35TH YEAR OF PUBLICATION

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Gold Star mother turns grief into a nonprofit - p. 9

Poor People's Campaign addresses racism - p. 12

CALENDAR ON PAGE 11 FEATURES 40+ EVENTS



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

Cradled baby's feet convey love

By Mary Stamp

When teens visit Ryan Kiely in his office at Excelsior, many notice a close-up photo of him cradling his baby daughter's feet lovingly in his hands.

He has the photo there as an opportunity to remind them that they are worthy of being loved unconditionally, as he continues to love his now five-year-old daughter.

Those who did not experience the love they wanted from their families still connect to the picture. It's still communicates they are worthy of love and respect.

"Then there is hope of healing," said Ryan, who is chief clinical officer.

In 2006, the summer after he graduated from Whitworth University in speech communication, he started working at Excelsior as a behavioral health assistant with the children's residential program.

He works there as part of his commitment to help youth heal from emotional injuries and advocate for trauma-informed systems.

Excelsior has grown from being primarily a residential treatment center to now having 80 percent of staff and services off-site.

"In the last two years, we have



Ryan Kiely shares love with youth who are struggling to find their way.

become the second largest provider of wrap-around services for all ages, next to Frontier Behavioral Health," Ryan said.

Now, in a given day Excelsior's 175 staff serve 250 youth and families on an outpatient basis and 30 youth inpatient.

"It's a major shift from historically doing inpatient work," he said. "We now work in homes and schools, and have 12 staff locations in the community."

From 1893 to 1910, authorities placed underage girls in Good Shepherd Homes around the country, starting in 1907 in Spokane. The girls were taken from brothels and unsafe homes.

The first home was where Northtown Mall now is. In 1959, it was moved to 34 acres in the undeveloped area of Indian Trail. The modern, 60,000-square-foot facility that was built is now the home base for Excelsior.

Until 1982, the Home of the Good Shepherd was run by the sisters of the Good Shepherd. Then, Bob Faltermeyer, now retired, became CEO. Sue Bell still works as medical coordinator, and Marilyn Pitini, as outpatient director. The Continued on page 4

Columbia River tribes in U.S., Canada seek representation at treaty negotiations

Leaders of the Colville Confederated Tribes and three indigenous nations in Canada have expressed their outrage at being excluded by the U.S. and Canadian governments from the re-negotiation of the U.S-Canada Columbia River negotiation table.

On May 22, the State Department said U.S. entities joining it in negotiations to modernize the treaty are the Bonneville Power Administration, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Northwestern Division, the Department of the Interior, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. The Colville Tribes and 14 other Columbia River Basin tribes have participated in the multi-year treaty review process, seeking a seat for indigenous people in negotiations.

longest and deepest connections to the Columbia River, the people who have respected and depended upon the river and its salmon and other natural and cultural resources for thousands of years," Chairman Marchand said.

Fig Tree prepares to publish Directory

During June, The Fig Tree is completing ad sales and designs, gathering final updates for listings, preparing the layouts for printing the 2018-19 Resource Directory in early July and arranging for deliveries over the summer.

"We will continue to recruit community partners to help with

Treaty (CRT).

When the CRT was negotiated and ratified in 1964, they were shut out of decisions affecting their rights.

Michael Marchand, chairman of the Colville Confederated Tribes, has worked with 14 other Columbia River Basin Tribes to have a seat for tribal nations at the

We are the people with the

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The current treaty has also harmed the indigenous people of the Upper Columbia River Basin in Canada-the Ktunaxa Nation, Secwepemc Nation and Syilx Okanagan Nation.

The CRT is the largest international water storage agreement between Canada and the United States, holding back 15.5 million acre-feet of water for flood control and power generation with an annual value of \$3 billion.

The treaty has desecrated sacred, village and burial sites, cut fish populations and harvest areas, and turned a vibrant river into industrial water storage reservoirs, said Grand Chief Stewart Phillip of the Okanagan Nation Alliance, Kukpi7 Wayne Christian of the Shuswap National Tribal Council and Jesse Nicholas of the Ktunaxa Nation Council. Continued on page 3

sponsorship and continue to make calls to finalize numbers for printing," said Malcolm Haworth, directory editor. "We invite agencies and congregations to let us know how many copies they would like to have available to distribute."

On page 10. The Fig Tree expresses its gratitude for the many years Marilyn Stedman contributed to the life of our ecumenical endeavor.

"We value our volunteers and continually reach out to recruit new volunteers to help with mailings, deliveries, writing, editing, displays, planning, benefits and our board," said Mary Stamp, editor.

The Fig Tree's Annual Board Meeting to review its production year, elect board members and officers, and make future plans will be from noon to 3 p.m., Thursday, June 7, at Emmanuel Family Life Center, 631 S. Richard Allen Ct., where The Fig Tree has its office.

Board members are Pat Millen OSF, moderator; John Wang, vice moderator; Lauri Clark-Strait, secretary; Kathy Sandusky, treasurer; and board members Nick Beamer, Barb Borgens, Mary Ann Farley SNJM, Malcolm Haworth, Kaye Hult, Kimmie Meinecke, Roger Ross, Wade Schwartz, Mary Stamp and Anastasia Wendlinder.

For information, call 535-1813, email mary@thefigtree.org or visit thefigtree.org.

<u>Religion News Briefs</u> Around the World

World Council of Churches News, PO Box 2100 CH - 1211 Geneva 2, Switzerland Tel: +41-22 791 6111 Fax: +41-22 788 7244 www.oikoumene.org

Communication Association marks 50 years

As the World Association for Christian Communication (WACC) celebrates its 50th anniversary, the organization continues to explore how communication can help advance justice and build peace.

"WACC has always pursued a pilgrimage of justice and peace by advocating greater understanding through dialogue as well as the concept of 'peace journalism'—when editors and reporters make choices that create opportunities for society at large to consider and to value nonviolent responses to conflict," reflected the newly appointed WACC general secretary Philip Lee. "WACC emphasizes communication rights for all as a way of opening up society to dynamic and creative ways for communication to help build more just and peaceful communities."

As a pioneer of the communication rights movement since 1968, WACC has been among the global organizations working to advance the communication rights of marginalized communities around the world.

In the late 1970s, when both the World Council of Churches and WACC were involved in the struggle against apartheid in South Africa, strengthening the public voices of underprivileged communities became a means to question the political and social structures that kept apartheid in place, recalled Lee.

"In today's digital societies, independence and trust are vital to the existence of public service media that are independent of corporate and government influence and that can provide a diversity of balanced information on every topic that impact the lives of people," he said. "Hope lies in the ability of people to see through the fog of fake news and misinformation to the essential truth of our shared human dignity."

Over the past 50 years, WACC has partnered with thousands of grassroots communities, including indigenous people, women, and youth, to advance communication rights. WACC has also supported changes in communication policies and structures at the national, regional, and international levels.

Korean churches are holding prayer vigils

Korean churches plan prayer vigils ahead of June summit.

In the weeks leading up to the summit planned for June 12 between U.S. president Donald Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, the National Council of Churches in Korea (NCCK) is planning prayer vigils to express hope for lasting peace on the Korean Peninsula.

The NCCK is holding a candlelight prayer meeting on June 7 at Gwanghwamun Square in Seoul, in front of the U.S. embassy, and is expecting 300 people to join. The square is the same location as the Candlelight Revolution in which more than 17 million people gathered to demand the resignation of President Park Geun-hye and full democracy in 2016-17.

The NCCK is calling on its member churches and partners to organize prayer gatherings on the same day or sometime before the summit. The NCCK has suggested that Korean Christians offer a minute's prayer each day from June 6 to 12.

Prayer cards will be distributed with a flag on the cover that symbolizes a unified Korea that was used in the PyeongChang Olympic games. People will pray for the end of the Korean War, the realization of a peace treaty, denuclearization on the Korean peninsula as well as in the world, and a lifting of the sanctions against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, along with humanitarian cooperation to meet urgent needs.

In support of the NCCK and lasting peace on the Korean Peninsula, the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA, as well as the World Council of Churches (WCC), invites Christians and people of goodwill across the world to join in these prayers

REGIONAL ECUMENICAL & INTERFAITH NEWS

World Refugee Day will be on June 16

To celebrate refugees in Spokane, Refugee Connections Spokane, World Relief and Lutheran Community Services are hosting the United Nations World Refugee Day in Spokane from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., Saturday, June 16, in Nevada Park, 800 E. Joseph.

This year the focus is on celebrating the refugee child. Refugee children were invited to write about their experiences in an essay competition. The winner will read his/her entry at the event.

Refugee children also have designed World Refugee Day T-shirts that will be available for purchase.

"We will also be adding youth activities and games," said Marijke Fakasiieiki, executive director of Refugee Connections.

The event also includes an international marketplace with items refugees have made, a naturalization ceremony, a community

agency fair, and performances by the Neema Youth Choir with children from Africa and Bhutanese dancers.

Refugee Connections Spokane was founded in 2011 to advocate for refugees' and immigrants' selfempowerment, to foster community bonds, and to celebrate talents and traditions across cultures.

For information, call 209-2384 or email rcs@refugeeconnectionsspokane.org.

Spokane Alliance, WSU identify gaps in care

The Spokane Alliance recently partnered with Washington State University's medical school to identify gaps in the region's health care system.

