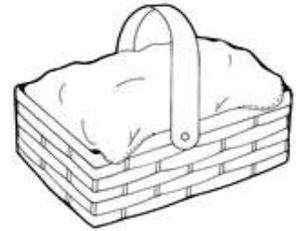


## JOIN US FOR THESE EVENTS:

### Wed Aug 12: Picnic with Two Purposes

Everyone is invited to the Olympia FOR's potluck picnic at 5:30 pm on Wednesday August 12 in the Rose Garden kitchen area at Olympia's Priest Point Park on East Bay Drive. The picnic will help us build a sense of community through sharing food and leisurely, wide-ranging conversations with other Olympia FOR folks.

Please continue and enjoy our Steering Committee meeting at 6:30 pm. The Olympia FOR's Steering Committee provides overall guidance and decision-making. For information contact Glen Anderson at 491-9093 [glen@olympiafor.org](mailto:glen@olympiafor.org)



### SUN AUG 23: "LOVE OUR LOCAL"

Visit the Olympia FOR's information booth at this enjoyable annual event from 1:00 to 9:00 pm in the NE Olympia neighborhood near the intersection of San Francisco and Bethel. Free admission. Enjoy food, music on two stages, arts, crafts, nonprofit organizations' information booths, this year's mural project, and much more! Info: [www.loveourlocalfest.org](http://www.loveourlocalfest.org)  
Questions? Contact Marie Poland at [loveourlocalfest@gmail.com](mailto:loveourlocalfest@gmail.com)

### EVERY WEDNESDAY AND EVERY FRIDAY: "STAND UP FOR PEACE + JUSTICE!"

#### Join our TWO PEACE vigils EVERY WEEK. THEY ARE ENJOYABLE AND EFFECTIVE!

The Olympia FOR is known and respected for our persistent visibility in literally "standing up for peace and justice" twice a week for many years. People keep telling us that they appreciate our presence and our messages. We meet many new people in this way. Our messages of peace, nonviolence, social justice resonate well with pedestrians and motorists alike.

- For more than 35 years – since March 5, 1980 – we have vigiled every Wednesday from 12:00 noon to 1:00 pm in the NW corner of Sylvester Park, Legion & Capitol Way.
- In addition, since November 1998, we have vigiled during Friday afternoon rush hour at a more heavily traveled location. Please join us every Friday from 4:30 to 6:00 pm at 4<sup>th</sup> & Water on the SE corner of Percival Landing (near the Kissing Statue). From 5:00 to 6:00 the Artesian Rumble Arkestra ([www.oly-wa.us/artesianrumble](http://www.oly-wa.us/artesianrumble)) performs lively, upbeat music to support our vigil.



Both vigils occur every week all year around regardless of weather or holidays. For more information about our vigils, including photos and some music from the Artesian Rumble Arkestra, visit [www.olympiafor.org/vigils.htm](http://www.olympiafor.org/vigils.htm) Info: Glen Anderson (360) 491-9093 [glen@olympiafor.org](mailto:glen@olympiafor.org) [Thanks to Bob Zeigler for this photo of our vigil on Wednesday March 6, 2013.]

# GROUND YOURSELF IN FOR'S COMPASSIONATE VALUES. THEN DO WHATEVER YOU ARE PASSIONATE ABOUT THAT WILL HELP THE WORLD!

Individuals have power! Don't wait for an organization to start some good work. **Each of us** is empowered to start taking action now!

Anyone who is grounded in peaceful, compassionate values (such as those expressed in the **national Fellowship of Reconciliation's Statement of Purpose quoted in the box below**) can take the initiative to do whatever seems useful for healing our local community and the larger world.

A previous version of the national FOR's Statement of Purpose explicitly acknowledged that we do not have a large number of members, but affirmed that the FOR does

trust that our members will ground ourselves in these values and figure out ways to act on them. Each of us individually – or in small groups – can act on these values in our daily lives and through specific activities. Don't wait for an organization to plan something. Take the initiative alone or with a few other folks.

The FOR's Statement of Purpose (in the box below) mentions faith – partly because it is part of our 100-year history, and partly because we do work especially well with people of faith. But the FOR welcomes also welcomes people with unconventional spirituality and also agnostics and atheists.

Our Statement of Purpose's current wording affirms:

The Fellowship of Reconciliation is composed of people who recognize the essential unity of all creation and have joined together to explore the power of love and truth for resolving human conflict. While it has always been vigorous in its opposition to war, FOR has insisted equally that this effort must be based on a commitment to the achieving of a just and peaceful world community, with full dignity and freedom for every human being.

In working out these objectives, FOR seeks the company of people of faith who will respond to conflict nonviolently, seeking reconciliation through compassionate action. FOR encourages the integration of faith into the lives of individual members. At the same time it is a special role of FOR to extend the boundaries of community and affirm its diversity of religious traditions as it seeks the resolution of conflict by the united efforts of people of many faiths.

In the development of its program, FOR depends upon persons who seek to apply these principles to every area of life. FOR members:

- Identify with those of every nation, race, gender, sexual orientation and religion who are the victims of injustice and exploitation, and seek to develop resources of active nonviolence to transform such circumstances;
- Refuse to participate in any war or to sanction military preparations; work to abolish war and promote good will among races, nations and classes;
- Strive to build a social order that will utilize the resources of human ingenuity and wisdom for the benefit of all, an order in which no individual or group will be exploited or oppressed for the profit or pleasure of others;
- Advocate fair and compassionate methods of dealing with offenders against society; they also serve as advocates for victims of crime and their families who suffer loss and emotional anguish, recognizing that restitution and reconciliation can help to heal both victims and offenders;
- Endeavor to show respect for personality and reverence for all creation;
- Seek to avoid bitterness and contention in dealing with controversy, and to maintain the spirit of self-giving love while engaged in the effort to achieve these purposes.

See more about the national FOR at [www.forusa.org](http://www.forusa.org). You can join the FOR by signing the Statement of Purpose online at this link: [https://org.salsalabs.com/o/2507/signup\\_page/membership](https://org.salsalabs.com/o/2507/signup_page/membership)

If you have questions about FOR membership, history, values, activities, etc., contact the Olympia FOR at (360) 491-9093 [info@olympiafor.org](mailto:info@olympiafor.org) and see the "About" link at Olympia FOR's website, [www.olympiafor.org](http://www.olympiafor.org)

# CONFRONTING THE CLIMATE CRISIS

The Olympia FOR's "Confronting the Climate Crisis" group works in a variety of strategically important ways. We educate ourselves and the general public, communicate with all levels of government, urge entities to divest from fossil fuel investments, and promote alternatives. We have also been organizing opposition to the explosive oil trains that endanger local communities throughout North America and the climate of the whole world.

The Olympia FOR's **website's section on the Climate Crisis** includes **MANY** news items and information resources. In mid-August 2015 we will post even more information from the past several months. Items on our website have live links so you can click to reach the sources for further reading. See [www.olympiafor.org/Climate\\_Crisis](http://www.olympiafor.org/Climate_Crisis).

**We meet every month. We'd love to include you!** Olympia FOR's energetic, productive climate group meets on the third Wednesday of each month at 6:30 pm at the Olympia Center, 222 Columbia Street NW, in downtown Olympia. Contact Bourtai Hargrove at (360) 352-6327 [climate@olympiafor.org](mailto:climate@olympiafor.org)

**Pope Francis' powerful, informative, insightful encyclical stimulates many discussions – and, we hope – many positive actions:** Unlike many official statements by high-ranking people, Pope Francis' encyclical "Laudato Si" provides solid information, solid science, and solid insights about how on how the world's dominant economic systems have been hurting environments, the climate, indigenous people, and local cultures. It provides powerful critiques of industrial economics and capitalism itself. It urges us take care of the earth that God created for us and to respect the poor people who share our planet with us. In particular, Pope Francis declares that the climate crisis is "one of the principal challenges facing humanity in our day.... A great cultural, spiritual and educational challenge stands before us, and it will demand that we set out on the long path of renewal." Part #165 states, "We know that technology based on the use of highly polluting fossil fuels – especially coal, but also oil and, to a lesser degree, gas – needs to be progressively replaced without delay." The entire 188 page document is at: <http://tinyurl.com/o6sowft> and also at [http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/encyclicals/documents/papa-francesco\\_20150524\\_enciclica-laudato-si.html](http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/encyclicals/documents/papa-francesco_20150524_enciclica-laudato-si.html)

**Activities during the Pope's visit:** When he visits the U.S. from September 22 to 26, he will speak to Congress, the United Nations, and other audiences. Actions are planned in many places, including Olympia and Lacey. The interfaith Moral Action on Climate ([www.interfaithactiononclimatechange.org](http://www.interfaithactiononclimatechange.org)) has information. The savvy climate group Interfaith Power and Light ([www.interfaithpowerandlight.org](http://www.interfaithpowerandlight.org)) offers their **Interfaith Power and Light Climate Encyclical Action Kit** through their website or [www.tinyurl.com/nrguuhz](http://www.tinyurl.com/nrguuhz)

**Local study/discussion group on seven Wednesday evenings in Olympia:** See the Olympia FOR's AUG-SEPT calendar listing for Wed Sept 2 for information on this.

**Most religions have very good statements on Climate Change.** Bob Zeigler reports that many religious bodies' statements are posted at [www.interfaithpowerandlight.org/resources/religious-statements-on-climate-change/](http://www.interfaithpowerandlight.org/resources/religious-statements-on-climate-change/)

**Local information on the Encyclical and activities:** Bob Zeigler (360) 570-0848 [ZeiglerBob@msn.com](mailto:ZeiglerBob@msn.com)

**Fridays September 18 and 25: Special climate emphasis for Olympia FOR's weekly vigils at Percival Landing** (near the Kissing Statue at 4<sup>th</sup> & Water) from 4:30 to 6:00 to bracket the week when Pope Francis addresses Congress and the UN about the climate crisis. Bob Zeigler and the Olympia FOR will provide some signs or you may bring your own. Info: Olympia FOR, (360) 491-9093 [info@olympiafor.org](mailto:info@olympiafor.org)

**Thurs Sept 24: Vigil supporting the climate in parking lot next to Representative Denny Heck's office in Lacey:** Bob Zeigler and other local folks invite people to join them from 12 noon to 1 pm in the parking lot outside his office in the Lacey City Hall building near 3rd Ave SE and College Street SE. This is the same time when Pope Francis will be addressing the U.S. Congress about the climate crisis. Info: Bob Zeigler (360) 570-0848 and [ZeiglerBob@msn.com](mailto:ZeiglerBob@msn.com)

CLIMATE INFORMATION CONTINUES ONTO PAGE 4.

CLIMATE INFORMATION CONTINUES HERE FROM PAGE 3:

**Citizens' Climate Lobby (CCL) is building a movement for a nationwide fee on carbon – with proceeds rebated to people:** While at the Washington State level, Yoram Bauman's Initiative 732 offers an alternative to help the climate without costing the taxpayers anything and even improving fairness of Washington State's tax system, a very similar plan is advancing at the national level. The Citizens' Climate Lobby (CCL) works for a **nationwide** fee on carbon fuels (oil, coal, natural gas) with a dividend back to people. This "market-based solution" increases the cost of fuels that hurt the climate while offering a benefit to people who conserve. It would start with a fee of \$15/ton and increase by \$10/ton in each of the next few years. All (100%) of the fees collected would be distributed to households as dividends. Since the government does not keep the money, it is not a tax, but rather a revenue-neutral fee. Citizens' Climate Lobby is non-partisan and – like I-732 – appeals to people across the political spectrum without partisan baggage to bog it down. CCL educates people and uses smart strategies to move their nationwide proposal ahead. Info: [www.citizensclimatelobby.org](http://www.citizensclimatelobby.org) Contact Washington State's coordinator, Louise Stonington, at [lstoning@msn.com](mailto:lstoning@msn.com) (206) 322-7193.

