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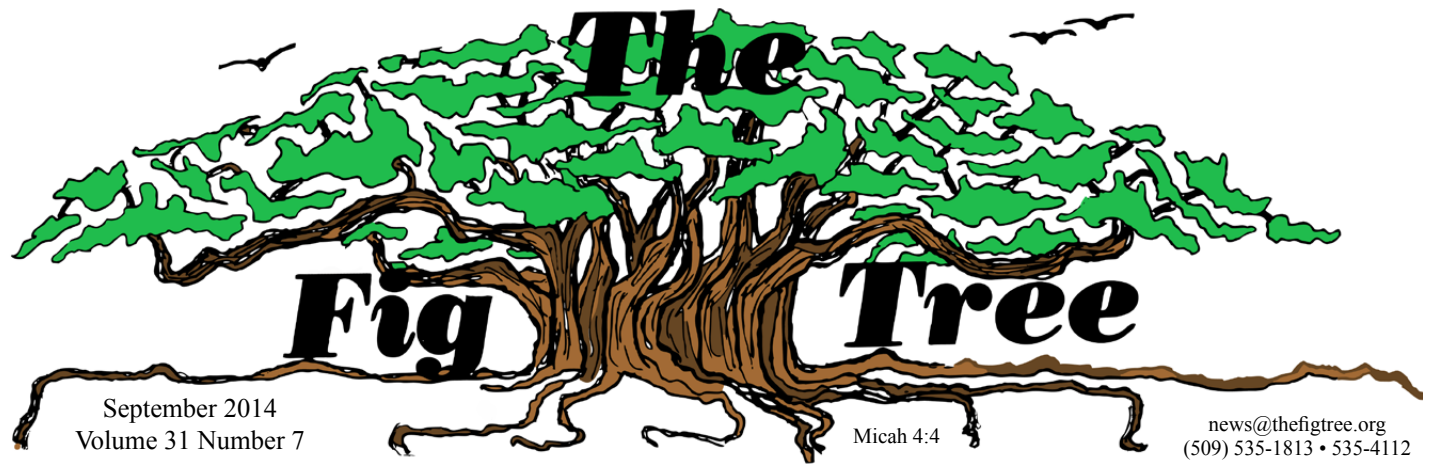
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*Monthly newspaper and website covering faith in action throughout the Inland Northwest
online at www.thefigtree.org • check The Fig Tree Facebook page daily for news and links*

'NW Profiles' features good things going on

By Mary Stamp

The "Northwest Profiles" show on KSPS-TV explores stories of artists, organizations, museums, hobbyists and more within the station's coverage area from Western Montana to Central Washington and from Oregon north to Central Alberta.

Interviewing people for stories for more than 30 years, Bob Lawrence says people's passions keep him and viewers intrigued about what they are doing and why.

"It's enlivening. Our viewers hunger to learn about people's passions," he said in an interview last spring, after he had interviewed The Fig Tree on its 30 years.

"I hope the profiles we do are feel-good stories that feature good things going on in the viewing area," Bob said. "With our feature-story format, we feed a niche, and 'Northwest Profiles' is popular."

Bob, a 1973 graduate of Lewis and Clark High School, attended Western Washington College one year, picked apples, did construction and was a vocational trainer for mentally handicapped adults before earning a four-year degree in 1983 from Eastern Washington University and finding his own passion in TV production.



Bob Lawrence found his passion in 30 years of work at KSPS-TV.

He interned at KSPS as a production assistant and was hired as producer-director in January 1984.

When he started, Bob wrote scripts for short documentaries and 30-second promotions. Everything was on videotape. He loaded the machine and pushed the buttons to put videos on the air, including recorded programs from PBS. Thirty years ago, he used heavy, big shoulder cameras. The station progressed to use small camcorders. Now all is electronic.

KSPS was first a school district entity, producing education-based programs, before joining PBS.

He is one of six producer-directors who have been at KSPS over the past 30 years.

"I attribute the commitment to our being non-commercial and not having instant deadlines," said Bob, who is also pledge producer, heading on-air fund raising at the station, choosing the message points, and coaching and training the on-air hosts.

Bob, who helped start "Northwest Profiles" 27 years ago, said it's an icon show for KSPS.

With "Northwest Profiles," four people work regularly, and others freelance. Bob produces one of

Continued on page 4

Gonzaga involves students, community in events to foster social entrepreneurship

Gonzaga faculty have organized lectures and panels leading up to and after the Oct. 13 to 17 Opus Week activities and the Thursday, Oct. 16, Opus Awards Ceremony at the Martin Woldson Theater at The Fox.

The Opus Prize is an annual, \$1 million gift awarded to an individual or organization whose faith-based, entrepreneurial leadership helps people in need transform their lives.

It identifies unsung social innovators and highlights their approaches to giving power to disenfranchised people. The process of selection seeks to inspire others to pursue lives of service.

The events are: Sept. 9, "Faith-Based Work: The Work That Does Justice"; Sept. 16, "Bridging Societies: Intercultural Competence and Authentic Empathy"; Sept. 23, "Faith, Reciprocity, and Aid on the Columbia Plateau: Awareness of Social Needs in Our Own Backyard"; Sept. 30, "Community 'Development' and Empowered Communities"; Oct. 7, "Social Entrepreneurship: What Is It? What Does It Mean?"; Oct. 15, at the Gonzaga University Chapel in College Hall to celebrate faith and humanitarian efforts worldwide.

Michael Herzog, chair of Gonzaga's Opus Prize Steering Committee, said that the finalists "are among the most courageous in the world. They are undaunted by tough, seemingly intractable social problems. They embody the power of faith committed to justice."

The Opus Nights are to help students and the public gain from the Opus Prize experience. They are at 6 p.m., Tuesdays, Sept. 9 to Nov. 4, in the Wolff Auditorium at Jepson Center.

The Oct. 28 session is on "What Is a Concerned Zag to Do? Lessons Learned and Potential Work around the Faith That Does Justice" and Nov. 4 is a "Wrap-up: What's Next for Gonzaga and Opus? What's Next for YOU?"

The Opus Prize and process further the efforts of the recipient, while inspiring college students to serve. A 15-month process to

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Free Restaurant purchases Center Pointe to serve more

The Women & Children's Free Restaurant and Community Kitchen (WCFR) has purchased the Center Pointe building at 1408 N. Washington to increase its services. It has brought in more than \$800,000 of its \$1.8 million capital campaign goal.

The restaurant will continue at its present location until it has another \$400,000 to complete renovating and equipping the kitchen. Then they can move out of the church basement.

That location is less than a mile southeast of its current location in the basement of 1620 N. Monroe St., now Christ Our Hope Bible Church, formerly St. Paul United Methodist Church. It has been there for 26 years.

Angela Moffat, marketing manager for WCFR, said that in the new location cooks will be able to make 48 pans of lasagna at one time, compared to 14 now. Dining space will double.

"We will be able to build efficiencies and up-to-date equipment into the kitchen that we lack in our church basement location," she said.

The new location will also allow the restaurant to rent space to other nonprofits to help cover operating costs.

The restaurant serves dinners from 3 to 6 p.m., Tuesdays and Wednesdays, and lunch from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Fridays, but its kitchen is in operation Monday through Friday preparing meals for distribution through other programs.

It prepares meals for children at Vanessa Behan Crisis Nursery to take home, and family style meals for Hope House and St. Margaret's Shelter, and meals for people served by the YWCA's Women's Opportunity Center, Family Promise, Odyssey Youth Center, Peaceful Valley After School Program, Breakfast for the Homeless and Feed Cheney, Angela said.

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Argentinan grandmother finds lost grandson

After searching for more than 35 years, the Grandmothers of Plaza de Mayo in Argentina have found the grandson of one of their founders, Estela de Carlotto.

The discovery ends a long, painful journey for Estela who lost her pregnant daughter, Laura, during the military dictatorship of 1976 to 1983 in Argentina, when she was abducted and imprisoned.

Her daughter gave birth to her son, who was placed with a childless family the military chose, before killing her shortly after the birth. Often they selected military families.

Since its formation, the Grandmothers of Plaza de Mayo has searched for children who were born in detention centers.

Through the years, ecumenical organizations in the region, the World Council of Churches (WCC) and member churches in Latin America have accompanied the work of the "mothers" and "grandmothers."

The journey for Estela, a champion of the fight for human rights, ended on July 5, when a 35-year-old man named Guido, a musician in the city of Olavarria, was found to be her grandson after he did a DNA test, which matched her. He took it because of his doubts about his identity.

While there are other stories of grandchildren being found, this was poignant because it now touched a woman leader known for seeking justice for other women. The story keeps alive the ongoing need in Argentina to unveil the truth of the dictatorship years.

Ecumenical leaders in Argentina have been involved with churches in rewriting that part of their country's history in the pursuit of justice.

Estela valued the unconditional support she and the other women received from the Latin American Council of Churches (CLAI) and from the member churches of the WCC.

She travelled to Geneva in the late 1970s to meet with leaders of the human rights program for Latin America at the WCC.

With the appearance of Guido, the Grandmothers of Plaza de Mayo have managed to find 114 of their lost children.

For many in Argentina, this accomplishment is not the end of a fight. More than 400 children, now adults, are still missing.

Youth form multi-faith community on climate

Amidst the tensions often fueled by religions, a group of Christian, Muslim and Jewish youth formed a multi-faith community Aug. 4 to 22 at the World Council of Churches Ecumenical Institute in Bossey, Switzerland.

As part of an interfaith summer course sponsored by the World Council of Churches (WCC), this community of 19 Christian, Muslim and Jewish students from 12 countries wants to protect creation—a concern they say is common to all faith traditions.