The alliance, representing 20,000 people from Spokane churches, unions and nonprofits, will conduct meetings within its member organizations to help

WSU determine how the Elson S. Floyd School of Medicine should use its new Mobile Medicine program to address some of the health coverage gaps in the region.

The WSU medical school, the state's second, was founded in 2015.

Two WSU medical school

leaders and some current students serve on the Spokane Alliance's healthcare research team.

The Spokane Alliance's feasibility study will be completed this summer, with action to follow from WSU.

For information, call 360-477-2438 or email kahenne@gmail. com.

Faith Partners plans August workshop

Faith Partners will present a workshop on "Moving Beyond Toxic Gender Roles" from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Monday, Aug. 13, at Jepson's Wolff Auditorium at Gonzaga University.

Participants will explore how gender expectations and expression contribute to domestic violence and sexual assault.

It will include discussions with community and faith leaders on how to raise and be welcoming to healthy children regardless of their biological sex and/or gender identification, said Debbie DuPey, Washington certified sexual assault victim advocate with Lutheran Community Services.

Featured presenter Deborah Svoboda is an assistant professor in the School of Social Work and faculty with Women's and Gender Studies at Eastern Washington University. She has a master's in social work from Rutgers University in New Jersey and a doctorate in social work from the University of Maryland in Baltimore.

Deborah has worked 20 years in domestic violence and rape crisis centers. Her teaching and research revolve around community building, feminist teaching structures, building women's leadership, organizational development, and justice-seeking policy construction related to gender-based violence and economic disparity.

There will be a participatory session with an interfaith panel.

Faith Partners provides education, resources and support for faith communities so they can facilitate advocacy, sanctuary, and healing for people affected by domestic violence, sexual assault and human trafficking.

It is a collaborative effort of several Spokane agencies, including Women's Healing and Empowerment Network, Lutheran Community Services Northwest and other Spokane organizations.

For information, call 343-5032 or email faithpartnersspokane@ gmail.com.





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or visit us at 1508 W. 6th Ave. 8 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. - Monday through Friday Confidential, discreet services. Public funding available through Spokane County Regional Behavioral Health Organization



The WCC will hold a candlelight prayer service at noon on June 7 at the Ecumenical Centre chapel to express solidarity with its sisters and brothers in Korea.

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Cyclist raises funds for Habitat-Spokane in cross country bike race

Starting June 2, Jason Oestreicher of Spokane is spending two weeks competing with 136 other bicyclists from 23 countries in the 10-state, 4,200-mile Trans Am Bike Race to raise funds for Habitat for Humanity-Spokane.

It is a self-supported race meaning no outside assistance is allowed. Jason said nearly half the competitors drop out from the race.

He will start his cross-country journey in Astoria, Ore., with the hopes of finishing at the Victory Monument in Yorktown, Va.

"I'm captivated by the race because it will push my boundaries-mentally, emotionally, and physically-and likely change my perspective on life and what I am capable of," he said.

Jason chose to ride for Habitat for Humanity-Spokane knowing that the Spokane community has an affordable housing crisis.

"Habitat inspires me because of the selfless work they do to provide the opportunity for people to realize their dream of homeownership, in turn building a better community with each home that they build," he said.

Jason has had a bicycle since he was in kindergarten in Wyoming. He and friends rode on a homemade track in a field by his house.

"Bicycling gives me freedom to explore the world and experience it with my senses," he said.

With his first mountain bike, he explored dirt roads outside town. After moving to Spokane, he began riding singletrack through forests on Mica Peak, Canfield Mountain, Riverside State Park and Beacon Hill

Eight years ago, he bought his first road bike and discovered the rural Inland Northwest-Palouse farms, West Plains hills, little lakes and the Vista House on top of Mount Spokane.

Jason long wanted to tour across the country on his bike and in 2016 learned about the Trans Am Bike Race. He has been inspired by reading past racers' blogs about their experiences with "the thrill, misery, elation, monotony, adventure and accomplishment."

Jason's progress and an opportunity to donate are posted at habitat-spokane.org/events/ racing-for-habitat/ or by following Habitat-Spokane on Facebook @ HabitatSpokane.

Habitat for Humanity-Spokane partners with qualified home buyers based on need, ability to pay and willingness to partner.

Participants complete 500 hours of sweat equity, pay closing costs, attend home-buyer workshops and help to build their own homes. They receive a new or rehabbed home, an affordable mortgage and stability, said Colleen Weedman, executive assistant.

Since 1987, Habitat-Spokane has built or renovated more than 300 homes in Spokane County, she reported.

For information, call 534-2552, visit habitat-spokane.org or follow @HFHSpokane on Twitter.

Unity in the Community on Aug. 18 celebrates diversity of area

For the second year, there will be a Unity Parade at 9 a.m. before Unity in the Community starts at 10 a.m., Saturday, Aug. 18, at the Clocktower Meadow and Lilac Bowl at Riverfront Park in Spokane.

The Unity Parade will follow the same route—a few blocks through downtown Spokane—as

Representatives from the In-

land Northwest and the Idaho

Volunteer Organizations Active

in Disasters (VOAD), the Koo-

tenai County and Idaho Office of

Emergency Management (OEM),

United Methodist Disaster Re-

sponse, the Red Cross and Salva-

tion Army met May 23 by phone

to share concerns and needs

related to flooding in the region.

Some of the region's flooding

last year to demonstrate the region's respect, support and honoring of its diverse communities. Last year, 300 participated.

"It is meant to be a time of celebration and joy for how our similarities and differences make us a stronger and better community," said April Anderson, coorganizer of the 24th annual Unity

Disaster recovery groups report on flooding

were no requests for help. Another

• Pend Oreille County said

"several homes" were affected

by flooding, but there were no

damage assessments. Spirit Lake

Baptist Church fed Red Cross

and INW-VOAD volunteers who

call is planned on June 21.

in the Community with Mareesa Henderson.

Parade participants are asked to register at nwunity.org/events/ unity-parade.

April said that they are adding toothbrushes and dental floss to the 1,400 school bags with school supplies such as paper, binders, crayons, glue, folders and more.

They are also preparing 300 senior bags for people 65 and older with 15 pages of discount coupons, water bottles, jar openers, stress balls, puzzles and more.

Last year, there were more than 100 vendors as part of the Career and Education Fair, Cultural Village, Health Fair, Youth Fair and general nonprofits.

The vendor booths will be in the Clocktower Meadow, where the entertainment will be. The Cultural Village will be in the Lilac Bowl.

April estimates that about 5,000 attended in 2017.

She has helped organize Unity in the Community for 10 years, and Mareesa has helped 12 years. "It's a labor of love, the best thing in my life," said April. "It connects people, celebrates diversity and provides access to resources.

"In today's political climate, it's more important than ever that we show our unity," she said.

"I recently heard a quote that there is a difference between diversity, which is about being invited to the table, and inclusiveness, which is being asked to dance," she said. "Unity in the Community is about dancing together."

For information, call 599-6669 or visit nwunity.org.

Columbia River crucial to cultures of tribes

Continued from page 1

"The tribes need and deserve meaningful input into the treaty re-negotiation," said Chairman Marchand. "Negotiations affect all Columbia River Tribes, so we should have representation."

For millennia, the Columbia River has been and remains a crucial component in the economies, subsistence and cultures of Columbia River Tribes, he said.

The 1.5 million-acre Colville Reservation includes the Columbia River from its confluence with the Okanogan River to near Kettle Falls, plus two of the U.S.'s largest hydroelectric dams, Grand Coulee Dam and Chief Joseph Dam.

The construction of those and other dams blocked all passage of salmon to the upper Columbia River Basin. Once there were said. Kettle Falls was an economic hub for tribal trade routes from all over what is now the U.S.

Certain significant provisions of the treaty will expire in 2024 if not re-negotiated.

Today, more than 9,520 descendants of 12 aboriginal tribes are enrolled in the Confederated Tribes of the Colville-the Colville, the Nespelem, the San Poil, the Arrow Lakes, the Palus, the Wenatchi (Wenatchee), the Chelan, the Entiat, the Methow, the southern Okanogan, the Moses Columbia and the Nez Perce of Chief Joseph's Bands.

According to Canada's Ten Reconciliation Principles statement in July 2017, the government committed to "achieving reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples through a renewed, naand nutritionally vital fish," he government, and Inuit-Crown River Roundtable.

Join us for the 24th Annual

relationship, based on recognition of rights, respect, co-operation and partnership as the foundation of transformative change."

Speaking Feb. 14 to the House of Commons on implementing the UN Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau reinforced the commitment.

Since 2011, the three nations have participated in the CRT renewal process and intend to hold the Trudeau government to its commitment to respect the self-determination and aspirations of the Ktunaxa, Secwepemc and Syilx Okanagan Nations.

The Colville and three Canadian Nations will explore options.

For information, email John Osborn at john@waterplanet.ws or the Rev. Tom Soeldner at walt-'enormous runs of the culturally tion-to-nation, government-to- soe@email.com of the Columbia



A much-used compilation of social service programs offered by nonprofit and faith communities, and government agencies, offering resources on human services and health care, and for children, families, seniors, veterans, environment & justice advocates.

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has been handled by sandbagfilled sandbags. ging, but some Okanogan and • Ferry County OEM had about Ferry County buildings have been flooded. As of the May, there

10 uninsured homes affected. Most flooding was north of Republic. The Red Cross opened a shelter there.

• An email asked 11 counties of North Idaho and Eastern Washington and tribal emergency managers to report unmet needs.

