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Lansing, MI 48910

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Our Facebook account:
<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?v=wall&viewas=1135518090&ref=ts&gid=10891756147>
OR you can search Facebook for Pax Christi Michigan

Our Email address & phone:
paxchristimi.coord@gmail.com
517-481-5280, Mon – Fri 1 to 5 p.m.

We thank you for your generous response to our fundraising appeals. It's your gifts of time, talent and treasure that keep Pax Christi Michigan going and growing.

If you and your friends, or your parish would like to start a local PC group, Call 517-481-5280 OR email: paxchristimi.coord@gmail.com

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**Mark Your Calendar!**  
**PCM's 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Retreat**  
**Sept 23-25**  
with  
**Bishop Tom Gumbleton**  
R.A. MacMullan Center  
Roscommon, MI

**Register Early – Space is Limited**  
Brochure enclosed

**▶▶ CATCH THE FIRE ◀◀**  
**JOIN THE MOVEMENT TO**  
**Create a culture of Peace in Michigan**

**Climb aboard this Summer's**  
**Moveable Peace 2011**

Community Listening Events  
Budget Priorities Roadshows  
Walk to Lansing from Detroit, Saginaw, Grand Rapids  
Detroit Labor Day Parade  
Labor Day Mackinac Bridge Peace Gathering  
Petitions Calling State Legislature to Institute a  
**Commission for Peace & Justice**



▶▶ Also see *Playing for Peace Benefit Concerts* – pg. 11. ◀◀

**Did you know?**

**You can now post YOUR**  
**Local PC Group Events on the**  
**Michigan Peace Network Website**  
[michiganpeacenetwork.org](http://michiganpeacenetwork.org)

**Any local Pax Christi group can post its**  
**announcements or actions via Hugh Conahan**  
**[hconahan@yahoo.com](mailto:hconahan@yahoo.com), 586-914-7216. Please**  
**include complete description of the event or**  
**action, date, time, location and contact person.**



Vol. 28 No 1

Pax Christi Michigan

Summer 2011

[www.paxchristimi.org](http://www.paxchristimi.org)

[paxchristimi.coord@gmail.com](mailto:paxchristimi.coord@gmail.com) – ph 517-481-5280



**Moveable PEACE: Catch the Fire! Join the Movement!** By Nancy Peters, Muskegon Pax Christi

In July 2010, representatives of peace and justice groups throughout Michigan met at the U.S. Social Forum in Detroit to discuss a problem that

confronts us all: millions in Michigan care about peace and justice, but too few act. Participants agreed to collaborate on a statewide effort to reach out and listen to grassroots concerns; to help folks “connect the dots” between the skewed federal priorities and the crises in funding human needs programs; and to petition for a State Commission for Peace and Justice. Using Michigan Peace Network as a hub for communication and coordination, a core of volunteers has been busy since January planning for an exciting summer initiative: **Moveable Peace 2011**. There are many components to this effort -- something for everyone! Creative resources have been developed and knowledgeable contact persons are eager to help. What is needed now is YOU! So read on and find your niche.

**Community Listening Events** ( Alan Haber [Megiddo@umich.edu](mailto:Megiddo@umich.edu) ) Providing the opportunity for folks in towns and communities across the state to express what they really think about peace and justice and then to gather these thoughts into a comprehensive agenda is one important objective of Moveable Peace 2011. “Peace movers” in any community willing to initiate conversations need only contact Alan for a “Conversation Starter Kit”, brimming with helpful resources.

**Budget Priorities Roadshow** (Chuck Warpehoski [chuck@icpj.net](mailto:chuck@icpj.net) ) The Roadshow is a dynamic mobile exhibit/performance that will travel to communities across the state to engage people in discussions of Federal Government spending, especially the large portion going to the Pentagon. Through the use of an interactive “penny poll”, participants will have a chance to compare their budget priorities to the Federal discretionary budget spending. To invite the

Roadshow to your community or/and download the Moveable Peace Organizer’s Kit, visit [www.moveablepeace.org/roadshow](http://www.moveablepeace.org/roadshow) or email [roadshow@moveablepeace.org](mailto:roadshow@moveablepeace.org)

**Peace Walk to Lansing** (Kim Redigan [kim.redigan@gmail.com](mailto:kim.redigan@gmail.com)) “Putting our soles on the line for peace” is what peace-movers from Detroit, Saginaw, and Grand Rapids will be doing as they walk the 90 miles to Lansing, July 30 – Aug. 9<sup>th</sup>. The walkers will stop in towns along the way, listening to residents express their concerns, hopes, and creative ideas for a more just and peaceful Michigan. Upon arriving in Lansing, the peace walkers will join others at the State Capitol where they will present petitions calling upon the state legislature to institute a **Commission for Peace and Justice** ([www.michiganpeacenetwork.org/actions/Sign-the-Petition-for-the-Creation-of-a-MI-commission-for-Peace-Justice](http://www.michiganpeacenetwork.org/actions/Sign-the-Petition-for-the-Creation-of-a-MI-commission-for-Peace-Justice)). However you want to participate – the entire walk, just a day or afternoon, or just an evening town meeting, all are warmly welcome! Drivers, photographers, and organizers for evening events are also needed. **NOTE: Joan McCoy [HomeforPax@aol.com](mailto:HomeforPax@aol.com) is organizing Saginaw march from Aug 3 to Aug 9.**

**Detroit Labor Day Parade** (Kim Redigan [kim.redigan@gmail.com](mailto:kim.redigan@gmail.com) ) Moveable Peace2011 will have a presence in the Detroit Labor Day Parade so call Kim for details.

**Labor Day Mackinac Bridge Peace Gathering** (Jim Ramelis [jpramelis@hughes.net](mailto:jpramelis@hughes.net) ) A Peace Camp at Cheboygan Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 3 – 4<sup>th</sup> before the Sept. 5<sup>th</sup> Bridge Walk will be a capstone event of Moveable Peace 2011, uniting our diverse efforts so that we can send a message of peace and solidarity throughout the state! Contact Jim about making a camping reservation...space limited.

