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## Vigil for Olympia Sanctuary City and Charter of Compassion Overflows with People, Love and Singing

About a hundred people of faith gathered in front of City Hall on February 7 for a candle-light vigil organized by local clergy. The purpose of the vigil was to show support to the Olympia City Council's adoption of the [Charter of Compassion](#) and [Sanctuary City Resolution](#). Several clergy and citizens made remarks to the group about how important these two city policies are to the well-being of our community. Voices were lifted in songs of peace, welcome and mutual support. The Council, meeting inside City Hall during the vigil, sent word out that participants' support was much appreciated in this unsettling time.

In response to acts of violence and intimidation over the summer and fall, several Olympia clergy organized a response by people of faith. They developed an *Olympia Charter of Compassion*, and presented it to the Olympia City Council on November 8, where it was unanimously adopted. Hundreds of neighbors have since signed. **To read the charter and to add your name, go to <https://olycompassion.org>**



Our newsletter is published in electronic format.

You can subscribe here:

<http://interfaith-works.org/newsletter/>



# Save the Date – CROP Hunger Walk May 7th

We are beginning to gear up for this year's CROP Hunger Walk, which promises to be well-supported by our community in these confusing and troubling times for our country and the world, especially for the least fortunate among us. We are actively looking for new folks to help recruit walk-teams in their faith community. For this and other volunteer opportunities, please contact the Interfaith Works office at [office@interfaith-works.org](mailto:office@interfaith-works.org)



## LEGISLATIVE ACADEMY

Guest speakers about the 2017 State Legislative session  
**Free and open to the public**

February 26<sup>th</sup>  
**Housing/Homelessness**  
Faith Action Network

March 5<sup>th</sup>  
**Mental Health**  
National Alliance on Mental Illness

March 12<sup>th</sup>  
**Reproductive Rights**  
Planned Parenthood Votes

March 19<sup>th</sup>  
**IT Leg support: Bill tracking and accommodation for Lt Gov Habib**  
WA Engage

March 12<sup>th</sup>  
**Reproductive Rights**  
Planned Parenthood Votes

March 19<sup>th</sup>  
**IT Leg support: Bill tracking and accommodation for Lt Gov Habib**  
WA Engage

March 26<sup>th</sup>  
**Education**  
WA Education Association (WEA)



Sundays 10-11am  
First United Methodist Church - 1224 Legion Way SE  
360-943-2661 [fumcoly.org](http://fumcoly.org)  
More info on Facebook

# Interfaith Clergy Breakfast

Panorama City graciously hosted our first Clergy Breakfast of the year on February 8. About 20 faith and lay leaders gathered to break bread together and share their perspectives on Interfaith Works, what's working and possible new directions. Among the many suggestions were:

- More opportunities to meet and get to know people of other faith's
- IW should be a clearinghouse for getting information out on events like the Candle-light Vigil at City Hall, community-building events, faith community events, and social justice projects
- Create an IW Ambassadors program to reach out to faith communities and local colleges

The Board of Directors of Interfaith Works discussed these and other suggestions at their annual retreat February 11<sup>th</sup>. All the ideas from the breakfast informed a rich discussion about directions for IW in the year ahead. We appreciate your feedback!

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## Bread & Roses Set to Pass the Torch

*We share the following statement from our good friends at Bread and Roses:*

After 35 years of serving the poor, homeless and marginalized of Thurston County, Bread & Roses will be closing its doors. B&R has served the community in many different ways since it was founded in 1982 by volunteers from the Catholic Worker tradition. The original house on 8<sup>th</sup> Ave has been the heart of the organization from the beginning and, along with the duplex added next door in 1987, has provided shelter, respite and a welcoming home for hundreds of people through the years.



B&R is mostly remembered for the large soup kitchen and drop-in center operated on Cherry Street until 2003, through which many, many dedicated volunteers were able to cook and share meals with those living on the streets.

Other B&R programs addressed a variety of emergent community needs. The Devoe Street Men's Shelter, a 55-bed overnight shelter, provided emergency shelter for vulnerable homeless men until the Drexel House opened on that site with permanent and transitional apartments. The B&R Advocacy Center connected homeless individuals with volunteer advocates to increase access to resources and housing – similar work is done today by SideWalk, the Capital Recovery Center's PATH program, the Navigator Team at Interfaith Works, and others. The Voice of Olympia street newspaper published articles, poetry and art by and for houseless people, for several years.

Bread & Roses played an important role in the creation and/or ongoing support of several other organizations and programs, including our community's first syringe exchange, emergency winter overnight shelters, Partners in Prevention Education, Camp Quixote, SideWalk, EGYHOP, and Food Not Bombs, among others.