One participant, Tariq Abdul Akbar, a 21-year-old U.S. convert to Islam at the age 18, and student at the Community College of Baltimore, realizes the importance of working together as religious communities for climate justice.

"Where I come from, I observe separations within diversity. Often politics rather than religious philosophies divide us," said Tariq. "However, we must know as people of faith that we need to put aside our religious differences and come together to raise awareness about climate change. This is a human rights issue and affects all people in the world."

He will be in a group of young people participating at the Interfaith Summit on Climate Change, Sept. 21 to 22 in New York.

The students in the summer course drafted a statement on climate change to be presented at the Summit. This statement, Tariq explained, features perspectives from young people, who want to see visible actions from the states and policy makers for climate justice.

"With leaders from the WCC and other religious communities, we hope to communicate our concerns at the United Nations Secretary General's Climate Summit on Sept. 23. We hope to include voices from young people in the global debate on climate change," he said.

REGIONAL ECUMENICAL & INTERFAITH NEWS

Action network plans events

Elise DeGooyer, co-director of the Faith Action Network (FAN), said FAN is part of a diverse movement of faith communities supporting Initiative 594, which says that anyone acquiring firearms in Washington State must pass a background check, no matter where they obtain the gun.

Elise said the effort includes having faith leaders and faith communities endorse the initiative, volunteer and invite educational speakers.

Other issues of concern to FAN constituents include the environment, wage theft, economic justice, hunger and poverty, economic inequality and abolishing the death penalty, she said.

FAN is also organizing 15 fall

regional geographic cluster meetings for its 82 advocating faith communities. The gatherings are opportunities for those faith communities to meet with neighbors, to update each other on advocacy efforts and to discern new ways to affect the common good.

The Central Washington cluster will meet from 1 to 3 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 18, at Faith Lutheran Church in Leavenworth.

The Spokane Cluster meets from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m., at a location to be announced.

The Yakima/Tri-Cities Cluster meeting is being scheduled.

For information, call 206-625-9790 or email degooyer@fanwa.org.

Quilts of Valor Group forms

Diane Watters, the Eastern Washington coordinator for Quilts of Valor, presented handmade quilts to three veterans, Clarence 'Sonny' Shaffer, Jim West and Buck Buchanan, during August at Rockwood at Hawthorne.

Quilts of Valor Foundation (QOVF) began in the sewing room of Catherine Roberts in

Seaford, Del., whose son was deployed in Iraq. She linked quilters in a national effort to cover all returning service men and women.

To date, QOV volunteers have made more than 103,490 quilts. Rockwood at Hawthorne residents and staff have formed their own Quilts of Valor Group.

For information, call 536-6656.

Megaload protests continue

Wild Idaho Rising Tide (WIRT) and allied grassroots groups have recently been staging peaceful protests and monitoring activities opposing the heaviest and longest megaload to cross northern Idaho and western Montana. They coordinated with similar actions in Lewiston to Hope, Idaho, during August.

Bigge Crane and Rigging Company was hauling one of three hydrocracker sections from the Port of Wilma near Clarkston across northwestern Montana, to the Montana Refining Company tar sands refinery in Great Falls, Mont.

Upon installation, the Montana Refining Company hydrocracker unit would convert 25,000 barrels per day of Bakken crude sludge into diesel for further North Dakota and Montana shale oil extraction operations and diluent for Alberta tar sands pipelines, reported Helen Yost of Wild Idaho Rising Tide.

"All of this destructive development exacerbates regional ecocide, indigenous genocide, Ameri-

can militarization, climate change and global instability," she said, adding that the massive transports degrade publicly funded road and bridge infrastructure and the rural and wild character of increasingly remote megaload routes.

Wild Idaho Rising Tide promotes power production by renewable energy sources because they provide greater employment, a stronger economy and avert these ruinous impacts, she said.

For information, call 208-301-8039 or visit wildidahorisingtide.org.

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Retreat center offers September events

Immaculate Heart Retreat Center will host several events during September, including Coffee and Contemplation, a Native American Day of Reflection, a Dinner Series on Islam, and daily virtual retreats online.

Coffee and Contemplation, an ecumenical spiritual discussion and prayer event, continues with the Rev. Gretchen Rehberg, rector of Nativity Episcopal Church in Lewiston, discussing "One Body, One Spirit: Connected in God" (Romans 12) from 9 to 11 a.m., Wednesday, Sept. 17.

Gretchen will explore how the image of the church as the Body of Christ can be a powerful way of understanding one's role in the church, as well as the grounds for unity of ministry.

After high school in Pullman, she was in the Eastern U.S. for 24 years before returning in 2006. She earned a doctoral degree in organic chemistry and taught at Bucknell University before entering the ministry. She has earned masters of divinity and doctor of ministry degrees and is ordained as an Episcopal priest.

She also served for 21 years as a volunteer EMT/firefighter.

The Native American Day of Reflection, "The Medicine Wheel: Christ and Our Land," will be held on Wednesday, Sept. 24, led by Catherine Swan Reimer, who is of Inupiat Eskimo heritage.

This experiential event is about developing balance in the reflective spirit to understand the Christian Medicine Wheel, modeled off the Alaskan Medicine Wheel. Each participant will evaluate her or his walk with Christ in an atmosphere of teaching and reflection.

The Dinner Series and two conferences on Islam, led by Father Patrick Baraza, will be held from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m., Tuesdays, Sept. 30 and Oct. 28.

Father Patrick, who was born and raised in Kenya, worked for eight years among the nomads, called Pokot, learning about Islam in his homeland. He attended the Jesuit School of Theology in Berkeley, then the Graduate Theological Union, where he was the first person to earn a doctoral degree in Islam Studies.

The topic for September is "Islam I: Arabia and Islam," and for October is "Islam II: Islam, Arabia and the World."

The center also provides a daily virtual retreat conducted by Retreat Master Deacon John Ruschinsky. These retreats follow the liturgical cycle and provide a meditative reflection on the day's scriptural readings. They are opportunities for people to take time out of their busy days to reflect on the word of God in their homes or on their mobile devices. The retreats are at www.ihrc.net.

The events are held at the center, 6910 S. Ben Burr Rd. For information, call 448-1224 or email programming@ihrc.net.

Nada Stockton speaks at Caring for Kids event

Nada Stockton, athlete, mother of six and wife of basketball star John Stockton, will be the featured speaker for the 18th annual Caring for Kids Luncheon from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 25, at the DoubleTree Hotel in downtown Spokane.

The luncheon supports St. Anne's Children and Family Center, a program of Catholic Charities Spokane, and Morning Star Boys' Ranch.

Nada will speak on the importance of teamwork in raising healthy children in the community.

For information, call 358-4254 or email jlee@ccspokane.org.

Transitions' benefit will be on Oct. 9

Transitions' annual "People Who Care Event," Thursday, Oct. 9, at the Red Lion Hotel at the Park includes breakfast at 7:30 a.m. and lunch at noon.

It introduces the community to Transitions' services and the women they serve as its five programs work to end poverty and homelessness among women and children in Spokane.

For 19 years, this agency has hosted the event that features speakers who share their stories of growth and success, and a video sharing the impact of its programs.

This year, Transitions seeks to raise \$130,000. It seeks event sponsors, table sponsors, table captains and guests. In 2013, Transitions served 1,471 women and children; assisted 53 women in furthering their education; supported 65 who found employment; provided 73 women with one-on-one vocational counseling, and empowered 85 women to move into permanent housing.

For information, call 328-6702, email mtracey@help4women.org or visit www.help4women.org.

Dominican sister and nurse share memories

Holy Family Hospital marks its 50th year

Providence Holy Family is celebrating its 50th anniversary. The 138-bed North Spokane hospital was founded by German-heritage Dominican Sisters and dedicated August 29, 1964.

A Community Celebration from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 30, in its north parking area includes health screenings, CPR demonstrations and tours of the remodeled maternity center.

Recently Dominican Sister Judith Nilles and Barbara Savage, who was a registered nurse at Holy Family, shared about the early years with Anne McKeon of Providence Holy Family public relations:

Sr. Judith, now on Providence's Community Ministry Board, was a young sister when Holy Family opened. She and another sister helped clean for the first patients.

"There was no room in the convent next to the hospital for us to stay, so we were given a second-floor room," Sr. Judith said. "We were the first people to sleep in the hospital."

She never worked there but later, as a leader in the Dominican community, she was on the health care boards.

Sr. Judith remembers the vision, discernment and financial sacrifices that made the hospital a reality. It began in 1940 when the Provincialate bought 40 acres on North Division for about \$13,500. The Dominicans were then in Kettle Falls.

"In the 1940s and early 1950s, the sisters started talking about how to use this land," she said.

In 1957, 17 doctors petitioned them for a North Side hospital. The sisters built a convalescent home in the 1960s as a precursor and began planning for the hospital. They mortgaged their property to build the hospital.

"We had to save every penny. I was teaching. Our food bills and everything were scrutinized to see how much we could contribute to the building fund," Sr. Judith said.

Holy Family has prospered since 1964, when the sisters headed all departments, she said.

In 1993, the Dominicans transferred Holy Family Hospital to the Sisters of Providence. Sr. Judith is pleased that the compassionate service that was important to the founding sisters is maintained in the hospital.

Barbara, now a Providence sponsor, started her career in 1968 at Holy Family as a registered nurse and served in several clinical, educational and mission leadership roles.

She appreciates that Holy Family continues the family

environment that began with the Dominican Sisters.

"I knew I was a part of a family and that the sisters cared for us, loved us and knew each of us by name," Barbara said.

In the early days, sisters lived in a convent on the hospital grounds. They used the proximity to help hospital employees.

