

# WHO ARE THE “DREAMERS”?

By Sofia Calleja

For several weeks, the media has covered the president’s decision to rescind the immigration program known as Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA). DACA was an Obama-era executive order implemented because of Congress’ failure to pass any of the many versions of the DREAM act. The DREAM act and DACA sought to protect undocumented people who were brought to the United States as children and have no other path to legal permanent residence or any other legal protection. Unfortunately, the DREAM act did not come to fruition; DACA was an executive order that temporary shielded recipients from deportation but did not offer a path to citizenship or permanent residency. DACA recipients are afforded three crucial benefits: (1) protection from deportation proceedings, (2) a social security number, and (3) a work authorization card. To apply for DACA, one must pay an application fee of \$495 and additional attorney fees. After filing, one waits for a response from the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services. This process is repeated every two years. Furthermore, not every undocumented individual who was brought to the U.S. as a child qualifies for

DACA. To qualify for DACA, individuals must have been under 31 years old as of June 15, 2012.

Additionally, the applicant must provide documentation of their continuous presence in the United States as of June 15, 2007. DACA applicants are subjected to rigorous FBI background checks. Applicants who have committed a felony, any significant misdemeanor, three or more minor misdemeanors, or failed to show general good moral character will be precluded from the DACA program. An additional requirement is the attainment of a high-school diploma or GED. This requirement can be alternatively satisfied by enlisting in the Coast Guard or Armed Forces. DACA does not grant access to any federally funded aids such as Medicaid or Medicare. This also means that individuals protected under DACA who are striving for higher education do not receive any money for filling out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) application; Kentucky high-school students are also not eligible to claim Kentucky Educational Excellence Scholarship (KEES) money.

After DACA was established, we were asked to come out of the shadows and release our information to the U.S. Customs and Immigration Service (USCIS) – which the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agency can access by simply asking. We made ourselves and families vulnerable. Simultaneously, while pushing for federal protection, we threw our parents under the bus. We were advised to adhere to the



Tent city in Arizona, credit: Joe A. image source: <http://theslot.jezebel.com/jane-sanders-visits-arizona-sheriff-joe-arapios-infamou-1764982008>

“good immigrant” rhetoric that makes a small demographic of the community more palatable and more human to policy makers. The “we didn’t choose to come here” rhetoric is poisonous; our parents are the real “dreamers.” It was they who sacrificed everything to provide a better quality of life and future for us – their children.

By now, most individuals have formed their opinion on DACA. People have come out to support those whom some are calling “DREAMers.” Allies are working to protect DACA recipients and are advocating for change. Others have changed their Facebook profile picture in “support” of DACA without doing much else. What they should be doing is calling their senators and state representatives and voicing their support for the protection of 11 million undocumented people and not just 800,000 DACA recipients. While support for DACA recipients has been strong, some people agree with the decision to rescind it on constitutional grounds. I am sure these same individuals who decry DACA as unconstitutional were equally as outraged by the president’s pardoning of former Maricopa County Sheriff Joe Arpaio. Under Joe Arpaio, your immigration status did not matter. If you were “too brown” or had an accent, you were subjected to heinous racism and civil rights violations by the sheriff’s office. In spite of our sacrifices, this administration has made it clear it does not care about the “DREAMers.”

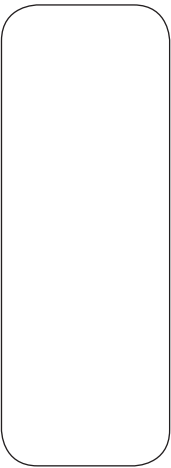
Pardoning Joe Arpaio and then rescinding DACA paints a picture people are still not willing to see.

Now that DACA has been revoked, where does that leave the 800,000 people who benefitted from it? Those whose DACA status expires after March 5, 2018, will not be eligible to renew and will lose the protection from deportation proceedings. The administration is putting it in the hands of Congress; nevertheless, it is difficult to trust Congress to get anything passed. It was their inaction that led to the implementation of DACA. Not having DACA means that we cannot work lawfully as we have been since 2012. We cannot renew our driver’s license, and thus some, out of necessity, will be driving without a license. But, the greatest risk is deportation. This threat causes fear and can be tied with the over-policing of black and brown communities, the militarization of ICE, and the privatization of detention centers. Deportation is poisonous to the community; it is traumatizing children and separating families in the most heinous way.

Nonetheless, it is important to remember that we are resilient people: we are fighters and survivors. We will not stand for bad policy, we will no longer put up with the “good immigrant vs. bad immigrant” rhetoric, and we will fight to preserve our families, community, and dignity.

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# WALKING THE WALK WITH IMMIGRANTS

