


THE OLIVE BRANCH

APRIL 18, 2014



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IN THE SPOTLIGHT

FATHER RICHARD FRECHETTE

EMILY HART

Even before the infamous 2010 earthquake that left the nation in shambles, Haiti was a country plagued by poverty, violence, and environmental degradation.

These conditions, which are exacerbated by often ineffectual governments, leave millions of people in desolate situations, unable to provide adequate food, shelter, or health care for themselves or their families.

Maternal and child mortality rates are abysmally high; many children die at a young age and many of those who live become orphans and must take care of their siblings by begging.

Such destitute conditions lead to violence; in Cite Soleil, Haiti's poorest slum, kidnappings, robberies, gun fights, rapes, and murders are daily realities, as desperate individuals trying to better their own lives see no other way to do so than to destroy the lives of others.

It is in this setting that Father Richard Frechette, a physician and Passionist priest, carries out his work.

Richard Frechette, more often known as Father Rick, was born in 1953 in West Hartford, CT.

In 1979 he was ordained a Catholic priest in the Passionist order, a religious group best known for their promotion of compassion and hope in struggling communities.

Soon after becoming a priest, Father Rick traveled to Mexico and met Fr. William B. Wasson, another priest who founded "Nuestros Pequeños Hermanos," or "Our Little Brothers and Sisters."

NPH, as it is known, is a humanitarian organization that seeks to provide thousands of orphaned or abandoned children worldwide with a loving family environment, an education, and healthcare.

Its homes allow children who would otherwise grow up in the streets to thrive become skilled, productive young adults.

Father Rick was moved by the organization's mission, and decided to found his own branch in Haiti, which today cares for nearly 500 children. He began working and living in Haiti full-time, overseeing the NPH home and ministering to the impoverished people in Haiti's most troubled areas.

By the 1990s, Father Rick had become very disturbed by the lack of knowledgeable medical personnel and accessible, affordable medical facilities in Haiti.

He was especially concerned about the welfare of the nation's children, 25 percent of whom were malnourished and ten percent of whom died before their fifth birthday from treatable illnesses.

Father Rick decided to help tackle this problem himself, and in 1998 received his medical degree

and became a licensed general practitioner.

He then opened St. Damien Children's Hospital in Port-au-Prince, Haiti's capital, in order to provide the area with high-quality pediatric, maternal, and neonatal care.

Through St. Damien, Father Rick also seeks to maintain an ongoing dialogue with the parents of sick children in order to educate and encourage families throughout the treatment process, and to educate families and provide resources to prevent illnesses through proper hygiene, nutrition, and other preventative measures.

Today, Haiti's childhood malnutrition rate has fallen to ten percent, and child mortality has decreased to seven percent.

Father Rick did not stop at this, however; he wanted to not only treat the symptoms of Haiti's poverty, but to cure the root causes. In order to improve the area's economy, decrease its crime rates, and allow individuals to access proper sanitation and medical care, the young people of Haiti would need to find gainful, dignified employment.

To facilitate this, Father Rick founded the St. Luke Foundation in 2001. This organization simultaneously provides Haitians with a means of caring for themselves and their families, and provides necessary goods and services (continued)

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

FATHER RICHARD FRECHETTE

(CONTINUED)

to those in need.

Through the St. Luke Foundation, which works in conjunction with St. Damien's hospital and NPH, Father Rick has generated sustainable employment opportunities for nearly 1,000 Haitian individuals.

These people, many of whom are from the nation's worst slums, are now able to have legitimate, well-paying jobs that also give back to the community, working in hospitals, clinics, primary and high schools, a university, a bakery, a water sanitation organization and a morgue for Haiti's unclaimed dead.

Most amazingly, many of these individuals are young adults who grew up as orphans in NPH; some of them even find employment with NPH in order to serve the next generation of children.

When the 2010 earthquake struck, many of Father Rick's colleagues encouraged him to leave

the country for his own safety.

He refused and in fact increased the intensity of his work to help reconstruct Haiti, stating, "What kind of shepherd would leave when the wolf comes?"

He holds closely to the belief that all human life has an intrinsic sanctity and seeks to not only save lives through his organizations, but to improve and honor each life.

Despite his high status as an American priest and doctor, he spends a large portion of his time among criminals and beggars, listening to their stories, encouraging them to seek peace in their own lives, and helping them discover the tools for doing so.

He has become skilled at negotiating with kidnappers and other lawbreakers, showing them compassion and empathy in order to peacefully diffuse violent situations.



