

# Callings

in Church of the Saviour

Vol 7, Issue 2 • Summer 2018

## Interfaith Neighbors at Dayspring

Interfaith Neighbors at Dayspring, IFND for short, was born in January of 2016 in response to a sermon on the Syrian refugee crisis. We decided at our first meeting that we wanted to work with a refugee or asylee family, and it didn't matter if they were from Syria or not.

However, if possible, we wanted to explore working with a Muslim family because we thought it was important for Muslim families coming to the US to realize that, unlike what they might see in our news media, there were US Christians who would welcome them. If we could also offer a family a home at Dayspring, this too would be a blessing.

We began doing extensive research into what was being done in the State of Maryland for both asylees and refugees and all our early meetings were focused on sharing our findings. In May of 2016, our group decided to join with 22 other faith communities to form what became known as Montgomery County Interfaith Refugee Resettlement Neighbors, MCIRRN for short. The group initially took on five refugee families through the Ethiopian Community Development Council, but has increased that

number to fifteen families.

One of the fifteen families moved to the Woodside House at Dayspring October 28, 2016. The family is a four-generation family of ten. Their support group includes, St. Anne's Episcopal Church, Or Chadesh

Jewish Community, the Islamic Society of Germantown, Emmaus Old Catholic Church, and Dayspring Church. The three school-aged children are in school and receiving home-work support, three adults are attending ESOL classes through Catholic Charities, all members of the family are receiving regular medical and dental care, one member of the family is studying to pass his driving

test, green cards have been applied for and most of them have been received, and jobs have been found for three of the adults.

The line between stranger and neighbor has been blurred. The line between neighbor and family has been blurred. We are being continually blessed by this truly interfaith family!

Barbara Quist   Christy Gordon  
Janet Hudson  
Karen Johnson   Jen Goode



If you'd like to see CALLINGS continue, please make a contribution by check to:

**Church of the Saviour**

*(In Memo line put "Callings")*

1640 Columbia Rd., NW  
Washington, DC 20009



As promised in the last issue, Church of the Saviour has a new website with links to the member churches and related missions. It can be reached at [inwardoutward.org](http://inwardoutward.org). For the first time, everything is in one place. If you want to receive weekly gospel reflections and/or daily inspirational quotes by a variety of writers on email, you can sign up for that. The archive of Kayla McClurg's writings can be found as "The Story," and you can also listen to Gordon Cosby's sermons. We're most grateful to Mike Hickcox, of Lynchburg VA, for building the new website for us.

Matthias Martin, of Jubilee Church, is our new webmaster. He will be tending the website and, over time, will help us streamline the offerings. For now, I am editing content and coordinating offerings. Our purpose is to support the churches and missions of Church of the Saviour, and to reach out to a new generation of seekers.

Recently, Mike Little, Kim Montroll and I sat down with Angie Thurston, who has been studying the spiritual geography of unchurched millennials at Harvard Divinity School. Angie and her research partner, Casper ter Kuile, have been working to identify the ways that unaffiliated young people are finding spiritual community. (You can download their reports at [howwegather.org](http://howwegather.org).)

Angie remarked that, while Church of the Saviour had come up in several different ways in their interviews, it was hard to find information about us online. "Yes, that's true," I said, "because personal commitment and intimacy are so central to our mission group structure. But we also recognize now that a single website would be useful for keeping us connected as well as for reaching out to others."

After our conversation with Angie Thurston, I downloaded their final report, titled "Care of Souls." It fit perfectly with a class I was teaching at the Seekers School for Christian Growth on spiritual companionship. The language they used was fresh and clear, but the roles which they identified as essential in a healthy spiritual community made sense (see the facing page).

I copied this page (with permission) from their report and shared it with my class. I asked each of the 12 class members to identify their own gifts for one or more of the seven roles. As each one spoke about what they recognized in themselves, others chimed in with examples, questions and additions. By the end of the class, we discovered that we had a healthy distribution of gifts around the whole circle and I think everyone felt empowered by seeing themselves as spiritual companions, caring for the souls of others.

What would it take, Angie and Casper ask, for our society to embrace the call to become soul-tenders? Here at CoS, I believe we are about that work in our various churches and missions. Maybe our new website can be a way to share what we know and wrestle with. Let's keep working and praying together.