"The sisters were always extending themselves. It wasn't unusual to see a sister cruising the hallway, even at night, just to check how the employees, patients and families were doing," she said.

"I worked evenings as a nurse in ICU. Often the staff would not go out for dinner, so a sister would be there, and end up in trouble herself, because she would raid the kitchen and bring us sandwiches, fruit and, of course, dessert," said Barbara.

"In 2010, we had one of those dreaded, unannounced Joint Commission surveys. A doctor was the lead surveyor. When the surveyors reported to the administrative team, the doctor said: 'Before I start my report, I want to express to you how

deeply impressed and touched I have been by the compassion I have seen shown here staff to staff, staff to patients and staff to families.'

"He choked up and had to turn it to the nurse and have her report out. To me this is evidence of the continuation of that loving, caring, compassionate community family begun by the Dominican Sisters," Barbara said. "This family community must be nurtured and tended carefully so that 50 years from now, people will still be able to say, 'Holy Family Hospital is a family.'"

For information, call 474-2397.

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Mix of funding gives PBS station more freedom in what it offers

Continued from page 1
four shows, aired at 7 p.m., last Thursdays from October to May, and rebroadcast the following Sunday evenings.

"We cover what people aspire to do, and how they succeed in quiet and lofty ways," Bob said.

"We do human interest stories," he continued, "presenting a person without inflicting our own thoughts about the person. Our role is to present their stories in the most interesting way."

"Stories take me out of the building to speak with artists and people with interesting hobbies," he said. "We try not to make it an ad for books, art or tickets, but have it be about people, their projects and their background."

"Artists are good, because there is a visual aspect and they are articulate. To profile organizations and museums, we find someone to talk to make it personal. We find people, and crawl around their lives for a day looking for a hook to start the story and then find the meat of the story," Bob said.

"I have learned there are many creative, innovative, observant quirky people," he said.

"The production department

meets to discuss ideas from viewers. Sometimes we decide an idea will not fly with our audience.

"We wondered if The Fig Tree would be a story. We needed photos and the anniversary event for there to be enough visuals, in addition to talking to someone. It's too big a topic to do it justice in six minutes."

About 20 years ago, Bob interviewed a man with a collection of psychedelic rock records that he had bought while serving in the Navy in Europe.

Another story was on the Society for Creative Anachronism, who recreate Middle Ages encampments, dressing and acting like people in that era. They meet monthly for an authentic dinner. Each has a persona and name.

Another feature was on a professional musician from the 1950s who plays music in his retirement home.

Bob previously did "On the Road" with stories throughout the region.

In the 1990s when the economy was more robust than now, KSPS produced one-hour documentaries. Bob worked on a documentary about living with volcanos in

the Northwest, Japan, the Philippines, Mexico and California. He had the opportunity to travel for that and a few other programs.

He also did a full-length program about the Sisters of Providence who traveled in the area and established Sacred Heart Hospital, and travelogues that took him to Calgary, Edmonton, Richland, Davenport and around Spokane.

"Canadians love what we do and strongly back our programs financially," Bob said, estimating that KSPS-TV's funding hovers around 50-50 Canadian and U.S.

"People who support us see a need met through our programs," he said.

The mix of funding includes approximately 10 percent from the government, 72 percent from individuals, and the rest from foundations, grants, underwriters and corporations.

"Advertising on commercial TV delivers eyeballs to advertisers," Bob noted. "We deliver programming to the minds and hearts of viewers without the onus of the bottom line. That gives us more freedom in what we can offer."

Bob likes PBS because it has shows on nature, history, biology,

cultures and more.

"The best TV makes people feel something and then desire to follow up and take action. It touches people. It could be strictly entertaining," he said. "Viewers offer suggestions. We do not follow a particular agenda of what we put on the air. We do not focus on hot button issues, like gun rights, abortion or global warming."

For example, he said, "News Hour" includes people with different views discussing issues.

"Many media inject a point of view. Headlines give so little they indirectly seem to tell us what to think," said Bob, pleased to have an audience that has an attention span and wants to know more.

He quoted news commentator Mark Shields who said that many people watch news for ammunition, not information. Many want news in their image. With the choice of media and channels, that's possible to do.

"Life changes because of TV shows," Bob said.

One example is "Sit and Be Fit," which originated in 1987 with host Mary Ann Wilson in

Spokane and was offered free to other stations nationwide. It offers slow, gentle exercises for the elderly, accident victims and those who have not exercised for a while.

He knows that the hour-long, live, call-in "Health Matters" program helped one woman prevent a heart attack.

Bob likes working at a small TV station, where "I'm not pigeonholed" but can do everything: conceive ideas, contacts, interviews, shoot video recordings, write a script, announce, edit, have a music library, do graphic work, direct and sometimes be seen on camera.

"People do things they are drawn to do and are better for it," said Bob.

"We entertain, but not just to entertain. We want to present heart and soul of the community and region," he said.

"People make things happen," he said. "We present something people can connect to or start something similar."

For information, call 443-7800 or email boblaw@kpsps.org.

Group sponsors Compassion Games in Spokane Sept. 11-22

One Peace Many Paths is venturing onto a new path in 2014, shifting its energies from one-time events to address underlying conditions that make inner and interpersonal peace possible, said coordinator Joan Broeckling.

One new initiative is serving as catalyst for Compassion Games from Sept. 11 to 22.

Through joining the international Compassion Games, it seeks to expand from its emphasis on an internal process to come to an attitude of caring compassion, kindness and peace.

"Compassion is not complete without action," Joan quoted Tibetan Buddhist Monk Geshe Phelyge, who has worked at Gonzaga University and Eastern Washington University.

During the traditional 11 Days of Peace this year, One Peace Many Paths is encouraging individuals to do "random acts of kindness" and to be "secret agents of compassion" by participating in service projects.

It has contacted more than 40 faith and community groups to offer service projects. As of press time, 20 were committed and nine more are interested.

Joan said the 11 days coincide with the United Way Day of Action on Thursday, Sept. 11. Opportunities are at volunteer-spokane.org/volunteer/events/display/day-of-caring.

The opening ceremony for the Compassion Games is at 7 p.m., Sept. 11, at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 4340 W. Ft. Wright Dr. Those coming are asked to

bring a donation of diapers for Inland Northwest Baby or nonperishable food for people in need.

Participating organizations will have displays that offer ways to become involved in compassionate action during the 11 days.

There will be a Let's Keep It Going Ceremony and potluck at 6 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 21, on International Day of Peace, at the Center for Spiritual Living, 2825 E. 33rd Ave. It will include sharing stories from the 11 days, reflecting on intentions for compassionate living in the coming year and an Honoring the Nations ceremony, Joan said.

"Compassion is a universal value that brings us together in faith and community groups," she said. "Deepening compassion helps the community and individuals. It removes the inner critic and creates a better life."

The Compassion Games will include a social media campaign,

inviting people to stop and think about what compassion means, even if they do not sign up to do a specific act.

The international Compassion Games involve being an organizer or participant, doing service projects, sharing reports online and celebrating results. The program is described at compassiongames.org.

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Faces of The Fig Tree - Celebrating 30 Years - Delivery Volunteers

Delivering Fig Tree is part of community volunteering for many

By Kaye Hult

Anne Salisbury first learned about The Fig Tree when she began attending Shalom Church in Spokane in 2006. She was so impressed with its peace journalism that she sought to learn more.

She attended a breakfast benefit event at which Peter Storey, a South African bishop, spoke. She had been interested in the South African struggle for a long time.

"I decided to be involved in peace journalism, so I volunteered to distribute The Fig Tree to locations in North Idaho, where I live," she recalled.

It fit with her commitments.

Anne said she has always had a "thing" for the underdog, perhaps because she was the youngest of six children. Her family was made up of public-spirited people.

She grew up in California. She met and married her first husband during her first year in college. She never finished her formal schooling, but she has taken classes at Chico State College in California, the University of Washington in Seattle, North Idaho College, Gonzaga University, and Mt. Diablo Community College.

While her three children were still quite young, Anne had to deal with mental health issues. These led to several years of therapy, which became a lifeline for her.

"I traded learning about myself for learning about other things," Anne said.

Her husband, Fred, owned an automobile dealership in Coeur d'Alene. Anne and her two sons were on a backpacking trip when he died of a heart attack.

At about the time he died, she had a sense of his love and presence. When the rangers came, and they started home, the weather was vile. They slid down a hill, and her younger son became soaked. Her ability to care for him in this risky situation gave him and her confidence in her ability to live without her husband.

Eventually, Anne met another man, but four months before the wedding, he died. By then, Hos-



Anne Salisbury delivers in North Idaho.

pice of Spokane had formed, and she attended a support group.

"I vowed that if ever Coeur d'Alene had a support group, I would help with it," she said.

When Hospice of North Idaho began, she took the first class. Instead of working with those who were dying, she helped those who were grieving.

Because she was the only grief counselor when the need for grief counseling was great, she created a support group, whose members helped each other.

"My main contribution to Hospice of North Idaho was telling them they had to hire someone professional to offer grief support," she said.

When Anne had first moved to Coeur d'Alene, she had become involved with the League of Women Voters. A similar group in California had been helpful to her. Through chairing its education group, she learned to navigate Coeur d'Alene's education system for her sons and others.

Through volunteering, she learned the political system and helped with elections.

Another aspect of her volunteer involvement grew from her first husband's Jewish roots.

Fred had grown in Dresden, Germany, as Adolph Hitler was coming to power. His parents

sent him and his siblings in different directions, eventually to the United States.

In Coeur d'Alene, Anne became friends with Ellie Rosen, whose husband, Sid, owned a restaurant. After Ellie's death, Sid became a target of the Aryan Nations.