**Moveable Peace 2011** has the potential to be a powerful force this summer. By cooperating in this effort, peace, justice, and environmental groups all over the state will be able to maximize the impact they can make on building a culture of peace and justice to replace the all too familiar culture of violence. Contact the event organizers listed above, or check out [www.moveablepeace.org](http://www.moveablepeace.org) for how you can get involved. ☺♥

## Fire Cannot Be Fought With Fire

Words of Wisdom from our new PCM Co-Chair Tera Loudon-Warn



America is victorious. Osama Bin Laden is dead. We won, as we always do. Fox News is ecstatic, even Obama claims "justice has been done," but what justice is there really? What justice can be done through killing? In the words of Gandhi, "an eye for an eye makes the whole world blind." One man is dead, but it does not solve everything. Terrorism cannot be killed off with Osama; we cannot simply be rid of it by destroying one man. Instead of responding peacefully to an act of violence, America, as always, chooses to fight fire with fire, to devastate the enemy through violence and pain.

Millions of Americans rejoiced at the death of Osama Bin Laden. Millions felt that those who had been killed by his forces in 9/11 had finally been avenged. Still, his death cannot bring back those they loved, nor does it prevent violence from occurring in the future. It may even lead to an increase in violent acts of retribution against the American people. What of Osama's family and loved ones? His death now causes them daily pain and suffering. What of all the innocent people killed in the wars? Were they killed to bring justice? Or are their lives just not as important as those of American citizens?

God loves every human being on this Earth. God does not consider the death of one person as less important than another, and neither should we. Yes, American citizens were cruelly and unfairly murdered in the attacks at Ground Zero, but retaliation only leads to an increase in the dehumanization. It only leads to more death, pain, and hatred. How can we spread love if we are a nation that accepts these acts? If we celebrate the death of a terrorist, we become entrenched in a cycle that exhibits domination and revenge, rather than kindness and true justice. It is good to mourn the loss of thousands of precious lives, but not to celebrate death, even the death of an enemy. I think Martin Luther King says it best:

"Through violence you may murder a murderer, but you can't murder murder. Through violence you may murder a liar, but you can't establish truth. Through violence you may murder a hater, but you can't murder hate through violence. Darkness cannot put out darkness; only light can do that."

Our nation needs to lead the way out of the cycle of violence and American pride that has a hold on society. We need to preach love in our churches, schools, and streets. Most importantly, we need to love our neighbor as ourselves, which includes those on the other side of the world from us. People who look differently, act differently, or talk differently, even people who spread messages of hate. America should go forward in the world as a nation committed to real justice for all, not just for few, and as a nation that minimizes violence, despairs in death, and celebrates new life and forgiveness. ☺♥

## Council Comings & Goings

Congratulations to our new PCM State Council Co-Chairs, **Hugh Conahan** and **Tera Loudon-Warn**. Hugh Conahan is the coordinator and one of the founding members of Beatitudes PC in Brighton. He also co-chaired this year's Local Planning Committee for our 30<sup>th</sup> Annual PCM State Conference at St. Mary Magdalen in Brighton (see pp. 6-7). Tera is a student at Michigan State University majoring in Social Work with a double-minor in Spanish and Women and Gender Studies, plus a specialization in Peace and Justice Studies. She is a founding member of the PCM Young Peace Activists. See page 5 for more on PCM's YPA.

At the April Council meeting, we welcomed new members **Carol** and **Ron Jachim** who have been life-long PC members as well as having worked on numerous PCM St. Conference Local Planning Committees. Council members also expressed our deep appreciation to outgoing Co-Chairs, **Nancy Peters** and **Neville D'Souza** and who served heroically in those capacities for the past 4 yrs, guiding PCM through its move to the new office and other changes. We also expressed gratitude to **Dr. Richard Peters** who served as Council Secretary during the same period, and to **Doreen D'Souza** who on occasion filled in for Rick. Both couples served a total of six years on the St. Council.

Our thanks also go out to **Susanne Camino** (Ann Arbor PC), **Suzan Anderson** and **Janet Affeldt** (Bishop Gumbleton PC, Detroit) who left the council this past year. We are most grateful for their inspiration and the wisdom that they brought to our council deliberations in the time they were with us. ☺♥

▶▶ Deo Gratias for the generosity of ALL who serve PCM.

### Pax Christi Michigan

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**OTHER MEMBERS:** Patti Conahan, Julie O'Hara-Fisher, Jim Rauner, Luke Mattson, Gloria & Gary Switzer, Fr. Fred Thelen, Lydia Wylie-Kellermann. Council members may serve up to two consecutive 3-yr terms, followed by a 1-yr recess before rejoining the State Council. Meetings are the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturdays of January, April, July & October, 9:30 am to 3:30 pm. Any PCM member is welcome to attend the meetings as a non-voting participant. Working committees are: Finance, Membership & Outreach, and PCM Young Peace Activists. If you are interested in attending meetings, serving on the State Council, or on a committee, please let us know so we can send directions and answer any questions you may have.

## "Playing for Peace" Benefit Concerts

Poet and hip-hop artist "Mr. Peace," Kevin Szwala, says, "All shows include Rock, Folk, Blues, Country, Hip Hop music styles and are suitable for all ages!" See Kevin performing in Kalamazoo on YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v1BLCToDn2k>

\*\*Donations welcome. All proceeds go to fund "Moveable Peace 2011"  
[www.moveablepeace.org](http://www.moveablepeace.org)

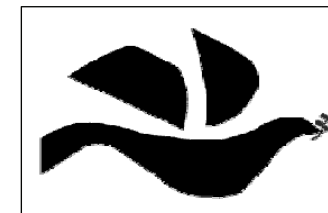


**1.) Friday, June 10, 2011**  
**7:00 PM – 9:00 PM**  
**Java House Café**  
**25840 Pontiac Trail**  
**South Lyon, MI 48178**

**2.) Friday, June 17, 2011**  
**8:00 PM – 11:00 PM**  
**Caribou Coffee**  
**401 South Main**  
**Royal Oak, MI 48067**

**3.) Saturday, June 18, 2011**  
**5:00 PM – 6:30 PM**  
**Milham Park**  
**400 E. Kilgore Rd.**  
**Kalamazoo, MI 49001**

**4.) Sunday, June 26**  
**6:00 PM – 9:00 PM**  
**Lake Lansing Community Band Shell**  
**1621 Pike Street**  
**Haslett, MI 48840**



### Offer your Hand & Extend the Peace of Christ

Offer your hand to one new person to join you in Pax Christi. They don't have to be Catholic. Offer your hand and spread the Peace of Christ. If everyone adds just one person each year, we will have over 6,400 peace seeds in Michigan in 3 years. Offer your hand, plant a seed, spread the peace! Peace be with you.

