, restaurants, convenience stores, etc.) who have the greatest concentrations of minimum wage workers on average. I felt this way because the proposed local minimum wage would still be not that different from the current average pay of the lowest paid occupations in Jefferson County according to government data available at that time. According to the most recent report by the US Bureau of Labor Statistics, the average of the lowest paid occupation in the Louisville metropolitan area was about \$8.83 an hour in 2016.

Yet, as the table below illustrates, hiring and payroll growth in Jefferson County either outpaced or almost matched the rest of the US before the law went into effect, despite the predictions that hiring would slow down even before the law went into effect. This was even true in the retailing sector of the local economy. According to many economists, hiring would slow in many businesses because they rationally anticipate possibly higher business and operating costs due to higher wages. Even though the law was challenged in lower courts before it reached the Kentucky Supreme Court, the uncertainty of the outcome of any litigation would or should rationally lead business to cut back on hiring. At least this would be the scenario anticipated by many economists.

2014-2015	Jefferson County	United States
Overall Job Growth,	2.7%	2.49%
Overall Payroll Growth	7.6%	5.27%
Retail Sector Job Growth	3.1%	2.16%
Retail Sector Payroll Growth	4.7%	5.31%

Source: US Census Bureau, County Business Patterns.

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# AMERICA, MEET YOUR NEW HEALTH PROVIDER: CAPITALISM

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Abortion rates went up. While almost half of pregnancies are unplanned in the United States, it's unlikely women will purchase more costly plans that include maternity care. Furthermore, Trump has gone back on his campaign promise of maintaining Obamacare's (ACA) elimination of pre-existing conditions, meaning insurance companies can turn you down because health is a commodity in this country. They want to cover young, healthy people who won't use their health insurance. Being a woman will go back to being a pre-existing condition, and premiums will likely return to twice as expensive for women of reproductive age. Unfortunately, 51% of nonelderly Americans have a pre-existing condition. The figure jumps to 75% for ages 45 to 54 and 84% of those 55 to 64. One in 4 children will be affected by eliminating this protection.

Spiritual leaders have said to their elected representatives, "Don't tell me you're 'pro-life.'" Here's why: Aside from being bad for mothers and babies, under the original bill, 23 million people would have had their coverage taken away in the massive transfer of wealth. It was projected that each year, 28,000 people would have died as a result of no health insurance. In addition, a study by John Hopkins University revealed that in the last 25 years, an estimated 17,000 children died because they lacked coverage. Children dying of preventable health problems is what we expect in a developing country, not the world's richest country. The Senate's latest version, the "skinny" bill, would have only taken away 15 million Americans' health care. All versions of the bill would increase premiums by 20% which frustrated many citizens because they sent legislators to DC to lower health care costs. Since its enactment, the ACA has brought uninsured numbers to a record low of 8.8%. Trump tweeted that Republicans "let the American people down." They failed to pass a bill with 17% public support that would "repeal" a law which is supported by 64% of Americans. The problem everyone agrees on: Health care is unaffordable and inflated in a land of plenty. Obamacare is far from perfect.

Kentucky is one of the poorest states in the country. Four hundred thousand poor, working poor, those with disabilities, and students in the Commonwealth depend on Medicaid. It was the only state in the southeast to build its own exchange program and expand Medicaid. It's vulnerable because Gov. Beshear used his executive powers to implement these changes. Gov. Bevin plans to undo the expansion and exchange with his executive powers.

Most recently, Republicans thought they were arriving to a victory until a surprise, gasp-inducing "no" vote came from John McCain. Senators weren't happy with the bill, but the pressure was on to pass something. McCain was not of the mind-set that anything was better than nothing (even though they have had 7 years to come up with something). He's viewed by many as a man of integrity who votes his conscience.

Overtaking the ACA is becoming wishful thinking for Republicans who have had control of Washington for six months but have passed no major legislation because of popular and bipartisan resistance. As long as voters maintain pressure on their elected officials, Republicans have no hope of passing this unpopular bill. The 2018 elections may not be kind to them.



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Bernie Sanders' Improve the ACA, Don't Destroy It rally in Covington, Ky 7/9/17 Credit: Morgan D. Taliaferro

## THE IMPACTS OF THE SHORT-LIVED METRO LOUISVILLE MINIMUM WAGE: MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING?

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This limited analysis is based on data for just one year, yet it bolsters the growing body of literature that supports the argument that raising the minimum wage has negligible negative impacts. In fact, a majority of economics textbooks now discusses the minimum wage as having either indeterminate or positive effects, which is a change from when the majority of the textbooks taught it had an overall negative impact on jobs and payroll. As more data becomes available, I would venture to guess that the law had virtually no negative impacts, especially since the mandated wage was close to the lowest average wage being paid by most employers anyway. Despite the invocation by some at the hearings that too high of a wage would cause a "surplus of labor" due to "labor supplied" being greater than "labor demanded," supply and demand analysis would also acknowledge that if a mandated wage is almost the same as an equilibrium (market) wage rate, then a minimum wage law has very little negative consequences. If anything, the local minimum wage law probably gave a small boost in pay to the small percentage of workers in the local economy who were making right at \$7.25 an hour. Additionally, when I spoke to a manager at the Louisville Metro Human Relations Commission, the local government agency in charge of monitoring the law enforcement, I was informed that only a handful of complaints were initiated by employees who alleged that their employers were refusing to pay the Louisville minimum wage. In fact, I was told that the commission received more inquiries from businesses wanting a sign or poster from local government that indicated that they paid the Louisville minimum wage and were in compliance with the law. No signs existed, but some businesses apparently wanted to brag about paying the local minimum wage. One can only guess at how much business hostility to the law actually existed aside from the efforts of some local business groups in the area. In fact, one spokesperson of a local business group mentioned at the 2014 hearings that his organization would oppose a local minimum wage of one penny over the federal minimum wage.

If the minimum wage yields an annual income of only around \$15,000 per year, then one has to wonder how long a business that cannot afford to pay its employees slightly more than \$7.25 an hour can last. Finally, another question to consider is whether Louisville Metro Government can set an appropriate target wage rate for its minimum wage. Was it too low, too high, or just right? Unfortunately, thanks to the Kentucky Supreme Court ruling, we will not be able to explore this question more fully.



