

CROP Walk

The date for this annual event is on different Sundays throughout October. Check online to learn more about your own community's plans:

http://hunger.cwsglobal.org/site/PageServer?pagename=chw14s_aboutchw

What is a CROP Hunger Walk?

From the official CROP Walk website: It's the original charitable walking event in the U.S. End hunger locally and abroad by [walking with us](#).

And where did they come from?

CROP Hunger Walks are community-wide events sponsored by [Church World Service](#) and organized by local congregations or groups to raise funds to end hunger at home and around the world. With its inception in 1969, CROP Hunger Walks are "viewed by many as the granddaddy of charity walks," notes the [Los Angeles Times](#) (Oct. 26, 2009).

On October 17, 1969, a thousand people in Bismarck, ND, walked in what may have been the start of the hunger walks related to CROP and raised \$25,000 to help stop hunger. As far as we know, York County, Penn., was the first walk officially called the CROP Walk for the Hungry and that event has been continuous since 1970. Several other CROP Hunger Walks occurred soon thereafter, and before long there were hundreds of Walks each year in communities nationwide.

Currently, well over 2,000 communities across the U.S. join in more than 1,600 CROP Hunger Walks each year. More than five million CROP Hunger Walkers have participated in more than 36,000 CROP Hunger Walks in the last two decades alone.

Within the Circle of Faith community, we have blogged about it:

Blog #54 Christian Scientists and the Church World Service (CWS)

Before the recent restructuring of the National Council of Churches, CWS worked in partnership with NCC. Shirley wrote about her visit to the director of CWS, learning the history of CWS and its Christian purpose.

The "[CROP Hunger Walks](#)" is one of the programs designed for local response to both local and distant areas of need.

A number of Christian Science branch churches around the US have participated in these ecumenical activities for several years. We hope you will share your stories again on this blog. If you told it before, you may realize we had to erase all comments when we switched to the new website format. We are so sorry to miss your story, and we would love to hear them again, if you wouldn't mind re-writing them here!

Blog #42. Ecumenical Way of dealing with Hunger: CROP Hunger Walks

<http://christianscience.com/community/circle-of-faith/blog/42.-ecumenical-way-of-dealing-with-hunger-crop-hunger-walks/%28language%29/eng-US>

This blog tells of Shirley's branch church's first time participating in the local CROP Walk. In part, it reads:

Several years ago, when my church first participated in our local CROP Hunger Walk, we committed ourselves as a church to praying for those who are hungry all over the world. We held a prayer-meeting devoted to this subject, trusting our prayers to be effective and to guide us to fruitful activity. Our Sunday School classes came together one Sunday after church, to share their prayers and activities in support of caring for the hungry. I remember being quite touched by the pictures the kids had drawn, expressing their compassion and support for people around the world who needed them. Also, one of our church members is a poet who used her skills to help the kids write some poetry, expressing their prayers.