

**September Done or Dead?** - Will we have immigration reform this year? The conventional political wisdom tells us that if reform is not passed by the end of September, any hope of passing a bill will be gone as Congress redirects their efforts toward elections. This fact makes it even more important for us to continue to press our representatives to move forward with S.744. So many have worked so hard for so many years for reform to slip away now. We include more specific details on how you can help make Comprehensive Immigration Reform a reality.

This month we've added a heading of Empowerment to our content list, featuring S.T.A.R.R.S. a school-based, academic mentoring collaboration between Catholic Charities of Milwaukee and St. Catherine's School. Did you know that CPJ has a Service Opportunities board on our website? The purpose is to increase awareness for programs that need volunteers. [Check it out here.](#)

Enjoy the Summer!  
Blessings on your ministry



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### **Immigration Reform in Perspective**

By Frank Pauc – Printed in Journal Sentinel

It is fascinating to me how the people of our country revere the idea of free trade. There is nearly universal agreement that money, goods, and information should flow freely across international borders. The only exception to this devotion to free movement is with regard to human beings. That is where we draw the line. Any kind of commodity can enter our country, but we are extremely selective about persons. We only want certain people to enter the U.S., and we only want them to come in a certain way. Anybody else who comes here is by definition illegal and a criminal.

Immigration reform is about people: flesh and blood, bodies and souls. Whatever decisions are made in Washington will impact millions of people who have hopes and fears like everyone else. Whatever laws get passed will either bring families together or tear them apart. Whatever policies are formulated will either destroy dreams or make them come true.

As a nation, we take great care with commerce. We are very adept at handling money and merchandise. I wish we could be just as conscientious when it comes to people. This country draws its strength from its people, whoever they are and however they came here. We need to remember that.

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### **Immigration Reform – Come Sept Done or Dead - What We Need to Do Now**

**In the Senate – S.744** - This week, the U.S. Senate will consider final passage of S. 744, the Border Security, Economic Competitiveness, and Immigration Modernization Act of 2013, in other words comprehensive immigration reform. The legislation before the U.S. Senate will include the Corker-Hoeven amendment, also known as the “surge” amendment by some and the “devil’s bargain-amendment” by others. The amendment adds \$40 billion to further secure our southern border with more people, fences, drones and other technology. The 119 pages of Corker-Hoeven amendment, designed to gain conservative support for S.744, was introduced on Friday, and vote tested for passage on Monday. It is expected that S.744 with the amendment will pass this week. Both Democrats and Republicans have expressed concerns with the amendment, but it is expected that some of the downsides of the amendment could be watered down or removed.

The US Conference of Catholic Bishops issued a statement that supports passage of S.744 despite inclusion of the Corker-Hoeven amendment. At the same time the US Bishops state they “will work to modify these provisions in the future.” Read the bishop’s statement [here](#).

**In the House** – After passage in the Senate, the bill will move to the House, where it is expected to be dealt with through the month of July. In August Congress will be in recess.

#### **What you can do:**

It is imperative that we keep up advocacy, especially now with our members of the House. We need to try to get as many people as possible to contact their congress people.

1. Beginning now and throughout July and August Write and Call Your House Representative:
2. Ask Others to Write and Call Their House Representative [Use this information call sheet](#)
3. Plan to attend your representative’s town hall meetings in August – we will provide a list as available
4. Contact Senator Johnson who continues to oppose S.744

Including personal stories and examples to represent your position are always helpful. In their most recent statement, the US Bishops make the following points, which you can use as a framework to address your representative.

## **The Comprehensive Immigration Reform legislation must be improved in the following ways:**

1. The path to citizenship should be made more affordable and accessible for undocumented immigrants and their families;
2. Family unity should be enhanced in the legal immigration system;
3. A viable and robust program for low-skilled workers to enter and work legally should be included, with appropriate worker protections;
4. Due process protections, including alternatives to detention, should be restored to the system; and
5. The root causes of migration should be addressed.

We encourage the House of Representatives to begin consideration of immigration reform legislation which meets these principles.