By Hamza Foy



World Fest Participant, Credit: Hamza Foy

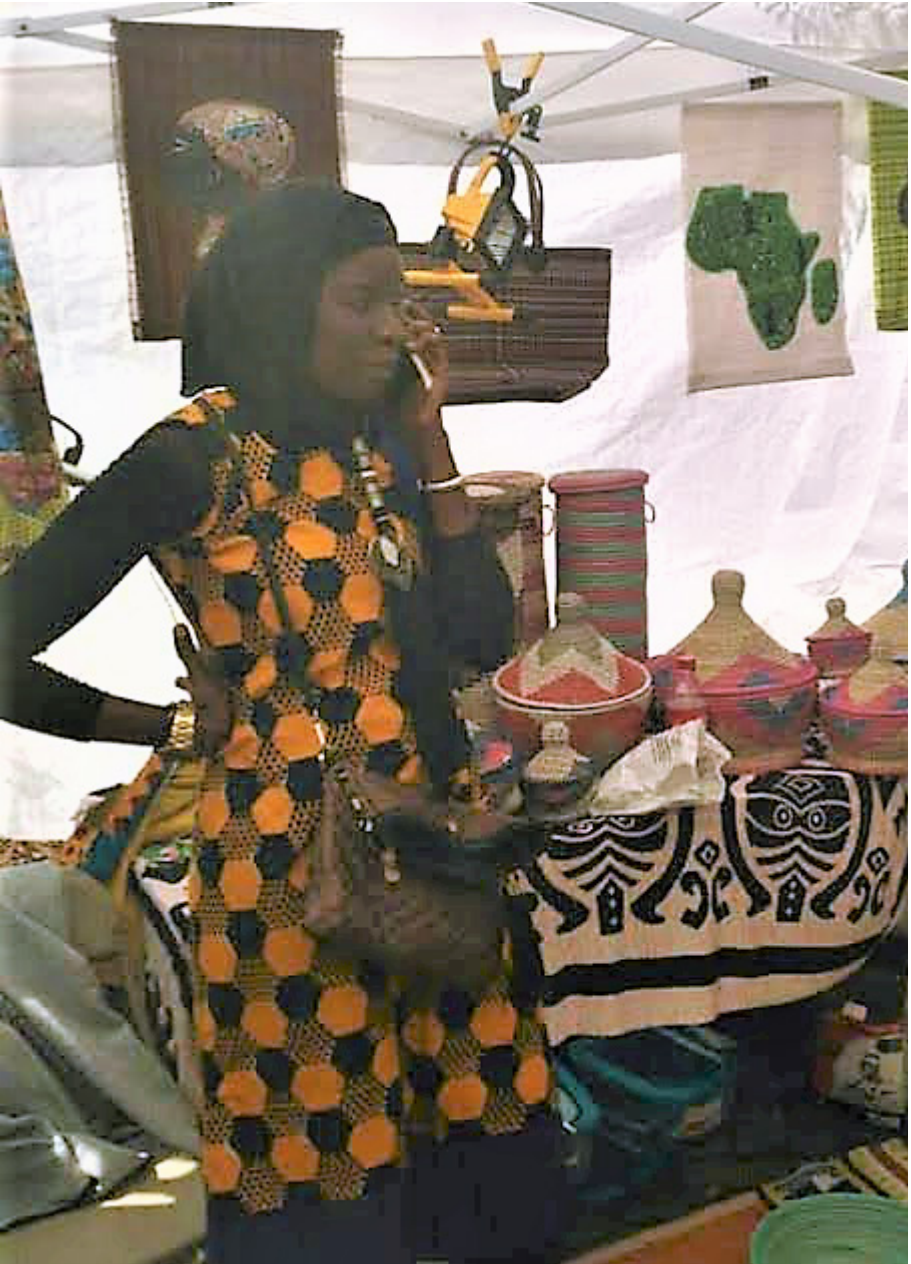
We find ourselves at a crossroads where rhetoric and actionable cause concerning immigrants meet, but we watch with anticipation and loathing as our leaders choose a path to travel upon. Those who only speak well about our immigrant neighbors enjoy the boons of their business and the beauty of their cultural norms and goods but will become uneasy when defending them is required.

This is not merely poetry, but an observation from the most recent WorldFest. Actionable cause requires work, which I daresay some would rather not exercise, and sacrifice in which some lack even a grasp of its definition and scope.

To treasure moments of expression is admirable, but more admirable is to sit at the side of one who has suffered some injustice and try to understand the magnitude and the effects of that injustice. The wonder aroused by the artistic and sensory exploration of other cultures is certainly not a problem, but to only enjoy the fruits of expression while not appreciating or participating in the toil of manifesting and safekeeping these fruits is a cruel betrayal of the oft-quoted commonality that “we are all human beings.”

We have residents in Louisville who have been abruptly upended by the closure of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program and are now thrown into a precarious situation of being considered deportable. These individuals, along with others, have recently learned from the Kentucky Center for Investigative Reporting that the Louisville Metro Police Department (LMPD) aided Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents in their detainment of immigrants here without legal status. We have even more of our residents dreading Bush-era detainment policies with little recourse as racist and anti-Muslim expressions have become welcomed and accepted in public discourse. And we have a large segment of our population simply unwilling to wrangle with the specter that has motivated mass lynchings, displacement, and disorder throughout our country’s history – that of ethnic nationalism and white supremacy.

Even to the skeptic, the one who doubts or would rather try and argue against these realities permeating American culture and public opinion, the initial prescription would be the same. Go out of your comfort zone and sit at the side of one who doesn’t look like you, dress like you, or speak like you. Go forth to the institutions scattered across the city that serve the needs of our many immigrants such as La Casita Center, Americana World Community Center, Kentucky Refugee Ministries, Backside Learning Center, Guiding Light Islamic Center, and Catholic Charities, and others. When you visit an immigrant-owned restaurant or business, get to know the owner and build a relationship. One of the best ways to become intimate and trustworthy is when you work together with someone. Volunteer and spend time working together; then, and only then, will you have walked the path of actionable cause.



World Fest Participant, Credit: Hamza Foy



**Hamza Foy** has a BA in History from the University of Louisville. He is a teacher and a committee member for civic engagement at the Guiding Light Islamic Center. Hamza manages a donation closet for the Muslim community and works closely with various organizations including the Salaam Network and Coalition for the Homeless. He is a cohort member for the Office of Globalization's Louisville Welcome Academy. You can reach him at [hamzaoflouisville@gmail.com](mailto:hamzaoflouisville@gmail.com).



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# “FAITH AS A WAY TO FIND PURPOSE”

**By Rashaad Abdur-Rahman**

*Rashaad Abdur-Rahman serves as the Director of the Office for Safe and Healthy Neighborhoods in the administration of Louisville Mayor Greg Fischer.*

Something that I have grown to reflect on more, over time, is the inter-connectivity of our common shared experiences. In so many ways, our experiences shape our values and inform what we believe to be important. One hopes that these values translate into the work we do, our passions, our commitments, and our purpose. It is this purpose that ultimately is a reflection, or culmination, of our multifaceted selves.

The Fellowship of Reconciliation (FOR) has a purpose statement that identifies the essential unity of all creation, exploring the power of love and truth, and commitment to a just and peaceful community as fundamental values. These values resonate with me, and this acknowledgment pinpoints the interrelated nature of purpose, values, and experiences.

My upbringing and experience as a Muslim has introduced me to many values. Values such as the importance of service to community are rooted deeply within me. From the time I was a child, the importance of serving others, helping out, and finding a way to make a difference in the community were exemplified in those around me time and time again. I was taught in Islam that my duty is to leave an environment better than I found it. That meant being observant, responsive to those observations, and humble: humility in the sense that one is aware of why they have engaged in service without drawing attention to their act. Service is not done to impress others, but to please God. To put it another way: what is it that we are doing when the “lights are off” and no one is looking?