For information, call 208-659-2491 or mabullard@gmail.com.

Unity Parade

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Excelsior reaches from North Spokane facility to people throughout city

Continued from page 1 program soon grew from 13 to 72 girls.

Today the facility includes health care and an education program

The health clinic has two psychiatric nurse practitioners, a physician and an optometrist. It also serves Rising Strong families in apartments at the former Holy Names Convent.

"Our goal is to move youth and families out of long-term, multi-point involvement with child welfare, mental health, behavioral health, substance-use recovery and juvenile justice systems, so they can see a future without navigating different systems," said Ryan, who grew up in Steamboat Springs, Colo.

He came to Whitworth because his mother had family in Spokane.

When he began working at Excelsior, he recognized the value of the support he had had from family and a university education. At Whitworth, he had the support of counselors, residence advisors, a meal program and education for four years.

Later as a therapist, he worked at another program with an 18-year-old, experiencing a meth-induced psychosis. The youth was told to find a job and housing in two weeks. Ryan considered those expectations unrealistic, given that he had no

support or options.

At Excelsior, the average youth is 14 when placed in the child welfare inpatient services, just as he/she is entering adolescence, coming with neurological injuries from the trauma of poverty, abuse, neglect and living in multiple families

Because many were suspended from school, Excelsior started an accredited middle school and high school on site with 25 students, some who are inpatient and some from around Spokane.

Excelsior also has parent education, special education, GED and substance use education.

We see many parents exhausted from intensive care they are giving their children with substance use or mental health issues," he said. "Few have support.

"Many also are impacted by poverty, and a lack of housing and food resources," he said. "Poverty affects people's ability to pursue their goals because they need to focus on meeting their basic needs."

Ryan has enjoyed spending time with the teens, but realizes that trauma affects their brains and nervous system, influencing their behavior and function. They struggle with anger over minor issues, such as an egg salad sandwich not being made right.

Ryan, who grew up in an evan-

gelical church and now attends Branches, also seeks to influence systems that create trauma affecting the teens.

"My faith drives my compassion for those who suffer. It also motivates me to improve the justice of systems, to address systemic injustices that keep some from succeeding," he said.

"We have prioritized cultural diversity in our organization to address patient concerns about culture and race," said Ryan, noting the disproportionate number of people of color and people with disabilities in the juvenile justice and child welfare systems.

Excelsior brings in diversity. Staff exceeds the proportion in the population of Spokane, he said.

After four years at Excelsior, Ryan and his wife, Janny, who he met at Whitworth, spent a year in Daegu, South Korea, teaching English. That gave him space to reflect on his work and be more drawn to it. He emailed the director to say he wanted to come back and make Excelsior his career.

Since returning, he completed a master's degree in applied psychiatric and mental health counseling at Eastern Washington University. After graduating in 2012, he became a mental health counselor at Excelsior.

"I now understood how people can change and heal from trauma," he said.

Part of caring for youth includes families, even grandparents, who also come there for treatment.

While the treatment program is no longer faith-based—as it was under the Good Shepherd Sisters-staff know faith can be a component for healing, so they encourage youth and families to connect to the faith of their choice.

Excelsior works with young people until they are 21 in a transitional program, extending foster care for those too old for the juvenile system but too young for adult programs.

Excelsior started LifePoint in 2015 to help males from 17 to 21 transition from psychiatric hospitalization or child welfare and step down from institutional care. For six months, they live in community receiving help to find jobs and education, learning to make sandwiches, wash clothes, take their medicine and develop life skills.

Excelsior has a \$2 million Department of Commerce grant to build a 16-bed facility to house young men in LifePoint.

They also have a \$700,000 Hagan Foundation vocational school grant to train youth in restaurant, retail and beautician work. That grant also funds a pre-apprenticeship certification training to prepare students for construction trades. A Future Song grant is for a music studio. General funding is from Medicaid and private insurance.

One donor provided a zipline. Another funded a bridge for a ropes course. Others give therapeutic recreational equipment.

Excelsior seeks support from the community as they transition into a wellness-based mode.

Ryan said "graduation" is based on developmental progress. What it means varies with each person, defined by goals set by the youth or an external entity. Some complete short programs and some are in longer programs.

"We help youth recognize early the triggers of anger, so they don't let it ramp up. We help them notice and articulate their anger, and develop strategies to de-escalate it by calming their body, such as with yoga or individual therapy," Ryan said.

"The most important component of our work is helping them hope they can connect to a better future," he said, "encouraging them to stay to work on the plan they agreed to do, in a supervised and safe environment."

For information, call 328-7041, email ryan.kiely@4eyc.org or visit excelsioryouthcenter.com.

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Program builds ties to the community

Karen Kearney, community development and outreach coordinator, represents Excelsior in the community, bringing the community to Excelsior and Excelsior to the community to build good relationships and partnerships.

"People will fear what they do not understand, so we want to be part of the neighborhood and let people know we are here to serve a purpose to make youth healthy as the generation of the future,' she said.

So Excelsior is a member of the NAACP Spokane, Corbin Senior Center and affiliates with churches in the Indian Trail area that bring quilts and birthday cakes.

Prince of Peace Lutheran is one of the Indian Trails area churches that assist. Eagle Scouts built five raised beds for the residents to garden and then give produce to Second Harvest.

Karen is building relationships



Karen Kearnev

\$700,000 Hagen grant to establish a vocational school.

Karen, at age 62 in 2013, went

kane. He died in 2008. Karen has been involved with many nonprofits.

"Needing to serve, I volunteered a while at the House of Charity, intentionally looking at each person who came as the face of Christ. I treated them with respect," she said.

Karen is leader of her Neighborhood Council and had invited staff from Excelsior to come to meetings, after some neighbors complained about youth who left the campus.

About 18 months ago, Excelsior asked her to be community development coordinator to help them build relationships in the community.

"I'm here because I have a desire to serve," said Karen, a member of St. Thomas More parish.

While many on staff have been there 15 to 40 years, there is turnover in staff with many interns and many working part time while

EXTENDED CARE ... WHAT'S YOUR STRATEGY?

with the Police Department and Fire Department, inviting officers to stop by for coffee.

A grounds specialist maintains the arboretum and grounds. Youth will learn to preserve jams, work at a farmers' market, handle money and go on field trips. JC Penney helped residents paint and carpet a room, and provided racks of clothes for families and youth needing clothes. Excelsior invites congregations and individuals to donate clothes.

Down a hallway is a library with donations from the community, including books left after church rummage sales.

"I tell the youth that when they read, they can do anything," said Karen.

Between the buildings are courtyards, because the building was originally for cloistered nuns. Excelsior has received a

to Spokane Falls Community College, to study social services. She graduated in 2016.

"The Lord said for me to go to school," she said.

In the future, she hopes to complete a bachelor's degree.

"I'm the fifth generation of a Spokane family that was dysfunctional and poor. My parents divorced when I was nine and remarried when I was 11." she said.

They moved to Seattle. She lived there 35 years, working her way up in banking.

In her first marriage, Karen had two stillborn babies. Her first husband left and divorced her. Later she had the marriage annulled and married Chuck, a police officer in Seattle in a Catholic church.

After he retired in 1992, they bought a place in Montana, where they lived for five years. His health brought them back to Spo-

going to school, so the youth take time to build trust. She feels she now has their trust.

For information, call 328-7041 or email karen.kearney@4eyc.org.



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N-Sid-Sen combines campers from two camps, opening one site for mission

"Beyond Belief" is the theme for the 2018 camps at N-Sid-Sen Camp and Conference Center of the Pacific Northwest United Church of Christ on the east side of Lake Coeur d'Alene.

Registration for youth camps is on par with previous years, but this summer, campers from throughout the Pacific Northwest Conference of the United Church of Christ will come to N-Sid-Sen, rather than be divided between there and Pilgrim Firs Camp and Conference Center at Port Orchard.

Counselors and directors are coming from both eastside and westside churches.

"We are working on transportation to make sure campers from across the conference can come to camp," said Mark Boyd, managing director of N-Sid-Sen.



N-Sid-Sen campers build community playing beachball volleyball.

One church has provided funds to rent vans. The conference is also helping connect people who

need rides with people who can provide rides. To rent vans will

safe church policies.

"We are bringing all the youth require two drivers to comply with camps here because we are better

set up for larger youth activities," Mark said. "In the past, our two camp sites were competing for campers.

"Pilgrim Firs will be hosting mission-trip based camps with youth groups coming from around the region and nation," he said.

Volunteer directors and counselors run the programs at both sites.

As they bring campers together from the two camps, they will focus on valuing the traditions of each camp and on creating new traditions.

Mark said that having the camps for the different age groups facilitates activities, such as worship, meals and campfires.

"Stories we tell for senior high campers are different from those for younger campers," he said.

For information, call 208-689-3489 or visit n-sid-sen.org.

Climbing through or swinging from ropes course builds confidence

Through her 15 years as administrative assistant at Ross Point. Marta Walker has valued working with the camp as a ministry that changes lives. She has been there long enough to see campers grow and send their own children to pass on their faith to them.

One person recently said she became a Christian when she came to Ross Point in 1965.

This year the campers, beginning with second graders through senior high, plus family camps, will discuss the theme, "More than Enough" from Ephesians 3:20.

Volunteer directors for each youth camp will frame programs for the week and speakers around the theme, working with volunteer and paid counselors, and eight summer staff who provide the meals and facility and recreation.