**Help us Grow Our Membership in Pax Christi USA and Pax Christi Michigan. Join/renew online at [www.paxchristiusa.org](http://www.paxchristiusa.org)**

**Please Remember Pax Christi Michigan in your Estate Planning – we depend on the goodness of others for our survival as a Catholic Peace Organization.**

## Vigil in solidarity with immigrants

Join the Sisters of Mercy each Wednesday morning at 7:00 a.m. for a vigil in solidarity with immigrants at the Department of Homeland Security facility on the southwest corner of Jefferson and Mt. Elliott in downtown Detroit. There is parking in the Harbortown strip mall on the south side of Jefferson, about a block east of Mt. Elliott.

## PeacEvents Calendar

**WEEKLY VIGILS: Detroit—Thurs:** Cease Fire! Rally from 12 noon to 12:30, Woodward at Jefferson. **Ferndale—Mon:** Silent Protest of the war & US occupation of Iraq. 4:45-5:45 pm. Nine Mile & Woodward. **Lansing—Fri:** Greater Lansing Network Against War & Injustice (GLNAWI) Vigil, noon-1pm in front of State Capitol. **Marquette—Sat:** 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat 11:30-12:30/Post Office. **Norton Shores—Sat:** Peace Protest, corner of Norton & Henry, noon-1pm. **Port Huron—Sat:** 2pm at the McMorran Fountain/downtown. **Saginaw—1<sup>st</sup> Fri** 5:00-6:00 pm at Bay and Tittabawassee Rds. Also Women in Black Vigil and film series – 2<sup>nd</sup> Mondays. For more info contact Joan McCoy at [homeforpax@aol.com](mailto:homeforpax@aol.com)

**July 30 – Aug 9: MOVEABLE PEACE 2011 Peace Walk to Lansing** "Putting our soles on the line for peace." Peace-movers from Detroit, Saginaw, and Grand Rapids will walk/drive the 90 miles to Lansing. ▶▶▶ For more info contact: Kim Redigan [kim.redigan@gmail.com](mailto:kim.redigan@gmail.com) or Joan McCoy [HomeforPax@aol.com](mailto:HomeforPax@aol.com) for Saginaw walk. See article on page 1.

**Sept 3 – 5: MOVEABLE PEACE 2011 Labor Day Mackinac Bridge Peace Gathering & Peace Camp at Cheboygan.** ▶▶▶ For more info: Jim Ramelis [jramelis@hughes.net](mailto:jramelis@hughes.net); see article on page 1.

**Sept 23: 2011: Statewide Immigrant Rights Summit** – Lansing Community College Conference Center/West Campus. Registration is FREE. ▶▶▶ For more info: Contact Lillie Wolff at [lwolff@lsscm.org](mailto:lwolff@lsscm.org) or visit [www.michiganimmigrant.org](http://www.michiganimmigrant.org)

**Sept 23-25 Pax Christi Michigan's 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Retreat.** Bishop Tom Gumbleton will be our retreat leader. R.A. MacMullan Conference Center, Roscommon, MI. ▶▶▶ BROCHURE ENCLOSED. REGISTER EARLY – SPACE IS LIMITED. Questions? Call or email Joan Tirak, 517-481-5280, [paxchristimi.coord@gmail.com](mailto:paxchristimi.coord@gmail.com).

## Mel Duncan of Nonviolent Peaceforce Draws Avid Crowd

by Jeanne Lound Schaller

"When Nonviolent Peaceforce co-founder Mel Duncan speaks, people listen." Thus began an article in the Midland Daily News about his May 13-17 visit to Mid-Michigan. Mel was invited by the Helen M. Casey Center for Nonviolence and the Mid-Michigan NP Chapter and co-sponsors: First United Methodist Church, Memorial Presbyterian Peace Fellowship, Church of the Brethren, Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church, Michigan Peace Team, Delta College Global Peace Studies, Pax Christi Michigan, Bay Area Women's Center, Community Resolution Center, Alpena Coalition for Peace, and Livonia Citizens for Peace.

Mel spoke at First United Methodist, (host), Memorial Presbyterian, Church of the Brethren, H. H. Dow and Bullock Creek High Schools and Delta College. The students asked many good questions. Also, at the initial gathering, three students read their poetry or played music—a celebration of art and artists as a vital connection in building a more peaceful world.

Peter Dougherty of Michigan Peace Team introduced Mel who said about Peter's work, "We are building on your shoulders." He also named groups such as Christian Peacemakers, and Peace Brigades International.

This 6<sup>th</sup> annual NP fundraiser, "A Portion for Peace", continues throughout 2011. We have already made connections with one school/church about possibilities in the fall. There will be a December library display of student poems and artwork about nonviolence, peace and learning to get along. Peace Bonds, in denominations of \$10-\$500 also will be on sale all year and can be purchased through the NP website or through our Center.

(For more info: Jeanne Lound Schaller [jgschall@charter.net](mailto:jgschall@charter.net))

## Haitian Peace Partnering (Con't From page 9)

...logo and the words of Gandhi on the front in Creole, *Be the Change You Want to See*. The SAKALA jerseys have been a great way for U of D students to educate their fellow students, teachers, and families about the great work happening in Haiti. U of D peacemakers have made a commitment that in the upcoming school year they will deepen this partnership by developing relationships with the Haitian players via letters and emails and will help their Haitian counterparts build up a Peace Library filled with books on peace and justice.

On another note, U of D senior and Pax Christi member, Daniel Cook, was awarded a Young Peacemaker Award at Peace Action Michigan's Annual Dinner on May 1 in Madison Heights. Daniel, along with juniors Dante Violette and Jerome Vaughan and freshman Joe Santelli, was also part of Peace Action's Young Peacemaker Group Award as part of Pax Christi Michigan's Young Peace Activist group that meets regularly at the home of the Jeannie Wylie Community. Congratulations!