Bread & Roses' prophetic stand for the dignity, the humanity, and the rights to inclusion for the most vulnerable members of our community is where some of its greatest impacts can be found. Radical changes in the local social service industry, including the low barrier and Housing First movements as well as the recent shift to vulnerability-based admission for housing programs, largely trace their roots to Bread & Roses' advocacy for the "least among us".

We've had a long run and we are proud of our accomplishments. We are particularly pleased that the houses on 8th Ave will pass to Homes First for continued use as affordable housing for our low income neighbors.



Photos by Sheri Gerson.

Thank you to everyone who made the 2nd Annual Eye-2-Eye event a huge success!! Thanks to our incredible volunteers, the evening went off without a hitch (mostly...), the freshly-prepared, home-cooked food was delicious, everyone had a great time AND we raised over \$25,000 to keep the Emergency Overnight Shelter running strong. We are deeply indebted to Saint Michael Parish for hosting. Thank you to all who attended, brought a friend who was new to our program, and supports our program year-round.

**We are so grateful!**

Eye-2-Eye  
 NIGHTLY SHELTER FOR OUR MOST VULNERABLE NEIGHBORS

**THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS EVENT SPONSORS**



## United Methodists Women's Annual Rummage/Estate Sale

Used goods at bargain prices!

All kinds of household, yard, sports items, clothing & accessories, books & music, seasonal décor, crafts & sewing items, antiques and collectibles, and more. Also a Boutique featuring retro, funky, trendy & vintage clothing and accessories for men & women.



On Saturday, you can fill a grocery size bag for only \$5 - some restrictions, but great bargains.

**Proceeds help support many local missions including Interfaith Works and CROP Walk.**

9 AM to 4 PM Friday, March 3  
9 AM to 3 PM Saturday, March 4

**First United Methodist Church  
of Olympia**  
1224 Legion Way S.E.

For more info contact Carol Gruen at 360.352.9703

## Blintzapalooza!

Mark your calendars for the 2017 Blintzapalooza on Sunday, March 26 from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. at Temple Beth Hatfiloh, 201 8th Ave SE in downtown Olympia.



In addition to **Interfaith Works**, recipients from the fundraiser this year will be Planned Parenthood's Teen Council, Cielo and Nisqually Land Trust, as well as The League of Women Voters.

*Blintzapalooza needs your help to ensure that the event is a success and these wonderful non-profits receive as much funding as possible.*

**Also, support the Blintzapalooza book sale by donating used books.** You can drop off books at TBH during regular business hours.

### In Memory of and In Honor Of...

Gifts gratefully received in recent months in support of Interfaith Works and our many programs:

**In Memory of Jeanne Lohmann**  
From Karen Lohmann

**in honor of Jennifer McInnis & Joseph Rush**  
From Hilarie Hauptman

**In Honor of Kate**  
From Cathy Crumbley

Healing thoughts and prayers for **Rev. Amy Hessel** of The Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, as she recuperates from surgery.

### In Memoriam: Phyllis Dodds

We mourn the passing of **Phyllis Dodds**, a member of the Saint Michael parish community, and longtime advocate on behalf of our homeless neighbors. She was a charter volunteer advocate at SideWalk, building on years of experience providing direct services and support to people in need. Phyllis was a shining example to us all, and will be missed greatly.



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 Olympia WA 98507  
[www.interfaith-works.org](http://www.interfaith-works.org)

# ◊ IW COMMUNITY CALENDAR ◊

A listing of some of the activities and events of IW members, and of general interest. IW does not necessarily endorse these events. [More information on these and other events is in our online calendar at: <http://interfaith-works.org/events/>](#) Submit an event: <http://interfaith-works.org/submit-an-event>

