Dear Companions on the Journey,

Peace and blessings.

On June 18, 2015, two seemingly paradoxical events occurred: 1) the publication of Pope Francis’ encyclical, Laudato Si; and 2) the mourning for the dead from mass murders of innocent people which had occurred the night before in Charleston, N.C. Where is the point of sameness here?

Violence is the touchstone of commonness where both these events above meet.

Consider the words of Pope Francis:

“The world’s problems cannot be analyzed or explained in isolation. There are regions now at high risk, and aside from all doomsday predictions, the present world system is certainly unsustainable from a number of points of view, for we have stopped thinking about the goals of human activity.” (Laudato Si)

Unbridled violence against the earth in war-making, nuclear armament, and militarization of our police, is destroying both the earth and our humanity. Racial hatred and unwillingness to engage in dialogue which moves us towards reconciliation, destroys all of us. All these happenings are not isolated events. In prayer we begin to see and examine the connections.

Over 250 Pax Christi local groups across the U.S. work and live non-violently, examining and addressing violence locally and globally. You are the peacemakers, the Gospel leaven who steadfastly look for the connections, then address and advocate for peace with justice solutions.

God is and continues to be your strength to work through you, towards reconciliation on many issues, for “wherever two or three of you are gathered together in My Name, there am I in the midst of them” (Matthew 8:20).

May the contents of this issue of The Peace Current, Summer, 2015, on the theme of commitment to disarmament, demilitarization and reconciliation with justice, inspire you and strengthen your actions as peace builders.

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

Sr. Patty Chappell, SNDdeN, Pax Christi USA Executive Director, and Sr. Anne-Louise Nadeau, SNDdeN, Pax Christi USA Program Director to be at the Campaign Nonviolence National Conference in NM, August 6-9!

Campaign Nonviolence is holding a national conference August 6-9 in Santa Fe, New Mexico, and Pax Christ USA is happy to announce that we will be hosting a special gathering for members, friends, and partners on Thursday evening, August 6th, 7:30 -9:30pm at the First Presbyterian Church located at 208 Grant Ave in Santa Fe.

The evening event will include prayer and a dialogue with Sr. Patricia Chappell and Sr. Anne-Louise Nadeau (respectively Executive Director & Program Director of PCUSA), followed by a social.

We hope that those who will be attending the conference will come out and meet with national staff and other PCUSA members at this special event. No special registration is required. For more information, visit our website.
Pilgrims on the Path to Peace: Report from Israel-Palestine

By Johnny Zokovitch, Director of Communications

From May 10-24, I was a member of a delegation to Israel-Palestine organized by Pax Christi International (PXi). The delegation was almost exclusively U.S. citizens, with the one exception being Daniel Tillias of Pax Christi Port-au-Prince. Members of the delegation included university professors, parish ministers, priests, women religious, partner organizations’ representatives, and others. We spent the majority of our journey in Bethlehem in the Occupied West Bank, with trips into and around Jerusalem, and three days at the end spent in Nazareth in Israel.

Our first week was primarily spent participating in the PXI conference between May 13 and 17. I attended the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of PXI on May 13 as the representative from Pax Christi USA. During the AGM, “The Bethlehem Commitment,” a vision document prepared by PXI was shared and affirmed.

On May 14, the morning plenary included panel’s reflecting on Pax Christi’s history. I was part of the panel which addressed some of the issues that PXI sections have worked on over the years. I addressed the issue of disarmament, offering a broad outline of PCUSA’s work from our inception to today on this issue (see page 5 for that presentation).

In the afternoon, I was asked to serve as the group leader for one of the six “Walking Paths”, with a special focus on human rights. Our path included visits to two Palestinian refugee camps, Aida camp and Dheisheh camp, where we experienced the Palestinian reality and heard from activists on the ground. The following day, the conference held sessions on “deepening the discussion,” related to our experiences on the walking paths, followed by PXI’s 70th anniversary dinner celebration.

On May 16, the day was given over to various workshops, exhibits and entertainment, culminating with presentation of the Peace Award to the Women, Peace and Security Collective for Reflection and Action from Colombia. The final day of the assembly included a powerful procession and ritual at the Separation Wall, then a closing mass, led by Pax Christi USA Ambassador of Peace Rev. Joe Nangle, ofm, at the Wi’am Conflict Resolution Center.