**Shell Oil is sending drilling equipment to the Arctic's pristine environment with Obama's support, and – even before arriving there – crashed two oil drilling vessels *en route*:** The multi-issue progressive advocacy group Other 98% ([www.other98.com](http://www.other98.com)) reported this in early July 2015: "First, Shell ran the drill rig *Kulluk* aground in Alaska in 2012, resulting in 8 felony convictions for recklessness and willful deception of authorities. Now they've torn a 3 foot gash in their primary icebreaker, *Fennica*. On July 3rd, Shell was taking another shortcut through shallow, treacherous waters with the *Fennica* when they struck something hard enough to puncture the hull of their toughest icebreaker." Now Shell is sending the *Fennica* to Portland, Oregon, for repairs. Other98% points out, "This is Shell's only icebreaker equipped with a 'cap stack,' the mission-critical gear needed to cap a blown-out well. Shell's own safety plans – the ones they had to submit to the Department of Interior in order to get permits to drill in the Arctic – rely on having two primary icebreakers in order to avoid accidents that can lead to devastating oil spills." Please urge the U.S. Department of Interior to cancel the permits they have already granted Shell, and refuse to grant any more.

**The Olympia FOR's "People's Climate Action Fleet" made a bold, beautiful statement in Puget Sound offshore near the U.S. Open golf tournament SW of Tacoma on Sunday June 21:** A beautiful sunny day with Mount Rainier in the background created a compelling setting for tens of thousands of golf enthusiasts on-site to see the "People's Climate Action Fleet," which deployed many kayaks and other boats, including some boats hoisting banners with 10-foot-tall lettering opposing oil trains and urging climate protection. Thanks to the many people who helped in many ways, especially Olympia's Rod Tharp, who brought this bold, creative vision into reality through many, many hours of hard work! Bravo! Thanks to Alex Garland for writing powerfully about this event on [www.thedignityvirus.com](http://www.thedignityvirus.com) and for posting many of his original photos there, including these two.



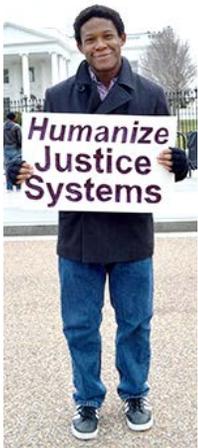
**Comprehensive new report on NW region's oil trains:** On July 6, 2015, Sightline Daily ([www.sightline.org](http://www.sightline.org)) released again a popular report, "The Northwest's Pipeline on Rails." It's the most comprehensive regional analysis of plans to ship huge amounts of crude oil by train: 1 million barrels a day on 100 trains a week. See [www.tinyurl.com/ppbmc9](http://www.tinyurl.com/ppbmc9)

**We can use humor to help people approach the climate crisis:** See examples at: [www.tinyurl.com/o6c3et9](http://www.tinyurl.com/o6c3et9)

# CRIMINAL JUSTICE

**U.S.'s horribly huge incarceration rate:** The U.S. has less than 5% of the world's population but nearly 25% of its prisoners. We currently imprison 2.3 million persons in the U.S. The U.S.'s decades of so-called "tough on crime" laws have led to us being the most incarcerated nation in the developed world. This disproportionately hurts racial and ethnic minorities and the economic underclass. Instead of solving problems, it makes problems worse. Recent research by Pew found that if you lock up more than 500 people per 100,000, you are actually adding to crime because imprisonment disrupts and destabilizes so many families and communities that cannot easily recover. The national average across the US is more than 700 per 100,000, but many communities around the country imprison 2,000 or even 4,000 per 100,000. We can and must do better!

**Privately owned prisons have used our corrupt political system to make huge profits that exploit prisoners and taxpayers alike:** Since 1989 the two biggest private prison companies have spent \$35 million on lobbying and campaign contributions to state and local officials. This also serves the "privatization" ideology that began as right-wing mania but has become common throughout the nation. The U.S. holds 16 times as many prisoners in privately owned profit-making prisons now as in 1990. Private prison companies have successfully lobbied for more harsh laws to send more people to prison for long sentences. Some of their extremely profitable government contracts require high numbers of inmates or else force the governments to pay financial penalties. This causes financial pressure against compassion and sensible sentencing. (By the way, private prisons do NOT save money compared to traditional government-operated prisons.) A number of progressive non-profit organizations are working to stop this corrupt, wasteful, inefficient system. The progressive advocacy group [www.represent.us](http://www.represent.us) offers a 3-minute video summarizing the process. It's at this link: [www.tinyurl.com/nnbq7kj](http://www.tinyurl.com/nnbq7kj)



**Better alternatives exist:** For example, after Longmont, Colorado, implemented its Community Restorative Justice Program, recidivism rates dropped to less than 8% in its first three years. Evidence shows that when we focus on healing the harm done – rather than simply punishing it – we save money and solve problems. Other remedies that actually work include intervening early with social services for young people at risk (serving them, not policing them), restorative justice (*Watch the Olympia FOR's April 2010 TV program on this at [www.olympiafor.org](http://www.olympiafor.org)*), rehabilitating prisoners and supporting their re-entry into society, helping all parts of the system understand and act compassionately for the trauma that various persons have experienced (victims, offenders before they committed their crimes, etc.), diverting people from the system into more effective alternatives, reforming the juvenile system to protect young people from the system's brutality, and increased mediation of problems in society and in the systems.

**The Peace Alliance is working on "Humanizing Justice Systems" as part of its "Peacebuilding Cornerstones" in their "Be the Movement" initiative:** The Peace Alliance is a 501(c)4 non-profit organization with a 501(c)3 non-profit called the Peace Alliance Educational Institute. They empower civic engagement for a culture of peace. Their new efforts – [www.peacealliance.org/who-we-are/be-the-movement](http://www.peacealliance.org/who-we-are/be-the-movement) – include reforming our nation's ineffective and unjust criminal justice system. (Some of the information on this page came from the Peace Alliance.)

**Information and resources for sentencing reform:** The Friends Committee on National Legislation is a Quaker-based lobby that works for peace, social justice, etc. Their April 2015 newsletter focuses on excessive imprisonment and especially on the racial injustices involved. See their *Washington Newsletter* issue number 769 at [www.fcnl.org](http://www.fcnl.org) and much more information at [www.fcnl.org/breakthecycle](http://www.fcnl.org/breakthecycle) The back page of their April 2015 newsletter urges us to contact Congress to act this year to reform excessive incarceration. **Examples:**

- **Reduce lengthy, unjust sentences:** Mandatory minimum sentences are a poor crime deterrent and have only led to more people behind bars, often for nonviolent drug crimes. The **Smarter Sentencing Act (S.502/H.R.920)** would cut mandatory minimum sentences for drug offenses in half, give judges more sentencing discretion and allow thousands of federal prisoners to seek fairer sentences. It would also reduce the disparity between crack and powder cocaine sentences. The **Justice Safety Valve Act (S.353/H.R.706)** would give judges discretion to issue sentences shorter than the mandatory minimums currently required by law.
- **Make it easier for former prisoners to find a place in their communities after release:** Once people leave prison, their punishment isn't over. It can be difficult or impossible to find a job or receive food or housing assistance with a criminal record. The **REDEEM Act (S.675/H.R.1672)** sets up a process to seal or expunge the record for nonviolent crimes in certain cases. It also makes it possible for non-violent drug offenders to receive SNAP (food stamps) and TANF (short-term welfare) if they otherwise qualify for the assistance. The **Second Chance Reauthorization Act** helps people leaving prison to find housing, employment, substance abuse treatment and education opportunities.

**CRIMINAL JUSTICE CONTINUES FROM PAGE 3:**

**Congress is considering long overdue reforms in sentencing:** Both political parties are finally recognizing gross injustices and financial waste in excessive prison sentences. Congress is considering a sweeping new bill called the **SAFE Justice Act**. After two years of bipartisan efforts led by Rep. Jim Sensenbrenner (R-IL) and Rep. Bobby Scott (D-VA), this bill would:

- Allow judges latitude regarding police manipulation of suspects,
- Increase use of evidence-based sentencing alternatives,
- Provide relief from mandatory minimums and length of sentences,
- Reforms probation to make it more supportive and less punitive, helping people reintegrate into the community.

**Likewise, President Obama has finally urged reforms that would reduce injustices and save money:** Also, 60 non-profit organizations signed onto a “Statement of Principles Necessary for Broad-Based Criminal Justice Reform.” The statement recognizes the huge waste of taxpayers’ money and damage to peoples’ lives caused by excessively long sentences, especially for drug offenses. The statement recommends several specific reforms. The 60 organizations wanting people to urge their U.S. House and Senate members to support major reforms include the American Civil Liberties Union ([www.aclu.org](http://www.aclu.org)), The Sentencing Project ([www.sentencingproject.org](http://www.sentencingproject.org)), and the “Humanizing Justice Systems” project of The Peace Alliance ([www.peacealliance.org](http://www.peacealliance.org)).

**Moderately conservative U.S. Supreme Court Justice condemns long-term solitary confinement:** U.S. Supreme Court Justice Anthony Kennedy is often the “swing vote” in 5-4 majorities that tilt toward either the liberal or conservative side. In a recent case involving racial bias in selecting juries, Kennedy stretched far beyond the issues in that immediate case and wrote a separate five-page opinion condemning prolonged solitary confinement and actually inviting someone to challenge its constitutionality. Read [www.tinyurl.com/neeln4u](http://www.tinyurl.com/neeln4u), a fascinating article about this – with surprising opinions about the death penalty.

# DEATH PENALTY

**VICTORY! Nebraska abolishes the death penalty:** Nebraska, the only state with just one legislative body, not two, abolished the death penalty and overrode the veto of the governor, who wanted to keep the death penalty. The legislature’s several votes to abolish were huge 2/1 majorities. In this heavily Republican state, many legislators expressed solidly conservative reasons for opposing the death penalty as an expensive, wasteful, ineffective government program that is profoundly “anti-life.”

**Jury UNANIMOUSLY REJECTS death penalty in Washington State case:** On July 23, 2015, a jury in Seattle unanimously rejected the King County prosecutor’s request for a death sentence and instead sentenced Christopher Monfort to life in prison without the possibility of parole (LWOP). On June 5 he was convicted of killing two Seattle police officers in 2009. After the guilty verdict, the jury needed to decide between life and death. Danielle Fulfs, Program Director for the Washington Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty (WCADP, [www.abolishdeathpenalty.org](http://www.abolishdeathpenalty.org)), stated, “This is important, not only because we oppose all death sentences, but because it is more evidence of the fact that the death penalty in Washington is on its way out.” The jury deliberated only briefly before choosing LWOP instead of death. This is explained both in the Seattle *Times* article at [www.tinyurl.com/nar3nqh](http://www.tinyurl.com/nar3nqh) and in WCADP’s news release at [www.tinyurl.com/nhguwxb](http://www.tinyurl.com/nhguwxb) For more information contact Danielle Fulfs at [danielle@abolishdeathpenalty.org](mailto:danielle@abolishdeathpenalty.org)

**In another recent Washington case, that jury also voted for life instead of death:** In death penalty cases, for many years the Supreme Court has allowed prosecutors to exclude from juries anyone who opposes the death penalty. The resulting “death-qualified” juries are probably skewed toward being hard-nosed, callous, “tough-on-crime,” and hence more likely to convict a defendant. This makes legal defense harder. In May 2015, four of the twelve “death-qualified” jurors voted for life without possibility of parole (LWOP) instead of death in the case of Joseph McEnroe. While some of these four jurors expressed several reasons, a Seattle *Times* article about the sentence suggested that “the death penalty is also on trial,” because this was such a horrible crime but the 8-4 sentencing decision was tantamount to “jury nullification,” the principle that a jury can also decide a case in a larger context that considers the underlying law. The political establishment hates “jury nullification,” because it can free peace protesters who trespass on nuclear weapons bases, etc. While the death penalty’s opponents often highlight problems such as innocence, racism, cost, and geographic disparities, a great many people oppose the death penalty because it is **just plain wrong** for the government to kill people. “**Moral outrage**” is an important reason that resonates

DEATH PENALTY CONTINUES ONTO PAGE 7:

**DEATH PENALTY CONTINUES FROM PAGE 6:**

with many people in the general public. As we continue pushing to abolish the death penalty, let's include "moral outrage" in addition to the "practical" reasons for abolishing it.

