



Dear Earth Ministry community,

It's coming up to Memorial Day weekend. For many, Memorial Day is a day to be outside, to be with friends and family, to remember the beauty of the Pacific Northwest where we live. While you are enjoying some well deserved rest, it's also a good time to remember that we are a part of this place in ways that are not so obvious at first. This chant captures a little of that connection and our dependence on Creation.

*The mountains, I become part of it...*

*The herbs, the fir tree, I become part of it.*

*The morning mists, the clouds, the gathering waters,*

*I become part of it.*

*The wilderness, the dew drops, the pollen, I become part of it.*

(Navajo Chant)

Take time to celebrate and remember your connection with the earth this Memorial Day,

The staff of Earth Ministry/WAIPL

**Save the Date**

[June 2016 Events](#)

[July/August 2016 Events](#)

[Ongoing Events and Resources](#)

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Are you a member of Earth Ministry or Washington Interfaith Power & Light?

Support the movement to care for all creation and

[make a donation today!](#)

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*Earth Ministry and Washington Interfaith Power & Light engage people of faith in caring for creation. We partner with individuals and congregations to respond to this great moral challenge through education, modeling sustainable lifestyle choices, and*

**Public Hearings on Draft Environmental Impact Statement  
for Proposed Longview Coal Export Terminal**

**Tuesday, May 24, 2016 1:00pm-9:00pm, Rally at 5:00pm**

Cowlitz Expo Center

1900 7th Ave, Longview, WA 98632

**Thursday, May 26, 2016 1:00pm-9:00pm, Rally at 5:00pm**

Spokane Convention Center

334 W Spokane Falls Blvd, Spokane, WA 99201

**Thursday, June 2, 2016 1:00pm-9:00pm, Rally at 5:00pm**

Trac Center

6600 Burden Blvd. Pasco, WA 99301

You, people of faith and spiritual communities all across the Northwest, are pros at attending hearings to stand up for a clean and safe future for all of God's creation. It's time once again bring out your **red clothes** to join Earth Ministry/WAIPL and the Power Past Coal coalition at public hearings for Washington's last remaining coal export terminal proposal.

With Cherry Point denied, the movement to stop coal from polluting our towns and rivers is bigger and stronger than

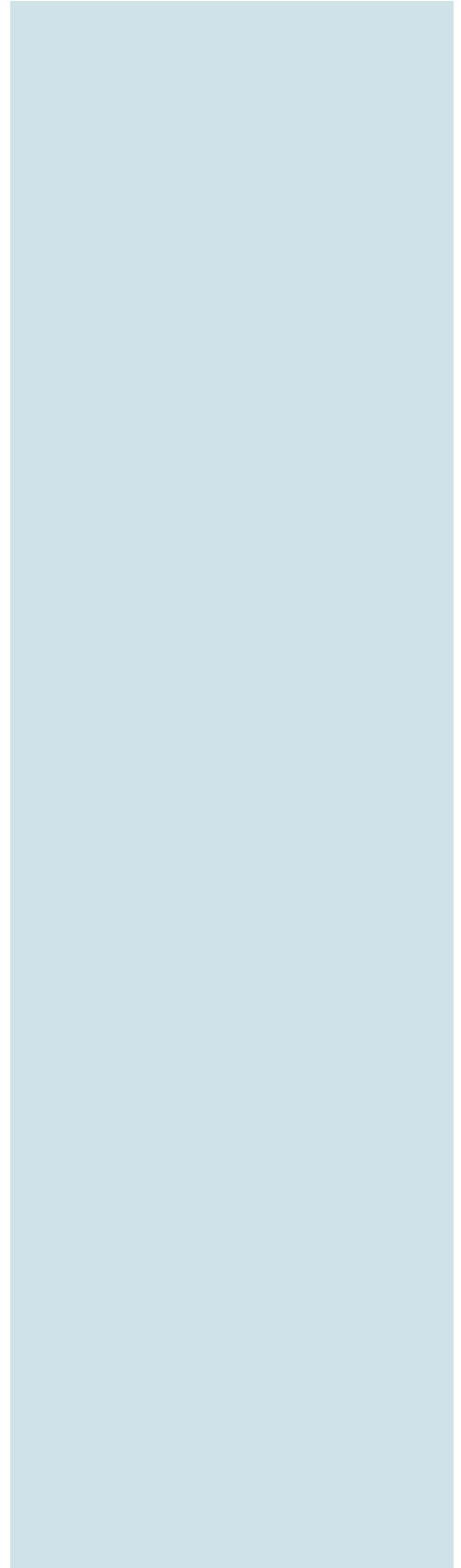
*organizing for social change  
through environmental advocacy.*

