



J O S H U A

Justice Organization Sharing Hope & United for Action

2007



THE YEAR  
IN REVIEW

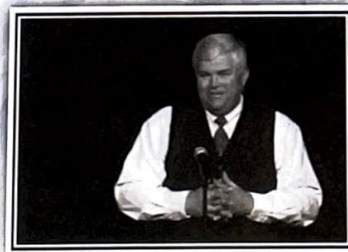




*The Social Concerns Committee of St. Bernard Catholic Church  
dedicates this page to the loving memory of Dennis Maloney.*



*Dennis inspired JOSHUA with his message of hope in 2006, as he inspired people  
across the country and around the world throughout his life.*



*We are saddened by Dennis' death, but we know his spirit lives in our hearts  
and in the hearts of many who were privileged to know him.*



## Who We Are

### Member Congregations

First Baptist Church  
First United Methodist Church  
Nativity of Our Lord Catholic Parish  
Resurrection Catholic Church  
St. Anne's Episcopal Church  
St. Bernard Catholic Church  
St. Matthew Catholic Community  
Sisters of St. Francis of the Holy Cross  
Union Congregational United Church of Christ  
West Side Moravian Church

### Friend Congregations and Agencies

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Divine Temple  
First United Presbyterian Church  
Green Bay Area Unitarian Universalist Fellowship  
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Multicultural Community Center of Greater Green Bay  
Old St. Joseph Catholic Church  
Peace and Justice Center of St. Norbert College  
St. Elizabeth Seton Catholic Church  
St. Philip the Apostle Catholic Church  
St. Willebrord Catholic Church  
The Salvation Army  
United Hmong Community Center



# J O S H U A

Justice Organization Sharing Hope & United for Action

## Table of Contents

### Welcome

Message from the President .....	3
Board of Directors and Committees.....	3
Program .....	4
Spirit of Leadership Award .....	4
Program Speakers .....	5

### The Year In Review

#### Issues and Activities

Immigration .....	6
Community Circles of Support.....	7
Treatment Instead of Prison (TIP).....	7
Madison Action Day .....	7
Housing .....	8
Mental Health Forum .....	8
Brown County Executive .....	8
Festival of Unity .....	9

#### Financial Contributors and Acknowledgements

Grants and Funding Sponsors .....	10
Sustaining Members.....	10
Friends .....	10
Advertiser Index.....	10
Advertisements.....	11-22

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Welcome to the third annual celebration of JOSHUA's interfaith social justice work in Brown County. Inspired by God's love, we continue to reach across differences of religion, economics, nationality, and even language as we move out of our comfort zones and speak and act on behalf of justice and compassion.

We are committed to taking a stand with those who are the most vulnerable in our community, including the mentally ill, the newly-arrived immigrant and the addicted. JOSHUA is also standing up for the common good, for diversity and for the environment.

We are called to transform our world into the kind of place God has in mind for all of us, and JOSHUA is privileged to be part of a broad network of interfaith social justice organizations worldwide through our association with the Gamaliel Foundation and its statewide affiliate, WISDOM.

We are blessed to work with so many people of great faith and good will here in Brown County, and we are very pleased to welcome two new congregations into exploratory membership with JOSHUA, St. Anne's Episcopal Church and Union Congregational UCC. It has been another good year for us and I believe that our best days lie ahead!

Peace.

Barbara Shiffer  
**JOSHUA President**



JOSHUA Board of Directors

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#### Finance

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#### JOSUE

Fernando Campos

Sr. Maria Drzewiecki

#### Issues

Amy Dennis (outgoing)



**Program MC:** Mike Westenberg, Director of Religious Education and Social Outreach, St. Matthew Catholic Community, JOSHUA Vice-President

**Gathering Time and Silent Auction**

*Silent auction bidding begins immediately and continues throughout the evening.*

**Welcome**

Dcn. Mike Schmidt, Director of Social Concerns,  
Nativity Of Our Lord Parish; JOSHUA Religious Leaders Caucus

**Opening Prayer**

Triella Talbot-Williams, Multicultural Community Center of Greater Green Bay; JOSHUA Board Member

**Dinner**

**Program**

**Remarks**

Barb Shiffer, West Side Moravian Church; JOSHUA President

**Welcome New Member Congregations**

- St. Anne's Episcopal Church
- Union Congregational United Church of Christ

**Musical Selection "What Does The Lord Require?"**

Lynn Griebling, St. Anne's Episcopal Church

**Update from the Co-chairs of the Mayor's Task Force to End Chronic Homelessness**

Charlie Burnham, St. Anne's Episcopal Church/Green Bay Marketing President, Baylake Bank and Kathy McMurray, President, Brown County Homeless and Housing Coalition

