

Just-FAITH Voices

Bread for the World's Approach to Ending Hunger: The Personal Is Political

By KRISTEN YOUNGBLOOD, *Bread Communications Staff*

Did YOU know?

Since 2000, U.S. poverty-focused development assistance has tripled and currently totals a little over \$28 billion, but this amount still represents less than 1% of the federal budget.

Bread for the World estimate

Many Americans face hunger and poverty despite the United States being one of the world's wealthiest nations. The latest full-year data from the U.S. Department of Agriculture show that overall one in seven American households struggles to put food on the table. The data also reveal significant disparities: nearly one in four children lives in such a household, as do roughly one in four Hispanics and African-Americans.

People finding it difficult to feed themselves and their families often consider their struggle a personal problem – and in fact, the situation can feel very isolating. But in a nation with more than enough resources to provide for everyone who lives here, hunger is also a political issue.

At Bread for the World, we recognize that ending hunger requires advocacy to change the politics of hunger. Because hunger is a matter of how to allocate public funds, we address it through the political process – educating members of Congress about the causes of hunger and poverty and advocating for the needs of hungry people.

Federal nutrition programs prevented the latest recession from driving the rates of poverty and food insecurity even higher. Currently, for example, more

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than one in eight Americans participates in the monthly Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), formerly food stamps, and this is an all-time high. Participation is expected to rise again this year as unemployment rates stagnate at around nine percent. Essentially, SNAP, unemployment insurance, nutrition programs such as free school lunch, and other social safety nets have been doing their job: catching families in freefall during a particularly severe recession. Unfortunately, some in Congress are attempting to balance the budget on the backs of hungry and poor people by cutting these programs or changing their

structure ... and this is to the detriment of people who need them.

Tara Marks is a Bread activist and active member of East Liberty Presbyterian Church in Pittsburgh. She got involved in hunger advocacy because she knows what it's like to go without food for days. Marks had a young son to support and realized that she needed to go back to school in order to earn enough money. It was very difficult



even though churches and many individuals helped her; she went from “having an ideal life with perfect credit,” to living on student loans, credit, and food stamps and spending time standing in food bank lines. At times, Marks did not eat so that her son could.

One Monday, after Marks had not eaten for the entire weekend, she met a woman who vowed to help her receive the nutrition assistance she needed to take care of herself and her son. The next day, she was taken to a rally, given a microphone, and told to tell her story. She discovered Bread for the World not long afterward. Marks knows that God has given her a special gift of advocating for others; she speaks of her experience with poverty and hunger to anyone who will listen, and she gets up every day determined to let God move her.

Marks says that attending Bread's 2010 Lobby Day changed her by showing her that she could use her advocacy skills and her faith to deliver a powerful message. She is now co-director of the respected advocacy group, Just Harvest,

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in Pittsburgh where she used to be a client. Her faith tells her that she could make a difference not only by telling her story but by advocating for policies to help end hunger and poverty. Marks says that Bread allows her to put her faith into action and supplement direct service charity work with advocacy. As she says, “Faith with no action is dead.”

The personal has always been political for longtime Twin Cities Metro Bread member Donna Neste. Neste describes herself as being “groomed” for activism by learning about Catholic social justice teachings, protesting the Vietnam War, and living in the wake of the assassinations of President John F. Kennedy and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Neste was introduced to Bread for the World while volunteering for a faith-based anti-hunger organization in the late 1970s. She says Bread is consistent with her faith, her desire to be an advocate, and the way she believes Christians should be working in the world. Shortly after becoming a Bread member, Neste led an Offering of Letters for area churches and soon became the volunteer head of the Bread Speakers Bureau for the Twin Cities, a position she still holds. Neste is also treasurer of the Bread Twin Cities committee. She says the most enjoyable part of her Bread advocacy is meeting with policymakers about issues that are important to her; now she knows the power of her voice.

Like Marks, Neste knows from experience that government policies can effectively help people in need. In 1982, she was looking for work and pregnant with her first child when her husband lost his job. It was very difficult for a visibly pregnant woman to find a job. The week her baby was born, her husband found a minimum-wage

job. But even with both his job and the low-wage work she found after the birth, the family could not make ends meet. Food stamps and WIC filled the holes in the budget, just as they do for millions of other American families.

Marilyn DuFour combines direct-service work with advocacy on both domestic and international issues. When DuFour moved to Toledo, OH, she joined one of her pastors at Monroe Street United Methodist Church in activism as a way to supplement their church’s charitable work. DuFour says that when she attended a Bread Offering of Letters workshop, she was “hooked then,” adding that Bread understands the struggles of hungry people and provides a platform for people of faith to show that they care through activism.