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Have a faith and environment event for the digest? Send it to [emoffice@earthministry.org](mailto:emoffice@earthministry.org)

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Your input is vital, even if you are not able to attend a hearing, so be sure to [sign Earth Ministry's letter](#). We will take a visual display of all the comments we collect from Earth Ministry/WAIPPL supporters to use in our testimony at the hearing and want to include you! If you are going to a hearing, please email [jessica@earthministry.org](mailto:jessica@earthministry.org) so we can look for you there.



\* Indicates new events added this edition.

## **Public Hearing on Proposed Rule, "Oil Movement by Rail and Pipeline"**

**Monday, May 23 1:00-5:00pm**

Holiday Inn Ballroom

3105 Pine Street Everett, WA 98201

Ecology is proposing a new rule that will create reporting standards for facilities that receive crude oil by rail, and pipelines that transport crude oil through the state. Additionally, the rule will identify reporting standards for Ecology to share information with emergency responders, local governments, tribes, and the public. The rule adds regulations that do not significantly change procedures or safety on rail or pipelines carrying crude oil to our ports. More information [here](#).

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**\* Cheers, Cheese, & Coal: Spokane Creation Care Happy Hour**

**Tuesday, May 24, 2016 6:00-7:30pm**

Unitarian Universalist Church of Spokane

4340 W Fort George Wright Dr, Spokane, WA 99224

Enjoy wine and cheese while Jessica Zimmerle of the Earth Ministry staff gives an overview of Earth Ministry/WAIPL's current congregational and faithful advocacy work. Plus, you'll get the entire scoop on how we're stopping coal trains from rolling through our communities. In order to best represent you in our statewide advocacy efforts, Earth Ministry/WAIPL wants to hear about what is important to your faith community. So even if it's only for a short bit please do stop by to say hello - and feel free to bring a friend! [RSVP](#) (not required but your RSVP is helpful to estimate food).

**The Food Challenge: How We Eat & the Link to Climate**

**Tuesday, May 24, 2016, 7:00pm, doors open at 6:30**

University Unitarian Church

6556 35th Avenue NE, Seattle 98115

Lynn Fitz-Hugh of 350Seattle is speaking at University Unitarian Church about how our food choices impact the climate. She'll address organic vs. traditional agriculture, local food vs.

3,000 miles from field to table, eating less meat is eating less carbon, stopping the waste of 40%+ of all food produced saves carbon, and policies to change all this.

**\* Final Day of Film Showing**

**How to Let Go of the World and Love the Things that Climate Can't Change**

**daily until Thursday, May 26 2016 4:15pm, 7:00pm, and 9:45pm**

Varsity Theater

4329 University Way NE Seattle, WA 98105

In *How to Let Go of the World and Love All The Things Climate Can't Change*, Oscar Nominated director Josh Fox (producer of *GASLAND*) continues in his deeply personal style, investigating climate change – the greatest threat our world has ever known. He travels the globe to meet with global climate change "warriors" who are committed to reversing the tide of global warming. Funny and tragic, inspiring and enlightening, the film examines the intricately woven forces that threaten the stability of the planet and the lives of its inhabitants. More info [here](#).