About 500 campers come, many from the American Baptist network, and other local children and children from Christian schools.

'We want children and youth to gain a sense of God's presence and a deeper relationship with



Ross Point camper climbs up inside a rope ladder.

Christ through teaching and outdoor activities," said Marta.

"The high ropes course and team building activities build a sense of relying on God to help campers through fears, to cooperate with each other, to build servant leadership, to stretch their faith and to build community," said Marta.

how God relates to them in everything they do," she said.

"Building camp community is important today because we are so scattered in our society," she said.

Camp Journey for children and families touched by cancer will be at Ross Point July 29 to Aug. 4.

This year, Ross Point, which is on the Spokane River at Post Staff talk with campers about Falls, had to replace its high ropes

course because of a bark beetle infestation in some of the trees. They had to be cut and now the course is on telephone poles in a grove of trees.

In addition, they created three new elements to the course. They are still raising funds for the new course, which cost \$26,000 with a matching gift offered for \$13.000.

This fall, Ross Point will add two new 12-bed cabins to increase its capacity from 140 to 164 campers/guests to meet demand. The new cabins are for summer and year-round use.

For information, call 208-773-1655 or visit rosspoint.org.

JDM US! 8th Annual School Shoes for Kids Shoe Drive Please drop off donations at our center M,W & Thursday, 1:30-4:00pm July 2nd - August 10th We can also provide you with a collection bin. Cash donations are We need your help collecting always accepted. new shoes & socks (ages K-8th) Volunteers are needed on August for children in our community. 16th, 17th & 18th. Please sign up to (Please leave shoes in boxes) volunteer on our website. **Mission Community** 1906 E. Mission Ave. | Spokane **Outreach Center** 509.536.1084 | www.4mission.org



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and hands-on experiences for students' families.

MiVoden is a Seventh-Day Adventist camp located on 500 acres on the northern shore of Hayden Lake, drawing about 200 campers, we seek to bring people closer to Christ," said Denise Kinney, who has been camp registrar for 12 years.

About two-thirds of campers are Adventist, she said, noting that



water rafting.

There are also two weeks of family camps and a five-day medical/dental camp, a postgraduate course on new techniques people a week from July 1 through Aug. 20.

Through activities and relationships with the 95 paid staff who "work to show Christ to the 3484 or visit mivoden.com.

camp experiences carry over into greater involvement in church life and youth groups.

For information, call 208-772-

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In the midst of a 'total blast,' campers consider invitation to follow Jesus

During its 60th season in 2017, Camp Spalding had its second best attendance with 1,667 campers coming over 10 weeks to its main camp and Pioneer Camp. About 75 percent of campers return each summer.

Camps are based on age groups, with a maximum 180 campers each week. The camp is affiliated with the Presbytery of the Inland Northwest.

"We hire 43 college-age summer staff who rotate as counselors and program leaders for crafts,



Camp Spalding campers get wet.

waterfront, rock climbing and nature activities," said Andy Sonneland, who has been the executive director for 27 years at this camp near Newport.

The camp's mission is consistent: "It's a place for children and youth to get away from their daily routines. In the midst of a week that is a total blast, the camp offers a chance to hear, consider and respond to Jesus's invitation to follow. It provides a chance to think of what it would look like for them to live with Jesus, to

follow him more closely," he said.

"We see God at work each week of camp all summer long. We are not arm twisters, but allow campers to make thoughtful decisions," Andy said.

"Many campers make spiritual decisions. We don't count the number of commitments, but create an opportunity for kids. Over the years, a week at camp plays a key part in the spiritual journeys of many," he said.

For information, call 509-731-4244 or visit campspalding.org.

Camp is opportunity to be outside, away from electronics in positive setting

The goal of the Salvation Army's Camp Gifford is to give children and youth the opportunity to be outside, away from electronics in a positive environment where they can be kids.

"We seek for them to develop a love for swimming, sailing, boating, geology, fishing and other activities that may carry over into future interests," said Gerriann Armstrong, the camp registrar.

Discovery Camp is for children seven to 12 years old who do arts and crafts, swimming and boating.

Camp Cougar, a wilderness camp for teens 13 to 17 years old, focuses on team building, self-reliance, hiking, a climbing wall, high ropes and a giant swing.



Camp Gifford campers enjoy learning to sail.

About 125 campers come each week from June 25 to Aug. 3, and about 75 paid and volunteer staff tions, a Band Camp July 2 to 7

are on site for each camp. In 2018, there are two new op-

for sixth to eighth graders, and a sity. She returned to Spokane in Sailing Day Camp from 9 a.m. to noon for the six-week camp season. Regular campers also have access to sailing.

Each year, Camp Gifford brings international young adult staff through the Salvation Army Discipleship School in Australia and Camp America. Usually about 10 come to give the campers an opportunity to learn about other cultures. The international staff have an opportunity to learn about U.S. life at camp and to travel six weeks after.

Gerriann, who grew up in Spokane and moved with her family in the military, studied social work at Southern Connecticut Univer-

1995 and began working with the Salvation Army's program on homelessness in 2000. She joined the Salvation Army then.

She took a few years off to be with her child who has autism. She does autism advocacy locally and statewide.

In the winter, Gerriann raises money in the Red Kettle program.

"Those funds supplement costs for families who cannot afford to send their children to camp. Those funds also support other Salvation Army programs for children and families." she said.

For information, call 329-2759 or email gerriann.armstrong@ usw.salvationarmy.org.

Transition in leadership is time to consider new ways of doing camp

John Palarine, Camp Cross director and canon for youth ministries, brings insights from 40 years of serving the Episcopal church as a parish rector and diocese staff in youth ministry and camping. He began in January after Colin Haffner retired.

"My passion is to raise up young people in the church," he said.

John seeks to develop youth-led ministry and to make a difference in the lives of young people so they are able to make a difference when they return to their congregations and communities, touched by the power of Christ.

Along with serving the church, he started Youth Presence Ministries in 2013 to help congregations establish strong youth ministries, before coming on staff with the Episcopal Diocese of Southwest Florida.

For Camp Cross, which has been operating since 1923, this transition is a time to look at new ways to do camp and to listen to the many people whose lives have been touched by camp, he said.



Camp Cross senior high youth share in activity.

on how God touches lives and strengthens people's faith through generations," John said.

"The bishop wants the camp, as other programs, to be consistent with the diocesan emphasis on being creative and compelling witnesses to Jesus Christ in our region and being a place where leadership and teamwork among paid and volunteer staff, counselors and resource people. There are 15 summer staff and 20 paid high school counselors, plus two resource people for each session.

Resource people include a sports editor turned youth worker, a Christian formation leader, the Urban Gypsies music group, a national musician for youth and a professor from Virginia Seminary. Several are from Florida. Pia Longinotti, a high school teacher, journalist and basketball coach, is assistant camp director.

Age-based youth camps run from June 24 to Aug. 11. There are Family Days at the Lake camp July 4 to 7, and a Labor Day family camp.

About 250 youth and adults come through the summer, with about 150 in the youth camps.

For information, call 624-3191 or email johnp@spokanediocese.org.





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all people are welcome."

The diocesan theme is "Loved and Called: Listen and Respond," he said.

John is building collaborative

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Campers are hands, feet and labor making a difference in mission camps

More than 300 high school youth and adults come to Idaho Mission Project camps at Twinlow with youth groups to be the hands, feet and labor, serving organizations like Habitat for Humanity, Elder Health, Elder Services, Second Harvest, Catholic Charities and Children's Village.

Groups come from different parts of the country to serve in the community as a mission experience, said Tyler Wagner, director of the Twinlow Camp and Retreat Center, operated by the United Methodist Church (UMC) near Rathdrum, Idaho.

"We are the only camp doing mission projects in the Pacific



Campers help with morning missions and return to Twinlow for fun.

Northwest Conference of the UMC," he said.

From 40 to 50 come each week for eight weeks to this opportunity for campers to put their faith into action. Every day the campers do different projects. Some help repair or paint houses that need work. Some sort food in an airconditioned warehouse.

They break in the early afternoon or at dinner and return to Twinlow to be part of the camp community, which will include eight weeks of summer camps for all ages each week.

Twinlow has shifted to an intergenerational model, so campers can come based on their schedules, not when their age group is there, said Tyler.

"We also offer Community Day Camps, like vacation Bible school, bringing the camp experience to all ages at 12 area churches," he said.

Tyler, who has been at Twinlow eight years, values being camp director because of how camp experiences "have a positive influence on the culture," as well as changing with the culture.

Twinlow recruits in the local school district, but the majority of campers are from United Methodist congregations and their friends. For information, call 208-352-2671 or visit twinlowcamp.org.

Holden brings teaching faculty from around the world for programs

Over 50 years, Holden Village has been transformed from a copper mining town into "a vibrant place of education, programming and worship rooted in the Lutheran tradition," said Chuck Hoffman, co-director. Located in the Cascades Mountains above Lake Chelan, Holden welcomes people seeking contemplation and community in the wilderness. Holden offers a summer of diverse programming with teaching faculty from around the globe, engaging guests in conversations on theology, justice, peacemaking, ecology, the arts, music, phi-



Holden holds candlelight compline.

losophy, the sciences and more.

Holden also offers summer educational programs for children and youth. Children 11 and under can attend the "Narnia" programs, summer weekdays from 8:30 a.m. to noon. Programs for children include nature walks with the village naturalist, time for music, crafts and games. Middle school and high school programs are available in the afternoons and some evenings for youth 12 to 17. Programs aim to increase understanding of the self, the other and place.

