



Pax Christi

LITTLE ROCK

Pax Christi Little Rock

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- Martina Pierini
- Jan Pipkin
- George Simon

**Blessed are the
Peacemakers, for
they shall be called
the children of God.
Matthew 5:9**

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Seminarians from DOLR House of Formation to Speak on Spirituality and Vocational Discernment

Several seminarians will present a program on spirituality and their experience with vocational discernment living in the Diocese of Little Rock House of Formation on Thursday, February 13 at 7 pm as part of the Pax Christi LR Speaker Series. A 6,000-square-foot building located on the grounds of Good Counsel Catholic Church, the House of Formation not only provides seminarians and discerners a place to live, but also allows them to become acquainted with the four pillars of priestly formation-human, spiritual, pastoral and intellectual-as they seek the will of God in their lives. Discerners are men who have not yet become seminarians but live and study alongside seminarians in the House of Formation. Under the guidance of the formation's staff, Msgr. Scott Friend, vocations director, and Fr. Greg Luyet, prefect, they experience the daily life of a seminarian through prayer, study and community as they consider whether God is calling them to a priestly vocation. Living in community allows both



seminarians and discerners to grow in maturity and develop crucial human skills. As members of the community, they serve in local parishes and attend events around the diocese, which acquaints them with the blessings and challenges of pastoral care. They also take classes at local universities and the House of Formation, which offers both core courses and electives in philosophy. Seminarians attend Mass daily, make a daily holy hour, receive spiritual direction and go regularly to the sacrament of reconciliation. Bishop Anthony Taylor lives on the premises and frequently joins the community for Mass, dinner and other group activities.

Since 2009, seminarians studying at local colleges have lived together while discerning. In 2011, they moved into Fletcher Hall at St. John's while their new home was being built. Bishop Taylor blessed the site of the House of Formation in March 2012.

Peace Offerings

PAX CHRISTI JOINS ANTI-WAR DEMONSTRATION ON NATIONAL DAY OF PROTEST

Pax Christi Little Rock joined several other peace and social justice organizations on the steps of the Arkansas state Capitol on January 25, 2020 the National Day of Protest, to present concerns regarding the threat of war as



Anika Whitfield-PPC



National Protest Day

well as the current conflicts that involve our country. The protest was particularly aimed at a potential escalation of conflict with Iran given the recent assassination of the Iranian General Soleimani by the United States government.

Several organizations sponsored this event including Arkansas Coalition for Peace and Justice (ACPJ), Pax Christi Little Rock (PCLR), Arkansas Women's Action for New Directions (WAND),



Poor People's Campaign

World Beyond War, Arkansas Poor People's Campaign (PPC), and Indivisible.

Sherry Simon with Pax Christi Little Rock shared details on Back from the Brink, the grassroots initiative adopted from Pax Christi USA that seeks to fundamentally change US nuclear weapons policy on a city-by-city basis. She also discussed the fact that the Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists adjusted the Doomsday Clock to reflect extreme concerns over human-caused threats such as nuclear weapons and global warming. At this point in time, the clock is set at 100 seconds to



Michael Vaughn-VFP

midnight, the closest it has ever been to symbolic doom and the first time the hands have been within the two-minute mark.

This coalition of peacemakers continues to speak on the side of negotiation and nonviolence as means of conflict resolution in our world today.



Sherry Simon-PCLR



Crowd gathers at Capitol

Peace Offerings

PEACE PARTNERS

Peace Partners highlights various peace and social justice organizations that share our vision: active promotion of peace in our neighborhood, state, country and world. The goal is to increase awareness of the many organizations in our area that work for peace through social justice and invite joint ventures between these groups to increase the effectiveness of our mission.



The Diocese of Little Rock House of Formation currently houses 14 seminarians and discerners who live together in a community where they can become acquainted with the four pillars of priestly formation-human, spiritual, pastoral and intellectual-seeking the will of God for their lives. Residents of the House of Formation live and work under the leadership of Msgr. Scott Friend, vocations director, and Father Greg Luyet, prefect. Bishop Taylor also lives on the premises and frequently joins the community for Mass, dinner and other group activities. The House is located on the grounds of Good Counsel Church in Little Rock, Arkansas.

