

The Fig Tree
1323 S. Perry St.
Spokane, WA 99202-3571

DATED MATERIALS

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
SPOKANE WA
Permit No. 1044

Living call lends credibility

By Mary Stamp

For churches to gain credibility in American society, an African-American regional leader of a mainline denomination believes that mainline Christians need to focus on living God's call to do justice and form domestic and global church partnerships.

Four visits to Africa convince the Rev. Jack Sullivan, Jr., regional minister of the Northwest Region of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), that African partners have a witness to offer mainline Christians in the midst of crisis in the United States.

"African churches know how to live the faith with integrity during times of social chaos and inadequate funding," he said.

Jack, who lives in Seattle, went to South Africa recently to find peace, purpose and self-worth, as part of discerning a new way for him to be a church leader.

"We have had our own type of apartheid in our churches. At times within U.S. society and mainline churches, African Americans feel robbed of self-worth in both intentional and unintentional ways.

"It's hard to exercise leadership, given the different worldview in white churches. We have had to learn to be amphibious to be authentic to who we are within

Continued on page 4



The Rev. Jack Sullivan of the Northwest Regional Christian Church

Fig Tree has job openings

The Fig Tree seeks staff assistance with development, rural outreach, administrative task, public relations, volunteer recruitment, ad sales, editorial work and website design and development as it enters the fall.

Persons interested may request a job description and application, to send in with a resume and references. The deadline for applying is Sept. 15. The opening or openings will be full-time or part-time.

Mark Baetzhold, as Eastern Washington University master's degree student, who has worked with The Fig Tree since last fall, will be focusing his energy on completing his thesis during the coming year.

"Mark has been an asset to The Fig Tree, reaching out to new volunteers, following up on expanding the rural outreach project, selling ads and assisting with other tasks," said editor Mary Stamp.

The Fig Tree will begin using office space at Unity House on the Gonzaga University campus in September. Jim CastroLang is working on development of the interactive website to expand coverage of faith life in the Northwest.

There will be training for people interested in writing for The Fig Tree at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 15.

For information, call 535-1813 visit www.thefigtree.org.

Fires lead Holden to evacuate

When "Summon Out What We Shall Be" was chosen as Holden Village's 2004 summer theme, the 65 resident staff had no idea what might be "summoned out" of them during the summer. From mid July to mid August, wildfires blazed nearby, eventually threatening their 11-mile access route by bus to Lucerne on Lake Chelan.

The Rev. Emily Meyer, chaplain for the retreat center in the North Cascades, led daily worship with reminders that fire is part of the natural process, while staff and guests lived with uncertainty about pending evacuation: "Many of us who love God's creation here accept that fires are a part of this place," she said.

Holden Village's co-directors decided to evacuate on Aug. 15, notifying guests for the next week. Thirteen staff stayed on site. Co-director Janet Grant said refunds were provided. On Aug. 23 after the nearby fire was contained, they announced Holden would reopen for regular programs on Aug. 29. Staff, who had been housed at the Holden Bed and Breakfast and with church families in Chelan, began returning Aug. 24. Some whose terms were ending, left to find other jobs.

Co-director Dianne Shiner said before the evacuation, the Spanish speaking group that was there had discussed issues of immigration, migration and displacement: "We are all immigrants in our faith. Having to pack and take only one bag gave us a chance to consider what belongings are precious to us," she said.

"Although we had a sense of displacement and were in limbo, there was no comparison with refugees created by politics or war," said Emily, noting that they had only a taste of uncertainty. "We had no control over our situation, and simply followed where God led us."

Holden, a mining town until 1957, has been operated by the Lutheran Bible Institute in Seattle since 1961, drawing 7,000 people a year to hike, study, worship and reflect—to be refreshed and renewed with new ideas and energy for living faithfully, she said.

For information, visit www.holdenvillage.org.

Women's volunteer effort continued 30 years

Cheney Recycling transfers task to city

In the 1970s, Mary Jane Booth joined an organization of faculty wives and women in Cheney to help to improve the environment.

With "conservation" and "environment" suspect even then, they decided to be practical and started collecting newspapers, storing them in garages and transporting them to a recycling company in Spokane.

That was the start of Cheney Recycling, a volunteer effort that continued until 2003, when the City of Cheney took over community recycling.

"My husband, Chuck, knew a few farmers from his involvement in the Cheney Gun Club, so he recruited Les Lemley to let us use a small farm truck to haul newspapers."

At first, Les helped load newspapers, drove the truck and unloaded them at Spokane Recycling. Eventually, he taught one of the women to drive it, and the group did the work on their own.

"We met at homes and collected papers from friends and neighbors," Mary Jane said.

Soon they collected so much that once a month they began to use the parking lot by the Red Barn on the Eastern Washington University campus for collection. When the metal storage building they had set up blew down in a storm, a local contractor built and donated an eight-by ten-foot structure and the recyclers set up empty oil barrels for aluminum cans.

If cans were not flattened, volunteers flattened them by foot. They fashioned a glass crusher on the order of an old fashioned butter churn and soon were crushing up to eight or ten barrels per month.

Finding places to receive and recycle what they collected was a challenge, Mary Jane said. At first, they found someone to haul the glass to Seattle where it was used as an ingredient in road building. Otherwise, Spokane

Recycling was their mainstay.

When the city discussed tearing down the Wren Pearson building on Third Street, Cheney Recycling volunteers asked the city not to do that. They joined with the local women's Tilicum Club to make a 60-member group and worked to save the building for use as a community center, a recycling center and a city museum.

"We began attending City Council meetings until we wore them down," Mary Jane said.

To placate the women, the city eventually put a measure on the ballot to keep the building, expecting it would fail, she said.

"It passed, so they were obliged to give us part of the building. Because we were a volunteer group, officials expected we would burn out in a year," she commented.

The recycling center and museum became reality, with a day care and Senior Citizens program following. The museum is still in the building, now used also by the

Continued on page 4

Religion News Briefs

Around the World

Ecumenical News International, PO Box 2100
 CH - 1211 Geneva 2, Switzerland Tel: +41-22 791 6111
 Fax: +41-22 788 7244 Email: eni@eni.ch

Korean Christians march in Holy Land

Jerusalem (ENI). More than 2,000 Evangelical South Korean Christians defied security warnings and came to the Holy Land, where they marched from Jerusalem to Bethlehem to pray for peace between Israelis and Palestinians. "We want the recovery of peace between Israelis and Palestinians," said Lina Liw, a student from Handong Global University, Pohang, South Korea, who took part in the march.

African churches press governments on Sudan

Nairobi (ENI). All Africa Conference of Churches' general secretary, Mvume Dandala, has issued an urgent appeal to African church leaders to press their governments to act over the crisis in Sudan, where at least one million people have been displaced and many face the threat of hunger and disease.

Protestants, Catholics start ecumenical church

Freiburg, Germany (ENI). The first ecumenical church of the new millennium in Germany has started in the city of Freiburg under Protestant Bishop Ulrich Fischer and Roman Catholic Auxiliary Bishop Paul Wehrle, who both promised to continue the dialogue between the two confessions.

Churches lead in fight against famine

Nairobi (ENI). Churches in Kenya have taken the lead in countrywide efforts aimed at countering a potential famine, said to have been worsened by government inertia, that has affected more than 3 million people in five provinces. The Anglican, Roman Catholic, Methodist and Presbyterian, as well as some large Pentecostal churches, have been delivering food aid to critically affected dioceses, generated through donations by their followers.

Churches declare economic order 'idolatry'

Accra (ENI). A world gathering of Reformed churches denounced the current world economic order as an ideology imposed by "global neo-liberal capitalism," which excludes the poor and vulnerable from fullness of life. Before the 24th general council of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches ended on Aug. 13 in Accra, Ghana, it passed a declaration, rejecting "the current world economic order." The integrity of the Christian faith is at stake in the face of economic injustice and environmental destruction, delegates said.

A Swiss Protestant and a pastor from Argentina found common ground calling for justice in the world economy and decrying suffering from deregulation, privatization, ignorance of workers' rights or because "firms seek the cheapest locations to pour profit into pockets of shareholders and bosses," said Irene Meier-de Spindler, of the Reformed Church of Berne-Jura-Solothurn in Switzerland.

The gathering also condemned attacks on churches in Iraq in August and warned against misuse of religious sentiments to destroy human life. "We cannot condone violence against innocent people of any religion," said a statement issued by delegates. "We have not wavered in the conviction the war was unjust and wrong. The bloodshed today could have been avoided if the rulers had listened more to their faith communities."

Church unity meeting renews commitment

Geneva (ENI). A 10-day meeting assembled by the World Council of Churches in the Muslim-majority nation of Malaysia concluded in July with an affirmation to continue striving for visible Christian unity. The WCC Faith and Order Commission meeting in Kuala Lumpur said in a final statement, "There are still many questions we need to explore together, but we became aware of reaching a moment of hope, having identified a framework which might enable churches to move forward in terms of mutual recognition."

REGIONAL ECUMENICAL & INTERFAITH NEWS

Workshops provide information on issues

The Interfaith Council is planning six area workshops in September and October to explore how the 2004 Washington State initiatives and a referendum affect the common good.

Workshops will provide information on the initiative process and share the analysis of statewide faith-based public policy partners on initiatives and referenda on the 2004 ballot.

Workshops will be held from 7 to 8 p.m. at the following locations:

- In **Spokane** on Thursday, Sept. 23, at Country Homes Christian Church, 4815 N. Wall, and on Tuesday, Sept 28, at Unity Church of Truth, 2900 S. Bernard;
- In **Spokane Valley**, Tuesday, Oct. 5, at Veradale United Church of Christ, 611 N. Progress;
- In **Cheney**, Thursday, Oct. 14, at St. Rose of Lima Church, 460 N. 5th St;
- In **Colville**, Tuesday, Oct. 19, at First Congregational United Church of Christ, 205 N. Maple, and
- In **Pullman**, Thursday, Oct. 21, at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, 440 NE Ash St. Scott Cooper of Parish Social

Ministries at Catholic Charities and Beth Poteet, education coordinator at the Interfaith Council, are organizing and leading the sessions.

The four initiatives and one referendum are on the ballot for Tuesday, Nov. 2.

Initiative 297 calls for cleanup of contamination at mixed radioactive and non-radioactive hazardous waste sites—particularly at the Hanford Nuclear Reservation—for public participation before adding waste and for enforcement through citizen lawsuits.

Initiative 872 allows voters to select among all candidates in a primary, with the two candidates receiving the most votes advancing to the election regardless of party.

Initiative 884 creates an education trust fund for smaller classes, extended learning programs, salary increases, preschool access, expanded college enrollment and college scholarships—all funded by a 1 percent increase in the retail sales tax.

Initiative 892 authorizes licensed non-tribal gambling establishments to operate the same

type and number of machines as tribal governments with a portion of tax revenue generated used to reduce state property taxes.

Referendum 55 authorizes charter public schools and sets conditions on operations. The charter schools would be operated by nonprofit corporations under contract with local education boards and would be allocated certain public funds.

"At the forum, we will talk about the history of the initiative process. We will present an explanation of each of the proposals and how they will impact communities, and analysis from the faith based public policy offices of the Washington Association of Churches, the Lutheran Public Policy office and the Washington State Catholic Conference," Beth said.

"The goal is to give people more information about the initiatives and how to consider them from their faith perspectives."

Participants will have opportunity to learn about and join the Interfaith Council's Advocacy Action Network.

For information, call 329-1410 or visit info@interfaithnw.org.

Domestic violence is theme for sermon contest

For Domestic Violence Month in October, the Interfaith Council is sponsoring a sermon contest with the winning sermon to be presented at the third annual Circle of Caring worship service on Tuesday, Oct. 5, for domestic violence victims and the community.

The Council, with the YWCA/Alternatives to Domestic Violence, the Spokane County Domestic Violence Consortium and others in the faith community, will host an afternoon workshop, "Creating a Circle of Caring: Faith Partners Working to End Domestic Violence," from 1 to 6:30 p.m., preceding the worship service at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 4340 West Fort George Wright Dr.

Local expertise and resources will be shared during this opportunity to partner with others working against domestic violence, said Sandi Thompson-Royer, domestic violence education coordinator with the Interfaith Council.

A panel of local faith leaders will share the response their faith groups have towards domestic violence, followed by dinner prepared by the Women and Children's Free Restaurant and Christ's Kitchen.

For the First Annual Sermon Contest, clergy and faith leaders in the Inland Northwest may submit a sermon that addresses domestic violence and offers a supportive or prophetic theme, said Sandi.

