

# Tied Together in a Single Garment of Destiny

"we are tied together in  
a single garment of destiny,  
caught in an inescapable network  
of mutuality...This is the way God's  
universe is made, this is the way  
it is structured."

~ Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



**2008**  
ANNUAL JOSHUA YEARBOOK

JOSHUA





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### Member Congregations

- Ascension Lutheran 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

- Divine Temple
- First United Presbyterian Church
- Green Bay Area Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
- Islamic Society of Wisconsin, Green Bay
- Old St. Joseph Catholic Church
- Peace and Justice Center of St. Norbert College
- St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church
- St. Philip the Apostle Catholic Church
- St. Willebrord Catholic Church
- The Salvation Army
- United Hmong Community Center

**Mission Statement~**  
 JOSHUA deepens relationships within and among congregations and empowers people to act together for justice in pursuit of their individual and collective interests.



# J O S H U A

Justice Organization Sharing Hope & United for Action

Tied Together  
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of Destiny



Members of the JOSHUA board and core teams  
at the April 12, 2008 WISDOM Leadership Assembly

## 2008 JOSHUA Executive Officers

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Barbara Shiffer

**Incoming President**  
Judy Vogels

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Rev. Sara Johnsen  
Triella Talbot-Williams

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Bill Woods

**Treasurer**  
Cheryl Galowski

**JOSHUA Organizer**  
Jim Mitchell

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**Finance**  
Cheryl Galowski, Chairperson

**JOSUE**  
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Fernando Campos, Co-chair

**Workforce Housing Task Force**  
Dick Vogels, Chairperson

**Health**  
Diane Soik, Chairperson

**Immigration**  
Ann McLean, Co-chair  
Roberto Torrez, Co-chair

**TIP/TAD**  
Lois Pulvermacher, Chairperson

## A Message From Our President

The theme for JOSHUA's fourth annual fundraising event, "Celebrating Our Common Destiny," speaks to a basic belief shared by our different faith traditions: that regardless of our skin color, language, religion or income level, we are all loved by God and connected as human beings.

Recognizing our connectedness is what drives JOSHUA's mission to work together for justice, and we have included in these pages several reflections on this theme written by members of JOSHUA.

The past year has seen much conviction and passion coming out of JOSHUA's Religious Leaders' Caucus, Issues committees, JOSUE, and Congregational Core Teams in the following areas:

- ~ Advocating for those who are homeless and supporting St. John the Evangelist Homeless Shelter.
- ~ Receiving an agreement from Mayor Jim Schmitt to have a representative from JOSHUA serve on the Brown County Task Force to End Homelessness.
- ~ Securing public commitments in support of a Brown County drug court from local government and judicial officials and leaders in law enforcement and community corrections.
- ~ Educating the public and private sector on the concept of workforce housing for people of all income levels to be able to live closer to where they work.
- ~ Providing varied perspectives and dialogue on how our faith values influence the issue of healthcare.
- ~ Engaging public officials on behalf of Spanish speaking immigrants.

JOSHUA is very grateful to have received a grant from the Catholic Campaign for Human Development which allowed us to hire a full time staff person in January. We are fortunate to have Jim Mitchell as our new organizer, and we are grateful to David Liners, Executive Director of Wisdom, for assisting us in the interim.

As we begin a new year in JOSHUA's life we are pleased to welcome our newest member congregation, Ascension Lutheran Church. We also welcome a new slate of officers to begin serving on the JOSHUA Board of Directors in May. I feel wonderfully blessed to have been able to serve as JOSHUA's president for the past four years and I have great hope for JOSHUA rising to new levels as a powerful agent of spiritual and social transformation in this community.

**In solidarity and hope!**  
Barbara Shiffer

Visit the web site for news and event information:  
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e-mail: [joshua4justice@gmail.com](mailto:joshua4justice@gmail.com)

Office: 130 St. Matthew St., Green Bay, WI 54301

Phone: 920.362.1511



## About Our 2008 Award Recipients



Rev. L.C. Green  
**2008 Recipient**  
**JOSHUA Spirit of Leadership Award**

JOSHUA is pleased to present the 2008 Spirit of Leadership Award to Rev. L.C. Green, in recognition of the strong, faith-filled leadership he has demonstrated in our community. In particular, this award recognizes the remarkable success Rev. Green achieved this past year in initiating a historic citywide mediation agreement designed to improve race relations in the Green Bay Police Department, schools, city administration and businesses.