**Tom Lambert** teaches business statistics for the University of Louisville and has taught statistics, economics, management and public policy courses at colleges and universities in Kentucky and Indiana over the years. His research interests are also in these areas, and his publications include those on various public policy issues in journals such as *Economic Development Quarterly*, *Journal of Economic Issues*, *State and Local Government Review*, and *Social Science Quarterly*, among others. His email is [LambertThomas@hotmail.com](mailto:LambertThomas@hotmail.com).



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# BRINGING THE BATTLEFIELD TO THE BORDER

By *Pat Geier*

The United States and Israel lead the world in the development, manufacture, and use of border security technology that controls millions of people, often rendering human lives expendable. Military technology between these two countries is so integrated that it is difficult to categorize weapons systems as “Israeli” or “American.” In terms of border security, both countries have built separation barriers along their borders.

Israel’s 25-foot-tall apartheid wall cuts deeply into the West Bank, colonizing large swaths of Palestinian land and preventing Palestinian people and goods access to the outside world. The 650 miles of “fence” along the southern U.S. border impedes our neighbors in Mexico and Central America from desperately needed jobs and from access to families that have migrated north.

Israeli technology has been imported heavily in southern Arizona. The 222 integrative fixed towers along the U.S. border were built by Elbit Systems, the number two military contractor in Israel. The number of towers will be doubled under the Trump Administration. Elbit and other Israeli companies also developed many of the sensors, drones, and surveillance systems used on the U.S.-Mexico border. The mission of the Israel Business Initiative at the University of Arizona is to attract Israeli security companies to southern Arizona where cheap Mexican labor is abundant.

The use of physical confinement of people as a border-policing tactic—operative since 1967 by Israel within the West Bank—has spread to the interior of the U.S.

In Israel, a macabre system of internal checkpoints, segregated Jewish-only roads, and closures control Palestinian movement on Palestinian land. In the U.S., checkpoints, towers, ICE raids, and expedited removal have allowed the border policing apparatus to advance into the interior of the country. According to criminologist Nancy A. Wonders, all of these apparati “play a critical role in determining where, how, and on whose body a border” will be imposed.

One of the most pernicious aspects of the Israeli and U.S. border security industry is the field-testing of technology on people without their consent. Jeff Halper, Israeli anthropologist and founder of the Israeli Campaign against House Demolition, in his formidable book *The War against the People*, writes,

“In a situation where the local population enjoys no effective legal protections or privacy, they and their lands become a laboratory where the latest technologies of surveillance, control, and suppression are perfected and showcased...”

Likewise Bruce Wright, CEO of the University of Arizona’s Science and Technology Park, says, “Companies can also field test their products on-site in the actual theater of operations where the war to secure the border is being waged.” The militarization of the border demonstrates the “bring the battlefield to the border” mentality. And like all wars, this dynamic has proven to be highly profitable.

Todd Miller, in his book, *Border Control Nation*, explains that “securing the border” is a thriving industry that has generated enormous profits for both the U.S. and Israel. The University of Arizona is the epicenter of border militarization technology. Sixty private companies in southern Arizona, many in partnership with the university, develop and manufacture border technology, adding more than \$3 billion to the state’s coffers.

The lines among private industry, academia, and the military have become blurred. “But,” Miller points out, “Israel is still number one in the industry.” Israel benefits from the lucrative aid package that the U.S. provides—\$4 billion a year—money that keeps Gaza an open-air prison and keeps the West Bank under complete Israeli control.

“Intersectionality” is a new word in the lexicon of resistance. “From Nogales to Palestine” is more than a slogan. Aiding those on the southern border and immigrants everywhere, creating sanctuary churches and cities, showing up at the School of the Americas (SOA) Convergence, learning about the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, supporting the Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions (BDS) movement directed at Israel, are all part of the same work.

As we sang at the SOA Convergence on the southern border in 2016: “The walls that they’ve built to tear us apart will never be as strong as the walls of our hearts.”



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Wall between Israel and the West Bank. Photo by Matthew Vickery & Sheren Khalel and Middle East. Monitor <https://www.middleeastmonitor.com/>



Wall along the U.S.-Mexico border. Photo by John Moore/Getty Images and Center for American Progress <https://www.americanprogress.org/>

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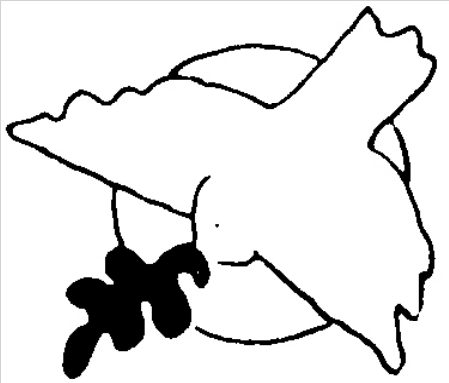
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# ELLA BAKER, FREEDOM FIGHTER

By Michael Tee

*In order for us, as an oppressed people, to become a part of a society that is meaningful, the system under which we now exist has to be radically changed. This means that we are going to have to learn to think in radical terms. I use the term radical in its original meaning - getting down to understanding the root cause. —Ella Baker*

Ella Baker was born on December 13, 1903 in Norfolk, Virginia. She was the middle child of only three surviving children of Georgianna Ross and Blake Baker. She was nurtured and educated in a very religious community of hardworking African Americans. Her mother and father were the children of formerly enslaved people. Her father Blake Baker worked as a waiter on a steam ship, while her mother “Anna” was a housewife. The same year Ella was born, the scholar-activist W.E.B. Du Bois wrote, “The problem of the 20th century is the problem of the color-line.”

The Baker family lived within the shadow of segregation, political disenfranchisement, and racist violence. They moved from North Carolina when Ella was seven years old, to the bustling port city of Norfolk, Virginia. During a Fourth of July celebration, European Americans, enraged by Black heavyweight champion Jack Johnson’s victory over a white contender, went on a rampage. They pulled Blacks from streetcars and beat them unmercifully. Led mostly by sailors whose ships had docked in the Norfolk harbor, the riot left 40 people injured and over 200 Blacks in jail.