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**\* Women of Color Speak Out: Climate Change and Systems of Oppression**

**Thursday, May 26 6:30pm-9:00pm**

First Unitarian Portland

1211 SW Main St. Portland, OR 97205

This discussion highlights how systems of oppression have led to worldwide ecological disaster, exploring capitalism, colonialism, racism, the prison industrial complex, and how these systems have led into climate change that impacts people of color most. Speakers include Sarra Tekola, Afrin Sopariwala, Yin Yu, and Zarna Joshi. The event is co-sponsored by 350 Seattle and Race and Climate Justice. Admission is free and snacks are provided. Donations Welcome. More info [here](#) or [here](#).

**\* Meet the Neighbors: Spokane Buddhist Temple**

**Saturday, May 28, 2016 2:00pm-4:00pm**

Spokane Buddhist Temple

927 S. Perry St. Spokane, WA 99202

The Spokane Interfaith Council will conclude its 2016 Meet The Neighbors tour on Saturday with a visit to the Spokane Buddhist Temple. Meet The Neighbors has been an ongoing tour of Spokane's religious landscape where the community is invited to visit a local house of worship



in order to, “Help build a more inclusive, pluralistic community.” The event is free, though donations are encouraged. More info [here](#).

## **Sustainable Development Grant Applications Due**

**Tuesday, May 31, 2016**

Episcopal parishes or diocesan-related organizations are encouraged to seek funding for global partnerships in which they are engaged for work that takes place in the developing world. Projects should address one or more of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (listed [here](#)). Grants are usually in the \$2000-\$3000 range. More information and a link to the application form [here](#).

## **June 2016 Events**

### **Faith and the Thin Green Line: Pope Francis and Environmental Advocacy in Washington**

**June 1, 2016, 9:30am**

Faith Lutheran Church

224 Benton St, Leavenworth, WA 98826

Join LeeAnne Beres and Jessie Dye of Earth Ministry/Washington Interfaith Power & Light for a discussion of the pope’s recent encyclical on the environment, and how people of faith can take action to protect our climate and communities.

In Washington, our urgent responsibility is to keep fossil fuels in the ground and out of our shared atmosphere. Faith communities can be effective voices for climate justice and for protecting the Northwest’s “Thin Green Line” from oil and coal exports.

At our gathering, Jessie & LeeAnne will give an overview of what the pope’s encyclical says

about climate change and fossil fuels, and how we can put faith into action on several key issues in our region. Dr. Barbara Rossing, Professor of New Testament at the Lutheran School of Theology, will also share information on Eco-Reformation, a project of Lutherans Restoring Creation in observance of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation in 2017. To view the event flyer, please [click here](#).

**\* Coal and Creation: Pre-Hearing Workshop with Earth Ministry/WAIPL**

**Wednesday, June 1 from 6-7:30pm**

Shalom United Church of Christ  
505 McMurray Street, Richland, WA 99354

This is your chance to find out more about the DEIS (Draft Environmental Impact Statement) hearing for the Longview coal export project, which is being held at the TRAC Center the very next day on June 2. Come learn how to testify, submit written comments, and otherwise participate in this important process.

Tri Cities faith community members and friends have a chance to show that citizen advocacy works! It's easy and fun, and LeeAnne and Jessie will tell you how you can do it. Please come for a lively conversation and a glass of wine at Shalom on Wednesday, June 1 at 6pm to learn how to participate in these hearings!

If you can't attend this gathering or the coal export hearing, be sure to add your name to [Earth Ministry's online letter](#).

**The Bridge Art Exhibit**

**June 1, 2016-June 30, 2016**

St John's Cathedral

127 E 12th Ave. Spokane, WA 99202

The BRIDGE is an extraordinary traveling East-West exhibition showcasing 47 paintings by Jewish, Christian and Muslim artists. The BRIDGE is curated by CARAVAN's Founder and President, the Rev. Paul-Gordon Chandler, well known to the Cathedral here in Spokane. The exhibit began in Paris and has traveled through such places as Egypt and Europe, and is now exhibiting at Trinity Wall Street in New York City. This extraordinary exhibit is to be shown at St. John's Cathedral for the entire month of June 2016. To learn more click [here](#).