Bread’s work to reduce hunger in developing countries particularly resonated with DuFour, who served in the Peace Corps in Sierra Leone. She also knows firsthand the importance of social safety net programs; she participated in WIC and Healthy Start in the early 1990s when both she and her husband had lost their jobs. Since then, DuFour has become a Bread Baker’s Dozen member and has participated in local meetings with Rep. Marcy Kaptur (D-OH). Her church has become a Covenant Church and uses Bread resources in their worship and educational programs. DuFour participates in the church’s Offerings of Letters and Bread for the World Sunday activities. Her work on behalf of people in need also persuaded her church to “walk the walk” by establishing a community garden in their inner-city neighborhood to help feed their neighbors. Eventually the community garden began to provide plants and support to help urban gardening grow.

DuFour says that as an educator, one of her favorite aspects of the Offering of Letters has been trying to find new and creative ways to demonstrate her support for each annual campaign. Her favorite memories are of delivering several large garbage bags of paper chains to Rep. Kaptur’s office in support of “Jubilee: Break the Bonds of Debt” in 2000 and of sending paper plates with hand-drawn pictures of food and farming and handwritten notes to her representative and senators to support reforms during the 2007-2008 reauthorization of the U.S. farm bill.

DuFour says there are some people in her congregation who still do not believe that politics has any place in the church, and that is not likely to change. But this has not thwarted her mission; she plans to continue standing before them each spring with a new advocacy campaign to consider and support – and even offer to pay the postage on their letters to Congress.

As Bread for the World activists, Marks, Neste, and DuFour take action on issues that they know to be political, not just personal. Bread’s grassroots Christian network is mobilizing to oppose congressional proposals to cut funding for programs that benefit hungry and poor people here in the United States and overseas. In early 2011, the House of Representatives approved proposals that would make drastic cuts to food aid and other vital foreign assistance programs in the name of balancing the federal budget.

The truth is, vulnerable people did not create the deficit, and taking nutrition assistance from some of the poorest families in the world would not even begin to make a difference to the U.S. deficit. One analyst said that its fiscal impact would be similar to withholding his daughter’s allowance in order to pay down their family’s home mortgage. Spending on all foreign assistance is less than one percent of every federal dollar.

Congress should, instead, be looking for ways to better meet the needs of hungry and poor people. Throughout 2011 and beyond, Bread staff, members and activists like Marks, DuFour and Neste are urging lawmakers to create jobs, spur economic growth, and look at all aspects of spending and revenue in order to reduce the budget deficit rather than cutting essential domestic and international programs from the federal budget.

Small Changes ... BIG Differences

Pray for Congress ... and all who have the power to make decisions affecting hungry and poor people.

Help your congressional representative and your senator get to know you:

- Write them personal letters asking them to help end hunger in God's world.
- Visit them in Washington, D.C. or in their district office.

Engage your church:

- Enroll your congregation as a Covenant Church. Being a Covenant Church shows your commitment to ending hunger, puts your congregation at the heart of Bread's collective, Christian voice, and allows you to receive valuable resources for your congregation's ministry to end hunger. Download the enrollment form at www.bread.org/covenant.
- Teach a class on hunger and how we can end it. Bread's many curricula and activities make it easy to act. Check out the "Engage Your Church" tab at www.bread.org.
- Hold an Offering of Letters. Doing so will increase the impact of your advocacy. Visit www.bread.org/ol/2011 for more information.
- Observe Bread for the World Sunday. Pray and learn together as you draw attention to challenges and possibilities for hungry and poor people. Find resources at www.bread.org.
- Lead a mission trip and then engage participants in follow-up advocacy. Bread's "Getting Ready to Come Back" is a great resource.

Find kindred spirits in your region ...

Bread's regional organizers are a great resource and can connect you with people from other denominations who care about ending hunger as much as you do. Go to www.bread.org and click on the "Engage Your Community" tab.

Become a member of Bread for the World ... Stay informed. JustFaith graduates get free memberships in their first year. Go to the "Become a Member" tab at www.bread.org.

Summer is Here. Let the Marching Season Begin.

