Letter from the Executive Director

Dear Pax Christi USA Member,

In 1862 Victor Hugo penned his now very famous novel Les Misérables. In it he says, “There is nothing like a dream to create the future.” That is what Pax Christi USA is all about… creating a future based on a dream.

This Peace Current is focusing on one of our initiatives: HUMAN RIGHTS and GLOBAL RESTORATION.

We dream of a world that respects the universal human rights of all people, and we do this by being in solidarity with oppressed and marginalized people struggling for dignity. We reject every form of political and economic domination over others. We continue to knock on the door of the Empire demanding entrance and a voice: a voice that proclaims that every human being is worthy of respect regardless of race, class, socio-economic status, and on which side of what border one comes from. In this regard, PCUSA recently has:

- joined with Pax Christi International in calling the UN, the European Union and other non-governmental organizations to increase and diversify the humanitarian aid needed for the refugees and displaced people in Syria, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey.
- joined with the Coalition of Immokalee Workers (CIW), a farmworker-led union in Southwest Florida, and other national religious leaders calling for Tom Vilsack, Secretary of Agriculture to implement a comprehensive Fair Food Program within his department.
- joined with Witness Against Torture in D.C. and other justice and peace organizations to encourage President Obama to carry out his promise from 4 years ago to close Guantanamo. The rally and interfaith service took place in Washington, D.C.
- signed on to the letter written by Churches for the Middle East calling upon President Obama to re-double his efforts to broker a negotiated peace to end the Arab-Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

We dream of restoring our globe to a place of balance where the earth is recognized as our home and its care… our future. We dare to believe the words of Teilhard de Chardin when he boldly said that “creation, nature is the first Body of Christ.” What have we done to this Body?

It does not take too much imagination to realize that the extremes in weather, the susceptibility of fire and drought in so many parts of the globe, the displacement and migrations of peoples, the dramatic loss of plant and animal life are not all coincidences. The thread that runs through them all is the misuse of the earth’s resources along with the greed and mis-use of power in polluting the atmosphere and thus rendering the earth seriously off balance. In this regard, PCUSA has:

- designed and circulated a Green mail Prayer, Study, and Action email on “genetically modified organisms.”
- sent out a Caring for Creation Prayer-Study-Action (PSA) e-bulletin for Easter/Earth Day last year.
- continued to convene the Global Restoration/Care for Creation volunteer committee, made up of council members, staff and Pax Christi members,

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PCUSA has:

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Pax Christi USA mourns the passing of Bishop Walter Sullivan


“Bishop Sullivan was an extraordinary man, a prophet to the church,” stated Pax Christi USA Executive Director Sr. Patricia Chappell, SNDdeN. “He witnessed to the power of church leadership to speak out against war and violence, economic injustice and environmental destruction. He was truly representative of the peace of Christ in our Church and in the world.”

Bishop Sullivan served as the bishop of the Diocese of Richmond (VA) for nearly 30 years before retiring. Besides being a long-time member of Pax Christi USA and the second bishop-president of the organization, Bishop Sullivan was also a Pax Christi USA Ambassador of Peace, empowered to represent the organization through ongoing outreach efforts on a variety of issues important to the mission.

“Bishop Sullivan was a longtime friend of Pax Christi. His consistent encouragement of the work for peace and justice helped us all to believe that a just peace was possible,” wrote Marie Dennis, Co-President of Pax Christi International, from the Middle East, shortly after learning of Bishop Sullivan’s passing. “His own kindness, sense of humor and leadership helped us through many challenges. He was a courageous man and a faithful servant. He will be sorely missed.”

Many issues were important to Bishop Sullivan. He spoke out against torture and war, including every war from Viet Nam to the war in Iraq. He espoused the virtues and benefits of interfaith dialogue. He promoted the work of the church in Haiti and he was a passionate defender of the people and land of Appalachia. His influence was evident in the U.S. bishops’ pastoral on war and peace and economic justice.

“We are so grateful for Bishop Sullivan’s leadership and love for Pax Christi USA,” stated Sr. Josie Chrosniak, HM, Chair of the Pax Christi USA National Council. “We celebrate his life with so many others who were touched and inspired by his words, his witness and his warmth and humor. He was a great gift to our movement, his diocese and the entire church.”

For more information, including memorial articles on Bishop Sullivan, please visit the Pax Christi USA website at www.paxchristiusa.org.