In 1910, the Bakers moved back to North Carolina without Ella’s father. He remained on his job and visited the family on weekends and holidays.

“From 1918 to 1927, Ella lived, worked and learned on the campus of Shaw University, a Baptist boarding school and college in Raleigh, North Carolina. She matured socially, intellectually and politically in this environment. Next to the church, Shaw University was the most influential institution in Ella’s early life.

Anna Baker selected the school because it met her academic and moral standards. She anticipated that Shaw would groom her eldest daughter to be both learned and ladylike. Such qualities would serve her well in the teaching career Anna had planned for her upon graduation.” (Ella Baker and the Black Freedom Movement, Barbara Ransby, page 46)

Much to the chagrin of her mother, Ella decided to become a political activist. Upon graduation, she moved to New York City and settled in Harlem, which at the time was considered the capital of Black America. Ella’s newfound community consisted of people who had not only come from the fields of the Deep South, but also from Jamaica, Barbados, Antigua, Guyana and the continent of Africa. Intense political debates, protests, marches, street corner rallies, boycotts and rent strikes were raging everywhere, as Harlem became a center of radical Black thinking and activism.

After being in New York for a few years doing various jobs, Ella landed a job as assistant field secretary for the NAACP. She eventually became the national director of branches, recruiting new members and supporting local anti-discrimination campaigns. At the time, the organization was the principal one fighting for social justice and equality.

The group, not unlike so many others, was very patriarchal and sexist, often excluding women from its inner circle of decision makers. Nevertheless, Ella earned the respect of her fellow activists by her diligence and skill as an organizer of grassroots people.

“Ella Baker met Anne and Carl Braden, two well-known southern white radical leftists, in the winter of 1956, during the campaign to win Carl’s release from prison. Anne was travelling around the country desperately trying to drum up support for her husband’s case, when a mutual friend in NYC, who worked with the Emergency Civil Liberties Committee got her in touch with Baker.

Ella helped organize a support rally for Carl at the Community Church in Manhattan. Baker had been immersed in a New York City school struggle, but she made time for a stranger in need. Her unqualified support made a lasting impression on Anne Braden, beginning a close and enduring friendship.” (Ella Baker and the Black Freedom Movement, Barbara Ransby, page 234)

Ella was one of the founding members of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), an active participant in the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), and one of the key organizers of the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party, which challenged the official, all-white Mississippi delegation to the 1964 Democratic Party Convention. She was a lifelong friend of Rosa Parks, Stokely Carmichael, Malcolm X, H. Rap Brown, Angela Davis, and W.E.B. Du Bois.

Ella Baker died quietly in her sleep after a long illness, December 13, 1986, precisely 83 years to the day of her birth.

*Michael Tee is a writer and community activist in Louisville, Kentucky. He is a former member of the original Black Panther Party, Philadelphia Chapter. He is former Co-chairperson of the Delaware Chapter of the Rainbow Coalition. Michael would like to connect with fellow activists in Louisville. Contact him at [soldieroflove.kennard@gmail.com](mailto:soldieroflove.kennard@gmail.com).*



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There is a wide variety of opinion among committed members of the Fellowship of Reconciliation (FOR) on the issue of abortion and the beginning of human life. We have observed integrity and sincerity in members who are led to very divergent convictions on this issue, and we affirm and respect their place within the FOR. Saturday morning, July 22, 2017. Reproductive justice activists have known about this day for nearly a year, and it’s finally here. Operation Save America (OSA) has begun its weeklong protest. Anti-choice activists from all over the country have come to EMW Women’s Surgical Center.

“You’re killing your baby!” is what patients and their loved ones heard over loudspeaker walking through the doors of Kentucky’s only remaining abortion clinic. In attendance were 58 anti-choice protesters, 29 clinic escorts, 18 police officers, 7 U.S. Marshals and several members of the local and national press. So much for privacy.

Since abortion was legalized in 1973, states have effectively—and legally—chipped away at Roe v. Wade. States rights and anti-choice advocates may applaud such progress. The 7 out of 10 Americans who support choice may be concerned society is moving backwards for women in this realm. No battle has been more marked than Kentucky. In 1978, Kentucky had 17 abortion providers but now joins the ranks of seven states with only one provider. Through violent anti-choice tactics such as death threats and states passing laws to aggressively restrict choice, one Louisville clinic at present serves approximately 1.8 million Kentucky women and girls of childbearing age. Matt Bevin is self-described as “unapologetically pro-life.” His priority as governor is to limit, and even bring to an end to, the ability to terminate a pregnancy in the Commonwealth.

One of Bevin’s first actions as governor was to halt Planned Parenthood of Indiana and Kentucky’s abortion services. Bevin and anti-choice advocates claim they were operating illegally without a license. The EMW clinic in Lexington has been shut down. Despite the clinic and their attorney’s belief that they fulfilled all the requirements (after they have done so for years), the Inspector General of Kentucky denied them their license, as well as their landlord declined to renew the lease.



Louisville Metro Police and U.S. Marshals enforce a safety zone during protests at the EMW Women’s Surgical Center in Louisville, KY on July 22, 2017. Photo Credit: Morgan D. Taliaferro

Bevin had attempted to shut down EMW in Louisville. However, a federal judge blocked his efforts, alleging deficiencies in their license. The Commonwealth runs the risk of becoming the first state to be bereft of an abortion provider. Come September, the nation learns the fate of Kentucky when the clinic’s lawsuit against the

# REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH CARE UNDER SIEGE

By Morgan D. Taliaferro



Protesters at the EMW Women’s Surgical Center in Louisville, KY on July 22, 2017. Photo Credit: Morgan D. Taliaferro

state, backed by the American Civil Liberties Union, goes to trial.

U.S. District Judge David Hale granted a temporary restraining order and established a temporary safety zone for the OSA protests. Pro-reproductive justice activists are working with Metro Council to draft an ordinance for a permanent safety zone. In May of this year, there were 10 arrests as OSA protesters blocked the entrance of EMW in violation of the FACE (Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances) Act. This act “makes it a federal crime to use force, the threat of force, or physical obstruction to prevent individuals from obtaining or providing reproductive health care services.” Because it is a federal offense, U.S. Marshals were sent to enforce it. OSA told members they’re above the law because God is on their side. Nonetheless, there were no issues Saturday. Law enforcement was specially trained on the FACE Act. Clinic escorts received a mandatory training. OSA’s first amendment right cost taxpayers approximately \$1076.47 to “protect these baby killers” one protester told me, who was also concerned about what our taxes were paying for.