Outside of the assembly, our delegation’s time was spent between meetings with a variety of organizations working for peace in Israel-Palestine and visits to holy sites. We met with representatives (on location primarily) from Rabbis for Human Rights, the Israeli Committee Against Home Demolitions, Neve Shalom/Wahat al-Salam (Oasis of Peace), Musahala, Bethlehem University, Tent of Nations, Christian Peacemaker Teams, Bethlehem Cultural Center and Museum, and more.

We experienced firsthand some of the issues associated with the conflict in the Holy Land, including numerous military checkpoints, having our bus boarded by Israeli soldiers, a short period of being detained at one checkpoint when we were boarded and had to produce papers regarding our identity, bags searched at the airport, questioning by Israeli airport personnel upon our departure, and so on. The group debriefed in Nazareth with members sharing their experiences, what they learned, and what they planned to do following the conclusion of the delegation.

Personally, I found the entire experience to be extraordinary. I was especially moved by the PXI assembly and connecting with colleagues from around the world and Palestinians struggling under occupation. I am grateful that Sr. Patty offered me the opportunity to participate.

See complete coverage of the delegation and assembly at www.paxchristiusa.org.

Peace Current
Disarmament for Sustainable Development: 
A Call to Action

Faith-based organisations and religious communities worldwide are invited to join the Disarmament for Sustainable Development Campaign. The main aim of this initiative is to press for an end to the over-funding of military establishments and for the creation of new funds to tackle human insecurity and common threats to the planet. In addition, the campaign supports all efforts to limit or eliminate weapons that impact negatively on communities in conflict zones. We are approaching faith-based organisations to stimulate conversations and actions around this issue.

The world faces enormous challenges (environmental problems, migration flows, military conflicts, extreme poverty, regular economic crisis, etc.). Cooperation and solidarity among nations are urgently needed to confront them. Viewing the world today, the tragedies of military conflict and terrorism occur over and over again in many places. In addition to conflicts between nations and ethnic groups, now violence in the name of religion makes it increasingly seem as if throughout the world dialogue has become impossible.

In the face of such worldwide destructiveness, Pope Francis has expressed concern that some people seem to speak of a “Third World War” rather than making sure we do not repeat the mistakes of the past.[1] The world faces the sorts of crises that cannot but cause people to wonder if force is the answer. What has become of respect for humanity? However, repeatedly answering violence with violence will only lead to destruction of the whole earth community.

To continue investing in expensive weapon systems is paradoxical. In particular, to continue investing in the production and the modernization of nuclear weapons is not logical. Billions are wasted each year to develop and maintain stocks that will supposedly never be used. Can one justify such a high cost? Since the end of the Cold War more than twenty years ago the end of the nuclear stand-off has failed to provide a peace dividend that would help to improve the situation of the world’s impoverished people.

Humanitarian agencies and world religions see support for the poor and promotion of a dignified life for all as essential to the global common good. But, the United Nations’ Millennium Development Goal of reducing the number of people living in absolute poverty by one half by the year 2015 is far from realized. Contributions from wealthy nations to this important goal, which is essential to peace, have fallen short. Deeper cuts to military expenditures should be a worldwide goal as a direct contribution to the elimination of poverty.

Collective responsibility for promoting development

The re-allocation of funding from the production and trading of arms is essential to social and ecological justice. The disparity of resources between situations dedicated to human development or environmental protection and those dedicated to armaments is a fundamental injustice in the global political order. Re-allocation of resources from wasteful and dangerous weapons programs to the constructive and peaceful purposes of global human development and protecting the integrity of creation would undo shameful imbalances in public funding and institutional capabilities.

Weapons programmes divert public funds from health care, education, disaster relief and other vital services. The nine nuclear-armed nations for instance spend in excess of $105 billion each year maintaining and modernizing their nuclear arsenals. Funding allocated to national disarmament efforts is minuscule by comparison, and the principal UN body responsible for advancing nuclear abolition has an annual budget of just over $10 million. It is time to redirect money towards meeting human needs.

Towards a Global Campaign on Military Spending (GCOMS)

Pax Christi International and the International Peace Bureau are convinced that, given political will, by reducing funding for the military sector, significant amounts of money could be made available for social and environmental projects, first of all domestically, but also in other countries, especially the poorest.

We believe that faith-based organisations worldwide can play a crucial role in national debates, because they reach across all sectors of society and are uniquely placed in communities to give moral leadership on matters of peace and justice. Faith-based organisations have strong interest in seeing that resources allocated to military spending are shifted towards development that is truly sustainable. This is a profoundly important ethical and political issue which touches questions of stewardship of earthly resources and of identifying priorities based on a “preferential option for the poor.”