Pax Christi USA issues statement following the massacre in Newtown, CT

Following the events in December in Newtown, Connecticut, Pax Christi USA issued a statement calling for a national conversation aimed at ending gun violence in our nation. The statement reads, in part: “Pax Christi USA therefore calls on people of good will throughout this nation to initiate a national conversation on gun violence and what we might do to help break our nation’s denial on the need for reasonable, common sense gun legislation. The children who died in Connecticut belong to all of us. The children of this nation are our responsibility. Let us create for them a society that values their childhood, that takes seriously their right to safety, and that places their well-being above the agenda of the radical gun lobby.”

To read the entire statement, visit the Pax Christi USA website and click on “Statements” under the “Resource” heading at the top of the website.
On December 10, 2012, the United Nations observed the International Day for Human Rights, celebrating the day 64 years ago when member nations of the newly formed UN signed into international law the “Universal Declaration of Human Rights.” It was a struggle for the writers to include the many rights and privileges that we believe are part of the unalienable rights of every global citizen. Eleanor Roosevelt led the delegation in purpose and positive attitude to the final draft of the document. Here, in summary form, are the rights, which the United Nations guarantees to every person on the globe.

**The Universal Declaration of Human Rights**

All People...

Are born free and should all be treated in the same way. Are equal despite difference in race, sex, language, etc. Have the right to life and to live in freedom and safety.

Should be free from slavery. Should not be subjected to torture. Have the right to be recognized before the law. Have the right to be treated equally before the law. Have the right to ask for legal help when their rights are not respected. Have the right to not be imprisoned unjustly.

Have the right to a fair trial. Have the right to be presumed innocent until proven guilty. Have the right to privacy. Have the right to travel within and to and from their own country. Have the right to political asylum. Have the right to a nationality. Have the right to marry. Have the right to own property. Have the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion. Have the right to freedom of opinion and expression. Have the right to meet with others. Have the right to take part in government matters and to vote. Have the right to social security (i.e., to have basic needs met). Have the right to work and to join a trade union. Have the right to rest and leisure. Have the right to an adequate standard of living and medical help. Have the right to an education. Have the right to take part in their community’s cultural life. Are entitled to a social and international order that can provide these rights. Must respect the rights of others.

As a part of the Pax Christi delegation at the UN, I became a member of the NGO committee on human rights. I learned from meetings with officials from the Human Rights Commission and other activists in the field that at the UN the pursuit of human rights has had its trials and stumbling blocks. Although the document remains signed by all the countries of the world, it is sad but true that it does not mean it is implemented or honored in every country.

The difficulty for the UN in every resolution, declaration and treaty is how to make sure that the individual states hold true to their promises. If a nation does not follow international law they may be subject to sanctions or discrimination from other countries—the international community will try to “blame and shame” the violators into changing their ways—but there is little else that can be done.

At the UN, I have witnessed a change in the entire structure of the Human Rights Commission over the past several years. The Commission is responsible “to investigate, protect and promote human rights.” The first attempt at a Commission in 1948 resulted in a treaty body that had little or no power to hold countries responsible. It was also apparent that many countries serving on the Commission were well-known violators of their own citizens’ human rights.

With the establishment of the newly formed Human Rights Council in 2006, two changes were made that are helping this branch to be more effective. It is now an intergovernmental body within the UN system, made up of 47 States selected by the General Assembly on a rotating basis. The method of selection is partially based on the human rights record of the countries seeking membership.

Another change that has made this Council more effective is the establishment of the Universal Periodic Review. This committee will review the records of all 193 member states every 4 years on a rotating basis. Each country must submit a report of their work on defending and promoting human rights for their people. The Review Committee questions and evaluates the report. Each country is then asked to draw up a plan that shows how they hope to improve their record before the next review. You can find the reports of each country on continued on page 5...
Science got it wrong. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the leading international body for the assessment of climate change, thought the earth had more time to respond, but the polar ice sheets are melting 100 years ahead of its 2001 forecast. The rate of sea-ice melt in the Arctic is currently 30 years ahead of its 2007 projection, and ocean acidity caused by carbon dioxide pollution is rising 10 to 20 times faster than models predicted. If carbon dioxide levels reach their projected 450 parts per million in two decades, the U.S. Southwest, southern Europe, northern Africa, southern Africa and western Australia could become dust bowls.