It may be confusing who is truly a clinic escort because anti-choicers wear the same vests of different color. Furthermore, A Woman’s Choice Resource Center is in the same building as EMW. It has another location a

block down the street. One would assume A Woman’s “Choice” Resource Center would be the clinic which offers abortions. However, it is a fundamentalist Christian organization, a crisis pregnancy center (CPC), which uses intentionally misleading tactics to lure women in their doors. Their mission is to deter patients from choosing termination. They are known to provide medically inaccurate information. Ninety two percent refused to provide information where patients could access contraception (Show Me Truth: An Investigation into CPCs in St. Louis and Mid-Missouri, NARAL Pro-Choice Missouri Foundation, 2012). On a report conducted in Montana on CPCs, it found that 89% presented false information about contraception: it’s the same as abortion; condoms don’t work; and birth control causes cancer. CPCs have a doctor to oversee the operation, but there is typically no trained medical staff on site. They are usually volunteers with self-appointed titles.

In conclusion, there are opportunities for those who support abortion rights and those who oppose it to work together. Good health care is prevention. Studies show that access to family planning and evidence-based comprehensive sex education lower abortion rates. They save tax dollars and heartache. A Texas A&M University study shows that when “pro-life” efforts in Texas gutted family planning funding by two thirds, it backfired. They saved \$76 million but spent millions more in government assistance when teen births rose 3.4%. The idea was to attack Planned Parenthood and lower abortion rates. They did indeed hurt Planned Parenthood and closed 80 family planning clinics. However, teen abortions increased 3.1%. “Pro-life” advocates tend to push policies that they believe in like abstinence-only-until-marriage programs that are unrealistic and have been proven ineffective. Pro-reproductive justice advocates lean toward policies that are backed by science.

All in all, it’s a shame people can’t put their differences aside. Three percent—not 80% as one person guessed—of Planned Parenthood services is abortion. The bulk of their work prevents abortion. Don’t throw the baby out with the bath water. No pun intended. The assault comes down on Planned Parenthood because it’s the largest network of reproductive health providers, and that work includes abortion.

It would appear that many conservatives are only concerned about “life” when it’s in the womb because when once it’s out, it’s on its own. Many “pro-life” Republicans are reluctant to support education, housing, food stamps, health care, or a living wage—what’s necessary for “life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.” Furthermore, it’s difficult to imagine anyone being “pro-life” when they support a “mean,” “immoral” bill that strips health care away from millions and will kill tens of thousands every year as a result.



**MorganD. Taliaferro** graduated from the University of Louisville with a BA in anthropology and Spanish and a minor in Latin American studies. Her passions include reproductive justice and writing. She is involved with KFTC and currently mobilizing efforts to run local candidates on the People’s Party ticket. Her consulting company offers English and reading classes with a therapy dog and grant writing and editing services for non-profits. You can visit her portfolio at [morgantaliaferro.contently.com](http://morgantaliaferro.contently.com).

## A PEOPLE’S VICTORY: SAVING OBAMACARE

During the 2016 campaign, President-elect Trump and some members of Congress vowed to “repeal” the Affordable Care Act (ACA). In the wee hours of January 11, 2017, the Senate voted, 51-48, to begin the process of overturning a law, which has made high-quality health care and coverage affordable and accessible for millions of Americans, and in doing so, has saved and improved countless lives. The US House later passed the same legislation, 277-198, on January 13, 2017, and thus the “repeal” process officially began. Specifically, the resolution, which passed both the Senate and the House (and is not signed by the President), instructed the relevant committees in both bodies to develop legislation formally “repealing” the ACA by January 27, 2017.

According to the Congressional Budget Office, a general “repeal” of the ACA would have meant that more than 22 million Americans newly insured, stood to lose their benefits. Furthermore, the 12 million Americans who are still uninsured and who are eligible for financial assistance to help pay for coverage would now have no affordable options for getting that coverage.

The GOP Senate health care bill “The American Health Care Act” was monstrous. First, it was rushed through the House and the Senate without public hearings or debate, which is the major reason why the revised version of the health care legislation failed. In addition, it would have raised costs, reduced coverage, rolled back protections, and ruined Medicaid, as we know it. Under the GOP Senate health care bill, federal Medicaid funding would be cut by \$834 billion, ensuring that states would cut benefits due to inability to make up the difference. This massive transfer of wealth from middle-class and poor families would be given to the richest people in America. It would have handed out enormous cuts to the rich and to the drug and insurance industries, paid for by cutting health care for everybody else. Those with private insurance would have experienced higher premiums and higher deductibles, with lower tax cuts for working families. Planned Parenthood would have been defunded. In addition, discrimination based on pre-existing conditions would have become the norm again.

The fightback to save the ACA was needed, and the people across this country let Congress know that we need our health care! The Rev. Dr. William Barber, former President of the North Carolina branch of the NAACP, led the “Repairers of the Breach,” a group of ministers from across the country to march to Senator Mitch McConnell’s office. Although they were arrested, the cause was worth it. Prior to this march, hundreds of people in wheelchairs protested and were arrested. Congress was flooded with calls, and town hall meetings were held across the country.

On July 17, 2017, Senator Mitch McConnell pulled the bill because the people acted. This was clearly a people’s victory!

The fight for passage of the ACA did not come without a price. We should never forget the \$24 billion dollars that was lost in the government shutdown in 2013. Now, I hope that Congress can work together, across party lines to come up with legislation that will truly “Put America first.” Whatever happens in the future, we have to remain vigilant and keep the calls coming to members of Congress, making visits to their offices and speaking out on the home front. We can clearly say that the “People United Will Never Be Defeated.”



