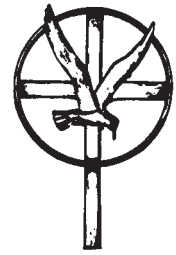


Sharing, Inc.

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Dear Sharing Friend,

"Love is living our very essence one heartbeat at a time together"

I believe this. I believe that each one of us is a part of everything that is, "a constituent part of this universe". My awareness of this connection/communion varies of course. One most powerful illustration stands out in my memory, my first Good Friday Walk in 1972. Although I was physically alone most of that day I had never felt so un-alone in my life. I felt the presence of those thirty others who were walking somewhere ahead of me. I felt the presence of those people of the North Bolivar County Farm Co-op I had yet to meet. And in a most powerful way I felt the presence of Jesus and his walk to Calvary's hill.

The following month I made my first visit to Mound Bayou Mississippi. I stayed just one night at a motel in nearby Cleveland. As I wrote in my journal that night I held my treasured Cursillo cross in my hand. When I returned home, inexplicably, my cross was nowhere to be found. The motel didn't find it either. Eventually I came to believe the symbolism of that loss to be that my faith journey was somehow going to be connected to that place and to its people. Now, forty-one years later, THAT IS SO TRUE.

Over the years many individuals have expressed similar sentiments about their Walk experience. A first-time walker in 2001 expressed it this way.

"I wish to tell you again how I appreciated the opportunity to participate in the Good Friday Walk. I was expecting to experience a spiritual encounter, and of course that happened. But there was more. I felt so connected to everyone who walked or contributed in some way. I was welcomed into a very unique circle, an inviting circle, a circle that said we are one in the spirit. I don't know why I have missed this for thirty years but I am thankful I have it now."

Sharing came into being and exists today to support groups that are having a positive influence on African American children living in economically poor families in the rural south. At least 94% of sponsors' money goes to such groups.

On Good Friday, April 18th, I will walk for the 43rd time. How far I walk will not matter. How fast I walk will not matter. **What will matter** is that my physical efforts will make a connection/communion between my faith and the reality of suffering caused by the dual oppressions of racism and economic poverty, and will ameliorate some of their effects.

Walking symbolizes my belief that social justice is fundamental to my faith, a belief rooted in the way Jesus lived.

Christmas Blessings

Thanks to a generosity of time, talent, and treasure Sharing was able to send the following gifts to children in Alabama and Louisiana.

- 240 beautifully dressed Black dolls
- 112 gorgeous baby blankets, beautifully boxed
- 79 basketballs and 18 small balls

Shalom,

Kay Doherty