

# CORPS Connector

December, 2007

An Occasional Newsletter of the Washington DC-Northern Virginia Region

Volume 2, Number 2

**IVC  
Washington DC  
Northern  
Virginia  
Regional  
Council**

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Kathleen Shea

Bruce Steggert, S.J.

Kathleen Zeifang

## Merry Christmas to our IVC Family

Our hearts grow tender with  
childhood memories and love of  
kindred, and we are better  
throughout the year for having,  
in spirit, become a child again  
at Christmas-time.

~Laura Ingalls Wilder



Volunteer Emma Grayeb with her "new family"  
at Bryant Early Childhood Learning Center,  
United Community Ministries, Alexandria, VA



**December 7, 2007 Washington D.C. / Northern Virginia Orientation Group**  
(L-R with assignments where applicable) Mary Ann Lilly, Ed Mullan (The Fr. McKenna Center), Pat Dunigan,  
Emilie Gillanders, Rita Albright (Serve, Inc.), Eliana Turina (ALIVE!), Robert Stewart, Hank McSweeney

*New Ignatian Volunteers*

## IVC WASHINGTON, DC/NORTHERN VIRGINIA 2007-8 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### Days of Reflection "Prayer and Temperament"

Washington, DC  
Josephite Seminary  
January 8, 2008  
&  
Northern Virginia  
Missionhurst  
January 10, 2008



#### Presenters:

The Day of Reflection will be facilitated by Deacon Jim and Diane Bayne. Each has more than twenty years experience as retreat leaders. Both are graduates of the Spiritual Direction Institute of Charlottesville (founded by Msgr. Chester P. Michael) and are certified Spiritual Directors.

Diane holds an M.S. in Pastoral Counseling and serves as the Pastoral Counselor at St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Triangle, VA.

Jim has served as Spiritual Director on many Cursillo Retreat teams and is very active as a Spiritual Director and musician with the KAIROS jail ministry. He and Diane are also a part of the music ministry at the Dominican Retreat House in McLean, VA.

### Monthly City Group Meetings

Washington, DC –  
Josephite Seminary

Northern Virginia –  
St. Anthony of Padua

February 12, 2008  
March 11, 2008  
April 8, 2008

February 14, 2008  
March 13, 2008  
April 10, 2008

#### Retreat: May 12-13, 2008

"Bound by Convention; Freed by Conviction"  
Rev. Kevin Nadolski, OSFS, Facilitator  
Faulkner, MD

### Option for the Poor

The moral test of a society is how it treats its most vulnerable members. The poor have the most urgent moral claim on the conscience of the nation. We are called to look at public policy decisions in terms of how they affect the poor. The "option for the poor" is not an adversarial slogan that pits one group or class against another. Rather it states that the deprivation and powerlessness of the poor wounds the whole community.

The option for the poor is an essential part of society's effort to achieve the common good. A healthy community can be achieved only if its members give special attention to those with special needs, to those who are poor and on the margins of society.

As individuals and as a nation, therefore, we are called to make a fundamental "option for the poor." The obligation to evaluate social and economic activity from the viewpoint of the poor and the powerless arises from the radical command to love one's neighbor as one's self. Those who are marginalized and whose rights are denied have privileged claims if society is to provide justice for all. This obligation is deeply rooted in Christian belief.

**Economic Justice for All  
Pastoral Letter on Catholic Social  
Teaching and the U.S. Economy**