Rev. Green attended Saints Junior College of Lexington, Mississippi and Mississippi Industrial College of Hollyspring, Mississippi. While at Saints Junior College, he met and married Alice, his wife of 31 years. They have three children, five grandchildren, and have also adopted two children.

Rev. Green is a gifted singer and preacher, and has served in Green Bay as the Pastor of Divine Temple Church of God in Christ since 1995. His uniqueness as an individual has attracted people from diverse backgrounds and persuasions, as he focuses his ministry on meeting the needs of the whole person.



Rev. M. Kay Krejci  
**2008 Recipient**  
**JOSHUA Dedicated Leadership Award**

Rev. Kay Krejci was one of 27 clergy and lay leaders who met in May, 2002, with WISDOM Organizer, Rev. Joe Ellwanger, to learn about how to begin congregational based organizing in Brown County. This was the beginning of what would become JOSHUA, Justice Organization Sharing Hope United for Action.

From that time to the present, she has dedicated herself to establishing JOSHUA in our community. Beginning with her church, Union Congregational, United Church of Christ, she initiated personal dialogues with members who then formed a CORE Team. Her vision and enthusiasm spread to the Religious Leaders Caucus, and the Health Care Issues Committee where her thought "Health is not a commodity that can be bought and sold. Health is a state of being." is the opening sentence of the committee's mission statement. Her advocacy extends to city council meetings, county board meetings and public forums.

JOSHUA is profoundly grateful to Rev. Kay Krejci for her dedicated service to our organization and to our community. We pray for God's continued blessing on her future ministries.

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# Celebrating Our Common Destiny

April 27, 2008, 2 p.m.

4th Annual JOSHUA Fundraising Event

## About Our Speaker

Rev. Jerry Hancock

Rev. Jerry Hancock, an ordained minister in the United Church of Christ, entered the ministry after working for more than 30 years in the criminal justice system.

He started as a law student interviewing prisoners in the jail at seven o'clock every Monday morning. Since that time he has been an attorney and Assistant Attorney General for the State of Wisconsin. As head of the state crime labs he introduced forensic DNA in Wisconsin. He worked with law enforcement leaders—like David Cooper—on the development of Problem Oriented Policing. He also worked with Jim Doyle on the prosecution of Publishers Clearing House for defrauding the elderly.

About five years ago, Rev. Hancock felt God calling him in a different direction. Here is how he explains it: "I know that God wants me in prison. I need to be in prison to find the justice that is missing in the legal system."

In February, Rev. Hancock became the Director of the Prison Ministry Project. The Project is an outreach ministry of the United Church of Christ. Its challenge is to serve prisoners and their families, engage the wider church in prison issues and to be an advocate for prison reform.

Rev. Hancock is a graduate of Colorado College, The University of Wisconsin Law School and Chicago Theological Seminary. He and his wife, the artist Linda Hancock, live in Madison.

## Program

### Gathering Time and Silent Auction

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

### Program MC:

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

### Pre-Program Music

Dave Annis and John Simonis

### Welcome

Barbara Shiffer, West Side Moravian Church and Outgoing JOSHUA President

### Opening Prayer

Pastor Manuelus Reacco Sr., Faith Tabernacle Outreach Ministries, Church of God in Christ

### Introduction of Speaker

Rev. Charles Mize, Union Congregational United Church of Christ

### Keynote Speaker

Rev. Jerry Hancock

### Recognition of Outgoing and Incoming JOSHUA Executive Officers

Abbie Nordholm, Resurrection Catholic Church

### Membership Covenanting & Welcoming Ascension Lutheran Church

Judy Vogels, West Side Moravian Church and Incoming JOSHUA President

### Musical Selection "This Little Light of Mine"

See inside back cover for lyrics

Led by Dave Annis, St. Anne's Episcopal Church

### Dedicated Service Award: Rev. Kay Krejci

Presented by Jan Bilty, Union Congregational United Church of Christ

### Spirit of Leadership Award: Rev. L. C. Green

Presented by Mike Westenberg, St. Matthew's Catholic Parish and Chairperson of the Religious Leaders Caucus

### Closing Prayer

JOSHUA Religious Leaders

### Invitation to Have Fun and Raise Money for JOSHUA

Mike Westenberg, St. Matthew's Catholic Parish

### Social, Shopping and Silent Auction

Bidding begins closing at 4:30 p.m.

