

San Diego Jubilee Circle Report for Summer 2017 (June-August)

The Jubilee Partners in Toluca, San Mateo, and San Cristobal have greatly influenced the activities of the SD Jubilee Circle in 2017. Following the trip David Funkhouser and I made in January, there emerged the picture of three circles of Jubilee in our three locations. And so it is that San Diego is changing ourselves into a Jubilee Circle, not a “head office,” but a Circle learning to be integral with other Jubilee Circles.

Who?—The SD Jubilee Circle is comprised of Richard Lawrence and Lee Van Ham—two old Caucasians. We have begun talking with others to add another person or two. During the summer we met 2-4 times per month in a coffeeshop—except in July when both of us were out of town traveling for awhile. Our meetings have focused on sharing how we’re responding to life, creating a minibook on Jubilee Circles, creating a funding proposal to give to possible donors, and who to reach out to in the region.

Activities—

Funding and Redistributions—A letter was sent in June to 80 people who have donated in the past 5 years. While Angelica and Jacob were in Chicago, her father-in-law, Jack Swanson, hosted a reception for Angelica in the retirement campus where he lives. Jack invited friends to here Angelica tell of the work in the three Circles. Lee helped provide materials, received and processed donation checks totaling over \$3000 from 20+ checks, sent thank you letters to all of the people, and made redistributions to SM and SC. It was a bit of a miracle, because on August 1 there was no Jubilee money available for redistributions and by August 8 we made the usual redistributions with enough to do the same in September. As you know, we are in a scramble in 2017 because a person who’d faithfully sent \$12,000

We think of our redistributions as acts of justice, not charity. Redistributions recognize that money is unjustly distributed in the current imperial, MultiEarth economic system. Jubilee protests that and practices redistribution as a corrective and a new model motivated by love and justice. Biblically, we seek to practice what we read about in Acts 2 and 4 and in II Corinthians 8.



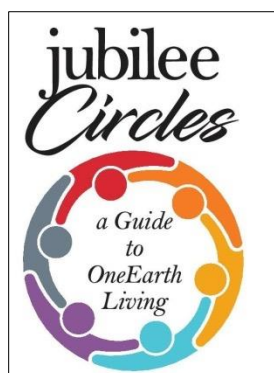
Podcasts— The website hosts three summertime podcasts. One on Indigenous issues with an Indigenous woman in Oakland, CA, who wrote the “Foreword” to my second book. In July co-host Jerry Iversen and I talked about the themes of the podcasts during the first half of 2017, speaking to how they are part of work to generate resistance to MultiEarth ways and the alternatives of OneEarth Jubilee. In August, the podcast was with biblical scholar Walter Brueggemann on money in the Bible. On average, 210 people download the podcast each month.



Jubileo, the newsletter — In June the *Jubileo* newsletter was sent to 400+ recipients 4 times a year. Kyle Holberg (in McMin-

nville, Oregon) formats the newsletters and sends them out via MailChimp. In June we began to feature some news from all three Jubilee Circles in every issue of *Jubileo*. Excerpts and a photo will be included from your reports. That means that all Mexico reports will extend to more U.S. readers.

Writing Books and Blogs —



Jubilee Circles—a Guide to OneEarth Living is a minibook written by me along with Richard Lawrence. It will be available by mid-September. The hope is that it will be a little resource for Circles and help Jubilee spread through the formation of new Circles. Publication of the minibook was made financially possible by a special gift from a person who is in the final months of life. She believes in JEM and in my books.

Book—Personal Story of a Light, African-American —

Richard Lawrence, newest partner in the SD Jubilee Circle, is publishing his personal story encountering racial injustices as an African-American. His memoir includes his work as a campus ministry, a participant in the civil rights movement, his ministry in Chicago with Operation PUSH, working on a Chicago event with Martin Luther King, Jr., and more. The book will be available in September.



Richard and I plan to use our books in every way possible to speak with groups and to include the work of the Jubilee Circles in those presentations.

Blogs on OneEarth Project and CasaJubileo websites —I posted six blogs this summer about our Earth to theoneearthproject.com website. In June I posted to the casajubileo.org site a blog connecting Jubilee in the Bible with how to we need to practice OneEarth ways today. Gerald Iversen has also posted a couple of blogs to the casajubileo.org site this summer.

Finances —

\$150 per month office rent

\$35 per month for phone

\$700 emergency expense when the Jubilee computer was hacked (Ugh!!)

\$50 for copies and postage for the June funding letter and other mail

Bookkeeper— The SD Jubilee Circle is in an urgent search to find the right person to do the bookkeeping for all of our Circles.