

Cardijn VEREIN

Newsletter 1 2013

Welcome...

...to the first newsletter of the newly founded *Cardijn* VEREIN!

The Association Executive is committed to working with the members to develop activities which will support our main aims. In this newsletter you will find some important news about upcoming activities and also information about some past events. But most importantly we the Executive would like to hear from you about your needs and interests and about contributions you can make to the work of the Association.

Advance Notice

The *Cardijn* VEREIN invites you to a workshop:

Liberating faith for action!?

Realities and strategies for change...

...toward good work and fullness of life for all!

Linz, Cardijn Haus, 19th – 22nd September 2013

Context

European countries both within and beyond the European Union are suffering from the effects of the continuing 'triumph of failed ideas' which are driving

- deepening inequality and the growth of poverty within and between countries
- the dismantling of welfare systems and the decline of solidarity
- growing unemployment and continued attacks on working conditions

Many local and national groups and movements are engaging with people who are most affected by these developments and working for change in different ways. We see the need to strengthen this work and find new resources.

What does the Workshop aim for?

We invite you to join the workshop in order to:

- ✓ exchange **information and experience** of concrete actions which are being taken in different local and national contexts
- ✓ share **analysis** of the direction national and international economic and political decisions as they affect living and working conditions
- ✓ reflect on **faith, theology and spirituality** as the basis for new and hopeful strategies
- ✓ find new horizons for **hopeful actions** for change and innovation

Out of this process of exchange, analysis and theological reflection we are seeking new ways to act locally, nationally and internationally and to build communication between different active people

Josef *Cardijn* Association for Worker Education

and groups. We also want to work out the consequences for the task of the churches in Europe in the on-going political and economic 'crisis'.

Invitation

In the next few weeks the Executive of the Association will work on the programme and the specific details of the workshop, including logistics and costs. In this process we would like to hear from you with your ideas for inclusion. Please tell us what you could contribute to the workshop from your own experience and knowledge! We would also like to hear what you are expecting from the workshop so that we develop an effective and stimulating programme!

Please reply to:

Tony Addy: tony(at)pro-vocation.org

or

Anna Wall-Strasser: anna.wall-strasser(at)dioezese-linz.at

New Web Site

The Beta (test) version of the new website is now up and running and you can already visit it at:

www.cardijn-verein.org

It is being built with English and German language versions. The web site aims to be a resource for our work and we welcome suggestions for links which can be added and for information about publications and other material which can be useful for our own work. There will be space for news and for a continuing blog for all the members. We hope the website will be a tool for exchanging experience, analysis and theological reflection.

Main Aims of the *Cardijn* VEREIN

- ✓ **To support the development of *liberating and transformative theology* in Europe, with a focus on work and economy**

At a time when unemployment is growing dramatically and working and living conditions are under threat it is essential to develop new theologically and spiritually rooted critiques and encourage visions for the future which inspire and support movement for change

- ✓ **To offer *training for change* for those engaged with local groups and movements in relation to living and working conditions**

The focus of the Association is on methods of working which are rooted in the everyday life of marginalised people and which support their own actions for change as well as on the development of skills for linking up local actions in a wider network

Training Update

One of the main aims of the Association is to promote and organise training both for those working with marginalised groups and communities and for people who are or who wish to become active in working for change. The Association draws on the insights of the training which was previously organised by ECG, which is called CABLE - meaning Community Action Based Learning for Empowerment. This eight nation programme produced an approach to work and learning which has been inspiring urban and industrial mission and church and society work in many contexts. The second source of insight is the based on the tradition founded by Joseph Cardijn, which is well known process 'See - Judge - Act' to which the Linz colleagues have added 'Celebrate'. There are some similarities between these approaches and these will be explored in future training organised by the Association.

New Ways of Working - An International Training Programme for Local Workers

Between November 2011 and March 2012, just as the Association was being founded, an international training programme was organised by members of the ECG (European Contact Group) and of the Industrial Mission in Linz Diocese. The 11 participants were from 7 countries and all regions of Europe were represented. The training also assisted the development of a Linz-based training team as the leadership included two new trainers -Rainer Tüchleberger and Michaela Pröstler-Zopf.

Training for Youth Workers

Starting in autumn 2012 and running until January 2013, a training programme for those working with young people including with young Christian workers (KAJ) in Linz Diocese was organised and eight people participated. The programme followed a short version of the CABLE training including the so-called exposure based approach where the workers had to reflect on their experience of 'being' in a specific context in relation to their biography. This provided valuable experience for the participants and also for the possibilities of running further training in Linz. This programme was led by Tony Addy

Catholic Worker Movement (KAB) and Industrial Mission Training

In spring 2013, a special training the trainers' workshop is being organised to experience and develop the CABLE approach for a group involved in industrial mission and KAB training. This is being led by Edeltraud Artner-Papelitzky. Another short programme is being organised with the leadership and volunteers of KAB and this will concentrate mainly on an 'exposure process'.

Seminar on Liberating Theology in Europe

The Cardijn Verein was launched in the context of a seminar on Liberating Theology in Europe which included inputs on contextual challenges from an Italian perspective (Antonella Visinitin) Britain (Ian Winterbottom) and a Czech perspective (Jiri Silny) as well as a theological analytic input in the tradition of liberation theology from Kuno Füssel (Germany). The inputs were reflected in group work and it was agreed that this seminar should be followed up by the new Association in September 2013.

Membership and organisational information:

If you are not a member of the Association and would like to join - or need more information, please contact the Secretary, Christine Schraml-Koch by email. Please also inform the secretary if you want to be on the mailing list!

Email: chr.schramlkoch(at)gmx.at

Chairperson: Hans Gruber: hans.gruber(at)liwest.at

Treasurer: Traudi Feichtinger feichtit(at)gmail.com

Programme information:

From executive member, Tony Addy

Email: tony(at)pro-vocation.org

The *Cardijn* VEREIN is:

- ✓ **Independent** and invites individuals, churches, ecumenical groups and others in agreement with its aims to join
- ✓ **Ecumenical**, drawing on different sources and keeping the spirit of working for change in the direction of justice, participation and sustainability
- ✓ **International**, networking people and groups across Europe and with other world regions
- ✓ **Committed** to the core ideas of Josef Cardijn, meaning to have an emphasis on human dignity and value and supporting participation in action for change

Office

The Joseph *Cardijn* Association for Worker Education,
Cardijn Haus,
Kapuzinerstrasse 49,
A4020 Linz,
Austria