



# Not So Far Afield

NEWSLETTER OF THE MARYKNOLL AFFILIATES

July/August 2021

Volume 30 Number 4

## GLOBAL INTERFAITH CONFERENCE— YOU ARE INVITED

Maria Grudzen – Kenya Chapter (virtual)

Three members of the Kenya Maryknoll Affiliate chapter are designing, developing, and implementing an upcoming **Global Fratelli Tutti Conference: Building Human Solidarity in the Light of Pope Francis' Encyclical, Fratelli Tutti**. They are Father Joseph Healey, MM, on the faculty of Tangaza University in Nairobi, and Gerald and Marita Grudzen, based in San Jose, California.

The Maryknoll Office for Global Concerns is a cosponsor, and Maryknoll Affiliate Executive Coordinator Bob Short encourages Affiliates to attend. The Pontifical Council for Inter-religious Dialogue will feature a message for the conference from Pope Francis.

The free conference will be held **August 19-21, 2021**. See the announcement on YouTube at: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=x8La7IHLQ7A](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x8La7IHLQ7A)



Three HUBs will conduct the conference, one for the Americas, an Africa HUB, and a Southeast Asia HUB. The international talks and workshops will focus on each region's three major issues. The HUB of the Americas workshops include the Impact of the Coronavirus on the Health, Economy, and Politics of the global community; "The Cry of the Earth, The Cry of the Poor"; and Racism and Building Human Solidarity in the US.

Keynote presenters include **Father Patrick Ryan, SJ**, Professor of Religion and Society at Fordham University, and **Hon. Edmund Gerald (Jerry) Brown, Jr.**, former governor of California. These presenters are developing ways to transcend many of the divisions that afflict the human community and our planet earth.

To help overcome the political populism and nationalism that often divide us and fail to adequately address our current issues, *Fratelli Tutti* provides a comprehensive prescription for many of these ailments.

People from diverse religious, cultural, and economic backgrounds will examine the types of community-building activities that have successfully applied the hopeful message of *Fratelli Tutti*. We will publish the outcomes and recommendations of this conference on the latest technological platforms.

For **free registration**, a page with conference details is on Global Ministries University's HUB for the Americas: [www.globalministriesuniversity.org](http://www.globalministriesuniversity.org). Or contact Marita Grudzen, Secretariat of the conference, [maritagrudzen@gmail.com](mailto:maritagrudzen@gmail.com), to register for all or part of the conference.



### What's Inside?

Global Interfaith Conference .....	1
The Times They Are A-Changin' .....	2
2021 Appeal Produces Surprising Results ..	2
Call to Greater Community .....	3
Bringing About Nonviolent Morro Bay .....	4
MMI and a Letter from My Mother .....	5
We All Learn – We All Teach .....	6
Summer Reading / Digital Workshop .....	7
Discovering History / Farther Out ... ..	8
Our Obligation / More Mini MACs .....	9
Book Group Follows Up / MMI Schedule ..	10
Affiliate Movement Today and Tomorrow ..	11
New Movie – View Free .....	12

## THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN'

Recently, various Maryknollers have noted epochal changes and paradigm shifts in our times and asked, "What steps can we take to respond and thrive?" This issue illustrates some of the possibilities.

Executive Coordinator Bob Short reports on the recent Affiliate Board meeting's plans/ideas to address changes. The Kenya (virtual) Affiliates are collaborating and making the path by walking it: they are organizing an international interfaith conference using the guidance of Pope Francis's *Fratelli Tutti*.

The Guatemala Chapter tells how they incorporate and learn from young prospective Affiliates. If you want young members, invite them to a special chapter event! Ruth Ann Angus also has something to teach Affiliates. She abhorred the violence in her community and, although not an Affiliate, took on the mission of improving her community and making it nonviolent. She used resources offered by Pace e Bene and their Nonviolent Cities program.

Al Drinkwine suggests a shift from thinking that "This Land Is Your Land," and says our obligation is to work for unity. Our former Affiliate Board Chair, Rich Lessard, similarly asks us to discover, dialogue, and unite for a greater Maryknoll community.

What changes do you see? What changes do you seek? Send your input to [NSFAMaryknoll@gmail.com](mailto:NSFAMaryknoll@gmail.com).



**Not So Far Afield (NSFA)** is a bimonthly publication of the Maryknoll Affiliates and is also available online at [MaryknollAffiliates.org](http://MaryknollAffiliates.org). The name is a play on the title of the original Maryknoll Magazine: *The Field Afar*. Affiliates share in the mission and family spirit of Maryknoll Sisters, Fathers and Brothers, and Lay Missioners.