Disarmament steps need to be taken

The lack of sustainable development and the ongoing climate change affects everybody, but especially the most impoverished and vulnerable people. Impelled by our faiths, we call on national and international political authorities to take the urgent measures necessary to aid the world’s poorest communities in dealing with climate change impacts and anti-poverty programmes. Major steps toward real disarmament must be taken.

This Campaign intends to influence at least two international debates as well:

- Development: to ensure the inclusion of language relating to military spending and disarmament in the United Nation’s Post 2015 Development Agenda.

continued on page 8...
“Forged in the broken relationships of a brutal war, Pax Christi began its journey 70 years ago with a vision based on the Gospel – love your enemies – and rooted in a deep belief that reconciliation was possible.”

These words, which begin the final declaration of the Pax Christi International World Assembly, held in Bethlehem, Palestine, from May 13-17, 2015, could just as well describe the state of affairs in Israel and Palestine.

For five days, I joined Pax Christi members from six continents and traveled to various towns and villages throughout the occupied territories to discover the realities of life in Palestine, united by this common goal: “Real peace is what we aspire and hope is one of our deepest values.”

We have visited Palestinian refugee camps, walked the divided streets and heavily militarized city of Hebron, traveled the Jordan Valley and witnessed the marked contrast between gated Israeli settlements and disappearing Palestinian lands.

Israel and Palestine are deeply divided, and have been since the creation of Israel in 1948, which resulted in the destruction of hundreds of Palestinian villages and the forced displacement of 750,000 Palestinians. It is an event etched deep in the collective memory of Palestinians and known as the “Nakba,” or the “catastrophe.”

For its part, the creation of the state of Israel cannot be understood apart from the Holocaust and the destruction of six million Jews in Europe. Nor can European Christians forget a deeply-rooted anti-Semitism that provided the rationale for the Holocaust and centuries of pogroms against the Jews.

Two peoples, Israeli and Palestinian, with deeply contrasting narratives, and vivid memories of suffering, violence, and destruction. Added to this more recent history is a deeply rooted and shared religious tradition that has since branched out to become what we know today as Judaism, Christianity and Islam.

In 1967, Israel occupied the West Bank and Gaza and set in motion a system of control and discrimination that has only resulted in a deadly cycle of violence. And those divisions appear to be growing as both Jews and Arabs are convinced that the other is trying to destroy them.

Yet the reality may be that the security of one is bound up with the security of the other. At least that is grounds for hope. As one Palestinian Christian told us after a visit to that most conflictive of cities, Hebron, “We are all on this journey together.”

Looking to the Future: Two Sides to the Story

During our week-long stay, we heard from both Palestinian and Israeli voices, particularly those who were looking for a solution based on justice. We visited Palestinian and Israeli projects that offered a glimmer of hope for reconciliation based on truth, justice and human dignity. But we also encountered profound discouragement with regard to a political solution to this unending conflict.

On the Palestinian side, we heard from two Palestinian Christian young people who offered a sober assessment of the reality, but also a dream of hope. Mohamed asked, “What is the future for our children? I don’t want my son to grow up and be arrested or killed in a protest. I don’t want him to have to live under the occupation. But what opportunities are there for him? What chance does nonviolence have to succeed? We need international support.”

Rania, another Palestinian Christian, said: “The Nakba (catastrophe) is still going on, with the building of the wall, the settlements, the fear, the silence. We want people to unite. Pope Francis just announced his support for a Palestinian state and the Vatican canonized two Palestinian Catholic nuns. This land is a land of love and life. We still have hope, we are resilient.”

On the Israeli side, we heard from the field director from Rabbis for Human Rights, Rabbi Yehiel Grenimann, who said: “I am the child of Holocaust survivors. I love this land. I served in the Israeli army as a medic. But I am concerned about the soul of my country. The problem is deep. The fact that Israel exists is a tragedy for the Palestinian people. We have a bi-national state but a divided country. We are afraid, and that fear is based on an existential conflict about this land. We are con-
cerned about the Palestinians, from our religious tradition. But we need a change of heart on all sides, & we need the involvement of the international community to help us.”

We also heard from Ruth, a young Israeli Jew and member of the Israeli Committee Against Home Demolitions. She minced no words: “We are an apartheid state with an intentional plan in place to further segregate the Palestinians. There is a fear in Israel of a Palestinian majority. Israel has created a matrix of control of check-points, roadblocks, walls, settlements, laws and policies, enforced by the violence of the army.”