"We hope faith leaders will take the opportunity to preach about

domestic violence in October, attend local vigils and remind people in their congregations that there are victims in all of our congregations," she said. "Faith communities can be vehicles of love and justice for victims and can be partners with those working to end violence against women and children."

The Fig Tree will reprint the sermon, and the Interfaith Council will give \$200 worth of free resources.

Entries should specify the religious tradition, sermon audience and text references. Entries may be sent to: Sermon Contest, Interfaith Council, 1620 N. Monroe, Spokane, WA 99205 by Sept. 15.

For information, call 329-1410 or sandi@interfaithnw.org.

Food Coalition Conference set in Wenatchee

The theme of the 2004 Washington Food Coalition Conference on Monday and Tuesday, Sept. 13 and 14, at the Wenatchee Convention Center will be "Strengthening Partnerships to End Hunger in Washington."

Robert Egger, founder of the DC Central Kitchen, will be featured speaker for this event that gathers people involved in emergency food assistance, nutrition

and anti-hunger efforts.

Sessions will include cooking demonstrations for clients, fund-raising ideas, nutrition and fitness, anti-hunger legislation, communication through media,

health code updates, community gardens, farmers' markets, tribal programs, diverse clients and building partnerships.

For information, call 877-417-6316.

The Fig Tree is reader supported BECOME A SPONSOR!

NAME _____
 ADDRESS _____
 CITY/STATE/ZIP _____
 PHONE _____

- \$15, \$25, \$50, \$150, \$1,500
- \$50 for bulk order of 15

SEND TO

The Fig Tree, 1323 S. Perry St., Spokane, WA 99202

The Fig Tree is published 10 months each year, September through June.

Deadlines:

COPY - 3rd Fridays ADS - 4th Tuesdays

It is published by The Fig Tree, 1323 S. Perry St., Spokane, WA 99202, a non-profit 501 (c) (3) organization.

Editor/Photographer - Mary Stamp Editorial Team Sr. Bernadine Casey, Jo Hendricks, Deidre Jacobson, Nancy Minard

Fig Tree Board

Sr. Bernadine Casey, Jo Hendricks, Deidre Jacobson, Mary MacKay, Hugh Magee, Carl Milton, Nancy Minard, Roger Ross, Mary Stamp, Marilyn Stedman, Edie Volosing

© 2004

(509) 535-1813

Email: figtree@thefigtree.org

The Inland Northwest INTERFAITH COUNCIL's CELEBRATION OF PEACE 2004 World Peace Day - Tuesday, Sept. 21



Join us for an evening of Middle Eastern cuisine & cross-cultural entertainment

Master of Ceremonies: Mark Peterson, KXLY

Doors open at 5:30 p.m. Celebration & Dinner 6 - 8 p.m. \$25/person or \$40/couple

At the Unitarian Universalist Church 4340 W. Fort Wright Drive, Spokane, WA

For information and reservations, contact The Interfaith Council at 509-329-1410 or info@interfaithnw.org

World Council, United Nations collaborate of Day of Peace

In 2004, for the first time, the World Council of Churches' Decade to Overcome Violence (DOV) is joining in promoting the United Nations International Day of Peace.

WCC and UN leaders encourage congregations worldwide to pray for peace on or around Sept. 21.

UN secretary-general Kofi Annan sees the day as a way to combine the strength and witness of churches and faith communities with the international community as a whole as they strive together to promote peace and justice in the world.

In 1981, the United Nations General Assembly passed resolution 36/67 declaring an International Day of Peace. In 2001, the General Assembly adopted a new resolution 55/282 declaring Sept. 21 each year as the International Day of Peace.

The intention of the resolution is to have the entire world observe a day of peace and nonviolence. Annan has asked UN agencies to expand their observances this year to include civil society.

The goal of the day is "to encourage worldwide, 24-hour spiritual observations for peace and nonviolence in every house of worship and place of spiritual practice, by all religious and spiri-

tually based groups and individuals, and by all men, women and children who seek peace in the world."

Congregations may register their commitment on the International Day of Peace Vigil website at www.idpvigil.com.

For information on the Decade to Overcome Violence, visit <http://www.overcomingviolence.org>.

Churches' concern over the situation in Iraq and the Israel/Palestine conflict, the role of religion in conflict and working relations between the World Council of Churches (WCC) and the United Nations Organization were the focus of a recent meeting between the UN secretary-general and the WCC general secretary, the Rev. Samuel Kobia.

"On behalf of WCC member churches, I expressed admiration to Annan for his leadership role at a time when multilateralism is threatened and under attack," Kobia said after the meeting. The UN secretary-general acknowledged that both organizations' agendas are intertwined, and praised the partnership between them.

The WCC general secretary

voiced churches' concerns over the situation in Iraq, which he characterized as "critical, with an escalation of violence." He suggests creating a mechanism

for truth and reconciliation, which should include in its mandate the actions of the occupying powers," Kobia added.

Annan and Kobia agreed on the need for cooperation between the WCC Ecumenical Accompaniment Program in Palestine/Israel (EAPPI) and the

UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA).

Committed since its inception to inter-religious dialogue, the WCC is concerned with the growing role of religion in politics and conflict.

A negative force when used "to gain political power and emphasize the exclusiveness and

primacy of one's own group," religion can also make a constructive contribution "by emphasizing fundamental ethics and humanity," Kobia said. "To foster goodwill and understanding between communities, inter-religious dialogue has to be at the grassroots level and address issues of common concern in the struggle against oppression and injustice," he added. Annan encouraged a dialogue between civilizations, stressing that, while Islam is isolated in Western countries, Christian communities are in a difficult position in many Muslim countries.

Kobia said he would urge the WCC governing bodies to invite member churches to mark Sept. 21 with special prayer services.

"As a day of prayer for peace, the invitation could also reach people of other faiths," he stressed.

Annan said the International Day of Peace will encourage people in different contexts to reflect together on what they can

do for peace.

Among other issues of common concern mentioned at the meeting were poverty, the HIV/AIDS pandemic, and conflicts in Africa.

Kobia invited the UN secretary-general to participate in and address the WCC assembly to be held February 14-23, 2006 at Porto Alegre, Brazil.

WCC cooperation with the UN began before both organizations were formally created.

In 1946, the Commission of the Churches on International Affairs (CCIA) was formed to ensure an effective relationship between the churches and the leadership of the new global body, and also to provide the main means to represent WCC member churches at the UN.

CCIA became one of the first international non-governmental organizations to be granted consultative status with the UN Economic and Social Council.

Article based on WCC press release and from wcc-coe.org.

Peace is common agenda for global agencies.

Peace groups want people to stop and think

Hoping people might stop and think about what it takes to make peace, the lay Franciscans and Pax Christi in Spokane accepted the offer of Bill Niggemeyer to print and give away free about 200 bumper stickers that say, "Take the profit out of war."

"Considering that would call for people giving money to their churches to inventory their investments in the military-industrial complex that profits from war," he said.

"Churches usually don't ask where donors make money before they give it to them. It's hypocrisy if it's from the profits of war business," said Bill, who favors a pro-life stand that

includes all life-death issues.

Unsure how the bumper sticker might be received, Bill asked some of the people in East Central Spokane who regularly attend the Sunday Lunch at St. Ann's Catholic Church.

One man resonated with the spirit of the message, saying: "It makes sense to me."

Bill noted that he just wants to touch hearts and spark people to ask their own questions.

"It's important that everyone does something," said Bill, who became a lay Franciscan 45 years ago while attending Santa Clara University in California.

"As Franciscans, we are followers of St. Francis, the Catholic Church's patron saint for peace," he said.

Pax Christi is planning to celebrate the Feast of St. Francis on Oct. 4 as a Peace Day.

For information, call 624-1980.

Council celebrates Day of Peace on anniversary

The Interfaith Council will celebrate its one-year anniversary in conjunction with the International Day of Peace on Tuesday, Sept. 21.

"Creating Justice, Celebrating Diversity" is the theme for the Celebration of Peace 2004, which will consist of an evening of cross-cultural entertainment and Middle Eastern cuisine. Proceeds will benefit the Interfaith Council.

The celebration will recognize the cultural and religious diversity in the Inland Northwest and the work of the Interfaith Council in facilitating interfaith understanding and cooperation within the region.

The Celebration of Peace begins at 6 p.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 4340 W. Fort Wright Dr. Mark Peterson from KXLY will serve as the master of ceremonies.

For information on the event, call 329-1410 or contact info@interfaithnw.org.

Take the profit out of war.

FRANCISCANS & PAX CHRISTI

Order and save up to 80% on prescriptions from Canada

Call today to receive your FREE patient information kit and price quote right over the phone.

We carry over 2000 brand name and generic prescription drugs

Ask for Extension #408 and for new customers YOUR FIRST ORDER IS SHIPPED EXPRESS FREE of charge, a \$25.00 value

APTECHA
Canadian Drugstore. World Class Service.

Call TOLL-FREE today!
1.866.535.2764

www.APTECHA.com
Ask for Extension #408



YOUTH LEADERSHIP SPOKANE RECRUITMENT

- "Youth Leadership Spokane opened my eyes to what's going on in the community."
- "YLS got me out of my comfort zone."
- "I didn't know youth could be involved as leaders in the community!"
- "I didn't know so many adults were involved!"

These are just a few comments from the YLS Class of 2004 as they finished their program this spring. Applications for the YLS Class of 2005 will be available after the first of September. Area high school sophomores, juniors and seniors interested in gaining leadership skills, exploring "hot" issues in Spokane, working on service projects and networking with fellow student leaders from other high schools are encouraged to apply.

You can download an application from the website at www.leadershispokane.org or call the Leadership Spokane office at 509.459.4116 to have one mailed or emailed to you.

Applications are due October 15

Regional minister seeks to tweak U.S. church life and leadership

Continued from page 1
a predominantly white setting," he said.

Jack returned from a three-month sabbatical visit to South Africa, where he explored what Disciples of Christ and United Church of Christ (UCC) can learn from Christian brothers and sisters in Africa. He shared his experiences recently at the Pacific Northwest UCC Annual Meeting in Wenatchee.

In 1990, he visited Zimbabwe and Lesotho with Disciples and UCC staff, attending the Ecumenical Association of Third World Theologians.

In 1991, he spent two weeks in Egypt and four days in Israel and Palestine, learning about justice issues.

In 1998, he went to Zimbabwe for the eighth Assembly of the World Council of Churches in Harare.

In early 2004 in South Africa, he spent time in Johannesburg and Cape Town.

"I went there to discover a new way to be church and a church leader, and I believe we need to tweak the way we are churches," said Jack, who finds that as a Disciples leader, his leadership is often limited to the "power of suggestion."

"I went to be energized by connecting with people who changed a nation," he said.

Jack's visit was funded by the Disciples of Christ-UCC Global Ministries as short-term Global Ministries staff with the United

Congregational Church of South Africa, which is 96 percent black. It was started in 1967 with support of mission funds.

In early January, he stayed with a family in Johannesburg who took him to the Parliament where apartheid leaders once ruled and now democracy is in place.

Jack learned about ministry with children and youth affected by AIDS, including an outdoor program giving youth rearing siblings a chance to be youth.

He visited Soweto—the Southwest Township—learning of the history of the 1950s land initiative, in which the white minority government moved blacks 20 miles from the city. Soweto was the home of Nelson Mandela and Archbishop Desmond Tutu, who led South Africa out of apartheid.

"The church there was expected to be a social change institution, to establish the kingdom of God on earth. For American churches to do this, there needs to be a fundamental shift in the role and function of clergy, allowing them to project a sense of the visible reign of God's justice and peace," Jack said.

In Cape Town, he found shanty areas still exist 10 years after democracy was established.

"People still live with the issues of apartheid as South Africans wrestle with land reform, restoring ill-gotten lands to blacks, and training blacks to care for the land. Little has been reported about 400 white farmers killed over the

years. The government has been slow in providing land reform. Poor Africans want to know when they will have land."

When Mandela came into office, there was no electricity or running water in the townships. Now many have electricity and port-o-pots for sanitation. Mandela also gave people the small piece of land they were paying rent to use under apartheid.

"Mandela said people needed to forgive and work for healing. Today people wonder how they can forgive, given the imbalance related to land," said Jack, who also visited Robben Island, where leaders were imprisoned together and able to educate themselves and others to the level of bachelor's and master's degrees.

"I realize that transformation is not a program but a way of life for people who are spiritually connected to God. As Disciples of Christ, we speak of revitalization, but the issue is to be transformed from what we have been in the past into a church God calls us to be now.

