Kizuri brings world to Spokane

By Mary Stamp

Kizuri owner Kim Harmson thinks of the store in the Community Building in Spokane as social justice and serving people she loves, more than as a retail business selling global fair-trade, earth-friendly, local gifts, clothing and more.

“It’s about relationships that make the world run differently,” said Kim, reflecting on her 10 years in business and plans for celebrating the anniversary in October.

“We are committed to fair-trade principles, environmentally responsible business practices and giving back to our community,” she said.

Running Kizuri, Kim can stay true to her values in a way that benefits Spokane and the global community.

“I love supporting projects that improve lives of women and girls in developing countries and at the same time provide customers with beautiful and useful items,” she said.

Kim keeps her costs low to benefit the local economy and allow artisans to have more income.

To celebrate the anniversary and the people who make Kizuri “a vibrant, successful endeavor,” she plans to give back 10 percent of the sales for the month of October, with five percent going to Conscious Connections to Educate Girls in Nepal and five percent to Spokane Riverkeeper.

Kim expects to offer other ways to celebrate along the way, like give-aways and other events.

This fall, Kizuri will also have a booth in Jubilee International Marketplace at First Presbyterian Church on Friday and Saturday, Nov. 2 and 3, and will help with both Himal Trading host the annual Festival of Fair Trade on Thanksgiving weekend, Nov. 22 to 24.

Kim and Jeff, now her husband, passed through Spokane in 1980 while on a two-month bike trip from Seattle to San Diego. Prior to that, they sold everything and left Chicago with no jobs, uncertain where they would end up. They were impressed with Spokane and stayed a few days to explore. Ultimately, they returned to make Spokane their home.

She made lifelong friends working two and a half years at the Onion Bar and Grill, while Jeff studied echocardiography at Spokane Community College. He has worked 35 years at Sacred Heart.

Colville pastor has long been involved in ecumenical, interfaith advocacy

For the last two years, Jim Castrolang, part-time pastor of First Congregational United Church of Christ in Colville, has found an outlet for his call to ministry at Christ in Colville, has found an outlet for his call to ministry at First Presbyterian Church on Friday and Saturday, Nov. 2 and 3, and will help with both Himal Trading host the annual Festival of Fair Trade on Thanksgiving weekend, Nov. 22 to 24.

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Continued on page 6

Decade anniversary will assess progress towards a just community

What has been achieved in building a just community of women and men? What must still be done? How can ecumenical collaboration be strengthened in reading the signs of the times in order to map the future direction of work?

The World Council of Churches (WCC) fellowship and ecumenical partners will gather in an inter-generational setting seeking answers to these questions through a global consultation in Jamaica, Oct. 2 to 5, that commemorates the 20th anniversary of the Decade of the Churches in Solidarity with Women.

Hosted by the Jamaica Council of Churches, it will be held in the context of the WCC’s 70th anniversary, its ongoing Pilgrimage of Justice and Peace, and the 2030 United Nations Sustainable Development Agenda, said the WCC Press Center.

By the end of the gathering, participants will share a vision statement for moving towards a just community of women and men in church and society. The consultation will focus its activities around celebrating the gifts, visiting the wounds and transforming injustices in the relationships between women and men in the church since 1998.

Participants will highlight the four priority topics for the decade: violence against women in various forms, women’s full and creative participation in the church’s life, the effect of the global economic crisis on women, and the impact of racism and xenophobia on women.

For information, visit oikoumene.org/en/press-centre/news.

Continued on page 4
The Faith Action Network is planning to hold a Cluster Meeting from 2 to 4 p.m., Sunday, Oct. 28, at Bethany Presbyterian Church, 2715 S. Ray. The gathering is an opportunity for Spokane members of FAN’s Network of Advocating Faith Communities to build relationship, hear advocacy updates and strategize for advocacy plans and events in the coming year.

In Eastern Washington, the advocating faith communities—among more than 140 in the state—include All Saints Lutheran, Bethany Presbyterian, Salem Lutheran, Spokane Friends Meeting, the Unitarian Universalist Church and West Central Episcopal Mission in Spokane; Community Congregational United Church of Christ in Pullman, and Shelkinah Community Church in Cle Elum.

For information, call 206-625-9700 or visit fanwa.org.

Stacy Taninchev, associate professor in political science at Gonzaga University, will be the speaker for the 2018 United Nations Day Celebration, at 2 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 27, at the Wolf Au- dia torium in GU’s Jepson Center. She will speak on "Colombia in the United Nations.”

The Gonzaga’s Model United Nations requested to and did represent Colombia at the National Model UN conference in New York in 2018 because of Gonzaga’s focus on developing their partnership with the Pontifica Universidad Javeriana (PUJ) in Cali, Colombia. Stacy, who is the GU Model UN faculty advisor, spent five weeks at PUJ-Cali in the summer of 2017.

For information, call 313-3610 or email taninchev@gonzaga.edu.

**UN Day event looks at issues in Colombia**

**Mayan painter shares skills in a benefit**

Amigos de Corazon will host a Paint and Pie class as a benefit with Mayan Artist Benedicto Is- ramer from Guatamala, Sunday, Nov. 4, at 4 p.m., in Dr. Upright Dr. Benedicto will give participants an opportunity to explore typical Mayan art. Today he paints in different journeys to meet the weavers. He found his passion in the coffee business. He is also a director of a Spanish school there.

Benedicto’s non-profit, Funds for My School, which assists children from his village in San Juan La Laguna, Guatemala, to attend and succeed in school. Benedicto’s paintings will also be for sale. Supplies, a beverage and light snacks are included. The event is limited to 25.

Benedicto’s home is on Lake Atitlan in the volcanic Guatamala highlands, where his family is in the coffee business. He is also a director of a Spanish school there. He has displayed his work at U.S. venues from 2004 to 2015, including at Jubilee at First Pres- byterian in Spokane. His story is in the December 2014 Fig Tree. From an early age, Benedicto discovered his talent drawing on cardboard and school notebooks. Later, his father introduced him to oil colors and one brush as a gift. With those he developed his art. After he and his three brothers worked in the fields, they picked flowers, leaves and bark to make natural dyes for their mother’s textiles. Benedicto often paints on the walls of traditional huts.