By TINA RODOUSAKIS, Deputy Director, Advocacy Department

For many of us, summer brings some rest and relaxation, slows our pace, lightens our schedules, and offers us a much-deserved vacation. For JustFaith grads though, the summer brings with it the perfect opportunity to take concrete action on social justice issues through the Catholics Confront Global Poverty initiative offered by Catholic Relief Services/ United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Over 60 percent of all respondents confirmed that personal constituent visits would have "a lot of influence" over the members' decision, far more than ... letters ... or e-mails.

The summer is typically a very busy time in Washington, D.C. Members of the United States Congress begin rolling up their sleeves and seriously getting to work. Marches, walk-a-thons, and rallies addressing various issues are a daily occurrence, dubbing it the "marching season" in our nation's capital. People from all around the country descend on the Capitol to make their voices heard on important issues.

JustFaith grads everywhere can participate in their own "marching season" this summer, and there's no need for a long, expensive trek to Washington, D.C. That's because this August, your members of Congress will take a month-long recess from the work they did in June and July and travel back to their home districts and states. They do this so that they can have a chance to meet with people like you, to listen to your concerns about global poverty and discuss possible solutions.

Why a "Marching Season?"

"If your Member/Senator has not already arrived at a firm decision on an issue, how much influence might a constituent visit have on his/her decision?"

This question was posed to congressional offices in a survey conducted by the Congressional Management Foundation, a nonpartisan, non-

profit research organization. The response was overwhelming: Over 60 percent of all respondents confirmed that personal constituent visits would have "a lot of influence" over the members' decision, far more than personalized letters (44 percent) or e-mails (34 percent).

So, this August put on a JustFaith "march" to confront global poverty. Gather your fellow JustFaith grads and plan to visit your members of Congress in their district offices. Call your CRS Regional Office for information and talking points about global poverty issues to discuss with your members. CRS staff can also help guide you through the process of setting up a district visit. Practice the visit with your group members by assigning roles and topics. Conduct research on your members to find common interests or experiences to make a connection during the meeting. (To obtain your CRS regional office number, call the CRS call center



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at 866-608-5978 or e-mail resources@crs.org.)

If you can't get an appointment with the member, meet with the district director. Ask to have a high level staffer from the Washington, D.C. office join the meeting by conference call to amplify the policy discussion.

Visit www.crs.org/globalpoverty, then take a chance and take a stand this August. Confront global poverty by marching this summer to your members' district offices.



Restoring the Political Commons

By **TOM CORDARO**, Pax Christi USA Ambassador of Peace and Justice & Outreach Minister at St. Margaret Mary Parish in Naperville, Illinois

As a peace and justice activist and parish minister of more than 35 years, I have come to appreciate the many challenges facing those who serve on parish peace and justice committees. The feelings of marginalization inside the parish and the feelings of powerlessness in the face of the daily crises that scream at us can be disheartening.

Faced with these kinds of frustrations, one of the greatest temptations is to circle the wagons in a protective mode where members can complain about the lack of support they get from the pastor and fellow parishioners and where they can continue to plan programs that appeal to the same small group of folks that always shows up.

But, I would invite such parish groups to step back for a moment to reconsider their role. If we believe our role is to set parishioners straight on issues related to peace and justice, we can be guaranteed our place as the prophetic and neglected minority voice in our communities. (And, frankly, a lot of groups are very comfortable playing this role.)

However, I would suggest that our role is not to tell people what to think; it is to help show them a new way of thinking about an issue. As many social commentators have pointed out, we live in a time of polarizing political discourse where serious and civil discussion of the important issues of the day is becoming increasingly difficult. With the

advent of cable TV, internet blogging and other social media, it is now possible for people to live within a media bubble that simply confirms their own worldview, ideology and partisan politics.

However, I would suggest that our role is not to tell people what to think; it is to help show them a new way of thinking about an issue.

The result of this political sectarianism is the demise of the political commons – i.e., that place where people of opposing views can learn from each other and solve political problems. This is not a matter of moving to some vaguely defined political middle; it is about participating in the political process in a way that allows us to speak our truth while being open to the truth of others in order to forge our common destiny.

Our churches, synagogues, mosques and temples may be one of the only remaining spaces where the political commons can be restored. But if we want to participate in recreating this space we may need to change our attitudes and develop a new understanding of our role.

One place to start is examining how often we allow a win/lose mentality to shape our work. If our main concern is to “win” the moral/political debate by defeating those whose views are not aligned with our understanding, then chances are our fellow parishioners will not seek us out to help them think through moral/political issues. While we are obliged to clearly articulate our principles, such as Catholic social teaching, we should also create a space where opposing points of view can be freely expressed and measured against those principles. Embracing an open and non-defensive attitude in our work can be the first step in making the struggle for peace with justice an integral part of parish life.