Another value that my faith has embedded in me is the value of family and community. Certainly, this acknowledges traditional definitions of family that encompasses our blood relatives or connections by

marriage. However, there is also the family we choose: those individuals who are inseparable from us in any meaningful way and have become family by any other measure. Likewise, our community is both local (in a more traditional sense) and global. It is said in Islam that God made us different so that we can get to know one another. There is great meaning and potential in the process of growing community and building our inter-connectivity. The more we have humanized one another, developed respect for our community, and created bonds, the stronger we stand as one unified people.

These values and experiences (in addition to many more) have culminated in what I can only describe as my purpose. I have the privilege of serving the people of Louisville and working with a beautiful community to help make our city a place where everyone is supported, free of violence, and prepared for lifelong success. As we pursue being a city that is ever more compassionate, we embark on a quest daily to discover how we can secure the same quality of life for all. Whether it be poverty, exposure to violence, systemic inequities, racial injustices, social injustices, etc., we know that there are far too many people suffering for reasons that are preventable and unacceptable. It can seem overwhelming and paralyzing when you examine the data and begin to understand the disparities that exist. The other perspective, I believe, is to see the opportunities that exist. If you are someone who cares about children, values safe communities, opposes racism, and believes in the essential humanity of everyone in our community, then there are many great ways to be involved in service.

As the Director of the Office for Safe and Healthy Neighborhoods, I have prioritized the importance of making sure that anyone who is concerned about the abovementioned issues can reach out to my team and have a clear way to get involved. Without a doubt, our city has many great organizations that someone can reach out to and support, from small grassroots organizations to larger operations. My office is one of those opportunities that someone can choose in

addition to others. Our campaign, #BeThe1, is a call to action which illustrates that there are many ways that each of us can be the one to make a difference in someone’s life and our community. That might include mentoring a young person with the REImage program (502-574-4115), becoming a One Love Louisville Ambassador (502-574-1903), starting or joining a neighborhood association (502-589-0343), and much more. It is certainly not a question of can we do these things, but whether we will do these things.

I’ll end where I began, with the reflection of how our experiences and values come together to light the path toward our purpose. It seems to me that purpose can be shaped through the process of doing and acting toward the common good embedded within us through our values: values that, more often than not, we share and can build a brighter future with together.



**Rashaad Abdur-Rahman** is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and serves as Mayor Greg Fischer’s Director of the Office for Safe and Healthy Neighborhoods. He received his Bachelors in Psychology from Berea College, and his Masters in Science and Social Work from the University of Louisville’s Kent School of Social Work in 2008. Rashaad has worked in the field of child and family mental health services since 2004 in various roles as a direct care counselor, case manager, therapist, consultant, trainer, supervisor, etc. In addition to these professional roles, Rashaad spends time volunteering with the Race Community and Child Welfare Advisory Board, sits on the board of Interfaith Path’s to Peace, has been an adjunct professor at Spalding University, and guest lecturer at Berea College, Western Governors University, and the University of Kentucky. Rashaad believes deeply in the power of community and that in order to foster a safe, healthy, and transformative society, we must work tirelessly to secure racial, economic, and social justice.

## THE BAD AND THE REALLY UGLY

**By Ira Grupper**

### LABOR PAEANS

Labor Day is two months behind us now, and President Trump’s appointees to the National Labor Relations Board are no friends of collective bargaining, just as his Secretary of Education is no friend of poor and working class children. And NAFTA has cost maybe one million jobs.

I try to keep a positive perspective. And then I see the recent violence, including one murder, against people peacefully protesting racism in Charlottesville, Virginia. The U.S. Constitution, Article III, Section 3, Clause 1 states: “Treason against the United States shall consist

only in levying War against (us), or in...giving (the bad apples) Aid and Comfort”.

Well, let’s look into current aid and comfort to the bad apples. Charles Pierce writes (Esquire Magazine, September 2): “The scope of (the bank) Wells Fargo’s fake accounts scandal grew significantly..., with the bank now saying that 3.5 million accounts were potentially opened without customers’ permission between 2009 and 2016...”

“...Wells Fargo said...roughly 570,000 customers were signed up for and billed for car insurance that they didn’t need or necessarily know about. Many couldn’t afford the extra costs and fell behind in their payments, and in about 20,000 cases, cars were repossessed... John Stumpf, the CEO who presided over this monumental criminal empire, walked away from his job with a... package of \$130 million...”

Moving right along, we learn about evictions in Indiana. Reports the Louisville Courier-Journal (September 1): “Charlestown (Indiana) Mayor Bob Hall--who is accused

of improperly colluding with private developers to wipe out the low-income Pleasant Ridge neighborhood--testified Friday he did nothing wrong in trying to help remove a ‘low-rent’ neighborhood that can attract people ‘who are not contributing to society...’

“I know it’s not politically correct to say this, but when you have a low-rent district, it invites people who are not contributing to society...”

And then we come to Tom Llamas. Brandi Collins (Color of Change, September 2) discloses: “ABC News anchor, Tom Llamas, in Houston to report on Hurricane Harvey, spotted Texans who had recently lost everything entering a grocery store. Instead of reporting on the desperate circumstances with compassion, he actually diverted first responder resources that could be used to save stranded families--and called the police. That’s right. Houstonians desperately searching for uncontaminated food and water in order to survive were not only shamed and blasted on social media, but confronted with police as they fought for their lives.

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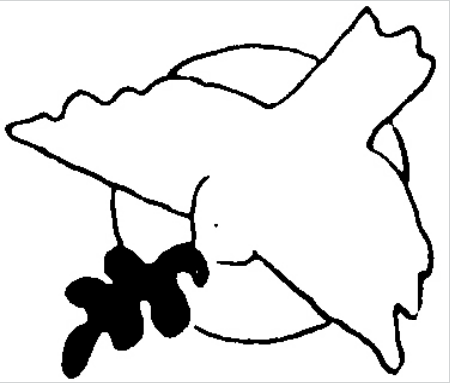
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# THE BAD AND THE REALLY UGLY

By Ira Grupper

## LABOR PAEANS

(Continued from Page 3)

“And when we asked Tom Llamas to apologize for his biased and possibly dangerous treatment of Hurricane Harvey victims; instead of owning up to it, he blocked us on Twitter.”

