



BUILDING ON COMMON GROUND

TRANSFORMING LIVES. STRENGTHENING COMMUNITIES.

MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS:

Bethel Temple COGIC
 Canaan Baptist Church
 Catholics for Peace and Justice
 CMPerceptions: A Fine Art Gallery
 Community Baptist Church
 Congregation Beth Jehudah
 Congregation Emanu-El B'Ne
 Jeshurun
 Congregation of Sisters of
 St Agnes
 Core El Centro
 Corinth Baptist Church
 Gesu Parish
 Grace Lutheran Church (LCMS)
 Hanson Dodge Creative
 Hopewell Baptist Church
 Immanuel Presbyterian Church
 Invisible Reality Ministry
 Islamic Society of Milwaukee
 Marquette University
 for Common Ground
 Mt Calvary Church LCMS
 Mt Hermon Baptist Church
 Mt Horeb Baptist Church
 Mount Mary College
 North Shore United Educators
 OK Organization
 Pilgrim United Church of Christ
 Progressive Baptist Church
 Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church
 St Anthony on the Lake
 St Catherine Congregation
 St Francis Cabrini Parish
 St James Episcopal Church
 St Luke's Lutheran Church
 St Mark's Episcopal Church
 St Martin of Tours Parish
 St Michael Parish
 St Paul Episcopal Church
 Tippecanoe Presbyterian Church
 Transformation City Church
 Uniting Garden Homes, Inc.
 UU's United for Social Justice
 Unitarian Universalist
 Church West
 Village Church (ELCA)
 Wauwatosa Presbyterian Church
 WI Nurses and Health
 Professionals

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Layout: Ruth Vonderberg

• TEAM MEETINGS

• EDUCATION

Date: Tuesday, October 11
 Time: 6:30—8:30 pm
 Place: Mt. Mary College
 Stiemke Hall
 Childcare available*

• FORECLOSURES (Milwaukee Rising)

Date: Thursday, October 13
 Time: 7 pm
 Place: St. Catherine's
 51st and Center

• HEALTHCARE

Date: Wednesday, October 19
 Time: 7:30 pm
 Place: St. Mark Episcopal
 2618 N. Hackett

FUTURE EVENT—SAVE THE DATES !!! COMMON GROUND UNIVERSITY

Date: November 1, 8 & 15
 (need to attend all 3 sessions)
 Time: 6—9:00 pm
 with dinner at 5:30 pm
 Place: Mt. Mary College
 RSVP: julie.lange@commongroundwi.org
 to register

HOW TO GET INVOLVED

Common Ground is an organization of organizations. Our members are congregations, businesses, religious groups, unions, schools, non-profits, neighborhood associations and civic groups. As a member organization, you are able to request the time of Common Ground's staff to help work on issues that are of concern to your members. If you're interested in supporting or joining Common Ground, please contact us.

SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN



Keisha Krumm, Lead Organizer
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Kathleen Scott, Associate Organizer
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Julie Lange, Administrative Organizer
julie.lange@commongroundwi.org 414.350.3135

OTHER OCTOBER EVENTS

FALL DELEGATES ASSEMBLY

Date: Tuesday, October 4
 Time: 7—8:30 pm
 Place: Mt. Mary College
 Helfaer Hall
 Parking: in the east parking lot
 off of N. 92nd Street
 (between Center & Burleigh)
 Childcare available*

HOW TO RAISE MONEY FOR ANYTHING WORKSHOP WITH BOB CONNOLLY

Date: Tuesday, October 18
 Time: 7:00—8:30 pm
 Place: Mt. Mary College
 Stiemke Hall
 RSVP: julie.lange@commongroundwi.org
 to register
 Childcare available*

SCHOOLS THAT CAN TOUR

Date:
 Time:
 Place:
 RSVP: julie.lange@commongroundwi.org
 to register

**Reserved childcare available with your
 RSVP —\$5 for two kids, additional \$3
 for more children. RSVP to Julie Lange.*



MILWAUKEE RISING



Rod and I looked at each other and agreed (*doesn't always happen*) that, if we were 20 years younger, we would buy this house!! "This house" refers to 2425 North 46th Street, one of the latest Milwaukee Rising homes to be offered for sale. It's a home

that has been lovingly restored for a family by Common Ground's Milwaukee Rising project, and you have only to tour one of the already completed and on-the-market homes yourself to see what we mean!

But there is more to neighborhood stabilization and community revitalization than rehabbing homes. Enter 180 Properties, one of the three components of CG's Milwaukee Rising project and a joint venture formed by two non-profit organizations, Mercy Housing Lakefront and The Cara Program. Their charge is to provide a holistic approach to neighborhood stabilization and community revitalization with comprehensive property services and a positive community presence! 180 Properties is committed to the communities they serve. They will have contracts with banks to service the banks' foreclosures in a timely manner, with an emphasis on quality and creating a safer and cleaner Milwaukee.

One of the key goals of 180 Properties is to create jobs in Milwaukee neighborhoods. The focus of their recruitment is to hire individuals from communities hardest hit by foreclosure. To that end, Common Ground is looking to partner with a Workforce Development agency in Milwaukee to provide "soft skills" for workers before they lean "hard skills" on the job. Next on the list is locating a building to house 180 Properties' supplies, workers, and trucks. Once all of these parts come together, we will host a 180 Properties launch action. Look for it!

EDUCATION

The more we learn, the more we discover what we do not know. Never has that been truer than with Common Ground's Education Research.

One of the key components of Common Ground's community organizing strategy is to identify and build relationships with significant constituencies in the Education community. But we have discovered we are flying blind without an understanding of where the children of CG members go to school and where members themselves who are employed in educational systems work.

So the Education Team will be conducting a Survey Sunday for the purpose of eliciting the information we

now lack. Watch for announcements about the survey from the CG leaders in your organization.

CG will also be organizing tours of independently-identified quality public, choice, charter, and independent schools in our area to give our leaders a better understanding of what a quality school actually looks like.

NEW MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

If you look for the definition of "urban church" in the dictionary, on the list might well be **Village Church**, (130 East Juneau Avenue, Milwaukee) one of the newest member organizations of Common Ground. Village Church is characterized by its vibrant "can do" approach to the needs



and concerns of its smack-in-the-middle urban neighborhood. It is the home of the Interchange Food Pantry week-in and week-out and celebrates Christmas Eve each year by offering a holiday dinner to the larger community in which the church is located.

Since 1967, Village Church, a part of the Lutheran tradition, has encouraged an atmosphere of honest spiritual inquiry consistent with seeking God through both faith and intellect.

Village Church does not sacrifice its celebration of creativity by focusing solely on social justice, however. Through a wide variety of artistic endeavors — drama, poetry, visual arts, and music — this church community engages in dialogue about the essential human condition, epitomized by personal and intimate literary-based liturgies created by church members and firmly rooted in the church's mission statement. That statement, according to Pastor Gail Rautmann, declares the congregation's intention to explore spirituality through community and the arts. And through its commitment to a more peaceful world. This fall, Village Church will be dedicated formally as a peace site.

Common Ground is honored by the presence of Village Church on its roster of partners for social justice.

DELEGATES' ASSEMBLY

Common Ground is looking for an excellent turnout of member organization leaders at its October 4, 7:00 p.m., Delegates' Assembly at Mount Mary College. Among other items of business, the Friends of Common Ground campaign will be launched.

That evening will also introduce the newest organizational members of Common Ground. One of them, Village Church, is profiled above.