To learn more about Pax Christi USA and our work in creating the space for prayer, conversation and reflection on the great issues of our time, visit us at <http://paxchristiusa.org>. Tom Cordaro's award-winning book, *Be Not Afraid: An Alternative to the War on Terror*, can be ordered online at the Pax Christi USA website.



*But whoever has the world's goods and
heart against him, how does he
not love with word or with tongue?*

*I feel compassion for the people
three days and have nothing to eat
they will faint on the way; and so
And His disciples answered Him,
bread here in this desolate place
them, "How many loaves do you
the people to sit down on the grass
thanks and broke them, and starved
them, and they served them to the*

**Hunger, poverty, and hopelessness
it was to such realities and
address with our lives and
and the social implications
in our lives.**

**Because there is hunger in the world,
Lord Have Mercy.**

**Because this is a scandal of the world,
Christ Have Mercy.**

**Because we are people in need,
"feed and forgive," we implore you.**





When Mission is Also Stewardship

By FATHER ROBERT JALBERT, M.M.

U.S. Director of the Maryknoll Society's Mission Education & Promotion Department

A crisis can reveal a lot about the human condition. In the U.S., for example, people purchase water by the brand and take 30-minute showers. In parts of Africa, a woman can walk 12 miles a day with a bucket on her head looking for water.

The global water crisis is as much a cause of poverty in the developing world as the hoarding of resources or the exploitation of labor. Without access to clean water, people get sick more often, they cannot grow their own food, and family life starts to fray.

In the plains of Tanzania's Shinyanga district, Father Daniel Ohmann, M.M. found a way to address the water crisis in his parish. Forty years ago, he built a windmill to pump water from riverbeds to community storage tanks. Fortunately, Father Dan is a patient man – the struggles he went through would have discouraged anyone else. But not him. Today, 20 windmills pump water to 18 villages through a natural purification system of pipes embedded in sand.

Good stewardship is how we honor our Creator and insure that all have access to God's blessings.

Here are the outcomes: Villagers maintain the system and draw a small income from the sale of water (pennies a bucket). Two windmills irrigate a garden and orchard, providing food year-round. People don't get sick from cholera and other diseases. And, women aren't walking miles every day, looking for water.

Father Dan says as long as he is in Tanzania, he will build windmills. Right now, about 2,000 people per village enjoy clean water. But his parish is vast – 32 villages in all – and the remaining villages all want their own windmill.

In supporting missions like Father Dan's, Maryknoll sees creation as a gift from God:



Father Daniel Ohmann, M.M.

everyone has a right to clean water, and everyone has a responsibility to protect it. Good stewardship is how we honor our Creator and insure that all have access to God's blessings.

When we serve others and witness the Gospel in our lives, we continue the mission that Jesus began – caring for life on earth and celebrating the promise of eternal life when our journey is over. Maryknoll's work in the developing world and parishes here at home is a response to our baptismal calling. It is also an invitation: join us in ways that enrich your life, too, and together we will build up our Church in mission around the globe.

Father Dan's project is one of several Maryknoll ministries focused on alleviating the world's water crisis. We support similar community-based programs in other parts of Africa and Latin America, and more is possible as parishes and organizations in the U.S. define their unique supporting roles.

In this new century of spreading the Gospel – Maryknoll's 100th year – I invite you to find Christ in the needs of others, and then change the world you know into the one you know it can be.



... and sees his brother in need and closes his eyes, the love of God abide in him? Little children, let us love, but in deed and truth. 1 John 3:17-18

... because they have remained with me now and eat. "If I send them away hungry to their homes, some of them have come from a great distance." "Where will anyone be able to find enough bread to satisfy these people?" And He was asking them, "How many loaves do you have?" And they said, "Seven." And He directed them to sit down on the grass; and taking the seven loaves, He gave thanks and started giving them to His disciples to serve to the people. Mark 8:2-6

... blessings are a real presence in our world and in the people that Christ invited us as church to share in our prayer. Too often the call of the Gospel and the Eucharist are ignored and neglected

... God's garden of plenty, we ask ...

... what so often fails to move us, we beg ...

... need of forgiveness, so we can be free to share the good news of the Gospel ... Lord Have Mercy.