**Mission Statement:** Maryknoll Affiliates, while continuing to pursue their own life's journey, commit themselves to the mission goals of Maryknoll in the context of Chapters that gather for prayer, reflection, and action. Maryknoll Affiliates challenge one another to witness to mission as a way of life by going beyond borders, locally and globally, walking with the poor and excluded, and striving for peace and justice for all of God's creation.

**For further information**, see [MaryknollAffiliates.org](http://MaryknollAffiliates.org), contact Executive Coordinator Bob Short, email [AffiliateBShort@gmail.com](mailto:AffiliateBShort@gmail.com), or write to:

Maryknoll Affiliates  
P.O. Box 311  
Maryknoll, NY 10545-0311

## 2021 MARYKNOLL AFFILIATE APPEAL PRODUCES SURPRISING RESULTS!

Finance Committee –  
Maryknoll Affiliate Board

After the Affiliate appeal letter was canceled in 2020 due to the pandemic, the 2021 appeal was mailed in early June to all Affiliates. The results have been pleasantly surprising! In just the first few weeks of June, many Affiliates responded with generous financial commitments. It is heartwarming to witness such deep participation and interest in support of the Affiliate Movement.



Some respondents to the appeal were excited to hear that appeal funds are planned to help underwrite new worthwhile initiatives such as scholarships and grants for projects of the chapters and individual Affiliates. Other Affiliates appreciated the careful use of Affiliate funds for 2020 in keeping costs and expenses down.

For those who haven't yet contributed, donations are still being accepted. Please make checks payable to Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers and mail them to this **new** address:

**Cashier**  
**Maryknoll Affiliates**  
**PO Box 302**  
**Maryknoll, NY 10545-0302**

Our deepest gratitude to all Affiliates, however you participate.



### **Not So Far Afield Co-Editors:**

Mary Ryan-Hotchkiss & Paula Schaffner

Articles in *Not So Far Afield* do not represent the opinion of any of the Maryknoll entities.

**Submissions:** We welcome letters to the editor, articles, photos, and suggestions for articles. All submissions are subject to editing. Please contact us at [NSFAMaryknoll@gmail.com](mailto:NSFAMaryknoll@gmail.com).

**Subscriptions:** To report a change of address, subscribe, unsubscribe, or change to/from print or digital versions, email; [NSFAMaryknoll@gmail.com](mailto:NSFAMaryknoll@gmail.com) or contact Bob Short at [AffiliateBShort@gmail.com](mailto:AffiliateBShort@gmail.com).

## CALL TO GREATER COMMUNITY

Rich Lessard – Past Board Chair  
Albany Chapter



An abridgment of his presentation at the international virtual gathering hosted by the Guatemala Chapter, April 24, 2021.

As Affiliate Board chair, the related themes of “connection” and “engagement” have been my primary focus. Why? Relationships—building them and making them stronger. I want to expand and strengthen the relationships Affiliates have beyond the chapter level. If more and more Affiliates are connected and engaged with each other, we can grow into a stronger global community that supports, helps, and challenges us to look ahead, build dreams, and journey on our common path toward universal love.

Synergy is interaction or cooperation, giving rise to a whole greater than the simple sum of its parts. Can we say this about the Affiliates today? Are we just the sum of our parts, a collection of Chapters, separate and independent of the others? Or are we more than this? Can we be?

We’re held by the common bonds of our Four Pillars, our love for Maryknoll, and the inspiration we receive from Maryknoll missionaries. Can these bonds alone carry us into the future, to build dreams together? Is the strength and depth of our relationships sufficient? I believe we can do more.

One of the foundational aspects of the Affiliates is the pillar of Community. We generally live this out locally, in the context of our own chapters. This is good. However, the world has changed a lot, especially with technological advances. Taking advantage of these advances, Affiliates can now expand their experience of community—globally. This gathering and the monthly gatherings that Rosa Beatriz and others from the Guatemala Chapter have held are a wonderful example of how we can do this. Rosa Beatriz’s engagement efforts here in Latin America are a model for other Board members and Regional Coordinators to follow. I’m so appreciative of her efforts.

Currently, differences of language has impeded our ability to connect and engage readily. We must make the effort to overcome this barrier. With Claudia Samayoa’s translation efforts today, we’ve taken a step forward. But we need to find

and use other technological solutions to ease this burden. We can’t wait any longer!

Language isn’t our only difference. We have a collection of different cultures, politics, points of view, life experiences, attitudes, and, to a limited extent, religion. What an opportunity we have! Look at these differences not as impediments to overcome, but as gifts we have to offer each other. With commitment and effort, we can grow our Affiliate community into a truly global one.

With a greater commitment to connection and engagement throughout our community, we can:

- recognize that we are each just differing reflections of the richness of human life.
- unite to witness to God’s love for all people by working together in the service of humanity.
- discover each person’s gifts, promote that which unites us, and grow in mutual respect.
- transcend our differences and offer our individual gifts to bring transformation and healing to the suffering, and address common problems in our local communities and around the world.
- have real dialogue—speak, listen, come to know and understand one another.
- create greater unity and identity among Affiliates, inspiring solidarity and fraternity.
- make new and/or reignite old friendships.