**Seattle Times is editorializing against the death penalty:** The Editorial Board published [www.tinyurl.com/nhkkomx](http://www.tinyurl.com/nhkkomx) on May 30, 2015 and updated it a little bit on May 31, 2015. This editorial explicitly opposes the death penalty.

**Another EXTREMELY unjust death sentence has occurred:** One morning in 2012 Rodricus Crawford woke up and noticed that his baby was not breathing. One family member phoned 911, and others took turns administering CPR. The ambulance did not arrive for a long time. When they took the baby into the ambulance they would not allow Mr. Crawford to be a passenger. A few minutes later the baby died, police arrived at Crawford's home, and they arrested him. Nobody thought he had killed the baby. The autopsy pointed clearly to natural causes. Nevertheless, the local prosecutor convinced a jury to convict him and sentence him to death. (Crawford happens to be African-American.) Read the article at [www.tinyurl.com/pgxgphu](http://www.tinyurl.com/pgxgphu)

**Information about problems with lethal injection and other forms of execution:** [www.tinyurl.com/qxsk66b](http://www.tinyurl.com/qxsk66b)

**Supreme Court's narrow case ends with big implications:** On July 7, 2015, Equal Justice USA ([www.ejusa.org](http://www.ejusa.org)) reported on a surprising decision by the U.S. Supreme Court in the *Glossip v Gross* death penalty case regarding lethal injection. EJUSA reported that despite this case's narrow scope, the oral arguments "revealed deep disagreement between the Justices about the death penalty in the United States." Although the Court approved Oklahoma's use of a controversial drug for killing people, the Court's decision "seemed to ignore the fact that the death penalty is falling into disuse around the country and that there is a growing consensus across the political spectrum that it is broken beyond repair. But those facts were not lost on the Court's minority. Justice Stephen Breyer, joined by Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, called for a 'full briefing' on 'whether the death penalty violates the Constitution.' ... EJUSA's Shari Silberstein identified a "catch-22" – "You simply can't have a death penalty that is both fast and cheap and efficient and that tries to be fair and accurate and never gets the wrong person. The two things are fundamentally incompatible." Justice Breyer noted what he called "fundamental constitutional defects" in the administration of the modern death penalty and added that "most places within the United States have abandoned its use." Breyer ended the 41-page decision announcing, "I believe it highly likely that the death penalty violates the Eighth Amendment." Although a 5-4 majority allowed Oklahoma to use the controversial drug, at some time in the future the "full briefing" that Breyer and Ginsburg called for must occur.

**More information about the item immediately above: U.S. Supreme Court Justice challenges death penalty's constitutionality:** On the last day of the Court's 2014-2015 season, Justice Stephen Breyer went far beyond the issue of the drug Oklahoma uses for lethal injection and wrote a 40-page dissent challenging the constitutionality of the death penalty itself. Departing from a narrow focus is rare, and Breyer's moderate role in the Court makes his boldness even more exciting. He asked whether the death penalty is an unconstitutional form of "cruel and unusual punishment" prohibited by the Eighth Amendment. Although about 15,000 murders occur in the U.S., we executed only 35 persons in 2014. Despite 40 years of procedural reforms, Breyer asked whether the death penalty and executions are so freakishly rare and inconsistent that he wonders whether "the arbitrary imposition of punishment is the antithesis of the rule of law." Breyer noted that research consistently shows race, geography, and the lawyer's skill are often bigger factors in who lives or dies than the defendant's culpability. Even with many procedural safeguards now in place, many innocent persons are still convicted and sentenced to death. Many innocent persons are not cleared and freed until they have spent decades on death row – often in solitary confinement. Perhaps the death penalty itself is so broken that it cannot be repaired. Read two fascinating articles at [www.tinyurl.com/neeln4u](http://www.tinyurl.com/neeln4u) and at [www.tinyurl.com/nlpsnx9](http://www.tinyurl.com/nlpsnx9)

**Former Chief Justice of Georgia's Supreme Court calls for abolishing death penalty:** His experienced convinced him that the death penalty is immoral and is not useful. Read more at [www.tinyurl.com/pon7jkb](http://www.tinyurl.com/pon7jkb)

**Yes, EACH OF US can take a practical step toward abolishing the death penalty:** Moving public opinion toward opposing the death penalty will make it more "politically safe" for politicians to act toward abolishing it. A very efficient way to communicate with the public is to write letters to editors (and post our thoughts onto websites, etc.). Each time some aspect of the death penalty is in the news (e.g., information from this news article, news of a botched execution, news of yet another innocent person freed from death row), we have a great opportunity to write a letter to an editor (or post our thoughts onto websites, etc.). If many of us would take advantage of these opportunities, the public would discover a variety of our fresh insights, and various ones of these would "click" with various individual readers and move them toward our side. Also, the volume of our communications would create a political "buzz" – the impression that the public has become aroused in opposition to the death penalty. This is what we need if we are to move politicians to our side.

# TELEVISION PROGRAMS

Every month since February 1987 the Olympia Fellowship of Reconciliation has produced one-hour TV programs on issues related to peace, social justice, economics, the environment, and nonviolence. The Olympia FOR's program airs three times every week for the entire month on Thurston Community Television (TCTV), channel 22 for Thurston County's cable TV subscribers. See TCTV's schedule at [www.tctv.net](http://www.tctv.net).

You can also watch the program described below (and more than 100 of our previous interview programs and special programs at the Olympia FOR's website, [www.olympiafor.org](http://www.olympiafor.org). Simply click the TV programs link, scroll down, and click the program you want to watch. Many of our website's TV program listings also include links to documents describing the program in Word and/or .pdf format.

## AUGUST 2015

### “RACIAL JUSTICE INSIGHTS FOR WHITE FOLKS”

by Glen Anderson, producer and host of this TV series

A MUCH MORE THOROUGH DESCRIPTION OF THE PROGRAM IS POSTED ON THE “TV PROGRAMS” PART OF [www.olympiafor.org](http://www.olympiafor.org)

Within any very large group of people – such as an entire nation – power is not distributed evenly. Some kinds of people have more political, economic and social power than other kinds of people.

In the United States, a big factor affecting the unequal distribution of power is a person's race. The historical roots go back 400 years to the early 1600s when white European people came here and stole the land from Native Americans and – also in the early 1600s – started bringing African people here to work as slaves. Injustices still continue 400 years later.

Imbalance of power is experienced **both** as overt discrimination and violence **and also** in more subtle ways that the dominant white majority might not even be aware of, but that the people of color do experience on an ongoing basis.

The Olympia FOR's August 2015 TV program explores problems and also solutions. We explore them at both the systemic level and the personal level. We explore especially these more subtle kinds of racial injustice that occur in the U.S. and even in our local community.

Our local community in the greater Olympia area is overwhelmingly white, so we have four white guests who will share insights that can help our white majority community become more inclusive, more fair, and more just. Our four guests have long experience working to create a more racially inclusive and fair society: **Laurie Rasmussen, Alec Clayton, Kathy Baros Friedt, and Jim Bamberger.**

## NATIONAL AND LOCAL CONTEXTS

As soon as Barack Obama was elected in 2008, some people proclaimed that now the U.S. is “post-racial,” despite 400 years of racial oppression. That is one misconception. Another misconception is that racism is mostly limited to the South and overt behaviors such as flying the Confederate flag. Actually, racial injustice occurs throughout our entire nation – and often in subtle ways that white people do not notice, but that people of color do notice – painfully – every day.

After civil rights laws ended legally enforced discrimination, informal discrimination continues. Racial bias is built into ways the US deals with how we fund schools, how people get hired for jobs, how people get access to home mortgages, how the police and courts and prisons work, how people get access to decent food and health care, how long people live, and even where toxic waste dumps are located.

Throughout the U.S., African-Americans are disproportionately stopped by police, disproportionately prosecuted, disproportionately incarcerated. But research shows that white people actually commit more crimes but have lower rates of police stops, prosecutions, and incarceration.

Overall, people of any race other than white are treated adversely. Native Americans especially suffer very grossly disparate outcomes compared to whites – in virtually every area of social, economic and political life.

People in Washington State tend to think that we are better than other states, but racial injustice exists here too. Although Olympia, Washington, enjoys a self-image as progressive and inclusive, problems exist here too. In a variety of ways, we do not “walk our talk.”

Many African-Americans who work for the state government choose not to live in Olympia, but rather to commute from

Tacoma. We need to explore why, and we need to become more welcoming.

Also, hate crimes are committed in Olympia, just like in other parts of the country.

## WHITE PRIVILEGE

A very useful concept for Americans to understand race is that of “white privilege.” People grow up within a given culture and see things from that perspective without questioning it. Our culture is dominated by systems in which white people have more power than other people, so whites assume it’s “just the way things are.” (Likewise, males, straight people, and people who are not economically poor have privilege of which they are unaware.)

In the US, whiteness is the norm, so our privilege is invisible. But people of color experience injustices – large and small – every day. One aspect of white privilege is that white folks can avoid dealing with race unless they choose to, but people of color do not have that option. They are confronted by it in many ways every day.

## IMPROVING OUR OWN SELVES AND OUR SOCIETY

Fifty years ago Congress passed laws to protect civil rights and stop legally enforced discrimination. But even now – half a century later – informal discrimination continues in many, many ways. Long ago, racial injustice was built into our social, economic and political systems, and it persists. It is also built into our own individual selves because we grew up in a society that has racism embedded in it.



When people of color talk about what they experience as people of color, white folks should listen more closely and with more openness. They experience cuts every day of their lives, but white folks are oblivious to this unless we listen closely and with openness to learning from them.

White folks need to make efforts to become aware of racial biases within our own individual selves – and also to recognize the various forms of racial injustice at the larger level. We must reform our political, economic, cultural, and other systems to eliminate the bias embedded in those systems. Historically, white folks created these problems, so white folks must take responsibility to solve those systemic problems, and also learn how to become authentic allies with people of color.

White folks should not feel guilty for the problems that exist, but we should take responsibility to address those problems. White people can become more alert to recognizing our own privilege and recognizing injustices. Then we can also become allies without being patronizing. It’s important for white people to speak up when we detect racial bias – even unintentional. Stand up and stand out for fairness.

There are useful ways to respond when friends – or we ourselves – say or do something racist. Instead of imposing the label “racist” upon an entire person, refer to the specific thing the person said or did. This will allow the person to focus on the specific statement or behavior, rather than feel defensive about a bad label accusing the entire person. (Think of it as a simple matter-of-fact correction like pointing out a fragment of food caught between the person’s teeth.)