He and Anne would talk about it. He thought that, because the full name of the Aryan Nations was Church of Jesus Christ Aryan, all Christians thought in the same bigoted way. Anne helped him learn that was not true.

In the early months of the Kootenai County Task Force on Human Relations in 1981, her minister at St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Coeur d'Alene appointed her to

serve on the task force.

She was working with it when the Aryan Nations bombed the home of Fr. Bill Wassmuth, the human rights activist priest at St. Pius X Catholic Church. They also bombed a luggage store owned by two Baha'i men and a federal courthouse. As the task

force became prominent, she served on the Support for Victims Committee.

Anne, who is still active both at Shalom Church and at St. Luke's, affirmed, "My Christian faith drives me to be involved."

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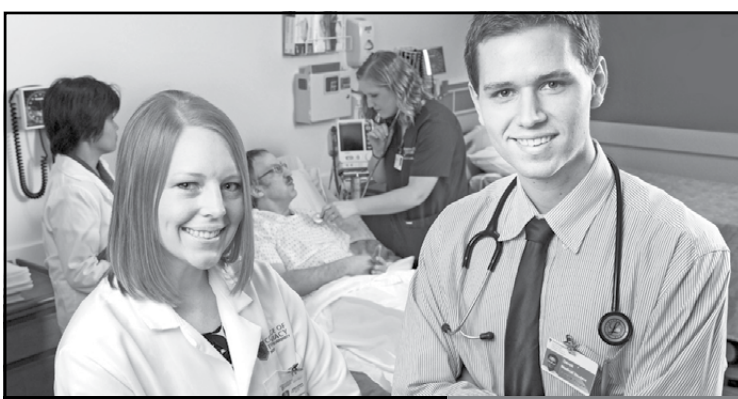
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Fig Tree relies on committed volunteers to deliver bulk orders

Madelyn Bafus

Madelyn Bafus, retired executive director of Family Promise of Spokane, is now on the board of Mission Community Outreach Center and continues to deliver bulk orders of The Fig Tree with a friend.

"I believe in the work of The Fig Tree, its stories and its accuracy," Madelyn said. "I know that what I read in The Fig Tree is what people said and meant, because the first time I was interviewed, Mary Stamp sent me a copy of the story to be sure what I said was correct and what I intended."

Madelyn appreciates The Fig Tree's coverage of the issues of today, what is happening in the community and world, and what people are doing to make a difference.

"I can sit down and read it in one sitting, and be better informed," she said.

"I also know The Fig Tree is good stewards of the money they receive. Money is always tight, so they use the resources effectively," she said.

"Mary asks questions that get at the heart of issues," said Madelyn who also heads the mission committee at Spokane Valley United Methodist Church and is active in United Methodist Women.



on the board.

Having grown up in a Catholic farm family in Montana, she has no family in town. She came in 1968 to go to Kinman Business College. She worked 10 years with Washington Trust Bank and retired after 21 years with URM, for which she is still on-call.

She and her husband Alan were married at Westminster and have attended there 40 years. It's his parents' church.

Barb is chair of the Jam for Bread concert, which raises money for Crosswalk, and works with the Tree of Sharing, now an independent nonprofit.

She has also participated with the church's partnership with a church in Felsorakos, Romania, visiting there in April 2008.

Lauri Clark-Straight

Lauri Clark-Straight grew up on the Yakama Reservation while her parents served the Yakima Indian Christian Mission in 1956 and from 1958 to 1973.

"Everything my parents did was outreach to make things better for people and to follow Jesus' call to serve 'the least,'" she said.

"They ingrained in me that I was to use my gifts to serve people. The Fig Tree highlights people who do that. It raises up those people, not those who kill people or lie to be elected to office," she said. "Fig Tree stories tell of people helping the least of these, voices that are usually quiet. I want to be part of sharing their voices."

Lauri earned a degree in art from Seattle Pacific University in 1980 and worked a few years with a stoneware company that sold to a high-end retail store. It sold the items for more than those making them could afford to pay.

"I began thinking of going to seminary to work on behalf of such people," she said.

Before she did that, she earned a teaching certificate at the University of Washington in 1984 and worked at YMCAs. She stayed at home when her two children were little. From 1999 to 2001, she went to George Fox Evangelical Seminary in Portland, Ore., and was ordained a Christian Church



(Disciples of Christ) pastor in 2001.

Her first church was in Ashland, Ky., then she moved to Spokane in 2004, where she served Opportunity Christian for four years and First Christian in Coeur d'Alene for two years. Since then she has worked part time at The Hitching Post, doing supply preaching, playing piano at churches, and volunteering with the YMCA, the Northwest Region Disciples of Christ Outdoor Ministries, IRB-Spokane and The Fig Tree.

She serves on The Fig Tree Board and does deliveries.

Frustrated that Christianity is linked with being judgmental, narrow minded or angry, she believes The Fig Tree is "the voice Christians need to have out there, the voice Jesus would want of caring for one another, kindness and being loving." Lauri said.

Mary Ann Farley, SNJM

Mary Ann Farley, SNJM, coordinator for the Holy Names Sisters in the Harbor Crest Community, has been devoting her time and energy with sisters in transition from the convent, 2911 W. Ft. Wright Dr., to their new Harbor Crest home at 3117 E. Chaser Ln.

Along with serving as the moderator of The Fig Tree Board, she helps deliver bulk orders.

A story on her comments related to the 125th celebration of the arrival of the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary in the Inland Northwest is in the June 2013 Fig Tree. She has also written editorials and been emcee for several of The Fig Tree benefit breakfasts and benefit lunches.



Chuck Fisk

Chuck Fisk, a member of Westminster Congregational UCC, began helping The Fig Tree in its early years, doing distribution and mailings, and serving on its board.

"When I started delivering bulk or-



ders, I had about 10 on my route," he said. "The route changed over the years and the numbers increased."

Chuck said The Fig Tree fills a unique role ecumenically. He appreciates learning reports on the World Council of Churches in a regular column.

"It's unique, because each denomination has its own newsletter, but this newspaper includes the many denominations and faiths," he said.

Lorraine Freeman

Lorraine Freeman, another member of Westminster Congregational UCC, learned at church about the need for delivery people several years ago.

She grew up in the Midwest and in Spokane and was waitress most of her life. After she earned an AA degree, she managed restaurants.

She volunteered, especially on behalf of low-income single parents, connecting to her own experience.

Lorraine was involved with Fair Budget Action Campaign, testifying about her experiences and lobbying for the minimum



wage and fair wages in the State Legislature.

She is proud that her 39-year-old daughter earned a master's degree from Whitworth University in psychology and works in community mental health.

"I like The Fig Tree and what it represents in the community," she said. "Delivery does not take a big chunk of time. I love doing it."

Lorraine also volunteers with Communities in Schools and helps transport older friends.

"Fig Tree articles tell about people proactive in the community, doing things to help people. We need to hear about people who are doing God's work," she said.

Les Harder

Les Harder, a retired quality control manager at the Department of Social and Health Services, has been delivering bulk orders of The Fig Tree to churches for more than three years.

He grew up in Medical Lake and the Hillyard neighborhood of Spokane, attending an American Baptist Church. He joined the Disciples of Christ before he



Continued on next page

Barb Borgens

Barb Borgens serves on The Fig Tree board of directors, because she likes the stories of a variety everyday people who do things, and stories of community actions and religious perspectives.

"So many people serve the community and there are so many underserved people," she said. "I'm an action person.

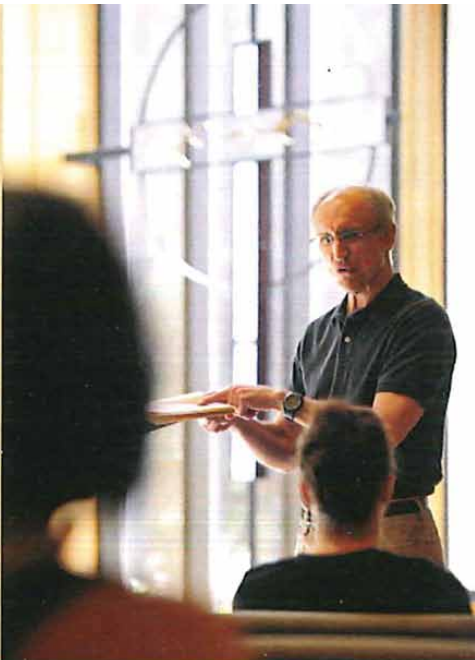
It's great to know that many people quietly go about their lives."

A member of Westminster Congregational United Church of Christ (UCC), she started on the board soon after she retired from working in purchasing with URM in June 2010. She is a friend of Deidre Jacobson, who also serves



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The Fig Tree celebrates 30 years of volunteers who make it possible

Continued from previous page
met and married his wife, Marge. For seven years, they have been attending Audubon Park United Methodist Church, where he is chair of the mission committee.

"I have loved reading and promoting The Fig Tree since I first came in contact with it in its early years," he said.

"It's one of the great newspapers for learning positive things," Les said.

He also enjoys the contact with people in different churches.

Betty Hartman

When The Fig Tree first started and Father Peter Stretch of St. David's Episcopal Church was on the Board of Directors, he asked his church secretary, Betty Hartman, to deliver a North Spokane route of bulk orders.

She has done it since then. She retired in 1996 after 12 years as secretary and continued to do the deliveries as a volunteer after that. She was also among the first volunteers to serve Meals on Wheels meals 44 years ago, and she continues that, too.

Betty, who grew up in Colville and moved to Spokane in 1959, worked with the phone company until she and her late husband, Duane, adopted two children. She joined St. David's in 1968.