To quote the United States’ first Black president, “Yes, we can!”

Pope Francis has spoken often about a culture of encounter, encouraging us to foster dialogue and friendship beyond our usual circles. In *Fratelli Tutti*, he says that “We, as a people, should be passionate about meeting others, seeking points of contact, building bridges, ...” He goes on to say “for Christian thought and the action of the Church, the primacy given to relationship, to the encounter with the sacred mystery of the other, to universal communion with the entire human family, is a vocation of all.”

We can be encouraged and inspired by Francis’s words. They parallel the call in our Affiliate mission statement: to “challenge one another to witness to mission as a way of life by going beyond borders.” Inherent in this is relationship through encounter, dialogue, and friendship. It’s all there.

We have a global community ready for this now. Let us all collectively make further efforts to build upon the relationships we already have in place. When Affiliates are connected, it is good!





## BRINGING ABOUT NONVIOLENT MORRO BAY

Ruth Ann Angus – Yes We Can Peacebuilders,  
Morro Bay, CA

August of 2015 found me enjoying a hot meal at St. Timothy's Church hall. I was sitting with my Rotary president, Tyler, and his group from the Gorilla Gardeners. Tyler rehabilitated young people who had served time in prison teaching them to garden and do zero waste events. A man came and knelt on the other side of the table and addressed Taylor. "I just heard about what you do. Isn't it awful," he said, "putting young people in prison instead of offering them the kind of rehab you are doing? No one should be put in prison," he exclaimed. I thought this one's a nut. A couple of days later I found out that man was Father John Dear, internationally famous peace activist and candidate for the Nobel Peace Prize.

In 2016 I found myself disgusted at the behavior of the people involved in our city elections that was anything but respectful, and on top of that, depressed to read daily the vicious comments posted in social media about area homeless people. Homelessness had increased in Morro Bay exponentially and we were having issues that a town depending on tourist dollars could not tolerate. What could I do?




I decided to find some help, and noticed a small slip of paper mentioning the name John Dear. I wanted to throw it out but I couldn't do it. I remembered John Dear from the meal at St. Timothy's. I had been praying for a solution to what I recognized as violence in my town—in thoughts and words about the homeless and in candidates' slurs about each other. A small voice came into my head as I gazed at the name "John Dear," saying, "Get to know this man." I finally gave in and told the voice, "Okay, I'll Google him."

Through him I came across Pace e Bene's Campaign Nonviolence. Searching their site brought me to the "Nonviolent Cities Project (<https://paceebene.org/nonviolent-cities>)." I clicked the button and signed up Morro Bay without even thinking about how I was going to make Morro Bay nonviolent.

At the beginning, a few of us gathered together and decided to use Affirmative Inquiry to plan what might be if Morro Bay became a Nonviolent City. We began to imagine what could be. We recognized what was already working, and what could be better.

We held workshops using Pace e Bene's book, *Engage: Exploring Nonviolent Living* (<https://paceebene.org/store/engage>) and formed discussion groups to educate the community. We met with city officials and the police force, exploring how to live a nonviolent life. Utilizing articles in Morro Bay Life and other publications, we were able to introduce the concept of a holistic and nonviolent city. The City Council is in the process of establishing procedures to guard against gun violence. The Principal of the area grammar school brought in trained people to teach students how to meditate, which has reduced bullying. The Chief of police held the first 10-week course of its Citizen's Police Academy for community members to learn all the aspects involved in the operation of a police force. Neighborhood Watch was revamped to assure protection for everyone without prejudice.

It's been a bit over five years since the forming of Yes We Can Peacebuilders ([www.yeswecanpeacebuilders.org](http://www.yeswecanpeacebuilders.org)), and I'm happy to say that Morro Bay has embraced the concept of a nonviolent city. In 2018, the mayor and City Council issued a Peace Proclamation establishing Morro Bay as a Nonviolent City, and every September as the month of Peace and Nonviolence. The work is never done, and every now and then that little "voice" gives me encouragement to NEVER GIVE UP! 

### Tune in!

Ruth Ann Angus's program, "Peace Rocks," which airs on local community radio on the first Saturday of every month, can be accessed nationally at

[www.centralcoastradio.org](http://www.centralcoastradio.org)

or

[www.esterobayradio.org](http://www.esterobayradio.org).

## MMI AND A LETTER FROM MY MOTHER

Mary Beth Buchner – Albany Chapter

I recently attended “When Tears Sing: A Way Home to the Heart of God,” a Maryknoll Mission Institute program presented by William Blaine-Wallace, PhD.

