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### **Joint statement by Mennonites and Catholics on Violence**

The Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity and the Mennonite World Conference representatives met in Rome in October 2007 to prepare theological reflections that Mennonites and Catholics, committed to overcoming violence, might affirm together as a witness to peace in the ecumenical context. The document entitled: "A Mennonite and Catholic Contribution to the World Council of Churches' Decade to Overcome Violence," is now available at: <http://www.bridgefolk.net/theology/>.

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### **Statement on Islamic-Catholic Committee meeting, Rome, June, 2008**

The Islamic-Catholic Liaison Committee met in June 2008 to discuss the theme "Christians and Muslims as Witnesses of the God of Justice, of Peace and of Compassion in a World Suffering from Violence". The full statement on the meeting can be found at Zenit.org: <http://www.zenit.org/article-22908?l=english>.

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## **A Vatican View of the Global Food Crisis, June 3, 2008**

Pope Benedict XVI spoke to the World Food Security Summit on June 3. In his message he laid out the moral and macroeconomic principles of the world hunger problem saying that hunger and malnutrition were unacceptable in a world that has sufficient levels of agricultural production and resources. According to the Catholic News Service (CNS) the pope spoke of structural changes needed in the global agricultural economy. Those finer points were examined in a briefing paper produced by the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace. To read the full article go to: <http://www.catholicnews.com/data/stories/cns/0803022>.

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## ***Journal of Catholic Higher Education* seeks articles on Catholic Social Teaching**

The Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities (ACCU) is soliciting articles for a volume of the *Journal of Catholic Higher Education* on Catholic Social Teaching. To read more about the topics and guidelines see <http://www.accunet.org/files/public/callforarticles7-17.pdf>

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## **Conflict Transformation: The International Undergraduate Research Conference**

James Madison University, Harrisonburg, Virginia, USA, will host "Conflict Transformation: The International Undergraduate Research Conference" April 15-16, 2009. Theoretical, critical and/or empirical papers on a broad range of topics for presentation in traditional panel format are invited. Papers must be authored by one or more undergraduate students. Maximum length is 25 pages, double-spaced. Please submit papers, with 100-word abstract, electronically to Dorothy J. Della Noce, Conference Chair, at [dellandj@jmu.edu](mailto:dellandj@jmu.edu) for review no later than Monday, December 1, 2008. Authors will be notified of acceptance via e-mail.

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## **Visiting Professor, University of St. Thomas, St. Paul, MN**

The Justice and Peace Studies program at the University of St. Thomas invites applicants for a one-year Visiting Professor position for the 2008-09 academic year. The position involves teaching and administrative responsibilities. For more information go to: <https://jobs.stthomas.edu/applicants/jsp/shared/frameset/Frameset.jsp?time=1215619850502>.

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## **New Catholic study guide on Torture**

A new Catholic study guide, "Torture is a Moral Issue," is available on the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops website. Written in a lively style, this four chapter guide will stimulate discussion in a wide range of groups. The guide is available at: <http://www.usccb.org/sdwp/stoptorture>

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***Le Pardon En Politique Internationale, William Bole, Drew Christiansen, Robert Hennemeyer***

*Le Pardon En Politique Internationale*, the French translation of *Forgiveness in International Politics* is now available in French speaking, west Africa.

The authors in the book make a case that the core religious value of forgiveness can play a real, strategic role in the arena of international conflict and diplomacy. The French translation is available through: <http://ars-paris.state.gov/NHlibraire.html>

In English: <http://www.usccbpublishing.org/showproducts.cfm?FullCat=147>

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***Peace Weavers: Methodologies of Peace Building in Africa, Elias Omondi Opongo (ed)***

The Peace Weavers initiative is an attempt to develop multiple methodologies of social transformation in Africa at both national and international levels. The editor, Elias Omondi Opongo a Jesuit priest from Kenya, is a peace practitioner committed to mediation, reconciliation and peace-building. (Nairobi: Paulines Publications Africa, 2008). Available at Catholic and selected bookshops in Africa or on line by sending an email to: < [distribution@paulinesafrica.org](mailto:distribution@paulinesafrica.org) >, Paulines Publications [editor@paulinesafrica.org](mailto:editor@paulinesafrica.org) >, [http://www.paulinesafrica.org/catalogue2/peace\\_weavers\\_9966083332.htm](http://www.paulinesafrica.org/catalogue2/peace_weavers_9966083332.htm)

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**If you have information on Catholic peacebuilding initiatives, announcements, opportunities, or calls for papers for our next newsletter**

**please send to [cpn@ND.EDU](mailto:cpn@ND.EDU) for consideration. CPN is dedicated to members informing members about Catholic peacebuilding efforts and initiatives.**

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***The Catholic Peacebuilding Network (CPN) is a voluntary network of practitioners, academics, clergy and laity from around the world which seeks to enhance the study and practice of Catholic peacebuilding, especially at the local level. The CPN aims to deepen bonds of solidarity among Catholic peacebuilders, share and analyze “best practices,” expand the peacebuilding capacity of the Church in areas of conflict, and encourage the further development of a theology of a just peace. While it is a Catholic network, the CPN believes that authentic and effective Catholic peacebuilding involves dialogue and collaboration with those of other religious traditions and all those committed to building a more just and peaceful world.***

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