Climate change is occurring. For many people the question is whether it’s natural or human-induced. If natural, then people will adapt. Uncomfortable Floridians can move to northern Alberta, and folks in the arid Southwest can migrate to Michigan. If human-induced, then we need to mend our ways and fix the problem. Indeed, human activities, especially emissions of greenhouse gases like carbon dioxide from burning fossil fuels, are resoundingly recognized as the principle cause of climate change.

In the next century the enormous melting ice sheets of Greenland and Antarctica will raise sea levels one to five feet, endangering nearly 650 million people living in low-elevation coastal areas around the world. The rich will leave, but the poor will be left behind. Already, according to the Global Humanitarian Forum, climate change is killing over 300,000 people annually, mainly in developing nations, by drought, stronger storms and severe water shortages leading to loss of crops and livelihoods. Hereafter, for people of faith, the option for the poor has become intertwined with our lifestyle choices.

But climate change is not politically popular. Between 1998 and 2002, consistently 30 percent of Gallup poll respondents said the seriousness of global warming was “generally exaggerated.” By 2010 that number jumped to 42 percent. President Obama mentioned “climate change” only once in his 2012 State of the Union address, but mentioned “energy” 23 times.

The energy corporations, heavily invested in fossil fuels, want passage of the Keystone XL pipeline to move tar sands oil from Canada to the Gulf of Mexico. However, turning bitumen-soaked rock into refined gasoline for our cars involves 30 to 60 percent more greenhouse gas emissions than emissions for an average barrel of oil.

Katharine Hayhoe, a climate scientist and evangelical Christian at Texas Tech University, sees three reasons for the disconnect between believers and the findings of science.

First, “the evidence is not easy to see.” With air conditioning and adjustable thermostats, everything looks and feels fine. But recall the photos of birds and shorelines caked in oil after the Exxon Valdez and the BP oil spills. Weep with community people flooded because of mountaintop removal. We run oil and strip mountains to support our lifestyles that produce some extremely graphic effects on the environment.

Second, “confusion is rampant.” Those with a vested interest in the status quo promote a doubt about climate change, but 97 percent of peer-reviewed climatologists agree about its impending threat. Carbon dioxide can be measured; rising temperatures can be tracked.

Third, “the truth is frightening.” Denial is our first defense against impending doom, but people of faith know a converted heart coupled with the resolve of community can create ways of living more lightly on the earth. We can emphasize relationships over things, spirituality & study over adventure.

Perhaps climate change will remind us about how critically interdependent we are to one another and God’s creation.

Rev. John Rausch, a Glenmary priest, is the director of the Catholic Committee of Appalachia and works against mountaintop removal. He is a Pax Christi USA Teacher of Peace.

GOOD FRIDAY WAY OF THE CROSS

Traditionally, many Pax Christi USA local groups plan and stage a “Way of the Cross” event on Good Friday, connecting the sufferings of Christ during his passion with the suffering of our brothers and sisters at the hands of violence, greed, poverty, sickness and war. This Good Friday, perhaps consider ways you may incorporate themes of global restoration and human rights into your actions.
Focus on Human Rights: Sex and Violence
By Nick Mele, Pax Christi USA National Council Member

Recently, I had the opportunity to meet with a woman from the Philippines, herself a former sex worker, who had founded an organization to help women in the sex trade in what was once the U.S. naval base in Subic Bay. My conversation with her reminded me of a comment I read (perhaps by Anthony Swofford in Jarhead) about the connection between pornography and the military. I wondered at the time what that connection is, and listening to Alma Bulawan of BUKLOD, I felt closer to the answer. Since our conversation, I have been pondering the connection between militarism and pornography, prostitution and rape.

In pornography, women (and men) are stripped of their personhood and humanity and become toys and fantasy objects. In prostitution, the same thing happens more directly. In the military, in order to desensitize recruits to their supposed enemy’s humanity and personhood, soldiers and sailors are similar presented with “enemies” stripped of their humanity and individual personhood. (One military officer and psychologist wrote an excellent book on this aspect of training: On Killing by Dave Grossman.) In all of the places where American troops are stationed, either combatant or combat ready, the local people are also the “enemy” and they all are given derogatory nicknames by our military, for example, “haji,” which takes a religious title of honor in Islamic cultures and reduces it to a term of caricature and contempt. This parallels the reduction of women to toys or objects in pornography and prostitution.