During the program, we were asked to look back over our life and identify a tear—a tear that might still break open our heart and possibly made for a turning point in our life. After a brief moment of deliberation, I identified the tear that has been a part of my life since the time I was six, the monumental tear that occurred when my Uncle Joe was killed in The Korean War.

When the family accompanied my Uncle Joe O'Donnell to La Guardia airport on his trip to Korea, everything seemed solemn and somber. We were all so terribly sad. To this day, whenever I pass the airport, I still feel the blanket of sorrow that covered us, Joe's family, as we hugged and said our final good-byes.

On October 13, 1951, my dearly beloved Uncle, 1st Lieutenant Joseph T. O'Donnell, was killed in action while leading his men up *Heartbreak Ridge* in Korea. From that time, I have some crystal-clear memories of a lot of tears and heartbreak. I remember the bitter cold day in January when my Uncle Joe's body was brought to its final resting place: the loud and frightening 21-gun salute, and the final, mournful sound of a bugle playing Taps. But most of all, I still feel the sadness on my Aunt Marie's face as this 26-year-old mother of two was handed the folded flag of a grateful nation.

During the Mission Institute, we spent time in quiet solitude identifying our tear. We then drew our tear and included the components that were inside of it. Afterwards, we broke into small groups to share our tear and our lamentation. To clarify:

*Lament is a relational act in which testifier and witness are transformed. ... Testifiers hear their testimonies again as if for the first time. The witnesses, because of the relational imperative implicit in the testifiers' desire to connect and engage, are exposed, vulnerable, and through such an encounter, changed.*

The next day we were asked to write a letter. “Who do you desire to hear from regarding your tear? Who would most understand your tear? Who might offer you comfort and direction?” We



were told to think of ourselves as the transcriptionist, and to allow this person's words to come through our pen/pencil onto the paper. I knew instantly that my mother was the one that I needed to hear from, even though she had passed from this life on November 19, 1998. I knew she was the one who would most understand my tear.

Actually, I didn't know how much comfort I would receive because I

knew how deeply her heart was broken by her brother's untimely, violent death. Joe's death brought a deluge, a massive flood of tears to the entire family. Nonetheless, I wanted to connect with her and hear what she had to say. I sat alone in silence and in solitude and I began to transcribe the letter my mother was dictating to me. It was so very easy to put down on paper since I didn't have to give it any thought. I just wrote what she wanted to say to me. The letter seemed to take “no time at all” and when I was finished, I was a bit surprised by what she chose to say to me.

“Joe was no longer around to take care of his beloved family in a physical sense but believe me, Mary, I know now that Joe's strong and beautiful spirit surrounded and protected them always in all ways.”

—from Marybeth's mother's letter

If you'd like to read the letter from my mother, see: [http://boomerfrontrunner.blogspot.com/2021/05/a-letter-from-my-mother-dated-may-19\\_11.html](http://boomerfrontrunner.blogspot.com/2021/05/a-letter-from-my-mother-dated-may-19_11.html)

You may also want to read William Blaine-Wallace's *When Tears Sing: The Art of Lament in Christian Community*.

I also recommend that you look into the marvelous programs being offered at the Maryknoll Mission Institute (See page 10.)





Photos by Rosa Beatriz  
Castañeda de Larios

## WE ALL LEARN – WE ALL TEACH

Rosa Beatriz Castañeda de Larios –  
Board member, Guatemala Chapter

**A**ffiliates who belong to a Chapter and young people interested in joining that Chapter should not see each other as two different groups. On the contrary, young people should be invited to a special activity of the Chapter and have the opportunity to participate in a dialogue in which they and the Chapter members learn from each other's experiences, including such questions as: how do we spend our free time, what studies or work do we do, hobbies, what interests us in our community, country, world?

*In February 2019, approximately ten young affiliates were invited to participate in the celebration of Maryknoll Sister Helen Werner's 100 years. Some of them had worked in mission with the Maryknoll Sisters during the holidays in Lemoa; others had recently obtained an academic degree in a profession, and talking with Affiliates of the Chapter, they became interested in coming to the celebration. As the Guatemala Chapter, we were very happy that young people wanted to be with us. We received them with a big applause. During the meeting, they listened to messages and praises and participated in activities that "lit the flame of Maryknoll spirituality." We also heard their voices, and their message impressed us. At the end of the celebration, they expressed their desire to participate further. One of them wrote down names, cell phones, and emails for future communication.*

Quarantine, isolation, social distancing, and confinement invaded the world to prevent the

spread of COVID 19. We communicated with the young group through emails and asked them, if they wanted to be members of the Guatemala Chapter, to fill out the application that was sent to them. In addition to their personal data, we asked them to answer two questions: Why do you want to be a member of Maryknoll Affiliates? From your skills, profession, what can you offer to the Chapter? Here is a sample of the answers.