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Trac Center

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### **Got Green Green-A-Thon**

**Saturday, June 4, 2016**

The Green-A-Thon is an annual event that seeks to build community power, raise funds, and take action with Got Green. This Spring, community members will form Green-A-Thon Teams to fundraise within their networks (via house parties and online giving) and will come together in June for a South-end door-knocking day — inviting the community to engage in Got Green's work. We invite you to participate in Green-A-Thon this year by forming a team or sponsoring a team. More info [here](#).

**\* Christianity & Climate Change: Pope Francis and the Call for Climate Action**

**Tuesday, June 7, 2016 7:00pm**

San Juan Island Grange Hall

152 1st St, Friday Harbor, WA 98250

Islands Climate Resilience focuses on the health and resiliency of island communities and ecosystems facing the treats of climate change. Earth Ministry is the leading faith organization defending the "Thin Green Line" of environmental defense that is protecting Washington's deep water ports against fossil fuel export projects. Religious communities play an important part in the life of San Juan Islands, and around the state faith leaders are becoming key advocates for climate justice. More info [here](#).

**\* Dams and Salmon in the Columbia Basin: Background and What's Next after Court Rejects Failed Federal Salmon Plan**

**Wednesday, June 8 4:00-5:00pm**

Ivar's Salmon House

401 NE Northlake Way Seattle, WA 98105

The Center for Environmental Law and Policy's Celebrate Water event on June 8th will be preceded by a CLE workshop focused on the background of dams and salmon in the Columbia

Basin, and what's next after the court rejected the failed federal salmon plan in early May. Our speaker will be Steve Mashuda from Earthjustice.

Steve Mashuda is the Managing Attorney for Oceans at Earthjustice. He began working for Earthjustice's Northern Rockies office in 1998, where he specialized in Clean Water Act and Endangered Species Act litigation. In 2000, he joined Earthjustice in Seattle, where he has focused primarily on Northwest salmon recovery, including 15 years of litigation to protect and recover salmon and steelhead in the Columbia and Snake Rivers. Purchase tickets [here](#).

**\* Women of Color Speak Out: Climate Change and Systems of Oppression**

**Friday June 10 6:00pm-8:30pm**

Duwamish Longhouse

4705 W. Marginal Way SW Seattle, WA 98106

This discussion highlights how systems of oppression have led to worldwide ecological disaster, exploring capitalism, colonialism, racism, the prison industrial complex, and how these systems have lead into climate change that impacts people of color most. Speakers include Sarra Tekola, Afrin Sopariwala, Yin Yu, and Zarna Joshi. The event is co-sponsored by 350 Seattle and Race and Climate Justice. Admission is free and snacks are provided. Donations Welcome. More info [here](#). Email [Lisa Marcus](mailto:Lisa.Marcus) if you can help with the event.

**\*JustFaith Gather and Go: Taking Care of Our Common Home**

**Saturday, June 11, 2016 9:00am-11:30am**

Walmesley Center at Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish

7000 35th Ave. SW Seattle, WA 98126

This two-hour gathering will explore and attend to the cry of the Earth and her people. It's a pathway to introduce and re-introduce faithful people to JustFaith Ministries' unique work and mission. [Register here](#). More information about JustFaith [here](#).

**Natural Wanderment: Stewardship, Sovereignty, and Sacredness**

**Project 562 Closing Day- open Tu-Fr 10am-5pm and weekends 12-5pm until June 11, 2016**

Hibulb Cultural Center

6410 23rd Ave NE. Tulalip, WA 98271

Matika Wilbur is presenting an extraordinary exhibition of Project 562 portraits of Native Americans devoted to the protection of the sacred and the natural. Project 562 aims to build cultural bridges, abandon stereotypes and renew and inspire our national legacy by documenting people from 562+ Tribal Nations in the United States. More information [here](#) and [here](#).

