

## Church in Society Committee Report - 2009

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Many of the Committee's efforts in 2009 served to follow-up the Vital Congregations: Just Communities event we hosted in October 2008. Our goal has been to expand community-organizing efforts throughout the synod.

Active congregation-based organizations already exist in: Lexington, South Bend, Louisville, and Evansville. However, few community-organizations have focused on rural communities.

To learn more about community-organizing in rural areas, several committee members attended CBOSS IV, the ELCA Congregation-Based Organizing Strategic Summit, held in April 2009.

We then hosted a follow-up training session in Evansville, facilitated by Ron Luckey. The goal of the event was to introduce community-organizing to folks from the surrounding rural communities of Knox and Spencer Counties. Efforts to create organizations in both counties are ongoing.

During the year, 2 valued members resigned from the committee for personal reasons. We are grateful to Darlene Scherer for her passion and dedication to peace and justice. And we thank David Smith for his insights and interest in environmental issues. You are missed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cindy Geisen