



Coordinator's Corner

By Sue Malone

The announcement came in mid-February via an e-mail from Johnny Zokovitch, Director of National Field Operations for Pax Christi USA. PCUSA would be moving its headquarters from Erie, Pennsylvania, where it had been located since 1985 to Washington DC. The move is both the culmination of the strides made since its inception in 1972 and an indication of its growing influence in the world. The decision was made by the National Council to better influence national policy and to participate in religious conversations expressing the core values of the Pax Christi mission.

Along with news of the move came the announcement that Dave Robinson has stepped down after twenty-one years with Pax Christi, ten of those as executive-director. Dave assumed leadership just weeks before the events of September 11, 2001 and was immediately in the forefront of those calling for reconciliation and nonviolence in opposition to the forces using the attacks to justify pre-emptive war, torture, and the suppression of dissent.

During his tenure Dave was a frequent traveler, spending time

advancing the mission of Pax Christi in Afghanistan, Pakistan, Iraq and Iran. Other highlights of his leadership include the implementation of *Brothers and Sisters All*, a plan to transform Pax Christi USA into an anti-racist, multicultural Catholic movement for peace and justice, the creation of the People's Peace Initiative and the hosting of the Triennial World Assembly of Pax Christi.



Dave Robinson
(www.paxchristiusa.org)

Ronaldo Cruz, who has previously provided leadership for PCART has assumed the position of Acting Executive Director while a new executive-director is being chosen.

Johnny Zokovitch will continue for the present as Director of National Field Operations/Communications Director. He has recently set up a

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My Long Sabbath

By Sr. Jane Morrissey

PC-MA Board member Jane Morrissey, SSJ, was on sabbatical from July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011. This partial account of her journey will be followed by another in our next newsletter.

My sabbatical year slowed up and wound down and up and around the sweet green Galician countryside in northeast Spain as I walked the final hundred kilometers to Santiago Compostela. *Field of Stars* it has been called since Bishop Gottshalc in the ninth century rode his horse there from his home in Le Puy, remembering the Magi and other pilgrims on their way to the Christian Meccas of Rome and Jerusalem.

More peaceful the way, though it has its challenges, and distant from the battles for and from our other Holy Cities. They say such luminaries as Francis, Dante, and Bridget of Sweden found their way there after Gottschalc, and we felt

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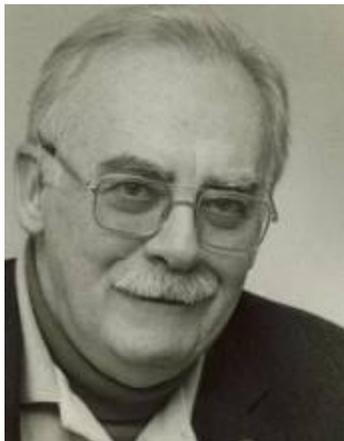
NOTE: To promote a greener future with a leaner budget, print copies of future issues of this newsletter will be mailed only to our readers who have no access to email.

Coordinator's Corner

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Regional Leaders list serv through Yahoo Groups for "regional leaders and representatives of Pax Christi USA," so they can share information and ideas, ask questions, do joint planning, communicate directly with each other, and more. Nancy Small, our liaison to National, and I have both signed on.

There was no National Conference this year because of the move, but dates have been set for July 20-22, 2012, the 40th anniversary of Pax Christi USA. The location will be the Catholic University of America in Washington DC.



PCUSA and PC Massachusetts co-founder Gordon Zahn (www.boston.com)

The movement to Washington prompted me to take a look at the beginnings of Pax Christi USA. I became a member in the early 70s, probably not long after it came to the US in 1972. I suppose I thought it was well established and organized, but a little research has shown me that this was not the case. It began with a small number of U.S. Catholics, mostly lay men

and women. A few names of which I am aware are Gordon Zahn, Eileen Egan, and Gerard and Janice Vanderhaar. Bishop Tom Gumbleton was the first Bishop President.



PCUSA co-founder Eileen Egan (www.findallvideo.com)

Initially, there was no national office or staff person, this coming to pass in 1979 in two rooms of a Chicago convent. The move to Erie came in 1985 with the support of the Benedictine Sisters until Pax Christi's own space could be obtained. I do not know when the first National Conference was held, but I attended one in Boston in the 70s and remember seeing Eileen Egan and Gordon Zahn there.

Looking back at the history of Pax Christi USA, I am amazed at how far it has come in forty years. With representation across the country, thirteen chapters in Massachusetts and one in Rhode Island under the Pax Christi MA umbrella, I can only see the grace of God shining through.

The new address for Pax Christi USA is:
Pax Christi National Office
1225 Otis Street NE
Washington DC 20017
Office: 202.635.2741; 529.2536
E-mail addresses are available at www.paxchristiusa.org.

