

Schedule of Events:

Please consider joining us for the following

Daily— Dinner is served most days around 6pm, 1910 Constance St, ALL ARE WELCOME

Weekly—
Day Labor Breakfast, Wed., 8am, @ N. Carrollton Ave. Home Depot
Prayer, Tuesday and Friday 8:30am @ St. Thomas House and Monday 11:30am @ Rebuild Center
Community Resource Center, Tuesday and Thursday 6:30-8:30pm @ Hope House (916 St. Andrew St.)

November:

2, Bible Study (Exodus: Coming Out of Empire) at 7:00pm
Labor Day Grill Out at 4pm
11, Clarification of Thought: School of the Americas (SOA) 6:30pm
16, Bible Study (Exodus: Coming Out of Empire) at 7:00pm
19-20, SOA Watch Rally and Vigil, Columbus, GA
24, Thanksgiving Dinner at 4pm
25, Buy Nothing Day, Protest Consumerism, Canal Place Mall, Canal St. and N. Peters St. at 11am

December:

7, Bible Study (Exodus: Coming Out of Empire) at 7:00pm
16, Advent Celebration of Waiting at 6:30pm
21, Bible Study (Exodus: Coming Out of Empire) at 7:00pm

The Occupy Movement : Parked In Front Of Power

By Dan Thelen

This evening was bible study at the Catholic Worker House, and we read from Exodus about Moses evoking plagues upon Pharaoh in order to set the Israelites free. We discussed Moses' tactics of parking himself in front of Pharaoh, the man with greatest power, and persisting in his cause for freedom until Pharaoh was left no choice but to relent.



Dan and Steph clap and sing for liberation from war and corporate greed.

This persistent standing up to power to

demand change is again stirring in the world. Like the locust plague of old, the small swarm of activists that parked themselves in front of Wall Street in protest over a month ago has grown to thousands of protesters in New York and spread to dozens of American cities and to other parts of world as well. And like Moses, the word on the street is that these people are here to stay until the modern day Pharaohs of elitist, corporate--controlled government are transformed to meet the needs of the many poor, marginalized and oppressed "Hebrews" of today.

Though specific demands have been developed slowly through consensus-based process and the movement has resisted anointing so called leaders, the underlying message of the Occupy move-



Dan Fitzgerald prepares to turn over the money changer's table.

ment is simple. Matters of justice are pressing in our world, and we the people have to join together and claim our own power to set into motion a better course for us all. The movement here has been coined the "US Autumn" inspired by the powerful witness of protesters during the Arab

(Occupy, Cont'd on page 2)

Usurers Are Not Gentlemen

By Peter Maurin

1. The Prophets of Israel and the Fathers of the Church forbade lending money at interest.
2. Lending at interest was called usury by the Prophets of Israel and the Fathers of the Church.
3. Usurers were not considered to be gentlemen when people use to listen to the Prophets of Israel and the Fathers of the Church.
4. When people used to listen to the Prophets of Israel and the Fathers of the Church they could not see anything gentle in trying to live on the sweat of somebody else's brow by lending money at interest.

Wealth-Producing Maniacs

1. When John Calvin legalized money-lending at interest, he made the bank account the standard of values.
2. When the bank account became the standard of values, people ceased to produce for use and began to produce for profits.
3. When people began to produce for profits they became wealth-producing maniacs.
4. When people became wealth-producing maniacs they produced too much wealth.
5. When people found out that they produced too much wealth they went on an orgy of wealth-destruction and destroyed ten million lives besides. Ω



The first egg laid by Big Red, one of our chickens.

We are deeply grateful to Paul and Sue Troyano, Matt DeBoer, and Rose Spring, Van Joseph, Katy Quigley, Sarah Johanson and David Harms, David Williams and all the others who have helped us with meals at the house, garage sale, and resource center recently.

We welcome stories, art and poetry. Submissions should be 100-500 words in length.

We are available to speak with groups interested in learning about the Catholic Worker movement, nonviolence and social justice.

Our needs include: Prayer. Dried beans & pasta sauce; kitchen knives & silverware; paint, produce & financial support. Thank you!

