

Pax Christi USA continued its work to build the Peace of Christ with a variety of programs, publications, events, and collaborations in 2006. The Pax Christi USA network, consisting of more than 350 local chapters and 20 formal Regions provided the infrastructure for action and outreach that proclaimed the Gospel imperative of nonviolence to a troubled world and a nation at war.

The following are a sample of highlights from Pax Christi USA's work in 2006.

The War in Iraq

Pax Christi USA continued to challenge the illegal and immoral invasion and occupation of Iraq. Our efforts included ongoing production of resources for prayer, study and action through our membership mailings, website and Rapid Response email list. Pax Christi USA also collaborated with the work of Clergy and Laity Concerned with Iraq, a religious outreach project of United for Peace and Justice (UFPJ), the national anti-war coalition in which Pax Christi USA is actively involved. Pax Christi USA was one of the initial endorsers of the Declaration of Peace, a grassroots education and action project, which culminated in a week of local actions from Sept. 21-28. Pax Christi USA leadership also participated in the Sept. 21 national event to deliver the Declaration to the White House. The White House refused delivery of the letter and three dozen UFPJ and religious leaders were arrested.

Responding to the US Catholic Bishop Conference President's statement on Iraq issued at their November annual meeting, Pax Christi USA and Pax Christi Metro DC organized a Mass for Peace in Washington, DC for the 1st Sunday of Advent. Bishop President Gabino Zavala delivered a homily that took as its starting point the Bishops' November position calling for a "responsible transition" but went further to make a clear call for the occupation to be brought to an end. The homily was widely distributed and printed in the National Catholic Reporter.

Torture

Pax Christi USA maintained a high level of involvement in accompanying the efforts of torture survivors of the Torture Abolition and Survivors and Support Coalition (TASSC) to stop all use of torture. Pax Christi USA organized a sign on statement "A Christian Call to Stop Torture," published a prayer card "Jesus, Our Tortured Brother," promoted TASSC's June Torture Awareness Month through our membership network, and accompanied a number of advocacy initiatives, primarily challenging the Military Commission Act, legislation which permits mistreatment of detainees and grants immunity to those who have ordered or practiced torture.

Pax Christi USA also joined as one of the organizational endorsers of the newly organized National Religious Campaign Against Torture, and has promoted NRCAT's sign on statement and various advocacies to our members.

Threats of War with Iran

As the Bush Administration escalated its rhetoric against Iran's nascent nuclear power program, the specter of another war loomed large in 2006. It was in this context that Pax Christi USA Executive Director, Dave Robinson traveled to Iran in June with an interreligious delegation organized by the Fellowship of Reconciliation. The delegation met with Iranian religious leaders, community organizers, students, Jewish community representatives and ultimately, with Iranian Vice-President Esfandiar Rahim Mashahi. The unscheduled 2 hour meeting, called by the Vice-President on the day before the delegation's departure, resulted in a deep exchange on the role of religion in public life, the Iranian nuclear program, human rights in Iran and the ongoing situation in Iraq. During the delegation, Dave issued a series of Updates from Iran that was distributed to members and the media.

Upon returning from Iran, Dave was invited to give a presentation on the Iranian nuclear program to the Congressional Progressive Caucus in the Capitol. Members of Congress, staff and media representatives attended the briefing. The presentation was videotaped and is available on YouTube. One of the new relationships that Pax Christi USA entered into as a result of the delegation was with the National Iranian American Council (NIAC), the largest US-based organization representing Iranian Americans. Later in the spring, Dave and NIAC staff Alex Patico, another delegation member, presented their insights on the Iranian situation to DC-based organizations at an event organized together with NETWORK. Dave continued to write and to speak on Iran to groups around the country in the months following the delegation.

Catholic-Muslim Relations

In September, following the violence that erupted in response to Pope Benedict XVI's statement using an

ancient characterization of Islam, Pax Christi USA was invited by the Muslim American Society Freedom Foundation to co-host a national press conference to respond. During the press conference, Dave announced that Pax Christi USA would honor the Ramadan fast by encouraging its members to keep the fast as a way of better understanding our Muslim sisters and brothers and as a measure of spiritual solidarity. Pax Christi USA local groups and members responded to this call by participating in the fast and by reaching out to Muslim groups locally. Pax Christi USA national leaders were then invited to participate in an Iftar, the evening meal that breaks the fast, organized by the Muslim American Society at their office in Washington, DC. Pax Christi USA continues to build on its relations with Islamic leaders and to call for spiritual and political solidarity in the face of increasing intolerance and interreligious violence.

School of the Americas

Pax Christi USA participated in the annual weekend vigil at Fort Benning, Georgia, calling for the close of the School of the Americas (WHINSC) Our Friday night event was entitled Hope from the Fires of Latin America and included presentations from Fr. John Dear, SJ on Colombia, Marvin Rodriguez on Vieques, PR, Bill Quigley on Haiti, and Lisa Sullivan of SOAW on Venezuela. Dave Robinson moderated. Dave also spoke to 4000 students at the Ignatian Teach-In on the spirituality of nonviolence. Program staff Marvin Rodriguez represented PCUSA at the Latino Caucus of SOAW and was made co-chair of that caucus. Jean Stokan, PCUSA Policy Director, attended a parish organizing session and presented on PCUSA's Peoples' Peace Initiative.

