

Fall Resources from Bartimaeus Cooperative Ministries

I. Action!

We know that you, like we, have been tracking the viral growth around the country and across the world of the “**Occupy**” **protest** against an economic system geared to benefit only the richest 1 %. The most interesting, and in our opinion *strategic*, aspect of this movement has been the “**Move Your Money**” campaign. This tactic urges people to shift their personal assets from corporate banks to credit unions and other community development financial institutions (see for example <http://moveyourmoneyproject.org>). According to

the Credit Union National Association, as of last week, consumers had transferred more than **\$4.5 billion from big banks into more than 7,000 credit unions**. Those numbers then dramatically spiked a week ago on Nov. 5th, “Bank Transfer Day.” It is estimated that **more than a million people** have now “voted” by moving their money (*right, Occupy LA and other groups demonstrate outside*



a Bank of America; photo: Genaro Molina/Los Angeles Times/AP). We hope the corporate banks are paying as much attention as the media (see e.g. www.csmonitor.com/USA/Politics/2011/1107/Bank-Transfer-Day-How-much-impact-did-it-have). And we trust *you* have made this small but important step.

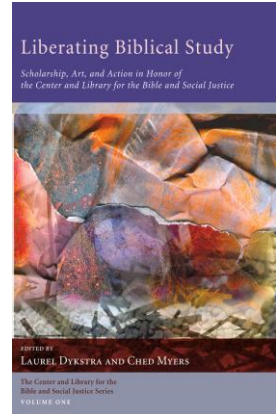


Needless to say, we at BCM are thrilled that the **very strategy we've been promoting for more than five years through our organizing and education** has now caught on in this major movement. So we remind you that our **Sabbath Economics booklets** and our six-part **DVD** series entitled ***From Mammon to Manna: Sabbath Economics and Community Investing*** are the perfect resources for those of you working with churches to become part of this groundswell. These are available (at half price!) from www.chedmyers.org/catalog/sabbath-economics.

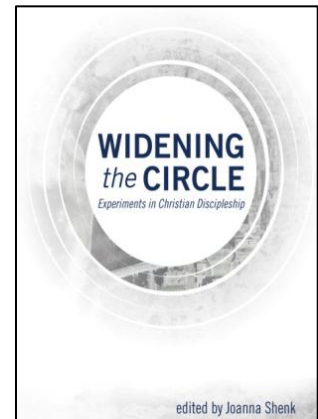
Don't miss the opportunity for action THAT this historical moment provides!!

II. Publications!

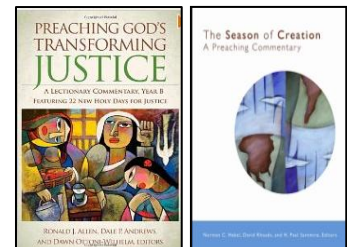
- We remind you that ***Liberating Biblical Study: Scholarship, Art and Action in Honor of the Center and Library for the Bible and Social Justice*** is now available from Wipf & Stock (www.wipfandstock.com) or through www.ChedMyers.org. This anthology, which Ched co-edited with colleague Laurel Dykstra, features Ched's mom's art on the cover! It was published as part of the inauguration of the Center and Library, which had its grand opening last month at Stony Point, NY (for info see <http://clbsj.org>).



- Widening the Circle: Experiments in Christian Discipleship*** is a result of organizing and advocacy Elaine and Ched have been doing with Mennonite Church U.S. It is an anthology edited by Joanna Shenk, with whom we've worked to help connect Mennonites with other "anabaptist-type" movements and communities around North America. Elaine and Ched wrote the Introduction to this collection of stories and reflections that explore the creative tension between discipleship and denomination, tradition and innovation. It is now available from Herald Press: www.MennoMedia.org/WideningTheCircle.



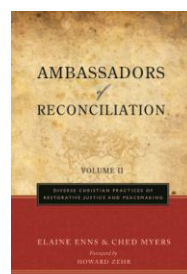
- Two new lectionary commentary series include contributions from Ched. ***Preaching God's Transforming Justice*** focuses on social justice perspectives for Year B (from Westminster John Knox). ***The Season of Creation: A Preaching Commentary*** is an ecological-oriented lectionary resource from Augsburg Fortress.



- Ched's new book, ***Our God is Undocumented: Biblical Faith and Immigrant Justice***, co-authored with BCM colleague Matthew Colwell, will be available from Orbis Books at the beginning of **February, 2012**. We hope this mix of scriptural reflections and profiles of contemporary practitioners (similar to Ched & Elaine's 2009 *Ambassadors* books) will influence how Christians think about immigration policy & practice! Watch for it early next year!



- And speaking of our *Ambassadors of Reconciliation*, check out the **attached enthusiastic review of Volume II** from a recent edition of *Friends Journal*!



III. The February Bartimaeus Institute is Coming Up!



Mon– Fri, Feb 20-24, 2012
“Reading Mark ‘Politically’: A Socio-Literary Approach to the Gospel.”

Ched will lead an intensive training in how to exegete and exposit the Second Gospel throughout Year B for preachers, teachers, and activists. Our approach will, as always, integrate perspectives from “the seminary, the sanctuary and the street.”

Academic and Continuing Education credit is available upon request. For prices, see below. Register early; space is limited! For more information call us at 323-449-5170 or email us at inquiries@bcm-net.org.

(Left: Andrea Mantegna, “St. Mark the Evangelist,” c.1450.)

Special Notice: This Institute will begin a little earlier on the holiday **Monday, Feb 20th** with a special **book party** from 3-5 pm. Participants will join local BCM supporters and friends to celebrate the release of Ched and Matt’s ***Our God is Undocumented***. Both authors will be present, and hopefully one or two of the activists profiled in the book as well.

Institute Prices (registering *before Jan 20, 2012*):

- Single occupancy: \$695 (*pending availability*)
- Double occupancy \$575
- Commuter: \$425
- Scholarship: \$400 *

** Scholarships are for those under 30 only, and are limited in number; local accommodations will be arranged by BCM (recipients must be flexible!)*