February 24 Friday 4-5:15pm	Saint Martin's Robert Harvie Social Justice Lecture Series film screening: "Sad Happiness: Cinthya's Cross Border Journey." Documentary about the life and experiences of one U.S. citizen child of undocumented parents. Saint Martins University – Harned Hall, 5000 Abbey Way SE, Lacey, WA 98503. Contact: Prof. Robert Hauhard, 360-438-4525. <a href="mailto:rhauhart@stmartin.edu">rhauhart@stmartin.edu</a>
February 25 Saturday 9am-4pm	OUUC Books, Brownies and Beans: Used Book Sale - An enormous sale of thousands of gently used books, as well as audio books, CDs and DVDs. Proceeds benefit the homeless population of Thurston County. Olympia Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 2315 Division St. NW, Olympia, WA 98502. Contact: Darlene Sarkela: (360) 786-6383, <a href="mailto:liberafaith@ouuc.org">liberafaith@ouuc.org</a>
February 26 Sunday 2-4pm	Baroque Music – St. John's Concert Series: Audrey Burdick will join Curt Sather, playing organ and harpsichord, for a program of Baroque music. Works by J.S. Bach, Handel, Schütz and Schmelzer will be performed on period instruments. St. John's Episcopal Church, 114 20th Ave SE, Olympia, WA 98501. Phone: (360) 352-8527. <a href="http://www.stjohnsoly.org/">http://www.stjohnsoly.org/</a>
March 2 Thursday 6-8pm	"Fueling the Fire" – Meaningful Movies: Years of Living Dangerously Film Series: season 2 – short documentary films produced by National Geographic. Refreshments and discussion will begin at 7:00 following the film. The Lutheran Church Of The Good Shepherd, 1601 North Street SE, Olympia, WA 98501. (360) 357-3554. <a href="http://gsolympia.org/">http://gsolympia.org/</a>
March 4 Saturday 8:30am-4:30pm	Interfaith Women's Conference: Building Bridges of Interfaith Unity. For women who are interested in exploring the potential and power of interfaith collaboration, renewing their personal spiritual life, and engaging with their community to spur positive change. Curtis Senior High School, 8425 40th St W, University Place, WA 98466. Organized by Associated Ministries, 253-426-1506. <a href="mailto:sandyw@associatedministries.org">sandyw@associatedministries.org</a> . More information: <a href="https://associatedministries.org/event/iwc/">https://associatedministries.org/event/iwc/</a>
March 4 Saturday 7-9pm	"Image Before My Eyes" (1981) – TBH 1st Saturday Film Series. Commemoration of Jews in Poland before the two World Wars, paying homage to a dynamic & vibrant society of 3.5 million people that was destroyed during the Holocaust. Free, Donations gladly accepted. Temple Beth Hatfiloh, 201 8th Ave SE, Olympia, WA 98501. 360-754-8519. <a href="http://bethhatfiloh.com">http://bethhatfiloh.com</a>
March 12 Sunday 2pm	A Really Big Shoe - Our Last Farewell: 11th Annual Benefit Concert for Homeless and Needy Children - Songs from the 20th Century, sponsored by Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation, City of Tumwater & Entertainment Explosion. Washington Center for the Performing Arts, Olympia, WA. Tickets: 20, \$17, \$10 (total price). (360) 753-8586. <a href="http://www.olytix.org">http://www.olytix.org</a>
March 12 Sunday 3-5pm	The Esoterics Concert at St. John's Episcopal Church. An innovative and popular choral group, The Esoterics, will be perform under the direction of Eric Banks. 114 20th Ave SE, Olympia, WA 98501. (360) 352-8527. <a href="http://www.stjohnsoly.org/">http://www.stjohnsoly.org/</a>
March 16 Thursday 6-8pm	"Collapse of the Oceans" – Meaningful Movies: Years of Living Dangerously Film Series. The Lutheran Church of the Good Shepard, 1601 North Street SE, Olympia, WA 98501. (360) 357-3554. <a href="http://gsolympia.org/">http://gsolympia.org/</a>
March 16 Thursday 3-5pm	Building Understanding in Challenging Times: Free Communication & Conflict Resolution Workshop. Focus on communication tools to help participants deepen understanding of & identify common ground w/those who have different perspectives, opinions and experiences. Dispute Resolution Ctr. & Lacey Timberland Library, 500 College Street, Lacey. 360-491-3860.
March 18 Saturday 7:00pm	Benefit with Tom Rawson. Olympia Chapter of the Fellowship of Reconciliation benefit show with noted peace activist and singer Rawson who has charmed & invigorated audiences with infectious wit, energy and songs. Admission is self-determined of between \$10 and \$25. Traditions Café & World Folk Art, 300 5th Avenue SW, Olympia, WA 98501. 360-705-2819
March 23 Thursday 6:30-9pm	"The African Americans – Many Rivers to Cross" - This Race in Film Series chronicles the full sweep of African American history. Series runs on the 3rd Thursday of every month. Olympia Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 2315 Division St NW; Olympia, WA 98502. (360) 786-6383. <a href="http://ouuc.org/">http://ouuc.org/</a>
March 26 Sunday 1:30-3pm	Christians and Muslims Understandings of Spirituality - Each has a worldwide presence and considerable influence on both international and local affairs, religious and secular. As communications improve, there has been greater mutual appreciation of the other. But misunderstanding & prejudice still exist. It is our task to dispel it. <a href="http://www.stplacid.org/calendar-2/">http://www.stplacid.org/calendar-2/</a>