In anticipation of the tenth anniversary of the tragic events of September 11, 2001, Pax Christi USA has released the following official statement.

On the Tenth Anniversary of 9-11: The Things That Make for Peace

As Jesus came near and saw the city, he wept over it, saying, "If this day you only knew the things that make for peace!" (Luke 19:41-42)

Ten years ago, just scant hours after our nation witnessed the tragic events of September 11th, Pax Christi USA released a statement which said, in part:

We recognize that as the reality of the magnitude of loss becomes clear, our nation's grief will soon move toward rage. As people of faith and disciples of the nonviolent Jesus, we must be willing, even now in this darkest moment, to commit ourselves and urge our sisters and brothers, to resist the impulse to vengeance. We must resist the urge to demonize and dehumanize any ethnic group as 'enemy.' We must find the courage to break the spiral of violence that so many in our nation, we fear, will be quick to embrace. (Pax Christi USA's Official Statement on 9-11, published on September 12, 2001)

On Sunday, September 11, 2011, the tenth anniversary of 9-11, as we gather to celebrate the Eucharist together, a question will be put to us:

*Could anyone nourish anger against another and expect healing from the Lord?
Can anyone refuse mercy to*

another, yet expect pardon for one's own sins? (Sirach 28:3-4)

These past ten years, we have witnessed the failure of policies built on vengeance. Our elected leaders manipulated our grief and fear to justify foreign policy decisions which had little to do with the tragedy of 9-11. Our nation was ensconced in a culture of fear, where the scapegoating of peoples, the fanning of religious intolerance, and the curtailing of civil rights served the needs of political expedience.

We have been witnesses to the dark places where our government's response to 9-11 led our nation—the justification of torture, the moral bankruptcy of pre-emptive war, the daily reports of innocent civilians killed as collateral damage, the deaths of thousands of U.S. service personnel, and the stealing of our national wealth to pay for wars abroad as our children, our elderly, and the most vulnerable are left to suffer at home.

Today, as we acknowledge the ten year anniversary of 9-11, there can be no doubt that responding with war and violence can neither console us in our grief nor achieve the security for which we long.

In the weeks following 9-11, Pax Christi USA proclaimed that very message, and challenged our political leaders to seize this moment for peace by establishing justice for all peoples throughout the world. Until we commit our own nation to the pursuit of peace and justice for the entire human family, we should not be surprised when the violence suffered by those living on the other side of the world—as well as those living on the wrong side of town—eventually engulfs us all.

Ten years have passed, but we believe that the opportunity is still with us. Let us start, now, today, in Washington, D.C. and in every city and town across this land, in our schools and our places of worship and within our own homes. Let us write a new chapter and create a new legacy for all those whose lives were shattered on 9-11. Let each one of us decide what it is that we can do to create a legacy which heals instead of harms. Let us begin with the assurance that such healing will come if we make economic, political and social justice for all our top priority.

On Sunday, September 11, 2011, at the responsorial, Catholics will sing in churches throughout our nation:

Our God is kind and merciful, slow to anger, and rich in compassion. God pardons all our iniquities, heals all our ills, redeems our lives from destruction, and crowns us with kindness and compassion. (Psalm 103)

This anniversary offers us an opportunity to reflect the values of the God to whom we have given our allegiance. Let us remember those who were lost and memorialize this day by committing our lives to “the things that make for peace”—drawing closer to those who suffer, cultivating understanding in the midst of suspicion, finding truth in the arguments of those with whom we disagree, embracing some measure of personal sacrifice today to make a better world for our children and grandchildren tomorrow.

Let us gather one decade from now—not amidst the ruins of all that has been torn down—but in the midst of that new world of peace and security for all which we have built up together.

My Long Sabbath

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the peace of such holy company. With my generous niece and godchild Beth carrying my stuff, I walked. My own backpack reduced by her generosity, the call to peace grew within and before me. We'd start the day and think our way following yellow arrows, not yellow bricks, praying the prayer associated with the pilgrim from Assisi. Peace became a walking stick, a whisper, laughter in the rain, companions on the Way – Emmanuel, Maria and Laura, and Mari Paz. Let me tell you a few epiphanies.



Sr. Jane and her niece Beth (2nd and 3rd from left) with fellow pilgrims Maricruz and Isidoro

My nephew Karl, who encouraged me to walk this pilgrimage known as the Way of St. James, told me that I would find a walking stick on the path. I believed him, but embarked on the pilgrimage with a fold-up cane that my sister Joyce kindly gave me for Christmas. The stick I found on the second day following yellow arrows was a stout one. With it I found my rhythm, feeling it dig its hole before pulling my body forward. Moments came when I held it horizontally to keep my balance crossing the stones of a stream or descending a precipitous wet incline. I came to love it and heard when it became too heavy and asked me to let it return to the roadside for another pilgrim.