They Would Rather Not Eat Cake

By **DONNA TOLIVER GRIMES**, *Poverty Education and Outreach Manager, USCCB Department of Justice, Peace and Human Development*

In the United States, the presence of food in our minds and on our plates can be overwhelming. People joke that refreshments are the magnet needed to boost attendance at important church and civic meetings. Americans tend to expect a large supply and good variety of food at sporting events, theaters, parent-teacher meetings and virtually all social gatherings. It's no wonder then that the well-fed majority are largely unaware of food deserts that exist in many poor communities in our country. Fresh, healthy food simply is not available in certain neighborhoods.

Take the south side of Syracuse NY, for example, where residents mostly purchase their groceries from corner stores, not supermarkets. Community members complained for years about the lack of any grocery store within a five-mile radius of their neighborhood. This situation forces many low-income residents to catch a cab or beg a ride to a suburban supermarket. Furthermore, community gardens

are not enough of a remedy in this northern city with only a three-month growing season.

What food can one buy at the corner store? "Convenience" stores stock beer, wine, high-calorie snacks, cigarettes and sundries. They tend not to carry fresh produce or meats. Also, as Mabel Wilson discovered, shelves of boxed and canned foods may be well past their expiration dates. When Ms. Wilson attempted to open a can of cranberry sauce that she'd purchased from a corner store one Thanksgiving, the can exploded! So, how long must a can of fruit sit before its contents could cause botulism?

These neighbors turned their complaints into action. They made food access in the South Side of the city a key issue for their community based empowerment organization, Alliance of Communities Transforming Syracuse (ACTS). Mabel Wilson and other ACTS leaders began researching the problem and speaking with the right public officials to create necessary

changes. ACTS has worked diligently for four years on this issue and is close to achieving the goal of bringing a supermarket to the community.

ACTS partnered with Onondaga Community College to create a business plan. They met with the NY Department of Agriculture and Markets, which performs food inspections and regulates commercial businesses that supply food. Local leaders met with the attorney general and chief of police about rampant regulatory violations involving the documented misuse of EBT cards and the sale of unhealthy food in corner stores. ACTS members spoke with Governor David Paterson to advocate for state-wide access to nutritious, affordable food in food deserts like their South Side community. In the process, these organized, low-income leaders have gained skills and voice. In their own words, they say that they "will not eat cake." Rather, they require good food. To learn about ACTS visit www.acts-cny.org.



Jim Grote Joins JustFaith Ministries As Director of Development

Jim has worked as a development officer for a variety of faith-based institutions in Kentucky, including the Archdiocese of Louisville. A Certified Financial Planner and an award-winning financial journalist for numerous national trade publications, he has published over 100 articles in the areas of financial planning and philanthropy. In his youth, he spent two years with the Catholic Worker movement and four years at the Families of St. Benedict, a lay monastic community near the Abbey of Gethsemani. Jim and his wife Sissy have two grown children.

"Being a graduate of JustFaith myself along with my wife Sissy, I was surprised to discover how much work goes on 'behind the scenes' to produce each curriculum for all the different JustFaith Ministries' programs and to organize and market all these programs. I'm truly astonished at the 'multiplier effect' Jack refers to in his column and the tremendous amount of volunteerism and philanthropy JustFaith graduates generate. I look forward to working with the graduates particularly in the area of effective, planned giving.

College Justice WALKING Continued from back page

certain things. Others began to volunteer more in their free time in order to make a difference in the lives of troubled youth in the area.

As we approached the closing retreat for our College Justice Walking, the group held a collective sadness that the unique journey we had embarked upon together was going to take on a different form from this point forward. In the end we can honestly say that we worked, prayed, cried, laughed, dialogued, studied, and journeyed together in a way that brought about personal changes in us that will in turn bring

about positive change in our world.

Tyler Ward, a junior engineering student at the University of Wyoming, summarized the experience this way: "College Justice Walking has changed me in a way that can never be undone. There is no way I could have been prepared for what I would see and learn in the program. There really is no way I can adequately explain the experience to someone who is not familiar with what JustFaith offers."

Another student, Patrick Rodgers, summarized

it in one simple sentence by saying, "CJW is breaking down fear through Christ."

College Justice Walking had such an impact on our campus ministry that we have decided to add a new intern position to our campus ministry staff that will focus specifically on issues of social justice and will continue to offer new JusticeWalking groups to students in the coming semesters. In only one semester, JustFaith Ministries' College JusticeWalking program has had a tremendous influence on our entire campus ministry.

JustFAITH Ministries

We rely on the generous financial support of our graduates and friends. Making a donation to JustFaith Ministries is easy! Just go to www.justfaith.org and click on the "Donations" button. As always, we appreciate your investment in our work.

