



JULY 2014

Interfaith CONNECTION

THE FUTURE: LEARNING TO TALK TO EACH OTHER AGAIN

Barnett Kalikow, Immediate Past President, gave these remarks at our recent 40th Anniversary Celebration on May 10.

...We have tried to fulfill this vision and purpose over the last 40 years. We are grounded in diverse in faith and spiritual traditions.

VISION OF INTERFAITH WORKS
Social change through interfaith understanding and cooperation.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE
Interfaith Works promotes interfaith understanding, and serves the community through charitable, social and educational endeavors.

But we have come together to feed and shelter and house and work for humane dispute resolution and justice. In the immediate future, we will continue

our essential push toward ending homelessness through establishing a respite from the streets and the woods in the form of The People's House shelter and day center, and through our efforts on getting people into permanent housing through the stellar work of the SideWalk center. As we work on these things together, because we come together from diverse traditions to work on these things, we cannot help but promote interfaith understanding and cooperation while doing it.

I believe that the spirit that has enabled those efforts can and should be put to work on something else: It is the paralysis of our major social institutions through the breakdown of civil discourse in society.

And when we live that faith, we cannot abuse the other, because we recognize that there is no other, there is only us.

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FAITH EXPLORATIONS

Monday - Friday
July 14 - 18, 2014
9 am—3 pm

Temple Beth Hatfiloh
201 - 8th Ave SE
Olympia, 98501
downtown near the library

An interfaith summer day camp for children of any faith going in to the 2nd – 5th grades

**Play...
Explore.....
Share....**
and interact through art, drama, music and movement, learning about the traditions of their friends and community members.



For information or registration contact Catherine at 754-8519 or beitsefer@bethhatfiloh.org

www.interfaith-works.org



Learning to Talk to Each Other Again

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The fact is, that the public forum, wherever and however we now define it, often becomes a shouting match where the participants tend to demonize rather than debate, and seek conquest rather than understanding, or compromise and resolution.

To achieve this we don't need to agree on theology. We don't need to agree on economics or politics. It is enough to agree -- as Torah, Qu'ran, Gospels, the writings of the Bah 'u'llah, the Upanishads and the classic Buddhist sutras all agree -- on the essential unity of the human spirit, because that belief, that faith, leads us inevitably



Kathy Erlandson, former Interfaith Works Executive Director

to the place of compassion for our sisters and brothers in the human family. And when we live that faith, we cannot abuse the other, because we recognize that there is no other, there is only us.

We have started discussions on this, and are furthering the effort with Cornerstone Conversations on such issues as intercultural relations, justice,



Some of the unique birdhouses at the auction



hunger and homelessness. I am not suggesting that the basic techniques of civil discourse be added to these topics, (although we might think about it for the next round), but to suggest that we will make headway

in those areas and the larger social justice portion of our vision and purpose when we as a society begin to relearn those basic techniques. And this organization is uniquely poised for the reasons stated, to be a force for reestablishing that basic building block for establishing social justice the ability to reasonably



Rev. Arthur Vaeni, Barbara Gibson, and Dan Ryan in conversation

discuss how to achieve it.

There is not a great mystery on many of these techniques. Our friends at the Dispute

Resolution Center model them daily and teach them to others. We

can consciously teach them and model them in our forums, our testimony, our interactions

as an organization and in the forums we initiate. We can cajole others into using them. And if we do this and do it well - that may do more to fulfill our mission and



Les Purce, President, The Evergreen State College, gave the keynote address with guitar accompaniment

purpose than anything else --and the idea might just catch on. Torah, Qu'ran, Gospels, the writings of the Bah 'u'llah, the Upanishads and the classic Buddhist sutras might just be onto something.

ORGANIZATION DESCRIPTION

Interfaith Works is a non-profit association of faith communities and individuals of diverse faith traditions. We have a long-standing history of bringing the human and financial resources of our faith communities together with business and government agencies for the benefit of those in need. We strive to participate in endeavors which are relevant to the times in which we live, while maintaining our identities as people of faith.

40TH ANNIVERSARY VIDEO Go to our homepage and check out this short video, specially produced by Paul Peck for our 40th Anniversary celebration. <http://www.interfaith-works.org>

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

A listing of some of the activities and events of Interfaith Works members, and of general interest. IW does not necessarily endorse these events. More details and events at www.interfaith-works.org. Submit your event at www.interfaith-works.org/SubmitEvent.php

