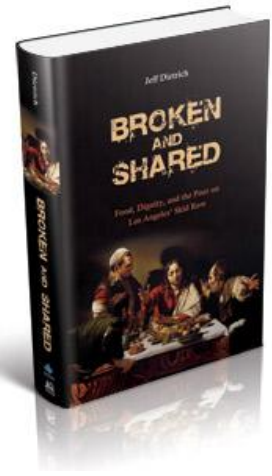


## BCM News from the Circle

January, 2012

By Ched Myers

Be sure and look for the new book by the L.A. Catholic Worker's **Jeff Dietrich** (*right*). And check out the great **National Catholic Reporter** review: <http://ncronline.org/news/people/wheat-war-life-poor>. Speaking of books, we are reprinting (for the 8<sup>th</sup> and probably last time) *The Biblical Vision of Sabbath Economics*, which we now sell *only* bundled with the companion volume *Sabbath Economics: Household Practices* (to order go to: [www.chedmyers.org/books/sabbath-economics-booklet-bundle-biblical-vision-sabbath-economics-myers-and-sabbath-economics](http://www.chedmyers.org/books/sabbath-economics-booklet-bundle-biblical-vision-sabbath-economics-myers-and-sabbath-economics)).



In addition to our monthly **BCM webinars**, we're doing an ever increasing amount of our work by Skyping and videoconferencing. Elaine and I did two sessions with a **Seminary Consortium on Urban and Pastoral Education** this month, as well as checking in with far-flung **Word and World** mentees **Tim Nafziger**, **Charleta Erb** and **Bethany Loberg**. We also enjoyed a New Year's visit from Fresno friends **Larry**, **Susan**, **Eli** and **Isaac Dunn**.

Elaine traveled to Elkhart, IN to attend her first meeting of the **Mennonite Church US Racial Healing Task Force**, then went on to do several days of restorative justice work with **Theresa Tensuan** and colleagues at **Haverford College** in Philadelphia. I stayed home to orient our new interns, and we celebrated Martin Luther King week by watching several **Veterans of Hope Project** interviews (check out the amazing testimonies at [www.veteransofhope.org](http://www.veteransofhope.org)). Elaine and I are working with a national collaboration to facilitate a **Kairos** document concerning Palestine; more on that next month. Our friends at the **Abundant Table Farm Project** are going through many changes. We ask you to keep both groups in prayer. Elaine is excited about **Pasadena Peace & Justice Academy's** new campus (see [www.thepeaceacademy.org](http://www.thepeaceacademy.org)), and led a lab on ecojustice. I got to drop by for a Bible study with the kids before going on to give a talk at **Azusa Pacific University**. I'm also excited about working with several colleagues on a "Watershed Discipleship Mapping Project."

We were heartened that **President Obama** rejected the permit for construction of the **Keystone XL pipeline**—though the struggle against it must go on, as the oil companies will keep trying (see the August 2011 issue of the E-News). And we're encouraged that friends at the **Faith and Money Network** are working closely with the mountaintop removal issue, with people from Appalachia visiting DC and relationships growing.

Congratulations to **Don Wagner**, who has been named as the new director of **Friends of Sabeel North America**. And also to proud grand-parents **Myrna and Rick Kidd**. Myrna writes: "We had planned on dropping off food to **Chris** and **Sophie** tonight, wanting to leave them to their settling in after their late arrival home from the hospital, but we got caught up in breast

pumping and serving dinner and holding baby while parents ate. And into their second bite or two, they looked at each other and said. 'We haven't told anyone.' And they looked at us and announced: 'Her name is Gemma Lou.' Rick and I lost our presumptive cool at that point. I was holding Gemma, and probably frightened her with my glee! We cleaned up and floated home on a nice cloud of joy." (Right: Myrna, Rick and Gemma.)



Finally, thanks for the many condolences concerning the passing of Elaine's mother. **Collin Tong** wrote: "Several years ago, I wrote a story about my experience as a caregiver for my wife Linda: <http://seattlepostglobe.org/2009/11/15/my-journey-with-alzheimers-a-caregivers-notebook/>. I have since felt led into more advocacy work on behalf of the Alzheimer's Association and those afflicted with dementia: [www.poststat.net/nadsa/pub.73/issue.1220/article.5078/](http://www.poststat.net/nadsa/pub.73/issue.1220/article.5078/). And I'm about half-way done with my Alzheimer's caregivers book, tentatively entitled *Journeys With Alzheimer's: Profiles In Caregiving*. I hope to have the finished manuscript completed this June."



Hope you like the new look of our E-News. We wish you a Happy New Year.