NO WALLS.....INSTEAD MAKE CONNECTIONS

[script for introductory skit to introduce Global Connections Ministry at 2004 South-Central Synod assembly; part of the Bishop's report, Friday afternoon]

We'll be introduced by the Bishop. We have four minutes for our "report." #1 will come to the platform; #2 will go to a middle microphone on the floor of the assembly.

Team members will begin to "build the wall" [unrolling, stretching black garbage bags to form a wall around a pre-determined section of the assembly. No words will be spoken for a few seconds. Then

#1: WALLS... WALLS divide people from people, shutting off exchange, restricting activity, excluding the different. WALLS are symptomatic of distrust, fear, ignorance, superiority.....causing anxiety, anger and diminished hope in those enclosed. WALLS suppress creativity and limit exchange. We are all impoverished.

WALLS are built by default or design, by political will, by economic or social status, by race or gender, by those with long-standing traditions, by turf wars for power or control.

- #2: NO WALLS! Tear down the walls of misunderstanding and self-centeredness.#3 Let us learn about our eco-systems and care for creation!
- #2: Take away patterns of paternalism and superiority.#4 Help us to listen to and learn to walk together as companions!
- #2 Break down the walls of dictatorial governments.#5 Empower us to share resources for health, for cure and prevention!
- #2 Pull down the walls of hatred and injustice!
 #6 Inspire us to be human rights advocates for the poor, the powerless and disenfranchised....writing to governmental leaders on issues of water....
- #2 Halt all efforts to suppress, control and destroy.
 #7 We pray for a spirit of forgiveness, to honor the other, to establish justice, to begin afresh in a homeland united for Palestine and Israeli.
- #2 Break loose the tentacles of power; tear down the walls of war.#8 Build bridges of peace, turning sword and spear to plowshare!
- #2 Stop world hunger.#9 Take seriously root causes for hunger and poverty. Develop and facilitate ways for sustainable development!
- #1 We are your **GLOBAL CONNECTIONS MINISTRY TEAM**, together seeking ways to tear down walls of oppression and injustice, making CONNECTIONS around the world to make Christ known!