This summer more than 80 leaders will lead presentations on

cultural and ecological change in East Africa, making worship meaningful, food and climate justice, economics of reconciliation, youth perspectives on faith, Martin Luther King Jr.'s spirituality, agricultural ecosystems, re-forming intercultural relationships, King's vision in a Donald Trump world, poverty in a land of plenty, reawakening prophetic spirituality, morality and economic life, building shalom in a fragmented world, relationship with indigenous people, and more.

For information, visit www. holdenvillage.org.

Ten children from China will interact with campers for two weeks

Among the campers at Lutherhaven on the west side of Lake Coeur d'Alene this summer will be 10 children from China ages 10 to 12. They will stay one or two weeks to interact with the campers

After taking five years off to be with her children, Rebecca Smith is back at Lutherhaven as associate director. Previously she was there for 19 years.

"I love the camping ministry," she said. "The world is different now, and what camping offers the world is needed now more than ever-an opportunity to step away from busy, connected lives."

While some weeks focus on teens, most of the summer youth of all ages come. Families can send all their children the same week, and campers can come any week.



Youth live generously in Lutherhaven's Idaho Summer Adventures.

Once there, campers divide by age, but interact some so young children look up to teens, and teens help take care of younger its Shoshone Ranch on the North

campers, said Rebecca. Lutherhaven Ministries also has the Idaho Servant Adventure at

Fork of the Coeur d'Alene River. It draws 500 in youth groups from around the U.S. to serve in the Silver Valley-Pinehurst, Mullan and Kellogg-helping elderly people with painting, roofing, chopping fire wood and clearing yards, and offering day camps for children in local churches. Rebecca expects some teams will help with cleanup after spring floods.

They return at 3 p.m. for recreation with horses, tubing the river, rock climbing, biking and ropes challenge courses. Evenings, they debrief, do Bible study and have a campfire.

"They consider what it means to be the hands and feet of Jesus, to put their faith into action," she said. "The 2018 theme, 'Speak Life,' invites campers to talk about their faith and put it into practice."

Lutherhaven also has a twoweek Idaho Service Adventure with teens coming as buddies of special-needs children, sharing the camp with a regular camp session.

About 80 leadership staff are hired for the summer as program leaders, cabin counselors, lifeguards and kitchen staff. Volunteers help with registration, office work and other tasks.

For information, call 208-667-3459 or email Rebecca@lutherhaven.com.

Ge^{niously} Locae Spokane's Urban Eden Farm C.S.A.Shares Restaurant Sales Farmer's Markets urbanedenfarm.com

Disciples youth camps build relationships

The youth ministry coordinator The Eastern Washington churches wider Christian Church family," said Sandy Messick, the Northsold Zephyr several years ago. The week of junior and senior west regional executive minister, high camp will be at the Brethren who previously volunteered as a counselor and director for camps. camp Koinonia at Cle Elum. It's the second year of doing junior Disciples camp staff is volunteer. About 60 go to the junior/senior and senior high together. "Our goal with camps is to high camp and 30 to the kids/ build relationships to form comjunior camp. For information, call 253-893munity, to identify what it means to be Christian and to gain a sense 7202 ext. 7 or email csnow@ that the campers are part of the disciplesnw.org.

for the Northwest Region Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) is Chris Snow, the pastor at North Hill Christian Church in Spokane. He oversees the camps and will work to bring Montana's camp, Cambridge West in Lincoln, and the Northwest's camps together to create one camp program.

There will be a kids and junior camp one week in Gwinwood, which is owned by Western Washington Disciples congregations.



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Long-time peacemaker advocates for Spokane to be nuclear-free zone

Veterans for Peace in Eastern Washington and Washington Physicians for Social Responsibility in Western Washington are promoting local ordinances to establish Nuclear-Free Zones.

Rusty Nelson, who retired several years ago after 20 years as co-director of the Peace and Justice Action League of Spokane (PJALS), is helping promote a city ordinance to ban nuclear weapons materials in Spokane.

After several constituents approached her, Councilwoman Kate Burke decided to introduce it for a vote by City Council on August 6, which is Hiroshima Day, the day the United States dropped its first nuclear bomb in 1945.

She has a draft ordinance and has done research, learning that the United Nations "seeks to rid the world of nuclear weapons."

In July 2017, 122 nations in the UN adopted the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, a ban on developing, testing, producing, manufacturing, acquiring, possessing or stockpiling nuclear weapons. By September, 58 nations signed it. After 50 nations ratified it, it went into force.

"The city ordinance to prohibit nuclear weapons materials in Spokane is largely symbolic, but is an urgently needed symbol to point out the moral depravity of any nuclear weapons program," said Rusty, who has long campaigned against nuclear weapons, the arms race and actual wars.

When the Soviet Union collapsed in 1991, he said, the U.S. did not win the arms race or Cold War, but Russia dropped out after spending themselves into bankruptcy. He added that government leaders seeking to update nuclear weapons forget there are no winners to a nuclear war or arms race.

"With treaties ignored and loopholed to pieces, it's up to local communities to say we're not going to play useless, dangerous, extravagant games of building more or 'better' weapons," he said.

"The earth's destruction is more likely to happen by an accident than a planned attack," he said, adding that nuclear testing has affected climate change.

Rusty said the "Doomsday Clock," established by the Bulletin of Atomic Scientists, has moved to two minutes to midnight, the worst since 1953. He is concerned that some Christians want Armageddon soon, overlooking responsibility for the earth.

The ordinance to ban nuclear weapons materials in Spokane would make it illegal for anyone to possess, transport or manufacture radioactive materials except for medical use or research.

Veterans for Peace is involved



Rusty Nelson speaks on behalf of Veterans for Peace.

because it opposes war as a foreign policy and seeks to expose the true costs of war.

"It's hard to gain a platform to educate the public without a step such as the ordinance," Rusty said.

In the 1980s, when there were efforts to slow and stop nuclear arms. There were nuclear weapons at Fairchild Air Force Base, and "white trains" that transported weapons-grade radioactive materials from the Pantex plant in Amarillo, Texas, to the Trident Submarine base in Bangor, Wash.

In the 1970s. Rusty remembers standing in Norfolk, Va., at a ceremonial keel-laying of a nuclear submarine named for his uncle. Years later near Spokane he saw the nuclear core of that sub retired and sent on a barge up the Columbia River to Hanford to be buried.

"When nuclear components are retired, their half-life still leaves them the most toxic things on earth for thousands of years," he said.

Nuclear weapons are selfdefeating militarily and fiscally extravagant, he said, adding that "tax dollars maintain an anachronistic mix of weapons."

Rusty is pleased that younger people are joining the campaign, aware that schools usually avoid challenging "myths of military security and war prosperity."

Before he began working with PJALS, he became a Mennonite. As a member of a traditional peace church, he "reassessed his cultural affinity for war and acceptance of lethal means to maintain his privilege in the world," he said.

"I believe it is my spiritual duty to oppose the machinery and weapons of mass destruction," he said. "While the U.S. challenged the poison gasses and other weapons of mass destruction Saddam Hussein supposedly had in Iraq, we ignored that we had the same weapons and more. As the U.S. became involved in more sustainable forms of war, concern about nuclear weapons went to the back burner." After the Berlin Wall fell,

Rusty said many expected there would be a peace dividend from not having a "great enemy."

"We could have quit spending on nuclear arms and systems of delivery, but went on to create enemies elsewhere to support corporate welfare for the military system, even though it's impossible to win a war, especially nuclear war," he said.

"We demand North Korea and Iran to have no nuclear weapons and consider them outlaw nations, but we and Israel continue to possess and deploy those weapons. Instead of denying the evil of nuclear weapons on our side, we need to put our nukes on the bargaining table," he said.

By presenting the ordinance, Veterans for Peace and Physicians for Responsibility seek public discussions for education on what defense the country really needs.

Rusty said the anniversaries of the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki on Aug. 6 and 9 are days to recall how finger pointing and name calling between the U.S. and Soviet Union cost trillions of dollars and minimized outrage over the routine atrocities of war.

"It's absurd that the only country that has dropped atomic bombs on another country presumes to be the arbiter of who can build, possess and deploy these things," said Rusty, a Vietnam War vet who does not believe that bombing Hiroshima and Nagasaki brought a quick end to the war.

"Japan was ready for an armistice before July 1945, but we wanted to test our new weapon to scare the Soviet Union. We had no regard for the lives of Japanese civilians," Rusty said.

"In the arms race, an armistice could save trillions," he said.

Rusty added that nuclear waste affects the poor, ghettos and reservations where radioactive materials are dumped.

trillions to destroy the earth over and over," he said.

As a pacifist, Rusty seeks to spread the "aha" moment he experienced years ago.

"It's not too much to ask our leaders to listen to the ideas of peacemakers," he said. "Our challenge is to educate people to know we have a choice, and it's in our best interest to stop nuclear weapons proliferation and overarming ourselves."

For information, call 291-4646.



"We could just spend millions to research and use radioactive materials for medicine, instead of

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Son's death sparks mother's commitment to work on behalf of veterans

By Kave Hult

On July 7, 2011, Theresa Hart's son, 20-year-old SPC Nicholas Newby, was killed in Baghdad, Iraq by an armor-piercing bomb.