Sitting exhausted in a quiet grassy grove or walking at Beth's side in the quiet we learned to love amid shared family stories, I heard the whispers come. I became familiar with the little wind, the gentle breath of the Spirit, even when it defied translation, and I found relief and succor in its sweetness, whatever the ache of the moment. I remember a moment, somewhere among the eucalyptus trees when I heard Hermano Pedro, patron saint of Homework House, assuring me that he took centuries to find me, us, this new mission.

That message prepared me for the moment when, having left Spain for the Canary Islands and his feast day, we walked to the cave where he prayed as a child. Someone came to ask me if I would lead the Prayer of the Faithful. "Puedes?" I admitted that I didn't know. After hearing me, the volunteer told me my Spanish would suffice. The Bishop introduced me by saying that three centuries ago God called Pedro Betancur to come to the Americas, so we would be led in prayer on his feast, in the name of women religious of the Americas, by one called to come from that continent to Tenerife.

Above and through and within all, I found inspiration and real Gospel incarnation in the people on the way. The first night in the city of Sarria, we were greeted just before the closing hour of 10 p.m. by a parishioner named Emmanuel. His companion's name? Also Emmanuel. It crossed my mind that the name could be a pilgrim code designed to remind us that God is within the Way, is the Way. No sooner did I say that to Beth after a few days of walking when we met another Emmanuel from Italy.

God-with-us certainly dwelt in the souls of Maria and Laura, two young pilgrims from a parish in Madrid, who in the pouring rain laughed at the way the cows' dung smelled so fresh and full of spring as the rains plunked and splayed it on our path. The "poky pilgrims" Beth and I had dubbed only ourselves, until we met them and they kept pace with us and lifted our spirits with laughter as we plodded along three days yet from Santiago.

Mari Paz kept a bulletin board of remembrances at the door of her hostel. On Palm Sunday we watched her nurse Isidoro's infected sores, as we wrote postcards, folded peace cranes, and read the testimony to her hospitality left by pilgrims from Spain to Korea. Kept awake by the



Sr. Jane, Isidoro, and Maricruz at Santiago Compostela Cathedral

loudest, most obstreperous and continuous snores I have ever suffered through, at 3 a.m. I went downstairs for a glass of water. I was surprised to see someone turning the key at the front door.

When I saw it was Mari Paz, I asked if she was accustomed to coming from her home at that hour. No, she said. But she felt someone needed something and wondered what I wanted. No one, neither the man keeping a crowded room awake nor a thirsty Sister of Saint Joseph, needed to tell her

what Jesus said about a glass of cold water. It may not have silenced that snore or put me to sleep, but it still quenches my thirst.

A stout stick abandoned by the side of a path, a whisper in the wind, Emmanuel: God is with us. Peace is the Way of the pilgrim.

Dust to Dust

The original version of this reflection was delivered by keynote speaker at PCMA's 2011 Assembly Colleen Kelly at Ash Wednesday Mass, February 13, 2002, to students at Fordham Preparatory High School in New York.

Ashes to ashes. Dust to dust. I could not stand before you today, this Ash Wednesday, without speaking of ashes and dust. I could not stand before you today, five months and two days after my brother, William Kelly, Jr., was killed at the World Trade Center, without speaking of ashes and dust.

On the night of September 11th, just before midnight, I took the subway train into Manhattan. My mother had called several times throughout the day and evening, asking me to go look for my brother - to see if he was in a hospital, unconscious or unable to communicate. She was asking me for some sort of proof that Billy was okay, that he was alive and had somehow made it out of the Towers. So a friend and I arrived at Grand Central Station, now a ghost town. As we then walked from hospital to hospital, I could not help but notice the ashes and dust in the air. They were in my mouth, a bitter taste. They were in my lungs...my eyes. I often

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Pax Christi MA Fall Fundraising Appeal

By Nancy Small

Last fall, Pax Christi MA held its first-ever fundraising appeal in a time of great financial need. We did not receive the annual grant from Pax Christi USA that had long funded us. And so we were left to raise the funds needed to support the work of our region.

Your heartfelt and humbling financial response supported the work of Pax Christi MA for a full year. Highlights of the year included our Fall Assembly *Using Our Voices: Prophetic Witness in a Dark Time* with keynote speaker Kathy Kelly of Voices for Creative Nonviolence. You funded the publication of our bi-annual newsletter, identified as a valued resource in last year's membership survey. And you helped to fund a visioning day for our board of directors which identified important directions for our future. Most of all, your support helped Pax Christi MA to be a persistent presence for peace in our region in a variety of ways. And your generous response let us know that the work of Pax Christi MA is important to you.