When we asked people on both sides about a political solution, we heard mixed results. Several people said the time for a two-state solution is gone: “That train has left the station long ago,” as one person put it. But whether a one-state solution could ever work, without greater justice for the Palestinians, was also a question of debate. But the divisions are deep, the violence profound.

Still, there are glimmers of hope. There are Palestinian and Israeli voices who deeply desire reconciliation, based on truth and justice.

In Bethlehem, we visited the Palestinian Conflict Resolution/Transformation Center, otherwise known as the Wi’am (agape) Center. Zoughbi Zoughbi, the director of the center, said: “We try to be a center of hope to a people living under occupation and a world that is brimming with the cries of injustice and oppression.” He further shared with us his confidence that most people, Israelis and Palestinians alike, would prefer to live together in a society without fear.

And on the road between Bethlehem and Jerusalem, Neve Shalom, otherwise known as the Oasis of Peace, was formed in the 1970s as an experiment in which an equal number of Palestinians and Israelis came to live together and to raise their children with mutual respect for each other’s tradition and with training in both Hebrew and Arabic. Such “experiments in truth,” as Gandhi would call them, offer glimmers of hope for the future. In Rabbi Grenimann’s words, “All things are possible in God’s world.”

**Pax Christi International: The Bethlehem Commitment**

At the conclusion of the Pax Christi International Assembly, a declaration was issued in the form of a commitment, and participants were invited to take this commitment to heart. One concrete fruit of the assembly will likely be an increased attention on the part of Pax Christi regions around the world to see how we can contribute to a just and lasting peace in the Middle East.

More than one person at the assembly, and among the Palestinians and Israelis with whom we met, expressed a profound sense of discouragement, with little hope for peace. When asked, do you have hope, one Catholic nun working in the region said, “No.” Yet she, like so many people, Palestinians and Israelis alike, remain, working tirelessly day by day, for a hope that does not exist – yet. In that spirit, the words of Pax Christi International’s “Bethlehem Commitment” may offer, if not hope, at least a direction for hope in the future. “There is no way, we make the way by walking.”

“On this journey we have learned that just relationships are essential for sustainable peace – that we humans are part of an earth community that must be healthy if we are to survive. We have come to see the interconnections between war and preparations for war, environmental damage, climate change and scarcity of essential resources. We are deepening our understanding of sustainability. We also learned that just relationships are essential to just peace…”

“While war, preparations for war, the proliferation of arms and violent conflict seem to be omnipresent, we promote nonviolence, nurture community and work for a world where human rights and international law are consistently respected... As we turn to the future, we claim again the vision that peace is possible and vicious cycles of violence and injustice can be broken. We seek a world where people can live in peace and without fear ... relying on the presence of the Spirit to ‘guide our feet into the way of peace.’”

A longer form of his article is available on the Pax Christi USA website at http://paxchristiusa.org/2015/05/22/israel-palestine-delegation-lamentation-and-hope/. For more on Israel-Palestine, visit the Pax Christi USA website and search “Israel” or “Palestine”.

Pax Christi USA - Summer 2015
Disarmament for Sustainable Development: A Call to Action

For those of you who may not already know, I am also the Operations Manager for Michigan/Meta Peace Team, for Action of Greater Lansing, and I help Cristo Rey Church (here in Lansing) with their technology needs. Suffice it to say that I feel totally blessed that all my employment—fragmented as it may seem—comes from working for peace with justice. Welcome Mary!

PC-MA issues statement regarding Boston Marathon trial

Pax Christi Massachusetts with a visible presence during the trial and sentencing of Dzhokhar Tsarnaev. During the trial, they co-released a statement regarding the possibility of the death penalty being imposed. The statement read, in part: “In anticipation of the possible imposition of the Federal Death Penalty, Pax Christi Massachusetts and the Agape Community sent a letter to Cardinal Sean O’Malley of the Archdiocese of Boston. In it, we asked Cardinal O’Malley to apply his strong statements against the death penalty in general, to the specific case of Dzhokhar Tsarnaev.

“To resort to the Death Penalty as a way to ease pain or express outrage is morally wrong and does not possess the power to heal or reconcile. Therefore, we view this upcoming trial as a propitious and prophetic time to call Christian Church leaders and their communities to demand an end to the death penalty in our country, without exceptions.” Read the entire statement and a follow-up reflection on the Pax Christi USA website by searching “death penalty”.