**\* Andrew Hanaur, Campaign Coordinator of Jubilee USA**

**Sunday, June 12, 7-8:30pm**

The Well at Queen Anne UMC  
1606 5th Ave W, Seattle, WA 98119

Andrew Hanaur, Campaign Coordinator of Jubilee USA will be speaking at The Well for all persons interested in learning how Jubilee USA works with 550 faith-based organizations to bring greater transparency and fairness to international financial institutions. Learn how to connect the dots between corrupt financial systems and Global Warming.

**\* Interfaith Iftar**

**Wednesday, June 15 6:00pm**

Muslim Association of Puget Sound

17550 NE 67th Ct. Redmond, WA 98052

MAPS invites community members to celebrate the end of Ramadan with a community meal and interfaith discussion. Quran teaches that in times of difficulty and hostility, the two choices of reacting in kind, or responding with kindness are not equal. If we are to excel in mastering our inner selves, we need to respond to the rising fear and hostility around us with kindness and the best of character, and work very closely with the many willing and eager partners in the community to spread the message of peace, respect and valuing one another within our own communities. Please register [here](#). Note that there is no childcare for this event.

The speakers for the evening will be Sr. Maha el-Geneidi and Sr. Aneelah Afzali. Sr. Maha el-Geneidi is founder and CEO of Islamic Network Group, the nation's leading organization in countering bias against American Muslims. She is a senior fellow of the American Leadership Forum and recently named by the San Jose Business Journal as one of Silicon Valley's Women of Influence. Sr. Aneelah Afzali, a rising star in the Seattle interfaith circles, is an active member of the MAPS Interfaith and Outreach Committee and an attorney with more than 10 years of practice. She has been featured several times on KUOW discussing issues relating to the Muslim Community in Seattle.

### **The Last Salmon- A Must See Musical**

**Saturday, June 18, 2016 2:00pm and 7:00pm**

Seattle University's Lee Center for the Arts

905 12th Ave. Seattle, WA 98122

The Last Salmon, a chamber musical for kids of all ages and the people who love them, uses contemporary music to tell a story that begins with the Native American First Salmon ceremony. Told in a creative and fun-filled manner, this made-in-the-Methow show is based on the book The Last Salmon, by Phil Davis. Written and directed by Ki Gottberg with music composed by Casey James, the musical is hopping with tuneful live music and charming characters played by a local Methow Valley cast of performers. More info [here](#).

### **Seattle Tilth Just Garden**

## **Garden Building Events June 18 (Burien)**

Teams from Seattle Tilth will build up to three 4 by 8 feet raised garden beds in yards or at apartment buildings of low income residents. Seattle Tilth is looking for volunteers to provide the labor, but they provide lumber, soil, organic fertilizer, seeds, plant starts, organic gardening workshops, and *A Maritime Northwest Garden* guide. Volunteers do not need to make long-term commitments and can do one or more build events. This is an appropriate activity for corporate or youth groups. To sign up on the [website](#), scroll down to the volunteer heading and click Sign Up. For more information, email [Seattle Tilth](#).

## **Frackopoly with Wenonah Hauter**

**Monday, June 20, 7:30-9:30pm**

Town Hall Seattle Downstairs

1119 Eighth Ave. (enter on Seneca St) Seattle, WA 98101

One of the nation's leading public interest activists, Wenonah Hauter (Food and Water Watch) will tell the story of the surprising mix of interest groups who paved the way for fracking and the technology that made these "sacrifice zones" possible. More information and tickets [here](#). Tickets \$5 per person.

