

SUMMARY OF VOTFSBA ACTIVITIES

July 2008 – August 2009

EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

October 6, 2008 - Meeting to discuss the first four chapters of Fr. Hans Küng's book, *Why I Am Still a Christian*, in preparation for his upcoming talk.

October 28, 2008 - Meeting to discuss the remaining chapters of *Why I Am Still a Christian*.

November 17, 2008 - VOTFSBA organizes carpooling to UCSB to hear Fr. Hans Küng speak on "Global Ethics and The World's Religions."

November 18, 2008 - VOTFSBA members attend a panel discussion at UCSB featuring Fr. Küng and members of the UCSB faculty on "Religion, Globalization, and the Public Sphere: Paths to Dialogue or Confrontation?"

April 2, 2009 - Sr. Joan Chittister speaks on "Spirituality and Culture" at the Marjorie Luke Theatre. VOTFSBA assists the sponsor--UCSB's Walter H. Capps Center--in publicizing her talk.

June 1, 2009 - Potluck gathering and viewing of Sr. Joan Chittister's video entitled "The Spirituality of Struggle."

August 9, 2009 – Talk by Vicki Schmidt, Executive Director of Theresians International, on "Pathways to Healing: A Journey from Darkness to Light."

January - May 2009 - A series of talks by six speakers representing Progressive Religious Voices, sponsored by the Walter H. Capps Center and publicized and attended by VOTFSBA members.

LOCAL OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

2008-09 - Kathleen Strittmatter serves as VOTFSBA liaison to the ongoing Solidarity Project, a group working to create a memorial on the Franciscan property to acknowledge and honor all those hurt by the sexual abuse crisis there. (See attached document or visit www.mysafenet.org)

2008-09 - Thomas Heck continues to update the VOTFSBA website calendar with news of events of potential interest to the Catholic community in the Santa Barbara area (www.votfsba.org/calendar).

STATE & NATIONAL OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

The Steering Committee continues to monitor the VOTF National website and daily online newsbriefs, as well as developments in the sexual abuse settlements in LA and elsewhere in California, among other issues. The Committee continues to interact online with the leadership of VOTF affiliates in LA and the Bay Area, and on the national VOTF affiliate's listserv.