Race and class are interlocked, and so are race and class warfare. Avaaz reports: “In Yemen, every 10 minutes a child dies from malnutrition, 500,000 people have been hit by the worst cholera epidemic ever recorded—and a savage Saudi bombing campaign is cutting off aid access.”

And the Huffington Post: “Mercenaries in Yemen—the U.S. Connection”: “Latin American mercenaries are leaving the ranks of the national armies of their

countries to fight in the deserts of Yemen, wearing the uniform of the United Arab Emirates. They have been contracted by private US companies and in some cases directly by the government of the Arab country, which, thanks to vast oil reserves, has the second largest economy of the region.”

Back on November 25, 2015, under headline: “(United Arab) Emirates Secretly Sends Colombian Mercenaries to Yemen Fight, the New York Times tells us: “The program was once managed by a private company connected to Erik Prince, the founder of Blackwater Worldwide, but ...has since been run by the Emirati military...And, apparently, one way to export security is to become a U.S.-trained mercenary for Washington’s wars in other parts of the world.

“Colombian troops, drilled in counterterrorism and counterinsurgency techniques, instead of exporting security are exporting the United States’ geopolitical agenda of permanent war...”

And this: “(T)he United States government has trained a total of 30,000 soldiers from the four countries that make up the Latin American mercenary force in Yemen.” Then we come to Myanmar (Burma). Our former president, Barack Obama (not Trump, but Obama), had terminated nearly all of the remaining sanctions Washington imposed for decades on its previous rights-

abusing military regime.

Reports Aljazeera (August 31): “Nearly 50,000 Rohingya flee violence in Myanmar...Rohingya villages are being razed in Rakhine state as the Myanmar government steps up nationalist rhetoric.”

You’ll be happy to learn that ATM maker Diebold Nixdorf opened a permanent office in a Myanmar city, Yangon, last February 2. Diebold’s literature, under its heading of “Corporate Responsibility,” boasts its “(commitment) to continual improvement of its environmental performance and reduction of potential environmental impacts.” As we mourn the loss of lives and the destruction of homes due to hurricanes Harvey and Irma, let’s also remember imperial greedy-inspired storms. Former British Prime Minister Harold Macmillan said this to the Parliament of South Africa, in1960: “...The wind of change is blowing through this continent”. It aint just one continent, Harold.



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# MARTIN LUTHER KING JR., MILITARISM, AND RACISM

Editor’s note:

This article originally appeared on the FOR USA blog on April 3, 2017. See: <https://www.forusa.org/blog.php?i=159>

By Wendy Clarissa Geiger

White supremacist society seems to only allow Martin Luther King, Jr. to be associated with a "dream." A dreamer is discounted as naive, foolish, with head in the clouds and out of touch with reality. We don't call George Washington a dreamer. We call other folks visionaries. But, subconsciously, this society discredits and discounts King by focusing on his "dream." And there's little in the mainstream press about his connecting nonviolence and militarism and war.

I believe Reverend Dr. King wasn't killed for his dream expressed in August 1963. I believe he was killed for his vision for this country and Vietnam, expressed April 4, 1967, and beyond, because the powers that be in this country found his talk (and action) too dangerous to the status quo. So much for being a pacifist. And, now, safely dead, King's anti-militarism and pro-nonviolence stance gets ignored. Nonviolence is mentioned in descriptions of King, of course, but never defined or explained for those of us who spent our school years studying history that mainly consisted of explaining wars and preparing and recovering from them.

Read King's "Beyond Vietnam: A Time to Break Silence" speech given at Riverside Church in New York City one year to the day before he was assassinated. Substitute "Iraq" for "Vietnam." Here is an excerpt:

"... I am as deeply concerned about our troops there as anything else. For it occurs to me that what we are submitting them to in Vietnam is not simply the brutalizing process that

goes on in any war where armies face each other and seek to destroy. We are adding cynicism to the process of death, for they must know after a short period there that none of the things we claim to be fighting for are really involved. Before long they must know that their government has sent them into a struggle among Vietnamese, and the more sophisticated surely realize that we are on the side of the wealthy and the secure while we create a hell for the poor

"Somehow this madness must cease. We must stop now. I speak as a child of God and brother to the suffering poor of Vietnam. I speak for those whose land is being laid waste, whose homes are being destroyed, whose culture is being subverted. I speak for the poor of America who are paying the double price of smashed hopes at home and death and corruption in Vietnam. I speak as a citizen of the world, for the world as it stands aghast at the path we have taken. I speak as an American to the leaders of my own nation. The great initiative in this war is ours. The initiative to stop it must be ours...

"If we continue there will be no doubt in my mind and in the mind of the world that we have no honorable intentions in Vietnam. It will become clear that our minimal expectation is to occupy it as an American colony and men will not refrain from thinking that our maximum hope is to goad China into a war so that we may bomb her nuclear installations...

"The world now demands a maturity of America that we may not be able to achieve. It demands that we admit that

we have been wrong from the beginning of our adventure in Vietnam, that we have been detrimental to the life of the Vietnamese people. The situation is one in which we must be ready to turn sharply from our present ways." (pp. 238-239, “A Testament of Hope - The essential writings and speeches of Martin Luther King Jr.,” edited by James M. Washington. HarperCollins, New York, NY, 1986.)

Pacifists still are dismissed as naive and idealistic. Where nonviolence is tried, it often works. I look at militarists and think: They are naive and idealistic to continue to try to solve problems with war and killing. Theodore Roszack said, "People try nonviolence for a week, and when it 'doesn't work' they go back to violence which hasn't worked for centuries." Numerous colleges and universities offer Peace Studies programs because of demand for them.

Yet, there is much money to be made in producing and selling armaments to whomever will buy them. And these arms manufacturers don't care where the war is, or by which faction their arms are being used, they just want war to happen. Our men and women in uniform will continue to kill and die, so these arms manufacturers can make money. That's why I protest. I don't want anyone to have to kill in order to raise a family. It's not about patriotism. And King would join the protests today.

The United States has a Department of Defense (read Department of War), with a mind-boggling budget to violently try to solve disputes. There's a campaign under way to urge Congress to create a Cabinet-level Department of Peace, with its funding being only 2 percent of the Defense Department budget.