In October 2013, with the help of her husband, James, and friends, Theresa opened Newbyginnings of North Idaho, a nonprofit program for active military, veterans and Gold Star families.

Newby-ginnings allows her to honor her son and others who have died serving the country. Its motto is, "humble support and steadfast honor to those who served and sacrificed."

Theresa thought she would offer support part-time from her dining room table office. In the first five months, she was able to help more than she expected.

Her work allows her to talk about Nick daily. He joined the Army National Guard in 2008. In 2009, he graduated from high school and went through basic and advanced training.

He was deployed with the National Guard unit out of Post Falls in 2010. He was 10 months into his 12-month deployment when he was killed.

Theresa recites many statistics. Nick was the 4,471st U.S. casualty in Iraq since U.S. involvement there in 2003. He was one of 54 fatalities in 2011. This year, 11 people have died there.

Two months after she learned of his death. Theresa went to work as an RN for the State of Idaho.

"Grief of that magnitude changes a person at a cellular level. When I walked back into work, I said, 'I do not want to be here!'" she said. "Being Nick's mother defined me. Losing him defined me, too. I had to do something."

For about a year and a half, she did nothing. During that time, many of Nick's battle buddies called her, telling her of their struggles with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), traumatic brain injuries (TBIs), and financial and relationship problems.

Theresa realized she could help young men and women who had returned home. Her mother came up with the name "Newbyginnings." As Theresa sat at her kitchen table, the motto, logo and mission statement flowed.

The mission statement is: "With support from and in partnership with the community, Newby-ginnings of North Idaho, Inc., a nonprofit organization, will provide, with honor, respect and integrity, essential items, resources and



Theresa Hart started Newby-ginnings.

referrals to area active military, veterans and Gold Star families in need of such services."

They provide basic necessities and common comforts. They welcome clean, functional donations, such as household items, furniture and clothing. They provide these free with no red tape or appointments. People don't have to wait for months, she said.

'We do this with community support through donations and fund raisers," she said. "There are no income eligibility guidelines. No one has to prove their need. All that is required is proof of military service. They can take what they need."

Since starting, Newby-ginnings has enrolled 2,325 veterans, active servicemen and women, and Gold Star families in the Coeur d'Alene area, serving 50 to 100 a day.

Theresa called Scott Thorsness, director of the Kootenai County Veterans Services Office in Post Falls. She asked him to refer people with needs and things to donate. He began making referrals to her.

For about two months, she and James stored items in their garage. They ran out of room, so they rented a 1,700-square-foot industrial unit behind their home. It filled within three months. Then they used a Dalton Gardens facility for two years, but outgew it.

The next move was one of many serendipitous experiences she has had. It began by her wishing she had a box truck like the one across the street at Dalton Gardens. James had been using his personal truck to haul goods.

When a \$26,000 grant she wrote for a truck, tires and maintenance was denied, she was devastated.

Within a week, Molly Shirey called to say she was dissolving "We've Got Stuff" and giving her remaining inventory to us,"

Theresa said. That included a bigger and better box truck and the driver, Cedric.

One connection led to the next. Through the Coeur d'Alene VFW, Josh Scott of Maximum Exposure donated a wrap for the truck.

He contacted Riverbend Office Park, which gave Theresa a lease at 570 S. Clearwater Loop in Post Falls, where they have been since May 2016.

The nonprofit works with various area veterans' organizations, service agencies and assisted-living facilities.

"If a veteran is released from rehabilitation with a new knee or hip, they call us. We can give them what they need-walkers, wheelchairs, shower chairs, potty chairs or power chairs," she said.

Newby-ginnings welcomes new kitchen items, underwear, socks, cleaning supplies and more. Those donations go to veterans when they move into a new location. They may have been homeless or just out of the hospital. She wants them to have both a new home and a fresh start with dignity.

They are now having a "Stuff-Raiser." For every new kitchen item someone donates, they receive a raffle ticket for a patriotic quilt. The drawing is July 3.

Theresa spends about 60 hours a week providing this service-30 hours at the shop Mondays through Wednesdays, plus she attends meetings, makes presentations and works at home.

"It's never-ending," she said. "It's not a job. It's my life."

Newby-ginnings has a sevenmember board of directors and a staff of about 50 volunteers.

'Their unselfish effort, caring and compassion for others is the lifeblood of our organization," she said. "They are a source of inspiration for me and for the

clients. We couldn't do what we the coincidences I have experido without them."

Theresa was born in Norwalk, Conn. Her father was in the Air Force 10 years. By the time Theresa was in the ninth grade, she had attended 11 schools. After his discharge in 1978 in Anchorage, the family settled there, attending Catholic churches for a while.

Theresa graduated from the University of Alaska, Anchorage in 1985 with a bachelor's in nursing. Her children, Nick and Nathan, were born to her and her former husband, Wayne, in Alaska. They moved to Coeur d'Alene in 1996.

"Sometimes, I still can't believe Nick is gone," she said. "I just keep moving. My faith has been challenged, but I wonder if God has a sense of humor, because of enced with Newby-ginnings.

"I have an overwhelming sense of responsibility. I want people to appreciate their freedom because of the sacrifices made by so many to preserve it," she said.

"It is our job to live our lives worthy of their sacrifice, to live our lives to the fullest, to laugh, to love, to make this world a better place. Nick would want that." Theresa said.

"Newby-ginnings is the collateral beauty that occurred after immense tragedy. It has helped bring our local veteran community closer together. It has impacted the lives of thousands of people," Theresa said.

For information, call 208-610-6996, email newbyginnings4471@gmail.com.



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Bishop's wedding message on the power of love is for everyone

"There is power in love." Those simple words by the U.S. Episcopal Presiding Bishop Michael Curry, preaching at the wedding of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle remind us of our call to love.

At the royal wedding, he cited America's "King," Martin Luther King Jr., who said, "we must discover the power of love, the redemptive power of love, and when we do that we will make of this old world a new world. For love is the only way."

The bishop wasn't talking about oversentimentalizing the power of romantic love at the time of a wedding, but recognizing the power we have when we know we are loved.

"We are made by a power of love," he said. "Our lives were meant and are meant to be lived in that love."

The source of love is God, because God is love, said Bishop Curry.

heal when nothing else can," the bishop continued, making the point that love is about more than a young couple.

Jesus reminded of scriptures saying we are to "love the Lord our God with all our heart, all our soul, all our mind and all our strength" and then we are also to love our neighbor as ourself.

Again the bishop made it simple: Love God. Love your neighbor. Love yourself.

On that basis, he said that Jesus began "the most revolutionary movement of all human history, a movement grounded in the unconditional love of God for the world, a movement mandating people to live that love, and in so doing, to change not only their lives, but every life of the world itself."

Bishop Curry made the point that when love is "unselfish, sacrificial and redemp-

"There is a power in love to help and tive," it changes lives. He invited us to imagine a world, families, neighborhoods, communities, governments, nations, business and commerce "where love is the way."

> When love is the way, no child is hungry, justice rolls down, poverty is history, we lay down our swords and shields, and we treat each other like family.

> Bishop Curry recounted how the discovery of fire built today's civilization. He added that if humanity ever captures the energy of love-as it has harnessed fire-it will be the second time in history that "we have discovered fire.'

> He concluded that Dr. King was right, "we must discover love-the redemptive power of love. When we do that, we will make of this old world a new world."

> Wow! The bishop took us back to the simple basis of our faith and many faithsthe power of love to change lives, families,

communities, nations and the world.

That simple, but we make it so hard, because we are easily caught up in selfishness, greed, lust, lies, hate, division, oppression, injustice, grief, anger, hunger, poverty, homelessness, war, racism and inhumanity.

There's a power in love to overcome the hurts, if we let it. There's a power in love to reconcile. There's a power in love to negotiate an end to spending trillions of dollars on nuclear weapons that would end all life on earth.

Love has always been radical and risky.

Jesus died because of love. Gandhi died because of love. Martin Luther King Jr. died because of love. They also lived to love and to spread love.

How are we living out love? How are we making love grow?

> **Mary Stamp** Editor

The Fig Tree stories are love stories, stories of people living in love

Love permeates what we do with The Fig Tree-sharing love stories.

Fig Tree stories tell of people turning selfishness, greed, lust, lies, hate, division, oppression, injustice, grief, anger, hunger, poverty, homelessness, racism and more into hope. They do that out of faith, because they love God, love God's creation, love people who are all made in God's image, and love themselves, because they live in love.

How exciting it is to edit The Fig Tree and share of a counselor loving traumatized teens, camp directors loving children and youth, a pacifist caring for God's creation, a mother turning grief to service, a young man stepping up to overcome racism and environmental allies in solidarity with tribes. That's just this issue.

Then there is the love of all connected with The Fig Tree to make it possible, love exemplified by Marilyn Stedman and so many who have continued volunteering and giving in love for our ecumenical vision that we may be one in love, because God loves.

The many Fig Tree stories of people who make a difference are stories of love that compel people to care and act.

Loving the hungry and those needing shelter, the immigrants and those in prisons,

the thirsty, the poor and those marginalized by racism, living faithful and serving in community, working for peace, advocating justice, making mittens, stitching quilts, collecting shoes, reading to children, cleaning a house, chopping wood, sitting with someone who is dying, listening to someone's story-these are among the love stories in The Fig Tree each issue.