June 24 Tuesday 7 pm	John Michael Talbot in Concert. One of the pioneering artists of Contemporary Christian Music, author of 24 books, and now host of a new TV show "All Things are Possible". Cost: \$20. St. Charles Borromeo Parish, 7112 S. 12th St, Tacoma, 98465. Info: 253-564-5158; http://parish.stcharlesb.org/jmt
June 25 Wed 6-8 pm	 Cornerstone Conversation 4) SHELTER: An essential safety net for the whole community. Connecting homelessness, shelter, health and safety. Speaker: Selena Kilmoyer, Live-in Host, Bread & Roses Hospitality House. Light refreshments available. Nova School, 2020 - 22 nd Ave SE, Olympia 98501. 357-7224; office@interfaith-works.org
June 30 Monday 7 pm	Meet the Bishop. Bishop Peter Hickman, Presiding Bishop of the Ecumenical Catholic Communion, speaks on the emergence of Christianity and the ECC, an all-inclusive way to live your Catholic faith in the twenty-first century. First Christian Church, 701 Franklin St SE, Olympia 98501 in Koinonia Hall. Free. Info: 357-4333; Emmaus-ecc.org
July 3—6 Thurs—Sun 4 pm -1:30 pm	"Take Back the 4th: Speak Truth to Power". Preserving our 4th Amendment right is especially important in this digital age. FOR's 56th Annual Peace & Justice Conference at Seabeck. Nationally known keynote speakers, many workshops inc. for children, great food & music in a beautiful setting. Cost: sliding scale. Info: http://www.forseabeck.org
July 11-13 Fri-Sun varies	Crisis Clinic Volunteer Training. An opportunity to serve those in need as well as for personal growth. Build listening skills, empathy, learn to stay calm. Training weekend followed by 6-week in-service period. Must be able to commit to entire 60 hr training. Free; registration required. Info: Nanci, 586-2888 x103; http://www.crisis-clinic.org
July 14-18 Mon-Fri 9:00 - 3:00 pm	"Faith Exploration" Interfaith Youth Day Camp. Our annual interfaith summer day camp for children of any faith grades 2-5. Cost: Free, donations appreciated. Play, learn and interact through Art, Drama, Music, Movement. Temple Beth Hatfiloh, 201- 8th Ave SE, Olympia, 98501. Info: Catherine, 754-8519; beitsefer@bethhatfiloh.org
September 13 Saturday 9:00 - 3:00 pm	Introduction to Centering Prayer. A form of contemplative prayer, a prayer of being, when our hearts listen in silence. This introductory workshop allows ample time for practice and questions and sharing experiences. Cost: \$60. Priory Spirituality Center, 500 College St NE, 98516, 438-2595; prioryprograms@gmail.com ; www.stplacid.org .
September 20 Saturday 9:00 - 3:00 pm	Contemplative Meditation. Contemplation changes our experience of ourselves, God, and all things. Try on contemplation as a way of responding to life's challenges, and re-enter your world refreshed and renewed. Cost: \$60. Priory Spirituality Center, 500 College St NE, 98516, 438-2595; prioryprograms@gmail.com ; www.stplacid.org .
Ongoing Thursdays 3:30—5:00 pm	Contemplative Prayer Gathering. Join us as we explore prayer as it was practiced in the early church. A process of deepening my relationship with God, quieting the mind and opening the heart. First Christian Church Sacred Space, 701 Franklin Ave SE, Olympia 98501; Sponsored by Emmaus Ecumenical Catholic Community; http://www.emmaus-ecc.org

THANK YOU AND A FOND FAREWELL TO THREE AREA CLERGY



The Reverend Joanne Coleman-Campbell has served First United Methodist Church of Olympia since 2009.

She and her husband, Reverend John, pastor of Yelm United Methodist Church, will be co-pastors of a United Methodist Church in Walla Walla.



The Reverend John Rosenberg is retiring as head pastor of the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd.

He and his wife Nancy plan to stay in the area. He is looking forward to a trip to Italy in the fall.



The Reverend Arthur Vaeni, pastor of the Olympia Unitarian Universalist Congregation, and his wife Sally will

be returning to New England, where he will take a position as an interim pastor.



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www.interfaith-works.org

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July 2014

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You Can Still Donate!
until June 30

Our Thurston County CROP Hunger Walk took place on Sunday, May 4

If you missed it, but would still like to contribute to this year's walk, go to

Crophungerwalk.org/Olympiawa

Please remember to turn in your walk envelopes! Thanks.

IN CELEBRATION OF OUR 40th ANNIVERSARY
Interfaith Works is hosting

Cornerstone
Conversations
a series to learn about and reflect on issues important to our community, and the world.

SHELTER: An essential social safety net for the *WHOLE* community
Connecting homelessness, sheltering, health and safety

SPEAKER: SELENA KILMOYER
Live-in Host, Bread and Roses Hospitality House

Wednesday, June 25 from 6pm - 8pm at
Nova School
2020 - 22nd Ave SE, Olympia

PROGRAM

- Short presentation
- Small group talks
- Large group reflection

Light refreshments available

Sponsors: Nova School Lucky Eagle Casino & Hotel
Community Sustaining Fund of Thurston County

www.interfaith-works.org (360) 357-7224

Support Interfaith Works with a Paid Ad \$10 (sm) Deadline: 2nd Tuesday