

## **SEEDS OF CHANGE: HELP FARMERS. END HUNGER.**

*"If you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there' and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you."*

- Matthew 17:20

God calls us to work for justice, both as individuals and as a nation. In a just world, every person has enough to eat.

Ending hunger is possible. This year we can help to make things better for rural communities and farmers, as well as for hungry people throughout the United States and developing countries, by improving U.S. farm policy.

A farm bill was first enacted during the 1930's. While its goals remain important, its policies are no longer meeting today's needs. We must create solutions that strengthen rural communities, broaden our support for U.S. farmers, provide adequate and nutritious food for hungry people in this country, and help farmers in developing countries to support themselves and feed their families.

In 2007, the Farm Bill will be reauthorized, as it is once every five years. Therefore, Bread for the World's **2007 Offering of Letters campaign focuses on making constructive adjustments to the U.S. Farm Bill.** We can use our power as citizens to help create a country and a world in which every person has enough to eat.

***The time to act is now.*** As people of faith, we have an immediate opportunity to work together for justice.

### **Workshop Schedule**

11:30 am	Gathering & Registration
11:40 am	Welcome, Introductions, Invitation
11:50 am	Rural Development & Farming
12:10 pm	The Farm Bill
12:25 pm	View Video
12:40 pm	Coalition Partners: Principles & Goals
12:55 pm	Legislative Targets & The Mustard Seed = Seeds of Change
1:10 pm	How to Organize an Offering of Letters in Your Own Parish
1:30 pm	Blessing & Dismissal



***If you would prefer to attend an Offering of Letters Workshop at an alternate time and location, please check our Web site periodically for other options:***

**<http://ga4.org/Bread/upcoming-events.tcl>**

***Bread for the World is a Christian citizens' movement of 56,000 individual members, churches and campuses. We lobby our nation's decision-makers for public policies that serve the needs of hungry and poor people in the United States and worldwide.***

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### ***What is an Offering of Letters?***

For more than thirty years, Bread for the World members and others have organized letter-writing campaigns (called, "Offerings of Letters") in churches, on campuses, with women's and youth groups, and in other settings. As a result, each year, tens of thousands of people write letters to members of Congress on specific legislation that is important to poor and hungry people.

Letter-writing can occur at tables in a fellowship hall or alongside a college meal line, as part of worship at a church or chapel service, as an opening activity for committee or group meetings, or as a party in an individual's home or dorm room (with pop and pizza, or tea and cookies).

At churches, the letters are often placed in the offering plate and are prayerfully offered to God. This action teaches everyone in the church that letters to Congress are a fit offering to God, and that active citizenship is an integral part of stewardship.

## REGISTRATION FORM

*Seeds of Change: Help Farmers. End Hunger.*

**For receipt by March 6th**, please return the registration form, or e-mail the requested information to:

Carol Burmeister  
1717 Old Wood Road  
Rockford, IL 61107  
[cburmeister@insightbb.com](mailto:cburmeister@insightbb.com)  
Tel: (815) 397-5579

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of your church, campus or organization:  
\_\_\_\_\_

Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Denominational affiliation:  
\_\_\_\_\_

*I cannot attend, but would like to:*

\_\_\_ Organize an Offering of Letters.

\_\_\_ Participate in a local Bread for the World group for education and advocacy.

\_\_\_ Submit an editorial to my local newspaper.

**Cost of the workshop:** Free.

**Lunch:** Please bring a “brown bag” lunch, if you so desire. Bottled water and coffee will be offered without charge.

**Offering of Letters kit** (optional): \$7  
(includes handbook and DVD).

## Directions

### *From I-9():*

Along the eastern perimeter of  
Rockford,  
Exit at U.S. 20 Business/State Street;  
and keep right at the fork in the  
ramp.  
Proceed west on State Street, past  
Rockford College.  
Turn north (right) onto North Alpine.  
Turn east (right) onto Highcrest Road.  
Turn north (left) onto Augustana  
Drive.

*Please attend yourself or ask someone from your church to attend!*

## ***Bread for the World's 2007 Offering of Letters Workshop***



**Wednesday, March 7, 2007  
11:30 A.M. – 1:30 P.M.**

**Speaker:**

*The Rev. Mariah Priggen,  
Regional Organizer for IL, IN, and MO  
Bread for the World, Chicago*

**Gloria Dei Lutheran Church**

4700 Augustana Drive

Rockford, IL 61107

Tel: (815) 399-0202