The status of the annual funding we once received from Pax Christi USA remains uncertain this year. The national organization is in transition as it relocates from Erie to Washington, DC. Several key staffing positions will be filled by new hires, including the positions of executive director and the director of national field operations. Decisions about whether or not to offer future funding for regional Pax Christi work will be made sometime after these positions are filled.

Because of this uncertainty, we are once again reaching out to you. Our Fall Appeal will soon arrive in your mailbox, and we hope that you will give as you are able to support the work of Pax Christi MA for this program year. No amount is too small, just as no action for peace is too insignificant. Plans for the year include the following:

*Our 2011 Fall Assembly *Reconciliation: Rising from the Ashes of Destruction* featuring keynote speaker Colleen Kelly, co-founder of September 11th Families for Peaceful Tomorrows

*A spring retreat led by a noted peacemaker (to be determined)

*Publication of our twice-yearly newsletter

*Steps to make the Pax Christi MA website a more effective tool for education, organizing and communication.



With your help, we can kindle the flame of peace where it is most needed in our region. We give thanks for each and every dollar you contribute, especially in this difficult economy. More to the point, we give thanks for you and for all you do to bring a little more peace to our troubled world.

Nancy Small is a Pax Christi Massachusetts board member.

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had to stop walking and blink for several seconds just to clear my vision. Ashes to ashes. Dust to

dust. "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return." The words I had heard all my life each Ash Wednesday took on a new and special meaning.

On some level, I knew that night that my brother had died. The emergency rooms were empty. The medical staff was waiting. But there simply were no survivors of the falling towers. And on some level, even today, I'm realizing that the ash and dust floating through the air that night was my brother, too. This may truly be all we ever have left of him. As strange as it may sound, it gives me great comfort to know that in the early hours of September 12th, a part of my brother became a part of me. He was in my eyes. He was in my lungs. He was and always will be, especially, in my heart.

About ten days later, I went to see a good friend, Father Dan Berrigan. I was consumed by sorrow and shock. One theme, one word in particular was bothering me....forgiveness. See, all I could think of was Jesus' words on the cross that Good Friday over 2000 years ago. "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." I needed to talk to someone about this. Here was Jesus, asking God to forgive his murderers because "they know not what they do." Well, I couldn't say the same for my brother's murderers. They knew exactly what they were doing. It was a well thought out plan. It was pre-meditated. They knew they would kill thousands of innocent people. Father Berrigan, with his humble wisdom, spoke to me of the terrorists and their loss of humanness. They had lost the very essence of what it means to be human. They had lost their conscience. They had lost all connectedness to God.

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2011 Pax Christi Massachusetts Peacemaker Award Nomination

To be awarded at "Reconciliation: Rising from the Ashes of Destruction," October 22, 2011

This award is given to an outstanding peacemaker who embodies the ideals of Pax Christi. She or he need not be a member of Pax Christi and may be a person as young as 16, or older. Nominations may be submitted by PC-MA members, teachers, campus ministers, parish pastoral leaders, youth ministers, family members or friends who have been inspired by the nominee.

DEADLINE: Nominations must be received by October 1, 2011.
SEND TO: Mike Moran, 135 Shearer St., Palmer, MA 01069 (please copy or clip above)

Nominee's name/s _____
School, if applicable _____
Address _____
Phone _____ Email _____

I am nominating this person because...describe social justice & peacemaking activities, volunteer involvement, etc. (attach, as needed)

Your name _____ Relationship to nominee _____
Address _____
Phone _____ Email _____

2011 Pax Christi Massachusetts John Leary Youth Peacemaker Award Nomination

To be awarded at "Reconciliation: Rising from the Ashes of Destruction," October 22, 2011

This award is given to an outstanding young peacemaker who embodies the ideals of Pax Christi, as John Leary lived them. John was a Harvard University graduate who worked with PC Massachusetts co-founder Gordon Zahn at the Pax Christi Center on Conscience and War in Cambridge and died at age 24 while jogging to Haley House, a Catholic Worker House in Boston, during the summer of 1982.

Nominees for the John Leary Award need not be members of Pax Christi but must be no older than 24. Nominations may be submitted by PC-MA members, teachers, campus ministers, parish pastoral leaders, youth ministers, family members or friends who have been inspired by the nominee.

