

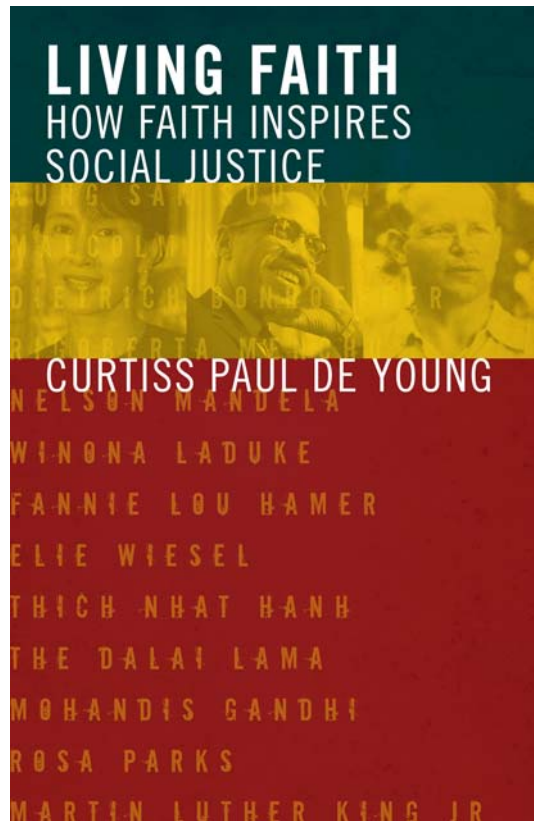
Living Faith

How Faith Inspires Social Justice

 **FORTRESS PRESS**
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Curtiss Paul De Young

The impulse toward and of reconciliation



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SELLING POINTS

- Portraits of three of the most important and effective activists of the last 60 years
- Explores the connection between contemplation and action

What impels a Mohandas Gandhi or a Martin Luther King, Jr.? How does religious experience animate a lifetime of dedication and drive for social justice?

In this instructive and inspiring account, Christian ethicist Curtiss de Young profiles three of the most dynamic and influential religious activists of the twentieth century: Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Malcolm X, and Aung San Suu Kyi—each from a different generation, a different faith community, and a different continent. His portraits show how their mystic faith drove them to justice commitments and beyond customary boundaries between people from other traditions, countries, and ways of life.

Living Faith is more than a set of inspiring portraits. It also powerfully analyzes how these figures—along with such other luminaries as Rigoberta Menchú, Nelson Mandela, Winona LaDuke, Fannie Lou Hamer, Elie Wiesel, Thich Nhat Hanh, and the Dalai Lama—shared a fiery core experience and common characteristics that empowered their lives and work. In each, de Young shows, there is a wordless experience beyond religious and social categories. Mystic faith, he argues, grounds a distinctive way of being, overpowers division, and models reconciliation for our torn and conflicted new century.

Curtiss Paul De Young is Professor of Reconciliation Studies at Bethel University in St. Paul, Minnesota. A well-known advocate and activist, he has led non-profit agencies in New York City, Washington D.C., and Minneapolis, Minnesota. He has written and presented extensively on social-justice strategies, especially reconciliation, in *United by Faith* (2003, Oxford) and *Beyond Reconciliation: Reconciliation as a Way of Life* (2000, Judson Press).