**Gracie Lewis** is a longtime activist for social and racial justice. She works with the Kentucky Alliance against Racist and Political Repression. Contact Gracie at [louisvillepeace.org/kentucky-alliance](http://louisvillepeace.org/kentucky-alliance)



# FIGHTING BACK AGAINST A BULLY

By Ira Grupper

## LABOR PAEANS

What hath God wrought?” asks the Book of Numbers (Hebrew Bible). What hath the ruling class wrought? China, four times the size of the United States, has fewer people in prison than the United States. This is not Democrats vs. Republicans, but rather a ruling class that cannot create jobs and decent living standards for all. U.S. prisons are also a source of cheap labor, and big money for the prison-industrial complex.

But Trump has taken us to a new level, not just with imprisoning. As we celebrate Labor Day this month, we also know that those of us who sell our labor power for a wage are in the throes of a struggle against a bully. We also know there is massive fightback against Donald Trump. His views on war, race and more did not arise in a vacuum.

The Russia “meddling” probe into U.S. elections is important, but must not deflect from what Daily Kos reports (July 16): “Half of the Trump tax cuts will go to the richest 1%, while big corporations holding profits offshore get a huge tax cut. They’ll pay for this by cutting Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, education, and other critical services.”

So, we must ask: Is Trump aware of his surroundings? Is he a bully? In July Trump was accused of encouraging his supporters to physically attack journalists, after he tweeted a video of himself at a pro-wrestling event throwing to the floor a man with a CNN logo for a head.

A “bully” is a person who uses strength or power to harm or intimidate. On the other hand, President Theodore Roosevelt used the word bully as an adjective meaning “superb” or “wonderful,” a common usage in the early 20th century. He referred to his office as a “bully pulpit,” a conspicuous platform from which to advocate an agenda. Still and all, he also said, “Speak softly and carry a big stick.”

Roosevelt mediated an end to the Russo-Japanese War (1904–05). He opposed environmental damage to wildlife. As governor of New York, back in 1898, Teddy began “removing corrupt officials and enacting legislation to regulate corporations (‘trust-busting’) and the civil service” (Encyclopedia Britannica).

Alas, the lure of jingoism coursed through his veins, as president of the New York City Board of Police Commissioners, as advocate for war with Spain (“Rough Riders”), continued occupation of the Philippines, etc.

Has Donald Trump been totally influenced by this? As Trump readies our military for invasions, is he simultaneously preparing a racially orchestrated social austerity program? Let’s harken back to Rudyard Kipling’s 1899 poem, White Man’s Burden: “Take up the White Man’s burden/Send forth the best ye breed/Go bind your sons to exile/To serve your captives’ need;/To wait in heavy harness/On fluttered folk and wild/Your new-caught sullen peoples,/Half devil and half child.”

The fightback is growing—on campuses, in meetings where constituents afraid of losing health care coverage are confronting congresspeople.

The SEIU (Service Employees Intl. Union), with 163,000 members in 11 states and Washington DC, published a letter from Marie Chery, a janitor, union member and Haitian immigrant, worried that Trump may deport hundreds of thousands of immigrants: “Sadly, it seems like the dreams of my co-workers are hanging in the balance, along with 50,000 other Haitian immigrants living

and working in the United States...”

The leaders of four national unions called for broad labor support for “A Day Without Immigrants,” to show how important immigrants are to the U.S. economy. They urged participation in actions by millions of immigrants who struck and marched all across the country, last May 1. The four unions’ combined memberships represent almost one million workers. These unions are part of Sen. Bernie Sanders’ Labor for Our Revolution network: Amalgamated Transit Union, Communications Workers of America, National Nurses United, and United Electrical Workers.

But all is not rosy in organized labor. In “The Unions That Like Trump” (NY Times April 12) Steven Greenhouse writes: “The building trade unions are basically pro-Trump. They like his positions on infrastructure, including his position on building the Keystone Pipeline... [Yet] many of the public service unions are very much opposed to what they perceive as his anti-worker agenda.”

It took the most progressive elements in organized labor, in the 1930’s and 1940’s, to educate workers as to the difference between self-interest (“I got mine, now you get yours.”) and class-interest (“An injury to one is an injury to all.”).

“Danger lurks,” writes Ben Norton. “Most frightening is Steve Bannon (Trump’s chief strategist)... Some of Steve Bannon’s biggest intellectual influences are fascists and white supremacists” (AlterNet, March 8, 2017).

“[Bannon] has repeatedly cited fascists and white supremacists without compunction or even discretion.

“A recent investigation by the Huffington Post exposed Bannon’s fondness for The Camp of the Saints, an obscure French novel that portrays a race war between the ‘civilized’ white West and the evil brown hordes of the so-called East. The Huffington Post highlighted several interviews in 2015 and 2016 in which Bannon compared global politics and the refugee crisis to the plot of the book, which has been likened to Adolf Hitler’s Mein Kampf.”

An old saying is so prescient: Let a word to the wise be sufficient.

Contact Ira Grupper: irag@iglou.com



Ira Grupper

# Regular Meeting Times for Area Organizations

- 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)
- BLACK LIVES MATTER – Every Sunday, 3PM, 3208 W. Broadway, [chelm416@gmail.com](mailto:chelm416@gmail.com)
- 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
- CEDAW [Convention for the Elimination of Discrimination against Women] – 2nd Tuesday, 6:30 pm, Bon Air Library, [rosieblue1941@gmail.com](mailto:rosieblue1941@gmail.com)
- 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) – join us on facebook, [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)
- 15 THOUSAND FARMERS – 15th day each month, [www.15thousandfarmers.com](http://www.15thousandfarmers.com)
- FOOD IN NEIGHBORHOODS COMMUNITY COALITION – 2nd Tuesday, 6:30PM (502-819-2957)
- FORWARD RADIO PROJECT – (502-296-1793)
- 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 – Second Tuesday of the month at 7 pm, (502-553-6451) [barbaraberman2@gmail.com](mailto:barbaraberman2@gmail.com)
- JUSTICE RESOURCE CENTER – (774-8624)
- KENTUCKIANS FOR SINGLE PAYER HEALTH CARE – 1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month, 5:30 pm, Board Room in 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)
- KTAG [KENTUCKIANA TASKFORCE AGAINST GENOCIDE] – (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) [krcrc.org](http://krcrc.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) – First Monday of the month at 7 pm (502-264-2437)
- LOUISVILLE FORUM – 2nd Wednesday, Noon (502-329-0111) [louisvilleforum.org](http://louisvilleforum.org)
- 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)
- MOMS DEMAND ACTION FOR GUN SENSE – (571-278-2255) [momsdemandaction.org](http://momsdemandaction.org)
- MUHAMMAD ALI INSTITUTE FOR PEACE AND JUSTICE, at U of L (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, [CRawertTrain-er@twc.com](mailto:CRawertTrain-er@twc.com)
- WOMEN IN TRANSITION (WIT) – every Wednesday, 6-8 PM (636-0160)