We are seeking a female live-in volunteer to assist in animating the community. If interested, please call to speak with Dan or Stephanie (504) 527-5363

Goodwill — It Works!

By Van Joseph

It is such a pleasure to have the opportunity to share some thoughts with you through the Catholic Worker House newsletter. I've been associated with Catholic Workers for quite some time now and it never ceases to amaze me how much goodwill (God's work) occurs there every single day. The volunteers Katy, Joe, Stephanie and Dan welcome everyone with open arms. Of course, Micah and Cylis, Katy and Joe's sons, are there with their huge warm smiles, which do the same.

Here you can find a hot meal, a shower, telephone, references to local organizations and whatever else may be available. I myself love helping to cook and serve at the Hope House around the corner on St Andrew Street every Tuesday and Thursday evenings at 6:30pm.

I truly admire their commitment and dedication to helping the less fortunate. I believe it is God's will and our responsibility to care for and take care of each other. Let's all open our hearts and be accountable for others welfare by doing some goodwill (God's work).

Goodwill begins with compassion. It follows by committing to helping the poor and homeless. First and foremost our commitment to God is a matter of the heart. Our commitment to goodwill (God's work) is a matter of compassion. Goodwill has a way of strengthening our community ties. It builds spirit and re-establishes humanity.

Try to hold in mind and heart this passage from scripture: "There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of works, but the same God works all of them in all people." (1 Corinthians 12: 4-6)

Bless someone with a gift of goodwill (God's work) today. Jesus wants us to do good to people who can in no way pay us back. "Your father who sees in secret will reward you openly." (Matthew 6:4)

Goodwill — (God's work) — it works for everyone! Ω



Van welcomes neighbors with open arms to our October 1st yard sale.

NEW ORLEANS CATHOLIC WORKER

ST. THOMAS HOUSE OF HOSPITALITY

1910 Constance St.
New Orleans, LA 70130

Phone: 504-527-5363

Email: cw@nolacatholicworker.org

Whenever one tries to justify the failure to love the poor and the oppressed by claiming that one is worshipping, one is in fact doing evil. God is not bound to accept our religious works; if they are not inspired by the desire for life and justice, God is not present in them.

-Gustavo Gutierrez

Overcoming Alcohol

By Derek Robinson with Dan Thelen

I have struggled with alcoholism throughout my life. But it really got bad after my mother died. I did not know how to fill the void. I wanted to reach out to other people, but it was hard. Before that, I considered myself a “casual drinker,” although for an alcoholic there really is no such thing. Why did I drink? Loneliness; I can’t describe it any other way.

I was what you call a functioning alcoholic. I had a job, but on the flipside I didn’t function well — like messing up on someone’s order or doing things I would not have done if I had not been drinking. But no one ever mentioned it to me. Most of the

people I knew were alcoholics themselves. All of my friends, that’s how we spent our time, drinking together. I was living a lie. I was not happy with who I was and what I was doing. My life revolved so much around drinking.

I knew I had to change. I figured I had to let God into my life in some kind of way. I accepted that. I went to an Outreach Program to see if they could help me. In the program, I focused on God. When you accept God, He helps you. You just can’t do it on your own. It’s hard, because you are used to that life. You feel like you’re betraying friends because you can no longer be around them. I did an inventory on myself, and I prayed, asking God to help me. Before, I was mad with God. I had questions like, how can you let that happen? Accepting Him was

one of the hardest things for me.

My advice to people struggling with addiction is to turn to your Higher Power. Change your company. Try to feel good about yourself, to think good about yourself. Do positive things. Alcoholism is a mindset. I know I cannot go back there, I cannot play that game anymore.

I feel great now. I feel good as a person. Now I am able to stop and think things out instead of just drinking. I feel at peace with myself. You have to be satisfied with you. My relationship with God is better, my relationship with people as a whole is better. Overall, I am happy with myself now and what’s going on in my life. Ω



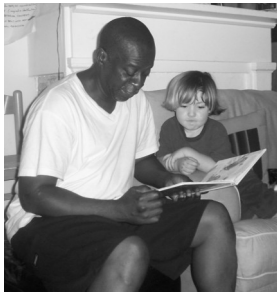
Katy, Micah, and Rose Spring display a quilt made by students at St. Cletus School with help from librarian Katie Windham.

