

1995 Review

By Dick Heim, CAC Board of Directors' President



One year ago the board of directors and staff of the Center for Action and Contemplation hosted a dinner and farewell liturgy for Fr. Richard Rohr, our founder and leader. I was chosen by the board to succeed Richard as president of the Center. I must confess that the challenge of following our charismatic, prophetic and internationally renowned speaker and writer caused me no small amount of anxiety. I experienced what I suspect the apostles and disciples must have felt between Ascension Thursday and Pentecost Sunday.

But through the guidance of the Holy Spirit and thanks to our dedicated, competent and hard-working co-directors and staff; our patient, supportive and visionary board of directors; and especially to our many friends, volunteers, benefactors, interns and program participants, the CAC continues to be alive and well.

During 1995, our activities included:

- Four six-week internships, one mini-internship program and a special three-week program for a group from East Germany,
- Thirteen retreats, workshops and special programs,
- Ten monthly evening programs in our *Kairos: A Time to Reconstruct* series,
- A CAC board-staff retreat as part of the on-going strategic planning process,
- Ten off-site retreats, workshops, and conference exhibits conducted by CAC staff members,
- A successful year-end mail solicitation for needed funds.

A very significant event was Richard Rohr's return to Albuquerque following his discernment retreat. Although by his choice he no longer is involved in the direct governance of the Center, he is, thank God, available to us for counsel and for occasional liturgical celebrations. Very importantly, he will lead the CAC's Family Peace and Justice Conference and two men's retreats in 1996.

As we begin a new year, we look forward to another exciting round of internships, retreats, programs, workshops, liturgies and special events. The entire 1996 schedule was included as an insert in the December 1995-January 1996 issue of *Radical Grace*. Should you wish another complimentary copy, please write to CAC, P.O. Box 12464, Albuquerque, NM 87195 or telephone the Center at 505-242-9588.

During the November board-staff retreat we reviewed and evaluated the CAC's activities of the past year. We acknowledged our strengths and weaknesses, our successful and not-so-successful ventures. But most importantly, we reaffirmed and recommitted ourselves to the CAC's Vision, Philosophy, Beliefs and Mission. 1995 was a very busy and at times hectic year for the staff and the board. We recognized that both individually and as a group we had to strive to live our name: The Center for Action and Contemplation, to balance our "Martha" actions with Mary's contemplation at the feet of our Lord.

The CAC community, of course, is much greater than the board of directors, staff and program leaders. Interns, program and liturgy participants, benefactors, volunteers, subscribers to and readers of *Radical Grace*—all are part of the CAC family. As such, the board and staff welcome and depend upon your comments, suggestions and, very importantly, your criticism as all of us together continue to live "as a faith alternative to the dominant consciousness, offering hope, inspiration and challenge to a despairing world."

Formerly the Cabinet Secretary for New Mexico's Human Services Department, Dick Heim has long been involved in and supportive of the CAC. He has been on the board since 1991.

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

[Return to Section B](#)

Cr

A Pra

magnit
Nothin
of sayi
beyon
No sta
No pra
No co
No pa
No pr
missio
No se
every
This is
We pl
We w
that th
We lay
devel
We pr
our ca
We ca
sense
enabl
very v
begin
oppo
do th
We r
the d
and t
We a
minis
We a