Organizing for the 2006 Congressional Elections

Recognizing that we must organize for a dramatic change in US policy on both the domestic and international levels, Pax Christi USA partnered with Catholics in Alliance for the Common Good to make the common good a central issue in the 2006 Congressional elections. Pax Christi USA led a field organizing project that put organizers on the ground in Ohio and Pennsylvania. Training was held for the field organizers at the Pax Christi USA National Office in Erie to prepare them to inject the core messages of Catholic Social Teaching into the congressional campaigns in these two states. A toolkit for local organizers was also developed and distributed by Pax Christi USA to local groups, campus groups and religious communities across the US. The project effectively offered an alternative to the religious right's efforts to narrow Catholic identity down to a few life issues while ignoring the depth and breath of Catholic Social Teachings. Catholics in Alliance for the Common Good, a project fiscally sponsored by

PCUSA, received its separate 501c(3) status in 2006 whereupon, PCUSA granted back to Catholics in Alliance the restricted funds that PCUSA had been administering.

Anti-Racism

Pax Christi USA continued to deepen its efforts to transform Pax Christi USA into an anti-racist multicultural movement for justice and peace in the Catholic tradition. Our Anti-Racism team (PCART) began to develop a training manual for use in parishes, local groups and religious communities. A subcommittee was created to specifically address the racism laid bare by Hurricane Katrina and a delegation to New Orleans was being planned for early 2007. In spring of 2006, Pax Christi USA Executive Director Dave Robinson was invited to join a delegation to New Orleans organized by the National Black Catholic Congress and led by Bishop John Ricard of Pensacola, FL. The delegation toured the devastation in New Orleans, met with Catholic leaders of the African-American community and participated in a work project at the Sisters of the Holy Family.

Nuclear Weapons

Pax Christi USA issued an organizational statement condemning the North Korean nuclear test in the summer of '06 and called on the Bush Administration to enter into dialogue and negotiation with North Korea as well as fulfilling its own commitments to disarm under Article VI of the Nonproliferation Treaty. Pax Christi USA was elected to the Executive Committee of the National Religious Partnership on the Nuclear Weapons Danger, an interfaith campaign to build grassroots pressure on the US for nuclear abolition. At the same time, the Department of Energy began holding hearings on Complex 2030, the \$15 billion reinvestment in the US nuclear weapons complex that would replace every warhead in the US inventory and create new capacities to build new nuclear weapons and maintain those weapons for the indefinite future. Pax Christi USA offered testimony at the Department of Energy public hearing in Washington, DC and posted that testimony on our website as a resource to local communities in preparing their own testimony.

Partnership with Japanese Bishops Conference Justice and Peace Commission

In early 2006 the Catholic Council for Justice and Peace (CCJP) of the Japanese Bishops Conference officially affiliated with Pax Christi International. In response to a request by the Japan CCJP for Pax Christi USA's support of their effort to preserve the peace clause (Article 9) of the Japanese Constitution, we hosted their delegation at our National Conference in Pittsburgh and arranged three days of advocacy meetings in Washington, D.C. Delegation members included: Bishop Goro Matsuura, president of the Council, Masataka Nagasawa, General Secretary; and Sister

Filo Hirota, Board member and President of the Japan Leadership Conference of Women Religious. Sister Filo stayed to travel with Dave to the August 6th commemoration in Los Alamos, NM, where both addressed the gathering.

The delegation's address at our National Conference was both moving and informative, focusing on the U.S. pressure to remilitarize Japan, of which eliminating Article 9 of the Constitution is part. The broader policy context is that the U.S. plan to engage Japan as a key bi-lateral partner in its "war on terrorism" and its military transformation of the Asia Pacific, resulting in deepening arms prolifera-

tion and regional destabilization.

Pax Christi USA arranged a series of meetings for Japan CCJP in Washington, D.C. with religious leadership, Congressional offices of relevant Committee heads), media interviews, the U.S. Institute of Peace, and a special briefing and luncheon hosted by USCCB's Department of Migration and the newly formed National Catholic Asian Pacific network.

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National Council

Executive Committee

Bishop Gabino Zavala – Bishop President
Judy Coode – Council Chair
Jeanette Rodriguez – Council Vice-Chair
Pearlette Springer - Council Vice-Chair
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John Kelly
Diane Lopez-Hughes
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Fr. Kevin Queally, TOR
Jeanette Rodriguez
Olga Sarabia

Revenue

Contributions	496,279
Wills and Bequests	1,517
New Membership Outreach	34,193
Appeals	66,710
Grants	151,010
Publications	150,812
Programs/Projects	76,428
National Assembly	70,106
Local/Regional/Youth Organizing	970
Interest and Dividends	11,064
Unrealized (loss)/gain on Investments	4,078
Miscellaneous	6,680
*Net assets released from restrictions	
TOTAL SUPPORT, REVENUE	1,069,847

Expenses

Development	229,787
Cost of Publications (Sales)	62,096
Marketing	6,970
Programs/Projects	
Peoples' Peace Initiative	
Catholic Peace Voice	
Brothers and Sisters All	
Membership Resourcing	
Local/Regional/Youth Org.	
Sponsorship/Coalition Building	
TOTAL PROJECTS	918,113
Administration and Coordination	173,107
Depreciation and Amortization	18,996
TOTAL EXPENSES	1,409,069
Excess of Expenses Over Income	(339,222)
*\$284,772 of temporarily restricted net assets were released from restriction	