## **\* Biodiversity in the City**

**Tuesday, June 21, 2016 7:30pm**

Town Hall Seattle, Great Hall

1119 Eighth Ave. Seattle, WA 98101

National Pollinator Week is a time to celebrate pollinators and spread the word about what you can do to protect them. Seattle's 2016 Pollinator Week keynote address, by Gary Paul Nabhan, Ph.D. (Ethnobiology for the Future, The Forgotten Pollinators), offers a broad-ranging



and visionary perspective on bringing food biodiversity back into the city. Agricultural historian Peter Hatch of Monticello has called Nabhan “the lyrical scholar of genetic diversity.” and he has also been named as a pioneer and creative force in the “local food movement”. More info and tickets [here](#).

**\* Green Grant Application Deadline**

**Wednesday, June 22, 2016**

The Episcopal Bishop's Committee for the Environment (BCE) is offering \$500 matching grants to diocesan churches for energy saving projects. Saving energy in building use supports the diocese's commitment to the Genesis Covenant which calls for a 50% reduction in energy use. Application available [here](#).

**\* Orca and Salmon: An Evening of Storytelling**

**Wednesday, June 29, 2016 6:00pm**

Town Hall Seattle, downstairs

1119 Eighth Ave. (enter on Seneca St) Seattle, WA 98101

The Center for Whale Research, Earthjustice, Natural Resources Defense Council, and Save Our Wild Salmon have partnered for this evening of fine food and drink, and tales and talk about two of the Northwest’s most iconic creatures: Southern Resident Killer Whales and wild salmon. Our featured speakers include: David Neiwert (Of Orcas and Men: What Killer Whales can teach us), Brenda Peterson who has written about orcas and other marine mammals for two decades, and Roger Fernandes, a storytelling member of the Lower Elwha Band of the S’Klallam Indians from Port Angeles. A reception will be held from 6:00 to 7:00 pm, with excellent food provided by Kevin Davis/Blueacre Seafood. Wine and beer and non-alcoholic beverages will be served. Books will be available for purchase and signing by the authors. This is an event for people of all ages. More info and tickets [here](#).

## **July/August 2016 Events**

### **Registration Deadline for Exploring Diversity: Varieties of Religion and Non-Religion**

#### **78th Annual Meeting of the Association for the Sociology of Religion**

**July 1, 2016**

Given the location of the 2016 ASR conference and recent research about the predominance of nonreligion in the Pacific Northwest, a program theme focusing on the intersections of religion and nonreligion is fitting. The dramatic increase in those who identify as ‘nones’ or nonreligious on surveys about religious identity may be indicative of a new normal in the religious landscape in many countries. It also raises important questions about the study of religion and nonreligion, both methodological and theoretical. While there has long been a debate in the social sciences over secularization as a theory to explain religious change, there may be other theoretical explanations for why nonreligion is increasing. Likewise, much remains to be explained about how such an increase will change the role of religion in politics, education, healthcare, law, and other social institutions. Further, what does it mean to be religious in this context? Is religious identity and religion itself also shifting and changing? More info [here](#).

#### **\* Mission U 2016**

**July 15-18, 2016**

Central Washington University, Ellensburg, WA

One strand of the United Methodist Mission U this year will be about Climate Justice, featuring Katherine Parker with Global Ministries in Nepal, Rev. Pat Ward who assisted with the Council of Bishops statement on Creation Care, and Toni Stewart from Climate Justice. Registration before May 30 is \$295. The event is open to men, women, and young people. Scholarships are available. More info [here](#).

## **Principles of Community Organizing Training**

**July 20-23, 2016**

Billings, MT

Join community organizers and grassroots leaders in the Western Organization of Resource Councils' Principles of Community Organizing Training Session. WORC is conducting only one of these nationally-recognized trainings this summer. The interactive workshop covers a range of skills and topics for community organizers and leaders of grassroots community groups. Tuition for this workshop is \$100 for approved members of WORC's member organizations and \$500 for non-WORC participants. Tuition does not include travel, meals, or lodging. Application [here](#).