GEORGE WOLFE'S OPENING REMARKS

TAKING BACK APRIL: RELAY FOR NONVIOLENCE

4-13-14

Greetings from the Ball State University Center for Peace and Conflict Studies. On behalf of everyone at the peace center, I welcome you to our annual April event.

Last year we held a two-day conference that brought together the Ball State University campus and greater Muncie community. This year our celebration is entitled, "Taking Back April: Relay for Nonviolence." We are all very grateful to Mayor Dennis Tyler, Roger McConnell and America's Hometown Band, Yvonne Thompson, Dale Basham, and the students, faculty and staff at the Center for Peace and Conflict Studies for helping to organize this event.

The Center and the Peace Studies at Ball State University offers a peace studies program that explores numerous forms of nonviolent activism and nonviolent resistance as the alternative to the use of violence. Peace education involves the study of building positive peace, which is defined as "a condition where there exists a sustained and developing collaborative relationship." We further recognize that physical violence has its roots in psychological violence, which is defined as emotional hostility, threats, intimidation, verbal abuse, and forms of passive aggression, and also in structural violence. Structural violence occurs when social, political, economic, or educational structures condone

policies that result in discrimination and oppression, disenfranchising particular groups of people by depriving them of equal rights.

We recognize that April has long been a month that has been stained with violence. Many wars have started in April, and there have been numerous mass shootings and other tragedies that have occurred during this month. To counter this negative energy that has consumed the month of April, we hold an event to take April back home, to restore her as a harbinger of transformation, as a force for rebirth and newness of life. To do that, we need to show that April has the potential to be beautiful. We need to shower April with love. We need to free her from her past. April needs a makeover, so each year the Center for Peace and Conflict studies plans an event during this month to lift up the theme of nonviolence transformation.

We offer a positive alternative to violence which has been exemplified in the lives of many great world citizens, activists who fought using nonviolence. We study the lives of citizen leaders like Alice Paul who led the struggle for a woman's right to vote, Mahatma Gandhi who showed the world the power of nonviolent resistance and how it could free India from colonialism, Eugene Debs who was a leader in the American labor movement, Martin Luther King Jr. who brought a new era of freedom to

African-Americans, Cesar Chavez who led the United Farm Workers in California, Dorothy Day who helped expose the fallacy of the church doctrine of Just War, Lech Walesa who inspired the Solidarity movement and who became the first elected leader of Poland and helped to usher in the fall of the Soviet Union, Nelson Mandela and Desmond Tutu who choose the path of forgiveness and reconciliation rather than the path of civil war, and the Dali Lama who teaches transformation through compassion. Nonviolent revolutionaries such as these have given us a new April, an April that is radiant with resurrection and new life, an April that speaks to us of peace and Justice for all.

As many of you here may remember, music played an inspiring role during the Civil Rights Movement and the era of the Vietnam War. Out of those years emerged a song which is often sung today during civil rights gatherings, a song entitled "Lift Up Your Voice and Sing," that has become known as the African-American National Anthem. This song exemplifies the spiritual power of nonviolence. "Lift Up Your Voice and Sing" is not a song inspired by war; rather it is a song of empowerment for the powerless. Let us all rise together if you are able as America's Hometown Band, under the direction of Roger McConnell, now performs "Lift Up Your Voice and Sing."

George Wolfe served as Director of Peace Studies from 2002 to 2006 at Ball State University and frequently speaks on topics related to nonviolence, peace education, academic freedom and the role of the arts in social activism. He is also the author of several publications, including his recent book *The Spiritual Power of Nonviolence: Interfaith Understanding for a Future Without War*.

ARTICLE

WATER-STEP

KATE GIGLIO

For some, buying a new pair of shoes is one of the best ways to turn a bad day around; for others, shoes may a miniscule thought.

Regardless of your personal take on shoes, I am willing to bet that nearly everyone reading this article has a pair of shoes that they have outgrown or do not wear very often. Ball State University, alongside local Muncie counterparts, is collecting new and used shoes to donate to Water-Step.

Water-Step is an organization that works to provide safe drinking water in multiple countries all over the world.

Water-Step fulfills its mission of saving lives with safe water by “empowering ordinary people around the world with training and technology in water purification, health and hygiene, and hand pump repair” (www.waterstep.com).

By donating shoes to Water-Step, you are helping fund safe drinking water projects all over the world, saving hundreds of thousands of lives each year. In addition to funding water projects, donated shoes keep hundreds of tons of waste out of landfills.