DEADLINE: Nominations must be received by October 1, 2011.
SEND TO: Mike Moran, 135 Shearer St., Palmer, MA 01069 (please copy or clip above)

Nominee's name/s _____
School, if applicable _____
Address _____
Phone _____ Email _____

I am nominating this person because...describe social justice & peacemaking activities, volunteer involvement, etc. (attach, as needed)

Your name _____ Relationship to nominee _____
Address _____
Phone _____ Email _____

Pax Christi Massachusetts Assembly
"Reconciliation: Rising from the Ashes of Destruction"

With

Colleen Kelly

Co-founder of *September 11th Families for Peaceful Tomorrows*



Saturday,
October 22, 2011
St. Susanna's Catholic
Church
262 Needham Street
Dedham, MA



Registration begins at 8:30am – Program 9am – 3pm

For directions, go to www.saintsusanna.org

Peaceful Tomorrows is an organization founded by family members of those killed on September 11th who have united to turn our grief into action for peace. By developing and advocating nonviolent options and actions in the pursuit of justice, we hope to break the cycles of violence engendered by war and terrorism. Acknowledging our common experience with all people affected by violence throughout the world, we work to create a safer and more peaceful world for everyone. ...mission statement of *September 11th Families for Peaceful Tomorrows*

Registration Form

Name _____ Street Address _____

City/State _____ Phone/E-mail _____

Donation - \$35 at the door, \$30 if postmarked by October 8. Student Donation - \$15
(Lunch Included)

I would like to be an Assembly Sponsor and will donate an additional \$ _____ to help defray the cost of the Assembly. Assembly Sponsor donations are tax-deductible.

Mail Registration and check, made out to "Pax Christi MA" to:
Ronald Holman, 15 Chris Drive, N. Attleboro, MA 02760

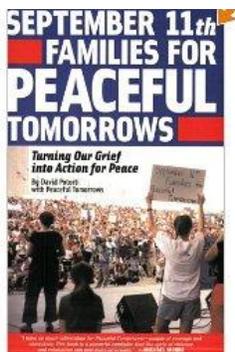
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In many ways, these words were very helpful to me. I could relate to them in all the times I myself had lost my connectedness to God – certainly not on the magnitude of the hijackers; but as all of us, in our own personal ways, lose our humanity, our connectedness to our loving Savior now and again.

Isn't that what Lent, then, is all about.....remembering those times in our lives when we have turned away from God and chosen to reject our connectedness with all other humanity?

But the powerful good news is this. Our lives don't end with the ashes. Our hope didn't die in the dust of September 11th or on Good Friday. There's something more. We begin our Lenten journey towards the cross with this: the promise of resurrection, the chance of forgiveness and reconciliation, with faith that our connectedness to God, especially in suffering and sorrow, will become ever more complete.

www.peacefultomorrow.org



Book about history of Peaceful Tomorrows (www.amazon.com)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 21, 2011

Washington, D.C.—Pax Christi USA, the national Catholic peace movement, has recognized the life and witness of Colleen Kelly, naming her the 2011 recipient of the Pax Christi USA Teacher of Peace Award. Pax Christi USA first gave the award to Dorothy Day, co-founder of the Catholic Worker movement, in 1978 and has since recognized some of the most significant U.S. Catholic activists for peace and justice of the past 3 decades, including actor Martin Sheen; poet and priest Daniel Berrigan, S.J.; and *Dead Man Walking* author Sr. Helen Prejean, C.S.J. Kelly is one of the founding members of September 11th Families for Peaceful Tomorrows.

Kelly's brother Bill was at a breakfast conference at Windows on the World and was killed during the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. Inspired by decades of non-violent response to deadly conflict, Kelly met several other like-minded family members in December 2001. This group of people who experienced first-hand the tragedy and loss of 9-11 eventually formed September 11th Families for Peaceful Tomorrows, which took its name from the Martin Luther King quote, "Wars make poor chisels for carving out peaceful tomorrows." The group has over 200 family members and has twice been nominated for the Nobel Peace prize.

"At a time when our nation needed models for how to deal with our grief and anger, Colleen and the members of September 11th Families for Peaceful Tomorrows showed us how to do so—seeking our own healing by committing

ourselves to the work of making a more peaceful and just world for all," stated Ronaldo Cruz, Acting Executive Director of Pax Christi USA.

In January 2003, Kelly joined a person-to-person Peaceful Tomorrows delegation to Iraq to learn about the conditions facing civilians in the aftermath of two wars, sanctions, and the threat of



Colleen Kelly with a mother and child in Basra, Iraq (www.peacefultomorrow.org)

new military action there. For the fifth anniversary of 9-11, Peaceful Tomorrows hosted more than thirty family members of victims of political violence from around the world who had consciously chosen to respond nonviolently. Participants included atomic bomb survivors; families affected by violence in Bali; Beslan, Russia; Madrid; Chile; Algeria; Rwanda; South Africa; Uganda; and Israel/Palestine. This new international group committed to support families recently affected by the loss of a loved one, and to channel grief to break cycles of violence.