"TV, work and sports on Sundays, among others things, compete with the church for people's time," said Jack, a fourth-generation Disciples member.

"We need to compel people to know that the Good News is something to live out for themselves and their community. Worship is not just to produce good, moral citizens who live and let live, leading to nothing more," he said. "Transforma-

tion is a spiritual concept. The church is not a human construct, but people discerning the will of God for their lives.

"U.S. mainline churches need a sense of transformation, living out a vision of how life should be," he said.

"South African church people were involved in defeating apartheid because of their faith that God does not intend people to live in bondage, but in wholeness," Jack said. "Transformation involves daring to live out that belief and being engaged in the marketplace of ideas.

"To the extent we live God's call, we will be a credible voice," he continued. "The more we connect with people different from us—different races and cultures, mainline and more conservative churches—the more we realize we need to put our progressive theology into action."

Describing himself as an evangelical liberal, he calls for U.S. churches "to huddle to evangelize and gain the energy, joy and zeal needed so we can influence our communities."

"Our global ties are a privilege, teaching us how to act justly," Jack said. "We tend to panic as churches when we think we lack money. South African churches that lack money are joyful."

For Disciples of Christ, three things make church: a deep Christian spirituality, a passion for social justice and a commitment to community.

"To be transforming, we need to

work for justice, to be advocates for South Africa, for AIDS research and medicines, and to share more information about issues and life in Africa," Jack said.

"A multicultural church begins with authentic partnerships that are local and global. It is not caught up in survival but in faithfully and joyfully fulfilling the mission of the church," he continued.

Jack challenges churches to become diverse through partnerships with people of other races, ethnicities, faiths and societies, through joining neighbors protesting profiling and racism, so "we will not be hollow when we enter partnerships with African churches."

For information, call (206) 938-1008.

alpine
DELICATESSEN
EUROPEAN DELI WITH A GERMAN TOUCH
SANDWICHES • PARTY TRAYS • HOLIDAY SPECIALTIES
417 E. Third Ave. • Spokane WA 99202
Owners Werner & Carole Gaubinger

Have you tried
Bishop's Blend Coffee?
• Fair traded • Organic
• Shade grown
• Choice of blends
Your purchase helps
to meet needs worldwide
EPISCOPAL
Relief and Development
For individual or group orders:
(800) 334-7626 (ext. 5129)
www.er-d.org

Volunteers crush cans, teach others

Continued from page 1
Cheney Food and Clothing Bank and Cheney Outreach. Cheney Recycling was moved to a new building, and was eventually taken over as a city service.

With 65 volunteers, Mary Jane and Jesse Lang ran the Recycling Center for years. It was open Saturdays and two afternoons.

Mary Jane eventually suggested to the mayor that it would be a good example to the community for his children and him to help. They did and became good recyclers, she said.

Only one person turned down her attempts at recruiting, because the woman did not want to work in garbage.

"I told her we wore gloves, and everything was clean," Mary Jane said.

Eventually, the recycling effort began to make money, and the committee hired a part time employee, Cindy Holloway, Mary Jane's daughter.

Early on, they bought an electric glass crusher and Spokane Recycling loaned them a cardboard bailer. The Grange loaned a forklift and then Spokane Recycling provided a truck with a forklift.

They learned to sort ledger paper, separating the white for which Spokane Recycling paid top price, from the colored mixed waste.

"We guaranteed our sorting," Mary Jane said.

Cheney Recycling added an education committee to help people learn what they could separate and recycle. They did programs at schools, showing children how to crush cans and sort paper. They also had a speakers' bureau to educate clubs. They created a library in the city fire station with books and periodicals on environment and conservation.

"Now I have to teach my

grandchildren," said Mary Jane, who also worked in the library one afternoon a week.

"Our recycling center organization still exists. We now raise money and give scholarships. We are also waiting to see if the city can make a go of it."

"The city has one recycling employee and takes all the recycling materials the original group did. They have stopped the organized use of volunteers. The city no longer buys newspapers or aluminum for group fund raisers. The city pays to haul everything away."

Mary Jane, who is the present director of the museum said that Cheney Recycling's volunteer effort for years had the reputation for being ahead of the country and won a state award for excellence in recycling.

For information, call 235-4466.

Don A. Barlow, EdD
Licensed Mental Health Counselor
Grief & Loss Support Groups • Men's Issues Groups
535-7466

Habitat for Humanity-Spokane
Volunteers Needed
VOLUNTEERS AND HOME SPONSORS
ARE ALWAYS NEEDED
For information, call 534-2552

Whitworth College
announces the
JOHN KNOX SCHOLARSHIP
for
Graduate Study

The John Knox Scholarship is for teachers and other employees of Christian schools, Christian churches, and Christian nonprofit organizations.

The scholarship is equal to 25 percent of regular graduate-course tuition and can be applied to all Graduate Studies in Education degrees and certification programs, including Community Agency Counseling and General Administration.

For more information, contact
Vernice Hunnicutt, Assistant Director
Graduate Studies in Education • Whitworth College
Email:vhunnicutt@whitworth.edu
Phone: 509.777.4398

Saturday, Oct. 2
27th Annual
Mennonite Country
Auction & Sale
for world relief

quilts, comforters, antiques,
handcrafted wood items,
wheat weaving, fresh apple
cider & apple butter, food,
cookbooks & more

at Menno Mennonite Church
20 miles west of Ritzville
Info & map: (509) 346-1083 or
kdorsing@futurelink.net
http://Mennonitecountryauction.
mennonite.net

Fall Offerings
Caring for the Caregiver:
A Time for Me
Celeste Crine, OSF, MA
opportunity for caregivers to be renewed & restored
Retreat Weekend - Sept 17-19 - \$350

Playing & Praying with the
New Story of the Universe
Jane Comerford, CSJ, MA
Evolving Faith Workshop
new understandings of science and religion
Oct 2-Mar 5 - \$45/month - 1st Saturdays
Discovering an Ancient Wisdom
Explore the New Story and its implications
for life today
Retreat Weekend - Sept 17-19 - \$145

'Involved Fathers Support Group'
12-session series with Tom Schmidt, MEd, LMHC, LMFT, CCDP
Thursdays - 5-6:30 p.m. - Fee: \$12 per person per session
For fathers who want to preserve or build a nurturing relationship with their children

Building process balances with overall ministry of parish

As Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church progresses with phase two of a three-phase building program, its pastor, the Rev. Jim Kuhns, reminds parishioners of the importance of balancing building construction with the parish's overall ministry.

He hopes rebuilding the upper floor of the two-story parish hall will create a sanctuary that will be "a living reminder of the faith of the believers who build it."

Part of the balance is to recognize and express the varying understandings of a church's purpose.

For some, he said, it's about experiencing "the penetrating presence of the Almighty." Others emphasize gathering "with sisters and brothers in faith to celebrate the death and resurrection of Jesus in song and sacramental symbol." For still others, a church is "a monument in stone, glass and wood to a tradition stretching from ancient days to the present," Father Jim observed. "It is also the home of the family of Jesus Christ, the home of God's people."

More is at stake than a building, which is the surface of church life, he said.

"We need to build ourselves anew as well," he explained. "We are the church, and this building will be our home, the altar will be our family table and the baptismal pool our place of new birth. Not to live the will of God proclaimed by altar, pool and shrines means that all we are doing is interior decorating.

"Building a new church makes a claim on us to become what this building says we are—a people who know that God's reign is upon us. We are to become the living stones God means us to be," he said.

Part of that process comes with the "people part" of a building project, the decision-making as a community of faith.

More than 100 parishioners volunteered to be on the building committee.

"We used the design process as an educational tool for the congregation," Father Jim said.

The design came out of a facilities assessment in 1997 and included making the building accessible.

The lower level, a daylight basement, has been the fellowship hall. The upper level, which was to have become a gym, has been



Our Lady of Fatima progresses with its new building.

used for worship services.

The parish decided to tear down the upper floor and preserve the basement as the parish hall. The teardown began March 1 and by December they expect to worship in the new building.

Parishioners hope the building will communicate welcome.

There will be a new altar and stained glass, but much of the old art will also be incorporated—the crucifix, candle holders, Stations of the Cross and a Madonna and Child.

"The building must embody the various meanings of what we do in this space—celebrating the dying and rising of Jesus, the baptism of children and adults, the Sunday Mass, weddings, funerals and reconciliation—touching God together and being touched by God," Father Jim said.

"A church is where memories and moments of grace are respected, loved and increased. A church must protect our communication with the Lord, and feel holy, both inside and out. It must also embrace our celebration, conversation and common faith, feeling familiar—as in family—as well as holy," he continued.

The building committee volunteers divided the work into sections—exterior, worship space, sacramental space, altar area, hospitality area, gathering spaces and restrooms.

Each joined a sub-committee to address one issue, so people have gained competence in particular

areas. Each group sends a representative to the Design Task Force responsible for the overall plan.

Each team read the same book on contemporary church and meaning, visited various church sites and recorded likes, dislikes and rationales.

Eighty of the original volunteers continued with the process and helped prepare 40 pages for the architect. Most of the suggestions on design have been incorporated.

Thus, parishioners have learned to work together as a family and community of faith and as a team, respecting each other's gifts.

Father Jim personally finds it's easy to be swallowed up by the building and lose sight of other ministries. He has spent two hours a day on-site, making him less available for one-to-one

ministry as a priest.

He has encouraged the congregation to keep up with their mission involvements—preparing and serving Crosswalk meals; delivering Meals on Wheels; carrying on the parish's Companions in Care to the sick, homebound and widowed; encouraging junior and senior high youth to be involved in outreach through yard care and the annual mission to build houses and churches in Mexico; continuing the neighborhood outreach ministry to feed, clothe, shelter and provide medicines in emergencies; partnering with Beautiful Savior Lutheran to take their turns with the Interfaith Hospitality Network, and building, supporting and visiting schools in the Guatemalan highlands.

Along with that, the parish continues its commitments to

educate "from womb to tomb," to offer sacramental ministry, to visit people in nursing homes and to do spiritual and pastoral care for the 700 families in the parish.

In addition, Our Lady of Fatima provides space and education for 170 of the 400 All Saints School students—preschoolers and fifth to eighth graders—in a school on its site. St. Peter's has classrooms for the others in this two-church campus.

Phase one of the building plan was to redo the heating and ventilation systems in 2001. Phase three is to replace wiring, plumbing and windows for the school.

"The building sums up our ministry, so we must continue to be engaged in ministry among ourselves and to the community and world. Otherwise, the building would be a meaningless shell," Father Jim said.

For information, call 747-7213.

Run/Walk planned

The Friend to Friend three-mile Fun Run/Walk begins at 10 a.m., Saturday, Oct. 2 at Mission Park. The run/walk raises funds work recruiting and training volunteers to befriend elderly people in nursing homes and assisted living, follows the Centennial Trail.

For information, call 483-1600.

Susan Burford Certified Public Accountant

TAX PREPARATION

for
Individuals & Businesses

Clergy Taxes a Specialty

5322 S. Pittsburg
Spokane
448-6624

**Sacred Time
Holy Ground**
*a conference on
worship and ecology*

HOLDEN VILLAGE
Dorothy C. Bass Ben Stewart
Mary Preus Tom Witt
Paul Santmire
September 27-October 1, 2004
To register: www.holdenvillage.org

**Lundin's
Violins**

Sales
Repair
Rental
Appraisal

4326 N. Maringo Dr.
Spokane, WA 99212
(509) 926-7357

lundinsviolins@att.net
lundinsviolins.com

The YWCA of Spokane presents

Women of Achievement Benefit Luncheon

Keynote Speaker - Mary Robinson

Tuesday, November 16, 2004
12 noon, Spokane Convention Center
Minimum donation of \$100

You are cordially invited to join in honoring Women of Achievement in our community. Awards will be presented to area women in Art and Culture: Professions and Community Service. A high school senior will receive the Young Women of Achievement award and the Carl Maxey Racial Justice award will be presented to a woman, man or corporation promoting racial justice in the greater Spokane community.



Mary Robinson, the first woman President of Ireland and a recent United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, puts her humanity at the forefront of her politics. She has used law as an instrument for social change, arguing landmark cases before the European Court of Human Rights. She now leads a new project, the Ethical, Globalization Initiative, to bring standards of human rights into the globalization process and support good governance in developing countries.

*She will speak on her work
with the United Nations and human rights
as it connects to the mission of the YWCA.*

Reservations may be made by calling
the Women of Achievement Information Line at 326-1190 ext. 127

Find your "Point of Inspiration" at

N-SID-SEN Camp & Conference Center

Year-round facility—270 acres & 4,800 feet of waterfront
on the east shore of Lake Coeur d'Alene.