**Musical Selection "Here I Am Lord"**

David Annis, St. Anne's Episcopal Church; JOSHUA Board Member

**Spirit of Leadership Award: Rev. Kenneth De Groot, O Praem**

Presented by Karen Helgerson, Chaplain, Brown County Jail; JOSHUA Religious Leaders Caucus

**Program Speakers**

Miranda and Baptiste Paul, Worldgoods®

**Dessert/Silent Auction/Table Quiz**

**Closing Prayer**

Rev. Seth Richmond, Rector, St. Anne's Episcopal Church

**Thank You**

- **Dcn. Mike Schmidt** and **Nativity of Our Lord Parish** for graciously hosting this event
- **Bill Woods** and **Bernice Gigot** for heading up the Kitchen crew
- **Katrina Brandner** for coordinating a delicious Menu and Dinner
- **Miranda and Baptiste Paul**, for sharing their passion for Fair Trade and providing background music for the evening
- **Katie Kralovetz** for coordinating the Silent Auction
- **Joan Turner** and **Jan Bilty** for the beautiful table decorations
- **Ann McLean** for bringing tonight's Program together
- **Lynn Griebling** and **David Annis** for gifting us with their musical talents
- **Katina Daanen, Indigo Design** for extraordinary design and layout of the 2007 JOSHUA Yearbook and event publicity
- **Abbie Nordholm** and **Insty Prints Downtown** for wonderful printing service
- **All of the volunteers and contributors** who helped make this evening's event a success



Rev. Kenneth De Groot,  
O Praem

**2007 Recipient  
JOSHUA  
Spirit of Leadership  
Award**

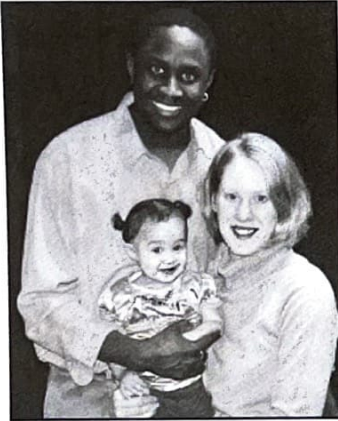
JOSHUA is pleased to present the 2007 Spirit of Leadership Award to Fr. Ken De Groot for his tireless and courageous efforts on behalf of the Hispanic immigrant community in Brown County. As pastor of St. Willebrord parish, Fr. Ken and his pastoral team not only attend to the needs of an English speaking community and a Hispanic community, but also promote dialogue and collaboration between the two. Fr. Ken also regularly visits the Brown County Jail where he leads services in Spanish.

To deepen his understanding of Hispanic immigrant families, Fr. Ken has made several visits to areas of Mexico from which his parishioners have come. He has welcomed and promoted civic, legal and health programs (among others) which respond to the needs of the parishioners. And when the need or the opportunity arises, he is willing to speak out to local leaders about the dignity and rights of immigrants.

Fr. De Groot is a graduate of the old Central Catholic High School in Green Bay and a graduate of St. Norbert's College. In 1953 he entered the Norbertine order and was ordained a priest in 1961. He taught at Abbot Pennings High School until 1978. Fr. De Groot was pastor of St. Louis, in Dykesville until 1980 when he was transferred be pastor of St. Willebrord in Green Bay.

He has been active in the civic community including serving on the Mayor's Neighborhood Resource Board and the Mayor's Hispanic Advisory Board. He also has been on the Board of Directors as well as the Basic Needs Impact Board of the United Way.





Baptiste and Miranda K. Paul with their daughter Soleil Ruth.

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**Miranda K. Paul** is a certified teacher who grew up in Green Bay and loves to travel. She has taught English, Spanish, and Language Arts in several states and is enjoying her new role as a mother. Among her favorite places in the world is The Gambia, a very small country in West Africa. Miranda taught in The Gambia in 2003, where she learned a lot about Islam, African languages and oral history, and current challenges facing Africa. In 2004 she received the Natalie and Ben Parran Education Award.

**Baptiste Paul** is a graduate of Bucknell University with degrees in Environmental Science and Political Science. A native of Saint Lucia, a small Caribbean island, Baptiste is excited about projects that contribute to preserving the earth's natural beauty, and that contribute to economic stability in developing countries. Baptiste hopes that his efforts are one of the ways he can contribute to a more accepting society, "A better place for our kids to grow up than the one we knew."

