



Help El Super Grocery Workers; The CLEANest Carwashes in LA!

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Wed, Jul 23, 2014 at 4:40 PM

Supporter Newsletter

July 23, 2014



CLUE-LA *Clergy and Laity United for Economic Justice, Los Angeles*



Meet us at El Super headquarters TOMORROW at 6pm in Paramount!

WHEN: Thurs, July 24 at 6pm

WHERE: Bodega Latina Corp. 14601b,

Lakewood Blvd., Paramount, CA 90723

WHAT: El Super workers take their fight to company headquarters.



Grocery workers at El Super’s seven unionized stores have been working without contracts for over nine months, but the management’s “Last, Best, and Final Offer” was soundly rejected by the workers. None of the contract propositions satisfactorily addressed the problems of insufficient weekly hours (32 is generally the maximum), constantly varying schedules that prevent workers from getting second jobs, and the refusal to give paid sick days— which is a concern both to public health and employee wellness.



In response, CLUE has been walking alongside workers and UFCW at pickets, rallies, and delegations to employers for the past several months. We are proud to continue standing with them tomorrow evening. Both workers and employees need to feel the presence of the religious community, so please join us! For more information, respond to this email or [click here](#).



THIS WEEK: Five-Day Youth Fast for Migrant Children

Seven Los Angeles youth are currently undertaking a water-only fast from Monday morning until Friday afternoon. They will be stationed at Placita Olvera during this time, hosting services and events which will draw public audiences and press coverage to the plight of migrant children from Guatemala, El Salvador, and Honduras. Their action is in response to the politicized and often cruel portrayal of migrant children in both the media and public dialogue, and they proudly display the simple message “Kids Over Politics” on their orange t-shirts. The faith communities at Hollman United Methodist and other area churches have also responded with prayer and community discussion to ground their own dialogue in compassion for the kids.

Get Involved

You and your community are invited to participate in several ways. First and most importantly, you can call Senator Diane Feinstein [San Francisco—(415) 393-0707; Washington, DC--(202) 224-3841] to ask that she (a) provide immediate protection and relief to the children and (b) fully uphold & expand the 2008 Trafficking Victims Protections Reauthorization Act (TVPRA). Secondly, you can express solidarity by praying and/or fasting around this issue, and being willing to explain your participation to others. Finally, you can give your attention and physical presence either this or tomorrow morning for the daily 9am blessing, this evening at 5pm’s religious service, or Friday at noon for the closing ceremony. There will also be opportunities to offer prayers and donations for the children at any of these events.

Join us for the Fasting’s Closing Ceremony

Friday July 25th ~ 12pm ~ Placita Olvera



**Prayer and Fasting
For Migrant Kids from Central America**

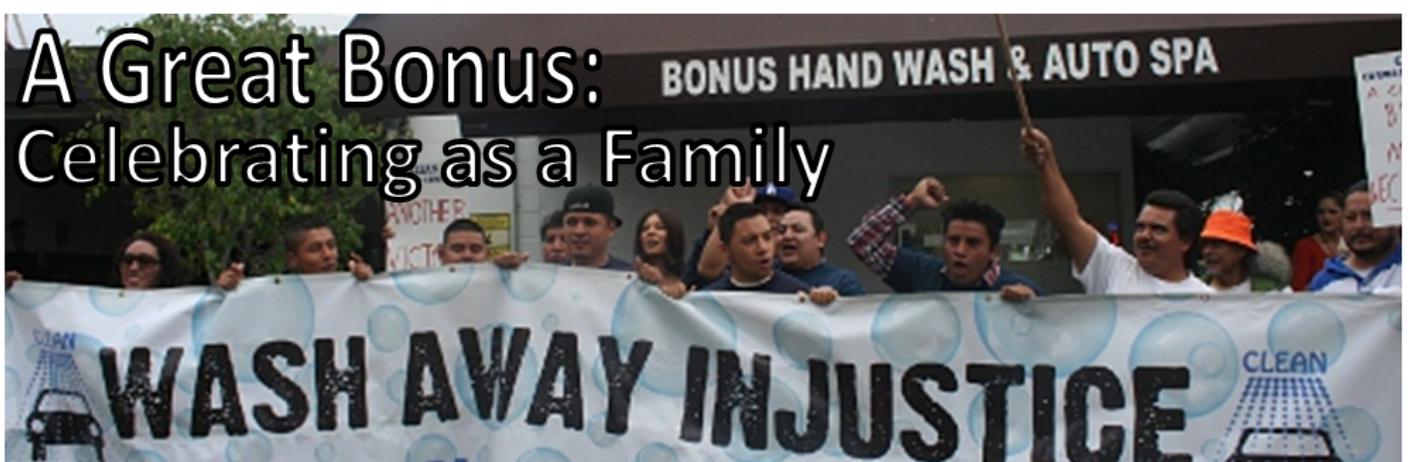


Last Week's Interfaith Breakfast in the San Fernando Valley

Last Tuesday, July 15th, over 20 religious leaders from various traditions convened in the Valley to enjoy a light breakfast and to learn about CLUE-LA campaigns that affect their communities. The CLEAN car wash and El Super grocery store campaigns were central to the discussion, and both carwasheros and El Super employees generously shared their stories and experiences with participants.

Led by organizer Maya Barron and Ziegler Fellow-Organizer Bea Fonseca, this event re-establishes CLUE-LA's presence in the San Fernando Valley. Many of our 'diaspora' leaders look back to our "Big Three" grocery store campaign in 2010, and are excited to return to direct involvement with CLUE-LA. Other participants had the opportunity to learn about our work for the first time, and look toward the future work of CLUE-LA in their area with equal excitement and curiosity.

We expect another gathering of area religious leaders within the next few months, and we would love for you to join us! Contact Bea at bfonseca@cluela.org to be placed on the contact list for this and other regional events.



Two Big Achievements for Our First Union Car Wash

In 2011, Bonus Car Wash in Santa Monica became the first union car wash in the entire country, sparking a movement that now includes over 25 car washes in the Los Angeles and San Diego areas! As we all know, winning an initial contract is just the beginning, and injustices can often return after the high campaign energy wanes. That's why we're thrilled to report that Bonus achieved their second contract last month! The Santa Monica CLUE-LA Committee, the CLEAN car wash campaign, and other community allies brought cake, balloons, and high spirits to celebrate with

workers.

Three weeks later, the City of Santa Monica announced that Bonus Car Wash was given the contract for all City vehicles, making Bonus the official car wash vendor of Santa Monica! This is a momentous victory. It highlights the fact that a business can operate with integrity and be successful. This wash is a beacon of light in a dark industry.

If you live in or around Santa Monica, please consider Bonus the next time your car needs a bath. The wash is located at 2800 Lincoln Blvd, Santa Monica, CA 90405. Also be sure to check out CLEAN car wash campaign's [list of union and boycott car washes](#) to wash responsibly wherever you are!

This Summer continues to bring amazing opportunities for all of us to contribute to a 'more just and sacred society'. It is a critical time on many fronts, and we need to continue building momentum and engaging communities in their own locales and areas of expertise. That's why we'd love to get you plugged in to a campaign in you area! Please respond to this email, or visit our [website](#) or [Facebook page](#), to contact us about getting involved. Our work would not be possible without your practical, financial, and moral support, and we thank you for being a part of the progress toward economic justice in Los Angeles.



Rabbi Jonathan Klein
Executive Director



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