*Note: If your group would like to this list, or if information needs to be updated, please let us know by emailing: [calendar.peace@gmail.com](mailto:calendar.peace@gmail.com)*

# FORward RADIO CALENDAR

Time	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Time	
12:00 AM	From The Vault	Thom Hartmann Show	Thom Hartmann Show	Thom Hartmann Show	Thom Hartmann Show	Thom Hartmann Show	RFN Weekend (classic rock/EZ listening)	00:00	
12:30 AM								00:30	
1:00 AM								01:00	
1:30 AM							From The Vault	01:30	
2:00 AM								02:00	
2:30 AM								02:30	
3:00 AM		From The Vault	From The Vault	From The Vault	From The Vault	From The Vault		03:00	
3:30 AM								03:30	
4:00 AM								04:00	
4:30 AM								04:30	
5:00 AM								05:00	
5:30 AM								05:30	
6:00 AM		Thom Hartmann Show	Thom Hartmann Show	Thom Hartmann Show	Thom Hartmann Show	Thom Hartman Show		06:00	
6:30 AM								06:30	
7:00 AM								07:00	
7:30 AM								07:30	
8:00 AM								08:00	
8:30 AM								08:30	
9:00 AM		The Sonic Cafe	Foundations	Reach Out In The Darkness	Single Payer	The Human Factor	Spirit in Action	09:00	
9:30 AM								09:30	
10:00 AM	Spirit in Action	Le Show with Harry Shearer	Sustainability Now	Ethics Forward	Jerry & The Atrics	The Folk Labor Desk	What's The Frequency, Kenneth?	10:00	
10:30 AM								10:30	
11:00 AM	2 Angry Buds	Upstream	Lets Get Trashy	Black Agenda Radio	Alternative Radio	Sea Change Radio	Kite Line - Prison Issues	11:00	
11:30 AM						Citizens' Climate Radio	Sprouts	11:30	
12:00 PM	On The Edge w/K.A. Owens	Sea Change Radio	Radio EcoShock	What's The Frequency, Kenneth?	This Way Out	He Said, She Said	Between The Lines	12:00	
12:30 PM	UN Radio	Citizens' Climate Radio			Making Contact		CounterSpin	12:30	
1:00 PM	Between The Lines	Radio EcoShock	Le Show with Harry Shearer	Project Censored	The Human Factor	Upstream	Law & Disorder	13:00	
1:30 PM	CounterSpin							13:30	
2:00 PM	From The Vault	What's The Frequency, Kenneth?	Project Censored	Upstream	RetroForward	Alternative Radio	Sea Change Radio	14:00	
2:30 PM							On The Edge w/K.A. Owens	14:30	
3:00 PM		Between The Lines	Law & Disorder	Alternative Radio	Rockabilly N Blues Radio Hour	This Way Out	He Said, She Said	15:00	
3:30 PM		CounterSpin				Making Contact		15:30	
4:00 PM		Democracy Now	Democracy Now	Democracy Now	Democracy Now	Democracy Now	Alternative Radio	16:00	
4:30 PM								16:30	
5:00 PM	Song of the Soul	Foundations	Reach Out In The Darkness	Single Payer	Law & Disorder	2 Angry Buds	The Sonic Cafe	17:00	
5:30 PM								17:30	
6:00 PM	RetroForward	Sustainability Now	Ethics Forward	Jerry & The Atrics	The Folk Labor Desk	Kite Line - Prison Issues	Rockabilly N Blues Radio Hour	18:00	
6:30 PM						Sprouts		18:30	
7:00 PM	RFN Weekend (classic rock/EZ listening)	Lets Get Trashy	Black Agenda Radio	This Way Out	Radio EcoShock	Project Censored	Song of the Soul	19:00	
7:30 PM				Making Contact				19:30	
8:00 PM		Rising Up With Sonali	Rising Up With Sonali	Rising Up With Sonali	Rising Up With Sonali	Rising Up With Sonali		From The Vault	20:00
8:30 PM									20:30
9:00 PM	Le Show with Harry Shearer	The David Pakman Show	The David Pakman Show	The David Pakman Show	The David Pakman Show	The David Pakman Show	21:00		
9:30 PM							21:30		
10:00 PM	Sea Change Radio	Democracy Now	Democracy Now	Democracy Now	Democracy Now	Democracy Now	22:00		
10:30 PM	Sprouts						22:30		
11:00 PM	Best of The Attitude with Arnie Arnesen	The Attitude with Arnie Arnesen	The Attitude with Arnie Arnesen	The Attitude with Arnie Arnesen	The Attitude with Arnie Arnesen	The Attitude with Arnie Arnesen	23:00		
11:30 PM							23:30		

## Third Thursday Lunches

*presented by the*

Fellowship of Reconciliation &  
Interfaith Paths to Peace

September 2017



Sep 21     Judi Jennings, “How Jail Incarceration Affects Us All”

In 2008, inspired by a mother visiting her incarcerated son, Judi Jennings began directing artmaking activities for children and families waiting in the visitors’ lobby of the Louisville Metro Jail. Then and now, families often endure long waits in an overcrowded lobby for a 20-minute visitation over a video camera with their incarcerated family member. Upon her retirement as director of the Kentucky Foundation for Women, Judi and others formed the “**Special Project,**” a network supporting families affected by incarceration. The Project now also advocates for criminal justice reform at the local level. Judi will discuss 1) how jail incarceration affects everyone in Metro Louisville, 2) why art matters, and 3) how you can make a difference!