*1. I have heard about the activities and projects that the Chapter do, I'm interested. I met Sister Helen and Connie and they told me about Affiliates, I want to transform Guatemala, be at the service of the vulnerable, meet more people who want to be part of a change for Guatemala, the participation of young women is important, I see the Affiliate Movement as an opportunity to be an agent of change in my country.*

*2. My energy, courses and workshops, the ability to transform visual communication, innovative ideas so that other young people are motivated to participate in this Movement that involves social service, talks on law, psychology.*

After receiving the applications, the Guatemala Chapter sent them "**News Loaded with Hope**": a WhatsApp group of young Affiliates will be created, with two young Affiliates who have been in the Chapter for three or four years as coordinators; and issues of the bulletins of the Guatemala Chapter and *No Tan Lejos del Horizonte* will be dedicated to the young Affiliates. They were invited to participate in a Guatemala Chapter Zoom meeting to channel their interest and let us again hear their voices. Also, at a monthly Zoom reunion of Latin America, they were invited to send a message to all the Chapters. The young Affiliates of the Guatemala Chapter continue to meet with their coordinators by Zoom every week.

*After several meetings they expressed the message: **Believe in US! We are a source of hope! We want to serve day after day! Even if we are afraid, we dream of the unattainable! We want to be a testimony of life for others! We question reality! We believe in Social Projects! We believe in change as a solution to something, but we don't know what to expect! We fight for our ideals, and we don't give up!***

Little by little, the learning process was advancing—the dialogue, work, action, and reflection of the group was more and more intense; The Chapter knew the interest of the young women, and that





meant a transformation for the Chapter. The Chapter after including the young Affiliates had 13 members from 18 to 29 years old, 6 from 30 to 39 years old, 11 from 40-59 years old, 6 from 60-79, and 8 of 80 years or more.

**The young Affiliates assumed the mission with solidarity and responsibility by preparing the first Maryknoll Spirituality Workshop. Its purpose was to reflect on what it means to be an Affiliate and assume the mission in their daily actions, especially with vulnerable groups, as well as for justice and peace.**

Through these workshops, an intergenerational exchange was established between the Affiliates that originated the Movement and those who have been part of it for less time. Over three weeks, the workshop presents the themes that they have chosen: The four Maryknoll entities and their founders; History of the Guatemala Chapter; Introduction to the Four Pillars—Community Spirit, Spirituality, Global Vision, and Action; and Buen Vivir.



*At the same time, the young Affiliates had meetings to present how they could contribute to the Guatemala Chapter: participate in social projects, contribute technologically to the publishing of our two magazines—the Guatemala Chapter Bulletin and No Tan Lejos del Horizonte (NTLH), and update Facebook and Instagram, so that the image projected draws more young people to participate in the Chapter.*

Actually, some of the young Affiliates have participated in the planning and coordination of the monthly Zoom reunions of all the Latin American countries.



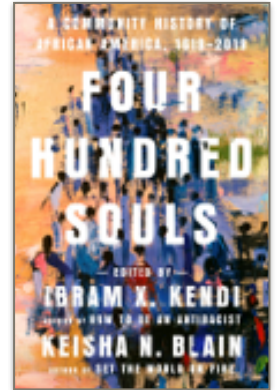
*We all know something. We are all ignorant of something. Therefore, we always learn.*  
—Paulo Freire, Brazilian educator

### SUMMER READING

Mary Ryan-Hotchkiss – Portland Chapter

This spring's book group that read Brian McLaren's *Faith After Doubt* is taking a summer vacation but expects to be back in the fall. Hugh Menton has provided his reflections on the book in this NSFA issue. Please send us your ideas for a good book for the next book group, knowing that we prefer books from Orbis Books, especially since Affiliates enjoy a generous discount.

This summer, I am reading *Four Hundred Souls*, edited by Ibram X. Kendi and Keisha N. Blain. The title refers to the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of African Americans in North America. Each chapter addresses some historical aspect of a five-year time span and is only a few pages long, easily readable in just a few minutes.



I'm learning details about our continent's history, including how over the last 400 years, lawmakers and citizens evolved laws to protect and further white interests. Each chapter is written by a different author—a remarkable sampling of Black historians, authors, activists, etc. The book includes their bios and ample notes to facilitate further investigation.



Maryville University Online

**DIGITAL WORKSHOP – TRAINING / EXPLAINING**  
**Late August, date TBA – 4:00 EDT**

Does the Maryknoll Affiliates website mystify you? Do you wonder how to use Facebook? Our website designer Lisa Stengel will demystify the website, and show us what happens on Facebook.