For information, call 714-892-6. email deborahcorazoon@gmail.com or visit www.corazonn.coms.
Temple offers presentation on ‘Jewish Beginnings’

Temple Beth Shalom and Congregation Emanu-El invite the general Spokane community for a special presentation, “Jewish Beginnings,” at 7:30 p.m., Friday, Oct. 12, at 1322 E. 30th Ave. The event begins in a safe in the old Odd Fellows building on First Avenue several years ago will be on display, said Larry Grossman, temple archivist. These volumes contain the liturgy and melodies of Congregation Emanu-El to 1930. It includes the story of Congregation Emanu-El’s members struggling to plan the building of a Synagogue, which, when it was built in 1932, was the first Synagogue built in the State of Washington, Larry said.

Jim Kershner, author, historian and journalist for the Spokesman Review, will be the presenter of the history of Spokane Jewry—from early pioneers, to those Jews who arrived from Europe at the turn of the 20th century, up to the present.

For information, call 747-3304 or visit spokanejfs.org.

Civil rights activist speaks at NAACP Banquet

Civil rights activist Elmer Dixon will speak on “Defeat Hate—Vote” at the 99th annual Freedom Fund Banquet of Spokane’s Chapter of the NAACP. The event begins with a social hour at 6 p.m., followed by the banquet and program at 7 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 20, at the Northern Quest Casino, 100 Hayford Rd. in Airway Heights.

Eckart will conduct five of the 10 classical concerts in the 2018-19 season. He continued the breakfast and health clinic until 1976.

For Portland’s 2019-20 season, he will conduct classical, pops and family series, plus special events. He will have 15 years with the Portland Symphony Orchestra (PSO) in Maine announced in May 2019.

Eckart will conduct five of the 10 classical concerts in the 2018-19 season.

The vision for the Carl Maxey Center is that it will be an inspir- ing, interactive, and technologi- cally advanced hub that will be a transformative force in the East Central neighborhood by focusing on social and racial justice, edu- cation and advocacy, economic and workforce development, and cultural enrichment, with a goal of uplifting and empowering the community from the inside out.

The center will offer all of Spo-okane’s opportunities to celebrate the richness of the African Ameri- can experience and to interact and make connections with each other in an environment that is uniquely African American.

As Friends of The Black Lens moves forward with the remodel- ing phase of the building, they are starting the process by hosting a Community Focus Group from 9 to 11 a.m., Saturday, Oct. 13, at the Carl Maxey Center building, 3116 E. 5th Ave. The Spokane community is invited to join a discussion on what the priorities should be for the Center.

For information visit carlmax- eycenter.org.

Gonzaga hosts School Safety Forum

Kristina Anderson, founder of the Koshka Foundation, will present an address and moderate discussion of a panel of K-12 school principals for the School Safety Forum hosted by Gonzaga University’s Schools of Education and Law, beginning at 4:30 p.m., Monday, Oct. 8, at the Hemminger Center.

“Shared Responsibility for a Safer Future” is the theme for the community forum that will explore ways members of the education community can contribute to safe learning environments.

She is an international advocate in bystander intervention, active shooter response and violence prevention in schools, workplaces and public spaces. An injured survivor of the 2007 Virginia Tech shooting, which claimed 32 lives, she speaks across the U.S.

“When we talk about the issue of active shooter violence, increasing rates of suicide, bullying, microaggressions or mean-spiritedness, violence in educa- tional settings impacts everyone,” said Vincent Alfonso, dean of GUG’s education school. “Privacy laws, the Second Amendment and other legal regulations can permit expressions of violence to continue and escalate,” said Jacob Rockey of GU’s Law School.

For information, call 313-3495 or email whitej2@gonzaga.edu.
Symposium speaker focus is immigration

The speaker for the 2018 Roger Williams Symposium of the Common-

ministry at Washington State Univer-

sity sponsored a symposium that fea-
tured eight women who are leaders in

religion, professor author and scholar-

activist Miguel De La Torre with


Christianity.” “Was Jesus a Racist?”

and immigration. His first lecture is at 7 p.m., Sat-

Saturday, Oct. 13, at the Eminger Pavil-

ion, 455 Lincoln Dr. He will pre-

achieve at 10:30 a.m. Sunday, Oct. 14,

at Community Congrega-

tional United Church of Christ,

525 NE Campus St. He will lead a workshop on immigration from 2 to 4 p.m.,

Sunday at St. James Episcopal Church, 1410 NE Stadium Way.

Miguel will give a lecture on immigration through the Thomas Foley Institute at WSU at noon, Oct. 14, at the CWU Community Congrega-

tional United Church of Christ, 525 NE Campus St. He will lead a workshop on immigration from 2 to 4 p.m.,

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Yvonne Montoya Zamora has prepared a community cultural diversity calendar for Spokane.

Since 2008, Yvonne Montoya Zamora has prepared a community cultural diversity calendar for Spokane. She began doing it as part of her work in human resources at Washington State University (WSU)–Spokane where part of her role was to recruit and retain diverse faculty and staff.

Yvonne, who retired last winter, emailed the calendar to about 100 people, and plans to continue doing it at least another year.

Her calendar has been a source of valuable information for The Fig Tree, which shares its calendar with her.

The calendar includes Spokane events, national and international celebrations, and resources and organizations of different cultural groups in Spokane. In September, she focused on Hispanic groups.

Yvonne, who is Mestiza—of mixed Spanish and Native American ancestry—is named in the Spanish traditional way with her father’s name, Montoya, and her mother’s name, Zamora. She grew up in Albuquerque, N.M., where the majority of her family still live.

She graduated from the University of Albuquerque, a private Catholic College where she and her husband, John Murphy, earned degrees in criminology in 1976. They married in 1977. He came to Washington State University to work in human resources functions, and she began doing it as part of her work in human resources at WSU Spokane. In 1984, he accepted a promotion and moved to the East- ern Washington University (EWU) police department in Cheney, retiring 10 years ago. They raised their two children.

