

# Christian citizens' lobby fights hunger, social cuts

By Tom Gronke  
Of the Emerald

U.S. international and domestic policy affects world hunger and poverty, says Amy Clark, a campus chapter member of Bread For the World, a Christian citizens' lobby fighting world hunger.

Bread For the World works to fight world hunger, although some of its research argues that U.S. policies aggravate Third-World arms races and world hunger by forcing developing nations to spend more money on arms and less on agricultural development, Clark says.

Domestically, the national organization has lobbied against Pres. Ronald Reagan's cuts in social programs like food stamps, claiming the cuts aggravate domestic poverty.

Such cuts, along with the axing of unemployment benefits, are responsible for some of the increased local need for relief, says Clark, one of the founders of the local chapter that started in January.

Bread for the World is lobbying for legislation to restore funds for social programs, she says.

"We're seeing people in trouble who've never been unemployed before — middle-class families who've never gone on relief," Clark says.

Local chapters support national lobbying efforts through monthly mailings and phone calls to representatives. But hunger in the community is also a concern, Clark says.

During the past three months, local speakers sponsored by the campus chapter have detailed the extent of local poverty. The campus chapter decided to alleviate the Lane County situation, Clark says.

"We filled the backs of two Toyota liftbacks last week with donations from Albertson's," she says. "We're going to pick up donations from Mayfair supermarket this week."

The group will continue to help FISH, a local hunger relief program, throughout the summer, Clark says. Food donations collected by Bread For the World are needed because community donations for FISH decline after the holidays when relief demand increases, she says.

With twelve current members, the group meets twice a month for organization and prayer, although the religious activities are separate from the hunger activities. The chapter meets every other Friday at 4 p.m. in the Koinonia Center.

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## Symposium set for journalists

The eighth annual Ruhl Symposium, a journalism seminar that runs throughout today, features addresses by William Rusher, National Review publisher, Seymour Hersh, a former New York Times reporter, and Lowell Bergman, ABC News investigations coordinator.

Rusher will give the keynote address, titled "The News Council: Its Promise and Problems" at 9:30 a.m. in the EMU Ballroom.

Bergman will speak at 12:15 p.m. in the EMU Dad's Room.

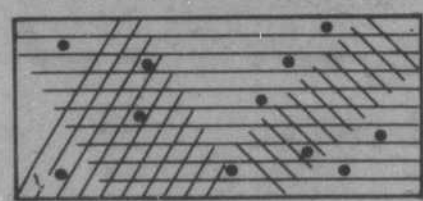
Hersh will deliver the Ruhl Lecture on the press and foreign policy at 8:15 p.m. in the EMU Ballroom.

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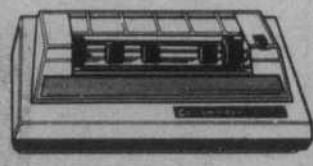
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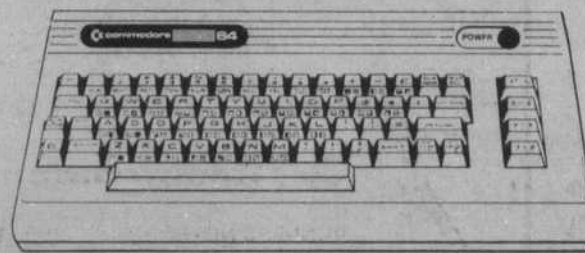
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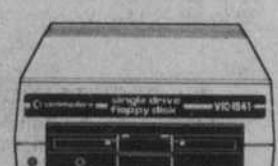
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