Watch a very enjoyable and helpful 12-minute TEDx video by Jay Smooth – “**How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love Discussing Race**” – is on YouTube at this link: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=MbdxeFcQtaU](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MbdxeFcQtaU)

White people need to take responsibility for working with other white people about this. It is not fair to shift onto people of color the task of explaining to white people the realities that white folks should address ourselves. (This is why we have four white guests on this TV program to talk to our overwhelmingly white viewing audience.)

## NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS ARE HELPING NOW

All four guests and the host are active in a local group that works against racial injustice, **Olympia Unity in the Community**. See [www.OlympiaUnityInTheCommunity.org](http://www.OlympiaUnityInTheCommunity.org)

In response to the May 21, 2015, police shooting of two unarmed black teenagers in Olympia, the Peace and Social Justice Committee of our local Quaker congregation, the **Olympia Friends Meeting**, wrote a thoughtful statement. It is posted at <http://olympiafriends.org/blog>

The national **Fellowship of Reconciliation** (founded in 1915) has been doing significant work for racial justice since

about 1940 – about 75 years ago. While largely a peace organization, the FOR also works on various other issues, including racial justice which is emerging again as an important priority. See [www.forusa.org](http://www.forusa.org)

A newer organization is called **Showing up for Racial Justice (SURJ)**. SURJ is a nationwide network of individuals and groups – including a new Olympia chapter – that especially organizes white people to work for racial justice. Their website is [www.showingupforracialjustice.org](http://www.showingupforracialjustice.org)

Many writers of various races and ethnicities have written books and other resources on these topics. Some white writers

– notably **Tim Wise** and **Peggy McIntosh** – also have written extensively and produced videos designed to help white folks make progress.

We invite people to start racial justice groups within existing non-profit orgs, within faith communities, at neighborhood levels, and in other settings.

## SEPTEMBER 2015

# “How to Talk Politics with People Different from You”

by Glen Anderson, producer and host of this TV series

After we tape this program in August we will write a much more thorough description about it and post it on the “TV Programs” part of [www.olympiafor.org](http://www.olympiafor.org)

Our nation seems politically polarized. It is hard for people to have a rational conversation about a controversial issue when people at different spots along the political spectrum disagree sharply about what is real and true. This makes it very hard to discuss our political values and how to solve public policy problems.

Decades ago nearly everyone read the same newspapers and watched the same TV news broadcasts, so many folks shared more of a common world view. Now people seem to get their news from sources that reinforce their own positions, and they avoid reading or listening to viewpoints that are different. Each side tends to regard **its own** positions as based on rational thoughts and values, but its **opponents'** positions as based on lies and biases. This is a very fragile foundation for democracy.

Conversations grounded in civility and politeness seem to have been replaced by shouting accusations and denouncing the opposite side with nasty names, rather than listening to each other in an honest search for truth. Of course, this mean-spirited polarization will not convince the people on the other side.

For example, in the controversy about abortion, one side supports “life” and the other supports “choice.” Both are good values overall, but both words get abused in polarized debates. Why do so many “pro-life” people fail to oppose war, which destroys life? Would “pro-choice” people have supported slave-owners’ “choice” to own slaves?

Demetri Martin said: “Raising your voice is the next best thing to being right.”

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow said: “If we could read the secret history of our 'enemies,' we should find in each person's life sorrow and suffering enough to disarm all hostility.”

Glen Anderson said: “We must organize more skillfully from the grassroots. Part of our strategy must be to change what the debate is about. If we are not changing the debate, we will lose the debate. For example, in modern American culture, when people talk about ‘gun rights,’ they assume only from the perspective of people who own guns. They don’t think about the rights of people shot by guns. What about the rights of victims of gun violence? But, of course, our modern American culture is grounded in the possession of material objects, and our culture is grounded in the assumption that violence is a good way to solve problems (‘the myth of redemptive violence’).”

Polarized sloganeering is far too simplistic for an honest democracy. Can’t we get beyond simplistic slogans to explore our core values and how we might find some win-win solutions (e.g., the best ways to reduce the numbers of unwanted pregnancies, and the best ways to provide every child who is born with a decent standard of living)?

Are we stuck with escalating polarization? Or can we find better ways to respect the basic humanity even of people with whom we disagree?

**Of course, we who advocate for particular public policies want to convince people on the other side. But can’t we find better ways to raise our issues so that we will be more effective in convincing the public, the media, the politicians, and our society’s other decision-makers? Some kinds of strategies and arguments work better than others. Let’s learn from what works!**

The Olympia FOR’s September 2015 TV program will address some of the early paragraphs above, and **much more of the one paragraph immediately above**. After we tape our September program in mid-August, we’ll post a more thorough description of this program on the “TV Programs” part of [www.olympiafor.org](http://www.olympiafor.org)

Our guests will be Michael Savoca, the Rev. Dr. John Van Eenwyk, and someone from the Dispute Resolution Center of Thurston County.

# CALENDAR FOR AUGUST-SEPTEMBER 2015

EVENTS SPONSORED BY FOR ARE PRECEDED BY THE SYMBOL **FOR**.

PHONE NUMBERS ARE IN (360) UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.

EVENTS OUTSIDE OF THURSTON COUNTY HAVE THEIR LOCATIONS UNDERLINED.

TCTV PROGRAMS USE CABLE CHANNEL 22 IN THURSTON COUNTY.

## EVERY WEEK:

**Every Monday through Friday from 5:00 to 6:00 am: “Democracy Now” with Amy Goodman** on TCTV cable channel 22 in Thurston County. (For many years the Olympia FOR has provided financial support for TCTV’s airing of “Democracy Now.”)

**Every Monday through Friday from 9:00 to 10:00 am: Amy Goodman’s “Democracy Now,”** KAOS 89.3 FM

**FOR** **Every Monday at 1:30 pm: Olympia FOR’s program on TCTV, cable channel 22 in Thurston County – or watch it at any time on your computer through [www.olympiafor.org](http://www.olympiafor.org): AUGUST: “Racial Justice Insights for White Folks.” SEPTEMBER: “How to Talk Politics with People Different from You.”** See descriptions in our AUG-SEPT newsletter and on the “TV Programs” part of [www.olympiafor.org](http://www.olympiafor.org). Info: Glen Anderson 491-9093 [glen@olympiafor.org](mailto:glen@olympiafor.org)

**Every Monday through Friday from 4 to 5 pm: “Democracy Now” with Amy Goodman** on TCTV cable channel 22 in Thurston County. (For a number of years the Olympia FOR has provided financial support for TCTV’s airing of “Democracy Now.”)

**Every Monday through Friday from 5:00 to 5:30 pm: Free Speech Radio News** on KAOS 89.3 FM

**Every Monday at 5:00 pm: Veterans for Peace** airs a locally produced program on TCTV. Info: Dennis Mills 867-1487 [mills.dennis@comcast.net](mailto:mills.dennis@comcast.net) and [www.vfp109rcc.org](http://www.vfp109rcc.org)

**FOR** **Every Wednesday from 12:00 noon to 1:00 pm: Peace Vigil** in NW corner of Sylvester Park (at Legion & Capitol Way) has persisted since March 5, 1980. Please come for all or part of the hour to witness in a friendly way for peace and nonviolence. We provide plenty of signs. Info: [glen@olympiafor.org](mailto:glen@olympiafor.org) 491-9093 [www.olympiafor.org/vigils.htm](http://www.olympiafor.org/vigils.htm)

**FOR** **Every Wednesday at 5:00 pm: Olympia FOR’s program on TCTV, cable channel 22 in Thurston County – or watch it at any time on your computer through [www.olympiafor.org](http://www.olympiafor.org). AUGUST: “Racial Justice Insights for White Folks.” SEPTEMBER: “How to Talk Politics with People Different from You.”** See descriptions in our August-September 2015 newsletter and on the “TV Programs” part of [www.olympiafor.org](http://www.olympiafor.org). Info: Glen Anderson 491-9093 [glen@olympiafor.org](mailto:glen@olympiafor.org)

**Every Wednesday at 5:00 pm: Hear “Talk Nation Radio” on KAOS-FM 89.3:** This 29-minute radio program offers politically progressive programs through the Pacifica Network. Info: <http://davidswanson.org/talknationradio>

**Every Thursday from 12:00 to 1:00 pm: Kim Dobson’s “Parallel University”** on KAOS 89.3 FM interviews knowledgeable, interesting experts on peace, social justice, the environment, progressive politics, and other alternative viewpoints. Info: Kim Dobson. 951-4382, [parralleluniversity@yahoo.com](mailto:parralleluniversity@yahoo.com), <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Parallel-University-Radio-Show/148750248532028>) See list of current and past topics and guests. Listen locally at 89.3 FM or at [www.kaosradio.org](http://www.kaosradio.org)

**Every Thursday from 4 to 5 pm: Cop Watch volunteers invite you to connect with local efforts to monitor police behavior:** Cop Watch’s concerned citizens are available to hear your stories and strengthen local efforts. Come to Traditions Café, 5<sup>th</sup> & Water, downtown Olympia.

**Every Thursday at 8:00 pm: Veterans for Peace** airs a locally produced program on TCTV. Info: Dennis Mills 867-1487 [mills.dennis@comcast.net](mailto:mills.dennis@comcast.net) and [www.vfp109rcc.org](http://www.vfp109rcc.org)

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**Every Friday from 8:30 to 10:30 am: The Housing Justice Project can help low-income tenants:** From 8:30 to 10:30 am Thurston County Volunteer Legal Services presents the Housing Justice Project at the Thurston County Superior Courthouse, Building 2 at 2000 Lakeridge Drive SW, Olympia. They offer landlord/tenant advice for the tenants, unlawful detainer docket representation, and help for mobile home owners with complaints about rules violations, notices from landlords or park owners and mobile home eviction

cases. Call 705-8194 for information or to schedule an appointment. For immediate legal information call toll-free (888) 201-1014 between 9:15 am and 12:15 pm Monday through Friday.

**FOR Every Friday from 4:30 to 6:00 pm: Peace Vigil** at Percival Landing's south end, 4<sup>th</sup> & Water, downtown. Please join us for whatever length of time you can. We provide plenty of signs. The Artesian Rumble Arkestra street band joins us at 5:00 with lively music to support our vigil! We have vigiled here since November 1998. The Olympia FOR sponsors this. Info: 491-9093 [glen@olympiafor.org](mailto:glen@olympiafor.org) [www.olympiafor.org/vigils.htm](http://www.olympiafor.org/vigils.htm) and [www.oly-wa.us/artesianrumble](http://www.oly-wa.us/artesianrumble)

**Every Friday from 5:00 to 6:00 pm: "Women in Black" Silent Vigil for Peace** on the south side of W 4<sup>th</sup> Ave near the fountain. They invite women wearing black to join them and hold their signs. Since 1988 "Women in Black" has been a loose network of women worldwide committed to peace with justice, actively opposing war and violence. Rosemary Barnhart 866-7589 [rosemary.b@comcast.net](mailto:rosemary.b@comcast.net)

**FOR Every Saturday from 12:00 noon to 1:00 pm: Peace Vigil in Centralia** on the edge of Washington Park at Locust & Pearl in downtown Centralia. Sponsor: Lewis County's "Fire Mountain" FOR chapter. Info: June Butler 748-9658 or Larry Kerschner 880-4741 [larry@peacepoet.me](mailto:larry@peacepoet.me)

**Every Saturday at 2:00 pm: Veterans for Peace** airs a locally produced program on TCTV. Info: Dennis Mills 867-1487 [mills.dennis@comcast.net](mailto:mills.dennis@comcast.net) and [www.vfp109rcc.org](http://www.vfp109rcc.org)

**Every Sat and Sun: The South Sound Estuarium, a marine life discovery center, is open** at its new, larger location, 309 State Ave NE, Olympia, from 11 am to 4 pm every Saturday and Sunday. It is possible to schedule group visits during the week by appointment only. Regular admission \$5 for a family, \$3 per individual adult, \$1 for children 17 and younger, and free for association members. Info: Leihla 888-0565 [www.sseacenter.wordpress.com](http://www.sseacenter.wordpress.com)

## SPECIFIC DATES

**August is "Nuclear-Free Future Month"** -- Since 2006, United for Peace & Justice (UFPJ) has declared August to be "Nuclear-Free Future Month: Time to Phase Out Nuclear Power and Start Negotiations on a Treaty to Abolish Nuclear Weapons!" It's a long title and a bold goal, but we absolutely must do this to avoid global catastrophe, because launching any nuclear weapons – by accident or by miscalculation, even if not by malice – would devastate earth. UFPJ has issued "A Call to Commemorate the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversaries of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki Atomic Bombings." (See [www.unitedforpeace.org](http://www.unitedforpeace.org)) We must educate the public, engage their hearts and brains, and build the popular movement necessary to eliminate this threat to human survival. The problem is as urgent as ever. Break the silence! Take action!

