



April 23, 2009

Happenings in Faith, Peace and Justice Interfaith Center - Gaia House Newsletter

COMMUNITY EVENTS

INTERFAITH EARTH WEEK, Closing ceremony and candlelit walk from Labyrinth Peace Garden to the Peace Pole at Friendship Park (Interfaith Center Labyrinth to S. Illinois & Mill), THURSDAY, APRIL 23, 6 p.m.

CARBONDALE INTERFAITH COUNCIL, meeting THURSDAY, APRIL 23, Carbondale First United Methodist Church, 7 p.m.

GERRY O'BEIRNE, Irish singer-songwriter, FRIDAY, APRIL 24 at Cousin Andy's, 7:30 p.m. Gerry has toured the globe as a solo artist and with the Sharon Shannon Band, Patrick Street, Midnight Well, Andy M. Stewart, Kevin Burke, Andy Irvine, and the Waterboys. He has performed at the White House, opened for the Grateful Dead, appeared on Garrison Keillor's A Prairie Home Companion, and played electric guitar with Marianne Faithfull. Appearing in conjunction with the [Southern Illinois Irish Festival](#).

PUNJABI FOOD & MUSIC at Rice & Spice, potluck & cook-your-own, FRIDAY, APRIL 24, Interfaith Center. Come early at 6 p.m. to help cook

MISSION TO MOSCOW, 1943 war propaganda film to garner support for the Soviet Union, later repudiated. FRIDAY APRIL 24, Big Muddy Independent Media Center in Carbondale, 7 p.m.

[IRISH FESTIVAL](#), Saturday & Sunday, APRIL 24-26, Celtic Fair at Turley Park, concerts at various venues. See www.silirishfest.org for complete details.

LOVE YOUR ENEMIES: TRANSFORMING US VS. THEM THINKING. How do we relate with individuals and countries that believe differently than we do? How do we deal with our so-called enemies? Is torture morally acceptable? How do we respond to terrorism? **FATHER LOUIE VITALE** has been grappling with these and other related questions for nearly half a century since he began his journey by enlisting in the air force as a young man, and having a conversion towards nonviolence. He was arrested over 200 times. In Carbondale, he will speak on the importance of dialoguing with our enemies instead of warring with them. 4 p.m., SUNDAY, APRIL 26, at the Carbondale Civic Center. See press release, Endnote 5.

CREATING ART AS SPIRITUAL INQUIRY, "Visions from the Seeking Heart," artist Leslie Stanick will lecture on MONDAY APRIL 27, 7 p.m. SIU University Museum, in conjunction with an exhibit at the Vergette Gallery, April 26 through May 2.

SHAWNEE ENERGY FEST, Saturday and Sunday, MAY 2 and 3 at the Green Retreat Center, (W. Chautauqua and Rt. 127 South) forty workshops on such topics as bio intensive home gardening, geothermal energy, and local foods, with lots of eco- aware activities for kids and live music, all day Saturday and Sunday. More info and registration is available at www.ShawneeEnergyFest.com. Tickets are \$7 in advance, \$8 at the gate, and \$10 for the weekend. Parking will be at the SIU arena with shuttles running to the festival site every 15 minutes.

FREE HOUSEHOLD CHEMICAL COLLECTION: Southern Illinois Airport, Saturday, May 2, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Items to be accepted at the collection include: paint, paint thinner, aerosols, household cleaners, pesticides, insecticides, herbicides, motor oil, antifreeze, old gasoline, batteries of all types, solvents, polishes, pool chemicals, and lawn chemicals. Also accepted will be unwanted or outdated medications, both prescription and over-the-counter. These items should be brought in their original container, but you may black out all personal information other than the drug name. For more information call 618-684-3143, ext. 136.

PATRICK SWEENEY BENEFIT, Green Ridge Farm Aid, A Patrick Sweeney Cancer Benefit, Unitarian Fellowship, SATURDAY, MAY 9, 4 p.m. See endnote 1.

ONGOING EVENTS

VIGIL FOR PEACE, Saturdays, Noon to 1 p.m., corner of Main and Illinois, Carbondale.

INTERNATIONAL COFFEE HOUR, Fridays, 3 to 5 p.m., SIU NW Annex, Bldg. B.

ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND THESE REGULARLY SCHEDULED EVENTS AT THE INTERFAITH CENTER

SUNDAYS

QUAKER MEETING, 10 a.m.

SOUP SOUL SERVICE, 7 p.m.

EKANKAR, Third Sunday, 3 P.M.

S. ILLINOIS TRANSGENDER ALLIANCE, Fourth Sunday, 1:30 p.m.

MONDAYS

SIWADE, African Drumming, 7:30 p.m.

TUESDAYS

SHAWNEE DHARMA MEDITATION, 7 p.m.

STUDENTS for a DEMOCRATIC SOCIETY, 9 p.m.

WEDNESDAYS

T'AI CHI, 5:30 p.m.

PEACE COALITION, Third Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.

SHAMANIC DRUM CIRCLE, Second Wednesday, 7: p.m.

THURSDAYS

JOHN WOOLMAN'S JOURNALS, Brown Bag Discussion, 11 a.m.

INTERVEG, Vegetarian Potluck Dinner, 6:30 p.m.