[Information Call Sheet to share – Personally ask others to make phone calls](#)

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## **Re-framing Immigration Reform in Light of Catholic Social Teaching**

By Kristin E. Heyer, Santa Clara University from [Catholics in Alliance for the Common Good](#)

“Back at home I have spoken with undocumented college students making their way through impossible situations. One recounted how a month after her high school graduation, ICE agents with loaded guns and bullet-proof vests surrounded her house and nearly pounded down her front door, demanding to see her. As she tells it: “I came out to the front yard where the head agent asked my name while pulling out handcuffs as if standing in front of some criminal. No GPA or letter of recommendation could save me then. I fell to my knees in front of the agent and began pleading with him to let me stay, telling him I was starting college in a month on a special scholarship. He said, ‘Fine, I will let you go, but only if you tell me where your dad is.’” When her mortified mother nodded “yes” to go ahead and tell them, the student revealed the information and ICE left to arrest her dad in front of his boss and coworkers and deport him. The student reflects, “I stood in complete disbelief; I had sold my own dad for an education.”” [Read more ...](#)

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## **Nuns on the Bus Update**

“Earlier this week, federal authorities raided fourteen 7-Eleven stores in Virginia and on Long Island, N.Y. for harboring and hiring illegal immigrants. U.S. Attorney Loretta Lynch said in a statement, “these defendants ruthlessly exploited their immigrant employees, stealing their wages and requiring them to live in unregulated boarding houses.” The arrest shines a light on the vulnerability of undocumented families in America - which is also the mission of the Nuns On The Bus, who just completed a tour of the country to rally crowds around immigration reform. “What I’ve never known until we came on the road was the fear of families who are living in the shadows,” says Sister Simone Campbell, executive director of NETWORK. [Watch the Video with S. Simone](#)

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## **Covering Ground to Ground Drones**

From [Voices for Creative Nonviolence](#)

U.S. and British drone strikes in the Middle East are killing civilians and inciting terrorism, four peace activists told about 50 people at the Congregation of the Humility of Mary motherhouse June 9. A Catholic Worker, a Sister, a British pacifist and a co-coordinator for Voices for Creative Nonviolence spoke in advance of a 195-mile protest march, “Covering Ground to Ground the Drones.” The walk began June 10 at the Rock Island Arsenal in Rock Island, Ill., and will end in Des Moines. There a command center for drones – also known as unmanned aerial vehicles — is slated to be built at the Iowa Air National Guard Facility at Des Moines Airport. The activists also spoke June 8 in Clinton at The Canticle, home of the Sisters of St. Francis. Chris Jeske and Carole Poth of the Center for Peacemaking are walking with the group through Iowa to protest drones.

[Des Moines bishop calls for moral response to terrorism](#)

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## **Dirty Wars – Jeremy Scahill Book and Film**

From Mike Brady - Jeremy Scahill did a talk-back this past Friday on his recently released book and film "Dirty Wars" Jeremy is not only from Milwaukee, he graduated from St. Rose Grade School in 1988, then Tosa East. He

is an independent journalist speaking out about how Americans are not winning the hearts and minds of people around the world but are doing the opposite with undeclared wars. While the movie and the book are very sobering and unsettling, especially his comments about liberals and President Obama, I would recommend others in the Peace and Justice movement read his book and see the movie. His parents, Mike and Lisa, live in Milwaukee's west side and both work as nurses. Mike and Lisa have been involved at St. Rose and Gesu parishes. Dirty Wars is currently playing at the Downer Theater.

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### **Common Ground Update**

The next Catholics for Peace and Justice Common Ground core team meeting will take place on July 16th at 4:30 pm at the Panera on at 15040 W Greenfield Ave Brookfield, WI 53005 [(262) 641-0550]. Contact Mary Kleist [maryakleist@sbcglobal.net](mailto:maryakleist@sbcglobal.net) for more information on getting involved in Common Ground.

