Catholic Workers to Gather in Las Vegas
by Julia Occhiogrosso

In 1987, the Las Vegas Catholic Worker hosted the first National Catholic Worker Gathering at Bishop Gorman High School on Maryland Parkway. Now, almost thirty years later, for the fourth time we will come together to share, celebrate, act and renew our personal and collective commitments to the Catholic Worker vision of gospel nonviolence.

This year’s gathering is entitled, “Creating a New Society in the Shell of the Old,” and will include a variety of workshops bound to speak to an array of interests. Reflective of the Catholic Worker practice of “clarification of thought,” these Round Table Discussions will be facilitated by Catholic Workers and friends who bring experience, wisdom and passion to their topics.

Topics include the influences of the holy examples of St. Benedict and Theresa of Lisieux, St. Francis and Pope Francis.

Other sessions explore creative responses such as Art and Resistance, Farm Forums, Independent Publishing and Permaculture. Please see the back of this newsletter for a complete listing of Round Table Discussions.

We want to extend a special invitation to our local volunteers and supporters to attend any of the workshops as well as any or all of the program. For more complete and up-to-date information please visit our event website at: www.lvcw.org/gathering2016.htm

Presented by Sharon Browning, Living Room (502 W. Van Buren Ave., Las Vegas, NV 89106) Saturday, Oct. 8, 1 - 4:30 p.m.

Listening is an act of Justice. JUST Listening fosters personal, organizational, and social change and transformation through the practice of conscious, intentional, compassionate, non-egoic and non-judgmental communication skills.

JUST Listening is a way to connect, imitate the practice of St. Francis of Assisi, and to create social change in the Las Vegas Catholic Worker community.

Learning how to listen is a lifetime endeavor. In this class we will explore the art of listening through the lenses of the four stages of the Spiral of Creation, Prayer, Song, and Silence.

Our goal is to create a safe space for exploration and differentiation of the art of listening. This act of creation will allow us to explore ways of listening that can support our efforts to create a New Society in the Shell of the Old.

The gathering is entitled “CREATING A NEW SOCIETY IN THE SHELL OF THE OLD.” This gathering will reflect the practice of “clarification of thought” through the framework of the Spiral of Creation. This Spiral will be archetypal and will explore the four stages of the Spiral of Creation. This Spiral has been used in the Work That Reconnects to support individuals and groups in purposeful action to create social change and personal transformation. A WAY TO CONNECT

WHAT IS MINE TO DO?

Terry and Anne Symens-Bucher

If your heart is breaking in the face of the “Great Unraveling” of ecological, economic, political and social systems, come join us for a brave and beautiful journey as we dare to see we are not separate from the suffering of our world. In the time of his own great unraveling, Francis of Assisi chose to turn toward gratitude, singing a song of praise known as the Canticle of Creation. Joanna Macy’s Work That Reconnects (www.joannamacy.net) invites us also to choose gratitude and put our attention instead on the “Great Turning,” the movement to a life sustaining society that we call “the essential adventure of our time.” At the end of his life, Francis of Assisi told his followers: “I have done that which was mine to do, may Christ teach you yours.”

Using a Franciscan perspective and the Work That Reconnects, we invite you to renew your connection to “that which is yours to do” and to discover how your unique and authentic gifts are in service to Earth in this time of planetary crisis. We will use experiential practices, poetry, ritual, prayer, song, and silence to guide our journey through the four stages of the Spiral of the Work That Reconnects. We understand this Spiral to be archetypal and will explore it through the framework of the Christian liturgical calendar.

Presented by Anne and Terry Symens-Bucher, Prayer Room (upstairs, 502 W. Van Buren Ave., Las Vegas, NV 89106) Friday, Oct. 7, 1 - 4:30 p.m. or Saturday, Oct. 8, 1 - 4:30 p.m.

This presentation will be from 7 - 8:30 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 7 in the Big Tent behind the Las Vegas Catholic Worker (see address below)

Willa Bickham and Brendan Walsh

"The Long Loneliness in Baltimore."

Willa and Brendan will tell stories and share images of Willa’s artwork from their 48 years at the Baltimore Catholic Worker.