**Now through October 31: Help local homeless kids by donating for matching grant program:** -- The Family Support Center at 201 Capitol Way N (corner of State Ave) in downtown Olympia has a "Homeless No More" project through which people can have financial donations matched from now through October 31, 2015. Info: 754-9297

**FOR Mon Aug 3: "Racial Justice Insights for White Folks" -- The Olympia FOR's August TV program debuts** at 1:30 this afternoon and airs three times a week this month on TCTV channel 22 for Thurston County's cable subscribers. *You also can watch it* at [www.olympiafor.org/tv\\_programs.htm](http://www.olympiafor.org/tv_programs.htm) and read a description of the program more thorough than the one published in our Aug-Sept 2015 newsletter.

**FOR Tues Aug 4: Olympia FOR's book discussion group** has been meeting on the first Tuesday of each month for several years. Our host/facilitator, Chuck Schultz, is retiring from

those roles. If you would like to host or facilitate so we can continue the group, please talk with Chuck at 705-8520 and notify Glen Anderson (491-9093 [glen@olympiafor.org](mailto:glen@olympiafor.org)), so we can announce the new location in future newsletters. **UPDATE:** Jim Bellingier [jimbellingier@comcast.net](mailto:jimbellingier@comcast.net), (360) 359-2212, has expressed interest in hosting this starting tonight at his home, 1515 Tullis St NE, starting at 6:00 pm. For tonight, please read a book related to the theme "Black Lives Matter."

**Tues Aug 4: Sierra Club South Sound's monthly meeting** from 6:00 to 8:00 pm at the Mekong Restaurant, 125 Columbia Street Northwest (SW corner of State Ave), downtown Olympia. Info: Phyllis Farrell, [phyllisfarrell@hotmail.com](mailto:phyllisfarrell@hotmail.com) and [www.sierraclub.org/washington/local-groups](http://www.sierraclub.org/washington/local-groups)

**Wed Aug 5: August 5: "Practices for Recovering Knowers" – This is part of the "First Wednesday Conversation" series:** The series to increase and nurture systems intelligence in our community, to help our work become more effective and sustainable. "Systems intelligence" is the ability to apply systems thinking to complex challenges. These challenges are different from merely technical problems. We need to learn in order to understand the problem and address the emergent challenge, so we can take wise action. Today's conversation will draw on Brian Hinken's thinking and his wonderful book *The Learner's Path – Practices for Recovering Knowers*. These First Wednesday Conversations take place on the first Wednesday of each month from 4:30 to 6:00 pm in the lobby of the Olympia Senior Center. It's fine to bring coffee, tea or a snack. The facilitator is Steve Byers. Info: [www.helpinghumansystems.com](http://www.helpinghumansystems.com)

**Wed Aug 5: Experience the Peaceful Muslims of Sudan:** Sudan is home to the Blue Nile and White Nile, and has pyramids as old as those in Egypt. Yet, we know little about the culture of Sudan because Sudan has closed its doors to the West for years. Anila Goldie will share surprising, heart-felt insights and observations about the peace-loving Sudanese Muslims. Her 45-minute PowerPoint presentation includes rare photographs, watercolors and oil paintings by Sudanese artists. There will be time for questions and answers about Sudan. Her book and audio CD, *The Problem is Not Available, 364 Days in Sudan*, will be available for purchase. A portion of the proceeds are given to organizations promoting world peace. Anila Prineveau Goldie, M.Ed., is a retired teacher with 30 years of teaching experience both in the USA and abroad. She lived and taught in Khartoum, Sudan. 7:00-8:30 p.m. Traditions Café, 300 5th Ave SW, Olympia. See [www.theproblemisnotavailable.com](http://www.theproblemisnotavailable.com) or call (425) 242-1239 for more information about the author and about Sudan.

**Thurs Aug 6: Get big money out of politics! Local organizing meeting tonight:** Olympia's Move to Amend group invites everyone to join them for tonight's monthly meeting (first Thursday each month) at 7:00 pm in Room 280 of Bldg 1 at the Thurston County Courthouse. Get info from two savvy local organizers, Michael Savoca at [masavoca@fairpoint.net](mailto:masavoca@fairpoint.net) and Jennifer Sprague 866-8906 [jbsprague@hotmail.com](mailto:jbsprague@hotmail.com)

**Thurs-Sun Aug 6-9: Campaign Nonviolence holds its first national gathering** in [Santa Fe NM](#) with presentations, workshops, vigils, and more. Info: [www.paceebene.org](http://www.paceebene.org)

**Fri Aug 7 and other dates: FILM: Testament of Youth is a powerful story of love, war, and remembrance, based on British FOR member Vera Brittain's World War I memoir, which has become the classic testimony of that war from a woman's point of view.** This is a searing journey from youthful hopes and dreams to the edge of despair and back again. Vera Brittain was an early member of the Fellowship of Reconciliation in England. Her writings about World War I and the early FOR are classics. This film, *Testament of Youth*, is about young love, the futility of war, and how to make sense of the darkest times. This 129-minuted 2015 film from the UK was directed by James Kent. It will be shown at Olympia Film Society, Capitol Theater, 206 5th Ave SE, at 6:30 pm Friday the 7th, 6:30 pm Saturday the 8th, 2:30 and 7:30 pm Sunday the 9th, 9:00 pm Tuesday the 11th, 6:30 pm Wednesday the 12th, and 4:00 and 9:00 pm Thursday the 13th. [www.olympiafilmsociety.org](http://www.olympiafilmsociety.org)

**Fri-Sat-Sun-Mon Aug 7-8-9-10: Commemorate the 70th anniversary of the US's atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki and say, "NEVER AGAIN!!!"** Plan now to participate in a rich weekend of fellowship, education, nonviolence training, music, a vigil at the Kitsap Mall, and a nonviolent direct action at the Trident nuclear submarine base at Bangor in Kitsap County early Monday morning. **Friday August 7:** Welcome campers! Potluck, campfire, movies, social time. **Saturday August 8:** Welcome everyone and peacewalkers from Nipponzan Myhoji Buddhist Temple. Nonviolence training, leafleting at four

corners, evening concert by Tom Rawson. **Sunday Aug 9:** Remembrances, memorial, letter-writing and e-mail sessions. Bernie Meyer and Mary Hanson provide crucial information about the crisis in Ukraine. (Watch July's Olympia FOR TV program at [www.olympiafor.org](http://www.olympiafor.org)). Overnight vigil at gate of Bangor's nuclear submarine base. **Monday Aug 10:** Nonviolent direct action at Bangor sub base gate. Gather at Ground Zero Center for Nonviolent Action, 16159 Clear Creek Road NW, Poulsbo WA. More info and driving directions are at [www.gzcenter.org](http://www.gzcenter.org)

**ALSO:** More information about freeing our region from nuclear weapons will be posted at the Puget Sound Nuclear Weapon Free Zone Local Events Calendar at [www.psnukefree.org](http://www.psnukefree.org)

**ALSO:** Participate in the "Global Wave," a simple but important gesture that any number of people can do. Just get some people together, Wave Goodbye to Nuclear Weapons, and photograph yourselves. See [www.globalwave2015.org/how-to-organise](http://www.globalwave2015.org/how-to-organise)

**Sun Aug 9: Annual Justice and Peace Community Potluck Picnic sponsored by United for Peace of Pierce County at Tacoma's Point Defiance Park:** Our neighbors to the north – United for Peace of Pierce County ([www.ufppc.org](http://www.ufppc.org)) – invite everyone to its annual potluck picnic from 2:00 pm to dusk in Point Defiance Park at the Gig Harbor View area (approximately 2.5 miles in on the 5-Mile Drive). Their wide-ranging invitation includes "all who think of themselves as progressive on justice, peace, social, environmental, etc., issues" and their like-minded friends. **This is a POTLUCK**, with charcoal, hot dogs, meat and veggie burgers, condiments and buns provided (assuming that the park's ban on outdoor cooking will be lifted by then). **Bring outdoor games** (badminton, whiffle ball, Frisbee, croquet, earthball, etc.) if you have them. Pets with manners are welcome if their humans control them appropriately. You may bake a pie to be entered into the **Peaceful Pie Contest**. Also, they'll give away some **door prizes**. Come and enjoy meeting these nice folks.

**Sun Aug 9: Commemorating the Life of Michael Brown and Remembering Ferguson:** On the one year anniversary of the shooting death of Michael Brown, please join us as we gather in community to honor his life, and the countless other black lives who have since been lost. 3:00 pm on the West Lawn of the Washington State Capital Campus. Sponsor: Interfaith Works of Thurston County, [www.interfaith-works.org](http://www.interfaith-works.org) 357-7224. Get info about this afternoon's event from Naki Stevens, Program Coordinator, [naki@interfaith-works.org](mailto:naki@interfaith-works.org)

**Mon-Fri Aug 10-14: Interfaith Summer Day Camp for children going into 2nd through 5th grades:** Interfaith Works of Thurston County organizes a great variety of ways for people all faiths to get to know and appreciate each other. IW's Faith Explorations 4th annual summer day camp will run from 9 am to 3 pm each day from Monday August 10 through Friday August 14, based at Temple Beth Hatfiloh, 8th & Washington, downtown. Volunteers from several faiths will staff this FREE opportunity for children going into 2nd through 5th grades. It creates a safe and fun way to explore various religions. It includes free time and field

trips to several local enjoyable sites and a community service project. Info and registration: Catherine at 754- 8519 or [beitsefer@bethhatfiloh.org](mailto:beitsefer@bethhatfiloh.org)

**Tues Aug 11: Thurston County's chapter of the National Organization for Women (NOW) also serves adjacent Mason, Lewis and Grays Harbor counties.** 5:30-7:30 pm at Traditions Café, 5<sup>th</sup> & Water, downtown Olympia. Info: Linda 357-7272 [lryh@hotmail.com](mailto:lryh@hotmail.com)

**Tues Aug 11 to Mon Aug 17: Backbone Campaign's "Localize This! Action Camp" offers amazing training in cross-movement strategies, organizing, artful activism, and creative tactics:** This annual training significantly helps grassroots organizing and creative nonviolent actions for peace, environment, climate, social justice, etc. It happens on Vashon Island WA, a beautiful and rural island in Puget Sound near Tacoma and Seattle. Info and registration: [info@backbonecampaign.org](mailto:info@backbonecampaign.org) [www.backbonecampaign.org](http://www.backbonecampaign.org)