**Fair Play Campaign:** [From JSOnline](#) "The majority of public athletic and recreational spaces for children in Milwaukee County are in terrible, poor or fair condition." "The study, conducted this spring by more than 100 volunteers trained by Common Ground" "found that, of the 268 sites surveyed throughout the county, 65% were rated terrible, poor or fair." Common Ground is calling for "designating a minimum of \$150 million or as much as \$250 million from any financing plan for a new, multipurpose arena to replace the BMO Harris Bradley Center toward upgrading recreational spaces for children." [Learn More](#)

**Suburban/Rural Caucus:** Contact Mary Kleist to get involved [maryakleist@sbcglobal.net](mailto:maryakleist@sbcglobal.net)

**Youth/Family Stress Issue Team** Meeting on Monday, July 8th, 7:00 PM, Good Shepherd Catholic Church, N88 W17658 Christman Road, Menomonee Falls

**Public Transit Issue Team** Meeting on Tuesday, July 16th, 7:00 PM, Good Shepherd Catholic Church, N88 W17658 Christman Road, Menomonee Falls

[More on Common Ground Issue Campaigns](#)

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### **"Sustainability Plan" for Milwaukee in Final Stages**

Mayor Barrett's Office of Sustainability is in final stages of a "Sustainability Plan" for Milwaukee. [Here to Learn More.](#)

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### **Growing Food on Public Property**

from vacant fields, to schoolyards, parks, utility rights-of-way, and even the rooftops of public buildings – can yield a diverse crop of community benefits. Fresh, healthy food is just the beginning: growing food on public property can also promote civic participation, public safety, food literacy, job skills, and urban greening – in short, healthier, more vibrant places. Change Lab Solutions offers information on how to transform a vacant lot into a community garden.

[Download "Dig Eat and Be Healthy"](#) .

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### **Bottled Water and Our National Parks**

Over the past few years, 14 parks have gone bottled water free. In doing so, Zion National Park reduced its annual waste by 5,000 pounds! Grand Canyon National Park estimated that 30% of its recycling waste came from disposable bottles before it went bottled water free. [Learn how you can help eliminate the waste](#) Why should I

care? [The Story of Bottled Water](#)

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### **Wisconsin Legislature Passes Anti-Abortion Ultrasound Bill**

On June 13 Wisconsin's Republican-led state Assembly passed a measure to make it more difficult to get an abortion by requiring women first undergo an ultrasound. The bill, which also requires doctors who perform abortions to have admitting privileges at a local hospital, now heads for the desk of Governor Scott Walker. [Read](#)

[Reuters Article Here](#)

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### **St. Catherine's S.T.A.R.R.S. Mentor Program**

S.T.A.R.R.S. is a school-based, academic mentoring collaboration between Catholic Charities of Milwaukee and St. Catherine's School. The program provides academic support and encouragement to elementary students through one-on-one relationships with mentors. A mentor is someone who provides a student with the tools to grow academically and socially. Mentors serve as a role model and friend helping students reach their full potential by building a positive relationship through listening, helping with homework and spending time with their student. Mentors will meet with their student at St. Catherine's school for two hours a week during the school year and over the summer. GETTING STARTED IS EASY! [For more information Check out the S.T.A.R.R.S. program brochure here](#) or contact one of Catholic Charities' Community Outreach Case Managers: Carlos Perez or Sheng Vang (414) 771-2881 or via email [cperez@ccmke.org](mailto:cperez@ccmke.org) or [svang@ccmke.org](mailto:svang@ccmke.org)

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### **The Penokee Hills & Bad River Sloughs Art Exhibit, Reception, & Program – June 27**

Interfaith Earth Network and the Islamic Environmental Group of Wisconsin invite you to join them at a reception and program for the Penokee Hills art exhibit. Hear how a proposed 22 mile long open pit mine could contaminate this pristine area, hosting approximately 40 percent of all coastal wetlands within the Lake Superior basin. Thursday, June 27 Riverside Park Urban Ecology Center 1500 E. Park Place, Milwaukee 5:30-6:00 PM: Appetizers, visiting and browsing through the art show (closes June 29) 6:00-6:30 PM: Music with the Strawberry Moon Women Singers, a Native American hand drum group and more. 7:00-7:15 PM: Questions and Interfaith closing prayer. [See flyer for details](#)