Together they own and operate, **Worldgoods®**, a fair trade global marketplace located in Green Bay near the 1-43 Industrial Center. The mission of Worldgoods is to promote fair, long-term economic development for artisans in some of the world's poorest nations, and to stimulate cultural awareness and diversity education within our own community. To accomplish this mission, they have a small retail store, online store, and a lineup of educational presentations. You can also host a fair-trade fiesta or fundraiser at your home or church. The products sold are sweatshop and child labor free.

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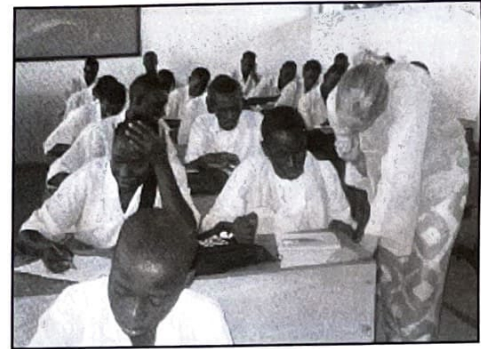
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Miranda with 10th grade Gambian English Students. She not only began a Teacher Relief Internship in Farato, Gambia in 2003 but demonstrated Western teaching practices such as individual attention, differentiated instruction, and group JIGSAW techniques, which West African teachers were very interested in learning about.

r g

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## JOSHUA Issues and Events

Justice Organization Sharing Hope & United for Action (JOSHUA) is an interfaith coalition of faith communities joined together to bridge differences and focus on common values to address community concerns. Issues are approved by the JOSHUA Board of Directors and sub-committees meet regularly. (For more information on how an issue is chosen, please visit our web site: [www.joshua4justice.org](http://www.joshua4justice.org) and click on "Issues.")

Many of the past year's events were initiated and organized within member congregations. We are pleased to present the following pages which detail our very active year in review by topic.

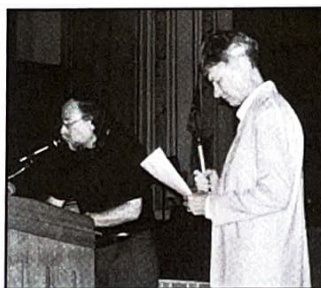
## Immigration

**ON MAY 8, 2006** JOSHUA organized a forum on immigration for more than 200 people at Green Bay East High School. Voices of immigrants and other community members promoted deeper understanding of this very complex and emotion-filled issue.

**IN JUNE 2006**, JOSUE (JOSHUA's Spanish-speaking group) hosted an evening discussion in which newly-arrived immigrants and long-time residents compared the stories of their family's migration to Northeastern Wisconsin.

**IN THE FALL OF 2006**, JOSUE held a community meeting with the District Attorney and the Green Bay Police Chief to discuss relations between immigrants and law enforcement.

**IN MAY 2007**, JOSHUA and JOSUE members voiced concerns at two public hearings regarding a proposed city immigration ordinance. A JOSHUA statement was presented urging the city to pass a Resolution calling on the federal government to create comprehensive, practical, and compassionate immigration policies. JOSHUA and JOSUE members also participated in a powerful "Journey of Hope" Interfaith Prayer Service hosted by St. Willebrord Church on behalf of the immigrants in Green Bay.



*JOSHUA and community members speak out at the May 8, 2006 Immigration Forum held at Green Bay East High School.*



*Journey of Hope Interfaith Prayer Service held May 23, 2007 at St. Willebrord Church.*