Mary Stamp - Editor



For 22 years, Marilyn Stedman brought light to The Fig Tree family

Marilyn Stedman, a volunteer with The Fig Tree since 1996, died on Monday, May 28, at the age of 89.

One line in her obituary sums up Marilyn: It said that her "life was full of activities that blessed others.'

As a volunteer, Marilyn Stedman said that her involvement with The Fig Tree Board has been the "backbone of everything I've done."

That includes the Girl Scouts, Japanese Cultural Center, YWCA, Museum of Arts and Culture, Whitworth Auxiliary, Covenant Christian Church, Junior League and reading to preschoolers.

"The Fig Tree represents an ecumenical vision," she said in a 2014 interview at the time of the 30th anniversary.

Marilyn said that "The Fig Tree has always been positive and I've always tried to be positive in my life. It has helped me and I hope it helps others.

Marilyn joined The Fig Tree board in 1996 and became chair/moderator of the board during its transition to becoming an independent nonprofit corporation in 2001 and for many more years. Last month, she picked up copies of The Fig Tree to deliver to Origin, her church, and Unity Church near her home.



pastor offered to assist the girls, teaching them Japanese.

Marilyn has had ties with Malawi, including sending a group of Girl Scouts with sports equipment on a visit and connecting with three Malawian Catholic priests, who studied at Gonzaga.

"It's important to try to know other people's cultures, thoughts and religions. We are all one under God," she said.

While the Whitworth Auxiliary was Presbyterian women when it began in 1912, Dorothy Dixon, who was daughter of the founder and secretary at Central Christian Church, invited Marilyn to the Silver Tea fund raiser in the early 1970s and asked her to join. Since then it became ecumenical.

The auxiliary supports international students, helps paint and make curtains for residence halls, and tunes the pianos in the halls, among many activities.

Marilyn appreciated its role in funding international students. She befriended several international students.

For many years, she and Dale read to

She has helped with mailings, deliveries, editing, hosting benefit tables, planning benefit events, doing volunteer tasks at events, making phone calls, assisting at displays and spreading the word about The Fig Tree.

She has spent almost all of her years in Spokane, graduating from Lewis & Clark High School and attending Washington State College in Pullman for three years. She met her husband, Dale, there. She had majored in recreation with the goal of being a professional Girl Scout. Dale worked with AAA in Spokane, giving her the freedom to volunteer with Girl Scouts.

Her involvement with Girl Scouts led to connection with Mukogawa's Girl Day and the doll festival. Hinamatsuri. For many years, she volunteered with the Japanese Cultural Center, putting out friendship dolls

Marilyn Stedman

during March.

Most Japanese girls receive traditional dolls from their mothers or grandmothers on their first Hinamatsuri, a 1,000-year-old tradition. At Mukogawa, Girl Scouts help put out the girl dolls.

Marilyn became involved with Girl Scouts at the age of nine, because of her love of the outdoors and because her father, a member of Lions Club that supported Girl Scouts, had helped buy land where the Girl Scout Camp Four Echoes is near Worley, Idaho.

"I loved the camp and was there the first day. My mother was a Girl Scout leader. I was a camp counselor and assistant director. I have led troops for my daughter, Cyn, and

granddaughter."

Marilyn also helped start the day camp program with Spokane Parks and Recreation in the woods at Valleyford County Park before she served as president of the Council.

'Girl Scouts, like The Fig Tree, has international ties. We have four international houses-London, Switzerland, Mexico and India," said Marilyn, who visited all but the one in India.

She has traveled internationally with Dale, when he served on the National AAA Board, going to Holland, Greece, Italy, Estonia, Russia, Rwanda and Tanzania.

In 1983, she took 30 Girl Scouts to Japan, where they had three-week home stays. While there, a Baptist missionary preschool children. She read to children at the Bethel African American Church's preschool for 10 years until it closed.

She also read with preschoolers at St. Charles' Catholic and the Hearts & Rainbows Preschool at Bethlehem Lutheran Church on S. Ray. Dale has read at St. John Vianney's preschool.

Marilyn grew up in Central Christian Church downtown on Third and Stevens, until the freeway came through.

It moved to 57th and Palouse Hwy., and became Covenant Christian Church. More than 10 years ago, the church sold the building and moved to 57th and Regal.

Still a Disciples of Christ congregation, it recently changed its name to Origin Church, in the woods at 5115 S. Freya.

Through the years with the church, she taught Sunday school, was president of the board and was involved in the women's fellowship.

Her memorial service was June 1. Family have requested that people "bless" their favorite charity with gifts in her name.

Calendar of Events

- June 1-Oct 31 "Keeping History Alive," Museum of North Idaho, 115 Northwest Blvd., Coeur d'Alene,11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Tues through Sat, 208-719-0128, museumni.org
- Holocaust survivor Nissan Krakinowski, 91, June 4 Spokane Convention Center, 7 p.m.
- June 4, 11, 18 Poor People's Campaign Action in Olympia, 838-7879, pjals.org
- June 6 • "Hello, Dolly," Benefit for Spokane Valley Partners, Spokane Civic Theatre, 1020 N. Howard, social hour 6:30 p.m., curtain 7:30 p.m., 927-1153, svpart.org/events
- Café Affogato Community Day Benefiting the June 7 Peace and Justice Action League of Spokane, 19 W. Main, 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.
 - Inland Northwest Lighthouse Food Truck Rally, 6402 N. Addison, 4 to 8 p.m., 487-0405
- June 7, 14, 21 Poor People's Campaign Spokane Rally and Report-Back, Tribal Gathering Place, Post & Spokane Falls Blvd. 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., 838-7870
- Tour of Bunker Hill Superfund Site June 8
- June 8-15 Young Adults Explore Buddhism, Sravasti Abbey near Newport, 3 p.m. June 8, srvastiabbey.org, 509-447-4459, office. sravasti@gmail.com
- 27th Annual Pride Parade, "Pride, Now June 9 More Than Ever," Downtown Spokane, noon, outspokane.com • Rainbow Festival, Riverfront Park Lilac
- Meadow, noon to 6 p.m., outspokane.com June 11 • Barbecue with Bishop Emeritus William Skylstad, "Where Are We Going?" Immaculate Heart Retreat Center (IHRC), 6910 S. Ben Burr
- Rd., 5:30 p.m., 448-1224 June 12 • Unity in the Community Committee, Emmanuel Family Life Center, 631 S. Richard
- Allen Ct., 5:30 p.m., nwunity.org June 13 Hispanic Business and Professional Association, Sabes Qué? Gloria Ochoa-Bruck. director of multicultural affairs, City of Spokane, Perkins at Division & Olive, 11:30 a.m., hbpaspokane@gmail.com
- June 13-July 13 "Pictures of Nursing: The Zwerdling Postcard Collection," WSU School of Nursing, 103 E. Spokane Falls Blvd., 324-7340, addy. hatch@wsu.edu
- June 14 • "Rediscovering God's Magis within the Silence," Summertime Spiritual Moment, IHRC, 6910 S. Ben Burr Rd., 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., 448-1224
- Healthy Kids Day, Spokane Valley YMCA, 421 June 15 N. Discovery Pl., 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., 777-9622
- · World Refugee Day, Nevada Park, 800 E. June 16 Joseph, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., 209-2384
- NAACP General Membership Meeting, 35 W. June 18 Main, 7 p.m., spokanenaacp@gmail.com
- June 20 "What Is a Community Bail Fund and Do We Need One in Spokane," Gloria Ochoa-Bruck, City of Spokane director of multi-cultural affairs, Center for Justice's Justice Lunchbook, 25 W. Main, noon, 835-5211
- June 20-24• SEA-TRI-KAN Ride with Refugees, benefit for World Relief starts in Kent, smsmith@wr.org June 21
- Baha'i Fireside Discussion, Spokane Valley Library, 12004 E. Main, 7 p.m., scld.org
- Silent Day of Prayer, "The Question of Jesus," June 22 Fr Peter Byrne SJ, IHRC, 6910 S. Ben Burr Rd., 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., 448-1224
- June 23 · Ride to Defeat ALS, one-day cycling event, 1480 Coeur d'Alene River Rd., Kingston, Idaho, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., 863-4321, alsa-ec.org
 - Spokane Tribal Series, Spokane Tribal History and Science, 4th Saturdays through July, Mobius Science Center, 332 N. Post St., 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., 321-7123, mobiusspokane.org