- Open for non-profit groups from 16 to 160
- Two retreat lodges with all facilities
- Fourteen cabins with baths down the trail
- Lakeside chapel
- Open-air pavilion for worship, dance or programs
- Sheltered cove for swimming and boat moorage
- Excellent food service, served family style
- Canoes and sailboats available
- Hiking trails
- Adventure challenge course
- Volleyball, basketball and horseshoes

Call 1-800-448-3489 to reserve your date
for retreats, seminars, workshops or fellowship!
Come and catch the spirit!

Area religious leaders summarize ecumenical, interfaith relations

Believing God cares about all people, the Rev. Bob Edgar told those gathered for the Fig Tree anniversary lunch in Spokane that the United States' greatness is its respect of different traditions.

Speaking on ecumenical and interfaith dialogue, he announced that there will be a larger ecumenical table in April 2005: Christian Churches Together (CCT).

CCT will include Roman Catholics, the Salvation Army and Evangelical churches, as well as the National Council of Churches' Protestant and Orthodox members.

"As churches lose money, there is good news. They ask what they can do together," Bob said.

CCT will be a new way Christians can come together to learn about each other's traditions. It will increase conversation among churches theologically from the right to the left, but it will be hard for it to take prophetic stands. So it will not replace the NCC but will provide another level to ecumenical relationships, he said.

Bob likens ecumenical cooperation to a spaceship with docking stations, like Church World Service, Catholic Relief Services, World Relief, Lutheran World Relief, Evangelical Associations and Churches Uniting in Christ—formed by nine denominations open to share communion.

"The message for our times is for the Christian ecumenical community to come together so they can work on interfaith relations," he said.

Local faith leaders then told him about local ecumenical and interfaith life.

The Rev. Randy Hyvonen the Pacific Northwest United Church of Christ (UCC) conference minister, said that he encouraged the local ecumenical council to become an interfaith council.



The Rev. Randy Hyvonen

He said UCC pastors are involved in interfaith work in Richland, Yakima, Pullman and other communities of the region. Beyond that many UCC congregations themselves are ecumenical:

Lutheran pastors serve two, others are federated UCC-United Methodist and UCC-Presbyterian; four are Disciples-UCC unions; one is a UCC-Mennonite combination and two are UCC-Brethren.

Interculturally, the regional UCC includes six Samoan congregations plus German, Taiwanese and Japanese congregations. It has partnerships with Presbyterians in Seoul, Korea, Evangelical United Churches in Berlin, Germany, African congregations and a congregation in Russia.

"Our global perspective is emerging as we live on the Pacific Rim and need to look at the world with new eyes," Randy said.

"Last fall, the Interfaith Council helped us focus on religious and environmental issues. We found we are on the same page and use primary documents from the National Council of Churches to inform our stands," he said.

Interfaith Council director Kateri Caron said Sept. 11 consolidated interfaith relations in Spokane as people gathered each week afterwards for vigils.



Kateri Caron

"To develop interfaith ties with Muslims seemed a logical step," she said, adding that she has heard positive feedback from unchurched people about the "move into the interfaith space from the I'm-right-you're-wrong space."

Kateri finds several common understandings:

- Each person is a human being.
- The core of every tradition is love, compassion and caring, and a call to work for all who are vulnerable in one's own community and beyond.

She resists when people compliment her as a Christian with vision, and seek to steer her to condemn Evangelicals. She meets regularly with the Rev. John Tusant, director of the Greater Spokane Association of Evangelicals.

"We look for what we can raise up and work for together," she said.

Bishop Walt Mize of the Christ Holy Sanctified Church said his denomination is not in the ecumenical movement, but his aunt was Methodist, a cousin was Pentecostal, and he was Catholic before becoming Pentecostal.

"What will it take for us to see what God sees when we look at Spokane: one Church, broken into pieces? How can we move the pieces to see themselves as one, so that they work together for the peace of the city in which all may prosper?"

When Walt came to Spokane, he joined the Spokane Council of Ecumenical Ministries, the Greater Spokane Association of Evangelicals and the Interdenominational Ministers' Fellowship Union.



Bishop Walt Mize

"I have been a thorn in the side of all three. I ask the GSAE how they can do city-wide reconciliation if they talk only with Evangelical churches. I helped the SCEM start Churches Against Racism to find positive solutions to racism in ways that involve churches in evangelization. With 16 black churches for the nearly 3,000 black people in the community, it's clear there are many to evangelize, but we live in a 97-percent white population. Churches should reflect that. Government cannot mandate integration of churches. We need to make it happen."

"When I travel overseas, I attend services with people of different faiths. We can act in goodwill to love people who are different," he said. "How can we put aside what divides us to act for the common good? As churches work together, the renewal Evangelical churches pray for will happen."

Bishop Martin Wells of the Eastern Washington Idaho Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) said ecumenical dialogue concerns order and power: "Who is in charge?"

Within churches there are divisions. When the Lutheran Church started in the 1500s, there were



Bishop Martin Wells

divisions among leaders and then divisions by nationalities—Danes, Finns, Swedes and Germans.

Lutherans are involved in bilateral and multilateral dialogues with Catholics, Methodists, Orthodox, Disciples of Christ, and with those in full-communion, the Episcopalians, Moravians and the Reformed churches—Presbyterians, Reformed Church in America and United Church of Christ.

Other levels of ecumenical and interfaith dialogue include The Fig Tree, the Washington Association of Churches, the Interfaith Council, the Spokane Alliance, Whitworth College and Gonzaga University, Martin said.

He also participates in personal dialogue with the Octet—once eight—judiciary leaders who meet Wednesdays for breakfast.

"We receive one another as brothers and sisters confessing Jesus Christ and as colleagues," he said.

Martin challenges the region on its unfinished dialogue on the

Catholic Bishops' Pastoral on the Columbia Watershed.

"We need to begin conversations about water justice issues, about who has rights and access to the West's limited water supply," he remarked.

In follow-up discussion, Bob said the National Religious Partnership on the Environment with the NCC has worked "secretly"—meaning with little press coverage—for 10 years with Roman Catholics and Evangelicals for Social Responsibility, Reformed Judaism and the World Council of Churches, collaborating on environmental issues in 20 states.

On Sept. 11, Bob said: "We learned about the world and re-discovered that we do not live in isolation. After World War II, we rebuilt enemy nations. In the 1950s and 1960s, churches filled, and there were strong youth programs. Churches became complacent in the 1970s and began to refocus on denominationalism.

"In the 1980s and 1990s, churches discovered money was important and began to focus on survival. As they continue that trend, mainline denominations become irrelevant," Bob said.

Since Sept. 11, he said, Americans realized oceans no longer provide protection.

"We discovered we are interconnected," he said. "We received much international compassion and support, but we have squandered it, becoming the nation the terrorists say we are.

"If we are to survive as a nation, the war on terrorism should be a police action with all nations

Continued on next page



Remember when you were a kid & dreamed of changing the world? You still can!

Help prepare for or respond to a disaster through local agencies. Share your unique interests, talents and skills with your community

All training is provided.

CALL TODAY! 344-RSVP (344-7787)

Certificate in Lay Ministry

Begins September 11, 2004

This year-long program is designed to help train, equip and support lay men and women to serve more effectively in paid and unpaid leadership positions in the church. Topics include

- Biblical Foundations and Ministry
- The Bible and Ministry
- Theology and Ministry
- Church History and Ministry
- Spirituality and Ministry
- Christian Leadership and Ministry
- Management and Administration of ministry
- Conflict Management and Ministry
- Pastoral Care and Ministry
- Discipleship and Ministry

One Saturday a month for 10 months
September - June



WHITWORTH

To register or to request additional information, please contact the Rev. Tim Dolan at (509) 777-4676 or tdolan@whitworth.edu

PaperPlus™

125 S. Arthur
Spokane, WA 99202
(509) 535-0229
(800) 753-0229

- Paper by the ream
- Largest selection of colors, designs & weights in the area
- Case discounts
- Wedding invitations & bulletins
- Preprinted papers including all holiday papers
- Envelopes in a large variety of sizes
- **Mention this ad and receive 10% off on Mondays**

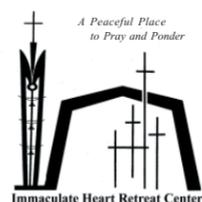
10th Annual

OCTOBERFEAST

Dinner and Auction
Sunday, October 3, 2004

Check In 4:00 p.m.
\$25.00 per person

Call (509) 448-1224 for tickets,
or purchase online at www.ihrc.net



6910 S. Ben Burr Rd. www.ihrc.net
Spokane, WA 99223 (509) 448-1224

Symbolism of nurture leads center to choose name 'Women's Hearth'

By Deidre Jacobson

Drawing on the symbolism of the word "hearth" with its imagery of community and home, the warmth of a fire, a circle of women and a place of nurturing, healing, growth, safety, welcome, food and nourishment, the former Women's Drop In Center chose a new name for its new building at 920 W. Second: Women's Hearth.

The letters in "hearth" also include the words "art," "earth" and "heart," which reflect what happens at the center.

The move from one building to another and the name change symbolize a new beginning for this community of women in downtown Spokane.

In the process, program staff made an intentional effort for greater inclusion in the circle of love and healing, growth and wholeness to expand ownership and investment in the larger building.

Center participants, volunteers and staff shared in the search for a location, in raising

funds, in suggesting design, in making the move and in setting up Women's Hearth in the new space.

Some tears were shed around leaving the old haven for women, but the building was too small and in need of repair.

Women held a remembrance ceremony there to honor the walls and the space, as they began their celebration opening the new facility on July 8. They processed from the old center at 218 S. Howard to the West Second building.

Lea Anne Potter, member of the community, described her experience: "We gathered at the empty nest once more, all that remained were some of our most prized artifacts and a dark, dingy, dirty, leaky space. The only sign of life was Chester, the Ficus tree. Everyone who came would leave with a piece of the love we all created."

"As we walked down the street to the Women's Hearth we sang, talked, smiled and rejoiced. As we entered the new space

with our love gifts, the feeling of the Hearth began to warm us. As we lit a candle and spoke of hope, love and caring, that feeling was alive again all around us, keeping us safe and warm. The magic was back for me. We are the magic and warmth. We are the women."

Ginny O'Brien Edwards spoke to the new building: "Hello, new home! How spacious and bright you are. Although you're still a work in progress, you are home. I belong here, a part of this ever-changing and growing family."

"I have had the chance to put some of my own labor and sweat into making you an even better community. All the things that made the 'old' so special are now here within your walls, with even more room for growth," Ginny continued.

"You will always be a part of me no matter where life's path takes me, but I will always be a part of you, too, and that's what keeps me grounded—knowing I belong."

Ginny likened the building as a work in progress to the women who gather there, also works in progress.

She expects that miracles quietly will continue to happen in lives of people within the walls.

Women's Hearth is one of three programs administered by Transitions, a non-profit organization dedicated to sponsoring and initiating programs that foster personal growth and wholeness of women and children in need.

Other programs of Transitions are Miryam's House and the Transitional Living Center.

Transitions is a project jointly sponsored by the Franciscan Sisters, the Sinsinawa Dominicans, the Sisters of the Holy Names and the Sisters of Providence.

Tours of the Women's Hearth can be arranged or people may drop in between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. for an informal visit.

For information, call 455-4249.

Music Center offers conservatory program

Holy Names Music Center is opening a Preparatory Conservatory for middle- and high-school students to attend Saturday classes on music theory, history and business to help them when they enter higher education and music careers.

The grand opening is from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 18, at the center, 3910 W. Custer Dr.

Mike Delaney, director for six months, saw need for such a program in his 30 years teaching music to elementary through college levels in Spokane.

In 1961, the Sisters of the Holy Names acquired Fort Wright, which closed for military use in 1959, and moved their college from Spokane. The music department was in the music center until

the college closed in 1980.

Now Holy Names Music Center is an independent nonprofit. It still receives guidance from the Sisters of the Holy Names.

Two Holy Names sisters, Kay Heberline, SNJM, and Karen Conlin, SNJM, are among the 40 faculty teaching private instrumental instruction.

Those faculty and others will help teach the Preparatory Conservatory: William Berry, a musician and composer with the Spokane Symphony, will teach a class on "The Dead Composers Society." David Asplin, a professor at Whitworth and a composer, will teach music theory.

Participants will cover a curriculum in classes, receive private instruction and be in an ensemble.

"We will work with various musical organizations in the community to bring in different approaches to music," Mike said.