Shoes are sold to an exporter and the funds that are received help bring clean water to those in need (www.waterstep.com).

Over 2.2 million people can be saved this year just by having access to safe, clean water (www.waterstep.com).

The donation of your shoes can help save lives. There is a shoe donation box set up at the Peace Center where you can drop off shoes until the end of the semester.

In addition to the donation box at the Peace Center, there are collection boxes West Quad, Riverside United Methodist Church, and Saint Mary’s Catholic School.



EVENTS ON CAMPUS

NATIONAL SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH

FREE T-SHIRTS AND BUTTONS WILL BE GIVEN AWAY AT THE EVENTS

**MON
21**

CLOTHESLINE PROJECT

Scramble Light

11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

This project will display t-shirts with messages that affirm and support victims and survivors of sexual assault.

To create a t-shirt with your own message, visit one of the scheduled programs.

**TUE
22**

CLOTHESLINE PROJECT

Scramble Light

11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

See event description above.

STOP TEAM TALK SHOW

Scramble Light

7:00 p.m.

This program presents a dramatization of a real-life same-sex sexual assault situation and includes audience participation. This program was organized in part by Ball State's Spectrum organization.

**WED
24**

CLOTHESLINE PROJECT

Scramble Light

11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

See event description above.

**THU
25**

WRAP-UP PARTY

The Cup

7:00 p.m.

Come hear music, poetry, and published stories from survivors.

Bring your buttons from the previous events and be entered to win a gift certificate to The Cup.

EVENTS ON CAMPUS

AVAILABLE THROUGHOUT THE SEMESTER

CULTURE EXCHANGE:

April 23 from 12:00-1:00pm
L.A. Pittenger Student Center
Rinker International Center
Room 102

Want to learn about the world beyond Muncie?

Join us for a culture exchange!

Each week a different country is highlighte, typically by natives that can offer an insider's look into the country and its culture.

Attendees are welcome to bring a lunch to the presentation and are reminded to show respect and prevent distraction to presenters by arriving on time.

**INTERNATIONAL
CONVERSATION HOUR**
Tuesdays from 6:00-7:30 pm
L.A. Pittenger Student Center
Room 310

This program is designed to help international students practice English, learn studying skills and classroom culture, and make American friends.

We hope through students' participation, domestic students will learn about different cultures without studying abroad and international students will increase their sense of belonging to BSU.

COUNSELING CENTER GROUP THERAPY SESSIONS

Require appointment @ Center

CHOICES:

Group for students who are exploring changes in their relationship with substances.

JOURNEY TO WHOLENESS:

Safe, supportive place for survivors of sexual trauma to explore the meaning of their experiences and to explore effective ways of coping.

UNDERSTANDING SELF AND

OTHERS:

Group members explore patterns of relating to self & others through understanding and acceptance, as well as discover common bonds through emotional experiences.

WEIGHT NOT, WANT NOT:

Suppor group for women with eating disorders or body image struggles who want to explore ways to cope.

SAFE HAVEN:

This therapy group provides a safe place for GLBQ students to explore and discuss patterns of relating to self and others.

MINDFULNESS GROUP:

Assists students in alleviating uncomfortable feelings, such as anxiety, stress, anger, and sadness. The group will practice and discuss relaxation and mindfulness techniques.

OUTREACH GROUPS

Multicultural Center Library

ETHNIC/RACIAL MINORITY SUPPORT GROUP:

Safe, supportive place for ethnic/racial minority students to explore and discuss navigating 2+ cultures.

KNOWING INTERNATIONAL STUDENT STORIES:

This is designed to provide support for international students by coming together and sharing cross-cultural stories. Through sharing our stories, participants will find similarities and differences as well support from each other.

For more information, please:
 visit the Counseling Center or call (765) 285-1736

EVENTS

OFF CAMPUS

FRIDAY APRIL 18

ANTI-WARFARE WEEKLY VIGIL

4:30-5:30 pm

Federal Building

Indianapolis, IN

Join the vigil to protest warfare, sponsored by the Indianapolis Peace & Justice Center.

Bring an appropriate sign or have one provided.

For more information, please contact:

Gilbert Kuhn at (765) 926-3068 or Ron Haldeman at ronjane@igc.org

“PREPARING FOR PEACE” MEMORIAL CONCERT

Begins at 7:00 p.m.