Yvonne worked five years in another department before working in human resources with EWU 10 years. Community Colleges of Spokane 10 years and WSU Spokane 10 years.

Along with compensation, classification, recruitment, advertising positions, employee relations and other tasks, she was to foster diversity and inclusion.

The idea for the cultural calendar arose when she served on the Chamber of Commerce Workforce Diversity Committee and The Task Force on Race and Relations. They shared activities and thought it would be good to have a calendar with events from diverse communities.

Her work at WSU Spokane by then had grown into being the di- versity initiatives coordinator, coordi- nating diversity and inclusion with human resources functions, as the economy dropped in 2008 and WSU was doing less hiring. Initially, she sent the multicultural calendar by email to WSU employees. They forwarded it to colleagues and friends. She invited diverse communities to tell her about events.

Yvonne enjoys discovering how much diversity there is. “There are pockets all over Spo- kane, but it’s not visible,” she said.

“There are many events. We are more diverse than we think based on the demographic numbers. Communities of color, multicultural and multi-ethnic communities are strong and engaged.”

In Spokane County, she said, communities of color are about 13 percent of the population. The Hispanic community is about 5 percent.

The cultural communities use technology, Facebook and websites to connect. That’s where she finds what is going on. They want the wider community to know they are invited to attend the events, Yvonne said.

In September, she included events offered by the Spokane City and County libraries for Hispanic Heritage Month from Sept. 15 to Oct. 15.

Yvonne Montoya Zamora continues calendar in retirement.

Over many years during that period, Mexico and countries in Central and South America gained independence from Spain.

Yvonne is active in the Hispanic/Latinx community. In addition to editing the Hispanic Business and Professional Association (HBPA) newsletter twice a month, she is part of an HBPA group partnering with the Spokane Regional Health District on a grant from Empire Health Foundation and Providence Health Services to do a health survey of the Latinx community.

The group asked the commu- nity what they want to know about health issues, are composing survey questions and plan to dis- tribute it in the Latinx community from Nov. 1 to mid-December, hoping 500 will respond.

Questions focus on youth care, mental health care, diabetes ser- vices and other health care issues defined by Latinx stakeholders.

Yvonne is also helping plan a Hispanic celebration of the Day of the Dead, Dia de los Muertos, on Friday Nov. 3, at Hazen & Jaeger, 1300 N. Pines. The day honors loved ones who have passed.

There will be activities for children and adults, with music by Mariachi Las Aguilas from the EWU Music Department and plac- ing the honor of friends and friends who have passed on the altar.

Another annual Hispanic event is Viva Vino and Brew, an auction fundraiser in February at the Shri- ners Event Center. It raises $8,000 to $10,000 for scholarships for Hispanic high school and college students.

In 2018, 13 scholarships were given in Spokane County and one to a Wenatchee high school student coming to EWU and play- ing on the Matasca hand.

Yvonne’s understanding of her Mestizo heritage—as well as diversity, inclusion and eq- uity—expanded after a 2006 three-week internship with the Summer Institute for Intercultural Communication.

The institute told the 36 internes from China, Japan, the U.S., Canada, Iran, Ireland and other countries that to be effective in multiculturalism and intercultural communication, they needed to understand their own generational heritage.

Until then, she considered herself Mestiza, expressed in the hierarchy of the times as Spanish New Mexican, Mexican American and Mescalero Apache and Pueb- lo. Results from a recent DNA test show a different order—Native American (Mescalero Apache and Pueblo), Portuguese and Spanish.

Yvonne had been jealous she had no family in Mexico, as many Latinx in Spokane do. Since retiring, she traced her ancestors beyond the 1800s to the 1600s, when New Spain included what is now New Mexico.

When Mexico gained indepen- dance in 1821, New Mexico was considered territories of Spain. It became New Mexico after the Mexican-American War—the American-Mexican War as she calls it—when the area where her ancestors lived in present- day New Mexico became part of the U.S.

“We did not come to the U.S. from Mexico, but the U.S. came to us,” Yvonne said. “In New Mexico at that time, many people were a mix of Pueblo, Apache, Navajo, other indigenous commu- nities and Spanish, a different mix than in Texas, Arizona and California, because both cultures were more entwined.”

Her husband is German Irish. Their children, Kim Richards and Ashley Murphy, continue to inter- est themselves in various cultures.

As Yvonne explores her roots, she is learning names of people left out of history books. For example, as a teen, she had heard in her family of the Navajo Code Talkers in World War II, but their story was lost until recent years.

So Yvonne, who is on the Spokane NAACP education committee, is interested in “Finding History Bowl” Saturday, April 20, 2019, at the downtown library with Spokane and Mead high school students.

“Much history for communi- ties of color is left out of history books,” she said. “I love history and grew up exposed to the one- sized history those in power wanted us to know. For example, in New Mexico, we did not read of Cesar Chavez’s work with farm workers.”

Yvonne shares what she learns of her history with her five grand- children, ranging from ages three to 18.

For information, call 979-8590 or email yvonnemcmz04@gmail.com.

466 x 608 C & H Foreign Auto Repair Spokane, WA 99207 487-9883 OR 484-5221

NO TAIZÉ PRAYER OCT. 11

The Ministry Institute Center for Spiritual Renewal @ Gonzaga University

Offerings for Fall/Winter 2018

Prayer for the Healing of the Nations, Thursday at 4:15 PM in The Ministry Institute Chapel, 405 E. Sinto, two blocks North of St. Aloysius Church. Through October, we will be using a special prayer service asking for God’s healing touch on all the nations of the world. The Ministry Institute (TMI) invites you to pray with music, readings and silence in the style of Taizé. (Free – ALL WELCOME!)

Spirituality 101 Seminars with Kathy Finley begin October 1, Mondays from 11 AM to 12:30 PM.

Six seminars for $70, individual sessions $15 each. Limited scholarships available.

