

IN THIS ISSUE

- ◆ PROGRAM COUNCIL YEAR BEGINS
- ◆ INITIATIVE I-732
- ◆ PREVENTING GUN VIOLENCE
- ◆ CALENDAR
- ◆ AND MORE!

Program Council Kicks Off a New Year September 20th



Volunteers have been the heart of Interfaith Works for more than 40 years. Programs like the Emergency Shelter, Food Bank, Dispute Resolution center, and CROP Walk – to name just a few – all got their start at the Interfaith Works Program Council.

The Council is made up of about 30 intrepid volunteers, or “delegates,” from our member faith communities. They are currently organized into three action teams, Interfaith Understanding, Social Change, and Sacred Service. The Council meets the third Tuesday of the month (except in summer and December) at 7:00 pm at Temple Beth Hatfiloh – all are welcome.

September 20th will be the kick-off meeting to plan activities for the rest of 2016 and the first half of 2017. We have two Fall events that we will need Program Council sub-teams to work on, All Souls Day Celebration of the Unclaimed Dead of the past year (around the beginning of November) and Interfaith Thanksgiving (November 20th), which this year will be at the Abbey Church at St. Martin’s University.

We are deeply grateful for the volunteer work of the Program Council. They are doing a lot of good in our community, and they bring to life the hope for peace and understanding that is the mission and vision of Interfaith Works.



Our newsletter is now published in electronic format.

You can subscribe here:

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





Earth Stewards News

Initiative I-732 -- Interfaith Works Urges Your Support on Election Day!

People of faith worldwide bring a crucial spiritual and moral voice to the issue of climate change and the pressing need to act boldly. The Interfaith Works Board of Directors has determined that passage of Initiative 732 would be an important step forward in combating climate change and that I-732 would help stem the worst effects of global warming on low-income people and on the ecosystem that sustains us all.

I-732 would place a tax on carbon emissions in Washington in order to reduce use of fossil fuels, which are having such a devastating effect on climate. The intent is that the law be “revenue neutral” so the Business and Occupation tax would be eliminated, and the sales tax would be reduced by a penny, thereby reducing the regressive nature of our state’s tax system. Some of the revenue generated by the carbon tax would also be returned to people currently filing for the Earned Income Tax Credit, also a help to low income people.

Interfaith Works volunteers have prepared a simple brochure in support of I-732 meant to encourage congregations in our community to support its passage. Contact us if you would like a stack of these brochures for your faith community (office@interfaith-works.org)

“[C]hanges in climate, to which animals and plants cannot adapt, lead them to migrate; this in turn affects the livelihood of the poor, who are then forced to leave their homes, with great uncertainty for their future and that of their children. There has been a tragic rise in the number of migrants seeking to flee from the growing poverty caused by environmental degradation. They are not recognized by international conventions as refugees; they bear the loss of the lives they have left behind, without enjoying any legal protection whatsoever. Sadly, there is widespread indifference to such suffering, which is even now taking place throughout our world. Our lack of response to these tragedies involving our brothers and sisters points to the loss of that sense of responsibility for our fellow men and women upon which all civil society is founded.”

- His Holiness, Pope Francis, *Laudato Si*



“How Science and Art Explain the Carbon Cycle and Climate”

was the August 2016 program by Olympia Fellowship of Reconciliation which is an affiliate member organization of Interfaith Works. It uses easily understandable science and visually explicit art to help us explore some interesting aspects of the climate crisis. Glen Anderson of Olympia FOR interviewed Pat Boutin Wald, an educator, Richard Gammon, a scientist, and Heather Taylor Zimmerman, an artist, to explore this topic by interacting with each other. **Watch it here:**

