

## rally & prayer vigil saturday, march 12 12pm

outside yum! brands offices 1441 gardiner lane - louisville, ky

## actor and activist martin sheen comes to louisville...

...to join florida tomato pickers and thousands of their supporters in calling on yum! brands, the world's largest fast food corporation, to take responsibility for the sweatshop-like conditions in their supply chain.

armworkers who pick tomatoes for Taco Bell and Yum! Brands work in sweatshop conditions, earning 40-45 cents for every 32 lb. bucket they pick - a wage that has remained essentially the same for over 25 years. At this rate, they must pick and haul 2 tons of tomatoes to earn \$50 in one day. They receive no benefits, are denied, by law, the right to form a union, and often have to work overtime with no overtime pay. According to the Department of Labor, farmworkers earn a median income of \$7,500 per year.

In 2001, the Coalition of Immokalee Workers (CIW), a Florida-based farmworker organization, launched a national boycott of Taco Bell, calling on the fast food company to take responsibility for the human rights abuses in its supply chain. To date, Taco Bell and Yum! Brands (owner of Taco Bell, Pizza Hut, Kentucky Fried Chicken, Long John Silver's and A&W Restaurants) have yet to take concrete steps to ensure that

the tomatoes they use in their products are free of sweatshop labor.

The Taco Bell boycott has been endorsed by national religious bodies including the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), United Methodist Church, United Church of Christ, Unitarian Universalist Service Committee, Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), American Friends Service Committee, Alliance of Baptists, Pax Christi USA, and the National Council of Churches of Christ (in the U.S.A.), whose membership comprises 36 Protestant and Orthodox communions, representing over 50 million Christians in the United States.

The boycott is also supported by Bishop John J. Nevins of the Catholic Diocese of Venice (FL). National Farm Worker Ministry, the Episcopal Migrant Ministry, Agricultural Missions, Church Women United, as well as many regional and local religious bodies.



