**The Media Consortium 2017 Conference**

**March 2, afternoon circle.**

**Topic:** What are the obstacles and opportunities for progressive media to connect with faith-based groups that work with social movements.

**Facilitator:** Dennis Coday, Editor – National Catholic Reporter.

**Participant:** Karen Kimball, Schumann Media Fund.

**Notetaker:** Fran Korten, YES! Magazine

**Key takeaways**

At the local level, faith based groups are often leading the charge on issues of importance to progressive media: Examples include:

* Incarceration and the helping ex-convicts transition into life outside the prison
* Death penalty. By the way, Sister Prejean right now is in Kansas for the opening of an opera interpretation of Dead Man Walking
* Immigration and sanctuary. E.g. Archbiship of Chicago has just ordered pastors and heads of schools not to open doors to immigration officials; Karen noted in Nuremberg Germany, refuges are being housed in empty convents and monestaries.
* Anti-violence in neighborhoods.
* Other possibilities – net neutrality; GMO’s.
* People’s movements: Dennis told of the National Catholic Reporter being attacked by Brieitbart new and the Drudge Report because of their story on Bishop of San Diego who talked about organizing a people’s movement. Trump the candidate of disruption. We the people must become the disrupters.

An obstacle is when a group is written off because of progressive media may disagree on one particular issue, such as abortion and reproductive health.