Soul Mask: A Portrait of Your True Self October 26-27, Friday 7 – 9 PM, Saturday 10 AM – 3 PM

What masks do you wear in order to meet the expectations of others and earn approval in the world? Join us for a meditative journey to uncover your “true self,” the face of your own soul, and create a mask that reflects the unique and beautiful image of God you were created to be. No artistic experience required. Facilitator: Kathy Villenure. Suggested donation: $75

SAVE THE DATE: Saturday, December 8 – Advent Day of Prayer with Sr. Patricia Novak. Details to follow.

For more information, contact Shonna Bartlett at 313-5765 or bartletts@gonzaga.edu.

We invite you to join us for reflection, education and contemplation.
Jim Castrolang connects faith with advocacy.

Jim said that FAN has always been involved with issues related to poverty and people who live on the edge.

“We are involved with immigration issues,” he said. “We work outside the scenes as well as in the spotlight. We engage people to empower them to be part of action.”

FAN also has a presence at gatherings, discussions and marches. Jim said the goal is to have a more visible presence in Eastern Washington beyond activists who participate in all faith-based and secular clusters and summits to help shape the issue priorities.

He represents FAN on the planning committee for the Eastern Washington Legislative Conference organized with The Fig Tree, Catholic Charities of Eastern Washington, the United Methodist District, the NAACP, Earth Justice, Washington, the United Methodist Development Office and summits to help shape the issue priorities.

Jim was in Concerned Catholics in Walla Walla. For two years, he was interim pastor at Zion Philadelphia UCC in Ritzville, worked for a year-and-a-half at a cell phone store, covered during a sabatical leave for Veraldale UCC’s pastor and, for nine years, has been part-time pastor at Colville.

The Colville church, he said, has been a church in transition, identifying as a progressive church and voice in town, and learning how to be that voice without alienating people.

Now “semi-retired”—working 16 rather than 20 hours a week in Colville—Jim fills his calendar with the FAN Board, the Stewardship Committee of the Pacific Northwest UCC Conference, and child care as grandma one day a week.

For information, call 989-7203, 206-625-9790, email spokane@fanw.org, or visit bit.ly/Spokan eFANdinner.
“Nonviolent Communication” practitioners Mark Hamlin and Susan Burns found that people attending workshops and practice groups learn how to have a “valuable connection” with each other, one of empathy, support and clarity. It’s a shift from the typical approaches to “convince” people of an opinion or behavior through blame, shame or demonizing. It’s about listening to discern common needs and values.

Susan said her view has progressed from a “narrow sense of right and wrong.” She was drawn to nonviolent communication, which does not use filters of goodness, but looks for connections with others that honor their needs.

“Realizing everyone comes out of their needs helps me understand and connect with them,” she said. “It frees me from our culture of judgment.”

“Empathy is key,” said Susan. “It’s being able to give and receive without one feeling sorry for another or needing to be the other. We don’t learn it in our culture. It is important to feel heard. It works in politics. Listening is what we need in politics,” she said. “I used to think that people were like me and needed more information, so I just needed to explain clearly what I meant. I now realize that in order to understand, I want to listen for met and unmet needs, not change their minds.”

Mark believes Nonviolent Communication also means not being reactive to fear or anger.

“To hear the underlying needs is important,” he said. “We want to create a world that works for everyone,” said Susan. “Instead of demonizing others, helping people know they are heard and matter. Nonviolent Communication will do that by helping people know they are heard and matter.”

“One concept of the Nonviolent Communication (NVC) program is that everyone is trying to do the best they can,” said Mark. Instead of demonizing others, he suggests understanding their needs and utilizing the commonality of needs.

For example, Susan said she realizes that she has a gun rights issue, many believe everyone should have guns and others believe differently. Both may come from a common need for safety, but each has different strategies for how to meet the need.

Too often we tend to believe that resources are scarce, and that if others get what they want, we will get less,” she said.

Underlying premises of nonviolent communication are:

• All actions are attempts to meet needs.
• Human needs are universal.
• Everyone’s needs matter equally.
• Feelings result from needs being met or unmet.
• Human beings inherently enjoy giving to others.
• We have the capacity to choose how we think, communicate and act.
• In a world of abundance—not scarcity—there are many strategies to fulfill needs.

Intentions of Nonviolent Communication include taking responsibility for one’s feelings and actions, focusing on connection, concern for everyone’s needs, speaking from the heart, hearing with empathy and using force only to protect.

Susan, who earned a bachelor’s degree in education from Eastern Washington University in 1971, taught elementary school and District 81’s Alternative Parent Participation Learning Experience (APPLE) program for 34 years before retiring. She still likes to teach, does enuncia art—with beeswax and oils—and teaches Nonviolent Communication.

She said that a year before the last Presidential election, she and some women friends were talking.

“It became a heated discussion about what was going on politically,” she said. “I was shocked because we seemed to agree about politics in the past.”

She remembered taking a Nonviolent Communication workshop—now seven years ago—at the Unitarian Universalist Church and realized it might help her and her friends. Now they meet in an intentional NVC practice group.

“As we looked at our values and needs, we realized we had different strategies for meeting our needs,” Susan said. “We don’t have to agree with a person’s behaviors or opinions.”

For her, the process not only is about relationships with others but also helps her clarify why she does what she does.

“When I am happy, frustrated or anxious, I ask what is going on. I am getting something I need or I need something I’m not getting. It gives me personal power to look at my needs and what is behind them,” Susan said.

Valuing diversity and equity, nonviolent communication challenges her to look at her values.

“A value about being able to trust that people are speaking their truth,” she said, Susan, whose mother, now 92, instilled that value in Susan as she grew up in Spokane.

Mark’s roots are also in Spokane, but his parents met at Gonzaga University, and then moved around the world, living in Asia, Europe and on both U.S. coasts before he graduated from high school in Memphis, Tenn., where he experienced racial integration of the school for his senior year. He has also traveled to many countries since moving to Spokane in 1971 to attend Gonzaga University.

He studied psychology, sociology, computer programming and engineering, and five years ago completed an online degree in applied behavioral science.