**Thank you to Miranda and Baptiste Paul of WorldGoods Fair Trade / A Better Footprint. A portion of their sales during today's event is being donated to JOSHUA.**



**Common Destiny Reflection:**  
*Bringing Joy  
 To God*

For many years I have been concerned about how we Christians treat others of different faiths. Then one day Dick Vogels invited me for a one-one-one. Going to a church of a different faith I knew very little about, to meet a guy I had never met, to learn more about an organization I had never heard of was a scary proposition for a shy guy like me. But it sounded like a wonderful proposition, so I went. I survived the night. Actually, it was a good conversation with a great guy. It was the beginning of a joyous, yet challenging journey. In fact, the challenges are what made it joyous. Did I have to examine my belief? Did I have to change my priorities? Yes I did, but it has made my faith stronger and more focused, just becoming closer to being the Christian I am called to be.

Working with JOSHUA has been a joy. As we work to bring justice to this area, we are learning more about each other and how to get along. We are becoming "One Body" in two ways:

- 1) We are working together to further God's Kingdom as we are called, and
- 2) We are giving voice to those who do not have a voice. We are becoming one with them, thus giving them the help they need.

Where once there was suspicion, hatred and fear, there is now more understanding and love. This not only brings joy to me, but we are now bringing joy to God. As we live out Matthew 25, He says 'Well done, good and faithful servant!'

**Bill Woods**  
**Nativity Of Our Lord**

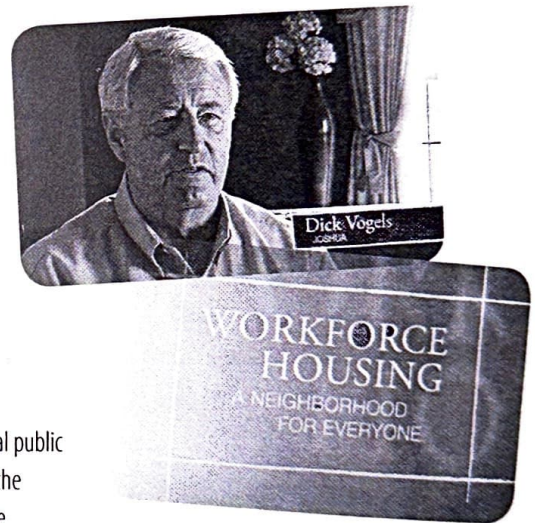


November 8, 2007: Brown County Workforce Housing Public Event

## Workforce Housing Task Force

**Dick Vogels, Chairperson**

- ~ With a grant from the Affordable Housing Institute of the Catholic Foundation and in cooperation with the Fox Valley Housing Coalition, developed a 6 minute educational video called "A Neighborhood for Everyone".
- ~ Continuing to educate the general public and area decision makers about the need for mixed income Workforce Housing through the video distribution and presentations.
- ~ Cooperating with the Brown County Planning Staff to produce a model "Traditional Neighborhood Development" on the 150 acre "County Farm" property located adjoining the Brown County Mental Health Center and Detention Center.
- ~ Brought internationally recognized urban planner David Rusk for a return presentation comparing the income levels of various local governmental and private employees with the current availability of existing housing and cost of new construction, particularly in the suburbs.



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# JOSHUA Health Committee

Diane Soik, Chairperson

## Value Statement On Health Care Access

**Health is not a commodity that can be bought or sold. Health is a state of being. It calls for a process of nurturing the physical and mental well-being of all God's children, recognizing that every human life is infinitely valuable. Therefore, we believe that quality, accessible health care is a basic human right.**



*February 2008 Health Care Forum: "Health Care Access: Is it Making You Sick and Tired."*

