

Subject: Community Outreach – War, Justice, Influence & Inspiration

Community outreach activities – CSL Dallas.

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We are engaged in the following activities to embody being a point of active compassion in the world:

We have adopted a local elementary school at which 65% of its students living below the poverty line. We have done this through an Interfaith Arm of the Dallas Public School System. We have provided food baskets at the holidays and school supplies at the beginning of the year. We are refurbishing playground equipment and doing general maintenance, have provided volunteers for Field Day and Fair Day (most of the parents don't come) and are planning to really get involved in the tutoring programs.

We have been adopting a teen shelter in our community for the past 4 Christmases - providing dinner and all the gifts they would ever need.

We are a drop-off point for Motorola's collection of cell phones which are refurbished and handed out to women and children in potentially abusive situations, so they can call 911.

As with most churches we have a pastoral care arm which provides visits and meals, as well as rides to church, to our home bound or ill members.

We are engaged in the following activities to embody being a point of inspiration and influence in the world:

CSL Dallas has become known as "one of the peace churches" and one that is very involved in Interfaith work.

For the past 3 years, we have been sponsoring the Season for Nonviolence (this was a year long focus in 2002. We converted the 64 days practices into 52 weeks practices, and are holding 6 Nonviolence/Peace trainings and programs throughout the year).

For the past 3 years we've held an Interfaith World Peace Prayer Day, Jan 1st.

I have been very involved in a large local interfaith council, and have been invited to speak as a Minister from Religious Science for various Pagan Solstice Celebrations, Interfaith celebrations, Islamic/Jew/Christian "understanding each other" programs, interfaith Labyrinth walks, and local media press conferences on peace and interfaith work. I am called on as a local radio spokesperson on interfaith issues and various "touchy" religious

subjects, to bring light, sanity, and our brand of inclusiveness to the table.

I have been filmed for a local high school TV show on the diversity of faiths and how to respect and get along with each other.

Thanks for asking, and letting me share how the Global Heart is beginning to beat in Dallas. As I said, I can't wait to hear from everyone else. I know I'll be finding inspiration and ideas from all of you! And stealing as many of them as I can!

Petra, CSL, Dallas