**FOR Wed Aug 12: Olympia FOR's Annual Potluck Picnic – and stay for our Steering Committee meeting:** Rose Garden kitchen area of Priest Point Park (north on East Bay Drive = Boston Harbor Road, and turn right into the park). Potluck picnic starts at 5:30. We invite everyone to stay for the 6:30 Steering Committee. Info: 491-9093 [info@olympiafor.org](mailto:info@olympiafor.org)

**Wed Aug 12: Olympia Movement for Justice and Peace (OMJP)** usually meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays of each month, but in June-July-August will meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesdays only, not the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays. They've moved meetings to 6:00 pm at Traditions Café, 5<sup>th</sup> & Water, downtown: Info: Larry 951-4894 [imosqueda@comcast.net](mailto:imosqueda@comcast.net) [www.omjp.net](http://www.omjp.net)

**Thurs Aug 13: Thurston County Coalition Against Trafficking will not meet in August.** Starting in September, the 6:00-7:30 pm meetings on the second Thursday of each month will occur at the Family Support Center, 108 State Ave NW (just west of Capitol Way), in downtown Olympia. Info: Linda Malanchuk-Finnan [lryh@hotmail.com](mailto:lryh@hotmail.com) 360-357-7272 More info: [www.waengage.com](http://www.waengage.com)

**Fri Aug 14 and more dates: FILM: "The Stanford Prison Experiment"** shows what can happen when a college psychology study goes horribly wrong. In 1971 a Stanford University college psychology experimented with how a situation can shape behavior. He recruited 24 students to play the roles of prisoners and prison guards and saw the experiment spiral out of control into cruelty. This 2015 film will show at the Olympia Film Society (206 5<sup>th</sup> Ave SE, downtown) on Fri 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:30, Sun 16<sup>th</sup> at 5:00, Tues 18<sup>th</sup> at 9:00, Wed 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:30, and Thurs 20<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 and 9:00. [www.olympiafilmsociety.org](http://www.olympiafilmsociety.org)

**Sat Aug 15: West Central Park's 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Arts Splash:** Musicians will perform and artists will show their artwork from 12 noon to 4:00 pm in this new park at the corner of W. Harrison & Division (1919 W Harrison). Info: Tuck Petertil at [tuckpetertil@gmail.com](mailto:tuckpetertil@gmail.com) This park is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization that relies upon voluntary donations and labor. Info: [www.aparkforus.org](http://www.aparkforus.org)

**Sun Aug 16: Lunch with Abraham Bezabeh, visiting from Ethiopia, for Friendly Water for the World:**

Friendly Water for the World is an Olympia-based non-profit organization that trains people here



and in poor countries that have unsafe drinking water, so they can provide a very low-tech way to purify local water and vastly improve public health there. Today enjoy a benefit lunch prepared by Abraham Bezabeh (see photo), Friendly Water's Ethiopia Country Representative, doing extraordinary

work with people who otherwise have no access to clean water. Abraham also is a great cook who will prepare a traditional Ethiopian meal for you to enjoy, and he will discuss his work. This will occur at 11:45 a.m. at Olympia Friends Meeting (the local Quaker congregation), 3201 Boston Harbor Road NE, just past Priest Point Park, on the left. A donation to Friendly Water will admit you to the benefit lunch. Reservations are required so they'll know how much food to prepare. RSVP to (360) 918-3642 or [info@friendlywater.net](mailto:info@friendlywater.net). After lunch, enjoy Friendly Water's *Annual Summer Gathering!* Greet old friends and make new ones. Find out what we have been up to, and what we plan to do soon.

**Tues Aug 18: Americans United for the Separation of Church and State will NOT meet tonight:** Info: Dennis Mansker [dmansker@comcast.net](mailto:dmansker@comcast.net)

**FOR Wed Aug 19: "Confronting the Climate Crisis" -- Olympia FOR's vigorous group** meets from 6:30 to 8:30 on the third Wednesday of each month at the Olympia Center, 222 Columbia Street NW. Info: Bourtai Hargrove 352-6327 [climate@olympiafor.org](mailto:climate@olympiafor.org) See much information about the climate crisis at [www.olympiafor.org/Climate\\_Crisis.html](http://www.olympiafor.org/Climate_Crisis.html)

**Thurs Aug 20: The Thurston Climate Action Team will NOT meet tonight.** See Thurs Sept 10 for info about future meetings.

**Thurs Aug 20: Justice Not Jails:** More and more people in Olympia are working together to reform various aspects of our criminal "justice" system to make it more humane. Our local "Justice Not Jails" groups meets at 7:00 pm on the third Thursday evening of each month at the Olympia Unitarian-Universalist Congregation, 2315 Division St NW, Olympia. Confirm tonight's meeting and get info: Steve Tilley [tilley5000@gmail.com](mailto:tilley5000@gmail.com)

**Thurs Aug 20 to Sat Sept 12: "To Kill a Mockingbird," the powerful classic play about racial injustice, will be performed** at Harlequin Productions, 202 4<sup>th</sup> Ave E, downtown Olympia. Harper Lee's timeless novel, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, won her a Pulitzer Prize in 1960 and instantly became an American classic. It is set during the Great Depression in Alabama and focuses on six-year-old Scout Finch, who lives with her older brother, Jem, and their widowed father, Atticus, a lawyer. When the court appoints their father to defend a black man accused of raping a white woman, the children are soon caught up in lethal

adult conflicts surrounding class and prejudice that will bring them ultimately to understand the meaning of courage and compassion. The book became a movie and a play. (The author has recently published a new book about Scout, the young girl in the original book.) The performance on Wed. Aug. 26 is "Pay What You Can" night. Info: [www.harlequinproductions.org/season-2015/to-kill-a-mockingbird](http://www.harlequinproductions.org/season-2015/to-kill-a-mockingbird)

**FOR Fri Aug 21: Global Days of Listening:** On the 21<sup>st</sup> day of each month, you can connect by telephone and/or computer (through Skype software) with the Afghan Peace Volunteers and other peacemakers of all ages in Afghanistan, Iraq, Gaza, and many other countries around the world. In the US's Pacific Time Zone it runs from 6:30 to 9:30 am (yes, morning!), Pacific Time. <http://globaldaysoflistening.org/pages/livestream> provides livestream, or you can visit the home of Chuck Schultz and Rozanne Rants. Info: [www.globaldaysoflistening.org](http://www.globaldaysoflistening.org) Local info: Doug Mackey 915-6757 [DougWMackey@yahoo.com](mailto:DougWMackey@yahoo.com) Listen anytime to the broadcast at this livestream link: <http://tinyurl.com/nz7j77y>

**FOR Sun Aug 23: Visit Olympia FOR's booth at the 5<sup>th</sup> annual "Love Our Local" festival in NE Olympia near Bethel & San Francisco Streets:** People enjoy this family-friendly neighborhood street fair festival that attracts people from all over to enjoy local music, food, art, non-profit groups, a mural, and community spirit. It runs from 1:00 to 9:00 pm. Info: [www.loveourlocalfest.org](http://www.loveourlocalfest.org) [loveourlocalfest@gmail.com](mailto:loveourlocalfest@gmail.com) and Marie Poland 918-3740

**FOR Tues Aug 25: Attend the monthly meeting of the Olympia FOR's Committee for Alternatives to the Death Penalty** at 7:00 pm at a comfortable new location in West Olympia. We educate ourselves and plan activities toward abolishing this atrocity. Info: Emily Hammargren 352-0695 [deathpenalty@olympiafor.org](mailto:deathpenalty@olympiafor.org) or Glen Anderson 491-9093 [glen@olympiafor.org](mailto:glen@olympiafor.org). Our website has much info about the death penalty at [www.olympiafor.org/death\\_penalty.htm](http://www.olympiafor.org/death_penalty.htm)

**FOR Tues Sept 1: Olympia FOR's book discussion group** has been meeting on the first Tuesday of each month for several years. Jim Bellinger, [jimabellinger@comcast.net](mailto:jimabellinger@comcast.net), (360) 359-2212, has expressed interest in hosting this at his home, 1515 Tullis St NE, starting at 6:00 pm.

**Tues Sept 1: Sierra Club South Sound's monthly meeting** from 6:00 to 8:00 pm at the Mekong Restaurant, 125 Columbia Street Northwest (SW corner of State Ave), downtown Olympia. Info: Phyllis Farrell, [phyllisfarrell@hotmail.com](mailto:phyllisfarrell@hotmail.com) and [www.sierraclub.org/washington/local-groups](http://www.sierraclub.org/washington/local-groups)

**Wed Sept 2: "Stocks, Flows, and the Causes of Homelessness" – This is part of the "First Wednesday Conversation" series:** The series to increase and nurture systems intelligence in our community, to help our work become more effective and sustainable. "Systems intelligence" is the ability to apply systems thinking to complex challenges. These challenges are different from problems that are merely technical. We need to learn in order to understand the problem and address

the emergent challenge, so we can take wise action. Suggested reading for today's conversation: "*A Systemic Approach to Ending Homelessness*," <http://helpinghumansystems.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/TopicalHomelessness.pdf> These First Wednesday Conversations take place on the first Wednesday afternoon of each month from 4:30 to 6:00 pm in the lobby of the Olympia Senior Center. You may bring coffee, tea or a snack. Info: [www.helpinghumansystems.com](http://www.helpinghumansystems.com) The facilitator is Steve Byers.

**Wed Sept 2 and subsequent Wednesdays: Discuss Pope Francis' Encyclical "Laudato Si" regarding the climate crisis and God's creation and how our inaction has especially hurt the poor:** Pope Francis has written a **powerful, wise, scientifically valid, and wide-ranging statement**. Here is just one of many quotable quotes: "Climate change is a global problem with grave implications. . . It represents one of the principal challenges facing humanity in our day... A great cultural, spiritual and educational challenge stands before us, and it will demand that we set out on the long path of renewal." **Everyone** is invited to read and discuss this rather long document on a series of Wednesday evenings at the Olympia Center, 222 Columbia Street NW, downtown. This special book discussion group is sponsored by St. Michael Catholic Church's Social Justice Committee and its "Just Faith" group. The group will meet at the Senior Center from 6:00 to 7:30 pm for **7 sessions on alternating Wednesday evenings**. The sessions will be on September 2 (Center Conference Room), September 16, 30 (Senior Lobby), October 7 (Conference Room), October 21 (Senior Lobby), November 4 (Conference Room) and November 18 (Senior Lobby). Look for signs showing these locations. Questions? Contact Lee Miller at (360) 753-0942 [aleemiller@igc.org](mailto:aleemiller@igc.org) or Dan Roy at (360) 561-8748 [dandroy@gmail.com](mailto:dandroy@gmail.com)

**FOR Wed Sept 2: "How to Talk Politics with People Different from You." -- The Olympia FOR's September TV program debuts** at 1:30 this afternoon and airs three times a week all month long on TCTV channel 22 for Thurston County's cable subscribers. Also, starting by late August, you will be able to read a more thorough description of this program than appears in this newsletter – and actually watch it at [www.olympiafor.org/tv\\_programs.htm](http://www.olympiafor.org/tv_programs.htm) If we have your e-mail address we will send you more information online before the September 2 debut date.

