

Living Interfaith Church

Monthly Newsletter

We all make mistakes. Beware the one who can't admit mistakes. Have compassion for the one who can't get over mistakes. Follow the one who admits a mistake and moves forward.

February Calendar

February 11th — Service: 10:30
“The Meaning of Life”

February 25th—Service: 10:30
“Listen! ... please”

[More Details...See page 2 below](#)

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February Calendar

March 11th — Service: 10:30
“Misconceptions about Paganism”

March 25th— Service 10:30
To Be Announced

Sermon Podcasts

LivingInterfaith.Podbean.com

Interfaith Q & A

If you have an Interfaith question of general interest, e-mail us your question at Livinginterfaith@frontier.com.

“Of Holocausts and Our Humanity”

[More Details ...See page 3 below](#)

Our Interfaith Curriculum Now Available!

See page 2 for details

Useful for any spiritual community that wants to be sure that their children are both aware of our diverse spiritual traditions and can talk about them safely.

January Services

February 11th, “The Meaning of Life” ~ Steve Crawford examines human spiritualization, discussing a meaning to life and asks, “Is there one?”

February 25th “Listen! ... please” ~ Steven explores the spiritual significance and importance of listening: to each other, to nature, to the sacred.

Living Interfaith At Work in the Community Interfaith Curriculum Part One Available Now

We are making the curriculum available free of charge to any school, spiritual community or other interested group that is committed to teaching our children not only to respect our diversity but how to be able to talk about it.

It might best be described as a teacher’s handbook. It walks the reader through how to teach our children about both our common humanity and our diverse spiritual paths and traditions. It provides lesson plans and lists the materials a teacher needs to put together meaningful, respectful classes, including important content.

Such a curriculum has *never* been more needed.

Part One is complete and available. It covers grades 1-3. Our beautiful hard copies are available either by hand delivery (if you live nearby) or for the cost of postage if you would like the curriculum mailed to you. Electronic copies will be available for downloading for free from our website later this month.

Again, THANK YOU to all who contributed to funding Part Two—grades 4-7! We are hoping to have it available in June of 2018. With your help, in a few years after that we will have a entire curriculum to offer: grades 1-12!

Burrito Rolls Continue

Saturday, January 21st! Come, help roll burritos for the hungry. The roll will take place at first Baptist Church at 1:30 PM and generally lasts 1 1/2 hours.

Not into rolling, or have something to do on Saturday? The fixings for the burritos will be prepared on Friday January 20th. And help is also needed in distributing the burritos after the roll.

For further information, or to sign up and get on the e-mail list, please contact our own Rebecca Alder at:

burritoroll1@gmail.com

Interfaith Q & A/Musings Of Holocausts and Our Humanity

Last week was particularly difficult and deeply personal for me. Two events that seemed to come from opposite sides of the galaxy descended on me one after the other. The first was “International Holocaust Remembrance Day.”

(For reasons we won’t get into here, the UN chooses to ignore the day set aside by Israel to remember the Holocaust—Yom HaShoah. This year, Yom HaShoah will be in April.)

The UN has proclaimed January 27th as “International Holocaust Remembrance Day.” That day was last Friday.

That very same day came the new president’s Executive Order aimed at banning people, and particularly refugees, from seven predominantly Muslim countries from entering the United States. To call the Executive Order anything other than anti-Muslim is to be disingenuous.

The fearsome specter of “Muslim terrorism” was evoked as the excuse. It reminds me so vividly of the fearsome specter of Judaism and “The Jewish Conspiracy” evoked in the 1930’s.

After the Shoah, “Never Again” became a catchphrase. But what did we mean by it? What do we mean by it today? Does “Never Again” only apply to Jews? Not to me. For me, “Never Again” either means never again will the world watch while a people are slaughtered or it means nothing.

Most of us have heard of Anne Frank, whose diary became famous after her extermination by Hitler’s Nazis. But it remains incredible to me that so few are aware that Anne Frank was a would-be refugee from the Nazis. Her father was *frantically* trying to get the U.S. to allow his family to flee to safety. But America was afraid. Allowing refugees into the country would compromise our safety! Sound familiar? (if you are unaware of this, here’s a link that may be helpful: <http://www.snopes.com/anne-frank-refugee/>)

“Never Again” rings horrifically hollow today, for we are walking that same fear-filled path when we tell Syrian refugees (and others as well) that they are not welcome. Fear rules us. It blinds us to our inhumanity. In 1941, our fear of “refugees” masked our real fear: fear of Jews. Today it masks our fear of Muslims.

This isn’t about politics. It’s about human rights. It’s about acting with compassion towards our brothers and sisters of the human race. Never Again? We are making that pledge meaningless, and it breaks my heart.

I was glad to see demonstrations against this outrageous policy of blocking Muslim refugees. I was equally glad to see some signs held by Jews at these demonstrations saying “Never Again!”.

I would hope that all clergy in America, whether they lean left or right, whether in the privacy of their own home they are Democrats or Republicans or Independents, I hope we will all come together and give full voice and passion to our commitment: Never Again!

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Support Living Interfaith

Our church expenses are not huge, but we do have them. We have begun another ambitious year, but thanks to your help we remain in an excellent position to accomplish our goals.

Any and all contributions are welcome and very much appreciated. For those who might want to use a credit card to help support us, by going to our web page www.livinginterfaith.org and clicking the donate button, a safe contribution may be made through PayPal.

If you prefer not to use the web, checks are also welcome. They should be made out to "Living Interfaith Church" and sent to PO Box 2352, Lynnwood, Washington 98036. And yes, Living Interfaith is a 501 (c)(3) organization. Your donations are tax deductible.

If you are contributing to the Education Project, please put "Education" in the memo section of your check, or on PayPal.

As with Part One, any contributions made to the Education Project that aren't needed for Part Two will be used as our floor when we begin to raise funds for Part Three.

THANK YOU!!