Register with Bob Short ([affiliatebshort@gmail.com](mailto:affiliatebshort@gmail.com))

**DISCOVERING HISTORY**

Mary Ryan-Hotchkiss – Portland Chapter

*As we travel, we try to learn about the history of the local and native peoples.*

**1921 – Tulsa Race Massacre.** On our way to visit family in Ohio, we passed through Tulsa just before the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary commemoration of the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre on Greenwood Street. We had read about Greenwood and its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary in an Oklahoma newspaper. A Greenwood brochure and map told that in 1921, authorities arrested Dick Rowland, a Black man, and insisted he would not be lynched. An angry mob formed and advanced through Greenwood, burning everything in sight. By the time the National Guardsmen arrived from Oklahoma City to stop the destruction, the entire African American district of 35 to 40 square blocks had been burned. The Red Cross reported an additional 300 homes had been looted but not burned. Between 85 and 300 people died and were hastily buried.

A several-day commemoration of the massacre in May 2021 helped educate Black and white Americans about their forgotten history. Greenwood Street had been known as the “Negro Wall Street” for its thriving Black businesses. The newspaper featured a 106-year-old Black survivor, Viola Fletcher. The area is now gentrified and “renewed” but has some Black businesses. We enjoyed scrumptious fried catfish and homemade cornbread at Wanda J’s, a Black-owned street-front cafe on Greenwood St.



**1940s – The Woody Guthrie Center** is just a few blocks from Greenwood Street. Joe Hastings, a returned Maryknoll Lay Missioner from Seattle, had advised that we stop in Tulsa at the impressive Woody Guthrie Center. Sam and Holly welcomed us at the Center desk and as we talked about

our interests, they went to the Affiliate web site and signed up to get the NSFA newsletter!

I remember Woody Guthrie as the composer of “This Land is Your Land,” but until visiting his Center, I hadn’t realized Guthrie was also a prolific artist, composer, and activist. He took to the road from his Oklahoma home because of the depression era poverty and the Dust Bowl, writing, singing, and drawing wherever he went. His songs featured the tribulations of the common man, the worker. In a video at the Center, numerous musicians credited his social consciousness with influencing them.

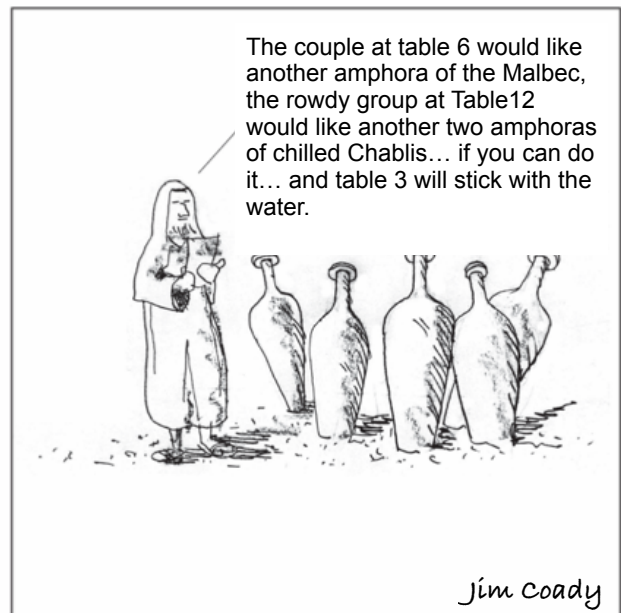
**1885 – Chinese Miners Massacred.** In Rock Springs, Wyoming, we saw a public library exhibit on the 1885 massacre of Chinese miners. At least 28 Chinese miners died and 79 of the 80 houses in the company town were burned. Some Chinese were murdered and thrown on the burning buildings by rampaging white miners. (<https://www.history.com/this-day-in-history/whites-massacre-chinese-in-wyoming-territory>)

**1910 – St. Johns Riot.** Few remembered the 1910 St. Johns riot in Portland until the Oregon Historical Society Winter 2019 Quarterly article, “White Supremacy and Resistance.” In that 1910 riot, several hundred white townspeople rampaged and attacked East Indian migrant workers whom they called Hindus, but who were probably turban-wearing Sikhs. Some were injured and their homes looted. By day’s end, most of the East Indians were forcibly placed on trains heading south.

What is the forgotten history where you travel, where you live? What massacres and injustices will we have to relive before we lament, heal, and repair? Will the January 6, 2021, insurrection at the US Capitol also be forgotten? We must remember our history and recognize where we have fallen short of our pledge of “liberty and justice for all.” Our Affiliate pillars call us to *action* and rebuilding *community*.