While the program is not specific religious, he said it fits with his values and philosophy.

“Nonviolence is a peaceful, kind of living that has positive impact on other people and the environment,” he said. “It fits with my commitment to sustainable building practices and connecting with people of other cultures and walks of life.”

“Through travel, I have had a taste of other cultures and believe we are much alike all over. I value diversity. I like to hear other’s perspectives,” he said. “Nonviolent Communication helps me develop my beliefs and be challenged.”

In the prison, participation of inmates in groups is voluntary. About 20 men attend Friday nights for introductory sessions and about 10 to 15 attend on Saturday mornings for intermediate sessions like practice groups.

“It’s inspiring to see how well the men respond to finding out things they did not know about nonviolent communication and learning a vocabulary of feelings and needs,” he said.

“It affirms that people can change,” Mark said. “It helps people live more peaceful, functioning lives in prison and after they are released. It has been found to contribute to reducing recidivism.”

While the program is not specifically religious, he said it fits with all religions. Certified trainers around the world come from many religious backgrounds.

Mark’s study of religion as a teen led him to realize he was spiritual in a broader sense. While in high school, a priest friend reinforced his journey to understand life rather than just follow a doctrine. Mark and Susan facilitate workshops and practice groups.

“We need support and practice to communicate with those we love,” said Susan.

In Spokane, they work with neighbors and grandparents, Mark and Susan plan to bring certified trainers to lead workshops and practice groups.

“Society’s future and future living depend on nonviolent communication,” he said.

“We want educators to learn the process and skills, so we plan to offer workshops to teachers who need continuing education credits, and can use more tools to help them communicate and deal with conflicts productively to create a safe space for students.”

“There will always be conflicts in schools. Nonviolent Communication skills can help make conflict productive,” he said.

For information, call 999-9759 or 701-0888 or email hamlinmr@comcast.net or susanburns@comcast.net.

Nonviolent Communication skills help people connect with empathy.
Women’s potlucks raise funds for different projects abroad each month

Judy Bacon

On a Tuesday evening in September, Judy Bacon, a former nurse and a co-leader of the Spokane Valley Dining for Women (DFW) group, meets in Q’emlin Park’s Grand Pavilion in Post Falls for a joint meeting of the Spokane Valley and Hayden chapters of Dining for Women (DFW). Ten of them were guests interested in learning more about DFW.

They shared a potluck dinner, where the main dish was a recipe from Malawi, the country about which they would learn in the meeting.

Judy Bacon, who helped found the DFW chapter in Coeur d’Alene, then co-leader Cheri Susens, introduced a video on the GAIA (Global AIDS Interfaith Aliance) project in Malawi, which the women’s donations would support.

She said their donations would be pooled with those of chapters throughout the U.S. to support GAIA’s work. Next month, she said, their donations would go to another program in another part of the world that would make lasting change in the lives of the women and children being served.

“DFW is a national collective giving group, probably the largest in the U.S., if not in the world,” she said. “This nonprofit has more than 4,000 members in this country. We have more than 400 chapters, maybe 450.”

The next day, she said that donations from the Spokane Valley Chapter and guests totaled more than $600 to benefit GAIA projects with Hayden’s not tallied.

She learned about Dining for Women when, newly retired from teaching, she arrived from Coeur d’Alene to Boise. A friend told her, “I’ve been going to a group, and I think you’d really like it.” Judy found it to be a group of like-minded progressive women. She liked that it enabled her to do a little bit of charitable giving internationally.

“I wanted to donate to an international program,” she said, “but I didn’t know who to trust.”

She learned how carefully DFW vets organizations it supports. “DFW’s individual monthly grants nationally never exceed $50,000,” she explained. “A committee of women from all over the U.S. review grant applications. Using strict guidelines, they pick 12 of about 200 applications submitted.”

“The impact is that a little goes a long, long way,” she said.

Last year, DFW donated about $1 million. Each grant must make lasting change in the lives of women and children. The organization sends detailed reports on the impact of donations.

“We don’t fund political or religious organizations,” she continued. “We have no ulterior motive for our giving.”

DFW is focused on not disrupting a culture. They seek projects that are shared by and wanted by the women.

Seventy-five percent of the 1.3 billion people in extreme poverty, of the 7.5 billion people in the world, are women and children, Judy said.

World Bank studies show that women reinvest 90 percent of their income back into the family for educating, feeding and health care, while men reinvest only 40 percent of financial aid this way. “DFW supports organizations in developing countries because 85 percent of American charity

ing a good time,” she reflected. “You can’t let the world go to hell in a handbasket.”

“I like to be the change that I’d like to see happen. I like organizing things and putting them in order. I like to iron, to get the wrinkles out,” she said.

In October, Judy plans to travel to Guatemala with a DFW group. They’ll see three projects funded by DFW in the past.

Several times at the September meeting in Post Falls, the invitation was extended to begin a new DFW chapter in Coeur d’Alene, Post Falls or Sandpoint. It costs only $50 to begin a chapter, the amount required to register it. Judy said that at each meet-

ing women share the Dining for Women Affirmation that when they gather to share food, they “share something of themselves.” They recognize the associations of food, life and nurture shared by women in all cultures of the world.

“We express the hope that our collective efforts will make a life-changing transformation within ourselves, and with the women and children whose lives we touch,” the affirmation continues, closing with: “May we honor the power within us as women and may we one day feast together in a world of peace and global understanding.”

For information, call 208-641-5539 or email jhyatt38@gmail.com.

By Kaye Hult

A 40th Annual QUILT SHOW

OCTOBER 19-21

SPOKANE COUNTY FAIR & EXPO CENTER

WASHINGTON STATE QUILTERS, SPOKANE CHAPTER

WSQSPOKANE.ORG • FREE PARKING

40th ANNUAL QUILT SHOW

End the Silence with Partner Violence

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Locally owned and operated since 1994

Helping area non-profits grow & prosper

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On a world map at the entry of the Partners International head-quarters on the 10th floor of a seven-story building in North Spokane, pins dot Africa, the Middle East and Southern Asia across the 10th to 40th parallel, where it partners with local ministries in “unreached areas” of the world.

