

After years of marches, prayers, strikes and talks, CFLC cheers Justice for Janitors' Indianapolis victory!

Janitors reach tentative agreement for historic city-wide contract



Charese Jordan, Interfaith Worker Justice, Rev. Darren Cushman Wood, his daughter and Fr. Tom Fox, St. Lawrence Catholic Church lead march to Wellpoint.

There from the beginning... June 15, 2004, Community, Faith and Labor Coalition kicked off the Indianapolis Justice for Janitors, JfJ, campaign at North United Methodist Church, showing the film *Bread and Roses* depicting the LA janitors' fight to unionize. That was the first public event where local janitors talked about injustices at their workplaces.

CFLC members adopted a building, sang justice carols (got banned from the National City Building for a year), made janitor valentines for office workers outside "our" building, mobilized support at forums and meetings across the city. We even provided dinner for janitors after a rally.

In June '05 over 70 people attended a CFLC Prayer Breakfast where United Methodist Rev. Darren Cushman Woods spoke about his book, *Blue Collar Jesus* and local janitors talked about lack of healthcare. As the event ended, attendees marched with janitors to Wellpoint, a major healthcare insurer. The Central Indiana Labor Council, an organizational member of CFLC, arranged a meeting with company representatives. A delegation of CFLC, faith and labor leaders, janitors and their union organizer, Becky Maran, asked Wellpoint to urge cleaning contractor, GSF, to talk to union organizers and require building managers to hire responsible contractors. Wellpoint's positive response was the campaign's **first major breakthrough**.

Thank you, CFLC members. Your continued support for this important campaign speaks directly to acting out our mission of social and economic justice for working people. From day one, you supported JfJ actions downtown, on the north side, in the streets, churches and in boardrooms. Several of us attended the final march to Eli Lilly the day before negotiations resumed. As usual, it was lively, loud and prayerful. **We congratulate the courageous janitors and SEIU Local 3 organizers and are proud to be small part of an important movement - making Indianapolis a better place to work from the bottom up!**

For more details on the new janitors' contract: <http://www.threecitiesonefuture.org/>

Nancy Holle, President
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An affiliate of Interfaith Worker Justice