### **\* Northwest Native Canoe Journey Landing**

**Saturday, July 30, 2016**

Port of Olympia, NorthPoint

1675 Marine Dr NE. Olympia, WA 98501

Since tribal communities reestablished large paddle events between their nations in 1989 the annual Canoe Journeys include a week of ceremony structured around "Protocol." During Protocol the host tribe welcomes each visiting tribe and the visiting tribes share their gratitude with song, drumming, dance and gifts. For more information about the Paddle, [click here](#) or [here](#). The Nisqually Indian Tribe is hosting the Paddle to Nisqually in 2016. Right Relations Steh-chass/Olympia, non-tribal people working in solidarity with the Nisqually Canoe Family, is helping with preparations for the event giveaways, and by volunteering for the event. If you are interested in volunteering, [click here](#).

In addition, the Nisqually Tribe is requesting donations for purchasing blankets featuring the art of native artist Jody Bergsma on each one, to give to visiting tribes. These 60" x 80" fleece

blankets are available at a cost of \$8.50 each, wholesale. Supporters able to donate \$85, \$170, \$255 (and so on, in multiples of \$85) can receive one blanket for each ten they help to fund. Interfaith Works, a not-for-profit organization, has stepped forward to receive funds to support the Nisqually Canoe Family with their production of this year's Paddle to Nisqually. Kindly make checks payable to Interfaith Works, with "Nisqually Blanket Giveaway" on the memo line. Send to: Interfaith Works, PO Box 1221, Olympia, 98507.

## **Just Sustainability: Hope for the Commons Conference**

**August 7-9, 2016**

Seattle University Pigott Auditorium

901 12th Ave. Seattle, WA 98122

Seattle University's biennial conference returns in 2016, August 7-9. Just Sustainability will feature keynote addresses from Brian Cladoosby, Dr. Shariff Abdullah, Cynthia Figge, Dr. Andy Hoffman, McKenzie Funk and the Interfaith Amigos. In addition, our program will have presentations by practitioners and researchers on the social, environmental and economic aspects of sustainability. From eco-footprint workshops to tours of the Beacon Hill Food Forest, Just Sustainability will highlight how we can work together to ensure the well-being of all people while caring for our common home. Early bird registration until May 31. [Read more](#) and [register here](#).

## **Jesuit Volunteer EnCorps, Adult Volunteer Program Applications Application Deadline: August 15, 2016**

Intentional Service! Jesuit Volunteer EnCorps (JV EnCorps), a program of JVC Northwest, facilitates transformative opportunities for intentional service, community and spiritual formation for older adults committed to social and ecological justice. During their ten months of part-time volunteer service, participants ages 50 and older meet together regularly in community to deepen their spirituality and explore the values of simple living and social & ecological justice. Priority application deadline: August 15th. For more information, call [206-305-8911](tel:206-305-8911), email [JVSeattle@jvcnorthwest.org](mailto:JVSeattle@jvcnorthwest.org), or visit <http://jvencorps.org> to apply.

## **Exploring Diversity: Varieties of Religion and Non-Religion**

### **78th Annual Meeting of the Association for the Sociology of Religion**

**August 19-21, 2016**

Renaissance Seattle Hotel

515 Madison St, Seattle, WA 98104

Given the location of the 2016 ASR conference and recent research about the predominance of nonreligion in the Pacific Northwest, a program theme focusing on the intersections of religion and nonreligion is fitting. The dramatic increase in those who identify as 'nones' or nonreligious on surveys about religious identity may be indicative of a new normal in the religious landscape in many countries. It also raises important questions about the study of religion and nonreligion, both methodological and theoretical. While there has long been a debate in the social sciences over secularization as a theory to explain religious change, there may be other theoretical explanations for why nonreligion is increasing. Likewise, much remains to be explained about how such an increase will change the role of religion in politics, education, healthcare, law, and other social institutions. Further, what does it mean to be religious in this context? Is religious identity and religion itself also shifting and changing? More info [here](#).