My favorite King quote is from his April 16, 1967, sermon at Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta, "Why I Oppose the War in Vietnam," which is similar to his Riverside speech: "There's something strangely inconsistent about a nation and a press that will praise you when you say be nonviolent toward Jim Clark but will curse and damn you when you say be nonviolent toward

little brown Vietnamese children."

Why is it heroic for U.S. military personnel to kill Iraqis? Yet if one of them killed a single person here, s/ he'd be charged with murder. A favorite button that I wear reads: "Killing one is murder. Killing 100,000 is foreign policy."



Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. delivering his "Beyond Vietnam: A Time to Break Silence" sermon on April 4, 1967 at the Riverside Church in New York City. Creative Commons license

Years ago, Ma Vynee Betsch—the Beach Lady of American Beach, Florida—listened to me rant about the inconsistency of ROTC units marching in the Martin Luther King Jr. parade and military folk praising King. She said, "Oh, Wendy, let them have their heroes." What a lesson. Regarding King, the historian of the African American experience, Vincent Harding, oft quoted a poet's words about Malcolm X: "He became much more than there was time for him to be."

**Wendy Clarissa Geiger** is a past staff member of the Fellowship of Reconciliation who educates and organizes for peace and justice as a White Southern Quaker woman in Jacksonville, Florida.

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# CASTING A RAY OF LIGHT: LESSONS FROM POST- CONFLICT JUSTICE AND RECONCILIATION IN COLOMBIA

By Usman Mian

In today's world, we can never take anything for granted. Globalization has impacted every aspect of the quality of life and standards of living we enjoy in the United States of America. As global citizens, we must acknowledge that the benefits we hold as Americans can come at a very heavy cost to the rest of the world. The opportunity to travel abroad has allowed me to gain a better understanding of the complexities of the world we live in and how the decisions that I/we make can impact the rest of humanity.

Back in 2014, I would embark on a life-changing experience when travelling to Colombia. When I first signed up, I really had no idea what to expect for my trip. At the time, all I knew was that it would be a great experience and a memorable journey to one of the most vibrant countries in South America. Of course, as someone who's never travelled to South America, I held some of my own assumptions and misconceptions about what my experience might be like. Certainly, most of my instincts were



Mr. Leonel Narvaez Gomez, Along With One Of The Youth Leader Jose. Credit: Usman Mian

based upon the insights that come from the media's coverage of the drug war and conflict in Colombia. At that time, I spoke little Spanish and had limited interaction with any Colombians and little exposure to their culture.

I would not let those fears hold me back; my trip to Colombia would become one of the greatest experiences of my life. The reason I mention all of these stigmas and misconceptions about Colombia is because I now understand the beauty behind the struggle of the country's courageous people. I respect the sacrifices millions have made to make their country a better place, and rather than judging a people wholly by the actions of a group, my travel experience has allowed me the opportunity to put the whole situation into proper context.

In Bogota, I had a chance to meet with various international NGO leaders, local community activists, and the faith-based communities working towards reconciliation in post-conflict Colombia. I learned a great deal about the importance of the role of the work of international NGOs in Colombia and the progress they have made in

addressing the root causes of the civil conflict. Through my encounters with several honest, hard-working, and compassionate philanthropists, I was able to grasp a good knowledge about the work of faith-based communities in locally displaced communities and the role that multinational companies play in instigating the current problems.

By working with such groups, I was witnessing community-based social organizations providing vital and essential social services to their respective communities and fulfilling an integral social role where the government doesn't. In many cases, we learned that the government was involved in systematic oppression and structural inadequacies by hearing the stories of many people who can testify that the Colombian government had a role in supporting paramilitary forces and others in the oppression and victimization of many communities and localities throughout Colombia. This allowed me an opportunity to assess what role that I, an individual living in another country with a government that supports the oppression of local people living in Colombia, have in either becoming a part of the problem or a part of the solution.

I learned about local companies that support labor and human rights abuse in Colombia. I learned about the role that consuming nations, such as the United States and other European nations, have on the economic instability on a "developing" country's sustainable development such as Colombia. All of our experiences allowed us an opportunity to appreciate the beauty of the struggles of the Colombian people. One experience really stood out: the opportunity to meet with Mr. Leonel Narvaez Gomez, who was the founder of the Fundacion Para La Reconciliacion.

Leonel, a notable author, international sociologist, and community activist, was one of the leading voices in conflict management efforts within Colombia. He was also leading efforts for social transformation of communities by the core value of forgiveness. Throughout the course of my trip, the ethical value of forgiveness was constantly discussed amongst the various leaders. Mr. Leonel also intended to build communal trust and, as a result, engaged the various community stakeholders in a reconciliation process that removed some of the internal resentment that urged for vengeance.

A native of Colombia, Mr. Leonel was a priest in the Consolata Missionary Order, and was educated abroad at Harvard and Cambridge. He was successfully implementing the schools of Forgiveness and Reconciliation across 45 cities in Colombia and in more than ten Latin American nations. We witnessed how Mr. Leonel was instilling a political culture of forgiveness and reconciliation. Essentially, he was a major positive force in addressing some

of the root causes of the problem and struggles of the Colombian conflict.

Additionally, I met with the Commission of Justice and Peace (CJP), a human rights social service organization. CJP was working on at least 24 concrete human rights projects throughout displaced communities across Colombia. They worked to serve the needs of the victims of the systematic violations of human rights by the government or paramilitary forces. They explained to us how it was not as much a racial or ethnic conflict, but more about economic factors: the geopolitical strategic location of Colombia and also the wealth of its natural resources and geological treasures. This helped me gain a better understanding of the true identity of the Colombian people, as I got a good lesson and background on the various indigenous communities living in the very strategic economic assets for the government, paramilitary forces, and international/multinational companies. Social workers and community activists explained that, "We do not like violence. We do not like drugs. We do not like the way we have been portrayed. We want everyone to understand that this is a more complex society, and we want the world to know our true identity for what it is."