The focus of studies will be on classical and jazz music.

"Our goal is to provide students an opportunity to understand music more thoroughly," he said.

The music center's general instruction, which begins Sept. 7, includes or will include traditional orchestra and band instruments, and non-traditional instruments as bagpipes and the erhu—Chinese violin.

It also offers New Horizons for adult beginner and intermediate musicians and choirs, and the Music Together program for children from six months to six years and their caregivers.

For information, call 326-9516.

Nation's Episcopal Bishops meet in Spokane Sept. 23-28

By the Rev. Hugh Magee

The House of Bishops of the Episcopal Church will gather in Spokane for its national meeting Sept. 23-28.

According to Presiding Bishop Frank Griswold, who will chair the event, the gathering will focus on "themes of reconciliation and collaboration," with an emphasis on deepening collegiality in the midst of diversity. He will preach at a 10 a.m. festal Eucharist at St. John's Cathedral on Sunday, Sept. 26.

The bishops will be addressed by Miroslav Volf, director of the Yale Divinity School Center for Religion and Culture in New Haven, Conn., and author Richard Rodriguez, frequent PBS essayist on the Lehrer News Hour.

The House of Bishops complements the House of Deputies, elected laity and clergy from each diocese, to form the Church's bicameral legislative body, the General Convention. The bishops have met regularly since the American Revolution.

More than 100 bishops will attend the event at the Davenport Hotel. The bishops last met in Spokane in 1983.

The Episcopal Bishop of Spokane, the Right Rev. James Wagoner, Jr., and his wife, Gloria, look forward to welcoming the bishops and their spouses. For information, call 624-3191.

Faiths find new ways to live together since Sept. 11

Continued from previous page collaborating to address issues that create terrorism.

"If we address terrorism and its causes—by feeding and educating people—we can model democracy, pluralism and compassionate rule that help people living in poverty and hopelessness," he said. In one sense, exporting jobs to alleviate poverty may be okay, if jobs here are maintained and jobs both abroad and here pay living wages so people have access to health care and education," he said.

Spending New Year's Eve 2003 in Baghdad with Orthodox Christians, Chaldean Catholics and Presbyterians, Bob learned that under sanctions, hospitals were denied parts to repair equipment and water pipes because those items "might be used" for weapons of mass destruction. "So children died of diseases we don't see here," he said.

"All faiths are damaged by a handful of overly literalistic, violent core of Christians, Muslims and Jews. We should not label all Christians, Muslims or Jews by the handful," he asserted.

In several sessions in Spokane, Bob quoted Martin Luther King's words of 1968 in Washington, D.C., words that continue to give impetus to his ministry: "Darkness does not drive out darkness, only love can. Hate does not drive out hate, only love can. Violence multiplies violence. Toughness multiplies toughness in a descending spiral of destruction. That chain reaction of evil must be broken or we will be plunged into an abyss of annihilation."

Bob considers Sept. 11 a "test of faith," moving people from being an isolationist nation to becoming a global village, from isolated churches, synagogues and mosques to brothers and sisters of

different faith traditions.

"We gathered for common prayer and community interaction. We gathered to walk, talk, sing, pray and learn about our neighbors, people we are called to love," he said.

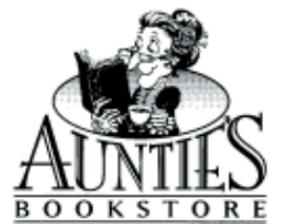
He also considers it a test of faith that calls people "to love our enemies, to be peacemakers, to have the courage of Jesus, to stand up to intolerance, to stand firm on principles and never to stand by when there is violence and never to stand still when we are called to act."

Mater Dei Ministry Institute in Spokane

Desire lay ministry?
religious life? priesthood?
DISCERN & PREPARE WHILE
EARNING A UNIVERSITY DEGREE
(800) 645-5347

For the best books on religious topics

... come to where you'll find the Inland Northwest's largest inventory of new and used books.



Visit Auntie's at The Davenport Hotel!

In the Liberty Building
Corner of Main & Washington
838-0206
www.auntiesbooks.com

Caring In All We Do



HENNESSEY SMITH
Funeral Home & Crematory

2203 N. Division
509-328-2600

1315 Pines Rd.
509-926-2423

EASTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

Eastern Washington University
and The Institute for Action Against Hate Present the
Journey to a Hate Free Millennium Conference
Personal Change Transforming the World

Join us November 5, 2004 for this all day interactive program designed to bring together students, faculty, staff, and community members to explore hate in our community, in our lives and to develop solutions to overcoming acts and feelings of hate. Special guest speaker, David Lewis, who was one of the first officers to respond during the Columbine High School case, will be joining us.

For information on how to register contact the EWU Clubs and Organizations Office at 359-4711.
Or go to <http://iceberg.ewu.edu/cluborg/>

Sponsored by EWU First Year Experience, Student Life, Student Activities, Athletics, Student Organizations, Office of Students Rights and responsibilities, Health, Wellness, and Prevention Services, Eagle Entertainment, Women's Center, Residence Life, English Department, Endorsed by the Spokane Human Rights Commission. Partial funding is provided by the NCAA.

Spokane leaders inspired by Atlanta model for reviving inner city

Area church, college and community leaders recently learned how mixed-income housing in Atlanta has opened doors for rich and poor people to be enriched by living as neighbors.

Organizer Bob Lupton spoke at Whitworth College, Gonzaga University and the First Presbyterian City Forum about how Atlanta has revived inner city neighborhoods.

While counseling juvenile delinquents, he realized he could not make a difference in their lives one by one. Their rundown neighborhoods left them hopeless. So he left a budding career to put his expertise to work in urban redevelopment.

"I'm a psychologist and have no business in housing, but every talent and resource shared brings justice in the city and in the church," he said.

He and his wife, Peggy, were within five weeks of moving into their dream house in the suburbs—choosing light fixtures, carpet and colors—when he felt called to move into the city to serve the poor. They risked on faith and built a house on a vacant lot where a burned-down apartment house once stood.

That was the beginning of their venture into what he calls "gentrification with justice."

"These are good days in Atlanta. Our mayor now worries about density, rather than displacement and disinvestment," said Bob, at the February City Forum.

"Cities were endangered as the millennium closed. City cores were deteriorating, with investments hemorrhaging out and with crime and drugs out of control," he said. "Candidates dropped urban issues as suburbs grew like wildfire. Without the tax base to support them, bridges and sewer systems were deteriorating.

"This is a day of new life for cities," Bob said.

Although recent studies show the crime rate is below the rate in 1973, he said, news coverage gives the impression there is more crime.

Even that has not prevented inner cities from rebounding with eateries, warehouse lofts, new businesses and mixed-income housing.

No longer do poor people have to pay higher prices in small neighborhood stores, because low-cost supermarkets are locating in inner cities.

Bob attributes the changes to new mixed-income housing policies of the Atlanta Public Housing Authority that spark economic growth and social life.

Suburban sprawl required commuting, which led to increased



Bob Lupton promotes "gentrification" with justice.

pollution, traffic congestion and wasted hours on the expressway. So young professionals began to move into the city and develop new schools, including some charter schools run by corporations.

Bob observes that U.S. cities with the poor concentrated downtown differ from cities in other countries where wealth and power are concentrated in the core and the poor live on the periphery.

"Many U.S. cities are like donuts with a hole at the center from disinvestment and poverty," he said. "That is changing as wealth gravitates to the core, making real estate hot."

In England in the 1500s, Bob said, the gentry were landowners, a powerful social group. As industrialists replaced them, the word "gentry" disappeared.

"We use 'gentrification' to mean a return of landowners. While it is good news for city governments, those in the social services and the poor fear gentrification will drive the poor out," he said.

When landlords became more concerned about the bottom line than quality of life, inner city apartments became run down and thus more affordable.

After the Luptons moved into Atlanta, others followed and began building housing, including some condos.

Low-income members of the downtown Presbyterian church that the Luptons attend began

to ask other members to pray for them because their rents had doubled. Increased property values intensified their poverty.

One woman, Opal, came to a prayer group asking for prayers because she would be evicted. The property owner had the choice of fixing the apartment house or boarding it up.

"I knew I was part of the problem," Bob said.

So he did more than pray. He called 20 people to tour her apartment house. Wiring hung outside the walls. A commode was tilting. Floors were rotting. The group decided to buy the building.

"We told Opal she would not need to move. As slum landlords of a building with 60 code violations, we asked people to bring their tools and trades. In the next five months, we corrected the violations," he said.

When they completed the work, 150 people gathered at the church, sang songs and signed over the title to Opal for \$24,000, leaving her with a house payment that was half the rent she previously paid.

"She was the first low-income landowner. Now, as my property value rises, hers does, too. That's good news for the poor," he said.

Aware there were other Opals, the volunteers did another house, and another.

"They started a housing ministry with people of faith, hope and goodwill that has rebuilt hundreds of apartments and homes around

us. Gentrification is good if it's done to create justice," Bob said.

"We need to harness gentrification in ways that share the benefits with the poor through new strategies for real estate, social justice and churches. The greatest barrier to gentrification with justice is the seduction of profit."

"Mixed-income housing at first seemed absurd to Atlanta banks until they were caught red-lining—not letting people of certain incomes move into certain neighborhoods. To redeem themselves, they took on the *absurd* project of developing mixed-income neighborhoods, which then became *innovative*."

Part of the equation for success was to change language from "affordable" housing to "fixing dilapidated housing."

"My church offered an equity loan fund for young professionals relocating into the depressed area," he said.

Atlanta's City Hall developed "inclusive" zoning, so the city's work force—secretaries, police officers, convention staff and others—had housing in the city.

Starting with a vision, people of faith figured out a way to do

justice that was market-related.

"We still do acts of mercy—clothing, feeding and caring for broken people," Bob said, "but new ways to do justice call for different talents to promote the process of transforming the city. Our role is to be creative and visionary as the city grows."

The redevelopment was made possible by a convergence of forces: low-cost property, the mixed-income living concept and young professionals willing to rent apartments in the city, a model Bob believes can work in other communities.

For information, contact fcslupton@aol.com.

Aunt Bea's Antiques

We specialize in Estate Sales
Always buying fine antiques

5005 N. Market
Spokane, WA, 99207
(509) 487-9278

TWINLOW CAMP & RETREAT CENTER
New Conference Center Features



- sleeping for 30 - 10 private rooms
- 5,000 sq. ft. of living space
- sink, shower & toilet in each room
- linen service & laundry facilities
- 30 x 21 meeting rooms - each floor
- 8 lake view rooms, 2 handicapped
- snack kitchen, deck

To schedule use,
Call 208-687-1146

DAN THE PIANO MAN Family Owned for 45 Years

Family Friendly Place
to buy pianos
for Beginners to Professionals

All Guaranteed
BACK-TO-SCHOOL WAREHOUSE PRICING

- Huge selection/savings!
- Climate Controlled Storage
- Moving • Repairing • Tuning

See Pianos on our website: www.danthepianoman.com

SPOKANE • 1708 N. Vista Road • 509-922-1088

Catholicism for a New Millennium

FALL SEASON 2004

Talks are free and open to the public. They are held at 7:30 p.m. in the Cataldo Globe Room at Gonzaga University

Tuesday, September 7
John Whitney, SJ - Provincial - Oregon Province
The 'Jesuit' University

Thursday, September 30
Patricia Beattie Jung - Loyola University - Chicago
Gay Marriage and Civil Unions: A Catholic Perspective

Thursday, October 7
Vincent J. Miller - Georgetown University
Consuming Religion: Christian Faith & Practice in a Consumer Culture

Thursday, November 11
Jeannette Rodriguez - Seattle University
The Gospel of the Americas

Thursday, November 18
Alice Bourke Hayes - Bishops' Lay Commission
The Sex Abuse Scandal: What Now?

For more information, contact Patrick McCormick
(509)323-6715 or mccormick@gonzaga.edu

Action Recycling
911 E. Marietta

**TOP PRICES
HONEST WEIGHT**

aluminum
brass
copper
stainless
newspapers

483-4094



Aging & Long Term Care of Eastern Washington
1222 N Post www.altcew.org

Promoting wellbeing, independence, dignity & choice
for Seniors and others needing long-term care

For information, assistance & case management, call

| | |
|---|----------------|
| Spokane - Elder Services | 458-7450 |
| Stevens/Pend Oreille - Rural Resources Community Action | (800) 873-5889 |
| Whitman - Council on Aging & Human Services | (800) 809-3351 |
| Northern Ferry - Ferry County Community Services | (509) 755-0912 |

Jubilee Community models 'reneighboring' in Spokane

Jubilee Community and Housing Ministries in West Central Spokane seeks to model "reneighboring" in Spokane.