## **Ongoing Events & Resources**

**Contact Gov. Inslee for Future Generations, [360-902-4111](tel:360-902-4111)**

**Re: Moral obligation to protect children's human rights to Washington's air and water.**

Washington's children won a legal battle against the Department of Ecology, recognizing their future rights to our essential resources, air and water. As of April 29th, Ecology is under court order to complete a Clean Air Rule in 2016, and to recommend new, updated emissions targets to the legislature.

Governor Inslee, who directs the Dept. of Ecology, needs to hear our support in order to make the WA Clean Air Rule the strongest in history. Your phone call reminds him he must first serve

the children who depend on us grownups to stop polluting, and industry second.

Please pass along this message:

"Governor Inslee, thank you for updating the scientific targets in the new Clean Air Rule to protect our children's basic rights. By cutting pollution 3x faster than proposed, your new rule turns the tide on past climate failures and gives our children a brighter future. Even though it is late, we know you'll stand on the right side of history."

Questions: contact <mailto:mifostr@gmail.com> with Plant for the Planet.

### **MAPS-NOW (Muslim Association of Puget Sound Nature, Outdoors, and Wildlife) Initiative Launched**

Take note of the new initiative launched by MAPS with the specific mission to make our neighborhoods and environment more ecologically sustainable, to preserve nature and wildlife in Puget Sound and across Washington State through collaboration, education, and volunteering. The initiative includes sponsoring Adopt-A-Highway signs at 3 prominent locations, working with WTA to restore popular hiking trails and preserve wetland areas, as well as, further education about nature. Participate in the launch of MAPS-NOW by volunteering, or donating. [Email](#) for more information or [visit the website](#).

### **Seattle Tilth Just Garden**

#### **Garden Building Event September 23 (Bellevue)**

Teams from Seattle Tilth will build up to three 4 by 8 feet raised garden beds in yards or at apartment buildings of low income residents. Seattle Tilth is looking for volunteers to provide the labor, but they provide lumber, soil, organic fertilizer, seeds, plant starts, organic gardening workshops, and *A Maritime Northwest Garden* guide. Volunteers do not need to make long-term commitments and can do one or more build events. This is an appropriate activity for corporate or youth groups. To sign up on the [website](#), scroll down to the volunteer heading and click Sign Up. For more information, email [Seattle Tilth](#).

## **ENERGY STAR**

ENERGY STAR offers free resources to help congregations save energy and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. To date, the ENERGY STAR program has: prevented 2 billion metric tons of greenhouse gas emissions, saved \$300 billion on utility bills and provided more than \$9 billion in societal benefits thanks to reduced damages from climate change.

Contact Colleen Quinn at [206-553-1648](tel:206-553-1648) or [quinn.colleen@epa.gov](mailto:quinn.colleen@epa.gov) for your free copy of the ENERGY STAR Action Workbook for Congregations and for assistance with energy efficiency projects, education, and outreach.

## **Support Hmong flower farmers**

Seattle Tilth is helping partner faith communities and Hmong flower farmers who are looking to expand their businesses. Today, over 2,000 Hmong Americans live in Washington where many continue their livelihoods as farmers, selling flowers and vegetables at Pike Place and local farmers markets. After the Vietnam War, thousands of Hmong escaped persecution in the Laotian highlands and found refuge throughout the United States. However, new challenges emerged as they confronted a different economy and culture in America. Hmong farmers continually seek innovative ways to sell their products to keep farming a viable way of life.

Support Washington's Hmong flower farmers. Consider locally produced floral arrangements and bouquets for weekly arrangements for church services, holidays, weddings, funerals, graduations, and special events. View a flier [here](#) and learn how you can get involved by contacting: [foodandfaith@seattletilth.org](mailto:foodandfaith@seattletilth.org) or [206.633.0451 ext. 102](tel:206.633.0451).