Around the House

by Katy Heeren-Mueller and Stephanie Malinowski

Well, we made it through those hot New Orleans summer months and fall is nearly upon us! August brought the beginning of twice a week meals at the Hope House Resource Center. We thank all those who have contributed their efforts of donating food, cooking, and serving the meals on Tuesday and Thursdays. We still continue to host about 30 folks each night who enjoy the space, company, and meal provided. We had a great “Songs of Liberation” Clarification of Thought that month too. You could hear the music ringing out of the house and down the street! It was standing room only by the end of the night. Thanks for the beats, rhythms, and vocalizations made for liberation that night everyone!

September rolled in with a Labor Day BBQ for all to enjoy. Our three chickens finally paid their room and board fees by producing eggs! With renewed confidence we celebrate our urban farming efforts around the house. Greg continues to dazzle our taste buds with breakfast eggs and grits. Derek has been helpful with our newsletter, and we’re proud



Greg and Cylis analyze the link between the debt crisis and the war on terror.

of his success with ROC. Dan showcased his culinary abilities by cooking up three magnificent quiche dishes with those eggs to share with the extended community at the Clarification of Thought focused on undoing Racism and Incarceration given by Alex Mikulich. Soon

after, much of the world made noise in support of intervention of the wrongful death sentence given to Georgia man, Troy Davis. On the day of Davis’ planned execution, the Catholic Worker held vigil outside the Federal Court House, only to learn of his execution hours later. This injustice is a call to all to speak out against the failures of our criminal justice system and to push for alternatives to incarceration and the death penalty.

The month closed out by the addition of two new community members, Marcus and Colleen. Marcus has already taken on the task of cooking for the Tuesday night meal and Colleen brings great laughter to Cylis and Micah, even after long days of teaching! Welcome Marcus and Colleen. We also said farewell to a visiting friend. Cross country biker extraordinaire, Michael, hopped on his bike again, this time headed to Houston. We will miss his peaceful presence, contributions of hummus, and help around the house.

October 1st was our third annual garage sale. A huge thank you goes out to Sue Troyano and Katy Quigley for organizing and hosting this successful event. We also like to thank all those who contributed your gently used household items to be sold for this fundraiser. To all those who purchased items, thanks for the continued support. We raised over \$400 for the house. Katy and Joe appreciated the opportunity to officiate the annual Pax Christi Peace Liturgy last week. We continue to stand for peace as a family and were honored to lead others at the liturgy. Stephanie came back from the National Catholic Worker gathering in Las Vegas. She

returned filled with energized encounters with all types of folks at the gathering and also participated in her first act of civil disobedience by crossing the line at the Nevada National Security site. We value her commitment to the community and justice in our world through these actions. Thanks Steph!

After a very long discernment, the Heeren-Mueller family will be moving out of the Catholic Worker House into their own space. We have been blessed to have found a new home just four blocks away on Jackson Ave. As we recognize the needs of our growing family, we feel this space will provide us with a little more focused time to parent our children and be present to their needs. We are looking at this transitional time as a positive move for both our family and community. We have already started calling the new place the “Catholic Worker Annex” with hopes to remain spiritually connected as we physically separate. We ask for your prayers and support during this time both for our family and community. Ω



Sue Troyano and Katy Quigley

(Occupy, Cont’d from page 1)
Spring.

You can learn about the Occupy Wall Street movement through their website at occupywallstreet.org. Interested people can join the movement locally by supporting the folks camped at Duncan Plaza across from City Hall (occupynola.com). Among their needs are for people to sign up to bring meals, donate tents, or get involved by joining a working group or attending the nightly General Assemblies at 7pm. The movement is an opportunity for all of us to consider what our role is in standing up to the powers that be. There is no greater plague on oppressive structures than for people to unite together and refuse to budge until we see justice for all our brothers and sisters in need. Ω



Michael Bobinski at the yard sale.