"I stayed home and started volunteering," said Betty, now a widow with two grown children and time to volunteer.

"I enjoy doing it and enjoy the articles I read," she said. "It's now just part of my life."

For three years, she has attended St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, and volunteers there, too.

Sue Heitstuman

Susan Heitstuman, administrative assistant at Family Promise, began to deliver The Fig Tree to 10 agencies and congregations on her way home, after former director Madelyn Bafus recruited her.

"Many of the agencies and churches also connect with Family Promise to help provide temporary shelter for homeless families. It gives me an opportunity to chat with them about both," she said. "The response is positive."

She worked 16 years as secretary of Spokane Valley United Methodist Church.

"I started my career teaching junior high, but put myself through college working as a secretary. I was happier doing that," Susan said. "As a church secretary, I fell in love with nonprofits. There's a good feeling about caring for people."

Susan attends St. Anthony's Catholic Parish, and helps coordinate volunteers when St. Joseph's

on Dean shelters Family Promise families. St. Anthony's is a support church, helping with meals and overnight supervision. St. Anthony's youth help set up and take down beds.

Susan is also treasurer for Spokane's CROP Hunger Walk. Family Promise is one of the local agencies receiving 25 percent of its proceeds.

"Family Promise is about what we can give to others," she said.

"Over and over I read in The Fig Tree about finding goodness and people seeking to meet the needs of others," she said. "When we help others, it blesses us."

Susan's parents, who were born in the Depression, stressed giving back and serving others.

Her father said volunteers "see needs and become part of the solution," said Susan, who involves her son and husband in Family Promise and Fig Tree deliveries.

Carolyn Payne

One of our volunteers who delivers The Fig Tree to area churches is Carolyn Payne, a 33-year member at St. Mark's Lutheran and organist/choir director at Salem Lutheran.

Her strong feelings about living out faith in the community and ecumenism have developed over the years as she has served as substitute organist in many churches and worked across denominational lines with colleagues in the American Guild of Organists. She and her husband Frank owned and operated a commercial construction company and parented seven children, involving them in many community activities and organizations.

"The Fig Tree, as an ecumenical newspaper unites us around the common good. Articles strengthen and educate us to learn of other traditions, cultures and faith communities, and how they reach out to the wider community. I love the rhythm of being involved with it each month."

Joyce Weir of Newport

Joyce Weir has distributed bulk orders of The Fig Tree to Newport churches since Nancy Minard moved several years ago to Portland. She has also distributed Resource Directories.

Joyce is a retired dental hygienist, who has lived in Newport since 1977.

Mike Wyman

Mike Wyman began delivering The Fig Tree in the early 1990s, after he and his wife Carol moved to Spokane. He worked as an administrator for the Interlake School and then with the Department of Social and Health Services' Home and Community Services until he retired in 2001.

He grew up in Yakima and worked as a youth director with Yakima County, as coordinator for developmentally disabled people in Grant and Adams counties, as administrator at Rainier School, and with the Developmental Disabilities Office in Bellevue.

Since retiring he has operated an online bookstore through Amazon, selling historical, religious and biographical books.

Mike became involved with the late Sr. Bernadine Casey, SNJM, through the Ecumenical Committee at St. Patrick's Catholic Parish.

"I began delivering The Fig Tree because of that connection and I continue to do it because I believe in ecumenism," said Mike, who now attends St. Francis of Assisi.

Other delivery volunteers also serve on The Fig Tree Board of Directors or help with writing. Their stories are covered in the June 2014 issue: Deidre Jacobson, who delivers with her husband, Lance Jacobson, Marilyn Stedman and the Rev. Happy Watkins. Assisting as backup when delivery people cannot come are Malcolm Haworth, directory editor, and Mary Stamp, editor.

"We need more volunteers to help with deliveries so that routes can be smaller and so that we have substitutes when delivery volunteers are not available because of other commitments," said Mary.

For many years, Marilyn has given the volunteers reminder calls. Kaye Hult, who is serving as volunteer coordinator, will now be doing those calls.

"We are grateful to the staff at St. Mark's Lutheran Church, 316 E. 24th Ave., for providing space for us to work each month to prepare mailings and for us to prepare newspapers for the delivery volunteers to pick up.

For information, call 535-4112 or email info@thefigtree.org.

Holy Names sisters are among the regular helpers



Holy Names Sisters Dee Marie Reeder, Rose Theresa Costello and Mary Louise DiJulio help with a spring mailing.

Sr. M. Rose Theresa (Dorothy) Costello, SNJM, was among The Fig Tree's supporters and volunteers for many years, recruiting guests to fill two or more tables for benefit breakfasts and lunches, helping with archives, editing, mailings and many other tasks.

Born in 1918 in Shelby, Mont., she died July 14, 2014.

After graduating from Holy Names Academy in Spokane, she entered the Sisters of the Holy Names in 1936 and professed her vows in 1938.

After college, she taught in parish schools in Oregon and Washington. She held a bachelor's degree in education from Marylhurst College and a master's in geography from the University of Minnesota.

Her expertise in geography led to her authoring a fifth grade geography workbook published by McGraw-Hill, Sr. Rose Theresa spoke at conventions, and was runner-up for teacher of the year in Washington in 1967.

She was a social studies consultant for elementary and secondary schools in Mesa, Ariz., while there caring for her mother.

By 1990, she had learned to navigate computer intricacies and kept current. Helping others enjoy possibilities with computers was life-giving for her. She used those skills in volunteer service.

Sr. Rose Theresa recently celebrated her 75th Jubilee as a Sister of the Holy Names and her 96th birthday.

She had a busy retirement assisting the Women's Hearth, Our Place Ecumenical Ministries, and The Fig Tree.

Sr. Rose Theresa promoted justice and worked politically to achieve it.

She was frail for only four days before her death at the end of a week in which she participated in a retreat to encourage young women to think about religious life.

Memorial gifts may be made to the Sisters of the Holy Names Retirement Fund, 2911 W. Fort Wright Dr., Spokane, WA 99224.



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Gonzaga students see poverty, problems Opus Prize finalists address

As part of preparing to host the 2014 Opus Prize faith-based humanitarian award, seven Gonzaga University student vetters, chosen from 70 applicants and four faculty members, visited the three finalists in person.

The finalists are Sister Teresa "Tesa" Fitzgerald of Hour Children, Queens, New York; Gollapalli Israel, of the Janodayam Social Education Centre in Chennai, India, and the Rev. Joseph Maier, of the Mercy Centre Human Development Foundation in Bangkok, Thailand.

Among the student vetters were Meaghan Driscoll, who visited Hour Children, Aaron Danowski who visited Janodayam, and Allison Crha who visited Mercy Centre. They recently shared their experiences with The Fig Tree.

Sr. Tesa Fitzgerald, a Sister of St. Joseph, directs Hour Children, a nonprofit in Queens that provides services to incarcerated and formerly incarcerated women and their children, reuniting families and rebuilding lives.

It is named for the hours that shape lives of children with mothers behind bars: the hour their mothers are arrested, the hour they visit their mothers in prison, and the hour of their release.

The program offers housing, education, transportation, day care, job training and employment assistance, and personal and addiction counseling. It builds hope among women who have had few reasons for hope.

More than 80 percent of the women have a childhood history of physical and sexual abuse; 82



Sr. Tesa Fitzgerald

percent are substance abusers, and the education of most ended after seventh-grade.

Hour Children seeks to stop the cycle of incarceration. While an average of 30 percent of female offenders relapse into criminal behavior and return to prison nationwide, the recidivism rate for Hour Children has been about 5 percent over 25 years.

Meaghan visited Hour Children during spring break 2014.

A third-year law student, she applied to be a vetter to form relationships and see how a world leader was addressing an issue that fit her own commitment to do public interest law to help vulnerable populations.

A 2006 graduate of Lewis and Clark High School in Spokane, she majored in English and minored in philosophy at Seattle University, graduating in 2010.

Meaghan spent two years with the Jesuit Volunteer Corps Northwest in Aberdeen and Hoquiam working with the Northwest



Woman with Janodayam speaks at gathering with Aaron Danowski and Gonzaga faculty member Peggy Sue Loroz. Insert: Gollapalli Israel.

Justice Project, helping people know their legal rights. The second year she worked at St. Margaret's Shelter in Spokane as a housing case manager for homeless families. St. Margaret's offers a similar population similar services, she said.

Growing up Catholic, Meaghan said Jesuit education and principles are part of her approach and are how she hopes to live her life as a servant for the community.

Visiting with Sr. Tesa a day and a half, she learned of the thrift store, child care, vocational direction and housing programs.

"Her incredible faith and tenacity drives her to find resources to meet the needs she sees," she said.

The motto of Hour Children is: "Love makes the difference." Meaghan believes love makes a difference for women in shelters.

Because the program does not rely on federal funding, staff are flexible in using resources to meet needs. For example, federal dollars are often tied to finite expectations, such as temporary housing for three months.

"Hour Children may provide one month of housing or six based on the person's need," she said.

"It has given me hope," she said. "I am frustrated that our criminal justice system locks people up and then puts them out on the streets with no resources, contributing to recidivism."

"Hour Children addresses intergenerational poverty and incarceration," she said.

Meaghan sees that the program has power, given the staggering odds against women, to prevent incarcerated mothers from becoming mothers of children who will be incarcerated.

Opus Prize inspires humanitarianism

Continued from page 1
seek, nominate and review candidates has involved GU students.

The Opus Prize Foundation is a private, independent nonprofit foundation, established in 1994 by the founding chair of the Opus Corporation, a family of commercial real estate development, construction, architecture and structural engineering companies headquarters in Minneapolis.

