



INTERFAITH CONNECTION

Interfaith Works is an association of congregations, affiliated non-profit organizations and individuals. Our purpose is to promote interfaith understanding, and serve the community through charitable, social and educational endeavors.

SEPTEMBER 2010

MOMENT OF BLESSING FOR HOMICIDE VICTIM

Colleagues, friends, and neighbors of homicide victim Vanda Boone gathered in south Thurston County on a hot August afternoon to honor her memory, and rededicate the area along the Yelm-Tenino Trail where she was killed as a place of peace.

About 75 people attended the August 16 non-denominational service, led by Rev. Carol McKinley and Barbara Gibson, followed by personal remembrances from Boone's friends and consoling words from local residents who did not know her personally but were deeply affected by her tragic death.



V a n d a
B o o n e ,
60, who
relocated
to Yelm
from New
York just
s i x
m o n t h s
a g o , w a s

employed at Radiance Herbs & Massage in

(Continued on page 2)

PROGRAM COUNCIL: HUB OF INTERFAITH WORKS

After a summer hiatus, the Interfaith Works Program Council will convene again on Tuesday, September 21.

The Council is composed of delegates representing our member faith communities and affiliated organizations, along with the Interfaith Works Board of Directors. It serves as a consultative, planning and coordinating body to support IW programs and committees, and to promote interfaith understanding.

On a personal level, the Program Council is a place where friendships and working partnerships are forged among lay leaders from churches, synagogues, mosques, temples and other spiritual communities who might otherwise never meet. Through these interactions, delegates deepen their own faith commitments and draw inspiration from others.

The Council is a unique community resource: a regular monthly interfaith forum where diverse faith communities dialogue and collaborate to address community-wide concerns.

This coming year will present new challenges:

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MOMENT OF BLESSING *(Continued from page 1)*

Olympia and was a student at the Ramtha's School of Enlightenment in Yelm. Police believe she was abducted on August 8 while walking on the Trail and killed soon after. The suspect, who is in custody, did not know the victim.

MOMENTS of BLESSING, a program of Interfaith Works since 2005, is a faith-based response to homicides in Thurston County, providing comfort and healing, and a way to reclaim places of violence as places of life and peace.



The Rev. Carol McKinley holds the Memory Stick used at Moments of Blessing ceremonies. Ribbons bearing the names of Thurston County homicide victims since 2005 are tied to the stick.

If you would like to receive e-mail notifications of future Moments of Blessing ceremonies, please let us know by contacting the Interfaith Works office at office@interfaith-works.org.

MOMENTS OF BLESSING SEEKS EMBROIDERERS

The ribbons on the Memory Stick which bear the names of Thurston County homicide victims are written in felt-tip pen. A more beautiful and lasting tribute would be to have the names embroidered. If you would like to contribute to this ministry of healing with your embroidery skills, please contact the Interfaith Works office at 360-357-7224, or e-mail office@interfaith-works.org.

Close-up of the ribbons on the Memory Stick



PROGRAM COUNCIL *(Continued from page 1)*

- *How do we support and channel the enormous skills and commitments of our faith communities to make a difference on critical issues like hunger and homelessness?*
- *What can we do that we are not currently doing?*
- *How do we teach and promote tolerance across Thurston County?*
- *How do we ensure that Interfaith Works has the resources needed to sustain and grow its programs?*

This coming year, the Program Council will be developing new approaches to its work, featuring guest speakers, more interactive and focused discussion, and closer collaboration among delegates.

Attendance at our monthly meetings is not limited to just delegates and Board members - we welcome all members of our faith communities and affiliates who are drawn to interfaith work.

If you are interested in being a delegate from your faith community or organization, or would like to be notified of future Program Council meetings, let us know by sending an e-mail to office@interfaith-works.org, or calling the office at 357-7224.

NEXT PROGRAM COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, Sept. 21 at 7:00 pm
Temple Beth Hatfiloh
201 8th Ave SE, Olympia

THANK YOU AND GOOD-BYE, JOHN TWELVES

Kathy Erlandson, Former IW Director

John Twelves, a wonderful friend and long-time supporter of Interfaith Works, died in an accident near his home on July 25. John, a member of St. John's Episcopal Church, was a volunteer in many programs at his church and with Interfaith Works. His exuberant and cheerful personality made him a natural leader and a lot of fun to work with.

John will especially be missed for his enthusiastic leadership as St. John's Crop Walk Coordinator. Not content to make an announcement and hope folks would volunteer, John always went the extra mile to inform his congregation about the importance of Crop Walk, and to encourage people, young and old, to participate. Each year he would design creative posters, charts and activities to energize volunteers and donors. Under his leadership, St. John's was often one of Thurston County's most successful fundraisers for Crop Walk's hunger relief programs.

John Twelves has been a rich blessing to Interfaith Works. He will be missed. His smiling face and infectious laugh will long be remembered.