Larry Andrews, who has been president and CEO for five of its 75 years, brought skills from a 27-year career as an executive with Procter & Gamble and then with Hewlett-Packard. Andrews traveled with pilgrims to take him from the Catholic Church, out of the church and back into church in college, where he devoted his life to serving Jesus. He realized “God has a purpose for every human being,” including him.

Through the years, he has been actively involved with different church ministries—small groups, church plants, home Bible studies, worship teams and Sunday school. “God always has a place for us to serve,” he said.

Feeling that God was calling him out of the business world, Larry retired early to seek his specific calling in ministry. He felt such a call to serve as an executive in a global missions organization that had a Luke 4:18 mission to proclaim the Gospel to the poor, bring freedom to the captives and set the prisoners free.

After six months of prayer and discernment, Larry said, “the Lord led me to serve with Partners International as their chief executive.”

“God took 28 years to prepare me for my business experience in the mission world,” he said.

Partners International’s ministry reaches 37,000 new churches and small groups, and provided disaster relief to the Middle East to help three nationalities arrange for a CPA to go into Northern Sumatra and connect with a ministry partner in Sumatra who had for three years “had a heart” to serve in the area.

“Areas not yet reached are difficult areas, where Christians are persecuted and laws criminalize the Gospel. Our vision is that local missionaries to leave, believed his Chinese brothers and sisters could reach their own people for Christ.

In 1943, several businessmen met with him in Seattle to discuss how ministry could continue by investing in local Chinese people who were part of their communities. They formed the China Native Evangelistic Crusade (CNEC), partnering with the ministry of the Rev. Calvin Chao. By 1949, CNEC sponsored 150 evangelists, helped start two Bible colleges, a seminary and student ministry from an office in Hong Kong. In 1953, its office moved to Menlo Park, Calif. With 500 ministry partners in South-east Asia, Africa, Latin America and South Asia, it changed the name to Christian Nationals Evangelism Commission.

By the 1970s, it had 1,250 indigenous ministry workers, 12,500 sponsored children and expanded to Bangladesh and Indonesia, and other Muslim areas. In the 1980s, CNEC changed its name to Partners International.

Since 1995, ministry workers have presented the Gospel 7.7 billion times, reached 1.5 billion new believers, trained more than 400,000 leaders, started nearly 37,000 new churches and small groups, and provided disaster relief and community development to more than 5 billion people, he said.

Because many were evangelizing in Latin America, South Africa and parts of the world with strong local Christian support and churches, Partners International left those areas.

Since the 1980s, the focus has been on North and Central Africa, the Middle East and Southern Asia, where three billion people have not heard the Gospel, he said.

When he came in 2013, Partners International, which had moved to Spokane in 2001, was struggling. The first three years, Larry traveled to learn about the ministry. He visited 58 partners worldwide, plus western foundations, churches and individuals.

Part of Partners International’s mission is to connect U.S. churches, individuals and foundations with its ministry partners. In Eastern Washington and North Idaho, about 50 churches participate. These connections build relationships so individuals and churches “have a personal expression of making disciples of every tongue, tribe and nation,” he said.

For example, North Church in Division, where Larry is an elder, has for three years “had a heart” for Northern Sumatra and connects with a ministry partner in Sumatra. They sent a short-term team to build relationships, and minister to Muslims and Christians together, by teaching English.

“In the U.S., having mission partners with relationships over a long time establishes a mission heart. I have seen churches change as they are more involved with God’s work in the world,” said Larry. “Those who have gone overseas have had their life perspectives enriched and deepened.”

“We serve Christ best by being in relationship with other mission organizations. We need to do more together than alone,” Larry said. “We are part of God’s family and belong together not splintered. We can connect around Jesus’ mission to make disciples of the whole world.”

“Partner relationships involve prayer, financial and non-financial assistance,” he said.

Because ministry partners need financial acumen, Partners International arranged for a CPA to go to the Middle East to help three ministries with accounting.

In areas of persecution, he believes “the future of the church is amazing. God’s church will prevail as we together help ministry partners thrive.

Beyond preaching the Gospel to establish churches, he said tangible, holistic outreach is effective.

“It’s not about asking people to simply evangelize, but about showing love to the poor, reaching the whole person economically and spiritually—reconciling the whole human being,” he said.

One partner brought food assistance to Ebola victims in Guinea, when tourists stopped coming and international organizations repatriated staff. They educated people on prevention and provided hygiene kits.

Partners International recently raised $72,500 to send a shipping container with $13 million in donated medicines—antibiotics, ointments, aspirin and more—to Senegal. The medicines are for a hospital that there serves the poor.

Partners international also empowers women and children to “reach their own people’s hearts to see God’s heart.”

“God has a purpose for every human being,” including him.

“Partners has taught me that when we pray for ministers who have been persecuted and laws criminalize the Gospel, they will prevail as we together help ministry partners thrive.”

“Partners has taught me what it means to serve Christ,” he said.

“Our ministry model stretches our hearts to see God’s heart.”

For information call 343-4000 or email larrya@partnersintl.org.

Courses on Sundays through the school year
starting Oct. 14
Living Judaism
9:30-10:45 a.m.
A Course in the Basics for those considering conversion or beginning an adult Jewish journey, or for anyone who wants to reinvigorate his/her Jewish life.

Beginning Hebrew
11 a.m. to noon
A beginning is a very good place to start! We’ll learn all the letters of the alphabet, begin to read aloud and learn some vocabulary words commonly used in prayer and Jewish life.

Member $180 scholarships available Non-member $360
Extra fees for textbooks Pay and register at www.speakonets.org

Temple Beth Shalom
1322 E. 30th Ave
747-3304
www.speakonets.org

Beginning Experience Weekend
Help with the heartache of finding yourself alone because of being separated, divorced or widowed.