Since 2004, the foundation has selected universities as partners to organize the Opus Prize selection process and award ceremony to challenge students to think globally and live lives of service.

Joe Poss, vice president of university advancement, said

hosting the award engages these students and faculty, who share their experiences.

"The Opus Prize Foundation, which partners with Catholic universities, invited Gonzaga to participate because of our identity with Jesuit values and social justice, and because of our growing global engagement," he said.

"We seek to create on campus and around the world opportunities for students, regardless of their majors, to experience other cultures by having them go abroad and having students from around the world on campus," Joe added.

Events around the Opus Prize provide students opportunities to walk with, listen to and worship

with the humanitarian leaders.

"It's an extraordinary teaching moment for students to be inspired to do similar work," Joe said. "We hope students will learn how finalists built their organizations, challenges they took on, their models for addressing problems, and their faith-based entrepreneurship, leadership and tenacity."

"The \$1 million first prize award is monumental for any of the organizations. The two \$100,000 awards to the other finalists is also significant," Joe said, "taking them from struggle to cement and validate their work for sustainability."

For information, call 313-6095 or visit gonzaga.edu/opusprize.

Meaghan has organized a conference on "Introduction to Restorative Justice" from noon to 4:30 p.m., Monday, Oct. 13, at Gonzaga School of Law's Barbieri Courtroom.

For information, email mdriscoll@lawschool.gonzaga.edu.

For 18 years, Gollapalli Israel has practiced his Baptist faith, working among the Dalit (Adi Andhra) caste—also known as
More on next page

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GONZAGA UNIVERSITY

Now that students have 'seen' they cannot 'unsee,' they pledge to act

Stories continue from page 8
the untouchables—in the slums of Chennai, India. With his college education, he could have pursued other professional opportunities. He chose to fight for justice and opportunities for his people.

Adi Andhras are among the poorest people on earth. While legislation abolished India's caste system, centuries of stigma remain, and the oppressed caste remains at the bottom.

Traditionally, the only occupations open to them are considered impure: tanning leather, butchering, garbage collection and manual scavenging—cleaning human and animal excrement from latrines, streets and sewers.

Gollapalli leads the nonprofit Janodayam Social Education Centre, which promotes education, economic independence and awareness of existing rights for Adi Andhras in Chennai. Janodayam means "People Arise."

Its work includes:

- Night schools and tutoring that help thousands of Dalit children pursue better education so they can compete with those in private schools, and technical courses to help them find living-wage jobs.

- A community network that empowers Dalit leaders from 132 local slums to advocate for the rights of 600,000 people and for government assistance by helping them organize and negotiate for basic rights.

- Groups of 15 to 20 women who gain a communal voice and access to a micro-loan program that has enabled 5,000 women to start small businesses.

Gollapalli has also developed partnerships with local universities. More than 900 young Dalit adults have earned undergraduate or graduate degrees, including 10 doctoral degrees.

Aaron, a sophomore from Portland, Ore., is a business major with minors in entrepreneurship and sociology.

"I thought the Opus Prize vetting trip would be a way to see the world, to visit a different place and to observe the progress of faith-based humanitarians who use entrepreneurial methods to solve the world's toughest social problems," he said.

From reading about social entrepreneurship, Aaron was fascinated by people using the business skills he was studying in school for something bigger.

During the week of May 19, he went to Chennai, a city of 9 million on the Southeast Coast of India to observe Gollapalli's work with Janodayam.

"Traditionally in the slums, women are oppressed because they are to stay at home while men



Allison Crha plays with child at Mercy Center. Insert: Fr. Joe Maier

work, but men's jobs do not pay well, and men have a high mortality rate, so Janodayam teaches women business skills and gives them a voice on such issues as domestic violence.

Gollapalli, 48, the son of a manual scavenger, put himself through college. The Jesuits who founded Janodayam recruited him to teach at the night school and eventually appointed him director.

"He is a role model who can relate to the people's experiences," Aaron said.

Janodayam has 40 employees working out of a four-room apartment. They have one computer to use to touch the lives of hundreds of thousands of individuals.

"I had never seen the level of poverty I saw there. Nor had I seen the strength of character it takes to see such poverty and also see that something greater can arise out of it," Aaron said.

"Gollapalli, who is Baptist in the 90 percent Hindu India, serves regardless of race or religion. Faith motivates him, but he does not promote his faith in the community to ensure Janodayam can represent all Adi Andhras," said Aaron, who grew up in a Foursquare church in Beaverton, Ore., and has attended different churches in Spokane.

"I realize we are all God's children and share the humanity of being made in God's image," he said. "Some of us are in college, paying up to \$50,000 for an education, and some are in slums looking for a ray of hope. How do I make sense of my being where I am and their being where they are? Now that I am blessed with having seen, I want to give back. I want to work with organizations that create social change."

This summer, Aaron was an intern with World Vision in Federal Way, a multibillion-dollar Christian NGO working in different countries.

"How do we use faith as a driver of the change we want to see in the world? How can we make a difference? I'm hooked," Aaron

said. "Now that I have seen, I can't unsee. The experience has changed my perspectives."

In Thailand, the Rev. Joseph Maier, a Redemptorist priest born in Longview, Wash., co-founded in 1972 the Human Development Foundation Mercy Centre in Klong Toey, the largest slum in Bangkok, home to more than 100,000 of the city's poor.

He empowers the men, women and children with education. Mercy Centre manages 23 kindergartens for more than 3,000 children. It also operates schools for street children and secures scholarships for more than 1,000 children annually.

Other programs target complex social issues. Fr. Joe and his staff work with police to keep children out of the hands of human traffickers. They've built 10,000 homes, plus playgrounds and sports facilities. They established a women's credit union to help women control their finances. They provide home care to 360 patients suffering from HIV/AIDS and related diseases. They also offer emergency relief.

He and his staff have built a successful NGO in Thailand starting with modest, practical solutions, and expanding implementation for greater impact. He has the respect and love of the poor, government officials, and the Buddhist monk and local imam who pray with him.

Allison, a senior nursing student at Gonzaga University from Seattle, applied to be a vetter because she is passionate about international medicine and international relations.

She spent a week this summer visiting Fr. Joe and saw how the center uses kindergarten education to change a community.

While Fr. Joe once taught, she said the center now trains local teachers so there are more kindergartens in and certified teachers from the slums. The community has taken over the work, making the program sustainable.

Now in his late 70s, Fr. Joe visits schools, says Mass and relates with the children.

In 2013, Allison also spent four weeks in Gonzaga University's immersion program in Zambia.

In both settings, she found that people hunger to learn how to keep themselves healthy so they can live fuller, richer lives.

Fr. Joe has a home health team that works with people who have AIDS and works to prevent it.

"In Zambia, the ARV medicine was available, but few had food with which to take it. It is uncomfortable to take the medicine without food," Allison said. "In Thailand, that is not the case. It's more developed in terms of food, sanitation and water."

She sees that people in every country have needs: "We have needs. Thailand has needs, and Zambia has needs."

These experiences have allowed her to look at the U.S. health care issues.

"Here, few think about how our habits affect our health," she said. "In other countries, the focus is on prevention."

Allison was impressed how Fr. Joe reaches across religions with a Muslim imam and Buddhist monk to "find beauty in comparing their different religious beliefs and conflicts," she said. "Their relationship is not just respect, but allows their differences to give them room to explore what they believe."

"It seems impossible that people in slums of Thailand are figuring out interreligious relationships. While we in the United States are more advanced in some ways, we have much to learn," said Allison, a Lutheran who attended Catholic grade schools and high school.

"When I asked how he lives his faith, he said he just tries not to get in the way of God working through him. He is God's hands and feet."

She encourages people to move out of their comfort zones to see how others live.

"There is not one way to live our faith or serve Christ," she said. "We need to use our passions and gifts to do God's work."

She will be an Opus speaker.

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Church leaders pledge support for Native rights in fossil fuel transport

Lummi Nation members came through the region on a totem pole tour to educate people from South Dakota back to their home at Cherry Point to protect the environment. Their tour uplifts the impact of open pit coal mining, coal trains, construction on sacred lands, water pollution and air pollution from burning coal in China. Their repeated visit and challenge is a reminder of the need for tenacity to protect the environment from plans of corporations to earn a profit.

"It's not that First Nations own this land and you don't," the Rev. Martin Elfert of St. John's Cathedral pointed out in opening comments, "but that land is unownable." He pointed out that even in Christian tradition, people are given "dominion" over the land. He understands that to mean that "we are to be stewards of a gift from God we have for a while, care for and give to the next generation."

Martin was proud in 1987 and 1997 when his denomination was among those whose Northwest leaders signed documents of

apology to Northwest indigenous people. Those apologies acknowledged "historical disrespect of Native American spiritual practices and traditions" and pledged "to defend the rights of Native Peoples, including access to and protection of sacred sites, and an end to political and economic injustice against tribal communities."

On August 26, in a parking lot near the cathedral, Episcopal Bishop Jim Waggoner, Jr., and Lutheran Bishop Martin Welles signed a new document of solidarity.

That means they and about 250 others who gathered will work to deepen the relationship between Native Americans and the people in their congregations.

The document recognizes that the new threat is the mining, transport, burning and disposal of fossil fuels related to proposed coal export terminals.

It recognizes that coal export would damage native fisheries protected by treaties and "poison our shared air and water." The coal trains would cross lands "sacred to indigenous peoples, and impact the health

of those communities." They acknowledge that use of fossil fuels creates "terrible threats of climate disruption," and acidifies and pollutes the ocean, harming "all God's children, especially the poorest."