- ~ The Health Committee spent some time this past year increasing their knowledge about the health care crisis. We had three speakers: Daniel Wadle, from Wisconsin Citizen Action spoke on the Healthy Wisconsin Plan; Bonnie Kuhr, NEW Community Clinic Director and Andrea Werner, Bellin Cardiac and Vascular Director shared their views on the current healthcare system in Brown County.
- ~ We also held a viewing of and discussion about "Sicko" a documentary by Michael Moore.
- ~ We finished the year with the Healthcare Forum "Health Care Access: Is it Making You Sick and Tired." There were three speakers: Dr Robert Kraig, Director of programs at Citizen Action of WI; Mr. Jeffrey Resik, CEO of Bottom Line Marketing and Mr. Adam Warpinski, Brown County Supervisor. Each shared different programs being proposed in Wisconsin. But the key to the forum was the sharing of how our faith values should be shaping the discussion about health care access. This was done beautifully by Marian Boyle, pastor of West Side Moravian Church and Rabbi Shaina Bacharach of Cnesses Israel Congregation. It was well attended by about 80 people.



**Common Destiny Reflection:**

Restoring Our Sense Of  
Compassion And Community

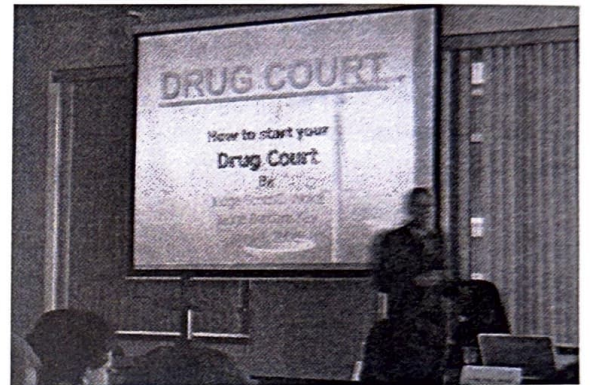
"Why do you care what happens to those people?" The people who have been fighting Green Bay City Hall over the treatment of the chronic homeless have heard this question from many sources. It has been asked by City Council and County Board members. It has come from friends, neighbors and coworkers. It appears in letters to the editor and on on-line forums. The question needs to be answered.

For many, unconditional compassion is a result of personal life experiences. These are people who have been lost, but now are found, people who have recovered from addictions, mental disease, or financial disaster through the unconditional compassion of someone else. They find that the only true form of thanksgiving for the compassion they have received is to share it with others.

Others believe that their faith traditions require them to act according to the very specific and clear directions that their founders and prophets have laid out for them. These messages of compassion were directed toward people who did not deserve compassion. People of faith are compelled to provide for the simple human needs of the helpless. In order to be healthy over the long term, a community must involve all of the gifts of all of its members, even those who appear at the moment to have no gifts. We are not intelligent enough or farsighted enough to judge anyone as worthless.

We sometimes mistake the intentions of the Founding Fathers in the Bill Of Rights. The granting to "We the People" of rights such as freedom of speech, religion, press and assembly was not a kind-hearted humanistic gesture. They realized that respect for the individual is necessary for a strong, free community. We need to restore our sense of compassion and community and outgrow the mean-spirited and fearful attitude of exclusion and separation that we have fallen into in the last couple of decades. Our community will be better for it, and our grandchildren will thank us for it.

**Excerpt from a guest column in the December 9, 2007  
Green Bay Press Gazette by Dave Annis,  
JOSHUA Board Representative**



April 8, 2008: Drug Court Public Forum

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# JOSHUA TIP/TAD Committee

Lois Pulvermacher, Chairperson

Our "Treatment Instead of Prison (TIP)" Committee picked up another acronym this year. A response of the state government to the call for TIP has been to establish a program called "Treatment Alternatives and Diversions (TAD)," which provides grants to counties to help establish programs like Drug Treatment Courts, Day Reporting Centers, and the like. So, we are the "TIP/TAD Committee!"