Finally, some of the U of D students have committed to join the Moveable Peace 2011 Peace Walk that leaves from Detroit on July 30 and to participate in the Peace Walk Kick-Off party at A.J.'s Café on July 28. Pictures and blogs will be posted. ☀♥

## Is Just War Obsolete? (Con't From page 4)

- John Paul II, 2003, stated before the Iraqi War, "This war would be a defeat for humanity which could not be morally or legally justified." He spoke out against the war 56 times. "When war, as in these days in Iraq, threatens the fate of humanity, it is ever more urgent to proclaim, with a strong and decisive voice, that peace is the road to follow to construct a more just and united society. Violence and arms can never resolve the problems of mankind."
- Cardinal Ratzinger [now Benedict XVI], 2003, said "Given the new weapons that make possible destructions that go beyond the combatant groups, today we should be asking ourselves: If it is still licit to admit the very existence of a 'just war'?" Casting doubt on the Just War tradition itself.
- Pope John Paul II, Jan 2005, "Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good." "The inner logic of Christian love leads even to love of enemies. [Rom 12:20]. To attain the good of peace there must be a clear and conscious acknowledgement that violence is an unacceptable evil and that it never solves problems. "Violence is a lie, for it goes against the truth of our faith, the truth of our humanity. Violence destroys what it claims to defend: the dignity, the life, the freedom of human beings."
- Cardinal Ratzinger [now elected Pope], 2005, chooses the name Benedict, after Benedict XV, the Peace Pope of WW I. "Let every Christian be committed to tireless peace-making and strenuous defense of the dignity of every human person."
- Pope Benedict XVI, Jan 2006, "In a nuclear war there would be no winners, only victims. The truth of peace requires that all – whether those governments which openly or secretly possess nuclear arms, or those planning to acquire them – agree to change their course by clear and firm decisions, and strive for a progressive and concerted nuclear disarmament. The resources which would be saved could then be employed in projects of development capable of benefiting all their people, especially the poor."
- "The degree to which a person will justify violence and war is in inverse proportion to the depth of their awareness of the bonds of the human family." [James Douglas] "The whole world is my family." [John XXIII]

With all of these teachings in mind, why did the US Catholic church drop into silence once President Bush started the attack on Iraq? Why didn't we start educating our Catholic people in the right to conscientious objection to an immoral war? Why didn't we start practicing our people in the ways of non-violent resistance and civil disobedience? We Catholics are sufficient in number to have stopped this immoral war at its very beginning.

**Woe to the leaders of our church community! We did nothing in the face of a great evil. What should we do now?**

## Anti-Immigration News in Michigan

Michigan Immigration Rights Center <http://www.michiganimmigrant.org/>

### ACLU-MI Seeks ICE Records on Illegal Detention of U.S. Citizen

(From the Arab American News, May 28, 2011)

DETROIT – The American Civil Liberties Union of Michigan filed a Freedom of Information Act request this week seeking records from U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) regarding the illegal detention of a U.S. citizen and his mother who is a legal permanent resident. The Grand Rapids residents, who are Latino, were handcuffed and assaulted by ICE agents even though they produced driver's licenses to prove their identities.

"Fairness and equality are the most fundamental values we share as Americans. There's nothing fair or equal about arresting citizens because of the color of their skin," said Miriam Aukerman, ACLU of Michigan staff attorney. "We are deeply concerned that this mother and son were victims of racial profiling. It's imperative that we understand what led to this abuse of power and what policies are in place to protect Michigan residents."

In February, Telma Valdez, who has lived in the United States for almost 22 years, and her son, Luis Valdez, a college student at Grand Rapids Community College who was born in the U.S., drove to the home of relatives to allow their 6-year-old cousin to play with Luis's new puppy. As they pulled the car into the driveway, unidentified ICE agents ran toward them. An agent pointed a gun at Luis and ordered him to show ID. Both Luis and Telma produced their valid driver's license and ICE agents demanded that they get out of the car.

Telma was handcuffed and escorted to the back of the car where an agent held a gun to her back and repeatedly banged her head into the trunk of the car yelling at her to admit she was "Irma." Telma screamed out in pain and fear. Luis was handcuffed, and both Luis and Telma were escorted into an apartment.

Inside the apartment, Luis again tried to explain that he was a U.S. citizen and Telma told agents that she had her green card with her. Soon after retrieving the card, agents realized that they had arrested a U.S. citizen and legal permanent resident. Agents released the two, but not before one agent threatened Telma that she risked losing her legal status if she told her story to anyone.

"ICE agents take an oath to uphold the law, not violate people's rights," said Kary L. Moss, ACLU of Michigan executive director. "It's not a crime to be Latino in this country. However, from Arizona to Michigan, the stories of racial profiling, intimidation and illegal detention are proof that what happened to Luis and Telma is not unique."

The FOIA request asks ICE to hand over all records relating to the coordination and execution of the February raid. In addition, the ACLU requested all supervision and training materials, as well as all policies and protocols related to racial profiling, and the procedures and standards for interrogating individuals or verifying their identity and immigration status. ◀

## FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2011 2011 STATEWIDE IMMIGRANT RIGHTS SUMMIT



Lansing Community College Conference  
Center on LCC's West Campus. Reg: Free.  
Contact Lillie Wolff at [lwolff@lsscm.org](mailto:lwolff@lsscm.org)  
or visit [www.michiganimmigrant.org](http://www.michiganimmigrant.org)

## Gov. Snyder says Michigan's Anti-Immigration Bill Unnecessary and Divisive (From Arab American News, May 28, 2011)

DETROIT — Speaking at the Michigan Hispanic Chamber of Commerce's annual public policy breakfast, Gov. Rick Snyder expressed opposition towards Michigan's proposed anti-immigration bill

Following Snyder's speech, which noted the contributions of Hispanic and Latino Americans, local business owners questioned the governor on House Bill 4305, which is similar to Arizona's immigration legislation.

Snyder said the bill was unnecessary and "would encourage a divisive atmosphere" in an already divided state. He also stated that there are currently over 10,000 Latino-owned businesses in Michigan, a fact he felt deserves more attention to help businesses grow. Snyder said that although Michigan was the only state to lose population, the Latino population in the state increased by 30 percent according to census data.

"We're glad to see that Governor Snyder understands the economic cost an Arizona-style law would have here in Michigan. Immigrants are building businesses, paying taxes, and helping put our state back to work. We should have policies that welcome those investors and entrepreneurs, not treat them like criminals. We applaud Governor Snyder's stance on this important economic and civil rights issue. He is setting a good example for thinking leaders at a time when politicians in states like Arizona and Georgia have decided instead to embrace the politics of fear and division," said Ethraim Cash Brammer, a leader of the AIR coalition and administrator at Wayne State University who was in attendance at the event. ◀



## In Loving Memory of PCM Members

Ann Lindamood

Died March 21, 2011  
and

Sr. Gerry Sellman

Died April 29, 2011

Nothing can make up for the absence of someone whom we love, and it would be wrong to try to find a substitute; we must simply hold out and see it through. That sounds very hard at first, but at the same time it is a great consolation, for the gap, as long as it remains unfilled, preserves the bonds between us. It is nonsense to say that God fills the gap; God doesn't fill it, but on the contrary, keeps it empty and so helps to keep alive our former communion with each other, even at the cost of pain.

