



NewsNotes

July 2022

Greetings!

Happy July!

I hope the stories herein do not ruin a holiday weekend for those celebrating in the US. My own desire to celebrate the nation's independence is diluted by the recent spate of radically conservative rulings by the Supreme Court which according to the musings of the justices will be the start of even more limitation of freedoms in the future. The most recent ruling which greatly reduces the power of the government to regulate pollution will be disastrous not only to the US but for the world.

In some ways the abortion debate has been a cover-up for the radically pro-business agendas of the recently appointed Republican justices. This agenda did not appear overnight. Their rulings that corporations were persons and that there was little or no limit to be placed on political contributions opens the way for the wealthiest to buy the government and control its functions or lack thereof.

In the story of the Maasai people below we see again on a different continent the abusive power of money. And alternatively we see the UN having to resort to a "go fund me page" to avert an impending environmental disaster.

I was disturbed at the UN Oceans Conference to hear so many speakers address the need and desire for a "blue" economy as a reason for caring for the oceans. No! The oceans are a gift of God, "the Seas are Sacred" to the planet and should be to us. Can't we restore their health before we plot ways to plunder them again? Thank you, Blair Nelsen for your public witness to that truth in Lisbon.

Something must be done to reverse the growing wealth of the wealthy and the poverty of the poorest.

It was Archbishop Tutu who once said that as a Christian he was "a prisoner of hope." I know I cling to that hope and have tried in the stories below to offer one thing we can do to act for justice.

Peace and all good,

Frank

Frank McCann
Peace through Justice Facilitator
Congregation's NGO Representative to the UN



UN Oceans Conference in Lisbon is underway