Walk in the Light Christian Church

Indianapolis, IN

This anti-violence campaign hopes to create many more community-based alternatives and programs serving to creatively occupy the idle time of at-risk teenagers. The event will be kicked off with a memorial concert and display a massive photo gallery of victims in the front windows

For more information, please contact:

Priscilla Bolden at 222-0187 or the church at walkinthelight2003@gmail.com

SATURDAY APRIL 19

FARMERS MARKET

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Minnetrista Cultural Center

Muncie, IN

Don't let April showers keep you from coming indoors to Farmers Market to experience good company and remarkable finds!

The Orchard Shop at Minnetrista has many special offers.

“WAR IS NOT THE ANSWER!” PEACE VIGIL

6:00 p.m.

Brown County Courthouse

Nashville, IN

This vigil is sponsored by Brown County's branch of Women's International League for Peace and Freedom.

For more information, please contact: Tom Hougham at 878-4210 or annntom@hotmail.com

EVENTS OFF CAMPUS

MONDAY APRIL 21

MEDITATION
6:00-6:20 pm
Unity of Indianapolis
Indianapolis, IN

Join us for our weekly meditation with Michael Wright to hold the vision of the inevitable occurrence of world peace.
Please enter the building from the parking lot behind building.

For more information, please:
call Michael at 627-3225, or email Dorothy Mack at mackda@att.net

THURSDAY APRIL 24

BIG QUESTIONS, BIG IDEAS LECTURE SERIES:
"DID GOD MAKE ETHICS?"
6:30 - 7:30 pm
Kennedy Library
Muncie, IN

Join the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies for the next event in its
"Big Questions - Big Ideas" series of public lectures.

Dr. David Concepcion, Professor and Chair of the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies,
will lead a discussion entitled "Did God Make Ethics?"

This lecture will introduce a variety of views that contemporary philosophers have developed
regarding the nature and origin of morality.

Then Dr. Concepcion will facilitate an audience discussion.
The point is not to convince audience members of any particular view,
but to enliven an occasion for self-reflection.

The Center for Peace and
Conflict Studies Presents

The Power of Hate Speech

featuring

Kizito Kalima

IMPACT Case Manager Marion County, ResCare Workforce Services and
Genocide Survivor from Rwanda



Wednesday April 23

2:00 to 3:00 pm

Student Center,

Multipurpose Room

Come hear Kizito Kalima's surviving story and how the power of hate speeches and negative propaganda played a large role in the killing of over 1 million innocent people within 3 months.

Ball State University Center for Peace and Conflict Studies

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Muncie, IN 4730

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<http://bsu.edu/peacecenter>

FELLOWSHIPS

ROTARY PEACE FELLOWSHIPS

If you are looking to make an impact by promoting cooperation and tolerance than this may be for you!

Rotary Foundation provides fellowships to fund master's degree or professional development certificate study at one of the six Rotary Peace Centers. Recipients of this fellowship promote peace, cooperation, and successful conflict resolution on both the national and international levels.

There are two types of peace fellowships available.

The deadline for submitting applications is July 1, 2014.

For more information, please visit:
<https://www.rotary.org/en/peace-fellowships>

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS FELLOWSHIP

The International Affairs Fellowship is a distinguished program offered by the Council on Foreign Relations to assist scholars and professionals in advancing their analytic capabilities and broadening their foreign policy experience. The program aims to strengthen career development by helping outstanding individuals acquire and apply foreign policy skills beyond the scope of their professional and scholarly achievements. Interested candidates who meet the program's eligibility requirements can apply online between July 1 and October 31 on an annual basis.

For more information, please visit:
<http://www.cfr.org/thinktank/fellowships/iaf.html>

CONFERENCES

PEACE STUDIES INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Indianapolis, IN

May 1- May 3

Inspired by the correspondence between Albert Einstein and Sigmund Freud in 1931-2 on the question, "Why War?" and its goal of exerting "a significant and wholesome moral influence on the solution of political problems," The Alliance For Peace is inviting scholars and practitioners to Bradford to debate the intellectual agenda for peace studies in the next century. The conference begins on May 1st and ends on May 3rd, registration ends March 31st.

For more information, please visit:

www.allianceforpeacebuilding.org/event/2014/05/peace-studies-international-conference/

NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON RACE AND ETHNICITY IN AMERICAN HIGHER EDUCATION

Indianapolis, IN

May 27- July 1

The NCORE conference series constitutes the leading and most comprehensive national forum on issues of race and ethnicity in American higher education. The conference focuses on the complex task of creating and sustaining comprehensive institutional change designed to improve racial and ethnic relations on campus and to expand opportunities for educational access and success by culturally diverse, traditionally underrepresented populations.