**Thurs Sept 3: Get big money out of politics! Local organizing meeting tonight:** Olympia's Move to Amend group invites you to join them for a monthly meeting (first Thurs. of each month) at 7:00 pm in Room 280 of Bldg 1 at the Thurston County Courthouse. Get info from two savvy local organizers, Michael Savoca at [masavoca@fairpoint.net](mailto:masavoca@fairpoint.net) and Jennifer Sprague 866-8906 [jbsprague@hotmail.com](mailto:jbsprague@hotmail.com)

**Sun Sept 6: Brunch to benefit a local non-profit org:** On the first Sunday each month Media Island International (MII) hosts a benefit brunch from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm to raise visibility and funds for a local non-profit organization. (This month support a non-profit org of veterans recovering by growing food.) Enjoy a simple, tasty brunch for a worthy cause and donate a voluntary

amount rather than a fixed price. Media Island is at 816 Adams Street SE (just east across Adams Street from Olympia's downtown library). If you need a handicap entrance, use the alley behind it, accessible from 9th Ave SE.

**Sun Sept 6: Veterans for Peace (Olympia's chapter 109) invites veterans and others to their monthly meeting** at 2:00 pm at Media Island International, 816 Adams SE (across the street west of the Olympia Timberland Library). Info: Dennis Mills 867-1487 [mills.dennis@comcast.net](mailto:mills.dennis@comcast.net) and [www.vfp109rcc.org](http://www.vfp109rcc.org)

**Tues Sept 8: Thurston County's chapter of the National Organization for Women (NOW) also serves adjacent Mason, Lewis and Grays Harbor counties:** 5:30-7:30 pm at Traditions Café, 5<sup>th</sup> & Water, downtown Olympia. Info: Linda 357-7272 [lryh@hotmail.com](mailto:lryh@hotmail.com)

**Wed Sept 9: Olympia Movement for Justice and Peace (OMJP)** usually meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays of each month, but this summer will meet only on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesdays and skip the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays. They've moved meetings to 6:00 pm at Traditions Café, 5<sup>th</sup> & Water, downtown: Info: Larry 951-4894 [Imosqueda@comcast.net](mailto:Imosqueda@comcast.net) [www.omjp.net](http://www.omjp.net)

**Thurs Sept 10: Thurston County Coalition Against Trafficking works to prevent human trafficking:** 6:00 to 7:30 pm at a NEW LOCATION, the Family Support Center, 108 State Ave NW (west of Capitol Way). Info: Linda Malanchuk-Finnan [lryh@hotmail.com](mailto:lryh@hotmail.com) 357-7272 and [www.waengage.com](http://www.waengage.com)

**Thurs Sept 10: The Thurston Climate Action Team invites people to their monthly meetings – now on the second Thursday evening at a new time and location:** TCAT does good, practical work to protect the climate, especially interacting with governments and the Thurston Regional Planning Council. TCAT also seeks ways to fund local climate efforts. TCAT is moving their monthly meetings to the **second Thursday** of each month at 7:00 pm at Traditions Café, 5<sup>th</sup> & Water. (No October meeting) Info: Graeme Sackrison 791-8376 or Tom Crawford, [tom@thurstonclimateaction.org](mailto:tom@thurstonclimateaction.org) 280-0242 October meeting.

**Fri-Sun Sept 11-13: Washington CAN! Summer Leadership Conference to strengthen our grassroots organizing skills for racial and economic justice statewide:** Washington Community Action Network (Washington CAN) is a great non-profit organization that organizes people statewide to work for social and economic justice, including racial justice. They invite folks from around the state to participate in Washington CAN!'s **Annual Summer Leadership Conference**, a two-day retreat to deepen our understanding of the issues facing our communities, hone practical skills to make social change, find connection and community with one another and strengthen the movement for racial and economic justice. It will occur at the Lazy F Camp and Retreat Center in Ellensburg WA (just barely into Eastern Washington on I-90). It runs from Friday evening to Sunday morning. Meals and lodging are included and transportation will be available from the greater Puget Sound and Spokane areas. There is

no cost for our members and their families. To register, call Teresa at (206) 805-6674.

**Sun Sept 13 to Sun Nov 15: Buddhism and the climate crisis: EcoSattva Online Training: an Online Course for Aspiring EcoSattvas:** What does it mean to express a Buddhist response to climate change? One Earth Sangha is featuring Joanna Macy, Rev Angel Kyodo Williams and a powerful collection of teachers, activists and experts in an online, interactive "EcoSattva Training." This course will help people effectively engage on climate change and other ecological challenges with courage, compassion and wisdom. For info and registration, see [www.oneearthsangha.org/programs/ecosattva-training/](http://www.oneearthsangha.org/programs/ecosattva-training/)

**Mid-to-late September is a crucial time for building upon Pope Francis' call for action to protect our climate:** The media will be paying attention when Pope Francis speaks to Congress about the climate on Thursday Sept. 24 and to the United Nations on Friday Sept. 25. **Also**, the United Nations will hold a crucially important conference on the climate crisis from Nov. 30 to Dec. 11 in Paris. **Also**, the election campaign season for local governments (including the Port of Olympia) will be escalating, so we'll have more need – and opportunities – for local folks to speak loudly and clearly on behalf of our climate. Please connect with your local and regional climate organizations to ramp up these movements! See several relevant events in this calendar.

**Tues Sept 15: Americans United for the Separation of Church and State:** You are invited to their monthly meetings on the third Tuesday of each month (except August and December) at 6:30 pm at the Unitarian church, 2315 Division St NW, Olympia. Sometimes after convening the meeting decides to move itself to Pints & Quarts at Capital Mall. Info: Dennis Mansker [dmansker@comcast.net](mailto:dmansker@comcast.net)

**Tues Sept 15: Interactive workshop facilitated by Glen Anderson: "Military 'Solutions' Are Really the Problem! They Escalate Global Violence. Let's Choose Humane, Sustainable Ways for True Security."** In our daily lives, we know better than to think violence solves problems, but at the national level the U.S. government routinely threatens and uses military violence all over the world. Militarism makes problems worse, so why does the government keep using militarism? Who benefits from this? This interactive workshop **thoroughly debunks** the use of military violence as a way to solve international problems. It concludes with support for more profound, holistic "national security" by renouncing violence and promoting peace and fairness. This highly participatory workshop will encourage participants to share their information and insights. It was well received when Glen Anderson facilitated it at the FOR's regional conference at Seabeck in Kitsap County. Now you can participate in this thought-provoking workshop in Olympia. 7:00-9:00 pm at Traditions Café, 5<sup>th</sup> & Water, Olympia. **You can also watch the 90-minute video from Seabeck at this link** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-pdZNBOP4wQ> Info: Glen (360) 491-9093 [glenanderson@integra.net](mailto:glenanderson@integra.net)

**FOR Wed Sept 16: "Confronting the Climate Crisis": Olympia FOR's vigorous group** meets on the third

Wednesday of each month, 6:30-8:30 at the Olympia Center, 222 Columbia St. NW, downtown. Info: 352-6327 [climate@olympiafor.org](mailto:climate@olympiafor.org) [www.olympiafor.org/Climate\\_Crisis.html](http://www.olympiafor.org/Climate_Crisis.html)



**Thurs Sept 17: The statewide Children's Alliance invites you to their "Leadership in Advocacy Training" workshop:**

This great non-profit org relies upon volunteers to move our state legislators to care for Washington's kids and communities. Today's training is good for new folks and experienced folks alike. You will learn from experts, share your skills, connect with other people who are speaking up for kids, and talk directly with legislators. It will occur at The Evergreen State College's **Tacoma** campus ([www.evergreen.edu/tacoma/home.htm](http://www.evergreen.edu/tacoma/home.htm)) and runs from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. The sliding-scale cost ranges from \$0 to \$100. They offer financial assistance for child care and transportation. It will fill up quickly, so please apply soon! Either apply online through [www.childrensalliance.org](http://www.childrensalliance.org) or contact Emijah Smith, (206) 324-0340 ext. 25 or [emijah@childrensalliance.org](mailto:emijah@childrensalliance.org)

**Thurs Sept 17: Justice Not Jails:** More and more people in Olympia are working together to reform various aspects of our criminal "justice" system in humane ways. Our local "Justice Not Jails" groups meets at 7:00 pm the third Thursday evening of each month at the Olympia Unitarian-Universalist Congregation, 2315 Division St NW, Olympia. Confirm tonight's meeting and get info: Steve Tilley [tilley5000@gmail.com](mailto:tilley5000@gmail.com)

**FOR Fri Sept 18: Special climate emphasis for Olympia FOR's weekly vigil at Percival Landing** (near the Kissing Statue) 4:30-6:00 pm today and also Fri. Sept. 25 to bracket the days when Pope Francis addresses Congress and the UN about the climate crisis. We will provide some signs. Also, you may bring your own. Info: Olympia FOR, (360) 491-9093 [info@olympiafor.org](mailto:info@olympiafor.org)

**FOR Sat Sept 19: Deadline for Olympia FOR's October-November newsletter:** Send news, announcements and calendar items by this date or very soon after. 491-9093 [glen@olympiafor.org](mailto:glen@olympiafor.org)

**Sun Sept 20: Olympia Food Co-op's 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Harvest Party Potluck & Zuke Fest:** The beloved Olympia Food Co-op invites everyone who eats to a food party celebrating local harvests and businesses from 1:00 to 5:00 pm at the Co-op's Westside store, 921 Rogers NW, Olympia. See info at [www.olympiafood.coop](http://www.olympiafood.coop)

**FOR Mon Sept 21: Global Days of Listening:** On the 21<sup>st</sup> day of each month, you can connect by telephone and/or computer (through Skype software) with the Afghan Peace Volunteers

and other peacemakers of all ages in Afghanistan, Iraq, Gaza, and many other countries around the world. In the US's Pacific Time Zone it runs from 6:30 to 9:30 am (yes, morning!), Pacific Time. <http://globaldaysoflistening.org/pages/livestream> provides the live broadcast. You could visit the home of Chuck Schultz and Rozanne Rants to listen or help. Info: [www.globaldaysoflistening.org](http://www.globaldaysoflistening.org) Local info: Doug Mackey 915-6757 [DougWMackey@yahoo.com](mailto:DougWMackey@yahoo.com) Listen anytime to the broadcast at this livestream link: <http://tinyurl.com/nz7j77y>

**Mon Sept 21: International Day of Peace: Activities will occur all over the world for a few weeks before and after this annual event:** The great non-profit organization "Campaign Nonviolence" has set a goal for 500 nonviolent actions nationwide in September 2015. One local event (the Tues Sept 15 interactive workshop listed above) is part of this series. What else might you plan? Please let us know: Olympia FOR (360) 491-9093 [info@olympiafor.org](mailto:info@olympiafor.org)

**FOR Tues Sept 22: Attend the monthly meeting of the Olympia FOR's Committee for Alternatives to the Death Penalty** at 7:00 pm at a comfortable, convenient location in West Olympia. We educate ourselves and plan activities toward abolishing this atrocity. Info: Emily Hammargren 352-0695 [deathpenalty@olympiafor.org](mailto:deathpenalty@olympiafor.org) or Glen Anderson 491-9093 [glen@olympiafor.org](mailto:glen@olympiafor.org). See much info about the death penalty at [www.olympiafor.org/death\\_penalty.htm](http://www.olympiafor.org/death_penalty.htm)

**Tues-Sun Sept 22-27 Activities while Pope Francis is visiting Congress in Washington DC the United Nations in New York to plead for the climate:** Interfaith Moral Action on Climate is planning many actions nationwide. Look for background, activities, connections, etc. at [www.interfaith-actiononclimatechange.org](http://www.interfaith-actiononclimatechange.org) The faith-based climate advocacy organization **Interfaith Power and Light** offers its **Climate Encyclical Action Kit**, which you can get from [www.tinyurl.com/nrguuhz](http://www.tinyurl.com/nrguuhz) to help you take action no matter where you live.