- "Art, Crafts and Drafts," 2018 Kopanga Benefit of Partnering for Progress, River City Brewing, 121 S. Cedar St., 4 to 8 p.m., 720-8408
- Spokane Caregiver Conference, keynoter June 28 Wendy Lustbader, CenterPlace Regional Event Center, 2426 N. Discovery Pl., 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., 458-7450 x2
 - Time's Up Town Hall: Sexual Violence at School and Work, Lutheran Community Services Northwest at North Central High, 1600 N. Howard, 4 to 6:30 p.m., 747-8224, lcsnw.org
- July 2-Aug 10 Mission Community Outreach Center Shoe Drive, 1906 E. Mission, 536-1084
- · Silent Day of Prayer, "Philosophical Theory, July 11 From Intellectual Animals to Divine Animals: St. Thomas Aquinas on Human Destiny," led by Michael Tkacz of Gonzaga University, IHRC, 6910 S. Ben Burr, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., 448-1224
- Evening in Tuscany, YWCA Spokane Benefit July 13 for domestic violence shelter, Barrister Winery, 1213 W. Railroad Ave., 6 p.m., 789-9312, vwcaspokane.org
- July 13-14 24-Hour Cancer Retreat, "To See Another Sunrise: How to Survive and Thrive When Cancer Hits," Stage 4 cancer survivor and author Jim Morrison, IHRC, 6910 S. Ben Burr Rd., 448-1224
- Café Affogato Community Day Benefiting the July 5 Peace and Justice Action League of Spokane, 19 W. Main, 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.
- Showing Up for Racial Justice Committee, 35 July 17 W. Main, 6:30 p.m., 838-7870
- Peace and Justice Action Committee, 35 W. July 19 Main, 5:30 p.m., 838-7870
- July 20 Fighting Hate Crime in Spokane's LGBTQ+ Community, Hemmingson Center, Lutheran Community Services Northwest, 8 a.m. to noon, 747-8224
- "The Global Village ... How Do We Do It as July 24 Church?" Barbecue with Bishop Emeritus William Skylstad, IHRC, 6910 S. Ben Burr Rd., 5:30 p.m., 448-1224
- "Accentuate the Positive," Spirit Center, July 27-29 Monastery of St. Gertrude, Cottonwood, Idaho, spirit-center.org
- Aug 3-5 • All Roads Lead to Hillyard, Hillyard Festival and Hi-Jinx Parade, Harmon Park, Friday noon to 9 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., Sunday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., 270-1569
- Garland Street Fair, Garland Business District Aug 11 from Howard to Monroe Streets, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., 939-8970, garlanddistrict@gmail.com
- Unity in the Community, Riverfront Park, 9 Aug 18 a.m. parade, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. event, 599-6669, nwunity.org
- · Silent Day of Prayer on Relieving Anxiety, Aug 21 "Peace in an Anxious World: How to Lower Anxiety and Increase Joy," led by Teresa Warren and Michael D'Esterre, IHRC, 6910 S. Ben Burr Rd., 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., 448-1224
- Day of Reflection on Christian Mindfulness, Aug 22 IHRC, 6910 S. Ben Burr Rd., "Practical Ways to Cultivate Relationships in Troubling Situations," led by Catherine Reimer, IHRC, 6910 S. Ben Burr Rd., 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., 448-1224
- "Dig In," Catholic Charities, Historic Aug 23 Washington Cracker Co., 304 W. Pacific, 6:30 p.m., cceasternwa.org
- Barbecue with Bishop Emeritus William Aug 28 Skylstad, "The Visionary Path: A Look at the Church's Path Here in the Northwest," IHRC, 6910 S. Ben Burr Rd., 5:30 p.m., 448-1224
- Aug 24-26 Gathering at the Falls Powwow, Riverfront Park, 590-5044, gatfpowwow.org Fig Tree Mailing and Delivery, St. Mark's Sept 5



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Devon Wilson says 'racism is about power, the power of violence'

Devon Wilson, chair of the NAACP Spokane Criminal Justice Committee, and member of the Center for Justice Board and the Coordinating Committee member on the state Poor People's Campaign Committee, was one of the speakers Monday, May 21, in Olympia.

The theme that week was racism. "Racism is about power, more specifically the power of violence," he said. "Violence has a sound. It sounds like whips cracking, dogs gnashing and pistols blasting. It's the sound of stomachs aching.

'Violence is unique because it's one of few sounds known to create obedience, and if not obedience, then silence. If you pause you can hear the silence echo across cells and cemeteries all over," said Devon, a 2015 graduate of the University of Kentucky in political science and psychology, drawn to Spokane by a family friend.

He has served as an intern in Washington, D.C., and as an aide in the Washington State Legislature in Olympia.

"Racism is division," he continued. "It's division through dehumanization."

He said those gathered at the rally in Olympia would likely stop someone seeking to exploit or displace a group of people, because it's the right thing to do.

Then he pointed out that those who exploit others try to convince people that their targets are "not human, but apes, savages, rats, cockroaches, super-predators or animals." Then more are willing to accept atrocities forced on a group.

An oppressor seeks to convince people to "reject changes that would improve their wellbeing because they might help that group," said Devon.

"Racism is whitewashing of our history," he said. "It's being told that only great men from great families of great wealth are the ones who can change the world," he said.

Devon added that people are often told that they are not powerful enough, not rich enough, or from the right neighborhood to make a difference, so not to bother fighting.

The Poor People's Campaign: A National Call for Moral Revival over 40 days this spring has several demands.

It demands the end of systemic racism, demands to end the war on the poor, the environment and communities across the globe.



Devon Wilson speaks for Poor People's Campaign.

walls," Devon said.

"We have a rich legacy of leaders like Frederick Douglass, Coretta Scott King and others who have fought for what is right," he said. "They are watching us today and smiling, because they see us overcoming the lines of division. They are smiling because they know that we know the truth: Justice does not come, it cannot be beckoned. Justice must be brought.

"So that's what we'll do," Devon said. "Together, we must bring justice to the streets of Seattle. We must bring justice to the shelters in Shoreline. We must bring justice to the cells of Spokane...to all corners of this capital, to every city in this state and to every town in this nation until justice finally flows like a river and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream."

On Thursday, May 24, at the Tribal Meeting Place beside the Spokane City Hall, he led a rally and reported that several people went to Olympia from Eastern Washington on May 21, joining 200 others. Several sat on the floor of the capitol rotunda, "occupying" it. That day, 19 and a half one woman was pregnant—were arrested on the spot, processed and released.

Two were from Eastern Washington. They are Shelly McLallen of Spokane and Rick Matters, priest at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Kennewick.

"It's good to know that white allies are willing to put their bodies on the line for people of color," said Devon at the Spokane rally.

As he stood on the second floor looking over those on the floor in the rotunda, he turned and behind him was a bust of Martin Luther King Jr.

"I remember when studying the Civil Rights movement, wondering what I would have done if I had lived in that era," he said. "Now I'm part of such a movement."

Introducing three speakers, Devon said racism is not just about black and white, but also is about immigrants and other communities of color.

Lili Navarette, who immigrated with her family in 1988 from Mexico City, was discouraged because she not only missed family and friends in Mexico, but also, not speaking English, met discrimination in Spokane. Now she speaks English, but still meets discrimination as a brown woman coordinating volunteers with Planned Parenthood.

"Our President's words inspire hate and harassment, so many of us fear for our lives. His words do not shock people of color, but demonstrate that racism is alive as they awaken a subset of people who believe people of color and immigrants are not important," she said. "I will fight, so discrimination will not be normal.

Our movement is growing bigger every day."

Sandy Williams, editor of The Black Lens, shared a poem she read last year at a march, remembering a young black man shot in the back by a man a white jury said acted in self-defense.

Her poem, "We don't see color in Spokane," points out that people of color are stopped by police more often. For every white adult detained, seven blacks and six Native Americans are detained. Half of the students arrested at schools are people of color, and a disproportionate number of students of color are suspended or expelled.

"Blacks, Hispanics and Native Americans are twice as likely to live in poverty and have higher mortality rates. Elected officials and decision makers are all white, Sandy said.

"Maybe Spokane needs to start seeing color," she suggested. "Racism is insidious here. We need people meeting in rooms to make decisions to challenge our lack of access and to speak on our behalf."

She called for allies to work with people of color to "make Spokane be the place we want it to be."

Alexis Gallaway-Tonasket, an organizer against environmental racism who is half Colville and half Irish, said being "half from two different worlds," she sees half of her family face different issues from the other half.

"Racism is more than a rude comment in passing. It is a deep dark secret in plain sight. It is that we forget we are all human. We all feel, fear, dream and breathe. We share the same sky, sun, earth water and stars," she said.

"If many humans are struggling with the system, it's the system that is flawed, not the people," Alexis said.

"We need justice for Native Americans, African Americans and immigrant communities," Devon said as the rally ended and many of the 50 who gathered chanted, "We need justice," as they began to march.

At 2 p.m. on "Moral Mondays," people gather from throughout the state for a rally at the State Capitol in Olympia. Some, but not all, may risk arrest. In Spokane, those who go will report back at 5:30 p.m., Thursdays through June 21, at the Tribal Gathering Place.

The theme for May 28, was "The War Economy: Militarism and the Proliferation of Gun Violence." For June 4, it is "Ecological Devastation and the Right to Health, Healthcare and a Healthy Planet." The June 11 rally is on "Everybody Has the Right to Live." The June 18 rally is on "A New and Unsettling Force: Confronting the Distorted Social Narrative.'

Nationally, as of May 21, hundreds of people were arrested around the nation. The Rev. Jesse Jackson, a leader in the 1968 Poor People's Campaign, was arrested with campaign co-chairs the Revs. William Barber and Liz Theoharis, poor people and clergy who sat in prayer on the floor of U.S. Capitol rotunda, resisting orders from the police to disperse.

They sought to deliver a letter to Senate and House Republican leaders, asking them to restore the Voting Rights Act, end racist gerrymandering and honor minimum wage increases.

For two years, leaders of the Poor People's Campaign visited 10s of thousands of people in dozens of states on a listening tour about issues.

For information, call 838-7870 or visit pjals.org or visit poorpeoplescampaign.org.



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"I stand here today with only one demand: keep fighting, do it nonviolently, but don't stop fighting," he said in Olympia.

"Because we the tired, the poor, we the huddled masses and wretched refuse, we the people are the engine that drives this nation forward, we are the change we have been waiting on, and we are the trumpets that bring down

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