**Farther Out...And Further Afield**



*Jesus was always popular at wedding feasts.*



**OUR OBLIGATION**

Al Drinkwine – Seattle Chapter

*Al invites you to sing this poem  
—you know the tune!*

This land's not your land, this land's not my land  
From the torch of freedom to the rainbowed islands  
From the Arctic Ocean to Key West motion  
This land is leased to you and me

The original tenants are oh so right  
As Heaven's Spirit owns all in sight  
And Mother Earth knows that all we see  
This land is leased to you and me

From heaven's Landlord, to our circling seashore  
We're tasked with grooming earth's floor and more  
Through unified rhythm and vocal accord  
Our gentle actions can produce much more

Inalienable rights once gifted to all  
Nowhere mentions constructing a wall  
Our obligation is to respect each other  
Each and every sister and brother

As sharing hands stretch across blessed lands  
Life is rising from watered sands  
As the fires of freedom gently warm each heart  
It's our obligation to grant equal starts

For this land's not your land, this land's not my land  
Our obligation is to understand  
Our Landlord's desire is we aspire  
To elevate unity higher and higher

Heaven is guiding as we look and listen  
As peaceful waters begin to glisten  
The task is ours to nourish all  
As we respond to heaven's call

This land's not your land, this land's not my land  
From the torch of freedom, to the rainbowed islands  
From the Arctic Ocean, to Key West motion  
This land is leased to you and me

This land is leased to you and me



**MORE MINI MACS**

Our first of three Mini MACs drew over 130 Zoom participants, several from outside Maryknoll. The positive reviews of **Tending Our Souls** indicate it was all the MAC team had hoped it would be.

The second Mini Mac, **Tending Our Planet**, is scheduled for September 11<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm ET with Andrew Panelli. Affiliate Celine Woznica of the Chicago Chapter has seen Andy in action, having invited him to give a presentation to her college class. His unique climate simulation exercise, developed with MIT, will be incorporated into the September session. He also connects his presentation to Pope Francis's *Laudato Si'* document. We anticipate a very stimulating and meaningful presentation.

The date for the final Min Mac of 2021, **Tending Our Community**, has yet to be determined. It is slated for late fall with Megan McKenna. Megan—spiritual writer, theologian, lecturer and story teller—is well known and sought after globally. Her latest book is *The Poor Save Us*.

Underlying our planning is the realization that we are in the year of our 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. We hope to incorporate that anniversary into an in-person Maryknoll Affiliate Conference (MAC), tentatively scheduled for spring or fall of 2022.

Details about how to register to attend this Mini MAC will be posted several weeks in advance.



## BOOK GROUP FOLLOWS UP

Hugh Menton – Greater Los Angeles Chapter

At the April 17 Mini-MAC, “Tending to the Soul,” Brian McLaren spoke about the topic of his book, *Faith After Doubt*. Inspired by his presentation, 15 of us gathered bi-weekly on Zoom to read his book and share our questions and reflections. A special aspect of the group was that seven of the people involved were not Affiliates and some had not even heard of the Maryknoll Affiliates. All of the participants mentioned being on a spiritual journey, which McLaren presents in terms of four stages--Simplicity, Complexity, Perplexity, and Harmony. Most acknowledged experiencing the doubt that McLaren explores in his book. We agreed we need supportive communities—“including book groups!”



Many in the group are interested in getting together again in another book group in the fall. Books suggested are Richard Rohr's *Falling Upward*, *The Universal Christ*, or *Divine Dance*; anything by Ilia Delio, Mirabai Starr's *Wild Mercy* or Matthew Fox's reflection on Julian of Norwich. Do you wish to join a book group? Do you have another book to suggest? Send your interest and suggestions to Mary Ryan-Hotchkiss at [nsfamary@gmail.com](mailto:nsfamary@gmail.com).

If you want to explore *Faith after Doubt* on your own or in your own group, Brian McLaren makes it easy by embedding reflection and discussion questions at the end of each chapter of the book and then ends the book with an appendix, “Guidelines for Groups and Classes.”

An unusual occurrence with the recent group was that many participants expressed a desire to reread McLaren's book, partly for more time to reflect on his ideas and partly to explore the many references and people he names. As often with newer books, he connects his thinking to others' work through footnotes that cite not only books,

but websites and YouTube recordings. McLaren pulls in the thinking of a broad range of people, including scientists such as Albert Einstein; Biblical writers such as Paul (Galatians 5:14); voices of mystics such as the Sufi mystic Ibn-al-Arabi and The Lady Julian of Norwich; and a number of modern religious leaders—C.S. Lewis, Dalai Lama, Howard Thurman, Martin Luther King, Pope Francis, and Richard Rohr.

Also, McLaren describes our modern challenges:

- We must now study how to create the conditions for deep and lasting peace.
- ...over the last five hundred years, we have exploited the earth's resources so drastically that we won't get a simple second chance.
- We must now cherish life on earth and engage with it by focusing our best energies on learning to love neighbor, self, earth, and God, who is Love.

Are these not the same calls we hear from Pope Francis's *Laudato Si'*, *Fratelli Tutti*, and *Let Us Dream*?