*April 8, 2008 Drug Court Public Forum: 150 attendees heard local officials give support to the proposed Brown County Drug Treatment Court.*

We started meeting on a monthly basis back in September. We needed to find out what was already happening and what we wanted to improve upon. We decided we needed to go with a Public Forum, first to educate the public as well as public officials as to successful alternatives to incarceration and second, to build support to establish a Drug Treatment Court in Brown County. God had already paved the way by having the Honorable Judge Donald Zuidmulder enthusiastic that JOSHUA was willing to help him bring a Drug Treatment Court to Brown County. We attended the Criminal Justice Coordinating Board when Judge Zuidmulder gave a presentation to begin the process. We had the opportunity to observe Winnebago's Drug Treatment Court and gain valuable information to share at the Public Forum. We have spoken with people who will be influential in making it happen: the District Attorney's Office, Department of Probation and Parole, the Public Defender's Office, the Sheriff's Department, the Green Bay Police, Brown County Department of Human Services, the Brown County Public Safety Chair, the Mayor of Green Bay, and the County Executive's Office. At the April 8, 2008 Public Forum, most of these governmental officials were in attendance and made public commitments to support the formation of a Brown County Drug Treatment Court.

It sounds very promising. We have been invited to have a representative from JOSHUA to be on the Drug Treatment Formation Committee.



**Common Destiny Reflection:**

Helping To Right  
The Wrongs

I have been an Eye Care Professional for many years. With the influx of Hispanic and Hmong populations in our community I had the feeling: If these people are here in the U.S. they should be able to speak English.

About five years ago JOSHUA was introduced to us in our church. I felt like I may be of some use to help, along with others in our church and other congregations, to right some of the wrongs in our community.

Joining JOSHUA not only made me a better Christian but made me more aware of the problems in our neighborhoods. It also gave me more compassion for the imprisoned and some insight into the homeless issues. People in JOSHUA became my friends and helped me be aware of the concerns, setbacks and trials of my non-English speaking patients and neighbors.

I now say to my no-English speaking patients, through an interpreter or their children who interpret for them, "I wish I could speak and understand your language. Sorry!"

**Judy Winney**  
**West Side Moravian**

**Common Destiny Reflection:**

Building Community  
One Person At A Time

When JOSHUA asked that we pick an issue we would like to be involved in, Immigration was my choice. As a Literacy council tutor, I had come to know Jessica and her wonderful family, and I had seen first hand all the difficulty Jessica's husband had getting his green card; the years he had to wait, the costs, interviews, and frustration. Jessica also experienced discrimination at the DMV and on one of her jobs.

Jessica was my student for four years and is still a very good friend. She has become a citizen, voted, and saw her husband receive his green card.

A year and a half ago I attended a JOSUE meeting where I met Paula, a woman who couldn't speak English and said she would like to learn English at the Literacy Council.

Our classes began in August 2006. I know she is learning. She and her husband are very active in JOSUE and very committed to working on their undocumented status. One of her lessons had the sentence, "The woman goes to church on Sunday." She said "I go to church on Tuesday." She and others are in a group at St. Willebrord's praying for a resolution to the immigration problem.

Paula and I continue to meet twice a week. I try to help her and make her family feel welcome. I am learning just how big and complex this immigration problem is, but I'm hopeful that somehow this problem can be resolved in the near future. It has gone on far too long a time.

**JOSHUA Member**

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# JOSHUA Immigration Committee

Co-Chairs: Roberto Torrez and Ann L. McLean

## What We Believe:

- ~ Everyone has dignity and is to be respected
- ~ Everyone has the right and obligation to work to the extent of abilities
- ~ Everyone is our "neighbor" – whether known or unknown
- ~ Everyone has the right to migrate
- ~ Communities and community leaders must promote the common good

## What We Do:

- ~ Educate faith communities and the community at large about immigration issues
- ~ Analyze the issues; particularly those affecting local residents
- ~ Advocate locally, in Wisconsin and nationally for fair, just laws that do not target particular groups through speaking at public meetings, writing letters to local newspapers and meeting the individual public officials
- ~ Advocate for comprehensive immigration reform

## Accomplishments:

- ~ Began formal meetings in May 2007
- ~ May – September: Actively advocated with individual local officials and at public meetings about proposed local ordinances we believed to be hurtful to immigrants and the image of Green Bay.
- ~ January 14: JOSHUA and ESTHER members met with Congressman Steve Kagen to ask that he withdraw his support for the SAVE Act.
- ~ February 9-12: Roberto Torrez represented JOSHUA and WISDOM in Washington, DC at meetings of FAIR (Fair Immigration Reform Movement) and CRI (Civil Rights for Immigrants).
- ~ February: Began work to bring all area groups concerned with immigration issues together or a meeting to address common concerns.
- ~ March: Began development of a Speakers' Bureau that will meet the educational needs of churches with few Latino members.
- ~ April 12: Members participated in the Wisdom Forum in Milwaukee at which Roberto Torrez co-chaired the session on Immigration.