Tribal leaders asked faith leaders to keep past promises to stand with them. This statement was signed by United Church of Christ, Sisters of Providence, United Methodist, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), American Baptist and Episcopal bishops and denominational executives. It calls on the Northwest Congressional delegation, other elected officials, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the U.S. Department of the Interior and all people of goodwill to uphold the treaty rights and consider *all* the environmental and cultural harm to Native lands and peoples in making decisions about the mining, transport and export of coal and other fossil fuels.

The leaders call for protecting "the life we have been given and the Earth we call home," recognizing, too, that "our greatest

commandment is to love our neighbors as ourselves." They commit to and call others to commit to putting this ethic into action by standing in solidarity with Native neighbors "to safeguard the traditional lands, waters and sacred sites of their peoples from destruction."

Spokane City Council President Ben Stuckart also pledged his support because of the "threat to our river from rail transport of fossil fuels," not trusting corporate pledges to make trains safer, and challenging "our addiction to fossil fuels."

Jewell James of the House of Tears Carvers with the Lummi Nation, while saying that churches in the past undermined the idea that the earth is sacred, welcomed the statement. The totem pole this year, he said represents women, who in Lummi tradition pass on the culture. "We are to protect people who do good work to protect the air, water, land and earth," he said. He called for sharing the message in churches and communities of the region.

Mary Stamp - Editor

In a climate of fear and militarization of police, faith community is present

The common emotion surrounding events in Ferguson, Mo., is fear.

In recent years we have had much to fear and have been urged to fear much more.

- Factories are being moved overseas, so people fear losing their jobs.
- The collapse of the real estate market leads many to fear losing their homes.
- Weird banking practices mean people fear losing their savings.

Since 9/11, we have been easily alarmed at any suggestion of violence as a further sign of instability. There have been enough real emergencies to keep us on edge.

One result has been militarization of local police forces.

Now police departments across the country are dealing with Department of Justice orders to revise their training and practices because of the high number of police-associated deaths of racial minorities and the mentally ill.

Police training, however, has not been adequate to allow effective, humane handling of the spectrum of situations faced.

It takes only one shooter to turn a quiet demonstration into a panicked melee. Fear of such an event results in the donning of riot gear as standard practice in preparing for a demonstration.

The daytime demonstrations in Ferguson were peaceful, and observers reported that participants were predominantly local residents. The louder, destructive nighttime demonstrations drew outsiders, but both groups faced police in riot gear.

A different approach was used in New York City at a demonstration after the death of a suspect who had been put in a chokehold. Organizers of the demonstration met with police to work out boundaries and ground rules.

Organizers were determined to have a peaceful demonstration, while exercising the right of free speech. It was a peaceful demonstration from both points of view, and there were conversations between the police and the demonstrators. That wouldn't have been possible if the police had been in riot gear. One commentator de-

scribed the police role as that of a facilitator.

The faith community has been concerned and has had a presence to address issues.

The Rev. Geoffrey Black, United Church of Christ general minister, went to Ferguson at the invitation of local pastors, met with interfaith and other groups, spoke to a large group and offered help of the UCC.

The Rev. Sharon Watkins, general minister and president of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) said: This shooting "reveals the scar that systemic and institutional racism has covered loosely by legal progress, but never healed."

Jim Winkler, National Council of Churches president and general secretary, deploring the shooting and supporting complete investigation of this shooting and others said: "These killings, as well as those of hundreds of other Americans each year at the hands of increasingly militarized police forces is of great and growing concern. A peaceful, healthy society requires trust and positive relationships between citizens and law enforcement. That can best occur in

circumstances in which deep-seated social problems, such as racism and inequality are being addressed."

In the wake of a racially charged police shooting in Missouri, "the efforts of the churches, faith communities, ecumenical and interfaith partners and civil society organizations and coalitions have called for prayer, calm, peaceful protest, and open and honest dialogue on racism and issues of class." They have support and encouragement from the World Council of Churches (WCC).

Writing to the Interfaith Partnership of Greater St. Louis, general secretary of the WCC, the Rev. Olav Fykse Tveit praised area churches and religious communities that have sought an end to conflict in the aftermath of "the tragic killing by a police officer of Michael Brown."

He praised their common efforts toward building peace and promoting healing within the community and a process of reconciliation at local and national levels.

Nancy Minard - Contributing Editor

Statement

Sounding Board

Reflections

Sisters of Providence join other faith leaders in calling for respect of treaty rights

Sisters of Providence, Mother Joseph Province, have signed a letter in support of native peoples who are struggling to protect their sacred lands from destruction by the fossil fuel industry.

The sisters, who are Catholic women of faith responding to the needs of the poor and vulnerable in the region, joined other denominational leaders signing "A Public Declaration to the Tribal Councils and Traditional Spiritual Leaders of the Native Peoples of the Northwest."

The letter calls for the Northwest congressional delegation and other elected officials, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the U.S. Department of the Interior "and all people of goodwill to uphold the treaty rights of Native communities in the Northwest."

This is the third such letter over the past 27 years. Jessie Dye, program and outreach director of Earth Ministry, said letters in 1987 and in 1997, were apologies to the region's indigenous peoples for disrespect of their religions. They stressed the importance of their sacred lands and traditions.

The two earlier letters, signed by bishops and leaders of religious denominations in the Northwest, gave a promise to stand with the indigenous people in the future to protect those aspects of their lives. The new letter, signed by the Sisters of Providence, acts on that promise.

"As people of faith, we stand with them as they claim their ancestral lands and sacred spaces," said Provincial Councilor Jo Ann Showalter, SP, who is a board member of Earth Ministry. "Sisters of Providence have worked with native peoples since coming to St. Ignatius, Mont., in 1864." The last Sister of Providence to move off the tribal reserve was Sister Dolores Ellwart, who left DeSmet, Idaho, in the fall of 2013. "This is another manifestation of our history of working with native peoples," Sister Jo Ann said.

In this decade, there are new threats to the tribes and their lands in the form of the mining, transport, burning and disposal of fossil fuels. An immediate local concern for tribal leaders is proposed coal export terminals that will damage native fisheries and will poison air and water.

That concern is compounded by the fact that the coal trains will cross sacred lands and threaten the health of already fragile communities. Climatic disruption and pollution will harm everyone, as local environmentalists will attest, but especially the poor and vulnerable will be impacted. Tribal leaders are concerned that the actions will undermine hard-won fishing rights granted to them under the Boldt Decision.

The letter signed by the Sisters of Providence represents a new coalition of faith, environmental and tribal groups.

Its immediate focus is the proposed expansion of the coal export terminal at Cherry Point, on the northwest coast of Washington State, near the Canadian border. If the expansion goes through, the Lummi will lose some of their sacred lands, including where their ancestors were laid to rest. Along the coal train's route, the fishing rights of other native peoples will be impacted, including the Yakama, Spokane and Colville tribes.

Copies of the letter will be presented to tribal leaders next week at stops on a Totem Pole Journey in Spokane and Seattle.

The Lummis traditionally are carvers, creating totem poles for healing and peace. A new, colorful 19-foot totem pole, created by Lummi master carver Jewell James, is being transported on a flat-bed truck traveling 1,500 miles, from South Dakota to the Puget Sound.

Stops on its journey are being hosted by urban churches, rural reservations and remote Lakota spirit camps.

The totem pole was blessed by bishops in Spokane on Aug. 26, at the Episcopal Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist.

This action by the Sisters of Providence is in keeping with their mission of serving the poor and vulnerable and with their focus on social justice and reclaiming the earth. The leadership of Mother Joseph Province recently attended the four-day annual con-

ference of the Leadership Conference of Women Religious (LCWR) in Nashville, Tenn., which passed a resolution "to ask Pope Francis to formally repudiate the 'doctrine of discovery.'"

Formalized in papal bulls issued in the 1400s, it used Christianity in the 15th century "to justify political and personal violence against indigenous nations and peoples and their cultural, religious and territorial identities."

The LCWR resolution stated that indigenous peoples continue to suffer as a direct result of that doctrine.

LCWR members also passed a resolution promoting the transition from fossil fuel energy sources to renewable energy sources, such as solar, geothermal and wind.

In one of the conference sessions, participants heard from a panel on environmental issues that included mountain-top removal coal mining, hydraulic fracturing to tap oil and natural gas, climate change and pipelines carrying hazardous liquids.

"What I see is a world hurtling toward self-destruction," said Claire McGowan, a Dominican sister. "We call this crisis 'climate change,' and the crisis exists precisely because of fossil fuel usage."

LCWR is composed of Catholic women religious who are leaders of about 80 percent of the congregations of women religious in the United States.

Group sponsors event for seniors

SAFE, Senior Assistance Fund of Eastern Washington, is sponsoring a conference from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 13, at Spokane Community College Lair, Building 6.

The conference is geared to boomers who are entering retirement and those retired. It will include speakers and exhibitors and cover such topics as exercise and mobility, planning for change, retirement travel, financial abuse and lifestyle subjects such as gardening, golfing and walking.

SAFE is a nonprofit whose mission is to foster and support programs, services and educational events that promote independence and self reliance for seniors, said Jan Kincaid.

For information, call 467-0558.

Restaurant seeks matching gifts

Continued from page 1

"We served more than 43,926 meals in 2013 through our restaurant, the Nutrition-to-Go partner agencies and community Thanksgiving dinner. From 100 to 250 come to dinners and lunches at the restaurant," she said, "but just 100 can be seated at one time."

WCFR relies on food donations from such sources as Huckleberry's, Main Market, Peirone Produce Co. and Charlie's Produce, supplying food that they cannot sell. Second Harvest also supplies food.

To kick off the next phase of the campaign, the Smith-Barbieri Progressive Fund, A Charitable Foundation (S-B Fund), which has granted \$50,000, is challenging the community by offering up to \$50,000 more as a matching grant.