Essentially, there is a conflict with the wealthy over how they are going to use this land strategically; this is where a lot of different stakeholders and political actors play. While we hear many news and media stories about the drug cartels and gangs, we don't hear much about what Coco-Cola and other such international/multinational companies are doing to the local populations. We witnessed first-hand through testimonials about the role that these companies, in cahoots with the local government, play in stealing the land of the poorer communities and setting up factories for international corporations. I learned about how five million people have been displaced by the paramilitary forces just within the northeastern border of Colombia. Given Colombia's geographical strategic location, many foreign countries also want to take advantage of this conflict and have certain political and economic interests in supporting a certain side in the conflict. Due to such conflicts, there are countless victims.

I met with Trinidad and Jaymes. In 1997, they were forced to leave their land and move to the region of Cararica. Five thousand people were displaced overnight; they were forced to leave and could not return to their land. When they came back, they found that the land had a new owner: American and European multinational oil companies, with the support of the paramilitary forces.

Trinidad explained, "We were forced out. If we did not give up our land, we would be killed. It was over 5,000 families."

The government announced that they would set up a commission to find out the truth behind the situation, and they intended to reconcile the differences by giving the land back to its rightful owners. Trinidad's husband (Jaymes' father) was a negotiator between the displaced people and the government. He was given a phone by the government to receive and make calls with officials.

One day, he received a phone call telling him to show up for a meeting. On the way, he and his son (Jaymes' younger brother) were kidnapped by



Standing Alongside Jaymes And His Mother Trinidad. Credit: Usman Mian

paramilitary forces, who demanded a huge ransom. Of course, there was no justice for them, and they believed the plot was formulated by police and paramilitary forces. Jaymes' father was tortured, and eventually killed along with his 15-year-old son. Because they shared their narrative with us, I was able to learn about their heart-rending and touching story, which encompassed their courage, strength, and resolve to continue in their struggle despite their losses. Trinidad and Jaymes' were great examples of moral courage and resolve to continue.

Through their example of moral courage and the organization's example of ethical leadership, I was quickly adapting to a new vibrant nonprofit sector in a "developing" nation. This was very helpful to me and sparked my interest because of the numerous similarities I noticed between Colombia and my homeland of Pakistan. I was able to take a comparative look at how the intricate relationships between politicians and company leaders and high levels of corruption and unethical leadership manifest. I understood how important it was to maintain a core set of moral and ethical values that define leadership and ensure responsibility as a global citizen. After my trip to Colombia, I consistently have to ask myself the following question: how ethical is it to buy a product that supports the coercion of others? Consequently, I have quickly started seeking alternatives to my previous lifestyle that allow me to live a peaceful and ethical existence.

I am inspired by the human story and stand in solidarity with the people who diligently struggle for their most basic human rights and social services. My trip to Colombia inspired me to believe in myself and strive to give back to those who need it the most. I believe that true compassion is practiced by understanding the beautiful struggles of people, and helping them by providing essential social services that will help them become more self-sufficient and reconcile the various deeply-rooted problems and challenges confronting civil society. I believe that ethical leadership is a necessity for promoting good and confronting evil in our societies. The difference between moral leaders and immoral leaders is that of light and darkness. I read on the wall of the Colombian Ministry of Communications some graffiti that said, "Leaders have the power to illuminate the lives of their followers or to cover them in darkness." We, as global citizens, must lead the way in casting a ray of light by always being conscientious about what we consume and how our lifestyles impact others around the world.

Usman Mian is a strategic thinker and natural relationship builder. Born in Lahore, Pakistan, and raised in Louisville, Usman now serves as the Chief Executive Officer at CityThink. Usman is an alumnus of Northwestern University, DePaul University, and Stanford University.

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# EVICTED: A BOOK REVIEW

By Kate Cunningham

Evicted: Poverty and Profit in the American City (Paperback)  
Matthew Desmond  
Published by Penguin Books Ltd, United Kingdom (2017)

Ethnographer Matthew Desmond has written a well-documented research project that reads like a novel. Winner of a 2017 Pulitzer Prize for General Non-Fiction for this work, Desmond shadows an African-American landlady in Milwaukee, one of the poorest urban areas in the US. In the opening pages, the reader sees low-income tenants—chronically behind in their rent due to a variety of unavoidable poverty-induced crises—from the landlady’s point of view. What’s going on here?

Later in the book, Desmond moves into a poor white Milwaukee trailer park and gets to know not only some of the other tenants, but also the two office staff members who carry out the owner’s directives. Estimating rental income and expenses very conservatively, Desmond finds that the owner is netting about \$450,000 per year from this one 140-unit “park.” The office staff estimates the net to be approximately \$600,000 per year. Yes, the poor indeed do pay more of their monthly income—usually more than half—for substandard, inadequate, and unstable housing.

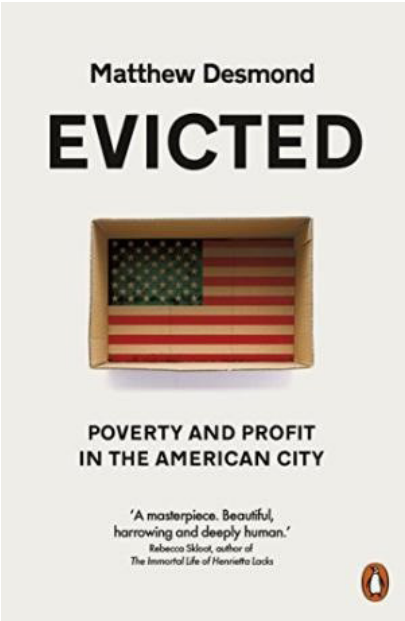
Desmond describes Milwaukee, one of the most racially segregated cities in America: a river divides the African American north side of town from the white/Latino south side. In the wake of publishing this book, Desmond received a MacArthur “Genius” grant. Remarkably, he had the ingenious idea of studying “eviction.” No one else had done it. Eviction is a fact of life for tenants, especially poor tenants, but no formal study had been done. Based on Desmond’s careful analysis of data he gleaned from many sources, he concluded that about one in eight tenants in Milwaukee are evicted in any one year.

A practical and careful ethnographer, Desmond defined “eviction” as not only the final court order setting a family out on the street but also the threats of eviction that pushed families out of their rental housing. “If you call 911 one more time, you’re out of here,” for example. Or, “I’ve had it with the police runs out here, I’ll give you \$100 to be out of here by Friday.”

