

2005 LPF Annual Report

We are very grateful to our members for continued support for the ministry of Lutheran Peace Fellowship around the US. Highlights of the year included a major training program in Chicago sponsored by the ELCA and helping win legislative victories in Congress to expand poverty aid. LPF led workshops and trainings in a dozen states, wrote new education and advocacy resources, and we were visible in the larger community, reaching over 2 million people through the media.

◆ **Youth Program:** Patrick Edrey finished his LVC year and we welcomed Sara Collins in August. Both have been very effective at fostering peace insights and skills among young people. LPF reached 1000s of young people at events such as the Youth Directors Extravaganza, Lutheran Student Movement national gathering, Peace Prize Forum and Let Just Roll at Holden Village.

An LPF training is so powerful because it makes the content real and personal... Looking at nonviolence stories becomes a new experience involving your whole heart and mind... LPF stirs empowerment and compassion in those affected by its ministry. LPF workshop participant at Concordia College

◆ **Leadership Training:** We were privileged to lead in-depth nonviolence trainings for youth and adults in a dozen cities around the US to help Lutheran leaders bring new energy and ideas to their church or school.

A highlight of the year was serving on the planning committee, developing the manual, and playing a major training role in the ELCA Equipping for Peacemaking workshop in April. This “training for trainers” program in Chicago was open to 5 pastors or lay leaders from each of the 9 regions in the ELCA. Over 400 people applied and by all measures, the program was a success.

◆ **Hunger and Development Aid:** LPF members worked hard to build support for crucial efforts to aid the world’s hungry people like the Millennium Challenge Account and the HIV-AIDS Initiative. We co-sponsored a forum at Seattle Univ. that drew over 500 people. We’ll be working hard to keep up the momentum in 2006.



◆ **War in Iraq** was on many minds in 2005. Questions that we raised before this tragedy were discussed more openly in the media: Was this war necessary? Was it just? Who really benefits? What about its horrendous cost in lives and dollars? Are we any safer? What is it doing to our ability to work with other countries? Such questions sparked interest in church forums, events, talk shows, news programs and websites.



◆ **Nuclear issues:** Many people recalled the ‘80s anti-nuclear movement in 2005 as the administration tried to gain support to develop new ‘bunker buster’ nuclear weapons: We succeeded in pushing Congress to cut funding for them. (Far more harm is done to global efforts to stop proliferation than is gained by producing a weapon that isn’t remotely ‘usable’ in the real world.)



◆ **Resources:** Over 500 leaders requested a new highly interactive computer-based activity that we developed on federal budget priorities. It follows on the success of a similar CD exercise on hunger and

development aid that we wrote for the largest critical thinking project in US education (now in use in 1000s of classrooms around the country). We also revised several of our *Peace Points* series for youth and adult groups including a new version of “Hosting a Hunger Awareness Meal.” We distributed nearly 100,000 workshop aids, resource lists, worship guides, and other materials.

◆ **2005 Financial Summary:** Expenses were \$72,520, and total income in 2005 was \$74,700. Membership income was an impressive \$38,700, grants to LPF totaled \$29,100, and program income, \$6,900. (In-kind income rose to over \$40,000). Salaries and benefits for 2 staff members totaled \$54,080, program expenses like printing and postage were held to \$17,190, and LPF office expenses fell to \$1,230. After a 2003 deficit of \$6,050, we were grateful to report a surplus in 2005 of \$2,180. Bequests allowed us to expand our reserves to almost 2/3 our annual budget. Contact us if you wish to see a more detailed financial report and/or budget for 2006.

◆ **Thank You!** We’re deeply grateful to our members for continuing support for the ministry of Lutheran Peace Fellowship. Please contact us if you have comments or questions or suggestions: 206-720-0313, lpf@ecunet.org