"Living on minimum and low wages makes it impossible for women to make ends meet," Angela said. "Obtaining food, shelter and clothing is becoming harder for many in our community. Once the restaurant has moved into its new location it will be able to expand its services, serving more women and children on site, and distribution through other social services organizations."

WCFR has a pool of more than 150 volunteers, and expects the need for volunteers will rise with its anticipated increased capacity.

Donations designated to the Women's and Children's Free Restaurant and Community Kitchen through smith-barbierifund.com or through WCFR directly that mention the S-B Fund will be matched up to \$50,000.

For information, call 324-1995 or visit www.wcferspokane.org.

Calendar of Events

- Sept 4, 18** • **Peace and Justice Action Committee**, 35 W. Main, 5:30 p.m., 838-7870
- Sept 6** • **North Idaho Day of HOPE**, Kootenai County Fairgrounds, 10 a.m., 208-676-0632, northidaho.convoyofhope.org
• **"Renewing Worship,"** Lexington Theological Seminary webinar, Englewood Christian Church, 511 N. 44th Ave., Yakima, 1:30 to 3:30 p.m., mjhickman@englewoodchristianchurch.com
• **Outdoor Movie Night**, "Pacific Rim," St. John's Cathedral, 13th and Cowley, 7:30 p.m., 838-4277, stjohns-cathedral.org
- Sept 9-Nov 4** • **Opus Nights**, Wolff Auditorium in the Jepson Center, Gonzaga University 6 p.m.
- Sept 10** • **Spokane Police Accountability and Reform Coalition**, 35 W. Main, 5:30 p.m., 838-7870
- Sept 11** • **United Way Day of Action**, www.volunteerspokane.org
• **Compassion Games Opening**, Unitarian Universalist Church, 4340 W. Ft. Wright, 7 p.m., onepeacemanypaths@gmail.com
- Sept 11, 25** • **Palestine-Israel Human Rights Committee**, 35 W. Main, 3 p.m., 838-7870
- Sept 13** • **"Boomers & Beyond,"** Healthy Lifestyle Conference of SAFE (Senior Assistance Fund of Eastern Washington), Spokane Community College Lair, Bldg. 6, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., 458-2509 x502, safe@altcew.org
- Sept 17** • **Coffee and Contemplation**, "One Body, One Spirit: Connected in God," the Rev. Gretchen Rehberg, Immaculate Heart Retreat Center (IHRC), 6910 S. Ben Burr Rd., 9 to 11 a.m., 448-1224
• **"The Raising of America,"** screening six-part documentary on early child health and development, Spokane Regional Health District, Lincoln Center, 1316 N. Lincoln St., 7 p.m., 324-1539
- Sept 18** • **Central Washington Cluster Gathering**, Faith Action Network, Faith Lutheran Church, Leavenworth, 3 p.m., 206-624-9790
• **Spa Me Away, Women's Power Networking Event**, 10502 E. Sprague Ave., Spokane Valley, 5 to 8 p.m., 928-9664, Charitydoyl@yahoo.com
- Sept 20** • **Holy Family Hospital Community Celebration**, north parking lot, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., 474-2397
- Sept 21** • **Let's Keep It Going Ceremony**, Compassion Games, Center for Spiritual Living, 2825 E. 33rd Ave., 6 p.m., onepeacemanypaths@gmail.com
• **People's Climate March**, starting at 5th and Browne in Spokane, 1:30 p.m., pjdruffel@yahoo.com. Coincides with Global Climate March in New York as the United Nations discusses global climate issues.
- Sept 22** • **Spokane Non-profit Fundraising 101**, Lincoln Center, 1316 N. Lincoln St., 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., 928-9664, Charitydoyl@yahoo.com, thefamilyguide.org
- Sept 23** • **Peace and Justice Action League of Spokane (PJALS) Steering Committee**, 35 W. Main, 5:30 p.m., 838-7870
- Sept 24** • **Native American Day of Reflection**, Catherine Swan Reimer, IHRC, 6910 S. Ben Burr Rd., 448-1224, ihrc.org
• **Inland NW Death Penalty Abolition Group**, 35 W. Main, 6 p.m., 838-7870
• **"Fiddler on the Roof,"** Feed Spokane benefit, The Civic Theater, 7 p.m., Don Swanson, 435-5619, feedspokane.com
- Sept 25** • **Caring for Kids Luncheon**, St. Anne's Children and Family Center and Morning Star Boys' Ranch, DoubleTree Hotel Downtown Spokane, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., 358-4254, catholiccharitiesspokane.org
- Sept 25-27** • **Greek Festival Dinner**, Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox, 1703 N. Washington, holytrinityspokane.org/festival.html
- Sept 27** • **2014 AIDS Walk**, Spokane AIDS Network, Riverfront Park's North Bank Shelter, 11 a.m., 455-8993, spokaneaids.org
• **PJALS Membership Meeting**, 35 W. Main, 5:30 p.m., 838-7870
- Sept. 30** • **Dinner Conference on Islam**, "Islam I: Arabia and Islam," Fr. Patrick Baraza, IHRC, 6910 S. Ben Burr Rd., 448-1224
- Oct 1** • **Fig Tree Distribution**, St. Mark's Lutheran, 316 E. 24th, 9 a.m., 535-4112
- Oct 2** • **The Fig Tree Board**, Emmanuel Family Life Center, 613 S. Richard Allen Ct., 1 p.m., 535-1813
- Oct 3** • **Into Africa Dinner and Auction**, Partnering for Progress, Mirabeau Park Hotel, 5:30 p.m., 720-8408, intoafricaauction.org
- Oct 4** • **Spokane Cluster Gathering**, Faith Action Network, Location TBA, 1:30 to 3:30 p.m., 206-624-9790
- Oct 6-8** • **2014 Turner Memorial Lecture**, "Past and Future Church: From the Ends of the Earth to Our Doorstep," the Rev. Michael Kinnamon and the Rev. Carol Howard Merritt, Englewood Christian Church, 511 N. 44th Ave., Yakima, 509-966-6550, englewoodchristianchurch.com
- Oct 8** • **"Home Grown Leaders,"** Krista Foundation, 7:30 a.m., jessica@kristafoundation.org
- Oct 9** • **"People Who Care,"** Transitions, 7:30 a.m. or noon, Red Lion Hotel at the Park, 328-6702

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FOR GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP

Home Grown Leadership

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Krista Foundation Fundraising Breakfast

For Reservations, contact jessica@kristafoundation.org
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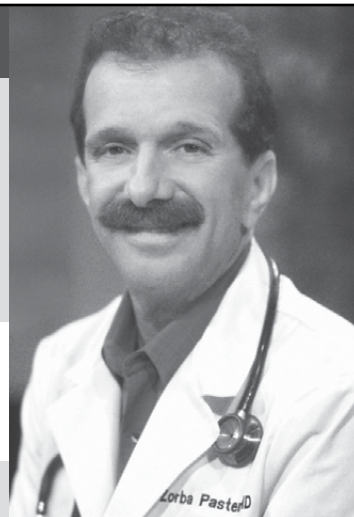
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Krista Foundation celebrates 10th year, honors young adult volunteers

At the 10th anniversary fundraising breakfast and celebration of Krista Foundation for Global Citizenship, Sinead Voorhees of Whitworth University's School of Global Commerce and Management will be among speakers addressing how local communities benefit when young adults volunteer abroad in developing nations or in America's urban centers.



Sinead Voorhees

Photo courtesy of Linda Hunt

"Home Grown Leaders" is the theme of the event from 7:30 to 9 a.m., Wednesday, Oct. 8, in downtown Spokane. Funds will help support young adult leaders who volunteer for a year or more as an expression of their faith and values.

"With all of the needs in our local communities, people often ask us what are the reasons for going elsewhere," said Linda Lawrence Hunt, co-founder of the Krista Foundation that began as a legacy in honor of her 25-year-old daughter who was killed while volunteering with her husband in Bolivia. "Actually, some Krista Colleagues do volunteer in their local communities or return with new skills to share locally."

Each year, universities nominate leaders who serve with existing agencies, such as AmeriCorps, Jesuit Volunteers, Presbyterian Year in Mission, Earth Ministries, Peace Corps and others.

The program began with nine Krista Colleagues in 1999. There are now more than 260 who have served in 41 U.S. urban centers and 45 nations. The Krista Foundation provides an ecumenical faith community, intergenerational

mentors, conferences, debriefing retreats, intercultural and ethics training before, during and after their service.

"In an interconnected world, we need emerging leaders with skills to navigate in a global context, and within our increasingly polarized nation," said Linda.

One example is Sinead, a Gonzaga University graduate who served with the Peace Corps in Ethiopia in a program for former sex workers and in HIV/AIDS education. She needed to be medically evacuated with a life threatening illness, and returned to Spokane for a long emotional and physical recovery.

"The Krista Foundation community was essential during this difficult time," said Sinead. "I needed to talk with persons who cared and understood my desire to serve and encourage my future goals. Unfortunately, most of my peers didn't want to hear about my growth in the Peace Corps."

Determined to continue her international commitments, she entered a graduate program in international development at Trinity University in Ireland. Back in Spokane, her experiences led to her work at Whitworth University, placing student interns in Spokane

businesses, including those in international commerce.

"Our city benefits from insights she gained abroad," said Linda, adding that Sinead was recently selected by Catalyst Magazine as one of the "Top 20 under 40 Leaders" in the Inland Northwest.

After traveling in more than 30 countries and four continents, Sinead decided to settle in Spokane. Now on the Krista Foundation Board of Directors, she is one of three breakfast speakers.

For information, email jessica@kristafoundation.org.



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