Since the recent visit of Atlanta reneighboring advocate Bob Lupton, several clergy and business leaders have been meeting and praying about next steps for the West Central neighborhood, where \$150,000 has been committed to buy and restore housing.

"This is a small but significant step in the spiritual and physical redemption and transformation of West Central," said Connie and Pat Copeland-Malone, founders of the West Bridge Shared Housing Cooperative and Jubilee Community with Richard and Myrna Copeland, Josh Roe, Spokane Valley Glass, S & S Construction and Youth for Christ.

The strategy of "reneighboring" comes from the biblical vision of shalom for the city—or in this case the West Central neighborhood.

The West Bridge Shared Housing Cooperative is one of several local reneighboring efforts along with First Presbyterian neighborhood leadership development, Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church's outreach through Richard Allen Enterprises and an emerging partnership between West Central and Whitworth College, Pat said.

The idea for West Central Shared Housing Cooperative emerged from a desire to provide safe, decent affordable housing and to form community with people willing to make a commitment to share housing, meals, prayer and worship.

Through Christ Clinic and Christ Kitchen, the co-op has drawn women leaving abusive homes or in recovery. It also includes international high school exchange students.

Now 18 people live in six houses, and another three people will join soon.

"The greatest problem in West Central Spokane is transiency from a lack of home ownership and a high percentage of renters.

"The key to stabilizing institutions and relationships is to build community through better rental units and more home ownership," Pat said. "Housing there is expensive. Landlords accept people with no or low credit ratings,



Bob Murphy joins Sean and Pat Copeland-Malone for a common meal.

tolerating illegal activities."

The Spokane Neighborhood Economic Development Alliance is pursuing job development for the neighborhood when affordable, safe, decent housing is in place.

Some area churches are engaging in community development related to housing, jobs and community outreach ministries such as Our Place. The idea is to move from social services that create dependency to personal and social transformation through collaboration of the government and religion, he said.

According to the West Central Shared Housing Cooperative's vision statement: "We have been called to reunite and reweave the spiritual and social fabric of West Central one block at a time by reintroducing middle and higher income individuals and families to the neighborhood."

The vision comes from Jeremiah and the understanding that "people of faith are often called to labor in exile, in unfamiliar places with previously unknown people out of obedience to God's call and the need to create sustainable community."

Participants join in a life of simplicity and communal living, committed to ministry, to engaging in the lives of

those with whom they live in mutual interdependence.

In May 1994, the Copeland-Malone family purchased Jubilee House in partnership with Westminster House, a 1909, four-bedroom, three-bath house at 1848 W. Bridge.

Two rooms in Jubilee were for shared housing, for transitional housing for homeless women or former gang members, or for exchange students. Community life includes common rooms, monthly gatherings, shared meals, movie nights, planned outings, spontaneous events and a common yard.

In September 1994, a two-bedroom, one-bath detached unit, Casa Esperanza, was added on the same property in an 1880s garage. It currently houses the four-member Copeland-Malone family—Pat, Connie, Ryan and Sean, who attend Salem Lutheran Church.

In 1996, Loaves and Fishes, a micro-enterprise mail-order bookstore specializing in urban and social ministry books and resources began.

In December 2001, Shalom House at 1844 W. Bridge was purchased and remodeled by the Copelands, Spokane Valley Glass and S & S Construction. It houses two divorced men.

In December 2002 the Copelands

purchased a three-bedroom house, built in 1890 at 1830 W. Bridge. They remodeled it and named it Koinonia House.

In April 2003, Josh Roe, area director of Youth for Christ, purchased a house at 1904 W. College.

In May 2003, Ryan and Sean Malone purchased Metanoia House at 1828 W. Bridge in partnership with Youth for Christ.

Each house has private space and common space.

Respect for self, other house members and neighbors includes no smoking or drugs, care and maintenance of common areas, limiting visitors, respecting different sleeping and work schedules. Each resident sacrifices slightly to gain more through relationship.

Several other projects are planned.

Whitworth College will house up to 30 students in the West Central neighborhood beginning September 2005. This venture, called Nehemiah Homes of Hope, seeks investors and prayer support.

It envisions urban development through relocation of middle-income Christians, connecting community- and congregational-based ministries and redistributing resources among individuals and institutions.

The goal is to raise \$1 million by 2020 for investment in West Central housing to attract new assets to the neighborhood.

The project is being developed with Washington State University, the Community Colleges of Spokane, Whitworth College and Eastern Washington University.

Believing in the need to re-educate people to reneighboring, the Jubilee Community has started the City of Shalom Book and Bible Club on fourth Mondays at the Lutheran Book Parlor, 1414 W. Broadway, to study books on the topic.

Jubilee Community and Housing Ministries seeks to "revitalize, redeem and transform one of Spokane's oldest, most historic and lowest income neighborhoods by rebuilding the social and spiritual fabric of the neighborhood through intentional Christian community, acts of compassion, works of mercy and justice, and the gift of hospitality," Pat said.

For information, call 328-4540.

Christ Kitchen seeks artists, volunteers

Christ Kitchen seeks artists who will create nativity scenes and donate them to auction as part of a luncheon on Monday, Nov. 1, at First Presbyterian Church, 318 S. Cedar in Spokane. It also seeks volunteers to host tables.

The gathering will be an opportunity to tell the history of Christ Kitchen and to share stories of women from the kitchen and how God has changed their lives.

At the event, they will introduce three new Christmas products.

The donated nativity scenes will be set up Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 30 and 31, at the church.

Nativity scenes may be any size or medium.

"We're asking for scenes of the Christmas story that go beyond the familiar hut in the woods," said Jan Martinez, director.

For information, call 448-4421.



Icon Painting Workshop

Oct 4-8
\$425

Contact Eleni
208-687-2025

CATHOLIC CEMETERIES OF SPOKANE

Now serving the interment and memorialization needs of our Catholic / Christian community in two locations

HOLY CROSS CEMETERY
7200 North Wall
467-5496

ST. JOSEPH CEMETERY
17825 East Trent
891-6420

Pre-arrangement plans available for all interment and memorialization needs — including ground burial space, garden crypts, lawn crypts, cremation niches, monuments and memorials.

Indoor mausoleum crypts now available at pre-construction discount prices.

Please call or stop by our offices for further information or visit our website at www.cathcem.org

Global Folk Art

Spokane's Source for Unique Fairly Traded Gifts & Imports

DID YOU KNOW?

- we are nonprofit and volunteer-run ?
- 15-35 % of our price goes to artisans?
- buying here helps end social injustice at the root of poverty?

SHOPPING AT GLOBAL FOLK ART MAKES A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE

Open Mon-Sat 10:30-5:30 - Sun noon-5
35 W Main - Spokane
838-0664



Thursday, Friday and Saturday
September 23, 24 & 25

Dinner served 4:30 to 8 p.m.

Dine In or Take Out
\$12 adults, \$6 under age 12

Souvlaki and salads at the Grill
Nightly from 4:30 p.m. and from 12 noon for Saturday lunch

Cooking Demonstrations
Evenings in the Parish Hall

Greek Pastry, Taverna, Dancing & Deli
Pastry available daily from 12 noon

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church
1703 N. Washington (509) 328-9310
www.holytrinityspokane.org

Campaigns appealing to religious sentiments often foster divisions

Elections are coming! It's time to register and educate voters. Faith groups and nonprofits cannot endorse candidates, but they can teach constituents principles on which to make choices.

Listening to political ads and media commentary could lead to the conclusion that American voters are a simplistic bunch, looking only for easy answers.

An article by William Sachs, director of research at the Episcopal Church Foundation in New York, in the Aug. 10 *Christian Century* offers a glimpse of hope related to divisions in churches over issues. In contacting dioceses and congregations, the foundation found that 20 percent firmly support the 2003 General Convention's electing a gay bishop, 20 percent strongly oppose it, and 60 percent "value honest acknowledgement of differences," and are ready to dialogue and learn more.

That 60 percent are interested in discussing complexities of issues is a promising sign for the faith community and for society. Meanwhile, media continue to sensationalize differences on denying communion for pro-choice politicians or the marriage amendment/gay rights split.

Ads call candidates liars, spreading fear to discredit opponents. More divisiveness and polarization are promised on the path to election day. Debates and polls often turn elections of candidates and votes on issues into shallow popularity contests, discouraging in-depth consideration of issues. It seems to be about winning or losing, not about thinking, relationships, dialogue or understanding needed to create a society in which all citizens can flourish.

After months of spite and sparring, we are then suddenly to rally with trust and unity around the winners.

The pro/con political framing of issues leads even some people of faith to focus on limited aspects of issues. As we argue about who should be allowed to marry, will we lose sight of what is needed to strengthen the social underpinnings of marriage? Beyond concern about gay marriage/rights are the ongoing threats to marriage of domestic violence, divorce, infidelity, overwork, independence, entertainment media and mobility.

The "non-religious" society looks on as churches and faith groups take their "battle" stands on issues—often without

love or tolerance of differences based on differing Scriptural emphases. People of faith must be cautious in election fever not to be divided and played as pawns of media and politics.

There are stands to take and opinions to express, but we also need to discuss issues, hear questions and learn from each other.

If the vast majority are interested in exploring more than either/or simplistic options media, laws and elections give, then religious leaders need to be equipped to help people discern delicate issues.

People involved in the civil rights movement in the 1960s know there is more to resolving issues than changing laws. The effort requires ongoing education of adults and each new generation—to change hearts and minds, to help people see beyond their prejudices and assumptions, to free people from being manipulated by hate and fear, and to enable people to be included in society with rights *and* responsibilities.

Education requires more than yes-no decisions that enforce partial solutions many laws give. While the pro-life and the pro-choice movements differ on their desires about laws, both have education

and support services for women expecting unwanted babies and both work to prevent unwanted pregnancies.

Different styles of communication are needed to reach different people. Some require absolutes. Some can live with ambiguities.

Living within political systems, we know that laws come and laws go. Legislatures and Congress continually change laws. How permanent can any tax cut be? How final is any vote against fluoridation?

Living in a "free" society is shaky business. It requires just and consistent laws—so people know the rules to follow. It also requires education and conversation on the values that strengthen faith, relationships, society and the world.

Within families and among friends there are hotly divergent views on candidates, laws and solutions. Hopefully, in love and respect based on common values, we can discuss differences and complexities behind solutions offered. The elections are coming, and God calls us to love our enemies as well as our neighbors, so we can live as neighbors, friends and family.

Fig Tree Editorial Team

Homelessness should not be seen as a plague for a community to conceal

"Come to me, all ye who are weary and heavy laden, and I will give you rest." (Matt: 11: 28)

The scourge of homelessness has scarred the cities of America. It has taken the form of encampments cross-country, and solutions for the problem are nil. It is something we prefer to ignore or hide, concealing it from God and ourselves.

Homelessness is one of the most difficult and dismal, but flagrant examples of poverty. Welfare counselors, priests, pastors and the police have approached campers with options or threats, but the campers return night after night.

Some are dirty, drunken or mentally incompetent. Many are just lonely, hopeless and feel rejected. Most are not ready for the options presented or encouragement to

"get a job" or "move on." Many sleep a lot, read or yell if disturbed. Now they are considered "dangerous," and the authorities have been asked to take over.

Recently, Spokane has experienced the problem of encampments in the heart of the city. The mayor and the City Council were deluged with complaints and requests for arrests. The situation continues. "Get a job" or "move on" too often means "let some other community deal with the problem."

Philosopher-activist Daniel Berrigan once wrote: "The homeless are a shadow at the heart of things, the shadow we flee: Its name is death."

A legend about a small Italian city where people were peaceful and righteous offers some insight on homelessness. One night

a shadow came out of the dark and killed citizens, one by one, dragging them into the woods. This was repeated night after night. The perpetrator was found to be a wolf. A delegation went to St. Francis for help, because he had communion with animals.

He met with the wolf. When he returned to the village he said: "My good people, you must feed your wolf." They were furious and indignant that he considered the beast *their* wolf. Eventually, they did feed the uninvited guest, the hungry wolf, and the killing stopped!

This story about St. Francis tells us something about causes, fear and retaliation and about the indigenous components of homelessness. What is he saying in his analogy, "Feed your wolf" about homelessness—or even about violence and terrorism

on our precious planet?

Twentieth century theologian Thomas Moore wrote: "Only in a thoroughly unrelated world do we reject the poor, neglect our children, poison nature without conscience and slay thousands of our and enemy soldiers because we don't have the patience and imagination to negotiate. We have lost the value of soul."