- Dietrich Bonhoeffer

*Our sisters Ann and Gerry will be remembered as faithful Pax Christi members – women who lived lives dedicated to following in the footsteps of the nonviolent Jesus. They were gentle souls who loved life and gave tirelessly to the service of others. We will miss their prophetic leadership and resilient spirit.*

**ANN'S LEGACY:** In 2005 Ann Lindamood, together with the members of her parish renew group, prayerfully took on the task of beginning Beatitudes Pax Christi at Saint Mary Magdalen in Brighton, Michigan. Ann had been a member of Pax Christi USA for many years and wanted to challenge others to become aware of the need of working hard to see that the Church's teachings on social justice are implemented in their daily lives. Ann remained an active member of Beatitudes and even worked on the 2011 state conference helping to write the prayer service which opened the conference. On March 21, 2011 Ann passed away taking with her our intentions and desires for a peace-filled world. (From Patti Conahan, friend and co-member of Beatitudes Pax Christi)

**GERRY'S LEGACY:** Bearing the unofficial title of mayor of Detroit's Corktown neighborhood brought with it a handful of responsibilities, but friends and neighbors said Sr. Gerry Sellman (age 85) had the energy and dedication to carry them out. Gerry was a member of the Sisters of Charity of Our Lady Mother of Mercy. Sr. Mary Ellen Ryley, a member of her community said, "She was a warm and hospitable individual who became such a spark through the entire community. Her enthusiasm was very contagious and it was hard to keep her down." Eileen Burns, a longtime Corktown resident and neighbor said, "She was an advocate for women, for the poor and a community builder. We were both part of the Corktown Citizens' Patrol ...and she knew every person by their first name." (From Therese Terns' obituary in the Detroit Free Press. Gerry and Therese were beloved cousins.)

~ MAY THEY REST IN THE PEACE OF CHRIST ~

## IS JUST WAR OBSOLETE?

By Jim Rauner, PCM St. Council Member



I think the Vatican is actually moving ahead of the US church in terms of just war theory. I see an evolution in social doctrine here reflecting the terrible reality of modern warfare. Some try to go back with Augustine and the difference. And it is a

tremendous difference: we are not now facing a "war of mercy" and pure self-defense with swords and spears, but a war of inhuman cruelty and uninhibited massive destruction, waged with megaton weapons, with assassination drones, depleted uranium weapons, cluster bombs, unlimited aerial bombardment and cruise missiles... Pope John XXIII said in his first Encyclical ( Ad Petri Cathedram ) "so monstrous are the weapons which this age of ours has brought into being that all nations, both vanquished and would be victors, may expect nothing other than to be overtaken by immeasurable destruction, immeasurable ruin." Surely a Papal Encyclical represents the public doctrine of the Church, and here, as elsewhere we find a firm support for the contention of Fr. John Courtney Murray that "war has now become a moral absurdity."

- John XXIII, 1963, "Pacem in Terris". Peace on Earth. "Questions all warfare and opens the door to a church of nonviolence."
- Paul VI, 1965, UN address. "No more war! War never again!"
- Vat Council II, 1965, "Gaudium et Spes." Constitution on the Church in the Modern World has issued a new vision for the church, calling for love, human community and justice. It issues the only condemnation of Vatican II, a condemnation of nuclear war. It upholds as examples of peace-makers, "those who act non-violently in the tradition of Jesus. Only by actively seeking peace and renouncing violence can Christians fulfill Isaiah's vision of people beating their swords into plowshares." The council also upheld the right of citizens to conscientious objection during wartime.
- John Paul II, 1979, "On my knees I beg you to turn away from violence...do not listen to voices which speak the language of hatred, revenge, retaliation. Do not follow any leaders who train you in the way of inflicting death...Give yourself to the service of life, not the work of death. Violence is the enemy of justice. Only peace and nonviolence can lead the way to true justice."
- US Bishops pastoral letter, "Challenge of Peace" 1983, "Peacemaking is not an optional commitment. We are called to be peacemakers, not by some movement of the moment, but by our Lord Jesus." The church is called to be a community of peacemakers who follow the active, nonviolent spirit of Jesus, moving us to risk our lives in nonviolent transformation of the world's violence into God's reign of justice and peace.

Concluded on page 10

## Blue Water Pax Christi (Port Huron)

Blue Water Pax Christi has been busy with different activities. In January, the group participated in Holy Trinity's Ministry Fair with a poster display; some new members were recruited. The Sunday monthly meetings provided good discussion on current situations and support for the members.

During lent, we held our annual peace and justice film series on Thursdays each of the 6 weeks. The films provided information and good discussions. On tax day, April 18<sup>th</sup>, some members distributed leaflets in front of the County Courthouse that explained the problems with our current tax system.

This summer we will participate in a neighborhood community garden. Currently we are very concerned about Sandy Quintano, a member of the Michigan Peace Team and a resident of our area and are requesting prayers for. She was injured by Israeli soldiers while on a peace mission to Palestine

Ruth Habalewsky, (810) 982-8371  
[rhablewsky@adynet.net](mailto:rhablewsky@adynet.net)

## St. Leo/Bishop Gumbleton PC (Detroit)



Our group leader, Gerry Sellman, SCMM, passed away on April 29, 2011. Sr. Gerry had been ill for some time and unable to attend meetings since January of this year. Her funeral was held at St. Leo on Saturday, April 14<sup>th</sup>, and the Church was filled to capacity with her family, community and friends. The service was an inspiration to all, as we sang songs of peace, love and healing. The closing song was "Oh When the Saints Go Marchin' In." Prior to her death Sr. Gerry planned her funeral readings and music as well as the homilist, Fr. Gordon Judd, who reflected on what message Gerry would have intended by the readings she picked. He said that the phrase which stuck out to him was that we must "keep on with what we are doing." A most appropriate message from Gerry, who was such a tireless worker for peace and justice!