### MARYKNOLL MISSION INSTITUTE 2021



*These Maryknoll Sisters' programs are offered online through July:*

- July 11-16 A Living Gospel:  
Reading God's Story in Holy Lives (And Our Own)  
**Robert Ellsberg, MA**
- July 18-23 Finding a Way in the Wilderness:  
Drawing Courage through the Art of Film  
**Rev. Larry Lewis, MM**

**This year's programs is conducted by ZOOM—attend without travel, from your home.**

See complete schedule and program descriptions:

[www.maryknollsisters.org/missioninstitute](http://www.maryknollsisters.org/missioninstitute)

**Register online** or request an application form at:

Maryknoll Mission Institute  
Maryknoll Sisters, P.O. Box 311  
Maryknoll, NY 10545-0311  
Tel. 914-941-7575 @ 5671

## News from the Board

### AFFILIATE MOVEMENT TODAY & TOMORROW

Joint Meeting – June 2021

**A**ffiliate Board members and Regional Coordinators gathered for a virtual Joint Meeting June 10-14, 2021. This year marks the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Affiliate Movement. For each of the first three sessions, in 10 years sweeps, Board members Roxanne Hughes-Wheatland, Rosa Beatriz Castañeda and Ginny McEvoy took us on a journey back to recall the Affiliate milestones of each decade. Those milestones will appear in another article for NSFA and NTLH.

Given the times we (all Maryknoll expressions) find ourselves in, these meetings were seen as pivotal. How will the Affiliates move into the future with renewed energy, restored commitment, and resourceful creativity? All of us know the challenges – aging, diminished numbers, a church divided with diminished credibility, institutions suspect by many, etc. Still, Community, Spirituality, Global Vision, and Action continue to be respected and even longed for across a wide spectrum of age, gender, race, and culture. So, we are hopeful but know that transformation needs to take place within and among us if we are to successfully move ahead.

*"A bend in the road is not an end in the road, unless you fail to make the turn."*

—Helen Keller

The first day of the meeting (these were two-hour virtual sessions) focused on the present: reviewing past minutes and Consensus Action Statements, and an exploration of selected committees. The following day was entirely dedicated to an open, expansive discussion of the times and shifting paradigms we're living in today. Both cognitively and intuitively, all of us know that something is changing on a fundamental level. What is changing, or has changed, and how will it impact the way we move into the future? The group stayed with these questions for an extended time. In addition to the quote above from Helen Keller, another one comes to mind:

*The only thing that can change structures is the power of love. You will usher in a new reality by your own being-in-love. This, I believe, is the heart of Christian discipleship.*—Ilia Delio



The remaining two days of meetings looked at concrete initiatives to help make us a viable and energized movement in the years ahead:

- A more integrated, global outreach to chapters outside the US. Language translation will be a major factor for achieving this.
- A proposal, drafted by John Moritz (Northeast Florida) and Dave Schaffner (CA Central Coast), to provide funding for approved initiatives among Affiliates.
- Continuing to explore deeper collaboration within Maryknoll and with outside groups.
- Youth & Social Media was our most extended and energetic discussion, made particularly so because, Jimena Celis (age 25), of the Guatemala Chapter, participated with us in this session. Her youthful dynamism, insights, and strong faith commitment were extremely helpful and encouraging. More to follow.

There wasn't time at this meeting to look at Structure, Governance, new models, etc. That will be taken up in future meetings, perhaps monthly ones.

The last session of this final day was dedicated to an appreciation and celebration for our outgoing Chair, Rich Lessard, and a welcoming for our new Chair, Ginny McEvoy. We are very grateful for Rich's strong commitment and many initiatives during his stay. We also feel blessed that Ginny, who was among the very first Affiliates, has agreed to take on the role of Chair.



*God is more and more trying to move the human race to the next stage of consciousness beyond the rational, technological, dominating worldview ... recognizing the truth that there is only one self ultimately and this is God manifesting in us.*

—Thomas Keating



**Save the Date – New Video – View Free**

Sunday, Sept. 19, 7pm EDT (4pm PDT)

***The Third Harmony: Nonviolence  
and the New Story of Human Nature***



Nonviolence, the greatest overlooked resource in human experience, is revealed in the convergence of modern science and the world's great wisdom traditions. Learn the role of nonviolence in the struggle to develop a "new story" of human nature.

After the film, join us for  
**CLARA for Peaceful Conversations**

**CLARA: Calm, Listen, Affirm, Respond, and Add.**

**Building Peaceful Communities** event  
Endorsed by Portland Chapter of Maryknoll Affiliates

Contact: Mary Ryan-Hotchkiss at [PeaceBuilding21@yahoo.com](mailto:PeaceBuilding21@yahoo.com)