MOTHER JOSEPH SERVICES

For more than 10 years several local faith communities have provided monthly worship services at Providence Mother Joseph Care Center (PMJCC) for our residents. We need additional faith communities or volunteers to provide a 30 minute service one Sunday each month, at 11:15 a.m. or 3:00 pm.

If you are interested in providing an occasional Sunday worship service, please contact Rev. David Bates, PMJCC Chaplain at 493-4918.

PRESCRIPTION DRUGS ARE DANGEROUS, TOO

Diane Pieroni, TOGETHER!

Did you know that Washington is one of 16 states where prescription overdoses have surpassed car accidents as the #1 cause of accidental deaths? We also lead the nation in pharmacy robberies and burglaries; over 90% involve Oxycontin.

Youth At Risk

Prescription and over the counter drug abuse is on the rise among our youth. There are many reasons for this. We tend to think that prescription drugs are "safer" than street drugs because they are legal and we are not aware of the signs of abuse. Not all of us train our children and youth about the dangers of taking prescriptions other than the way prescribed. And we leave our prescription bottles in unsecured locations without thinking about it. As a community, we need to raise our awareness about the rise of prescription and over the counter drug abuse, advocate for change among our friends and relatives and take the actions needed to change the current trend.

Handling Prescription Drugs

TOGETHER! asks you to educate yourself about prescription and over the counter drug abuse. Then share the following steps with those you know; **secure, monitor, dispose**. **Secure** all of your medications. Consider them dangerous and purchase a lock box to store them in. Never leave prescriptions in medicine cabinets as anyone entering your home has access to them. Some over the counter medications such as cough syrup with DXM can be abused. **Monitor** the number of pills in each bottle. Notice if the quantity is going down too quickly. **Dispose** of any medication when you are done taking them. Make sure that you dispose of medications properly.

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PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

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Prescription Drug Drop Boxes

Locally, prescription drop boxes are located at the City Hall buildings in Lacey, Tumwater, Olympia and Tenino, as well as at Group Health and the Thurston County Courthouse. Other drop box locations state-wide are on our web site. Medications disposed in these drop boxes are incinerated. You can put your medications in the garbage if you mix them with kitty litter or coffee grounds so that they disintegrate. **Never flush them down the drain.** Our water treatment facility cannot remove them from the water so they end up back in our water and in our bodies.

Request a Presentation for Your Group or Faith Community

To spread the message we at TOGETHER! we are offering an hour long educational presentation called Rx360. Facilitators around western Washington are available to give the presentation to any group requesting it. We would be happy to give the presentation at any faith community gathering.

When we work together, we can prevent our children and youth from prescription or over the counter drug abuse. Talk to the children and youth in your life since this has the single biggest impact towards preventing substance abuse. Spread the information about **secure, monitor, dispose**, so that as a community we change the casual way we treat prescription drugs. Give us a call and we will help educate about the issue with our Rx360 presentation. Call Diane Pieroni, 360-493-2230 x15 to schedule an Rx360 presentation.

www.ThurstonTogether.org.

TOGETHER! mobilizes the community to prevent youth substance abuse and violence through awareness, advocacy and action to support youth and families.

HOW SWEET THE SOUNDS, AND THE DESSERTS

Drawn by good music and a vast spread of desserts, an audience of over one hundred gathered on a warm Sunday evening, to enjoy the music of popular local musician **Scott Cossu** and support Interfaith Works. Cossu, one of the original recording artists on the Windham Hill label, was joined by vocalist and violinist **Jessica Blin** and guitarist **Van Manakas**. Selections were from Cossu's most recent album, *Alula Visions*, along with jazz standards and American songbook classics.

The August 15 benefit concert, held at the Olympia Unitarian Universalist Congregation (OUUC), was organized by the Mighty Unitarian Guys (MUGS) and featured dessert tasting and silent auction of a delicious array of two dozen homemade confections.

For making the evening such a success we thank **Bernie Brady** and the Mighty Unitarian Guys (MUGs) and other helping hands at OUUC; **Dan Ryan** of the Interfaith Works Board, and the volunteer bakers, **Lynn Dearing, Wayne & Carol Gruen, Christina Guerrero, Leslie Johnson, Samara Joldersma, Joe Joy, Barnett Kalikow, Cynde Laprelle, Chris Parke, Connie Ruhl, Bonnie Shorin, Mary Ann Thompson & Janet Pearson, Sandra Ware, Melissa Young**

NURSERY ATTENDANT JOB

Must be 18 or older, love kids, willing to take CPR, and pass a national background check.

Hours: Sundays, 8:15 - 12:15 and occasional evening and Saturday events.

Send resume or request application to saumc@comcast.net or:

St. Andrew's United Methodist Church
PO BOX 3866, Lacey, WA 98509

Information at www.laceysaumc.com, or 491-2030

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

A listing of some of the activities and events of Interfaith Works members, affiliated organizations, and of general interest. IW does not necessarily endorse these events. More details and events at www.Interfaith-Works.org.

