"The Haves and the Have-Nots" Activity Guide
Otherwise known as "The World as 25 People"

Goal of this Activity – to consider together what the response to climate change should be for a Christian community, given the inequitable distribution of wealth and consumption in the world, and Christian teaching.

Activity Duration - ~45 min to an hour

Activity Preparation (before the day of the activity):

1. Assemble the materials needed for the activity, including a large bag of 100 chocolate kisses, 44 peanuts in their shells, 50 candy fireballs (or novelty Barrels of Monkeys), and 39 balloons (helium is best). Divide the resources as indicated on the *Regional Distribution Data Table* and put in small plastic bags – label each bag with the appropriate region name (for example, "Africa") with magic marker.
2. Print out the two sided region descriptions (text on one side, with name of region in large print, and flags on the other). It is nice to have them laminated, if possible, because it's easier to reuse that way.
3. You may want to print out the "*World As 20 People Regions*" document for participants to refer to during the activity, and to take home as food for thought after the event.

Activity Description for the day of the activity:

Before the group arrives, set out prepared resources as indicated on the *Regional Distribution Data Table* in 6 different areas of the room, so that everyone will be able to see what the others have and hear each other. For example, for North America, place the resources representing annual per capita consumption and emission close together in one area – a bag with 56 chocolate kisses (annual GDP), 9 peanuts (food calories), 26 Fireballs (or barrels of monkeys – 52 barrels of oil consumed annually), and 20 black balloons (annual per capita emission of CO_2). Place the two-sided description of North America, with the flags on the other side, next to these resources to identify which region this represents. Do the same for each of the other regions – Latin America, Africa, Europe, Asia (excluding China) and China.

1. Count the total number of people you have in your group (this activity works best for group sizes of 20 – 40), and determine which "class" size in the *Regional Distribution Data Table* best approximates your group.

2. Divide the group into 6 subgroups, with the numbers of individuals in each subgroup approximately equal to those specified in the *Regional Distribution Data Table* under the column "# students" for your specific group size. For

example, if you have 25 participants, you will want to have 2 represent Latin America and 10 represent Asia (excluding China).

3. Once everyone is comfortably settled in their groups, the leader should explain what the symbolic resources represent, as follows:

   Per capita daily calorie consumption is represented by peanuts. Each peanut represents 400 calories consumed per day.

   Per capita GNP (Gross National Product) is represented by chocolate kisses. The total value of all the goods and services produced in a region divided by the population of the region. Each chocolate kiss represents $500. GNP is a rough estimate of the "wealth" of a population.

   Per capita Energy Consumption – Each piece represents 2 barrels of oil used per capita.

   Per capita CO2 emissions – Each black balloon represents 1 metric ton of annual CO2 emission per capita

   The quantity of each resource is an average annual per capita value, based on actual consumption and emission in the regions under consideration.

4. Next have one person from each region read their regional description out loud (from the two-sided region identifier sheet, with flags on the other side), and to show the rest of the group what their GNP is (kisses), food consumption (peanuts), energy consumption (barrels of monkeys), and CO2 emission is (black balloons) per capita. This part of the exercise should show clearly that people in North America have the most $, eat the most, consume the most energy and emit the most CO2, in addition to being the least populous continent on the planet.

   At this point, the group may want to briefly discuss what life is like in the different continents, given these different levels of access to resources.

5. Now the leader presents the following scenario to the group, and asks the entire group to consider that they are now in this new reality, with the current distribution of resources and consumption they have just recognized.

Scenario: Assume that we have all reached a global consensus that greenhouse gases are driving global warming, that everyone understands the consequences of global warming globally, and that we all understand we have 20 years to make dramatic changes in our live styles before we reach a tipping point. We understand that the consequences of the warming we expect will be:

- Sea level rise of ~2 ft or more by 2100, and perhaps much more, if Greenland/Antarctic melting accelerates (total melting of Greenland would raise sea level by 7 m, or ~21 ft – not likely to happen quickly, but current research is showing that processes seem to be happening that may speed sea level rise dramatically from the 2 ft formerly predicted), threatening coastal populations, and ~50% or more of the worlds population lives at or near sea level.
- More intense storms leading to more frequent flooding
- Spread of tropical disease to higher latitudes and higher altitudes
- Widespread drought in some areas (such as the front range of the Rockies)
- Rapid change in land appropriate for agriculture (arable land in the US will move northward, into Canada)
- Damage to forests ecosystems (pine beetle, …)
- Damage or loss of some species (polar bears, penguins, …)
- Damage to infrastructure at high latitude which depends on permafrost

6. Group discussion of what should be done, given our understanding of the consequences, our faith as Christians, and our responsibility to each other and creation. You may want to have a member of the ministry lead this part of the discussion.

Some points that may arise in discussion (or the leaders may want to bring up) include:

- The US is the leading per capita consumer of resources and emitter of greenhouse gases. Given this, what is the appropriate approach for the US to take in encouraging other countries to limit consumption and emissions? In the case of most other countries, their current per capita consumption is much less, their standard of living is lower, and their population is much greater.

- Note that because there are so many more Chinese than Americans, their per capita CO2 emission of 3 metric tons, if summed across China, nearly equals our individual per capita emission of 20 metric tons. This means that every one person in the US emits as much CO2 as 6 Chinese. Do they have an equal responsibility to conserve as we do? Do they have a right to improve their standard of living to be closer to ours?