Hotel Louisville • 120 West Broadway

Corner of Second & Broadway – *Free Off-Street Parking*

Buffet Lunch at 11:30 • Presentation at Noon • **\$7.00** at the Door

Reservations required by MONDAY before the lunch

RSVP to Cathy Ford at 502/458-1223 or [fordhoff@bellsouth.net](mailto:fordhoff@bellsouth.net)



# 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.*

*Before attending these events, it's best to contact the sponsoring organization to verify the time/place of the event. To list your event here, email info to [calendar.peace@gmail.com](mailto:calendar.peace@gmail.com) by the first of each month.*

**Sep 1 to 4 WORLDFEST.** Belvedere, Downtown. Explore Louisville's many faces and cultures in music, dance, food and educational events. Visit <https://louisvilleky.gov/events/worldfest>

**Sep 1 & 8 KARMALOGUE.** The Crane House. Life isn't always about the big picture. It's about the little bits. See Francis Cleetus' interpretation of those tiny glimpses through his paintings, drawings, cartoons and sculptures. All inspired by his real life experiences across three countries. Visit <http://www.cranehouse.org>

**Sep 1 to Dec 29 MUHAMMAD ALI RETROSPECTIVE.** The African American Heritage Center. Award winning photos and paintings covering many years depict Ali's life and legacy. Visit [www.kcah.com](http://www.kcah.com)

**Sep 1 to Jan 2 AVAILABLE LIGHT: WEST LOUISVILLE.** The Muhammad Ail Center. A photography exhibition exploring West Louisville through the eyes of local photographer, Bud Dorsey and showcasing compassion, love, pride, and struggle. Visit <http://www.alicenter.org>

**Sep 2 (Sat) INTERFAITH SILENT MEDITATION.** Every first Saturday. 9:30AM. Brief meditation instruction and longer periods of silence, interspersed with opportunities for walking meditation. Passionist Earth & Spirit Center, the Barn at 1924 Newburg Road. Call 502-452-2749 for information. Visit <http://iearthandspiritcenter.org>

**Sep 2 (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>

**Sep 2 (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)

**Sep 3 (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)

**Sep 6 (Wed), VOLUNTEER FOR REFUGEE FAMILIES** Catholic Charites, 5:30pm. First Wednesday every month. Learn more about our refugee & immigration settlement program and family assistance efforts. Visit <http://cclou.org>

**Sep 6 (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>

**Sep 6 (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.

**Sep 6 (Wed) DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS TO THIS PEACE CALENDAR** for the October issue of FORsooth. Every first Wednesday. Please email announcements to: [calendar.peace@gmail.com](mailto:calendar.peace@gmail.com)

**Sep 7 (Thurs) KENTUCKY SINGLE PAYER HEALTH CARE.** Every first & third Thursday, 5:30PM at Main Public Library. Call Kay Tillow 636-1551.

**Sep 9 (Sat) EARTHSAVE OF LOUISVILLE.** Crescent Hill Ministries, 6PM to 8PM. Every 2nd Saturday. Discuss healthy food and behavior change. Bring a plant-based dish and share your recipe. Mix, mingle, music. Call 299-9520 for more information.

**Sep 9 (Sat) CITIZENS' CLIMATE LOBBY.** Main Public Library, Noon. Every 2nd Saturday. Help plan efforts to lobby for state legislation to combat climate change. For more information contact Jean at [jmchri@gmail.com](mailto:jmchri@gmail.com) or call 502 634-3114.

**Sep 10 (Sun) YOUR NEIGHBOR'S RELIGION.** Interfaith Paths to Peace. Hear speakers on Judaism, Baha'i, Buddhism, and Islam during this four-part series. Visit <https://www.paths2peace.org>

**Sep 10 (Sun) VIGIL FOR PEACE.** Louisville Peace Action Committee (LPAC) and Veterans for Peace Chapter 168, 4PM to 5PM. Every 2nd Sunday. Bardstown Rd. at Douglas Blvd. Bring a sign. Remember those suffering from conflicts in the Middle East. For more information, call Harold Trainer, 502-387-9490.

**Sep 10 (Sun) THE NONVIOLENT CITIES PROJECT.** Pace e Bene Nonviolence Service, every 2nd Sunday at 2:30PM. Help us spread and apply the principles of non-violent action here and now. Call 812-280-0665 or email [rodwsm@gmail.com](mailto:rodwsm@gmail.com) for more information.

**Sep 12 (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.

**Sep 13 (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.

**Sep 13 (Wed) LOUISVILLE FORUM.** Noon at Vincenzo's Downtown. Every 2nd Wednesday. Speakers on current public issues. Non-partisan discussion. For details call, 329-0111.

**Sep 13 (Wed) COMPASSIONATE LOUISVILLE.** Noon. Meeting locations rotate. Help monitor the progress of Metro Louisville ten-year campaign for compassion. Visit <http://compassionatelouisville.org> for more information.

**Sep 14 (Thu) EVERYONE READS TRAINING.** JCPS VanHoose Education Center, 4PM. Every 2nd Thursday. Join our communitywide effort to improve reading skills. Visit <https://apps.jefferson.kyschools.us/vounteer>

**Sep 14 (Thurs) GIVE FOR GOOD LOUISVILLE.** Louisville Community Foundation. Our biggest day of local giving. Help over 600 non-profits. Visit <https://www.giveforgoodlouisville.org>

**Sep 14 (Thu) 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. Call 636-4660 to RSVP.

**Sep 15 (Fri) A GLIMPSE OF ETERNITY.** The Louisville Astronomical Society at dusk in Tom Sawyer Park. Every 2nd Friday weather permitting. 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)

**Sep 15 GROWING FOOD AND COMMUNITY.** 15 Thousand Farmers at Dismas St. Ann's on Algonquin Pkwy, the 15th of every month. Share ideas and experiences about growing your own food. Taste samples. Visit [www.15thousandfarmers.com](http://www.15thousandfarmers.com)

**Sep 21 (Thu) DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES FOR THE NOVEMBER ISSUE OF FORSOOTH.**  
Email articles to: [morgan.taliaferro@gmail.com](mailto:morgan.taliaferro@gmail.com)