Suzan Anderson, 313-259-1631, [suzanfa@comcast.net](mailto:suzanfa@comcast.net)

## Muskegon Pax Christi

Our Lenten project was the printing and distribution of brochures -- "Violence Ends Where Love Begins: A Lenten Daily Walk with Jesus." It contained quotes from peacemakers, the Bible, political and religious leaders, etc. for every day of Lent. The introduction stated: "The struggle to live a life of nonviolence is a challenge to us all. It is our hope that the quotations below will inspire you to model more closely the witness of Christ during the coming days of Lent."

A presentation by visiting author Maxine Kaufman-Lacusta was a highlight this spring. Maxine shared the voices of over a hundred Palestinian and Israeli peace activists whom she interviewed in her book: "Refusing to be Enemies: Palestinian and Israeli Nonviolent Resistance to the Israeli Occupation."

Richard & Nancy Peters, 231-798-2915  
[dahliadoc44@comcast.net](mailto:dahliadoc44@comcast.net) & [nancyjpeters@comcast.net](mailto:nancyjpeters@comcast.net)

## Pax Christi Grand Rapids

In January Pax Christi Grand Rapids began hosting its monthly meeting in the lower level of the Cathedral of St. Andrew on Division Avenue in GR. We meet the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month at 3p.m.

We plan to be part of the Movable Peace 2011 program, including sponsoring a Mr. Peace "Playing for Peace" Concert on June 11. We will also be joining Muskegon Pax Christi in the Moveable Peace Walk to the State Capitol in Lansing where we will rally with others from throughout the state on August 9<sup>th</sup> and petition the state legislature to establish a *Commission for Peace and Justice*. While enroute we will facilitate town hall meetings and discussions.

We are also planning a workshop at the Dominican Center on Sunday, at 4 p.m. on Sept 18, after the Interfaith program, relating to the 2011 *International Day of Peace* which PC Grand Rapids cosponsors.

Then on Sept 21 we will be cosponsoring programs for the *International Day of Peace* in Grand Rapids. These programs will include participation in the *Week of Peace Education*, the *Eastown Street Fair*, and in the annual *Interfaith Peace Service at the Dominican Center/Marywood*. After the Peace Service we will convene a program about promoting peace in families and faith communities, nationally and internationally.

PC Grand Rapids has developed a DVD about nuclear weapons which can be used in Catholic schools and with parish groups. For more information about this, or any of our Grand Rapids PC activities, contact Kate Villaire.

Kate villaire 616-459-6626, [katevillaire@aol.com](mailto:katevillaire@aol.com)

## U of D Jesuit High PC Members Partner with Haitian Peace Makers

By Kim Redigan, Faculty Advisor



Almost 20 members of the JustPeace Club at University of Detroit Jesuit High School and Academy have joined Pax Christi Michigan and PCUSA. In addition to organizing a Peace and Justice Coffee House and traveling to Washington, D.C. last fall to participate in the Ignatian Family Teach-In and Lobby Day on the issues of immigration, climate change, and the School of the Americas, students have undertaken a new project in partnership with interns from PCUSA and young peacemakers from Pax Christi Haiti.

Through PCUSA, U of D PC members were introduced to SAKALA, a youth sports program sponsored by Pax Christi Haiti in Cite Soleil. SAKALA combines soccer and peace education and is committed to developing a peace curriculum to teach both Haitian and U.S. youth about the great peacemakers of our time. With the support of Pax Christi members and friends from St. Leo's parish in Detroit, the Haitian players have designed and now wear handsome soccer jerseys that bear the names of great peace heroes and heroes including Martin Luther King, Jr., Franz Jagerstatter, Fr. Jean Juste, Dorothy Day, and Thich Nhat Hanh, to name only a few. In solidarity U of D students have ordered identical jerseys that bear the SAKALA

Concluded on page 10 – Haitian Peace Partnering

## Local PC Community News From Around the State

### PCM WELCOMES

#### New Local Group & Coordinator

#### Peace Seekers Pax Christi

Mary Beth Seymour  
329 S. Denwood  
Dearborn, MI 48124  
313-561-4736  
[meseymour@ameritech.net](mailto:meseymour@ameritech.net)

#### Pax Christi Southwest Michigan (Niles)

During the winter months, as part of our decision to focus on the issue of immigration reform, members Paul Newcomb and Trina Ramos presented a historical review of immigration in the U.S. and outlined some of the questions that need to be addressed. Also member Jim Rauner spoke to us about his involvement in the State Council special task force on Immigration.

Two of our members, Father David Otto and Cap Grathwohl, recently returned from a trip to El Salvador where they learned firsthand the story of Jean Donovan and three American nuns who were raped, tortured, and murdered by National Guardsmen armed with weapons supplied by our government. Our group re-lived this story by watching the documentary "Roses in December."

After a pause due to the harsh winter weather, we resumed our monthly Peace Vigil at the corner of Memorial Park on the first weekend in May.

Plans are underway for our group to have a physical presence at the Niles Blue Grass Festival on June 3 as well as at the Niles Riverfront Festival later in August.

Tom & Mary Mechtenberg, 269-683-3035  
[mechtenbergs@hotmail.com](mailto:mechtenbergs@hotmail.com)

#### Citizens for Peace and Justice-Marquette (Marquette PC)



We continue to vigil against the wars at the Post Office on the first and third Saturdays of each month, from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30

p.m. Our numbers have dwindled as some of our old faithful members have moved out of state, and few loyal members are physically not able to vigil anymore, however we keep on keeping on. Currently we are planning to participate in the "Mother Earth Water Walk" which will come through Marquette about June 6. You can find more information on this walk by going to [www.motherearthwaterwalk.com](http://www.motherearthwaterwalk.com)

Martha Hayward, 906-475-7582, [marthaanhayward@gmail.com](mailto:marthaanhayward@gmail.com)

#### Nazareth Pax Christi

The principle works of Pax Christi Nazareth, because of the advanced age and compromised health of our sisters is to be informed as to what is happening in our world and seek an understanding of it. Our mission is to pray constantly for our world. We write letters to our government officials as well as to people who can make change possible. We pray that Christ's dream, "That all may be ONE" may become a reality.

We began the year with a focus on Women and Girls, reflecting on how they respond to the reality in which they live, i.e., dealing with problems, with various religions, and with political systems that violate their dignity as Daughters of God. We focused on Women of Afghanistan and the Taliban using the video, "Rethinking Afghanistan." We reminded everyone that Jan. 11 was National Human Trafficking Awareness Day and we remembered Martin Luther King Day with prayers and reflection.