**Thurs Sept 24: Vigil supporting the climate in parking lot next to Representative Denny Heck's office in Lacey:** Bob Zeigler and other local folks invite people to join them from 12 noon to 1 pm in the parking lot outside his office in the Lacey City Hall building near 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave SE and College Street SE. This is the same time when Pope Francis will be addressing the U.S. Congress about the climate crisis. Info: Bob Zeigler (360) 570-0848 and [ZeiglerBob@msn.com](mailto:ZeiglerBob@msn.com)

**FOR Fri Sept 25: Special climate emphasis for Olympia FOR's weekly vigil at Percival Landing** (near the Kissing Statue) 4:30-6:00 pm today and also Fri. Sept. 18 to bracket the days when Pope Francis addresses Congress and the UN about the climate crisis. We will provide some signs. Also, you may bring your own. Info: Olympia FOR, (360) 491-9093 [info@olympiafor.org](mailto:info@olympiafor.org)

**Thurs Oct 1: Get big money out of politics! Local organizing meeting tonight:** Olympia's Move to Amend group invites everyone to join them for a monthly meeting (first Thursday of each month) at 7:00 pm in Room 280 of Bldg 1 at the

Thurston County Courthouse. Get info from two savvy local organizers, Michael Savoca at [masavoca@fairpoint.net](mailto:masavoca@fairpoint.net) and Jennifer Sprague 866-8906 [jbsprague@hotmail.com](mailto:jbsprague@hotmail.com)

**FOR Fri Oct 2 and beyond: Olympia FOR participates in Arts Walk with children's art:** During Spring and Fall Arts Walks, visit the window of Buck's 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue at 209 5<sup>th</sup> Ave SE. Each year Olympia FOR member Kristen Dahle arranges for elementary school students to display art during Arts Walk and several weeks after. Themes range around various aspects of peace and social justice. Info: [kjdahle@comcast.net](mailto:kjdahle@comcast.net)

**Sat Oct 3: "Weaving Our Strengths" – All-day conference in Seattle to strengthen local churches' efforts for the common good:** Enjoy a day of fellowship, inspiration, and skill-building to strengthen local churches' efforts for the common good. Connect across denominations, share best practices, nurture neighborhood collaborations, foster spiritually grounded action, and bring insights and opportunities back to your home congregation. The day includes worship, two sessions of workshops, a resource fair, and more. Last year more than 200 people from 14 Christian traditions and at least 57 congregations participated. 8 am to 4 pm at University Congregational UCC, 4515 16th Ave NE, [Seattle](http://seattle.wa.us), WA 98105. The Church Council of Greater Seattle, <http://thechurchcouncil.ejoinme.org/WOS>, will provide info soon. Get info from Ann (206) 204-3855 [aerickson@thechurchcouncil.org](mailto:aerickson@thechurchcouncil.org)

**FOR Tues Oct 6: Olympia FOR's book discussion group** has been meeting on the first Tuesday of each month for several years. After our host/facilitator Chuck Schultz retires from those roles, Jim Bellinger [jimbellinger@comcast.net](mailto:jimbellinger@comcast.net), (360) 359-2212, has expressed interest in hosting at his home, 1515 Tullis St NE, starting at 6:00 pm.

**Tues Oct 6: Sierra Club South Sound's monthly meeting** from 6:00 to 8:00 pm at the Mekong Restaurant, 125 Columbia Street Northwest (SW corner of State Ave), downtown Olympia. Info: Phyllis Farrell, [phyllisfarrell@hotmail.com](mailto:phyllisfarrell@hotmail.com) and [www.sierraclub.org/washington/local-groups](http://www.sierraclub.org/washington/local-groups)

**Wed Oct 7: "Working in Powerful (Complex) Times" – This is part of the "First Wednesday Conversation" series:** The series to increase and nurture systems intelligence in our community, to help our work become more effective and sustainable. "Systems intelligence" is the ability to apply systems thinking to complex challenges. These challenges are different from merely technical problems. We need to learn in order to understand the problem and address the emergent challenge, so we can take wise action. For today's conversation, it would help to read Part 1 of Peggy Holman's book, *"Engaging Emergence,"* Use these hyphens for the website <http://peggyholman.com/papers/engaging-emergence/engaging-emergence-table-of-contents/> These First Wednesday Conversations take place on the first Wednesday of each month from 4:30 to 6:00 pm in the lobby of the Olympia Senior Center. You may bring coffee, tea or a snack. The facilitator is Steve Byers. Info: [www.helpinghumansystems.com](http://www.helpinghumansystems.com)

**SAT OCT 10: 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Seattle Race Conference: "Perceptions Kill! The Impacts of Implicit Racial Bias" –** This significant annual conference provides a place for education, discourse and community to address Racial Bias. This year's theme reflects the events locally and in the world around us. The conference's planners want to create a conference that will support our collective moving forward in combating implicit racial bias and consequent barriers. They recognize that we all need to look inward and acknowledge that the committee also reflected our society. It's at Piggott Hall in the midst of the Seattle University campus, 901 12<sup>th</sup> Ave, [Seattle](http://seattle.wa.us). Please register now for \$25. Students and youth under 21: \$10, with partial scholarships available. [www.brownpapertickets.com/event/1581639](http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/1581639) Info: [info@seattleraceconference.org](mailto:info@seattleraceconference.org)

**Fri-Tues Oct 16-20: "Be the Movement!" National Conference in Washington DC:** The Peace Alliance ([www.peacealliance.org](http://www.peacealliance.org)) is bringing together people from across the US to dialogue with – and learn from – some of the world's most inspiring leaders and experts for a kind of peacebuilding "think tank." The conference will focus on the Five Peacebuilding Cornerstones of "Be the Movement": **Empowering Community Peacebuilding, Teaching Peace in Schools, Humanizing Justice Systems, Cultivating Personal Peace, and Fostering International Peace.** Explore practical, yet transformative, actions we can collectively take to change the trajectory of our nation. And, we will make our voices heard to our Members of Congress. Info: (202) 684-2553 [www.peacealliance.org](http://www.peacealliance.org)

**Fri-Sun Oct 23:25: Sit, Walk, Write: Nature & the Practice of Presence:** Combine autumn's crisp colors with the mountain landscape for a unique Cascadian retreat for reflection, connection and renewal. Kurt Hoelting (meditation teacher and author) and Holly Hughes (writing teacher and poet) return to the North Cascades Environmental Learning Center to share mindfulness practices to help you re-connect with both your inner and outer landscapes. Starting each day with sitting meditation, we'll share poems and nature essays by well-known poets and writers, then explore transforming our own thoughts into inspired words. Outdoors, we'll enjoy walking meditation, hiking and observations with Institute naturalists to deepen our connection with the natural world. In between, we'll practice Qigong movement and yoga postures. No meditation or writing experience is necessary. Tuition includes two nights lodging and six delicious, organic meals. 1940 Diablo Dam Rd, Rockport (Skagit County) WA 98283. For information and registration, contact the North Cascades Institute, <https://ncascades.org/signup/programs/sit-walk-write-nature-and-the-practice-of-presence>

**Wed Nov 11: Exactly 100 years since the FOR's U.S. branch was founded – and 97 years since Armistice Day at the end of World War I:** How should we mark these special occasions? The American FOR was founded in New York on November 11, 1915, less than a year after its founding in Europe in August 1914, just when World War I was breaking out. The Olympia FOR's October 2015 TV program will focus on our 100<sup>th</sup> anni-

versary. How else could we mark this date with two special historical meanings? If you have ideas for either or both of these (Armistice Day and FOR's Centennial), please contact Jennifer Sprague, [jbsprague@hotmail.com](mailto:jbsprague@hotmail.com), and Olympia FOR, (360) 491-9093 [info@olympiafor.org](mailto:info@olympiafor.org) or your nearest FOR chapter. The national FOR is planning special events in New York City on Thurs Nov 6 and Sat Nov 7. See [www.forusa.org](http://www.forusa.org) for information about those.

**Fri-Sun Nov 20-22: 25<sup>th</sup> Annual nonviolent protest at Fort Benning, Georgia, where the U.S. Army trains Latin American military thugs to abuse human rights:** Torture survivors, union workers, religious communities, musicians, puppetistas, students, migrants, veterans and others from across the country will speak out against violence and milita-

rization. They will commemorate the martyrs and perform conscientious acts of nonviolent resistance. Sponsored by School of the Americas Watch, [www.soaw.org](http://www.soaw.org), (202) 202-234-3440 email: [info@soaw.org](mailto:info@soaw.org) Their website has much information!

**If you like the Olympia FOR's calendar and newsletter, please tell your friends. They can sign up to receive the paper version or a .pdf attached to an e-mail. Also refer them to [www.olympiafor.org](http://www.olympiafor.org) THANKS!**



**The Commons at 9<sup>th</sup> & Adams is a great community resource downtown:**

This location offers a variety of resources for people to use and enjoy, including practical spaces for community groups to use at reasonable rates.

The Olympia FOR appreciates using EcoHouse, 911 Adams

Street SE, for newsletter mailing parties, 911 Adams Street SE for newsletter mailing parties. This photo shows their welcoming gate at the corner of 9<sup>th</sup> & Adams.

Contact them at (360) 352-2428 [EcoHouse@FertileGround.org](mailto:EcoHouse@FertileGround.org) and [ecohouse.fertileground.org](http://ecohouse.fertileground.org)

**Olympia FOR's MISSION STATEMENT**

The Olympia Chapter of the Fellowship of Reconciliation works for a nonviolent world, a healthy environment, social justice, economic justice, and peace. We bring together people of diverse ages, races, and faiths who are committed to active nonviolence as a transformative way of life and as a means of profound social change. We model these principles by personal example. We collaborate and dialogue with the larger community for mutual education and to engage in nonviolent and compassionate actions.

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- “Rats and roaches live by competition under the law of supply and demand. It is the privilege of human beings to live under the laws of justice and mercy.” -- Wendell Berry
- “As soon as men decide that all means are permitted to fight an evil, then their good becomes indistinguishable from the evil that they set out to destroy.” -- Christopher Dawson in *The Judgment of Nations*
- “To be hopeful in bad times is not just foolishly romantic. It is based on the fact that human history is a history not only of cruelty, but also of compassion, sacrifice, courage, kindness. What we choose to emphasize in this complex history will determine our lives. If we see only the worst, it destroys our capacity to do something. If we remember those times and places - and there are so many - where people have behaved magnificently, this gives us the energy to act, and at least the possibility of sending this spinning top of a world in a different direction. And if we do act, in however small a way, we don't have to wait for some grand utopian future. The future is an infinite succession of presents, and to live now as we think human beings should live, in defiance of all that is bad around us, is itself a marvelous victory.” -- Howard Zinn in *You Can't Be Neutral on a Moving Train: A Personal History of Our Times*

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NEWSLETTER WRITER, EDITOR, LAYOUT: GLEN ANDERSON

Many smart, ethical, committed people read this newsletter.  
 Besides participating in the events on Page 1, please also read Page 2  
 and empower yourselves to act on your best values.

Our local community and the rest of the world will thank you.  
 It feels good to be working for peace, social justice and nonviolence.

- ➔ Do you know any high school students?
- ➔ Please give them the page enclosed inside.

**Olympia FOR's NEWSLETTER FOR AUGUST + SEPTEMBER 2015**

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