



Pat Friesen <patfriesen@gmail.com>

Fw: MCC Action Alert: Abundant Life: Economic Justice for All Campaign

1 message

Paul A Olson <polson2@unlnotes.unl.edu>

Mon, Jul 20, 2009 at 2:05 PM

To: BBARNAWELL@aol.com, jdoran@neb.rr.com, patfriesen@gmail.com, cbentjen2000@yahoo.com, blair@prep.creighton.edu, cawindrum <cawindrum@gmail.com>, im50427@windstream.net, robelia@mainstaycomm.net, polson2@unl.edu, Timothy Shaw <peacemaking.workshop@gmail.com>, visgermnj@aol.com, barbarah@homesteadpres.org, Betsy Blake Bennett <deaconbetsy@windstream.net>

Dear Colleagues, Bob Epp has forwarded to me the themes of Mennonite prayer and action over the coming months. These look like good themes, and most of them are themes that, in one way or another, we talked about last time and that have also been themes for Bread for the World. It would be interesting to know if your faith group is also working on any of these themes. I have been told by Marilyn Mecham that our application to be the Peace and Justice JSAT for IMN will be forwarded to the judicatories. Peace, Paul

----- Forwarded by Paul A Olson/English/UNL/UNEBr on 07/20/2009 01:59 PM -----

"Rober O" <robelia@mainstaycomm.net>

To "Paul A Olson" <polson2@unlnotes.unl.edu>

cc

07/20/2009 10:43 AM

Subject Fw: MCC Action Alert: Abundant Life: Economic Justice for All Campaign

----- Original Message -----

From: [MCC Washington Office](#)

To: robelia@mainstaycomm.net

Sent: Monday, June 29, 2009 1:27 PM

Subject: MCC Action Alert: Abundant Life: Economic Justice for All Campaign



MCC Action Alert: Abundant Life: Economic Justice for All Campaign

MCC Webpages

- [MCC Washington Office](#)
- [Washington Memo Blog](#)

abundant life economic justice for all

Over the next year, MCC Washington Office will be focusing on four specific areas of U.S. policy in which we see potential for taking steps toward greater justice. We invite congregations and individuals to consider taking one or more of the following Sundays to pray, reflect and act for economic justice for all. You can find worship and advocacy resources on the following issues at washington.mcc.org/life or you can call our office at 202-544-6564.

[July 19, 2009 And Many Were Healed: Health Care for All](#)

In the U.S., over 47 million people lack health insurance and half of all bankruptcies result from health care bills. The system is broken.

[October 25, 2009 Proclaim Jubilee: A New Beginning](#)

Many of the world's poorest countries suffer from crushing international debt. Debt relief can help create a new beginning.

[January 31, 2010 Secure Dwelling Places: A Home for Everyone](#)

For many in the United States, an affordable housing crisis started long before last year's economic meltdown.

[April 25, 2010 Let Justice Roll Down: Trade for the Common Good](#)

Unjust trade policies exacerbate conditions of poverty for millions of the world's poor. Trade policies must advance the common good.

Background: The current economic crisis has affected nearly all of us in some way. At times like this we as a church clearly must care for those who are affected. But even as we adjust to this new reality, we are waking up to the fact that many suffered long before this current crisis began. This crisis has revealed the shaky foundations on which we have built our economy and in which we have trusted. We have created unjust economic systems that have made the wealthy much wealthier and the poor even poorer. The top 1 percent of Americans hold nearly 20 percent of our country's income, a figure that has more than doubled in the last three decades. Worldwide, more than half of the world's population lives on less than \$2.50 a day.

Faith Reflection: "I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly." (John 10:10b)

Often as Christians we have spiritualized Jesus' words and understood them as referring only to a promise of eternal life.

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Clearly Jesus does promise his followers eternal life. But his actions also demonstrated that abundant life begins here and now. Jesus cared deeply about people's whole beings - their physical, spiritual and emotional needs and drew no false separations among them.

Jesus' promise of abundant life includes meeting our basic needs, but it also reflects a richer, meaningful life that does not rely on material goods to bring us joy. Rather than getting caught up in the trap of constant consuming, we can point others to a more life-giving way-life in the richness of community, sharing resources with one another and calling for more just economic policies. May we seek to be faithful in these troubled times, creatively envisioning a more just economic system.

Action: Consider participating in our campaign for one or more of these Sundays through reflection, prayer, and action. Please [let us know if your congregation is interested in participating](#) in the Abundant Life Campaign. Your church will receive 10 copies of the Washington Memo, which include advocacy information and worship resources.