There are a thousand ways to "feed our wolf" of poverty and homelessness.

Government, church, community and welfare outlets must come together in faith and truth and not be distracted by fear, distortion or violence.

Americans have the wealth, ingenuity and, we hope, the *will* to do it. Change is not easy.

Jo Hendricks – Contributing editor

Newsletter Excerpts

Sounding Board

Reflections

We do not get through this life without detours. A job is lost—detour. An unexpected expense occurs—detour. Detours to our plans and dreams, detours to the order and pace of our lives.

When the "Detour" signs are put in place, we have no choice but to observe them. Our choice lies in our response. In the midst of chaos and calamity, we can choose to go to pieces or to piece things together. We can choose to lose our bearings or go with the flow.

God has promised to be with us always. God has promised to accompany us through days that follow predictable patterns and through days filled with one detour after another. May God guide us to keep our perspective—and a sense of humor—through all the dust, disorder, disasters and detours.

**The Rev. Linda Crowe
Veradale United Church of Christ**

When the thinking of the human being extends no further than what serves "my own wellbeing," the ground beneath civilization begins to get mighty slippery. Thinking only of the self is not a big enough thought to sustain civilization.

Civilization is grounded on the solid foundation of thoughtfulness for others.

That's the way it has been since the beginning of the world. The Lord God did not give us neighbors to use as stepping stones to the fulfillment of our own selfish ambitions. God gave us neighbors that we might serve their wellbeing, just so we make a world that's a fit habitation.

That's the meaning when the Genesis

story of creation says, "God created human kind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them." It is to say that God has created us to look out not for number one but for the neighbor.

**The Rev. Virgil Thompson
Bethlehem Lutheran**

It has been said that "if we want to be a force for peace, justice, the environment or growing a new church, the first step in creating the change is to believe we have the power to make a difference."

Mahatma Gandhi said: "Everything we say and do has an effect on the fabric of humanity."

God's future calls us to change our hearts so we might be the holy instrument in changing the world, leading the world to the Love who is our God.

The power to change is within us and among us, dancing between us. As we grow both inside and out may we at all times understand the true power of every word and deed.

**The Rev. Michael (Redhawk) Rice-Sauer
Covenant Christian**

After experiencing dirt and manure, sweat and bugs, our 12 youth and adults returned from a mission trip to Nicaragua with arts and crafts, songs, stories, memories and pictures of hopeless, jobless men sitting discouraged outside their doors and of energetic playful children with innate hopefulness. They returned with a mission from the people of Nueva Vida and El Porvenir, Nicaragua.

The group is still in mission. They have been sent back by the people of Nicaragua with a special work here.

Mission does not end. Nicaragua is becoming real to the rest of us, helping us learn to love, care and share ourselves with the people there.

Church re-development professionals argue about what it takes to renew a church. Most declare that a clear vision of mission and action in mission are crucial. This mission experience in Nicaragua is a gift of the Holy Spirit of God for our congregation, making real in stories and pictures, laughter and tears, reminders of why we are here.

Our church and faith are not merely a gift given to us, but call us beyond ourselves, our walls, our comfort zones.

**The Rev. Andy CastroLang
Westminster Congregational United
Church of Christ**

On our journeys through life, individually and as a community of faith, we often encounter times of transition and wandering, even wilderness and darkness. These times can be often unsettling, and we just want to arrive wherever it is that we are hoping to arrive. Yet it is in our times of wandering and transition that God is the most present, working to transform us into the people God would have us be.

**The Rev. Lauri Clark Strait
Opportunity Christian**

Sometimes we make odd statements. One comes after perusal of cupboards, pantry, freezer or refrigerator when we moan in anger or frustration, "There's

nothing to eat here!" Nothing matches our hunger on the shelves laden with food.

There is obviously plenty to eat, it's just that we are fussy.

"There's nothing to eat!" is an interesting confession of our material affluence.

How often do we open and close Scriptures without being moved, spend hours praying without giving God time to speak, hear homilies with hardened hearts or attend Mass (worship) without letting it nourish and inspire us?

God makes a complaint such as "there's nothing to eat" possible because of a lavish outpouring of generous, unconditional love. We hungry human beings are free to stare such plenty in the face and yet not feast on any of it. We are free to complain that God is distant or that life is empty—void of purpose and direction.

The sad thing is that we may not even recognize how hungry we are for the things of God and may try to satisfy ourselves with the consumption of trivial things, events and activities—junk food—that satisfy or entertain only for the moment and nourishes little but our ego. Feeding frenzies of this sort only make the inner self more aware of what is lacking.

The next time we complain we get nothing out of our prayer times or religious practices, we might hear the irony of our complaint that there is "nothing to eat here." It may be a paradoxical testimony to God's shelves of plenty. God is lavish. It may well be that we do not know that for which our hearts truly hunger.

**The Rev. Michael Savelesky,
Assumption Parish - Inland Register**

Universities set event for ending hate

Eastern Washington University and Gonzaga University's Institute for Action Against Hate are offering an interactive community conference for students, staff, faculty and the community to discuss origins of hate, explore hate crimes and develop individual action plans.

The Journey to a Hate Free Millennium Conference will be held on Friday, Nov. 5 at the

Holden hosts conference on worship and ecology

Holden Village is sponsoring a conference on worship and ecology, "Sacred Time, Holy Ground: Rooting Christian Worship in Earth's Ecology," Sept. 27 to Oct. 1. Leaders include musicians Tom Witt and Mary Preus of "Bread for the Journey"; Dorothy C. Bass, expert on Christian practices and author of *Receiving the Day: Christian Practices for Opening the Gift of Time*; Paul Santmire, eco-theologian and author of *Nature Reborn: the Ecological and Cosmic Promise of Christian Theology*, and Ben Steward, a former Holden Village pastor, now at Emory University.

Themes include earth-faithful hymnody, ecological worship, earth as sacramental and more.

For information, visit www.holden.village.org.

Partners International opens new Spokane office

Partners International will hold an open house from 1 to 5 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 26, at its new office, 1117 E. Westview Court near Nevada and Hawthorne.

The event will be an opportunity to meet staff from around the world, learn of its projects in Asia, Africa and the Middle East, and tour the building.

For information, call (800) 966-5515.

Church holds concert to benefit food bank

Music and the Arts at Westminster Congregational United Church of Christ is presenting "Manna: Music for a Hungry World," a concert to benefit the Second Harvest Food Bank at 4:30 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 26, at the church, 411 S. Washington.

The event includes an evening of "World Music" with the Celtic Nots, Prairie Flyer, Sue Windham, John Frankhauser, the Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Gospel Choir and the Spokane Area Children's Chorus.

Organizers say cash donations are 10 times stronger than food donations, because they add to the food bank's buying power.

Eastern Washington University in Cheney.

"The goal is for attendees to decide ways they can make a difference in their lives and in society," said organizer Jim Mohr.

The event begins with showing the documentary, "Journey to a Hate Free Millennium," which seeks solutions to end hate and hate crimes in the country. It explores the Columbine High School shooting, the dragging death of an African American, James Byrd, Jr., and the beating death of gay college student Matthew Shephard.

Workshops will deal with racism, sexism, school violence and homophobia.

Thrivent helps build three Habitat duplexes

On Aug. 2, Habitat for Humanity Spokane began building three duplexes, sponsored by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, at Boone and Madelia. Spokane is one of three cities chosen for a pilot project of Thrivent.

While Lutheran parishes in the area are recruiting volunteers from among their members, a spokesperson for Habitat-Spokane, said that volunteers from the community and other churches are welcome to assist with the project.

About 50 volunteers are needed on site each day through Sept. 25.

For information, call 534-2552.

Calendar of Events

- Sept 7** • "The Jesuit University," Catholicism and the New Millennium Series, p. 8
- Sept 9** • Spokane CROP Walk Planning Committee, Manito United Methodist, 3220 S. Grand, 7 p.m.
• Sound the Alarm: Mayday for Marriage Pastors' Training, Fourth Memorial, 2000 N. Standard, 9 a.m.-noon
- Sept 11** • Weyerhaeuser Center for Faith and Learning Lay Certificate program begins, p. 6
- Sept 13** • Washington Food Coalition Conference in Wenatchee, p. 2
• Living Wage Meeting, 35 W. Main, 5 p.m.
- Sept 14** • Spokane Alliance Capacity Building Campaign Rally, Covenant United Methodist, 15515 N. Gleneden, 5:30 p.m. - 532-1688
- Sept 16** • VOICES, Salem Lutheran, 1428 W. Broadway, 5:30 p.m.
- Sept 17** • Good News Jail and Prison Ministry's Annual Celebration Dessert Banquet and Silent Auction to raise funds for the Chaplaincy at Geiger Corrections Center, Sons of Norway Hall, 6710 N. Country Homes Blvd., 6 p.m. - call 327-2838.
- Sept 17-19** • "Caring for the Caregiver," St. Joseph Family Center, p. 4
- Sept 18** • Grand Opening Holy Names Music Center Preparatory Conservatory, p. 8
• Candidates' Forum, Spokane YWCA, 1 p.m. - call 326-1190, x132
- Sept 21** • Interfaith Council Celebration of International Peace Day, p. 3
- Sept 22** • "Who's Afraid of a Living Wage," Spokane Citizens for a Living Wage, Community Building, 35 W. Main, 5:30 p.m.
• "Why Married Priests?," Pat McCormick of Gonzaga University, Providence Auditorium, 9th & Rockwood Blvd., 7 p.m.
- Sept 23** • Interfaith Council Workshop on ballot issues, p. 2
- Sept 23, 29** • "Living Fully the Widsom Years," WisdomWorks Workshop, St. Aloysius O'Malley Hall, Boone and Astor, 9 a.m.-2 p.m./12:30 p.m., - call 323-5896
- Sept 23-28** • Episcopal House of Bishops meets in Spokane, p. 7
- Sept 24-26** • Greek Festival Dinner, p. 9
- Sept 25** • Thin Air Radio Movie Night, "The End of Suburbia: Oil Depletion and the Collapse of the American Dream," the Big Dipper, 17 S. Washington, 8 p.m.
• Sunnyside CROP Walk - 888-297-2767
- Sept 26** • Westminster Benefit Concert for Food Bank, p. 11
• Partners International new office open house, p. 11
- Sept 27-01** • Sacred Time Holy Ground retreat at Holden, p. 5
- Oct 2** • Mennonite Country Fair and Auction, Ritzville, p. 4
- Oct 3** • CROP Walks in Pullman and Okanogan Valley - 888-297-2767
- Oct 9** • "Witness to Truth Confronting the School of the Americas," regional gathering, Gonzaga University, 2 p.m., includes procession to Riverfront Park
• CROP Walk in Wenatchee - 888-297-2767
- Oct 5** • Fig Tree distribution, St. Mark Lutheran, 24th & Grand, 9 a.m.
- Oct 6** • Fig Tree Board, 1323 S. Perry St., 1 p.m.
- Mondays** • PEACH Safe Food Orientation - call 455-2552
- Tues-Sats** • Habitat for Humanity work days - call 534-2552
- Fridays** • Peace Vigil at Army Recruiting Office, Colville - call 675-4554
- 1st Sats** • Interdenominational Ministerial Fellowship Union - call 624-0522
- 2nd Suns** • Sacred Harp Shape-Note Singers, 2929 Waterford Dr., 7 p.m.
• Stevens County Fellowship of Reconciliation, First Congregational, Colville, 6:30 p.m. - call 738-4962

VOLVO • TOYOTA • DATSUN
C & H Foreign Auto Repair
 E. 620 North Foothills Dr. Spokane, WA 99207
 EDWARD W. CUSHMAN 487-9683 OR 484-5221

David Crum, DMin
Pastoral Family Psychotherapy
Fellow, American Association of Pastoral Counselors
State Licensed Mental Health Counselor
 APPOINTMENTS AVAILABLE AT:
 Veradale United Church of Christ - 611 N. Progress - Spokane Valley
 St. Mark's Lutheran - 24th & S. Grand - Spokane
443-1096 www.pastoralfamilypsychotherapy.com

Daybreak of Spokane
 Chemical dependency treatment
 for youth to 18 years old.
Outpatient and residential treatment
 Daybreak relies on financial support from churches, individuals and agencies.
 927-1688 • 11707 E. Sprague, D-4 • Spokane, WA 99206

Shalom Book Club
 Exploring a Christ-Centered Approach to Urban Ministry and Community Development
Meets 4th Monday monthly @ 6:30 p.m. • Cost is \$15
Lutheran Book Parlor (1414 W. Broadway) • 328-6527
 Read Reflect Act Read Reflect Act Read Reflect Act Read Reflect Act Read Reflect Act

"Reneighboring" West Central
 The Jubilee Community exists to promote cooperative rental and owner-occupied living in Spokane's historic West Central neighborhood. Come celebrate community, simplified living and working for social justice.
Jubilee Housing/West Bridge Shared Housing Coop
 509.328.4540 westbridgecoop@hotmail.com

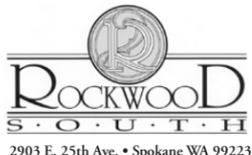
Hillyard Florist
 FULL SERVICE FLOWER SHOP
 4915 N. MARKET
 Spokane, WA
 489-5001



NEED AN INSTRUMENT FOR YOUR STUDENT?