Friday, Saturday & Sunday
Oct 19, 20 & 21
Immaculate Heart Retreat Center
6910 S. Ben Burr Rd.
$25 non-refundable deposit

To register, contact Marlene Schuster:
(509) 534-1797 (days) or (509) 230-2091
www.beginningexperienceofspokane.us
email info@beginningexperienceofspokane.us

Call 509.482.8474

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October 2018 - The Fig Tree - Page 9
Faith community always ready for immediate/long-term roles in disasters

The network of faith-based disaster relief, response, long-term recovery and preparation stretches around the world, the United States and into every neighborhood. It is in place to respond after not only hurricanes and floods, but also earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, tidal waves, mudslides, wildfires, refugee migrations and wars.

In every locality, people in congregations are ready to offer their buildings, resources, organizations, and networks to meet immediate needs of disaster victims for food, shelter, clothing and medical needs. They are in good standing with the Red Cross, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and other emergency responders. The wider network knows that the church, especially the faith groups that have a long history of disaster relief, is always ready.

As people in Houston, Florida, Puerto Rico, The Virgin Islands and Georgia still rely on faith groups to help recover, many in the Carolinas were flooded by Hurricane Florence, Typhoon Mangkhut cut through the Philippines into Southern China, the 2018 wildfire season cleanup was still underway and Rohingya refugees still suffer.

One thing people in the faith community have become accustomed to is human caused disaster. There are always people ready step up to help, even after the wind-blown, rain-soaked reports of “monster storms” move to the next big story. A visit to websites of various churches and faiths reveals new and ongoing efforts. While media attention stirs donations immediately, much of the long-term recovery efforts fall to the faith groups’ regular giving, special appeals and volunteer teams.

For example, a recent appeal in the email newsletter of the Presbytery of the Inland Northwest sought support for the Presbytery to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, and offered ideas on how individuals and congregations might help families who have lost everything.

Annual appeals of eight Protestant de- nominations in One Great Hour of Sharing/World Mission, World Relief’s global movement/disaster relief and disaster relief.

For example, American Baptists are sending 11 volunteer teams from Sept- ember to December, and 17 teams have registered for 2019 to help in Puerto Rico.

Church World Service, an ecumeni- cal, cooperative ministry of 37 Christian denominations and conferences provides emergency relief and refugee assistance. It has con- gregations prepare hygiene kits, emergency cleanup buckets and school kits, so they are ready to distribute as needed. Catholic Relief Services (CRS) emer- gency staff in the Caribbean are working with Caritas partners to distribute emer- gency supplies in communities hit by Hur- ricanes Irma and Maria in the Caribbean. Catholic Charities assists with disasters in the U.S., including Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

World Relief’s Global Relief and Development, and church partners assist in long-term recovery, rebuilding homes, businesses and local infrastructure and restoring power.

Its short-term relief includes housing as- sistance, medical supplies, gas and gift cards, so people can make purchases to support the local economy and go through disaster- affected areas.

The faith community not only re- ceives international donations, but also emotional care for caregivers and help with volunteer management, networking and advocacy. The long-term response is usu- ally delegated to faith groups that have a presence in disaster areas, coordinated with World Relief’s ongoing church volunteer development efforts through Volunteer Organizations Active in Disasters, which form local VOADs.

Lutheran Disaster Response collaborates with congregations, synods, social service organizations and others who know local needs and how to address them in relevant, effective ways, accompanying survivors as communities are rebuilt. It provides emer- gency salary support and respite for pastors, so they can provide pastoral care to their congregations and communities.

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance of- fers people ways to respond in long-term, with love and God’s transformational power at work through volunteer work teams, those and through providing financial assistance to encourage those who serve and strengthen those who are recovering.

United Methodists Church of the Resurrection, Kansas City, American Baptist, Foursquare, Orthodox, Jewish, Reformed Church in America, Church of God, Seventh Day Adventist websites visited told similar stories of how they are regularly ready to help with response and rebuilding.

Hurricanes, tsunamis and devastating fires may be short-lived, but their effects linger forever. Churches and congregations are ready to walk alongside people.

Mary Stamp - Editor

Holy Names Sisters celebrate their 175 years of working for justice

“Tis convinced that the Gospel, Christ’s message and values and on the humanitarian nature of the refugee resettlement program, it but falls short of helping the large number of vulnerable people around the world. This is just another step in the systematic dismantling of a program that exists to help those who find themselves in need of protection and return to the United States.

When the flow of all refugees is dra- matically decreased it impacts brothers and sisters in Christ who have been designated as refugees because of their commitment to following Jesus and therefore have been persecuted for their faith. Refugee is a distinct legal designation and those who are resettled in the U.S. have been carefully vetted to ensure safety and security.

Katie McKinstry - administrator

Excerpts from the letter to Mike Pompeo:

We encourage you to ensure that the U.S. continues to provide a robust opportunity for those persecuted for their faith and abroad and other persecuted religious minorities. According to the State Department’s Refu- gees Processing Center, in 2016, 1,954 peo- ple from 18 countries who were Christians were resettled in the U.S. This is a decrease from 254 in 2016 to zero in the first half of 2018. This is a decrease from 150,249 Bur- race refugees admitted between 2008 and 2017, and 11.5 percent were Muslims. Both face persecution. This year the refugee cap is 18,000, the lowest since 1980. Burmese refugees were resettled from Iraq. Halfway through 2018, only 14 were resettled, a 96.8 percent decline.

The U.S. has been blessed with resources to welcome those who are persecuted. We believe the Bible calls us as Chris- tians to extend hospitality to the stranger and stranger in our midst. We believe that says we serve Him when we welcome the stranger (Matthew 25:40), and in His most famous sermon He says “blessed are those who are persecuted” (Matthew 5:10). In the Old Testament, there is a strong, repeated call to welcome and love the for- eigner who has no home because God had mercy on Israel and freed them when they were foreigners in Egypt.

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World Relief’s Spokane office is dedicated to finding ways that will allow us to set the maximum number of refugees who can be resettled to the United States at a historically low of 6,000 refugees for fiscal year 2018. August and early September saw a need to provide educa- tional opportunities for children whose needs for education were not being met. So she gathered a few friends and started a school. She also started a religious con- gregations and the heart of God, especially girls. This happened in Longueil, Quebec, 175 years ago.