The reader comes to know several tenants by name and personal history and yearns for a happy ending for them. Though, there is no happy ending in sight here.

If you are only able to read part of this book, start at the end and read “About this Project.” Here, Desmond describes his modus operandi and discloses how he was able to insert himself into the lives of the landlords as well as the tenants. He describes the Milwaukee Area Rental Study (MARS) that he devised and supervised. He points out how housing instability worsens with each forced move. A poor family has meager personal and household belongings and they are lost when they have to be left behind or set out on the street or be put in storage (until storage fees can no longer be paid and goods are forfeited). After crashing with friends for a while, a mom with kids starts over again, with an even less desirable apartment (because who wants to rent to a tenant who has just been evicted or even to any mom with kids) and without the dishes, curtains, pots, and pans she had at the old place.

As a long time advocate for affordable housing, this reader thought she was familiar with the plight of the poorly housed; but, this book gave her more data and insight to further her efforts.



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## HOW ARE WE DOING?

What do you think about this issue of FORsooth?  
Do you have any ideas of how we can  
improve? Is there something you like and want  
to see more of? Let us know!

Contact:

adamkhayat10@gmail.com

# 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)

# Third Thursday Lunches

presented by the

## Fellowship of Reconciliation & Interfaith Paths to Peace

November 2017 to January 2018

Full Buffet  
For \$7.00

**November 16, 2017**     **Rev. Joe Phelps**, Highland Baptist Church, “Empower West Louisville”

Joe Phelps has been pastor at Highland Baptist Church for the past 20 years. In 2006, he founded “No Murders Metro,” an inter-denominational, inter-racial group holding prayer vigils at murder sites across Louisville. When he was a national spokesman exposing Walmart’s record of child labor, gender discrimination, and poor health care plans, he was labeled a “wacko” by Rush Limbaugh. He is currently co-chair of **Empower West Louisville (“EmpowerWest”)**, a coalition of pastors and churches seeking to unleash the educational, economic, and spiritual power of West Louisville residents ([empowerwest.com](http://empowerwest.com)). Joe will talk about EmpowerWest’s journey toward working together as black and white progressive churches.

**January 18, 2018**     **Chris Harmer**, Co-Chair, Louisville FOR, “Racial and Economic Equity in the Jefferson County Public Schools”

What are the Jefferson County Public Schools doing right, and where is JCPS stalled in helping all children reach their full potential? Chris Harmer **will examine the current reality of racially and economically disproportionate outcomes in classroom learning and student discipline, discuss programs and policies that can help us move forward, and talk about the positive role that we all can play.** Chris is currently co-chair of the Louisville Chapter of the Fellowship of Reconciliation (FOR) and is active advocating for equity and rights for marginalized students, especially those from low-income families and students of color. He is working to help establish a county-wide coalition

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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)

# 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								01:30
2:00 AM		From The Vault	From The Vault	From The Vault	From The Vault	From The Vault	02:00	
2:30 AM							02:30	
3:00 AM							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	The Sonic Cafe	Foundations	Reach Out In The Darkness	Single Payer	The Human Factor	Spirit in Action	08:00	
8:30 AM							08:30	
9:00 AM							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	2 Angry Buds	Upstream	Lets Get Trashy	Black Agenda Radio	Alternative Radio	Sea Change Radio	Kite Line - Prison Issues	11:00
11:00 AM						Citizens' Climate Radio	Sprouts	11:30
11:30 AM	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
12:00 PM	UN Radio	Citizens' Climate Radio					CounterSpin	12:30
12:30 PM	Between The Lines	Radio EcoShock	Le Show with Harry Shearer	Project Censored	The Human Factor	Upstream	Law & Disorder	13:00
1:00 PM	CounterSpin							13:30
1:30 PM	From The Vault	What's The Frequency, Kenneth?	Project Censored	Upstream	RetroForward	Alternative Radio	Sea Change Radio	14:00
2:00 PM							On The Edge w/K.A. Owens	14:30
2:30 PM		Between The Lines	Law & Disorder	Alternative Radio	Rockabilly N Blues Radio Hour	This Way Out	15:00	
3:00 PM		CounterSpin					He Said, She Said	15:30
3:30 PM		Democracy Now	Democracy Now	Democracy Now	Democracy Now	Democracy Now	Alternative Radio	16:00
4:00 PM								16:30
4:30 PM	Song of the Soul	Foundations	Reach Out In The Darkness	Single Payer	Law & Disorder	2 Angry Buds	The Sonic Cafe	17:00
5:00 PM							17:30	
5:30 PM	RetroForward	Sustainability Now	Ethics Forward	Jerry & The Atrics	The Folk Labor Desk	Kite Line - Prison Issues	Rockabilly N Blues	18:00
6:00 PM						Sprouts	Radio Hour	18:30
6:30 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
7:00 PM								Making Contact
7:30 PM		Rising Up With Sonali	Rising Up With Sonali	Rising Up With Sonali	Rising Up With Sonali	Rising Up With Sonali	Rising Up With Sonali	20:00
8:00 PM	20:30							
8:30 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	From The Vault	21:00
9:00 PM								21:30
9:30 PM								22:00
10:00 PM								22:30
10:30 PM	Sea Change Radio	Democracy Now	Democracy Now	Democracy Now	Democracy Now	Democracy Now	From The Vault	23:00
11:00 PM	Sprouts							23:30
11:30 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		23:30



# 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.*

**Nov 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)

**Nov 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>

**Nov 1 to 30 SACK LUNCHES FOR THE HOMELESS.** Wayside Christian Mission. Open every day. Help us assemble sack lunches for men and women who are working and away from the Mission at mealtimes. Sack lunches are also used by our Good Samaritan Patrol. Visit <http://wcm1.weebly.com>

**Nov 1 (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>

**Nov 1 (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>

**Nov 1 (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.

**Nov 1 (Wed) DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS TO THIS PEACE CALENDAR** for the December/January issue of FORsooth. Every first Wednesday. Please email announcements to: [calendar.peace@gmail.com](mailto:calendar.peace@gmail.com)

**Nov 2 (Thurs) KENTUCKY SINGLE PAYER HEALTH CARE.** Every first & third Thursday, 5:30PM at Main Public Library. Call Kay Tillow 636-1551.

