



# The Armchair Advocate

Brought to you by the Coalition of Religious Communities  
A Multi-Faith Response to Poverty  
October 2006

347 South 400 East  
Salt Lake City, UT 84111  
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## CORC holds press conference, links Zion's Bank to Payday Lender

On October 9th, several members of the Coalition of Religious Communities gathered at the Zion's Bank on Redwood Road and 5400 South to reveal that Zion's Bank is providing funding for the largest payday lending company in the state - Check City. CORC researchers discovered this link some time ago and set up the press conference at this particular Zion's Bank because it is right across the street from one of the many Check City locations throughout the state. The press conference received good media coverage, with several articles published in local newspapers and two television news stations present at the event.

## Speak Up!

At the recent Utah Issues Poverty Conference House Speaker Greg Curtis spoke about the importance of continuing to work to remove the sales tax from food. Members of CORC are urged to email Speaker Curtis and thank him for his leadership in getting the first 1/3 of sales tax on food removed. Also, mention that you would like to see the rest of the state portion of sales tax on food removed this next session. Greg Curtis' email is: [gcurtis@utah.gov](mailto:gcurtis@utah.gov)

## Make Your Voice Heard!

The 2006 General Election is quickly approaching. Here are some dates you should be aware of. All dates are effective statewide.

Oct. 23 - Last day to register to vote in County Clerk's Office statewide.

Oct. 23 - Early Voting begins

Nov. 3 - Early Voting Ends

Nov. 6 - Last Day to mail absentee ballot

Nov. 7 - General Election Day

# VOTE!

## CORC Receives Recognition

At this year's Utah Issues Poverty Conference CORC received the Community Caring and Commitment award for its part in helping to get a portion of the Sales Tax on Food eliminated. Below, Linda Hilton is pictured accepting the award on CORC's behalf.



## National Payday Loan Legislation Passed

Early in the month of October, the U. S. Congress passed a bill that, among other things, limit's payday loan interest for military personnel to 36%. This bill both preempts any state rates that are higher than 36% and permits states to set lower rates or provide stronger protections.

The bill passed through both the U.S House of Representatives and the Senate. It is now being reviewed by all branches of the military for language and corrections. The bill will go into effect on July , 2007 at the very earliest. More than likely the law will not be effective until ninety days later.

## CORC Candidate Events a Success!

The two CORC Candidate Meet and Greets that were held over the last month were very successful. Candidate comparisons can be viewed online at:

[www.crossroads-u-c.org/CORCFactsheets/Candidcom.htm](http://www.crossroads-u-c.org/CORCFactsheets/Candidcom.htm)



## CORC Five Questions

(okay, four questions and one imperative sentence.)

**Art Sutherland,  
Sandy,  
Zion Lutheran  
Church**



### 1. Describe your life in three sentences or fewer.

I feel that my life has been blessed with many things, but with the occasional peaks and valleys that everyone experiences. Any more elaborate description would require several pages.

### 2. If you could meet someone famous, from the past or present (or future if you can see that far), who would it be and why?

I would like to meet Winston Churchill. He stood strong when things seemed darkest.

### 3. What draws you to CORC?

Entering retirement, I want to make the contributions to society that a busy work life and raising two accomplished daughters did not permit. Since, as I told Linda, "golf is not an option," CORC, on the other hand, seems to be a good choice.

### 4. What is your favorite food?

My favorite food is almost anything but fish. I spent the first 17 summers of my life living at a beach and I had a close acquaintance with most sea creatures when they were alive. That makes it difficult to get them past my eyes. At least ground beef doesn't look like a cow.

### 5. What is your favorite thing to do in the Salt Lake Area?

I used to like to hike. Now I like attending the free Utah Symphony concerts at the Sandy Amphitheater.

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## Next CORC Meeting

Nov.16  
8:30 a.m. in Salt Lake City  
St. Paul's Episcopal Church  
261 South 900 East  
Coffee and breakfast treats

Nov. 16  
11:45 a.m. in Ogden  
Ogden United Church of Christ  
3350 Harrison Blvd.  
Drinks and dessert provided