## Community Circles of Support

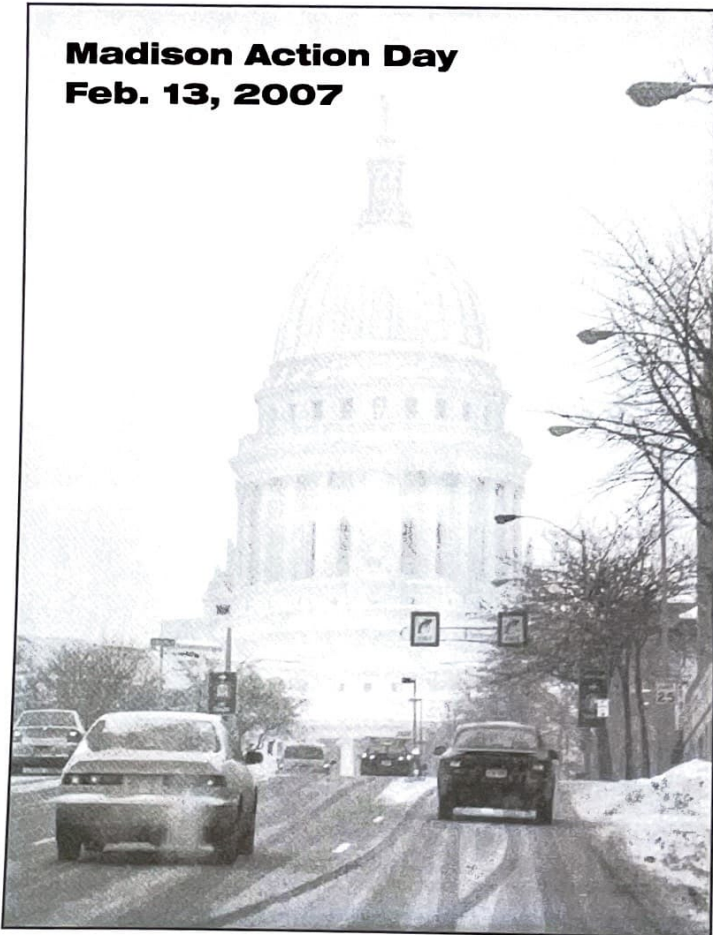
JOSHUA assisted the Brown County Corrections Relations Board in launching Community Circles of Support for former offenders who are returning to the community after spending time in jail or prison. **IN NOVEMBER OF 2006**, St. Bernard's Catholic Parish sponsored a well-attended forum for those interested in Circles of Support. In early 2007, St. Matthew's Catholic Church hosted a training for more than 25 people interested in participating.

## Treatment Instead of Prison (TIP)

JOSHUA, as part of the statewide WISDOM organization, has been an active participant in the TIP campaign which advocates for alternatives to incarceration for non-violent offenders, especially those suffering from addictions.

**IN FEBRUARY 2007**, JOSHUA (and JOSUE) members participated in the WISDOM Madison Action Day, visiting the offices of all the members of the state legislature from our region, to encourage their support for TIP. **IN APRIL**, JOSHUA members testified on behalf of TIP before the state legislature's Joint Committee on Finance. **IN MAY** JOSHUA's TIP Committee testified before the Brown County Human Services Board to advocate for TIP programs in the County budget.

### Madison Action Day Feb. 13, 2007



JOSUE and JOSHUA members traveled to Madison and met with Rep. Jim Skaletski, Rep. Karl Van Roy and Sen. Rob Cowles to discuss immigration and TIP issues.





## Housing

JOSHUA's Workforce Housing Task Force continues to work on creating mixed-income communities where people of various income levels can afford to buy a home. The Task Force is developing an informational video that will be ready for viewing in mid-2007.

JOSHUA has also been involved with issues of homelessness. **IN FEBRUARY, 2007**, JOSHUA member Charlie Burnham was asked by Mayor Jim Schmitt to co-chair the Mayor's Task Force to end chronic homelessness.



## Mental Health Forum

**IN OCTOBER, 2006**, JOSHUA members successfully called for adequate funding for the Brown County Mental Health Center at the Brown County Human Services Committee budget hearing.



**ON MARCH 13, 2007**, JOSHUA sponsored "Falling Through the Cracks," a forum on mental health care in Brown County. The event, which explored the needs and the issues surrounding mental health, was attended by over 100 people, including several public officials.

## Brown County Executive

**IN SPRING 2007**, JOSHUA submitted questionnaires to all the candidates for Brown County Executive, asking their views on all the issues mentioned above. All three candidates gave very thoughtful answers, which JOSHUA distributed widely to members of JOSHUA congregations.





## Festival of Unity

The largest event of 2006-07 for JOSHUA was the **APRIL 22**—Festival of Unity. A diverse group of more than 525 people gathered at Notre Dame Academy. Film Director, Ruth Broyde-Sharone, spoke and showed her award-winning documentary, "God and Allah Need to Talk," a film for healing and reconciliation. In addition, there were speakers, music, dancing, and international foods. During the reception nearly 200 people signed up for a variety of ways to continue fostering understanding among different cultures and religions in our community. This event was sponsored by **THE GREATER GREEN BAY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION, THE ONEIDA NATION OF WISCONSIN, BAYLAKE BANK, and NORMAN AND SHIRLYN MILLER** and co-sponsored by **CNESSES ISRAEL CONGREGATION, THE FOX VALLEY ISLAMIC SOCIETY, THE MULTI-CULTURAL CENTER OF GREEN BAY, THE SALVATION ARMY and THE GREEN BAY AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.**