**Nov 4 (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>

**Nov 4 (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)

**Nov 4 (Sat) PRESERVE OUR URBAN FORESTS.** Olmstead Parks Conservancy. Almost every Saturday. Our tasks include invasive plant removal, mulching, painting or general park beautification in our various Olmstead parks and parkways. Gloves, tools and guidance provided. Be sure to sign-up before coming out. Visit <http://www.olmstedparks.org>

**Nov 5 (Sun) 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>

**Nov 5 (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)

**Nov 5 (Sun) COMMUNITY COMPOSTING.** UofL Belknap Campus.. Every Sunday, Noon to 2PM. Help us turn trash to treasure. Haul home some rich compost for your garden. Dress to get dirty. Tools provided. Visit<http://louisville.edu/sustainability>

**Nov 7 (Tues) MINDFULNESS MEDITATION.** Interfaith Paths to Peace, 6:30PM. Join us as musician, educator and life transformation coach Harry Pickens leads us through the miracle of the present moment. Visit <https://www.paths2peace.org>

**Nov 9 (Thurs) 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>

**Nov 10 (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: [louisville-astro.org](http://louisville-astro.org)

**Nov 11 (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.

**Nov 11 (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.

**Nov 12 (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>

**Nov 12 (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.

**Nov 12 (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.

**Nov 14 (Tues) COOPERATIVE GAMES.** Peace Education Program. There are no losers with cooperative games. Join our hands-on learning game day. Visit <http://peaceeducationprogram.org>

**Nov 14 (Tues) CHALLENGES IN HAITIAN HEALTHCARE.** World Affairs Council of Kentucky and Southern Indiana. Dr. Jean Cornely has developed effective public health programs in spite of poverty and political corruption. Hear his stories of perseverance. Visit [www.worldkentucky.org](http://www.worldkentucky.org)

**Nov 14 (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.

**Nov 14 (Tues) AMERICANA COMMUNITY CENTER,** 6pm, Volunteer orientation every 2nd Tuesday. Help bridge the gap for our refugee and immigrant neighbors. Visit <http://americanacc.org>

**Nov 15 (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.

**Nov15 (Wed) LOUISVILLE FORUM.** Noon at Vincenzo's Downtown. Every 2nd Wednesday. Speakers on current public issues. Non-partisan discussion. For details call, 329-0111.

**Nov 15 (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.

**Nov 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)

**Nov 16 (Thurs) 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.

**Nov 16 (Thurs) MENTAL ILLNESS SUPPORT & ADVOCACY.** NAMI Louisville every third Thursday at 3PM. Also Saturdays and Sundays. Support for families. Draw on years of experience. Visit [www.namilouisville.org](http://www.namilouisville.org)

**Nov 16 (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

**Nov 16 (Thu) DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES FOR THE FEBRUARY ISSUE OF FORSOOTH.**

Email articles to: [adamkhayat10@gmail.com](mailto:adamkhayat10@gmail.com)

**Nov 16 (Thu) THIRD THURSDAY LUNCH. Rev. Joe Phelps, "Empower West Louisville."** Hotel Louisville, 120 W. Broadway (Second and Broadway) Lunch begins at 11:30 am. Speaker at noon. Rev. Joe Phelps, Pastor of Highland Baptist Church, is Co-chair of "Empower West Louisville," a coalition of pastors and churches seeking to unleash the educational, economic, and spiritual power of West Louisville residents ([empowerwest.com](http://empowerwest.com)). He will talk about EmpowerWest's journey toward working together as black and white progressive churches. 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)**

**Nov 16 (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)

**Nov 16 (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>

**Nov 19 to 26 HAND IN HAND MINISTRIES.** Work side by side with people in other neighborhoods, communities and countries by participating in our immersion trips. Visit [www.myhandinhand.org](http://www.myhandinhand.org)

**Nov 20 (Mon) INTERFAITH THANKSGIVING DINNER.** Interfaith Paths to Peace. Join our interfaith dialogue of Louisville's Christian, Jewish, Muslim, Buddhist, Hindu, and Baha'i communities and offer prayers from our respective faith traditions. Share a vegetarian dinner in the spirit of Thanksgiving. Visit <https://www.paths2peace.org>

**Nov 20 (Mon) JEFFERSON COUNTY ECONOMIC JUSTICE TEAM.** Meeting at the Main Public Library. Every 4thMonday at 6:30PM. Help us organize and assess our local campaign for equitable development, affordable housing and healthcare, and participatory budgeting. Lean and share. Visit <https://www.kftc.org>

**Nov 28 (Tues) 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)

**Nov 28 (Tues) KENTUCKY REFUGEE MINISTRIES LUNCH & LEARN.** Noon. Learn more about our refugee & immigration settlement program and citizenship tutoring classes. Visit <http://kyrm.org>

## OUT OF TOWN

**Nov 2 (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,

**Nov 2, 11, or 17 WATERSHED WATCH CONFERENCES.** Kentucky Watershed Watch in many regions. Learn what you can do to help sample and assess our watersheds. Volunteers work in all regions of our state. Call 502-782-7032 for more information

**Nov 6 (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.

**Nov 7 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>

**Nov 16 (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)**

**Nov 1 (Wed) ENGLISH CONVERSATION CLUB.** Every Saturday at the Iroquois & Newburg Public Library Branches, 3PM. Also Main Library on Wednesdays at 7PM.

**Nov 4 (Sat) FRENCH CIRCLE.** Iroquois Public Library, 12:30PM. Join local francophones for a presentation and discussion in French.

**Nov 7 (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.

**Nov 15 (Wed) BOOKS ON GLOBAL SOLIDARITY.** Main Public Library. Read and discuss books from different counties and cultures. (aka The Mayor's Book Club)

**Nov 17 (Fri) MEETING OF THE MINDS.** Crescent Hill Public Library, 7PM. Discuss current topics with your friends and neighbors.

**Nov 18 (Sat) CHOSEN EXILE.** Bon Air Public Library, 2PM. Discussion of Allyson Hobbs' compelling book about African Americans who passed as white in the 19th Century.

**Nov 27 (Mon) GRANT SEEKING FOR WORTHY CAUSES.** Main Library, 1:30PM. Learn to research and find the right grant for your cause. Practice the essential elements of grant proposals.