Sept. 2 Thursday 7-8:45 pm	Two Truths as the Basis of the Nature of Phenomena. A talk by Geshe Jamyang Tsultrim, Buddhist monk and scholar, and psychologist. Is truth simply subjective, objective, or both? 1211 Wilson St NE, Olympia. www.Nalandaolywa.org . (360)786-1309.
Sept. 7 Tuesday	Deadline to apply for Tending the Fire: Christian Spirituality & Prayer. A nine-month retreat program, which meets bi-monthly on Tuesday afternoons beginning Sept. 14. Priory Spirituality Center, 500 College St NE, Lacey 98516. info: www.stplacid.org , 438-2595
Sept. 7 Tuesday	Deadline to apply for Practicing Creativity in Spiritual Life. Artistic ways to enrich all aspects of the spiritual life. Six sessions, beginning November 2. \$60 deposit, \$360 total. Priory Spirituality Center, 500 College St NE, Lacey 98516. info: www.stplacid.org , 438-2595
Sept. 9 Thursday 7:00 pm	Execution Vigil. Cal Brown is scheduled to be executed by the State of Washington just after midnight. Gather on the Capitol Steps for a silent vigil, with readings. Use our signs or bring yours. Olympia FOR Alternatives to the Death Penalty. 491-9093. www.olympiafor.org
Sept. 11 Saturday 9:15-3 pm	Finding Daily Pathways to the Divine. A workshop to help us beyond the busyness which often distracts us from seeing the deeper purpose in our lives. Priory Spirituality Center, 500 College St NE, Lacey 98516. \$60, www.stplacid.org , 438-2595. Register by Sept. 10.
Sept. 18 Saturday 9 am-3 pm	Introduction to Centering Prayer. Learning how to pray with our hearts and our whole being. Priory Spirituality Center, 500 College St NE, Lacey 98516. \$50, bring lunch. www.stplacid.org , 438-2595. Register by Sept. 17
Sept 20-Oct 25 Mondays 6:30—8:30 pm	Death Penalty Study Group from Faith Perspectives. A six week class using resources from multiple faith traditions and more. Sponsor: Olympia FOR. St. Andrew's United Methodist Church, 540 School St. Lacey. RSVP to deathpenalty@olympiafor.org or 491-9093. Child Care available. Materials provided. Free, donations appreciated. Open to all.
Sept. 25 Saturday 9:15-4 pm	Conversations at the End of Life. Preparation, support and skills for relating to others in the situation of death. Priory Spirituality Center, 500 College St NE, Lacey 98516. \$50, bring lunch. www.stplacid.org , 438-2595. Register by Sept. 24
Oct. 2 Saturday 12:30-4 pm	Singing at the Threshold: An Introduction to Therapeutic Singing at the Bedside. Learn simple chants and other songs that life the spirit. Song sheets provided. Priory Spirituality Center, 500 College St. NE, Lacey, WA 98516. \$50. www.stplacid.org , 438-2595

The ALL SOULS Writer's Group has a sole purpose, to write poems and short prose, short stories and the like, etc. We meet on the first and third Tuesdays of the month. We have lively discussions and we read our work. Please feel free to call Logan Chrysler, 360-413-9145 or e-mail ecanus.scribe@gmail.com.

Jewish New Year/High Holiday Items

Temple Beth Hatfiloh Gift Shop
201 8th Ave SE, Olympia, 98501

Hours Mon-Fri, 10 am-2 pm. Additional hours beginning Sept. 19. Call 754-8519 to check.



Since 197*

Interfaith Works
PO Box 1221
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www.interfaith-works.org

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This monthly newsletter is available in print form by postal mail or as a pdf file by e-mail.
Contact the office at office@interfaith-works.org, or phone 360-357-7224

SUPPORT THE INTERFAITH WORK

WE APPRECIATE YOUR ONE-TIME GIFT OR MONTHLY CONTRIBUTION, NO MATTER THE AMOUNT.
I would like to support the programs and activities of Interfaith Works

Amount of Gift: \$ _____ () one-time () monthly

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Make checks payable to Interfaith Works, PO Box 1221, Olympia WA 98507. 360-357-7224 www.interfaith-works.org office@interfaithworks.org

Your gift to Interfaith Works, a 501(c)3 organization, is deductible as allowed under federal tax law.

SACRED PATH OF THE SHAMAN
Through the Peruvian Cosmology

Experiential Training Intensive

FOUR WEEKENDS 2010/2011:
September 10-12 - SOUTH
November 19-21 - WEST
February 18-20 - NORTH
June 10-12 - EAST

A training focusing on spiritually aligning oneself with the Land (Heaven & Earth)

Explore and embody the Peruvian cosmology through the Wheel of the Year

- ξ Training located at Harmony Hill (www.harmonyhill.org)
- ξ Commitment to all four weekends is required
- ξ Limited to 12 participants
- ξ Includes 6 delicious meals

Abby Leach, LMHC, RScP is a Peruvian Shaman Initiate, Spiritual Counselor and Healer.

For more information, please visit www.AbbyLeach.com or phone 360-786-8659.

Support Interfaith Works with a Paid Ad \$10. Deadline: 2nd Tuesday