

Living Interfaith Church

Monthly Newsletter

**Silence gives consent.
If we remain silent in the face of systemic racism,
we consent to racism.
If we remain silent in the face of sexism or any
other form of bigotry we give consent.**

Vol. 8 #6 February 2018

February Calendar

February 10th — Service: 10:30
“Posterity Awareness”

February 24th — Service 10:30
“Celebrating the Chinese New Year”



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

Interfaith Q & A

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

“Interfaith: Where from Here?”

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

March Calendar

March 10th — Service: 10:30
“Discussing Our Spiritual Paths”

March 24th — Service: 10:30
“The Quest For Meaning”

It's Still **COLD** Out There!

We are in the middle of winter. It's not as cold here as other parts of the country, but it's still cold ... particularly at night, and most particularly if you are homeless.

A reminder that during the winter months we collect items for our local Cold Weather Shelter. What might you donate? Knit caps, gloves, sox, and scarves are always high on the list. Blankets and jackets, of course, are always welcome.

Through February, we'll have a box for cold weather donations. And if your donation doesn't fit in the box, there's plenty of room around the box.

Let's remember our brothers and sisters in need.

February Services

February 10th “Posterity Awareness” —What we do and don’t do affects not only us and the people around us, but our children and their children. Keeping this in mind is a sacred call.

February 24th “Celebrating the Chinese New Year” - Joseph Conrad will share with us how the Chinese New Year calls to him.

Discussing Our Spiritual Paths

Beginning on March 10th, and continuing of April 28th, we will be trying something a bit new: “Discussing Our Spiritual Paths.”

As the main part of our service, representatives from two of our spiritual paths will first briefly share why they follow that path (NOT in the sense that it is *the* right path but rather why it has called to them). Then they will answer questions that members of the congregation might have.

We are not looking for “gotcha” questions. They would be out of place. Rather we look at this as a loving opportunity to delve more deeply into each other’s traditions and ask questions that might clear up some confusion or just plain lack of knowledge. It’s a way for us to get to know each other better in safe spiritual space.

Living Interfaith At Work in the Community

We Collect Not Only for the Cold Weather Shelter But Also the Food Bank Every Service

A friendly reminder that we have boxes at the back of the sanctuary at every service. We hope to fill them with food for our local Food Bank. We seek non-perishable food. After every service the food we have collected is taken to the Lynnwood Food Bank for distribution to those who need our help.

Let us remember that many too many of our brothers and sisters simply don’t have enough money for food. And for readers of our newsletter who don’t live in the area, please remember your local food bank.

We also collect pet food as well, as families that find themselves without enough food for their own tables probably don’t have enough for their pets. None of us can know when we might suddenly be out of a job ... or a family emergency may arise.

Interfaith Q & A/Musings

Interfaith: Where from Here?

I've been pondering the future of Interfaith recently. It's not an unreasonable preoccupation, as I'll be retiring in June of 2019 at the spritely age of 71.

One thing I'm not losing sleep over is the future of Living Interfaith. The Board has agreed with me that we have a wonderful successor in Marie Preftes-Arenz.

I hope to introduce you to her more fully next month. But for now, know that Marie is the committed and talented writer of our new Interfaith Curriculum. I've known her as a friend since we both attended the School of Theology and Ministry at Seattle University. We will begin the ministerial transition this September, as Marie and I start to work together co-ministering.

So the future of Living Interfaith is in strong, loving, and very capable hands.

But what about the faith of Interfaith? We've certainly come a long way. With over half a million "hits" on our website (that's allowing for and subtracting 20% as probably random hits) we've had a lot of interest. We have you, the readers of our newsletter. We were even singled out and mentioned in the New York Times. (Though I would quibble with our faith being called a religion. It isn't.)

<http://www.nytimes.com/2013/07/13/us/a-religion-that-embraces-all-religions.html>

But again, as I contemplate retirement I'm moved to wonder about the future of Interfaith—in the next years and the next generation. Interfaith: having faith that whatever the sacred may be, there is more than one "right" path to reach it—and indeed that humanity has created innumerable and beautiful sacred paths. The question always is not what path do we walk, but how do we walk our path?

I'll admit that pondering all this caused me to think back over my own life. I've now written a spiritual memoir—*One Family: Indivisible*: how and why I ended up embracing the faith of Interfaith while I walk the path of Judaism. Hopefully I'll find a publisher, and when I do I will definitely let you know.

But in the meantime it is both comforting and humbling to know that not only will Interfaith as a faith soon be out of my hands, but in truth it's out of my hands already. It's in your hands. It's in the hands of our truly remarkable board. And a year from June it will be very much in Marie's hands as well.

Over the next year and a half, you'll have a chance to get to know Marie better. And I'm certain will learn to trust her, as I do.

In the meantime, you're not rid of me yet. I very much look forward to February 10th's service, where I'll be sharing about my belief that "posterity awareness" is a deeply spiritual matter. If you can't come to the service, the sermon will be posted on the website.

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Support Living Interfaith

Our church expenses are not huge, but we do have them. We are in the midst of an ambitious year, but with your help we will 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.

THANK YOU!!