For the month of February we chose the theme, "Human Trafficking of Children." We viewed the "Dark Side of Chocolate" and discussed how we contribute to this horrendous practice. We chose as an action to write and sign a letter to the Hershey Company asking them not to purchase chocolate from parts of Africa which participate in child trafficking and child labor.

In March we remembered Haiti. Sr. Mary Ellen Gondeck presented a power point and told us of her recent visit to Haiti and the transformation that is taking place. There is still much to do but much is being done, especially by churches and religious groups. We also tried to keep abreast of what has been happening in Japan, Libya and the various war zones.

In April, the *Health Care Reform Bill* was our focus. We viewed a power point prepared by the Federation of the Sisters of St. Joseph. It helped us understand many parts of this complicated bill. Besides writing letters to continue to support the bill, we are praying for our political leaders that they will seek, not personal ends, but to act always for the Common Good.

At our May monthly meeting, we were pleased to hear from one of our own, Sr. Nina Rodriguez, who spent months in troubled Juarez, Mexico as part of a MPT Violence Reduction Peace Team, where she and others accompanied the people who are experiencing war and death in the conflict between government forces and drug traffickers.

In the last three months we expanded our meetings by repeating the conferences which take place in the afternoon, to doing another conference in the evening for Sisters and friends who are not part of Pax Christi, but share an interest in the themes we are presenting. This has given another 12 to 15 people the opportunity to participate.

Sr. Rose Balog, CSJ, 269-381-6290 ex. 660  
[rbalog@csjoseph.org](mailto:rbalog@csjoseph.org)

### Start your own parish or city Pax Christi Group!!

Just invite 5 or more people with a passion for justice and a heart for peacemaking to come together for an introductory session.

For help getting started, contact Joan Tirak  
517-481-5280 or [paxchristimi.coord@gmail.com](mailto:paxchristimi.coord@gmail.com)

## Happenings with Young Peace Activists From Pax Christi Conference to Diversity Forums to Conversations on Sexuality/Hate Crimes

By Lydia Wylie-Kellerman

It has been a wonderful winter and spring to be a part of Pax Christi's MI's YPA. It has been a full year now that this group has been meeting on a monthly basis. Community is deepening, numbers are growing, and students are doing loads of work in their schools. This is truly an incredible group of high school students!

In January, 15 high school students joined the Martin Luther King, Jr Rally in downtown Detroit and led the march with the puppets of Martin Luther King, Ella Baker, and Cesar Chavez.

In March, YPA took a lead at the PCM State Conference. Sarah, Isabelle, and Jackie led a workshop on Power, Privilege, and Oppression. Julie and Tera facilitated the lunch caucus. After lunch Lydia, Julie and Tera presented the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Young Adult Peacemaker Award to Kati Garrison. In the afternoon we did some visioning towards the future of PCM's YPA.

April was busy. At U of D High School, the students organized a Diversity Forum around race issues in Detroit and the suburbs. At Mercy High School, students organized a conversation around hate crimes against LGBT students.

The group regularly finds our members at events together from the Good Friday Walk in Detroit to the MCHR Annual Dinner to Tevyn East's production of Leaps and Bounds.

It has been nothing but a joy to work together!

### Lots to Celebrate!

Students receive awards from MCHR and Peace Action

**Marion Berger**, a senior at Grosse Pointe South and member of YPA, received Michigan Coalition for Human Right's Young Peace Activist Award. Marion has been an activist for environmental justice in her school, Detroit, and the country.

**Dan Cook**, a senior at the University of Detroit Jesuit and member of YPA, received Peace Action's Peace Award. Dan has been an incredible organizer and leader of the Just Peace Club at his school.

Peace Action also awarded **Young Peace Activists (YPA)** with their organizational peace award.



YPA Joins the Good Friday Walk through downtown Detroit.

## Congratulations to our Graduates! How we will miss you...

**Marion Berger** will be attending the University of Michigan where she plans to create her own major called Sustainable Community Development and German.

**Dan Cook** will be attending Georgetown University- School of Foreign Service with a major in International History.

**Jean-Pierre Seguin** will be attending the University of Michigan where he plans to major in History.



## Mark Your Calendars: Upcoming Events

### Anti-Oppression Training

Saturday, July 30 9-5pm

A day-long training in Detroit around issues of privilege and oppression. The training will be led by Melanie Morrison, executive director of Allies for Change.

### Nonviolence Training

October 2011

YPA hopes to hold its second annual nonviolence weekend training with Michigan Peace Team.

### School of the Americas Protest

November 2011

YPA plans to attend the SOA for the third year together. Hope you will join us.

### YPA Monthly Meetings

@ Jeanie Wylie  
Community,  
4963 Larkins, Detroit,  
MI 48210

Ideas? Questions? Want to Join?  
Contact Lydia Wylie-Kellermann  
[lydiaiwk@gmail.com](mailto:lydiaiwk@gmail.com)  
(313)595-1967

[jeaniewyliecommunity.blogspot.com](http://jeaniewyliecommunity.blogspot.com)

Find us on facebook:  
Young Peace Activists

# Behold, I Make All Things New: Building the New in the Shell of the Old

## PCM State Conference receives high praise

By Joan Tirak, PCM Coordinator  
Pictures by James Prest & Pat Huhn

There is so much injustice taking place in our world today that it often seems impossible to leverage any changes. Of course that's exactly what the prevailing political ruling elite want to project, so that people of hope and vision wear down and give up. But the mood of the over 200 attendees at Pax Christi Michigan's 30<sup>th</sup> Annual State Conference, St. Mary Magdalen parish in Brighton was anything but hopeless. They came armed with courage and a hunger for justice. They came fired up and committed to making our world a better place for all.



**Keynoter Fr. Peter Dougherty** set the stage by calling for a revisioning – building the new in the shell of the old. His insights into how all the injustices perpetrated by empire builders around the world fit

into the failed capitalistic system set the benchmark for a call for radical change. World power brokers must come to grips with the fact that their solutions have failed. And we must hold their feet to the fire to make the world a place where everyone has what they need and where everyone prospers – not just the oligarchs and dictators who wield their mighty swords against the poor and those who are fighting for justice. Peter's dedication to making all this happen in our lifetime and his solutions for radical change brought people to their feet in a standing ovation as he ended his prophetic remarks.

