



Peace Offerings

PCLR Members Attend Women's Federation For World Peace "Bridge of Peace" Ceremony

PCLR Board Members

- Sherry Simon (President)**
- Betty Jo King (V. Pres)**
- Marian Paquette (Sec)**
- Sherry Martin (Treasurer)**
- Sandee Haslauer**
- Mary Hunt**
- Jerome Ngundue**
- Sarah Ngundue**
- Rebecca Mullican**
- George Simon**

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Blessed are the Peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God.

The Women's Federation for World Peace has been sending delegates to attend Pax Christi Little Rock meetings for the past several months. As part of this effort to nurture our relationship and coordinate our efforts as peace organizations, Sharl Hill, a national representative of WFWP, invited members of PCLR to attend a dinner and Bridge of Peace Ceremony scheduled for Mon., Dec. 18, 2017.

The purpose and goal of this "Bridge of Peace" Sisterhood Ceremony is to mend personal and

historical divides and to resolve conflict beyond national and cultural borders in order to promote healing and reconciliation. It is the hope that long held barriers of race, religion, and nationality/ethnicity will be broken down and that women who form sisterhood relationships will also form lasting friendships. Building a bridge of peace is not just a matter for governments or other institutions to undertake. This is a matter of the heart. It should be noted that 20% of the proceeds from this



event were sent to Schools of Africa, a project that provides much needed education for girls and women living in Africa.

The President of WFWP USA, Angelika Selle, was present for the ceremony and provided a great deal of information about the different projects initiated by her organization throughout the world.

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Reminder: PCLR Retreat Set for January 20



Pax Christi Little Rock will be holding an all-day retreat for Board and active members on Saturday, January 20 from 9 am until 5 pm. We will conclude our time together by attending mass at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Morrilton. The celebrant for that mass will be Father Jack Harris, our speaker on the topic of the death penalty last year. Becky Mullican, PCLR Board member, has invited us to meet in her beautiful home in Plumerville. Snacks and lunch will be provided. The focus of this retreat will be to review projects completed in our first year and make plans for the new year based on our mission of creating peace through addressing issues of social justice. All participants will be asked to provide their vision for Pax Christi in the upcoming year. We will also spend time reflecting on principles of nonviolence.

Deacon Rector to Address Grief Issues at PCLR Meeting

Deacon Michael Rector, the facilitator of the Ministry of Consolation at Christ the King Church, will be speaking to Pax Christi Little Rock members on Thursday, Jan. 11 at 7:30 on the grief process and the ways his ministry at CTK serves to meet the needs of parishioners who have lost a family member or friend. Deacon Rector will also speak to the importance of dealing with any issues of the heart that block the peace of Christ as we work to spread peace to others. This meeting will take place at Fitzgerald Hall on the campus of St. John's, 2500 N. Tyler Street, Little Rock, AR 72203. All are welcome. Please email Sherry at paxchristilr@gmail.com if you have questions.



Dc. Mike Rector

Pax Christi's Monthly Mission



Our January mission will support Lucie's Place, a non-profit organization in Little Rock that is opening a home for homeless LGBTQ young adults. They provide a safe living environment, job training, and counseling services to ensure physical and emotional stability. If you can't attend and wish to contribute, please send your donation to PCLR-415 N. McKinley St., #1040 Little Rock, AR 72205.

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PEACE PARTNERS

Peace Partners highlights various peace and social justice organizations that share our vision: active promotion of peace in our neighborhood, state, country and world. The goal is to increase awareness of the many organizations in our area that work for peace through social justice and invite joint ventures between these groups to increase the effectiveness of our mission.

Soles4Souls
ReCORK



PCLR has been on a mission to collect corks for recycling and use in making shoes for the underprivileged. In December, we mailed a total of 2423 corks to ReCork to be recycled. They donate many of these corks to Soles4Souls to make cork shoes for people in need. ReCORK said that these shoes last for over 30 years. We found a local partner, Houlihan's in Fayetteville, to assist us in delivering the corks to a ReCork facility. Keep saving your corks as this project will continue!

LGBTQ Group Formation
Update

As noted in the December newsletter, the formation committee for LGBTQ support groups met on December 7 at St. Theresa's. Guided by Father Mark Wood, the committee made several key decisions. First of all, Father Wood will be contacting priests in the Central Arkansas area to speak with them about sending referrals to the program. We will also be contacting Catholic Campus Ministry programs at Hendrix and UCA for referrals. Finally, we will have an **adoration hour scheduled for Saturday, January 27 at 4:00 in the Christ the King chapel** for all who desire to come together in prayer for this endeavor. You are all urged to contact anyone who might benefit from support. Have them email Sherry at paxchristilr@gmail.com for more information.



Pope Francis Continues to Speak
Out Against Nuclear Weapons

On December 2, 2017, Pope Francis was quoted as saying that the destructive potential of nuclear weapons is so great that humanity has reached the limit of morally possessing them or using them as deterrents. "In the nuclear field. . .today we are at the limit," said the Pope. "This can be a matter for discussion, its my opinion, but I am convinced of

my opinion: we are at the limit of liceity to have and use nuclear arms." He noted that the number of nuclear arms continues to grow and that while eliminating nuclear weapons may be a challenge, there is still a "moral and humanitarian imperative" to do so." He also expressed skepticism that nuclear deterrence is effective.