

2008 Annual Report CUCC SOCIAL JUSTICE MINISTRY

Who: Very creative, active group of people including – Cy and Carolyn King, John and Joan Little, Frank Gailor, Grady McCallie, Don and Shirley Birt, Kurk Brewington (sometimes by phone to save energy), Steve Halsted Gary and Jane Smith – who would love to have you join us.

When: Monthly meetings, 4th Wed of the month; 7 PM at the Smiths

What: Open, supportive discussion and actions in aid Christ seen as those with less power.

Donations: - Action for NC Children, Covenant for NC's Children, Southern Poverty Law Center, NC Peace Action, Wake Audubon, NC Council of Churches Interfaith Power and Light, Triangle Land Conservancy, Friends of Sabeel-North America, Quaker House, NC Voters for Clean Elections, Clarence Lightner Youth Leadership Foundation, Carolina Justice Policy Center, North Carolinians Against Gun Violence, United Nations Association – Wake County, Christians for Justice Action-UCC, UCC Justice and Peace Action Network, Witness for Peace, Amnesty International-Raleigh, Human Rights Coalition of NC, Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration, UCC Coalition for LGBT Concerns-ONA, UCC Parents of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Children, National Farm Workers Ministry NC Office, Triangle Interfaith Alliance, Democracy North Carolina, People of Faith Against the Death Penalty, Nazareth House, Stop Torture Now, Friends of Residents of Long Term Care, Amnesty International, Children's Defense Fund (Organizations receiving yearly donations were all increased 10%).

Actions:

Met with Perdue Campaign on Access to Institutions of Higher Education:

Discussed immigration policy and asked campaign to consider access of all NC residents' to higher education including undocumented residents; encouraged candidate Perdue to speak from her values.

Bread for the World Conference: The Hunger No More Conference will be February 27 and 28 at St. Francis of Assisi in Raleigh.

Congo Week, October 19-25– Breaking the Silence:

Maintained contact with Pastor Puati in Congo: He tells us that conditions are very bad and continues to ask for our prayers

Our Faith Our Vote 2008:

Bus Ride to Early Voting on October 26: 25 CUCC people bussed to vote or observe. Very positive experience for all. However, a downtown event that day interrupted the bus routes stranding members in downtown with no warning. Letter written to CAT and mayor.

Economic Justice Covenant: The group is working on a CUCC appropriate action(s) to forward the Economic Justice Covenant adopted by the UCC Eastern Conference Association and the UCC Southern Conference. One action under consideration is a micro-loan program.

Conversations on Race:

Tarheel plant of Smithfield Foods union vote

HK on J.

International Day of Prayer for Peace on September 21, 2008

Tent for Darfur: SJM supported the tent painting to the God's Green Earth