"As the tenth anniversary of 9-11 approaches, we cannot think of more apt way to remember that day than by honoring the work of Kelly as one of the founding members of Peaceful Tomorrows," stated Sr. Josie Chrosniak, HM,

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Agape's Annual Francis Day

Saturday, October 1st, 2011

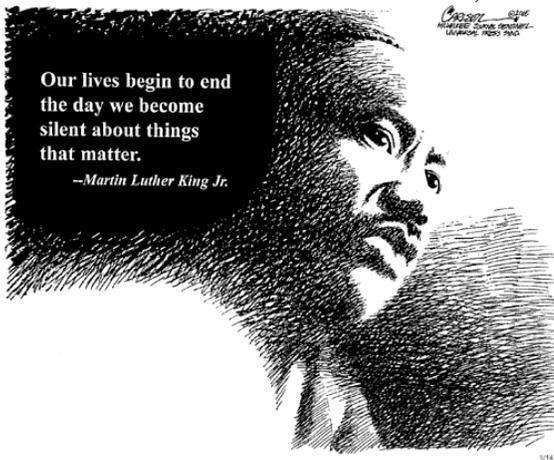
BUILDING A NONVIOLENT WORLD

10 am-4pm—begins promptly with

Renana Gal--an Israeli conscientious objector studies Theater Arts and History at Brandeis University and is a Slifka scholar of the Israeli-Palestinian co-existence, who has lived two years in Israeli-Palestinian communes, developing social empowerment through the arts.

Alexander Levering Kern--Executive Director of Cooperative Metropolitan Ministries and inter-faith educator and organizer interfaith social justice network, Alex serves as Protestant Chaplain at Brandeis University.

Raymond G. Helmick SJ--teaches conflict resolution in the Department of Theology at Boston College, has mediated in a number of conflicts in the Middle East, and serves on the executive board of the U.S. Interreligious Committee for Peace in the Middle East.



Elvis Valdez and the Sal y Luz Community from Manhattan--Good Shepherd Parish—a youth group whose original founders from Dominican Republic, serve the needs of the poor in their area, counsel youth from Central America and Dominican Republic and are a sister community to Agape.

Brad Landry--a social worker and lay-contemplative, influenced by Buddhist Dharma and Catholic Franciscanism, ordained a novice monk in a Burmese Buddhist monastery, Brad teaches mindfulness meditation in prisons and works for Catholic Charities Refugee Resettlement Program, with displaced families from Burma, Bhutan, and Iraq.

Erica Moulinier-- a member of The Simple Way community in the Kensington neighborhood of Philadelphia is a long-life activist and advocate for the poor.

Steve and Nancy and Micah James-- Baptist Missionaries for over 30 years in Haiti share their practice of nonviolence in medical work in Limbe and Cape Haitien.

Music by Fran Reagan—whose new CD “Heard But Not Seen,” will be released in the fall.

Photographic art by Skip Schiel, works extensively in Palestine, an Agape Mission Council Member, who describes his “socially engaged photography” as his “main form of prayer”.

Bring a brown bag lunch and pot-luck offering for music fest after the event.

Directions on the website www.agapecommunity.org

Contact: Agape Community 2062 Greenwich Rd. Ware, MA. 01082 peace@agapecommunity.org

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Chair of Pax Christi USA's National Council. "Her response to the loss of her brother on 9-11 stood in stark contrast to the response of our elected leaders. She showed all of us how, faced with the biblical question of choosing life or choosing death, even in the shadow of the terrible evil of that day, we can respond by choosing life and peace."

Kelly will be honored at the Pax Christi USA-sponsored event, "Peace and Reconciliation: Spiritual Reflections a Decade After 9-11," featuring best-selling author Jim Wallis, on September 8 at the Catholic University of America.

As We Approach 10th Anniversary of September 11, A Call to Action

By John Dear, SJ

In less than two months, the US military and its media machine will tell us to mark the tenth anniversary of the September 11th attacks by celebrating their warmaking efforts --and continuing to live in fear.

We were attacked, so we bombed Afghanistan, Iraq and Pakistan, killed hundreds of thousands of people, tortured thousands more, rebuilt our nuclear installations, threw out our basic liberties and spied on millions. In our so-called "war on terrorism," we became the biggest global terrorists, threatening the planet with drones, bombs, and a spanking-new nuclear weapons arsenal.

Brown University just released a

study explaining how the true cost of our wars of revenge in Afghanistan, Iraq and Pakistan will end up costing approximately \$4 trillion -- -- far more than the Bush or Obama administrations have said. Because the war has been financed almost entirely by borrowing, the report says, \$185 billion in interest has already been paid on war spending, and another \$1 trillion could accrue in interest alone through 2020.