STUDENT ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER, 8 p.m.

FRIDAYS

GAIA HOUSE DEVELOPMENT GROUP, 1 p.m.

RICE & SPICE, International Slow-Food Dinner, Indian Food this week. Cooking starts at 6 p.m.

SATURDAYS

CODA, Co-Dependents Anonymous, 11 a.m.

[HAPPENINGS IN FAITH, PEACE AND JUSTICE](#) newsletter is available for your announcements. Please let us know if you wish to be removed from this list. And please let your interested friends know about it. We will be happy to include them. Contact us at 618-549-7387, or hugh@ucmsiuc.org.

THE INTERFAITH CENTER'S multipurpose areas, kitchen, and library are available for your meetings and social events. Visit the Dave Colombo free lending library and the Labyrinth Peace Garden. Wireless Internet is available. We are located at 913 S. Illinois Ave. (corner of Grand), Carbondale, IL 62901. Website: www.ucmsiuc.org

THE GAIA HOUSE DEVELOPMENT GROUP: Meeting, Friday, April 24, 12 Noon at the Interfaith Center. Student Projects will be review and critiqued by HOK staff on May 1. All stake holders are invited to view final project boards and models beginning May 3 at the Interfaith Center. Presentation of the work for stakeholders and the public will be on Tuesday, May 6, 5:30 p.m. at the Interfaith Center. Refreshments will be provided. All welcome.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT:

"We are a progressive Christian and Interfaith Center, a welcoming community committed to spiritual development, peace, justice and ecological sustainability."

ENDNOTES:

1. **Green Ridge Farm Aid**, A Patrick Sweeney Cancer Benefit is on Saturday, May 9, 4 p.m.

Event: Green Ridge Farm Aid, A Patrick Sweeney Cancer Benefit

What: Fundraiser

Host: The Friends of Green Ridge Farm

Start Time: Saturday, May 9 at 4:00pm

End Time: Saturday, May 9 at 9:00pm

Where: Carbondale Unitarian Fellowship

Mark your calendars now, so you don't miss this event! Featured events will include "The Best of Southern Illinois Auction," and music performances by Etherton Switch, Carter and Connelley, SIWADE, The Ol' Fishkins, Tomcat Social Club, Candy Davis and more.

Food by Hunan, Panera Bread, and Tres Hombres Restaurants, and by Arnold's Market and The Neighborhood Coop.

Beer provided by Venegoni Distributors

\$15.00 suggested donation at the door per adult, kids welcome!

Proceeds from the benefit will help offset the Sweeney's medical bills and travel expenses to Zion, Illinois where he is receiving treatment for Pancreatic Cancer.

Additional Donations are currently being accepted at First Southern Bank, Patrick Sweeney Cancer Fund.

First Southern Bank 301 E Main Street Carbondale IL

Telephone number 549-3621

2. **PLEASE BRING BOOKS BACK** to the Dave Colombo Memorial Library at the Interfaith Center. This is especially important at the end of the semester with graduating seniors. Also, if you have any books you think might fit into this special collection, we will be happy to receive donations.

3. **Looking for a few good men and women** to help with food and clothing pick-up at the University residence halls. Contact Hugh before April 30, 548-7387.

4. **Possible position openings** at the Interfaith Center for summer and fall: part-time, low pay, high fulfillment, interesting challenges. Send a brief resume and mention when you may be available.

5. PRESS RELEASE FOR APRIL 23, 2009

CONTACTS: Margie Parker, 549-7193, Georgeann Hartzog, 521-4239

Circle of Peace Speaking Tour comes to Carbondale Sunday, April 26th.

How do we relate with individuals and countries that believe

differently than we do? How do we deal with our so-called enemies? Is torture morally acceptable? How do we respond to terrorism?

Franciscan priest Father Louie Vitale has been grappling with these and other related questions for nearly half a century since he began his journey by enlisting in the Air Force as a young man, and having a conversion towards nonviolence. He will speak on the topic “Love Your Enemies: Transforming Us vs. Them Thinking” at 4:00 pm on Sunday, April 26, at the Carbondale Civic Center.

Just back from Iran he will discuss his experience there and the development around the forging of new relationships with the Iranian people and government. Suggested next steps include both continuing to build people-to-people ties with Iranians, as well as advocating with our government to talk with the Iranian government.

Fr. Louie is a co-founder of Pace e Bene Nonviolence Service (www.paceebene.org), and has been witnessing and speaking against social injustice for more than 4 decades. He was recently released from a 5 month prison sentence for praying on the property at Ft. Huachuca in Arizona, the military installation where American Intelligence Officers were taught "Enhanced Interrogation" tactics such as water boarding, among other torture methods. SIU graduate student Katie Lenza says “it will be great to hear from someone who is on the front lines working to change US policy from confrontation and violence to understanding and bridge building.”

This event is co-sponsored by the Peace Coalition of Southern Illinois/FOR, Program and Social Action Committees of the Carbondale Unitarian Fellowship, Interfaith Center/Gaia House, the Church of the Good Shepherd (UCC), St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church, Students for Peace and Democracy, and Southern Illinois Quakers.

The talk is free and open to the public and will be followed by refreshments and conversation with Fr. Vitale.