Liliane Bourdeau (SM) #SNJM-175thAn- niversary

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South Asian Concert will be Oct. 6

The South Asia Cultural Association of Spokane is presenting an evening of classical music with Ranga Tharaga performing “Melodious Waves” from 6 to 9 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 6, at Unity Spiritual Center, 2900 S. Bernard St. Performers include Sivarama Rao on sitar, Raghavendra Rao on violin, Saraswathi Ranganathan on veena, Venkates on tabla and Saraswathi Ranganathan on violin. A light Indian vegetarian dinner may be purchased starting at 5 p.m.

For information and to RSVP, call 467-5558 or email sacaspo@gmail.com.

Institute focuses on deeper understandings of roots, complexity of hate

Gonzaga University’s Institute for Hate Studies marks its 20th year in October with a reception, speaker and panel discussion.

From 6 to 8 p.m., Friday, Oct. 12, at Gonzaga’s Hemmingson Center Ballroom, there will be an evening recognizing “20/20 Vision: Gonzaga Institute for Hate Studies from 1998-2020”.

The event will recognize the foresight of the founding members of the Gonzaga Institute for Hate Studies on its 20th anniversary, said Kristine Hoover, director.

Streaming from Washington, D.C., Nadine Strossen, author of the book, HATE: Why We Should Resist It with Free Speech, Not Censorship, will speak.

Nadine was the youngest president and first woman president of the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), serving from 1991 to 2008. She is now the John Marshall Harlan II professor of law at New York University.

The program begins at 6 p.m. with a reception and a recognition created by student interns, sharing stories published in the media of people in the Inland North-west who have been targeted by hate and who have overcome the hate.

At 6:30 p.m. there will be a recognition of the institute’s founders—Karen Hardwood, Raymond Reyes, Bill Wurstum, Ken Stern, James Beebe, Bob Bartlett and George Critchlow.

After Nadine talks, a panel will look into the Jesuit concepts of deep listening, and the perspectives and tensions between caring and free speech. Panelists include George Critchlow, emeritus faculty with Gonzaga’s Law School and Joan Fawcett, assistant dean for diversity, inclusion and cultural engagement at Gonzaga.

Kristine said the institute held its first formal meeting on Oct. 20, 1998 because of incidents in which African-American GU law students were targeted with vile emails.

“The university felt a need to better prepared to respond, so in October 1998, the Institute for Take Action Against Hate started educational and research programs,” she said.

“The vision has always been to focus on a deeper understanding of the roots of hate and its complexity through a multidisciplinary approach,” she said.

That meant looking at why people hate through a psychological lens, a sociology perspective, and understanding of criminal justice and other disciplines including law. The goal was to look at the challenges holistically.

Research and education are central to the institute’s work.

Over the years, Spokane has had active community organizations that promote justice and equality, so today Kristine said the institute sees its role as complementing and supporting the direct work of these organizations through research, in addition to GU’s commitment to student formation to develop leaders to complement and support the work for the common good.

About five years ago, the institute offered for two years a class on “Why People Hate.” It was popular and filled in two days after it was offered.

This summer, a graduate-level class on “Contemporary Leadership Strategies to Counteract Hate” was added, along with a decision by the university to offer a minor in solidarity and social justice that has been in place for several years.

Kristine started as the director in 2016. Since then, the Institute for Hate Studies has focused on better understanding community needs and the potential for integrating research with actions the community takes.

It has held conferences inviting practitioners, academics, students and professionals to share ideas on what works and what is needed.

The next international conference will be April 2 to 4 at Gonzaga on “Building Peace through Kindness, Dialogue and Forgiveness.”

Another ongoing outlet is the latest Journal of Hate Studies, which shares research and knowledge on how to address hate groups and define the community as committed to justice and equality, rather than define it by acts of hate.

Kristine said, “Our area has expertise to share,” she said. “This region is a place where the alt-right has experimented with different strategies over the decades and we have been responding.”

“We need resiliency to continue addressing this challenge. We cannot think we have done the work and are now done,” she said.

“The alt-right and white supremacists do new things, so we need to be aware of what white nationalism is and that white supremacy comes in suits and ties, not just in klan robes.”

Participation in democracy is critical, because the alt-right is working to be part of the system, she said.

Kristine said that it’s important for people to be aware of the agenda at a deeper level and “not allow for reframing to confuse us and how we define our political parties.”

People cannot be complicit. They need to do their homework about what people who are running for office stand for.

“We need to be informed voters,” she said.

Kristine said a significant component of her work is about being in relationship, accompanying people who feel threatened and helping people learn about different religious and cultural practices, so they are aware of different points of view and do not break into echo chambers.

A question she ponders is wondering about the hypocrisy of sliding into hating haters.

One resource offers stories.

Sally Kohn’s book, The Opposite of Hate: A Field Guide to Repairing Our Humanity, shares stories of people recognizing that all people are engaged in “othering”—thinking of others as less deserving or less than human, or our own ideas of ourselves being more deserving than others—starting with early attitudes before they reach the level of hate crimes.

“We need to reflect on ourselves when we think someone is less worthy than ourselves,” she said. “How do we feel about people our children are in school with, who moves next door or who our neighbors wear. We make assumptions without getting to know individuals as human beings.”

Kristine said compassion is important in helping people see each other as human beings, understanding that each acts out of desire to do good and protect their families.

She told of an example from the Palestinian Israeli conflict of someone who had lost family members and seen children die, but realized that continuing to hate was not the answer.

She also told of a boy who decided that on Martin Luther King Jr. Day, he would post as many racial slurs as possible. Those who engaged him did so with kindness and King’s quotes on nonviolence. He was able to see “the other” as a human being.

“But through our exchanges, we have the burden to turn the other cheek, but it’s hard when we feel threatened,” she said. “It’s difficult work we are called to do, to respond with nonviolence so hate does not escalate.”

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