*Marjory Bankson*

Editor of CALLINGS, Chair of the CoS Council

**2018 Callings deadlines:** July 31, October 31

## The Church of the Saviour Council

Bread of Life • Dayspring Church • Eighth Day • Festival Church • Friends of Jesus  
Jubilee Church • New Community • Seekers

# Care of Souls

## SEVEN JOBS TO BE DONE

We have chosen to describe seven jobs in the Care of Souls. These are far from the only roles, and any one person may inhabit more than one of them. But we name these seven because the need for them is particularly acute—and becoming more so. We've reached this conclusion after four years of working amongst innovators in the field, learning from their experience and striving to support their visions.<sup>13</sup>

These jobs in their essence are not new. They descend from ancient archetypes, and humanity holds a wealth of wisdom about them. Our task now is to bridge the ancient and the emergent, discovering how to apply this wisdom to new generations. How do we care for souls in the 21st century and beyond?

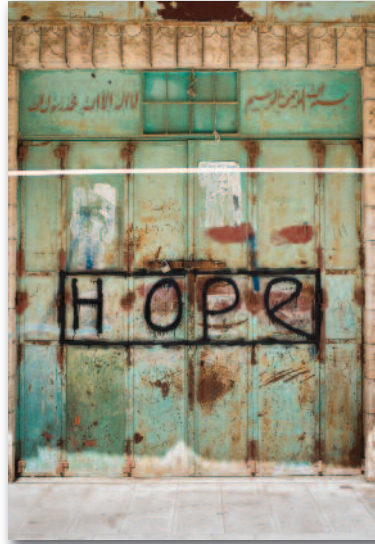




# Witness

Katie Archibald-Woodward

It is among the people, in the place where Jesus first called his disciples to bear witness, I find myself called to witness and to bear witness to what I observe. In mid-2016 I began a multimedia project called Through the Checkpoint to offer vision and voice to life lived amidst occupation in the Holy Land. I lived with Palestinian Christians in the Old City, Palestinian Muslims in Hebron, and a Jewish American family who had made Aliyah [immigration to Israel] to become Israeli citizens and settle in Efrat, an illegal settlement near Bethlehem. I also spent time with Bedouins, Jewish Israelis living on a kibbutz as well as in Haifa, human rights groups, and other Palestinian Muslims and Christians throughout the region. As I documented their stories with my camera and audio recorder, I witnessed their daily lives—their dreams, their suffering, their prejudices, their privileges, their power, their fears, their hopes, their shared humanity. It is to these stories—these lives—amidst occupation I bear witness.



Hope



Susiya Village

I bear witness to a Bedouin family in Susiya, a village in the desert south Hebron hills, whom I sat with one crisp November evening as they waited for news of a demolition order from the Israeli government. The order did not come that night. Since then it has. You see, the people of Susiya own their land, but they have not been able to acquire permits to build on it. So, the government continues to show up at random and demolish their homes, animal stalls, and other structures.

I bear witness to Palestinian Christians, like theologian Jean Zaru, whose favorite Psalm used to be, “I looked up to the hills, where my help comes. My help comes from the Lord.” But no longer, she told me. Now, she said, “I look up to the hills and all the settlements are there. They’re depriving many families of their land,

and of their livelihood, and of their fields, and of their movement.”

I bear witness to Jewish Israelis living in settlements, like Efrat, an illegally occupying community just down the road from Bethlehem. It is part of a crescent of settlements built around Bethlehem preventing its expansion out, suffocating Bethlehem between settlement communities and the separation wall. In addition to Efrat’s freedom to sprawl and expand, it also has consistent access to sufficient water, not only for drinking, bathing, and farming, but decoration and recreation. Lush trees line the streets and fill the yards, and families can play in a large, grassy park. You feel transplanted to a suburb in the United States.

I bear witness

to 17-year-old Hamza, a Palestinian boy just released from prison when I met him in 2016. He had been taken in the middle of the night from his home in the West Bank by the Israeli military. He had been held in Ofer prison in Israel. In order to visit him, his family would have to get permission from the Israeli government and then apply for permits to enter Israel which is an expensive and tedious process and significantly limited their communica-



Susiya

tion and made their separation even more excruciating. Hamza’s cousin showed me pictures on his phone of the family’s jewelry laid out on a table being documented by the military and then taken by them the night of Hamza’s arrest. The military left a receipt for col-



Hamza



*Through the checkpoint*

were among those injured on Friday.

“April 12th, Gaza’s sole power plant was forced to shut down after being unable to replenish its fuel reserves, triggering outages lasting 20 hours per day, up from 18 hours previously. The UN, under the coordination of OCHA, continues to provide a number of critical health facilities in the Gaza Strip, including public hospitals, with emergency fuel to run backup generators. OCHA that public hospitals in Gaza are in need of replenishment of 59 essential drugs and 128 types of medical disposables.