**"We were given an opportunity and a challenge to make Green Bay a model city, establishing activities and events to celebrate diversity and increase communications among cultural and religious groups, where people of all faiths and perspectives can stand together as brothers and sisters, united to be agents of peace."**

*Harvey Jaeger, Green Bay  
Green Bay Press Gazette, CHEERS Section*

### **WE NEED EVENTS THAT HELP SHARE OUR DIFFERENCES**

*On a recent weekend, two separate events brought a wide diversity of people together to achieve a common goal...*

*... The following day, people of various religious beliefs and faiths gathered together at Notre Dame Academy in a "Festival of Unity," in order to better understand and appreciate our differences ~ but more importantly, the many similarities of our beliefs.*

*Afterwards, participants filled up on a buffet of various ethnic foods. All of those different foods combined onto our paper plates into one unified and delicious meal. In an age of divisive talk radio, cable news programs, and endless mean-spirited Internet blogs, what we really need are more events like this, where we put our differences aside and realize how much we all have in common.*

*Gordon Engel  
Green Bay Press Gazette, Letter to the Editor*

*May 2 Community Snapshots submitted by Patti Cole, St. Norbert Peace and Justice Center.*





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for the common good.”

(1 Cor. 12:7)

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Grateful to be part of JOSHUA's work in uniting people  
of faith for the common good.



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"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed people  
can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."

- Margaret Mead

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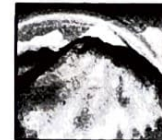


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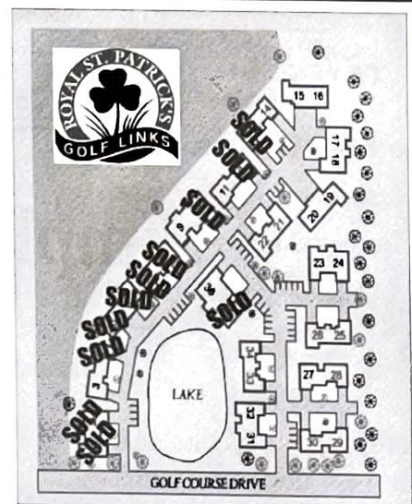
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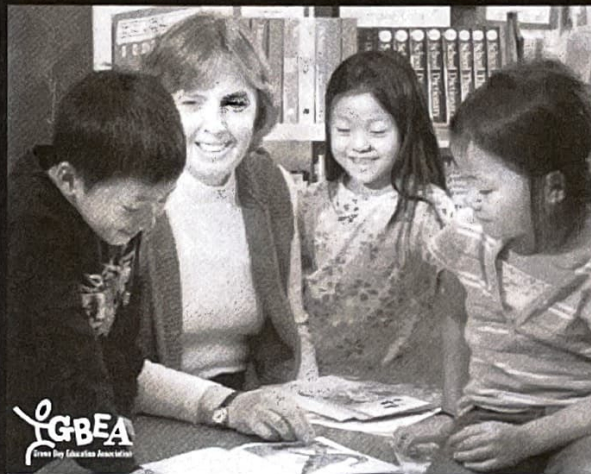
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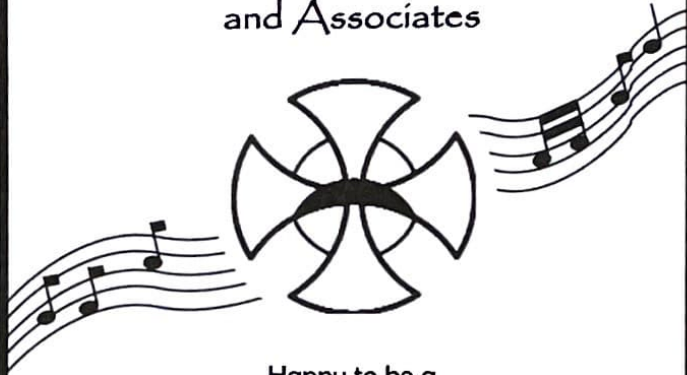
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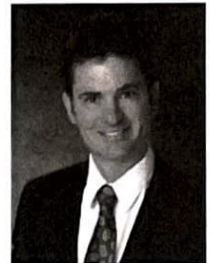
  
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