When we consider rape, such as the rapes almost regularly committed by American military personnel in Asia, the violence and sexual exploitation intersect. In speaking about the 1995 Okinawa schoolgirl gang rape, then U.S. Pacific Forces Commander Admiral Richard Macke said on the record: “I think it was absolutely stupid, I’ve said it several times. For the price they paid to rent the car, they could have had a girl.” Macke was accused of insensitivity and retired at a lower grade as a result of the outcry over his comment, but he was expressing the perspective of someone who sees the local people as not quite human. That is the connection between pornography and the military, and sadly, the explosion of pornography over the last generation and the spread of its sensibility, if one can call it that, into mainstream society demands awareness and action.

The first step, especially for men, is to become mindful of our own complicity in the intersecting webs supporting prostitution, pornography and militarism. Next steps include informing our friends and colleagues; supporting the Women for Genuine Security Network which has affiliates in all the places in East Asia where U.S. forces are stationed, as well as in Guam, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico; and working more broadly to end sex trafficking around the world.

Read Nick’s blog, The Disconnect, at http://whatcom.blogs.com/disconnect/

Focus on Global Restoration: The St. Francis Pledge
From the Catholic Coalition on Climate Change

All across our country, Catholics are taking the St. Francis Pledge to Care for Creation and the Poor and joining the Catholic Climate Covenant. The St. Francis Pledge is a promise and a commitment by Catholic individuals, families, parishes, organizations and institutions to live our faith by protecting God’s Creation and advocating on behalf of people in poverty who face the harshest impacts of global climate change. To join the Covenant, you commit to act on each of the five elements of the St. Francis Pledge:

I/We Pledge to:

PRAY and reflect on the duty to care for God’s Creation and protect the poor and vulnerable.

LEARN about and educate others on the causes and moral dimensions of climate change.

ASSESS how we—as individuals and in our families, parishes and other affiliations—contribute to climate change by our own energy use, consumption, waste, etc.

ACT to change our choices and behaviors to reduce the ways we contribute to climate change.

ADVOCATE for Catholic principles and priorities in climate change discussions and decisions, especially as they impact those who are poor and vulnerable.

Pax Christi USA is a Catholic Climate Covenant Partner and signed the pledge in 2010.

“Human rights for all,” continued from page 3...

the UN web site by searching for the Periodic Review Committee (PRC) in the human rights section.

Civil society has an opportunity to preview a country’s report and to make comments to the Council in writing. For nongovernmental organizations, like Pax Christi, who are working on the ground in many countries, their input has the potential for influencing a more fair and just system.

In the U.S., even as we pride ourselves on being the stewards of human rights, most of us in the peace movement realize that there are many still denied their basic human rights right here. One need only observe the disproportionate massive incarceration of African-American and Hispanic males, the use of solitary confinement, the death penalty, and prisons like Guantanamo that hold people without trial. The fact that we have assassination lists, laws that deny women equal opportunity, sex trafficking, Native American rights violated without trial, unfair immigration policies and many individual cases of abuse by people who have power over others reminds us that we too have a great deal of work to do!

The complete version of this article appears on the PCUSA website at www.paxchristiusa.org.
Afghanistan to the savage dismemberment of innocent children--from deadly invasions and occupations of Iraq and school murders, adorned in military battle fatigue, could easily have stepped out of one of dozens of American movie ads glorifying gun-toting vigilantes. In light of the overwhelming pervasiveness of violence--in our national budget priorities, in our political rhetoric, in our entertainment, and in our country’s dealings with others--how can we profess surprise when troubled individuals among us similarly embrace violence?” Visit nypaxchristi.org to read the entire statement.

Fr. Jim Gower of Pax Christi Maine - PRESENTE!
It is with great sadness that we learned from Bill Slavick that Rev. Jim Gower, long-time member of Pax Christi Maine and a true ambassador for peace for Pax Christi USA during the early years, passed away in mid-December. Denny Dreher, regional coordinator for PC-Maine, wrote: “At approximately 1:30 a.m. today, December 17, our beloved Fr. Jim Gower died--falling gently into the arms of the loving God whom he served so joyfully and faithfully for so many years... I happened to read a letter in the Franciscan Action Network (FAN) e-mail message this morning and was struck by the realization of how Fr. Jim followed St. Francis’s lead in serving God. He had no trouble setting the goal of following Jesus... [W]e give thanks for the gift of Fr. Jim’s presence in our lives--and with our efforts as Pax Christi for so many years.”