The annual peace awards inspired even more hope. **Sally Peck**, who was honored with this year's Purple Ribbon for Peace Award, delivered an impassioned response and a call to everyone to keep on keeping on. While listening to her invigorating remarks, no one would have believed that she celebrated her 80<sup>th</sup> birthday this past year! Presenters were Sally's cousin **Sue VandenBerg** and **Bob Podzikowski** – all are members of Plowshares Pax Christi in Oak Park, MI.



Our 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Young Adult Peacemaker Award (YAPA) was presented to **Katie Garrison** (3<sup>rd</sup> from left), parishioner of St. Mary



Magdalen and former intern with Michigan Peace Team. She also served on the PCM St. Council. Katie also led one of twelve conference workshops called, "The Politics of Food and Healthy Eating." Presenters **Lydia Wylie-Kellermann**, the 2010 YAPA recipient, **Julie O'Hara-Fisher** and **Tera Loudan-Warn** brought their youthful enthusiasm to the ceremony, which was a blessing to all.

PCM also honored the Alpena Peace Coalition with the PCM Artisans of Peace Award for four years of hard work in planning their Annual 30-Days of Peace, involving citizens from the entire city:



churches, schools, the mayor, a municipal judge, civic and religious organizations, businesses and the Alpena Peace People Pax Christi group. Recipients included: **Sr. Catherine Anderson, OP, Sally Buza and Carol Skiba**. The award presenter was PCM's 2010 Purple Ribbon for Peace recipient, **Sr. Maria Goretti** (far right).



Participants praised the keynoter, workshop leaders, and the warm welcome they received from both the PCM **Young Peace Activists** from **UD Jesuit High School** (See picture) and student volunteers from both St. Patrick's and St. Mary Magdalen parishes in

Brighton. They also praised the Local Planning Committee for their hard work. Prior to the close of the conference, PCM warmly recognized members of the committee which included the Beatitudes Pax Christi and Charity and Justice Committee: Patti and Hugh Conahan, Cris Doby, Pat Huhn, Lisa Klein, Barb and Tom Sullivan along with Toni McNamara, Director of Christian Service – St. Joseph Parish, South Lyons, and two members of the PCM St. Council.

Prayer Committee members **Patti Conahan** and **Ann Lindamood** were especially honored with a dedication of the conference to them in the Program of the Day. Unfortunately, Patti was ill and could not be there, and sadly Ann (pictured right) had a major stroke and died just prior to the event.

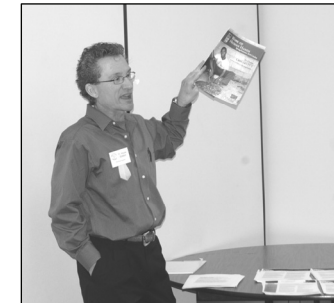


## Highlights of Conference Workshops By Margaret Henne, Pastoral Minister, St. Patrick Catholic Parish in Brighton

The JustFAITH program *Journey to Justice Day* component is typically offered at the diocesan level. Since we were unable to find any offerings in Lansing or surrounding dioceses, we decided instead to attend the Pax Christi Michigan Conference. *Although not exactly the same, it turned out to be a great connection!*

JustFaith explores many subjects that relate to the four priorities of Pax Christi: Spirituality of Nonviolence and Peacemaking; Disarmament, Demilitarization and Reconciliation with Justice; Economic and Interracial Justice in the US and Human Rights and Global Restoration.

We were able to take what we'd already read and discussed in JustFAITH and apply it to what is happening in our society and world. When Fr. Dougherty spoke about the Shock Doctrine, it increased our awareness of the victimization of the poor. His references to the political and capitalistic policies that systematically benefit the rich, while the poor are marginalized and exploited, were "shocking!"



Some of us attended the "Immigration – What's Happening with ICE Detention in Michigan" and were amazed at what our policies and the practice of privatization of detention centers/prisons is doing to those caught in the system. We were very encouraged by the work of Fr.

Wayne Dziekan of the Catholic Diocese of Gaylord. It increased our awareness of what is happening in our own state. Teresa Beyer, our JustFaith parish coordinator, remarked that it encouraged her to look for ways to help those who are caught in the heightened law enforcement response that may affect immigrating workers in southeast Michigan and those who work in agriculture and local farms in our own Livingston County.

Two members of our JF group, Nancy and Katie, attended the "The Politics of Food and Healthy Eating" led by former parishioner Katie Garrison, who is now an intern with the Michigan Peace Team. Since we read the book How Much is Enough about living simply, it gave them more detail and information about practices that are sustainable and not harmful to our bodies or the earth.



*Concluded in the next column*



JustFAITH participant Jim Henne noted that the JF book Jesus and Non-Violence really prepared him for the session by Manuel Pedilla (pictured with Bishop Tom Gumbleton) on "Nuclear Disarmament and the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty". The workshop had a direct correlation with renewing his interest in activism. He plans to become a more vocal advocate on these issues.

Another attended the **Movable Peace session** and became more aware of what is happening in our state that can be utilized to bring more emphasis to the peace movement.



Justice Education is an area that our entire JF group believes needs more emphasis in our church formation, seminary and parish programs. In addition to offering parish programs like JustFAITH, Margaret Henne attended "Using Alternative Media in Your Peace Activism" to find ways to expand the message by developing and using electronic media in parish life.

JustFAITH partners include Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD), Catholic Relief Services (CRS), Pax Christi USA, Bread for the World, Catholic Charities USA and Maryknoll Brothers and Sisters.

## ▶▶▶ Our Deepest Appreciation...



Pictured receiving a gift from PCM St. Council Co-Chair Nancy Peters are (L to R): Nancy Peters, Hugh Conahan, Ron James, Toni McNamara, Pat Huhn, Tom

Sullivan. **Absent from the photo were:** Patty Conahan, Cris Doby, Lisa Klein, Barb Sullivan, Pat Valaer and Joan Tirak

The Conference was wonderful, but none of this could have happened without the incredibly dedicated members of the Local Planning Team, who met monthly from November to March. Nor without the warm hospitality of St. Mary Magdalen and its welcoming pastor Fr. Dave Howell. Nor without the wonderful volunteers who helped on the day of the conference: young and old hospitality greeters, the prayer leaders, meal servers and diverse resource tablers.

**Thank You to One and All** ◀◀◀