 Buy • Sell • Trade • New • Large Stock of Quality Used Instruments
 Lease a School Band Instrument—It's Cheaper than Renting • Strings Discounted
 Visa • MasterCard • Discover Accepted — Wheelchair Accessible — Parking Validated
DUTCH'S MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS
 415 WEST MAIN • SPOKANE • 747-5284

Zephyr Christian Conference Grounds
 at Liberty Lake
 Camps
 Retreats
 Conferences
 Since 1946
 For scheduling or information
 Call Gary Hann, manager
(509) 255-6122

The Best THINGS in LIFE...
The region's only communities accredited by the Continuing Care Accreditation Commission and the United Methodist EAGLE Program

 2903 E. 25th Ave. • Spokane WA 99223
 (509) 536-6650

 101 E. Hawthorne Rd. • Spokane WA 99218
 (509) 466-0411
Equal Housing Opportunity
 Comfortable custom homes and apartments
 Independent and Assisted Living, Skilled Nursing, Memory Loss Care

We don't just break the news.
We put it back together.
 Don't just get the news. Understand it. NPR News and Spokane Public Radio go beyond the headlines so you know why things happen. Our coverage isn't just current, it's complete. Tune in to **KPBX 91.1** or **KSFC 91.9 FM**, and catch both on the web at kpbx.org.




Wapato pastor empowers families to access resources, form community

Envisioning a new church start to be like first-century house churches or like lay-led base communities in Mexico, the Rev. Jillian Ross walks with people in Wapato to understand their lives and to build trust.

With a worshipping community of 50 people in five families—with 30 children—she helps under-employed and unemployed Hispanic families with food, water and other resources, with transportation and support services for medical care, and with solidarity as they work extra jobs to assure their children will have nice clothes and school supplies.

The Yakima Valley Hispanic Outreach Ministry was started seven years ago by the Eastern Washington Idaho Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) when two local pastors saw a need for outreach to Hispanics in the Yakima Valley.

Jill came three years ago to this congregation, supported grants, local foundations, benevolences and 15 Evangelical Lutheran Church in America congregations in the Yakima Valley, the Tri Cities and the Walla Walla area.

The ministry exists to serve a marginal community, poor immigrant families whose skills, connections and resources are limited, Jill said. Many are single-parent households with no father present.

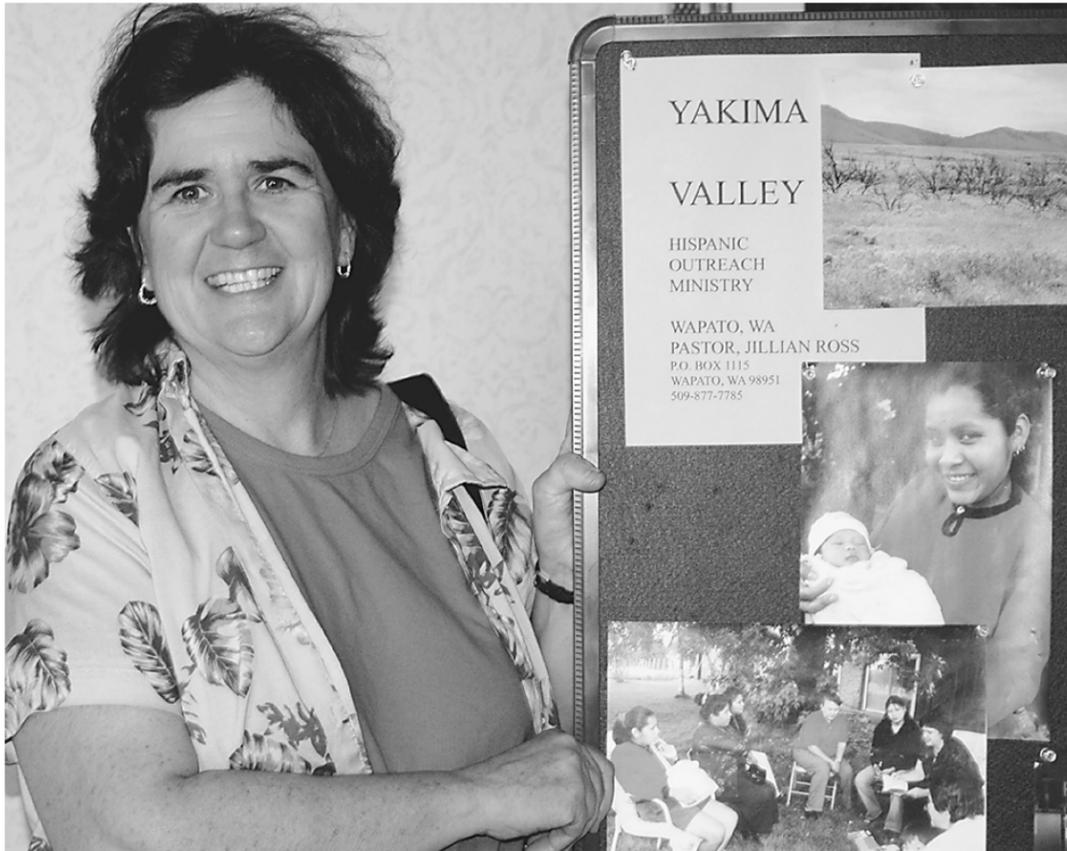
“Coping to provide children with the basics leaves mothers with no time or energy to help these children adjust and thrive,” she said. “Most mothers lack the skills to help even first graders with homework.”

So her presence with the families is to ensure that the children thrive and that the parents know God is with them, and they will have enough food and love.

Working in ecumenical partnership, the church has an office at the Wapato Community Presbyterian Church and at the Central Washington Presbytery’s Campbell Farm, which helps host programs such as a summer program for children. Worship services are held at homes, the Presbyterian church and Campbell Farm.

In August, Jill and Campbell Farm staff took nine children from nine to 12 years old for Abiando Caminos, a week at Holden Village for Spanish speakers. Staff and teachers for the week taught 200 people from Yakima, Wapato, Leavenworth, California and Minnesota.

“Some had never been on vacation. They were in the wilderness praying to God in their first language and growing in self-esteem,” Jill said. “One woman sat in a jacuzzi under the stars. She



The Rev. Jill Ross shared information on her ministry at the Synod Convention.

said she had seen such an image on TV, but never dreamed of doing it herself.”

“The children asked theological questions to learn what it is to be Lutheran and they will form the core of a confirmation class,” she said.

Most of the parents are monolingual Spanish speakers, while the children are bicultural and bilingual, Jill said.

The community has a social ministry focus. Many families live in homes with no electricity or running water.

“So a pastoral call includes seeing that their needs are met. There is much they live without,” she said.

“While life is hard, parents have the same desires for their children as other Americans. They want them to have new opportunities. Parents work in the fields and are poor, but have dreams for their children.”

“Coming here after working in ministry among 25 million people in Mexico City—in some of the poorest neighborhoods—I was shocked at the level of poverty here in the U.S. among the 4,000 people in Wapato. I was surprised

at the lack of basic social services here,” she said.

Jill, a 1993 graduate of San Francisco Theological Seminary and the Graduate Theological Union, went to Mexico first as a college student and then spent more than eight years in ministry there.

She lived with a Presbyterian pastor’s family in a small community, assisting him in ministry in six rural villages. She also spent time in a Catholic Christian base community in Mexico City.

In both settings, local pastors saw their role as planting seeds for churches run by local lay leaders, in tune with the liberation theology of the Christian base community movement.

Representing the Lutheran Church at the San Pedro Marter Church, she helped the parish build ecumenical ties and felt respected and supported as a woman pastor. Jill also worked with Good Shepard Lutheran Church in Mexico City. There are 10,000 Lutherans in this country of 90 million people, she said.

In both work with the churches and travel to 28 states in Mexico, Jill sought to learn why people mi-

grate and what it’s like for those left behind.

“Many leave villages where the way of life, language and cultural tradition had been self-sustaining but now cannot survive. The rich cultures are fading,” she observed.

She first saw part of the story of migration when living in the Napa Valley in California. She moved there as a visual artist and teacher and eventually decided to become a pastor. Then she worked as a chaplain at the Marin General Hospital. As a pastor, she sought ways to bridge the culture and language barriers.

While on a six-month sabbatical at Holden Village to explore her call after returning from Mexico, she learned of the opportunity in Wapato, where she now finds more of the story of migration as she interacts with children who are bilingual and bicultural, and opens their families to resources.

Through liturgy, baptisms,

preaching and weddings, she intersects with people’s lives.

In a Bible study for adults and youth, Jill finds many are from Catholic or Evangelical roots, but have lapsed in church participation. Adults come to church and Bible study so their children will learn about faith.

Meeting in worship and study, members of the families come to know each other and their gifts, and are stretched to be resourceful in a community with limited resources and services.

Jill believes there are alternatives to living in poverty or assimilating to the consumer society. She models an alternative, unpretentious way of being fed from her years in Mexico where people rely on relationships enhancing healthy living, rather than the entertainment-focused life here.

She lives simply in a low-tech house. She has a TV, phone and boom box, but no computer.

“I have means, an education and a job with steady income,” she said, recognizing that those aspects of her life separate her from those who lack education and steady incomes.

“While people lack things, they want basics—transportation, good schools and clothes,” she said.

So she helps access resources and services to provide those basics. When people need social services, Jill goes with them to help them access the services, but she clarifies, “I’m not a social worker. We do not advertise social services. We are simply a church helping meet needs in our community.”

She responded when the school principal contacted her, concerned that a family burned out of their home might become lost in the social service system. Jill followed them as they moved from a hotel to a homeless shelter to a new home.

“I walk with people in the community. As a church, we care about our neighbors,” she said.

For information, call 877-7785.

A Great Place to Be!
FOR MEETINGS • RETIREMENTS
• EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS •

CAMP CROSS

On Lake Coeur d’Alene
Contact Camp Cross at
245 E. 13th Ave.
Spokane, WA 99202
(509) 624-3191

SORRENTO CENTRE

Top-Stitch Curved Piecing: An Innovative Workshop for Quilters with Hilary Rice Oct. 1 - 3, 2004

Christian Environmental Stewardship with Derek Ellis and David Gravells Oct. 11 - 15, 2004

Desert Wisdom for Practical Transformation with Cynthia Bourgeault & Christopher Page Nov. 11 - 14, 2004
This contemplative retreat encourages us to listen deeply to the ancient Christian voices of wisdom from the desert.

Evangelism and the Media or Getting the Word Out with Peter van der Leelie Nov. 11 - 14, 2004

Youth Ministry Beyond Sundays with Kerry Child Nov. 11 - 14, 2004

Advent Retreat with Dorothy Barker and Lesley Hede Nov. 19 - 21, 2004

Sorrento Centre
P.O. Box 99, Sorrento, B.C. V0E 2W0
Phone: (250) 675-2421 - Fax: (250)675-3032
e-mail: info@sorrento-centre.bc.ca
Visit us on-line at: www.sorrento-centre.bc.ca

Make a phone call. Make a difference.

Donate your unwanted vehicle and help provide health and human care services right here in our community. It’s hassle free. We will even arrange towing if needed.*

Call today for details.

Participating Local Agencies

- American Red Cross
- Cancer Patient Care
- E. WA Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
- Martin Luther King, Jr. Family Outreach Center
- Spokane Guilds’ School & Neuromuscular Center
- United Way of Spokane County
- YFA Connections
- Camp Fire, Inland NW Council
- Children’s Home Society of Washington
- Excelsior Youth Center
- Second Harvest Food Bank of the Inland NW
- Spokane Neighborhood Action Programs (SNAP)
- VNA Home Health Care Services
- YMCA of the Inland NW

Cars for Charity

928-1900
www.cars4charity.org

* Cars do not have to be drivable, but they must be complete.