PC of Pomona Valley (CA) supports Muslim neighbors
Pax Christi of the Pomona Valley members participated in the 4th Annual Pomona/Claremont Interfaith Peace Walk last fall, joining alongside people from many local faith communities. Members also continue to show support for the families of a local Islamic community who hope to build a a small worship and gathering center, a hope that faces strong opposition from a small number of local people. Pax Christi members have written letters and testified at hearings in support of the proposed center and participated in related interfaith gatherings of solidarity.

PC-Tucson (AZ) members discuss gun violence
Pax Christi Tucson members participated in the November Theology Uncorked Series at their host parish, Most Holy Trin-
continued from p. 6...

Pax Christi USA mourns the loss of one of its greatest leaders, Bishop Walter Sullivan. Bishop Sullivan served as bishop-president of the Pax Christi USA organization, Bishop Sullivan was also a Pax Christi USA and the second bishop-president of the movement.

Sullivan. Bishop Sullivan served as bishop-president of Pax Christi from 1991 through 2003. He passed away on Monday, December 10, 2012 at the age of 92. Bishop Sullivan was an extraordinary man, a long-time friend of Pax Christi. His consistent encouragement of the work of Pax Christi was matched by his consistent criticism of the US government’s Afghan and Iraq wars.

Many issues were important to Bishop Sullivan. He spoke out against torture and war, including the US military’s use of torture in the war in Iraq. He espoused the virtues and benefits of interfaith dialogue. He promoted the work of the church in Haiti and was a passionate defender of the children of Haiti. He was also a long-time member of Pax Christi.

Lakeshore PC (WI) covenants with other faith communities
Lakeshore Pax Christi in Manitowoc County in Wisconsin covenanted with Lakeshore United Methodist Church, First Lutheran Church, St. James Episcopal Church, and Fox Valley Friends (Quakers) to work for justice. The “Covenanted Celebration for RUTH of Manitowoc County” (RUTH=Responding with Understanding, Truth and Hope) was in late-October. RUTH members work to help persons in need, assisting at the Domestic Violence Shelter, tutoring children, mentoring those returning from prison and jail, volunteering at Hope House and planning the men’s homeless shelter, advocating for children in the CASA program, fostering parenting and participating in a myriad of ways of serving and giving locally and on mission trips. RUTH members have concluded that systemic and structural change must also occur if the public good is to be fully served.

PC-Richmond sponsors The Richmond Slave Trail Walk
Pax Christi Richmond (VA) sponsored “The Richmond Slave Trail Walk: A Catholic Reflection on Our City’s History” in early December. The event was co-sponsored by the Office for Justice and Peace and the Office of Black Catholics of the Richmond diocese. The Richmond Slave Trail is a walking trail that chronicles the history of the trade of enslaved people from Africa to Virginia until 1775, and away from Virginia, especially Richmond, to other locations in the Americas until 1865. The Walk was led by Sylvester “Tee” Turner & Cricket White from Hope in the Cities, an organization working to build trust through honest conversations on race, reconciliation and responsibility in order to create more just and inclusive communities.

Pax Christi high school chapter holds peace festival
The Pax Christi group at Bishop Aulemany High School in Mission Hills, CA, worked with their school’s Campus Ministry Department to celebrate their annual St. Francis Peace Festival, October 1-4. Every student in the school was invited to contribute some research, art, prayer, skit, etc. on the topic of peace. Each teacher (across the curriculum) was invited to share a peace lesson in their class. The school’s Alumni Hall was filled with colorful and thought-provoking work and activities that invited the students to take a stand for non-violence and peace-making (see photo above). The week culminated with a Catholic mass on the feast of St. Francis. The mass began with large puppets created by the Art and Religion Departments, presenting a story of two fighting communities who find a way to sow seeds of peace.

Grand Rapids (MI) PC hosts program on immigration
Grand Rapids (MI) Pax Christi meets the 2nd Sunday of each month at St. Andrew’s Cathedral. This past November, the group had Father Wayne Dziekan celebrate the Spanish language Mass and address three Peace and Justice classes at Catholic Central High School. Fr. Dziekan also presented a program called, “Strangers No Longer: The Catholic Church and Immigration” at the Catholic Information Center at Cathedral Square Building. Grand Rapids Pax Christi co-sponsored the event.