## Who We Are:

- ~ Co-Chairs: Roberto Torrez and Ann L. McLean
- ~ Members: Sally Ann Brickner, Veronica Castro, Maria Drzewiecki, Margaret Guzek, Helen Schwartz, Ann Smith, Jim Soletski, Joan Turner



January 14, 2008: Members of JOSHUA and ESTHER meet with Congressman Steve Kagen



Barbara Shiffer and three others from Green Bay were honored in Milwaukee on February 16 as recipients of the William Gorham Rice Civil Libertarian of the Year Award, on behalf of all those who have worked to protect the human rights of immigrants in Green Bay.

*Pictured: Barbara Shiffer, President, JOSHUA Board of Directors; Br. Steve Herro, Social Concerns Director, Catholic Diocese of Green Bay; Matthew Hollenbeck, Executive Director, Hispanic Community Council of Northeast Wisconsin.*





**J O S H U A**

Justice Organization Sharing Hope & United for Action

**Common Destiny Reflection:**

**We Are All Children Of God**

Bright faces laughing, looks of mischief, smiles, shyness, openness, talking, whispering, engaging – Children! Joy! This is my experience Monday mornings walking down the halls of Sullivan Elementary School in Green Bay, where, as a retired speech and language pathologist, I help screen children for communication problems.

Many of these children are from immigrant families. I don't know if their families are legal or illegal. Their academic gifts, hands on understanding, and relational experiences will be used to create a better future for all of us. These are our kids and my faith background and experience tells me that they are also all children of God.

Imagine then my incredulity several months ago when at a JOSHUA event, my state assemblyman pointed me to the 2007 Wisconsin Citizen Survey from the Wisconsin Policy Research Institute. The issue of allowing illegal immigrant children to attend local public schools drew my attention. 46% of the state opposed the idea of sending these children to public schools and 46% favored. This was difficult enough for me to believe but then I learned that in my city of Green Bay, 53% of residents opposed the idea while only 32% supported it. How is it that people would deny a public education to the presently least powerful, yet potentially most important group for our future?

These are the same vibrant, eager to learn, life filled, energy giving kids I see every Monday. These are our children with whom we share a common destiny. It is for these children - and all children - that my voice combined with others must speak to national and state legislators, to city council members to our churches and perhaps most importantly and most difficult, to speak to friends, co-workers, and neighbors.

**Judy Vogels**  
**West Side Moravian**

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**Rosemary Baloun** for coordinating the silent auction