Magdalena Mughrabi, Amnesty International’s deputy director for the Middle East and North Africa, stated that deaths resulting from Israel’s use of live ammunition against unarmed protesters “must be investigated as possible unlawful killings.” Israel continued to crack down on protests on Friday despite a warning from the chief prosecutor of the International Criminal Court that Israeli leaders could face trial for the killings of unarmed Palestinian protesters in Gaza.

The Great March of Return is set to culminate on 15 May, when Palestinians commemorate the ethnic cleansing of the lands

lection, the cousin explained, but the family was never able to get it back.

And because I have not yet been able to spend time in Gaza, I offer this witness from Friday’s news.

Israeli forces have killed 36 Palestinians, including three children and multiple journalists, in Gaza since March 30th, when the Great March of Return protests began. More than 3,000 were injured during the first two Fridays and around 1,000 protesters, 15 of them critically. Some 100 children



*Impasse*

on which the state of Israel was declared in 1948.”

I bear witness to educate and promote action. To call you forth, to now also bear witness. Both to these experiences I have just born witness to you and to pay attention to what you witness in your daily life. What have you noticed? If nothing, how might you become more aware? What is God prompting you to witness and bear witness to?

There is no limit to what we may witness and how we might bear it forth.

May we open our eyes. May we open ourselves. May we listen. May we follow Jesus in noticing and calling out what thwarts life and calling for what brings life, that we might join with God in the healing and wholeness of the world—life and life abundant.

*Excerpted from a sermon given to the 8th Day Faith Community. Katie Archibald-Woodward works at the intersection of spiritual formation and the arts. She is in the process to be ordained with the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Katie’s website:*

*[www.lifeilluminated.com/through-the-checkpoint](http://www.lifeilluminated.com/through-the-checkpoint)*

## Related Ministries

**The following ministries have grown from churches and mission groups of The Church of the Saviour. Each is independently organized.**

Academy of Hope • Becoming Church • Bethany, Inc. • Bokamoso Foundation • Caroll Café • Christ House • Columbia Road Health Service • Cornelius Corps • Cornerstone • Dayspring Earth Ministry • Dayspring Retreat Center • Discipleship Year • Dunamis Peace Institute • Faith & Money Network • Family Place • Festival Center • For Love of Children • Hope and a Home • Institute of Radical Reconciliation • Inward/outward • Joseph’s House • Jubilee Housing • Jubilee Jobs • Jubilee JumpStart • Kairos House • L’Arche • Life Asset Credit Union • Life Pathways • Manna, Inc. • Miriam’s House • New Community ArtSpace • New Community for Children • O.N.E.DC • Overlook Retreat House • Potter’s House • Samaritan Inns • Sarah’s Circle • Soteria [Servant Leadership School] • Sign of Jonah • Sitar Arts Center • Sounds of Hope • Tell The Word • Wellspring Conference Center



# Where Mercy and Truth Generate Justice

Reunion's **Freedom Circles practice restorative justice in faith communities.** Each Freedom Circle offers a simple, ongoing practice of building community across the divides of race and class in the context of spiritual growth. In Freedom Circles, returning residents give necessary leadership as we all nurture new socio-spiritual relationships. All are welcome to our workshop on Saturday, May 12 on practicing restorative justice in the faith community. See below for more info.

Reunion's **Reintegration Support Circles (RSC) practice restorative justice in partnership with MORCA.** Each Reintegra-

tion Support Circle focuses on supporting a returning resident in particular as he/she moves toward long term goals. Training to "keep" (or facilitate) a RSC will be offered again this fall, with an info session on Saturday, August 11. More info coming soon.

Come on behalf of your faith community or yourself to learn practices of restorative justice for your congregation. Among other practices, Freedom Circles are an effective way to support those coming home from incarceration and an important component in building community through restorative justice. All welcome!



*2nd Saturdays in the Garden*

COME AND HELP MEND  
DAYSPRING'S  
SACRED LAND!

Every 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday May 12<sup>th</sup> through November 10<sup>th</sup> 2018

At 9:30 am gather in the Dayspring Permaculture Garden's center circle for a prayer and poem. Come for an hour or stay all day. Tend to the perennial pollinator path weaving through the heart of Dayspring or choose another task that speaks to you, At 1 pm break for lunch, continue tending to the garden from 2- 4 pm or enjoy some free time on the land.