For resources for prayer, study and action during Lent, visit the Pax Christi USA website, www.paxchristiusa.org, or sign-up for our “Seasonal Reflections” thru PCUSA’s free email service. Throughout the Lenten season we will post reflections written by PCUSA Teachers of Peace, Ambassadors of Peace & others, as well as suggestions for actions you can take as an individual or group during Lent.

And be sure to also check out the Pax Christi USA Store online for items like Our Prayers Rise Like Incense: Liturgies for Peace, which includes a number of Lenten-themed prayer services, and other great resources.
to create various resources in support of this initiative.

- published our Lent and Advent booklets in the USA with Eco-Ink, low-volatility, vegetable oil-based ink on 50% post-consumer recycled, processed chlorine-free paper, produced using 100% wind power in a carbon-neutral process.

It takes people like all of us to continue dreaming, and praying, and reflecting, and studying and acting so that the above dream becomes a reality ... one small glimpse at a time.

Sr. Patricia Chappell, SNDdeN
Executive Director, Pax Christi USA
pchappell@paxchristiusa.org

Reflection for Good Friday, March 29, 2013 by Megan McKenna, PCUSA Ambassador of Peace


We endeavor with our lives to walk the way of Jesus, with Jesus. We have been told that we walk in the light ever more deeply into the fullness of life. And today we stand and face the Truth—the person of Jesus that is the human presence of God among us in Word, in flesh and blood, and in the Truth. My nana used to say: “There is my truth, and there is your truth, and there is our truth, and then, there is The Truth.” This is the Truth beyond articulation, beyond understanding, beyond surety—it is the Mystery of God with us in the world bringing us to life ever more abundantly here and now, to be fully human and so to be like God in Jesus the Christ. Listen to Morris West’s words on what this might entail: “It costs so much to be a full human being that there are very few who have the enlightenment and the courage to pay the price. One has to abandon altogether the search for security and reach out to the risk of living with both arms open. One has to embrace the world like a lover. One has to accept pain as a condition for existence. One has to court doubt and darkness as the cost of knowing. One needs a will stubborn in conflict, but apt always to total acceptance of every consequence of living and dying.”

We are formed in the sign of the cross, standing rooted in the earth, our bodies stretched to the heavens, and our arms opened out to embrace the whole world. Our relationship to God (our vertical stance) is only as deep and true as our relationship to all others, beginning with loving our enemies and then working our way back into those we are intimate with and bound to by blood (the horizontal reach and embrace). This is our truth. And if we are committed to that truth, then we hear the Voice of God, uttered in the power of the Spirit in Jesus’ mouth, in Jesus’ flesh, and in Jesus’ breath and presence.

The end of Jesus’ life on earth is gathered in his final words torn from his tortured body and breaking heart: “‘Now it is finished.’ And he bowed his head and delivered over his spirit” (John 19:30). We seek to remember Jesus’ living and dying and ritualize it in our bodies so that this is our manner of being in the world, of witnessing to the truth, and of living and dying with Jesus, in the power of the Spirit to the honor and glory of the God of Life, the God of darkness and light.

It is time for us to deliver over our spirits and bodies to God, once again. We are reminded of our baptisms: we are buried with Christ in God. Now in the blessed darkness we wait for the Voice to summon us forth once again.

Resources on Global Restoration from the Pax Christi USA Store

PRAYER FOR GLOBAL RESTORATION PRAYER CARD: A prayer of reverence for all creation, an invocation asking that we may know we are irrevocably part of the web of life, asking for forgiveness for our ignorance, asking for our own radical transformation into God’s kin-dom. Price: $10.00 for a pack of 100

LISTENING TO EARTH: FAITH AND ACTION IN A TIME OF GLOBAL CLIMATE CRISIS: How do we connect our responsibility to address global climate change with our work for justice and peace? What does care for creation have to do with our call to follow Christ? How can we renew community through prayer, study and action? This downloadable resource packet will enable you and your group to answer these questions and more. This five-session series features diverse stories of environmental injustice and the hope that inspired grassroots solutions for change. Each session includes stories (written and optional suggested video), small and large group discussions, prayer, and suggestions for action. NOTE: This is a PDF download. When you purchase a copy, you will receive a link to download the resource after your payment has processed. Price: $5.00 to download 1-5 copies; $10.00 for 6 and up. Order on the web or at 814-520-6245.

Peacemaking Quote

Corporations are the infants of our society - they know very little except how to grow (though they’re very good at that), and they howl when you set limits. Socializing them is the work of politics. It’s about time we took it up again. - Bill McKibben