**Dave Annis and John Simonis** for music

**Katina Daanen, Indigo Design** for design and layout of the 2008 JOSHUA Yearbook and event publicity

**Cheryl Myers** for public relations

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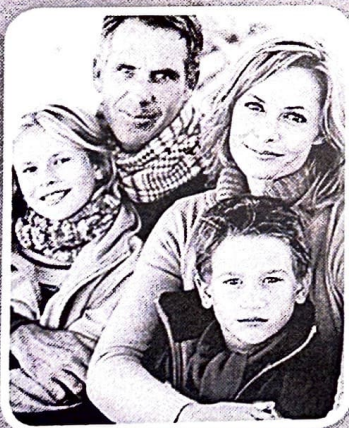
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*It's never too early  
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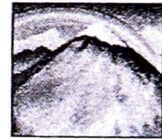
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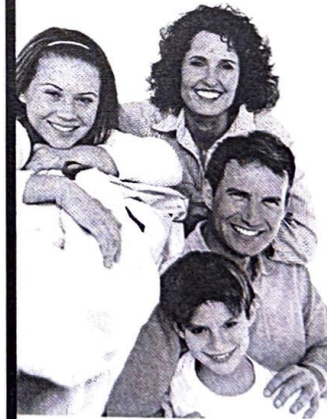
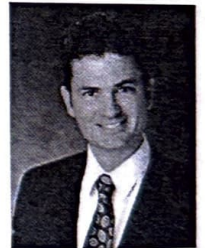
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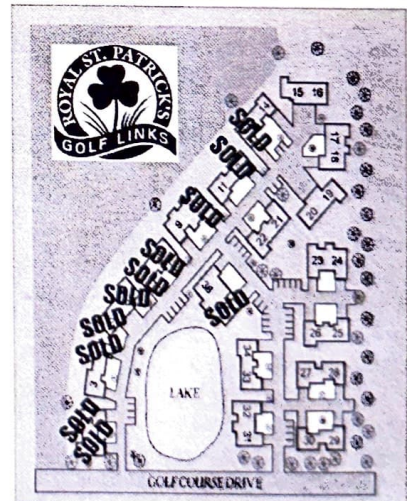
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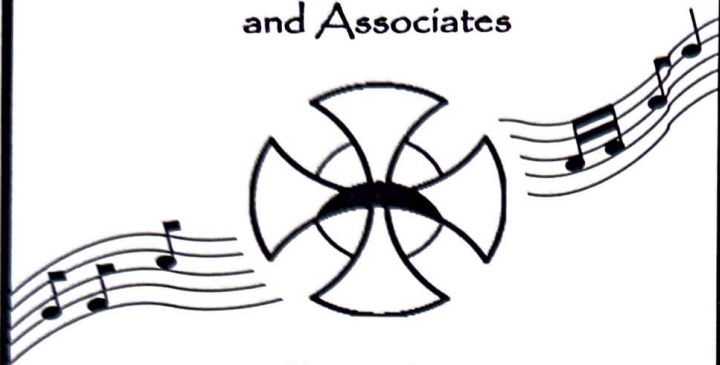


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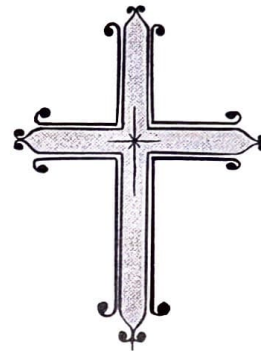
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*peace*  
*i leave with you's*  
*My peace i give you*  
*John 14:27*

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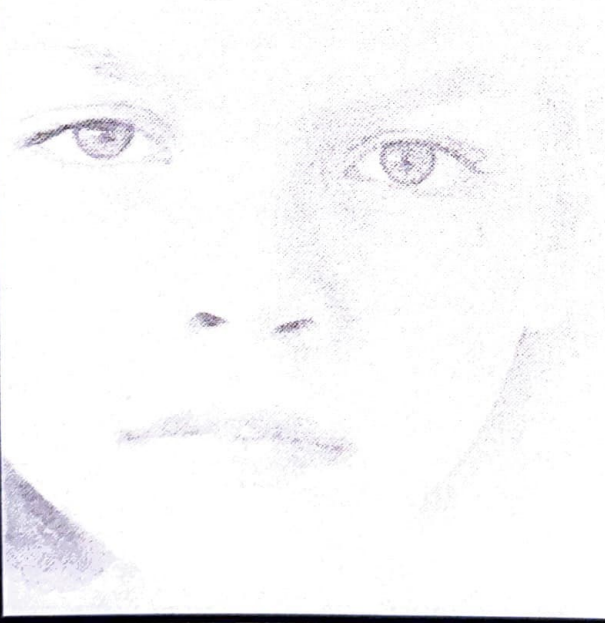
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## THIS LITTLE LIGHT OF MINE

(Traditional)

This little light of mine  
I'm going to let it shine  
This little light of mine  
I'm going to let it shine  
This little light of mine  
I'm going to let it shine  
Ev'ry day, ev'ry day  
Ev'ry day, ev'ry day  
Gonna let my little light shine

On Monday, He gave me the gift of love  
On Tuesday, peace came from above  
On Wednesday told me to have more faith  
On Thursday, gave me a little more grace  
On Friday, told me to watch and pray  
On Saturday, told me just what to say  
On Sunday, gave power divine  
Just to let my little light shine (oh)

(chorus)

Now some say you got to run and hide  
But we say there's no place to hide  
And some say let others decide  
But we say let the people decide  
Some say the time's not right  
But we say the time's just right  
If there's a dark corner in our land  
You got to let your little light shine (oh)

(chorus)



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