We do not want to be your favorite charity, but we need to be in your top three. **Why?**

Take a minute to read Jack's note.

If you have comments, ideas or suggestions for an article, or if you would like to share digital pictures of JustFaith groups in action, please contact: david@justfaith.org.



NOTE FROM JACK

I am often asked how this once little ministry that started with one person and a few churches ten years ago continues to grow in impact, graduates, staff, and projects even in a difficult economy.

My answer is that JustFaith Ministries (JFM) does something few others attempt – we create an environment in which God's Holy Spirit can transform people. And when people change, remarkable things happen.

JFM graduates embody a modern version of the multiplication of the loaves and fishes story. This story, found in all four Gospels, speaks to the kind of abundance that comes with sharing in the life and vision of Jesus. In the story, a few loaves and a couple of fish not only feed thousands of people but there is an overflow of leftovers!

The JustFaith Ministries version of this story is that graduates begin to create hope where there was none, abundance where there had been scarcity, love where there had been neglect, community where there was fear, and possibilities where there was only despair. Stories of conversion are always a miracle and always seem to multiply goodness in astounding ways and on an extraordinary scale!

“Stories of conversion are always a miracle and always seem to multiply goodness in astounding ways and on an extraordinary scale!”

Consider how the life of one good person can impact the lives of dozens, hundreds, or even thousands of others.

I have personally been amazed by the documented impact of our programs on parishes, ministries and agencies. The “multiplier” effect, which begins with the work and resources of just a few staff and a committed corps of volunteers around the country, yields an enormous harvest year after year!

For example, one graduate decided after JustFaith to visit Haiti and ended up getting involved in a micro-loan project that brings hope to tens of thousands of people – loaves and fishes shared and overflowing. Another graduate is introduced to the work of community organizing and invested the next four years of her life to a project that results in hundreds of affordable homes to low-income families – loaves and fishes shared and overflowing. Another graduate left a lucrative career to become the executive director of a Catholic Charities office – loaves and fishes shared and overflowing. One of our partner organizations made a relatively modest investment in our work and received nearly four million dollars from our graduates in one year – loaves and fishes shared and overflowing!

The loaves and fishes of our work translate into new volunteers and new donors for hundreds of important causes and organizations. It might well be that one of the very best ways for you to multiply the effect of your own time and giving is to support JustFaith Ministries.

JustFaith Ministries provides an email network called *GradNet* to allow JustFaith Ministries graduates to stay connected. To join, send an email to GradNet@justfaith.org giving your name, the year you graduated and the parish where you completed a *JustFaith Ministries* program.



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MISSION

JustFaith Ministries forms, informs and transforms people of faith by offering programs and resources that sustain them in their compassionate commitment to build a more just and peaceful world.

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JustFaith changes people... Those people change the world.

College Justice WALKING (CJW)

By **BRIAN NEELY**, Director of Campus Ministry, St Paul's Newman Center and Professor of Religious Studies, University of Wyoming

St. Paul's Newman Center at the University of Wyoming has a long tradition of involvement in areas of social justice. Many of our resident parishioners and university professors have taken part in the JustFaith program and found it to be life transforming. Along the way, a few students tried to be a part of these groups but inevitably found the commitment to be too overwhelming when coupled with their academic endeavors at the university. Since students are the heart of our mission, I was quick to respond when I heard of the development of a College Justice Walking program.

"College Justice Walking has changed me in a way that can never be undone."

This past fall semester we began to advertise our pilot College Justice Walking program. Interest was strong, and I quickly had a list of students who were excited to begin. The students entered the opening retreat with a high level of excitement mixed with some apprehension about what it was they had actually committed themselves to. It did not take long for the group to realize they were in for something unique and powerful over the next seven weeks.

As the Director of Campus Ministry, I found myself in awe of the conversations which took place within the weekly meetings. Each of us were struggling with issues and questions that were either new to us or else inviting us to examine an issue from a different perspective. The weekly practice of "Praying the News" began to transform the way each of us would pray and view the world around us. Students began to seriously examine where they spent their money and why they spent it on

CJW Scholarships Available

JustFaith Ministries currently has funding for a limited number of scholarships to cover the \$200 registration fee for our College JusticeWalking program.

Awards will be made on a first-come, first-served basis. Anyone interested should contact Noelle Tennis Gulden (noelle@justfaith.org or 502-429-0865). Registration must be submitted by September 30 to apply. Please forward this information to anyone you think might be interested (campus ministers, parish staff, JFM grads, etc.).

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