CALENDAR OF PEACE

FEBRUARY/MARCH EVENTS

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| February 12 | PCLR Board Meeting- 6 pm- Fitzgerald Hall
Speakers Series-7 pm
Seminarians from House of Formation
House of Formation: Community of
Spiritual Growth and Discernment
Diocese of Little Rock, Fitzgerald Hall
2500 N. Tyler St. Little Rock, AR |
| February 28 | Death By Design: The Secret Holocaust of
Wrightsville, Arkansas
Sponsored by: Arkansas Peace and Justice
Memorial Movement
12 pm-Mosaic Templar Cultural Center
501 W. 9th Street, Little Rock, AR |
| February 29 | Always in Season-community screening
Sponsored by: Arkansas Peace and Justice
Memorial Movement
1-5 PM-Mosaic Templar Cultural Center
501 W. 9th Street, Little Rock, AR |
| March 2 | Dr. Ira Helfand, Nobel Peace Prize recipient
Can We Prevent Nuclear War?
Clinton School of Public Service-6 pm
1200 President Clinton Ave., Little Rock |
| March 3 | Dr. Ira Helfand, Nobel Peace Prize recipient
Can We Prevent Nuclear War?
Hendrix College, Mills Hall-11 AM
1800 Washington Ave., Conway, AR |
| March 9 | ACPJ Monthly Meeting
6:30-8 Quaker Meeting House
3415 W. Markham St., Little Rock |
| March 12 | PCLR Board Meeting- 6 pm- Fitzgerald Hall
Speakers Series-7 pm
Screening: Jews Step Forward
Introduction by Caroline Stevenson
Diocese of Little Rock, Fitzgerald Hall |

Peace Offerings

THE ROCK CRIES OUT TO US TODAY

MAYA ANGELOU

Each of you a bordered country,
 Delicate and strangely made proud,
 Yet thrusting perpetually under siege.
 Your armed struggles for profit
 Have left collars of waste upon
 My shore, currents of debris upon my breast.
 Yet today I call you to my riverside,
 If you will study war no more.
 Come, clad in peace and I will sing the songs
 The Creator gave to me when I
 And the tree and stone were one.

SOLES4SOULS

Over the past month, 3279 corks have been donated to Soles4Souls. Can you believe that? This is clearly due to the leadership of Jan Pipkin on this project. Added to the total number (13,264) previously sent off, our total is now 16,543. Save your corks and bring them to our next PCLR meeting, drop them off at 415 N. McKinley St., #1040, or call 258-8653 and we'll pick them up. Thanks to each of you for your help!

Pax Christi's Monthly Mission



Our custom is to contribute to a different peace and social justice cause at each of our monthly meetings. At our February meeting, we will collect donations for the Diocese of Little Rock House of Formation. The diocese funds the living expenses and education of these young men, believing faithfully in their discernment process. For more information on the House of Formation, you can go to dolr.org.

Peace Offerings



Pax Christi

LITTLE ROCK

DR. IRA HELFAND

NOBEL PEACE PRIZE RECIPIENT

CAN WE PREVENT NUCLEAR WAR?

CLINTON SCHOOL OF PUBLIC SERVICE

**1200 PRESIDENT CLINTON AVENUE
LITTLE ROCK, AR 72201**

MONDAY, MARCH 2 @ 6 PM

Tickets (free): publicprograms@clintonschool.uasys.edu

HENDRIX COLLEGE

MILLS HALL

**1800 WASHINGTON AVENUE
CONWAY, AR 72032**

**TUESDAY, MARCH 3
11:00 AM**

Peace Offerings**Peace and Justice Coalition Honors Pax Christi Founder, President**

By George Simon & Sherry Martin

(on behalf of the Pax Christi Little Rock Board of Directors)

The governing board of the Arkansas Coalition for Peace and Justice (ACPJ) presented Dr. Sherry Simon the Peace Activist of the Year Award at its annual meeting Saturday, February 8, 2020. The award recognizes the zeal and dedication it takes to be a true active peacemaker in our times. ACPJ particularly wanted to applaud the “heart and soul”



Dr. Simon put into the creation of a Pax Christi chapter here in Arkansas, and the remarkable network and myriad of projects the organization has spawned in the three short years since its inception. Pax Christi “has grown into an effective, caring, instrument” for peace, the citation reads, and under the inspiring leadership of Dr. Simon, “continues to make connections between individuals and groups of diverse persuasions,” inviting everyone in the community to use their unique talents to bring about meaningful change.

The members of the board of directors of Pax Christi Little Rock want to express our appreciation to our founder and president for her vision, courage, and incomparable talent for making and nurturing positive connections. As the award she so well deserves testifies to, her work and the work of all those involved in Pax Christi, demonstrate the inherent power of “faith put into action” and the impact individuals and groups working together can have on their communities.

Dr. Simon probably said it best in her acceptance speech when she quoted Dr. Martin Luther King: “All life is interrelated. We are all caught up in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied into a single garment of destiny. What ever affects one destiny, affects all.” Those of us privileged to be involved with Dr. Sherry Simon, Pax Christi, and all its various peace partners know this to be profoundly true. We’ve come to a deeper understanding about how we are indeed the body of Christ. And we’re sincerely grateful to Sherry, and every person in our ever-growing network of partners for the opportunities we’ve had to put our faith into action.