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### **Urban Agriculture in Venezuela and Cuba – July 8**

Monday, July 8, 7 pm at the Urban Ecology Center, 1500 E Park Place, Featuring a mixture of film and commentary focused on urban and organic agriculture in Venezuela and Cuba. Learn about upcoming opportunities to visit both countries and see for yourself. In the meantime, watch the documentary Growing Change, an account of the urban and organic garden revolution in Venezuela, at <http://www.growingchange.com.au> For more information call Peace Action Wisconsin at 414-964-5158.

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### **Catholics for Peace and Justice Common Ground Core Team Meeting – July 16**

The next Catholics for Peace and Justice Common Ground core team meeting will take place on July 16th at 4:30 pm at the Panera on at 15040 W Greenfield Ave Brookfield, WI 53005 [(262) 641-0550]. Contact Mary Kleist [maryakleist@sbcglobal.net](mailto:maryakleist@sbcglobal.net) for more information.

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### **A Ride Till the End: 2013 A Soldier's Heart Tour – July 19**

Friday, July 19, 6-9 pm, Begin at Veteran's Park/End at Friends Meeting House, Jacob George, a 3-tour Afghan War Vet, and his supporters have ridden their bicycles over 8,000 miles cross-country, and they're still going. They won't stop until the Afghan War is over., Please join Jacob and others in Milwaukee as he leads us on a bike ride, followed by his musical performance and program entitled, "A Soldier's Heart." The performance will take listeners with Jacob on a journey, moving from stories about how a soldier comes to find him/herself enlisted, to being in the thick of war, to coming home and attempting reintegration into society. Schedule: 6:00 pm Gather at Veteran's Park and ride bicycles via the Oak Leaf Bike Trail to the Friends Meeting House (3224 N Gordon St, Milwaukee.) 7:00 pm Musical performance and program. Bike or just come to the program. For more information call Peace Action Wisconsin at 414-964-5158.

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### **St. Ben's Run Walk for the Hungry - July 25**

All proceeds are shared by Capuchin ministries to feed the hungry: St. Ben's Community Meal & House of Peace. New this year: Our event will kick off from the US Cellular stage. Come early and enjoy music & festivities. After the

awards presentation, enter GermanFest for free with a \$5 food/drink coupon PLUS receive a 2 for 1 Coupon to return to GermanFest over the weekend. Team registration is open now. See you July 25. [Registration Page](#)  
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### **Interfaith Day at Miller Park – Date Change to August 20**

We've changed the date of this year's Interfaith Day at Miller Park to Tuesday, August 20. Join us for an exciting 7:10 p.m. Brewers vs. Cardinals game. ALL faiths are welcome! Donate food at the ballpark for the Hunger Task Force. Support the Interfaith Conference of Greater Milwaukee and our many efforts to counter hate with understanding, tolerance and friendship. Wear our optional "Going to bat for a better world" t-shirts. [Order Tickets by July 31](#)  
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### **"Fluent in Faith -- the Gift of Mary McCormick" – Aug 16-18 at Irish Fest**

"Fluent in Faith -- the Gift of Mary McCormick" is the story of a widow who left Milwaukee in 1968 with her three youngest children to become a missionary in Bogota, Columbia. The authors will be highlighted at Irish Fest in the Literary Corner August 16-17-18. The book, published by Marquette University and released June 30, 2013, is available. [The link to the book:](#)  
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### **An Eight-Day Experience In Strategic Evaluation Of Nonviolent Civil Resistance - Aug 17-24**