John Dear, SJ
(www.loyolapress.com)

President Obama's recent decision to pull only 30,000 troops out of Afghanistan, on top of his refusal to bring our troops home from Iraq, shows that we have committed ourselves to permanent warfare. We pursue global domination at our own expense, to the detriment of the economy, employment, education, healthcare and environmental cleanup. Dick Cheney once said that our empire will remain in Afghanistan and Iraq for decades. Obama is proving that his colleague was correct.

But the nonviolent Jesus, and the recent movements for nonviolent revolution in Tunisia, Egypt and elsewhere, insist that we have more power than we realize -- that if we organize, speak out and take action, we can reverse the tide of war, cut our military spending, and pursue a new culture of peace.

The September 11 anniversary and the tenth anniversary of the U.S. war on Afghanistan Oct. 6 offer an

opportunity. As we head into the heat of summer, I invite everyone to ponder and plan some public action for peace during those anniversary days.

One idea might be to see these three weeks -- 25 days -- between Sept. 11 and Oct. 6 as three weeks of prayer, fasting and nonviolent action for an end to our wars.

I invite everyone during those three weeks to intensive intercessory prayer for a miracle -- for an end to the US wars in Afghanistan, Pakistan, Iraq and elsewhere. I invite people to fast for a day or two, or more, for peace. And I invite every local peace community in the country to start planning now to hold some public event -- perhaps a teach-in, evening lecture, public vigil, march, or civil disobedience action to demand an end to these wars.

I urge friends far and wide to share this call, this invitation, with everyone they know. Some people may want to plan now to come to Washington, D.C. Oct. 6 to join the massive mobilization that is being organized. See: www.october2011.org

As we look ahead to another election year and its pro-war media coverage, I hope we can also reflect on our Christian response -- that instead of placing all our energies in electoral politics, we might rebuild an active nonviolent movement that publicly demands an end to our wars at every opportunity, and announces the coming of God's reign of peace.

John Dear, SJ, keynoted PCMA's 2008 assembly. This column is reprinted with permission from "On the Road to Peace," July 12, 2011(<http://ncronline.org>).

Prayer in Time of Terrorism (excerpts)

By Mary Lou Kownacki, OSB

O, God, I do not know where to turn in a time of terrorism. I have no easy answers or solutions to acts of terror against the innocent. When buildings explode without warning, when the defenseless are murdered without reason, I am tempted to retaliate with vengeance. I am tempted to place the flag above the cross and put my faith in the state instead of the Sermon on the Mount... O God, be merciful to me a sinner and understand my weakness, my lack of trust. I lift my heart to a God of forgiveness, of compassion, of peace... I recommit myself to nonviolence as a witness of your love... I commit to hope and the children of tomorrow.

The full prayer is available at www.paxchristiusa.org.

PC Massachusetts Board Visioning Day 2011

By Mike Moran

A majority of Board members attended our second annual Visioning Day, which was held at Holy Cross College on April 9. Like a year ago at Agape, our skilled and sensitive facilitator was Kerry Hamilton, who led us through a series of reflections and discussions focusing on three dimensions of our work: mind; body; and spirit.

Our responses to Kerry's opening question – what is each of us most proud of about Pax Christi in the past year? – ranged from our successful fund drive last fall to our well-attended assembly in November 2010 featuring Kathy Kelly to appreciation for this twice-yearly newsletter. Here

Kerry usefully reminded us that feeling overwhelmed, as we sometimes do, can bring us “the gift of stop,” leading us to step back from taking on too much and prioritize our concerns.

A later question she raised – what are we deeply committed to as PC leaders? – elicited agreement on the importance of education about nonviolence, reaching out to bring in more younger members, especially college students, and improving communication among our local groups throughout the state.



Kerry Hamilton
(www.wordpress.com)

In answer to Kerry's last question – if we had to choose one action for Pax Christi this year, what would it be? – we drew up a list of possibilities, including:

- *model the “trusted servant” style of leadership
- *add reconciliation in time of war as a theme in parish Masses, from the prayers of the faithful to the Eucharist
- *create a speaker's bureau of PC members, with talking points about Pax Christi, to visit parishes and other groups
- *establish a membership committee.

We ended the day by reaffirming our group commitment to the mission of Pax Christi to live and build the peace of Christ, and by making individual commitments to specific tasks in the coming year.

Mike Moran is a PC-MA board member and edits this newsletter.

Coming Events...

Oct. 1: St. Francis Day program, “Building a Nonviolent World,” at Agape Community, Ware, MA (see page 9 for more details).

Oct. 22: PCMA 2011 Annual Assembly, “Reconciliation: Rising from the Ashes of Destruction,” at St. Susanna's Catholic Church, Dedham, MA (see page 7 for more details).

Oct. 29: 3rd Annual Archdiocesan Justice Convocation, (Boston) Archdiocesan Pastoral Center, Braintree, MA. Three Pax Christi speakers will lead a “Peace and Justice” breakout session. Contact Fr. Bill Kremmel for more details: pax_2_you@yahoo.com.