**Sep 21 (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)

**Sep 21 (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

**Sep 21 (Thu) THIRD THURSDAY LUNCH.** Judi Jennings, "How Jail Incarceration Affects Us All." Hotel Louisville, 120 W. Broadway (Second and Broadway) Lunch begins at 11:30 am. Speaker at noon. Judi Jennings directs the "Special Project" for artmaking activities for children and families in the visitors' lobby of the Louisville Metro Jail. To visit incarcerated relatives, families often endure long waits in an overcrowded lobby. The Special Project advocates for criminal justice reform at the local level. Judi will discuss 1) how jail incarceration affects everyone in Metro Louisville, 2) why art matters, and 3) how you can make a difference! Co-sponsored by the Fellowship of Reconciliation (FOR) and Interfaith Paths to Peace. RSVP to Cathy Ford at 502-458-1223 or [fordhoff@bellsouth.net](mailto:fordhoff@bellsouth.net) or to Cindy Humbert at: [interfaithpaths@gmail.com](mailto:interfaithpaths@gmail.com)

**Sep 21 (Thu) FORSOOTH LABELING PARTY.** 6:30 PM at the Winn Center at the Presbyterian Seminary, 1044 Alta Vista Rd. COME TO THE PARTY! Many hands make light work, and the opposite is also true. Join us if you can. It's fun. Meet progressive people. Enjoy great conversations. Free refreshments. For directions, call 451-5658 or email: [fordhoff@bellsouth.net](mailto:fordhoff@bellsouth.net)

**Sep 21 (Thurs) DIALOGUE WITH POLICE.** Public open-dialogue discussions that allow youth 25 and under to talk with local law enforcement officials and establish better relationships. New location each month. <https://louisvilleky.gov/events>

**Sep 23 & Sep 28 HAND IN HAND MINISTRIES.** Work side by side with people in other communities and other countries by participating in our immersion trips. Visit [www.myhandinhand.org](http://www.myhandinhand.org)

**Sep 26 FREE NONPROFIT START-UP CLINIC.** Center for Nonprofit Excellence, 3PM. Every 4th Tuesday. Learn the fundamentals, avoid pitfalls, and find direction. Visit [www.cnpe.org](http://www.cnpe.org)

**Sep 26 (Tues) KENTUCKY REFUGEE MINISTRIES LUNCH & LEARN.** Noon to 1:30PM. Learn more about our refugee & immigration settlement program and citizenship tutoring classes. Visit <http://kyrm.org>

**Sep 26 to 28 IDEA FESTIVAL.** Hear speakers on a wide range of insightful ideas that possibly might help us change the world. Visit [www.ideafestival.com](http://www.ideafestival.com)

**Sep 29 (Tues) THE RACE TO RE-MAKE CIVILIZATION.** Word Affairs Council of Kentucky and Southern Indiana. Author Davd Biello examines the hopeful side of environmental change. He believes we are a capable of saving our environment. Visit [www.worldkentucky.org](http://www.worldkentucky.org)

**Oct 1 (Sun) HUNGER WALK/RUN.** Riverfront Park. Show your support of our food banks in Metro Louisville. Visit <https://daretocare.org/attend-an-event/hunger-walk-run-row>

**Oct 3 (Tues) CONFLICT RESOLUTION TRAINING** Peace Education Program. Learn the basics of conflict resolution through affirmation, cooperation, and communication. <http://peaceeducationprogram.org>

## OUT OF TOWN

**Sep 3 to 27 FAIRNESS MEETINGS.** ACLU of Kentucky. Help us promote LGBT Rights in Kentucky and join our meeting in Versailles, Georgetown, Frankfort, Bowling Green, Berea, and Shelbyville. Visit <http://www.aclu-ky.org>

**Sep 4 (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.

**Sep 7 (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,

**Sep 8, 9, & 14 WATERSHED WATCH SAMPLING.** Kentucky Watershed Watch in many regions. Take a qualified water sample, collect field data, and make habitat assessments. Watershed Water volunteers work in all regions of our state. Call 502-782-7032 for more information

**Sep 9 to 10 TRAIL OF TEARS NATIVE AMERICAN POW WOW.** Hopkinsville, KY. Dance and pray with us as we celebrate Native American cultures. Traditional food, clothing, jewelry, and crafts. Visit <http://calendar.powwows.com>

**Sep 21 (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)

## EVENTS AT LOUISVILLE FREE PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

### Visit [www.lfpl.org](http://www.lfpl.org)

**Sep 1 to 30 REFUGEE YOUTH ART** Iroquois Public Library, 1PM. See original art in various media by youth from our local refugee families.

**Sep 2 (Sat) ENGLISH CONVERSATION CLUB.** Every Saturday at the Iroquois & Newburg Public Library Branches, 3PM. Also Main Library on Wednesdays at 7PM.

**Sep 5 (Tues) HOUR 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.

**Sep 7 (Thurs) FRENCH LANGUAGE AND CULTURE.** Western Bon Air Public Library, 2PM. Taste the French language in its basic words and phrases and words commonly heard in the media, movies, and music.

**Sep 8 (Fri) NATIVE AMERICAN CULTURE IN KENTUCKY.** Western Bon Air Public Library, 2PM. A presentation on the tribal societies in the Ohio Valley from the pre-Columbian era onward.

**Sep 9 (Sat) FRENCH CIRCLE.** Iroquois Public Library, 12:30PM. Join local francophones for a presentation and discussion in French.

**Sep 12 (Tues) BEGINNING SPANISH,** Iroquois Public Library, 6:30PM. Learn conversational Spanish from native speakers.

**Sep 16 (Sat) WELCOME TO CUBA.** Western Bon Air Public Library, 2PM. A presentation by El Kentubano on the history, traditions, culture of Cuba.

**Sep 20 (Wed) BOOKS ON GLOBAL SOLIDARITY.** Main Public Library. Read and discuss books from different counties and cultures. (aka The Mayor's Book Club)

**Sep 23 (Sat) CULTURAL SHOWCASE: SYRIA** Iroquois Public Library, 2PM. Enjoy Syrian music and food. Meet our new neighbors.

**Sep 23 (Sat) SYMBOLISM OF AN ABORIGINAL PEOPLE.** Bon Air Public Library. A panel discussion of aboriginal people and their contributions all over their world.

**Sep 23 (Sat) INTERNATIONAL DANCE OFF** Western Bon Air Public Library, 2PM. Dance with us to a playlist of hit songs from around the world. Try new dance steps.