At 4 pm gather at the Farmhouse to prepare the evening potluck meal (seasonal produce from the garden used when available). After dinner bring a story or a song to share around the fire pit to finish off the evening. Contact us at [Dayspringfarmproject@gmail.com](mailto:Dayspringfarmproject@gmail.com). Bring bag lunch, gloves, suntan lotion and bug spray.

Dayspring Church Farm  
11301 Neelsville Church Rd  
Germantown, MD 20876

[Dayspringfarmproject@gmail.com](mailto:Dayspringfarmproject@gmail.com)  
301-515-4399

## SERVICE CORPS – WHAT IS THAT?

### By Cynnetta Boykin

I'll be honest before I joined Discipleship Year I had no idea what a Service Corp was. Sure I had heard of Ameri Corp and Peace Corp, but a year of service in a Church affiliated Corp? Nope. Never. This was completely new to me. Not knowing what to expect allowed me to approach the ideal of Service Corp from a fresh perspective. I have had an interesting experience during my time in DY. This service year has been full of highlights and lowlights and I think that before anyone considers joining a Service Corp they should be aware of these points.

### Know that service years cost!

Can you afford to give? Looking at a service year from the outside it looks like the money factor is in your favor. I mean why not? You get a stipend, room and board; everything is taken care of right? No! Consider your financial situation before the service year; can you pay for your transportation to get to your service location? Do you have bills and other responsibilities? Usually the stipend for a service year volunteer won't cover these costs. Other things to consider; what money do you have for expenses? Clothes, shoes, personal items? How about health care cost? If you get sick will a doctor's visit eat up your stipend for the month? Although service years are about living simply I would recommend making sure you have money in the bank.

### Make sure you Give and Receive.

I think we are all taught that giving a year of service should be a selfless act. I believe that this is unrealistic. You should receive whether it is gaining a skill or experience or having life giving conversations with people from different walks of life. A service year where you get nothing out of it is a recipe to be miserable. Make sure that there is something in a service year program that encourages you to get out and do the work, whether it be working in a new job sector, or meeting with great people, to being inspired by the work an organization does. Service work that gives makes for happier service volunteers.

### Practice Self Care

Let's be honest burn out in the nonprofit world is real. If it happens to employees it happens to volunteers especially if you're working side by side. It's no secret that helping others can lead to not helping yourself. Usually volunteers that have burnout are unhappy and start to not be effective in their positions. Remember that you are a volunteer and that slowing down and taking time is crucial to making sure you can finish out your service year. What's that old adage?? You can't take care of others until you take care of yourself.

Service years are a great resource for non profits and can be a wonderful life changing experience. In picking a service year program choose carefully, be aware of the cost, make sure the work you are doing is inspiring to you, and take care of yourself and you'll have a great service year experience!

**Cynnetta is serving in The Discipleship Year Program @ the Briya Public Charter School as assistant teacher with immigrant adults.**



## Special Events

Also check listings at [Pottershouse.org](http://Pottershouse.org) and [Festivalcenter.org](http://Festivalcenter.org).

**May 17 | Faith & Money Interactive Workshop** with Mike Ewert, author of "The Generosity Path," 6:30-8pm at the Potter's House. \$18.

**May 17 | Spring Mixer at the Festival Center**, 6:30pm. Meet artists & activists. Light refreshments.

**May 18 | Claudia Schmidt & Sally Rogers at Carroll Café**, Seekers Church, 7pm. Tickets: [Carrollcafe.com](http://Carrollcafe.com).

**May 20 | Minimalist Water Color workshop with Zac Flynt**, 1-4pm. \$25. New Community Art Space.

**May 23 | Ember Day at Dayspring Retreat**, 10-4, no cost (donation welcome), bring sack lunch.

**May 25 | Reclaiming Jesus**, candlelight service and vigil to the White House. Sponsored by Sojourners. Gather at 7pm @ National City Christian Church, 5 Thomas Circle.

**June 6 | Quiet Day, 10-2**, no cost. Bring sack lunch. [Dayspringretreat.org](http://Dayspringretreat.org).

**June 24 | Reunions Cookout**. Rock Creek Park, site 13, 3pm.



**June 22-24 | "Eighth Day of Creation,"** open retreat with Marjory Zoet Bankson. \$220. [Dayspringretreat.org](http://Dayspringretreat.org).

**July 13-15 | "Spiritual Renewal,"** open retreat with Rev. Ridgeway Addison. \$220. [Dayspringretreat.org](http://Dayspringretreat.org).

**July 18 | Going Deeper Through Mandala Meditation with Ann Dean**. No cost. 10-2pm. [Dayspringretreat.org](http://Dayspringretreat.org).