How can civil resistance change history, when real change never seems to happen? How did it succeed 50 years ago, when civil rights were won by 20 million Americans? Is protest enough, or is it time for new ideas? COME TO NASHVILLE IN AUGUST AND FIND OUT. Topics such as these will be discussed: • The Current State of North American Organizing and Activism, • The Core Dynamics of Nonviolent Civil Resistance, • Movement Formation, Sustainability and Coalition Building, • Strategy, Tactics and Planning, • Movement Language and Media, • Managing Repression, Radical Flanks and Nonviolent Discipline, Facilitated by Dr. James Lawson and the Advisors and Staff of the International Center on Nonviolent Conflict. James Lawson was the foremost strategist working in the Civil Rights Movement from 1958 to 1968, under the leadership of the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., who called him "the mind of the movement." The deadline to apply is July 15, 2013. [For more information:](#)  
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### **Poverty Matters Conference – Sept 25/26**

The 2013 WISCAP 'Poverty Matters!' conference will be held September 25 - 26, 2013, at the Radisson Paper Valley Hotel in Appleton, Wisconsin. This conference (formerly "Women & Poverty Conference") will bring together human service professionals, community leaders and state officials, low-income advocates, educators and low-income people to talk about the causes and solutions to poverty. [More Information](#)  
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### **Join SOA Human Rights Activists at Fort Benning – Nov 22 to 24**

Mark your calendars, please consider joining human rights activists at the SOA [\[What is School of the Americas and SOA Watch?\]](#) Vigil at Ft Benning the weekend of November 22, 23, and 24th. This year marks the 30th anniversary of Fr. Roy Bourgeois, Fr. Larry Rosebaugh, and Linda Ventimiglia's tree climbing action on the base at Ft Benning. Recently, the Pentagon lost its Court Case over refusal to release names of SOA/WHINSEC graduates and Efraim Rios Guatemalan Dictator has been found guilty of Genocide. We must continue our work for justice and close the School of the Americas! For more information contact Barb M. at [jandb@wi.rr.com](mailto:jandb@wi.rr.com)  
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### **A Lourdes Pilgrimage with Wounded Warriors and Military Families**

"The action of pilgrimage has been a part of the human experience for centuries. In May of 2013 I traveled with North American Volunteers with their Advanced Team to assist our United States Military (all four branches) of Wounded Warriors, Veterans and Military Families as they traveled to Lourdes, France for the 55th International Military Pilgrimage. So, for me personally it was a spiritual pilgrimage within a pilgrimage of service."

"Ourdes has an international presence, as peoples from every corner of the earth come for healing. Physical or mental suffering cuts across all sociological and economic boundaries. During the time I spent in the Grotto, I looked into the eyes of the mothers with their crippled children; the adult children pushing their gnarled parent in an adult sized stroller; the husband holding and patting the hand of his seriously ill wife; and the mentally challenged confined to wheelchairs. I saw every nationality and heard so many languages: French, Spanish, German, and even a few I did not recognize. Wealthy people with diamonds flashing in the sun, poor people in rag tag clothes huddled together; pain and suffering affects all humankind devoid of wealth, age or ethnicity. Yet, here we all were in the Grotto praying for hope and healing, every single one of us." [Read the full reflection](#)  
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### **Pope Francis on the Gospel of Life**

[Watch Video](#) "But all too often, people do not choose life, they do not accept the 'Gospel of Life' but let themselves be led by ideologies and ways of thinking that block life, that do not respect life, because they are dictated by selfishness, self-interest, profit, power and pleasure, and not by love, by concern for the good of others,"  
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### **When My Faith Is Too Comfortable**

By Jim Fowler

When I'm too comfortable in my faith –

I remember Christ is in those who look different than I,  
I remember Christ is in those who speak different than I,  
I remember Christ is in those who smell different than I.

When I'm proud that I live in the USA –

I remember Christ is in EVERY other land in this world.

When I'm proud of all that I do to live out my faith –

I remember Christ in those that do more.

When I'm proud of my thoughts, words and actions due to my faith –

I remember Christ is in those who think differently than I,  
I remember Christ is in those who say differently than I,  
I remember Christ is in those who do differently than I.

When I'm comfortable with the kind of person that I am –

I remember Christ is in those who annoy me the most,  
I remember Christ is in those who would argue with me,  
I remember Christ is in those who do things differently than I.

When my faith is too comfortable –

I remember Christ.