For more information, please visit: <https://www.ncore.ou.edu/>

THE PEACE AND JUSTICE STUDIES ASSOCIATION ANNUAL CONFERENCE: "COURAGEOUS PRESENCE: SHIFTING STORIES & PRACTICES OF PEACE"

October

San Diego, CA

The conference will be held on the beautiful campus of the University of San Diego on a mesa overlooking the Pacific Ocean.

Proposal submission deadline is April 1, 2014.

UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS BOSTON'S 10TH BIENNIAL CONFERENCE

Oct. 31 - Nov. 1

Boston, MA

The conference will be focused on conflict studies and the new generation of ideas.

For more information, please visit: <http://www.umb.edu/academics/mgs/crhsgg/conferences>

ORGANIZATIONS

THE ALIVE CAMPAIGN

Wednesdays at 9:00 pm
Student Center Pineshelf Room

The Alive Campaign is a student-run organization at Ball State that is dedicated to raising awareness towards suicide prevention and awareness by representing ourselves as a “life appreciation group”. In the United States, suicide rates currently exceed 38,000 per year. We believe something can be done. We believe students across the nation should step up and let their voice be heard. We believe that if we stood together and gave people a reason to believe in life, a reason to be ALIVE, we can make a difference.

BALL STATE INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE MISSION

Every other Tuesday at 6:00 pm
L.A. Pittenger Student Center
Room 301 (though location may vary)

Ball State IJM is a group of students who are passionate about ending slavery and human trafficking around the world. We believe that through Christ we can create tangible change in the lives of slaves through prayer, educating ourselves and others, changing our behavior, and volunteering as we are able.

For more information, please email ballstateijm@gmail.com

BALL STATE ‘TOMS’ CLUB

Wednesdays at 9:00 pm
Bracken Library Room 201

TOMS Campus Club promotes the awareness, reality, and consequences of children living without shoes, and aids in charitable giving to this cause through programming and activities in accordance with the TOMS Shoes company.

GO FOSSIL FREE BALL STATE

Mondays at 5:00 pm
Bracken Library Room 201

Go Fossil Free Ball State is part of an international movement to get universities, communities, churches, and businesses to divest from the fossil fuel industry and reinvest in green technology. Through various sorts of events we inform the public and the Ball State Foundation on why it is critical to divest if we want to be seen as a sustainable campus.

For more information, please email Kourtney Dillavou at kmdillavou@bsu.edu.



Rinker Center for International Programs

Friendship Family Program

Become a host family for Ball State's Friendship Family Program!

We are in need of host families for BSU's International student applicants who want to learn more about American culture! This is a great way to get a global experience without leaving the United States

- There is no financial obligation
- The student does not live with you
- We ask you to commit to at least one activity a month!

Make an everlasting impact on a student's life!



GET STARTED

Apply online: www.bsu.edu/international/friendship

If you have additional questions contact:

friendship@bsu.edu



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Search Ball State International

ABOUT



@bsu4peace



ballstatepeacecenter

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**IF YOU'D LIKE US TO INCLUDE
YOUR EVENTS PLEASE CONTACT:**

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THE CENTER FOR PEACE AND CONFLICT STUDIES
IS AN INTERDISCIPLINARY KNOWLEDGE UNIT
DEVOTED TO CONDUCTING RESEARCH ON
VARIOUS FORMS OF STRUCTURAL AND
DIRECT VIOLENCE AND CONFLICT,
AND ALSO DEDICATED TO IMPLEMENTING
PROJECTS THAT EMPLOY NONVIOLENT
STRATEGIES TO RESOLVE CONFLICT.

OUR PROGRAMS INCLUDE:
MEDIATION TRAINING AND SERVICES
MEDITATION CLASSES
THE BROWN BAG LUNCH SPEAKER SERIES
THE MUNCIE INTERFAITH FELLOWSHIP
THE SOCIAL JUSTICE LEAGUE ORGANIZATION

CONGRATULATIONS

TO OUR PRIOR ADVISORY BOARD MEMBER, LACEY LORD, FOR ACCEPTING A GRADUATE POSITION IN
THE MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY'S COMPARATIVE MEDIA STUDIES PROGRAM.