

# ARMCHAIR ADVOCATE

The Newsletter for the  
Coalition of Religious Communities

June 2007



## Federal Minimum Wage Increased!

On May 25, 2007 President Bush signed a bill that raises the federal minimum wage level to \$7.25 an hour. This increase comes after almost ten years of the minimum wage being \$5.15 an hour, the longest stretch the wage floor has stayed stagnant since the minimum wage laws were first adopted in 1938.

This increase means that a person who is working full time (40 hrs a week) for a company that pays minimum wage will get a significant increase in yearly income - \$10,700 a year (5.15 wages) to just over \$15,000 a year with the \$7.25 rate.

Utah is one of several states that does not have a state minimum wage level, which means that workers in Utah depend on the federal government to insure they receive just wages. For several years CORC has advocated for raising the minimum wage to a living wage. This increase is a positive step in that direction.

## SAVE THE DATE!

### 4th Annual People's Summit on Poverty

September 15  
10 am to 2 pm  
Horizonte School  
1234 South Main St.  
Salt Lake City, UT

## Utah Poverty Partnership Summer Barbecue

Wednesday, July 18  
6 pm to 8 pm  
Liberty Park

Talk to candidates for elected office about social justice issues and meet people who care about these issues from other organizations working to make Utah a better place.

Free and open to all interested people.

### Salt Lake City

**NO JULY MEETING**  
St. Paul's Episcopal Church  
261 South 900 East  
Second Level Meeting Room

### **Next Meeting**

### Ogden

Thursday, July 19???  
Ogden United Church of Christ  
3350 Harrison Blvd  
Cottage Meeting Room