<https://www.youtube.com/embed/5bpP9gpBtXs>

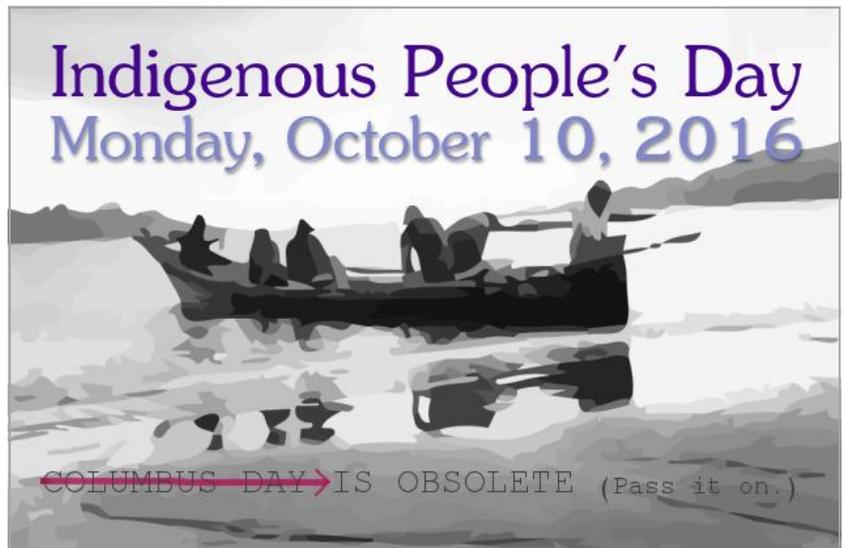
Preventing Gun Violence: New Coalition Forms

Did you know that Between 2003 and 2012, 226 women were murdered with guns in Washington—**50 percent more** than the number of soldiers from Washington killed during the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan combined **More than half** of people murdered with guns in Washington in 2011 were under the age of 30 Over the past two decades, the rate of school shootings in Washington was **2.2 times higher** than the national average Washington is **1 of just 14 states** where more people die by gunfire than in motor vehicle accidents Approximately **1-in-10** gun buyers seeking to purchase guns online in Washington are prohibited from buying or possessing guns There are 1,416 licensed gun dealers in Washington, **272 more** than there are post offices and Starbucks locations in the state combined. (see <https://www.americanprogress.org/issues/guns-crime/report/2014/10/16/99130/9-things-to-know-about-gun-violence-in-washington-state/>)

A broad-based coalition has been coming together since the Spring to address the need to do more, much more, to prevent gun violence in Thurston County. Led initially by the gun violence prevention group at The United Churches of Olympia, the coalition now includes half a dozen faith communities, two Tribes, numerous gun control groups, health organizations, and veterans groups, among others. While the coalition is so new, it doesn't have a name yet, its vision has been defined: *We envision a future for Thurston County where our culture de-legitimizes the violent use of guns; our State laws and local ordinances reflect and support this; and our work fostering connectedness results in a caring community celebrating diversity, mutual support, and peace.*

The coalition has formed three issue groups to focus work on: limit access to lethal means; provide firearm safety and suicide prevention education; and reduce stigmas around difference and foster connectedness. The coalition welcomes new members, and the next meeting is at United Churches on September 22nd from 4:00 till 6:00.

Also, check out the Fellowship of Reconciliation's TCTV program on reducing gun violence that will air several times in September – more info at http://www.olympiafor.org/tv_programs.htm



We mourn the passing of our friend
Annie McManus

Annie was a committed supporter of interfaith work, social justice and peace-making, through her congregation, the Community for Interfaith Celebration, and through her active leadership in our shelter program and other IW programs over the years. We will miss her greatly but will continue to be guided by her example.

We are grateful to her family for designating Interfaith Works as a recipient of donations in her memory.

Practice loving yourselves
more and more each day
and remember my love for you.
Take the time to look
into each other's eyes with compassion
and your hearts will crack wide open.
It is what we all long for.

– Annie McManus



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PLEASE NOTE ♦ **IW CALENDAR NOTES**
 THE SEPT. 24 "GIVE ME SHELTER" EVENT IS POSTPONED TO A LATER DATE -AND -
 THERE WILL NOT BE AN INTERFAITH WORKS 9/11 COMMEMORATION EVENT THIS YEAR.