PC Phoenix-Tempe educates on immigration, nonviolence (from Dave Zabor) Pax Christi Phoenix-Tempe welcomed Fr. Sean Carroll, Director of the Kino Border Initiative (a binational organization that works in the area of migration and is located in Nogales, Arizona, and Nogales, Sonora, Mexico), for a presentation on migrants and the work that KBI is doing. Kino is doing wonderful humanitarian work and well as education, research, and advocacy on behalf of migrants. Attendees were moved by hearing stories of families struggling to survive, often tragically separated, and enduring the abuses of government officials and police on both sides of the border. That same weekend, PC Phoenix-Tempe continued its tradition of offering parishioners at St. Benedict Parish in Phoenix an opportunity to take the Pax Christi Vow of Nonviolence. This is the 4th year that the parish has offered the vow, and this time approximately 300 people participated.

PC Metro New York honors peacemakers

PC Metro NY hosted a Peacemaker Award Reception honoring Sr. Joan Dawber, SC, Director of LifeWay Network; Maureen Blaine, Principal of St. Leo’s Elementary School, Corona, Queens; and Joe Dirr and Jill Frasier, Financial Advisors. We will also be honoring our Maloof Family Young Peacebuilder recipients: Mariah Espada, Marymount School of New York; Joseph Grasso, John S. Burke Catholic High School; and Juan Moreno, Cristo Rey New York High School.

PC Illinois hosts national staff for anti-racism presentation (by Nancy Oetter) On March 14, West Suburban Faith-Based Peace Coalition of Illinois held their 12th Annual Gathering and Fourth Annual Rev. J. Robert Sandman Lecture Series. “Taking on the Silence: Daring to Explore the Sin of Racism” was presented by Sr. Patricia Chappell, SNDdeN, Executive Director of PCUSA and Sr. Anne-Louise Nadeau, SNDdeN, Director of Programs. Pax Christi Illinois folks attended the gathering in support of the Sisters. They both have extensive experience on antiracism teams and they provide a perspective from a person of color and from a person of white privilege. They first asked the audience of 45 to tell how they felt talking about racism. They then discussed the definition of racism, and what steps we could take in our own lives to begin to defeat it. Besides Pax Christi Illinois, other groups represented were Occupy Naperville, First United Church, and Christi the Servant Parish.
PC Spokane hosts Muslim speakers
(from Anne Bosserman, SNJM) The Spokane PC chapter is concerned about the perception of and discrimination against our Muslim brothers and sisters world-wide and locally. Mustafa Mahmood attends Gonzaga University, Spokane. He is in his fourth year as an engineering student and is sponsored by the Iraqi Student Project. Last summer he returned to Iraq for the first time accompanying Sarah AK Ahmed. Sarah is operations director of the Foundation for Relief and Reconciliation in the Middle East. She spends a great deal of time in Northern Iraq with primarily Christian refugees. Both were invited to speak at Gonzaga University on the topic of relief and interfaith reconciliation in Iraq and proved to be excellent speakers in late January. Sarah also presented at an interfaith Washington State legislative conference in Spokane. We highly recommend Sarah as an available speaker whose message is Peace through basic human relationship.

PCUSA mourns the loss of Sr. Esther Pineda, CSJ
Pax Christi USA was saddened to learn that Sr. Esther Pineda, CSJ, a member of the Pax Christi USA National Council, has died following a short illness. “Sr. Esther was a woman of great faith and was passionate when it came to issues concerning peace and justice. Her steady and gentle manner was a major contribution to Pax Christi USA,” stated Pax Christi USA Executive Director Sr. Patricia Chappell, SNDdeN. “I thank our good God for Sr. Esther and our world is a better place because of the compassion and tenderness which she shared with everyone whose lives she touched.” Read Sr. Esther’s full obituary on the Pax Christi USA website.

PC Long Island honors peacemakers
(from Mary Beth Moore) More than sixty guests joined to honor The National Catholic Reporter on April 11th in Manhasset, NY when the Long Island Chapter of Pax Christi presented its annual “Peacemaker Award” to NCR on the occasion of its 50th anniversary. The honor cites the paper “[F]or telling painful truths, in ink, on paper and online. For reporting on nonviolence, in ways that other do not. For standing up for nuns, for abuse victims and the poor. For 50 years of prophetic words.” Mercy Sister Camille D’Arienzo, who writes a bi-monthly blog for NCR, accepted the award on behalf of Editor Dennis Coday. In remarks read by Sr. D’Arienzo, Coday noted, “The first NCR editorial against the Vietnam War came in early 1966; the editors then were prescient enough to see the futility of that war — and all others since.” Yanira Chacón-Lopez, lay minister of St. Bridget Church in Westbury, NY was also honored at the event for her work in “easing the perilous journey of immigrant families.”