Presented by Sharon Browning, Living Room (502 W. Van Buren Ave., Las Vegas, NV 89106) Saturday, Oct. 8, 1 - 4:30 p.m.
Schedule

Friday, October 7, 2016
Big Tent on lot behind Catholic Worker
10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.: Check In
11:00 a.m. - Noon: Welcome Ceremony
Noon - 1:00 p.m.: Lunch
1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.: Round Table #1
3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.: Round Table #2
5:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.: Evening Prayer
5:30 p.m. - 6:45 p.m.: Dinner
7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.: The Long Loneliness in Baltimore (Willa Bickham and Brendan Walsh)

Saturday, October 8, 2016
Big Tent on lot behind Catholic Worker
7:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.: Breakfast
9:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.: Morning Prayer
9:45 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.: Round Table #3
11:30 a.m. - Noon: Midday Prayer
Noon - 1:00 p.m.: Lunch
1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.: Round Table #4
3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.: Round Table #5
5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.: Evening Prayer
6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.: Dinner
7:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.: Open Mike hosted by Robert Majors

(Sharing by musicians, singers, storytellers and poets)

Sunday, October 9, 2016
8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.: Breakfast
9:30 a.m.: Vans leave Las Vegas Catholic Worker
10:45 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.: Liturgy in the Desert, Nevada National Security Site (NNSS)
11:45 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.: Peace Witness at NNSS gates
1:15 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.: Lunch at Cactus Springs, Goddess Temple
3 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.: Peace Vigil at Creech Air Force Base
5:30 p.m.: Dinner at Catholic Worker

Round Table Discussions

Round Table Discussions #1 (pick one):
A: Catholic Worker Farm Forum / B: Pope Francis: A View of Change Coming from the Periphery (Claire Schaeffer-Duffy) / C: The Work that Reconnects, What is Ours to Do?: Finding Our Soul Work in the Great Turning—a Franciscan perspective, please commit to second session, Round Table #5

Round Table Discussions #2 (pick one):
A: The Need for Catholic Workers to be Radicals Rather than Liberals (Scott Schaeffer-Duffy) / B: Border Issues and Resistance and the Catholic Worker: Past, Present & Future (Rosalie Riegel) / E: Catholic Worker Archives, Preserving the Legacy (Phil Runkel) / F: Permaculture and the Catholic Worker Life (Robert Majors and Ming Lai) / G: 911: An Inside Job (Kathy Boylan)

Round Table Discussions #3 (pick one):
A: On Welcoming the Stranger, Root Causes of Immigration from Honduras and Guatemala (Tom Webb) / B: Catholic Worker Farm Forum / C: Love in Action, please commit to second session, Round Table #5

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS: Sept. 8 and Oct. 6 for Christ the King Catholic Community Hot Dog Party at our morning Soup Line

SOPH LINE CLOSED:
Nov. 24, 25 & 26, 2016
Jan. 4 - 7, 2017

Thirty-first Annual Christmas Breakfast to the Homeless (Hosted by Knights of Columbus)
Sunday, Dec. 25, 2016

PLEASE JOIN US:
Wednesday-Saturday, 6:00 a.m.: Morning prayer at Catholic Worker.
Wednesday-Saturday, 6:30 a.m.: Breakfast served to 150-200 poor & homeless people.
Wednesday, 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.: Hospitality Day, we invite 20 homeless men home for showers, to wash clothes and for a great lunch.
Thursday, 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.: Vigil for Peace in front of Federal Courthouse, 333 Las Vegas Blvd. S.
Thursday, 10:30 a.m.: 50 lunches taken to the homeless.
Second Saturday of the month: Knights of Columbus Pancake Breakfast to the homeless.
Third Saturday of the month: Deliver food boxes to homes in need.

All events at the International Catholic Worker Gathering are free. If you can volunteer at the event or help with airport pickups or housing please contact us at (702) 647-0728.

Las Vegas Catholic Worker
500 W. Van Buren Ave.
Las Vegas, NV 89106-3039

mail@lvcw.org www.lvcw.org

(702) 647-0728