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>

September 13 & 20 Tuesdays 7:00-9:00pm	"Some Good News about Carbon Dioxide!" Ken Eklund describes his research on Advanced Heat Pumps using carbon dioxide as a refrigerant for water heating, demand response, and combined space and water heating in lab research and at sites throughout the Pacific NW. Cost: one class \$15; \$30.00 covers one or more. Olympia Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 2315 Division St NW, Olympia, WA 98502. Info: (360) 786-6383, http://ouuc.org/
September 24 Saturday 6:45pm	"Renowned Storyteller Debra Zaslow Presents Stories of Healing and Renewal" Debra weaves personal stories together with Jewish folktales for the goal of spiritual transformation. September 24th is Selichot, the traditional recitation of a group of penitential hymns and poems acknowledging where we have missed the mark and asking for God's forgiveness in preparation for the High Holidays. Temple Beth Hatfiloh; 201 8th Ave SE; Olympia, WA 98501. Info: (360) 754-8519. http://bethhatfiloh.com
October 2 Sunday 1:00pm-4:00pm	"Right Relations With the Native Peoples of This Land" During three 3-hour gatherings (also Nov. 6 and Dec. 4) the group will meet with members of the Puyallup, Nisqually, Chehalis, Squaxin Island, and Skokomish Tribes to learn how to come to know and walk the path of right relations. Leaders: Douglas Mackey and Learning Right Relations Group. Cost: for one class \$15; \$30.00 covers one or more. Olympia Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 2315 Division St NW, Olympia, WA 98502 - and tribal sites. Info: (360) 786-6383, http://ouuc.org/
Oct. 2 Sunday 3:00pm	"Organ & Bagpipe Spectacular" featuring Curt Sather on the 1967 Schlicker pipe organ and Jeremy Shilley on bagpipes with Celtic favorites and an ancient Seikilos song melody. Co-sponsored by Olympia Highlanders. Suggested Donation: \$15, Senior - \$10, Students - Free. St. John's Episcopal Church, 114 20th Ave. SE, Olympia.
October 7 Friday 7:00pm-8:30pm	"Camino" 1st Friday event at Unity of Olympia featuring the movie Camino with testimonials by locals who have done the walk, featured art is from the Panorama Art Guild, featured non-profit is the local chapter of Big Brothers/Big Sisters. Unity of Olympia, 1335 Fern St SW, Olympia, WA 98502. Info: (360) 943-5757, http://www.unityofolympia.org
Oct. 14 Friday 7:00pm	"St. John's Episcopal Church's Cabaret" with well-known Olympians LaVon Hardison, vocals; Joe Baque, legendary pianist, and Steve Luceno, bass. Our special guest will be Dave Peck, Seattle-based pianist who has garnered multiple awards. \$30 ticket includes a three-course dinner and the first glass of wine. Tickets are limited and can be purchased only at Traditions, 300 Fifth Ave. SW, downtown. (360) 705-2819. Venue: St. John's Episcopal Church, 114 20th Ave SE, Olympia.
October 16 Sunday 1:30pm-3:30pm	"Meeting in the Margins" Join author Cynthia Trenshaw to discuss BEing with marginalized people – without fear, without judgment, without needing to fix anything. Cynthia shares stories of her encounters as a "street massage" therapist, as a hospital chaplain, as a midwife to the dying, and as a scared 50-year-old widow whom God "tricked" into service. St. Placid Priory, Spirituality Center, 500 College Street NE, Lacey. Cost: \$10. Free for those who work with people on the margins without a wage. Info: 360-438-2595; prioryprograms@stplacid.org
October 16 Sunday 4:30pm	"Rachmaninoff's 'Vespers' (also known as 'All Night Vigil)" One of Christendom's greatest classics, this will be what we believe is its first full performance in Olympia when Choral Arts Northwest presents it. Part of the St. John's Episcopal Church Concert Series, performed in the Washington State Capitol Rotunda in Olympia. Students free, \$28 Regular Admission, \$24 Senior/Military. http://choralartsnw.org/wordpress/event/rachmaninoff-vespers-2/
October 29 Saturday 9:00am-3:00pm	"Breaking Free" Amelia Carroll uses Marilyn Sewell's anthology of stories from Maya Angelou, Gloria Steinem and others to brings women together to discuss aging as the development of character, a breaking free of old restraints, and deepen spiritual lives. Register by prior Friday. Bring a sack lunch and a journal. Cost: \$60.00. St. Placid Priory, Spirituality Center, 500 College Street NE, Lacey. Info: 360-438-2595; prioryprograms@stplacid.org