News Briefs and Upcoming Events
PC Beverly (MA) hosted a Lenten Afternoon of Prayer on Nonviolence in March, featuring Pat Ferrone, PC-MA Coordinator as speaker and a reflection on a section of PCUSA Ambassador of Peace Nancy Small’s new book: Seizing the Nonviolent Moments ... “Vienna and the Peace & Planet Mobilization” was presented by PC Rhode Island in March to gather in support of building a nuclear free, peaceful, just, and sustainable world ... PCUSA Executive Director Sr. Patty Chappell addressed the social justice convocation of the Archdiocese of Baltimore on “The Joy of the Gospel” ... PC San Diego participated in a peace crane project to commemorate the 70th anniversary of Hiroshima and Nagasaki with Campaign Nonviolence ... September 20-27 is a week of actions for Campaign Nonviolence. PCUSA is a partner and encourages groups to take action. Go to www.paceebene.org for more info ... College of the Holy Cross Pax Christi displayed a poverty tree on campus, where they hung facts about worldly environmental social issues on its branches as part of the college’s series of events on sustainability. The group also had a carbon footprint calculator to show students how as individuals they impact the environment ... PC New Orleans was quoted in The New Orleans Times-Picayune in support of the Obama administration’s decision for deportation relief for 5 million undocumented immigrants. For more news of local groups, regions & members from around the nation, read “On The Line” on the PCUSA website every 2nd Wednesday of the month.
Advent allows a step back from our preoccupation with economic worries and the cares of the world. It raises our eyes to see the new liturgical year as the hopeful dawn of salvation that will ultimately reach completion with our participation. Fear about the “end of the world” gets replaced by excitement about the fullness of God’s Reign. Your “ransom,” “liberation,” and “redemption” are at hand!

Fear sells newspapers and grabs our attention with every news broadcast. Terrorists might attack, hackers may control the Internet, a gallon of gas may double in price! Shrill talking heads on TV and radio constantly inflate every troublesome situation into catastrophic tragedy. The gullible get scared. People of faith, by contrast, click the “off” button.

For faithful disciples, the right agenda drives out fear. We know concerns like immigration, poverty, torture, capital punishment, the environment, workers’ rights, women’s rights, and every violence demand our attention. We People of Faith overcome our fear by speaking out, knowing “the Lord our justice” (Jer 33:16) stands by our side. Fear, however, will grip those who get bloated on self-indulgence. Luke addresses his warning to the rich, i.e., the “greedy,” the over-consumers and super-consumers who “will die of fright in anticipation of what is coming upon the world” (Lk 21:26).

The poor seldom have time for trivial activities of self-indulgence. They’re too busy scratching for survival. And therein lies the key: by identifying with the agenda of the poor, our concern turns to love and that drives out fear. We stand with the oppressed, the deprived and those discriminated against.

Advent: a stepping back to stand with the least and without fear to securely “stand before the Son of Man” (Lk 21:36).

What news do I not need to hear? What is the agenda of the poor in my area, our country, the world?

PAX CHRISTI USA IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE that our 2015 Advent reflection booklet, focusing on the theme of human rights and global restoration, is now available for order through September 17th.

This year’s authors are: REV. JOHN RAUSCH, GLMY, Pax Christi USA Teacher of Peace and former director of the Catholic Committee of Appalachia; and NELSON ARAQUE, the Hispanic Liaison for the Catholic Climate Covenant and a Catholic Climate Ambassador

CONTACT OUR RESOURCE OFFICE FOR DETAILS OR TO PLACE YOUR PRE-PRINTING ORDER: sales@paxchristiusa.org or 814-520-6245 – quantity and wholesale discounts available

“Disarmament to Sustainable Development” campaign, continued from page 3...

- Climate: to ensure that the target of $ 100 billion in annual governmental contributions to the Green Climate Fund is met by the date of the Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change in Paris, December 2015. These contributions should come from reductions in military budgets.

To read more about this campaign including ideas on what you can do, visit http://bit.ly/1Igp90S.

**Peacemaking Quote**

“We are not faced with two separate crises, one environmental and the other social, but rather one complex crisis which is both social and environmental. Strategies for a solution demand an integrated approach to combating poverty, restoring dignity to the underprivileged, and at the same time protecting nature.”

- Pope Francis in “Laudato Si”