Nov. 6: 3rd Sr. Yvonne Viens Memorial Lecture, sponsored by Neighbors Who Care, delivered by John Dear, SJ, at National Heritage Museum, Lexington, MA, 2-6 PM. More details at: (781) 893-1860; or info@neighborswhocare.net.

Nov. 18-20: Annual Vigil to Close School of the Americas, at Fort Benning, GA: www.soaw.org.

Pax Christi MA Board of Directors 2010-2011

Coordinator: Sue Malone 45 Adams Street Westboro, MA 01581-3610 508-366-2050 organurse@gmail.com	Secretary: Jeanne Allen 10 Sutton Place Easthampton, MA 01027 413-527-0037 jeanne.allen@hhcinc.org
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OTHER BOARD MEMBERS: Kate Barrett (Holy Cross College, Worcester); Fr. Frank Breen (Cape Cod); Nancy Carapezza (Wayland); Pat Ferrone (Needham); Phil Harak (Southampton); Alice Kast (Boston); Matt King (Holy Cross); Fr. Bill Kremmel (Stoneham); Sally Markey (Springfield); Sr. Jane Morrissey (Springfield); Marilyn Paul Lewis (Ludlow); Judy Rich (Natick); Nancy Small (Worcester).

Quarterly Board meetings (the next is Sept 10) are held in the Hogan Campus Center at Holy Cross College in Worcester at 10 AM and are open to all PC Massachusetts members.

Local Groups

Boston (Citywide) P.C.

Christina Abbey
Paulist Center, 5 Park St
Boston, MA
(781) 286-5004
LNCabbey2004@yahoo.com
Mtgs 2nd Monday, 7:00 PM

Cape Cod P.C.

Edouard & Françoise Rocher
77 Old Post Road
Centerville, MA 02632
(508) 771-6737
Mtgs 2nd Wed, 9:30 AM
paxchristi-cc@comcast.net
Our Lady of Victory
Centerville, MA 02632

Central Mass P.C.

Sue Malone
45 Adams Street
Westboro, MA 01581-3610
(508) 366-2050
organurse@gmail.com
Contact for meeting info

Holy Cross P.C.

Kate Barrett & Matt King
College of the Holy Cross
1 College St, Box 2847
Worcester, MA 01610
kkbarr14@g.holycross.edu
mgking14@g.holycross.edu
Meetings and activities
geared to college calendar

Metro West P.C.

Faith Madzar
24 Grove Street

Natick, MA 01760
(508) 655-0268
fmadzar@gmail.com
Contact for meeting info

Middlesex P.C.

Claudia Hunter
55 Waverly Avenue, #324
Watertown, MA 02472
(617) 923-6204
HunterPaxMA@aol.com
Contact for meeting info

National Shrine of Our Lady of La Salette P.C.

Larry Rose
51 Old Stagecoach Road
Attleboro, MA 02703
508-399-7034
palrose@comcast.net
Mtgs 1st & 3rd Tuesdays, 7:15
Chapel of Reconciliation

North Central Mass P.C.

Fr. Bob Brusco, St. Anthony
Church, 2 Beekman Street
Fitchburg, MA 01420
(978) 342-4706
frbob@net1plus.com
Mtgs 1st Friday, 7:00 PM

Rhode Island P.C.

Bill Waters
(401) 438-6612
Wjwj157@aol.com
Fr. Ray Tetrault
(401) 453-2415
St. William Parish
200 Pettaconsett Ave

Warwick, RI 02888
Mtgs last Sunday, 6:00 PM

St. John's Prep P.C.

St. John's Preparatory School
72 Spring Street
Danvers, MA 01923
Bill Mackinson
978-774-1057
wmackinson@stjohnsprep.org
Prayer for Peace, Wednesday
mornings, 7:40 am

St. Susanna Parish P.C.

262 Needham Street
Dedham, MA 02026
Pat Ferrone
781-449-3890
parferrone@rcm.com
Contact for meeting info

Star of the Sea P.C.

Sr. Julie Kane, SND
30 Jeffries Neck Road
Ipswich, MA 01938
(978) 380-1524
Mtgs 2nd Tuesday, 7:00 PM
St. Mary's Convent

Western Mass P.C.

Jeanne Allen
10 Sutton Place
Easthampton, MA 01027
(413) 527-0037
jeanne.allen@hhcinc.org
Mtgs 2nd Friday, 7:00 PM
Mont Marie, Holyoke

If you belong to a Pax Christi group that is not listed above, please let us know so we can add you to our list. Also, if any of the information above is incorrect, please let us know how it should be shown. Email corrections or additions to moran3@comcast.net.

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947 Park Street
Attleboro, MA 02703