



Olympia Fellowship of RECONCILIATION

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September 2015

Dear friend of the Olympia FOR,

While some non-profit organizations slow down for the summer, the Olympia Fellowship of Reconciliation kept moving ahead this summer with a variety of activities, including:

- We organized the June 21 People's Climate Action Fleet to publicize oil trains at the U.S. Open golf tournament in Tacoma.
- We staffed our **public outreach booth** at Capital City Pride Fest on June 20-21, focusing on innocence and the death penalty.
- We sponsored a July 11 training on how white people can be better allies for people of color.
- We co-sponsored an August 9 commemoration of the lives of people of color who have been killed by police.
- We held our annual **potluck picnic** on August 12 in Priest Point Park.
- We staffed our **public outreach booth** with a variety of Olympia FOR information at the Love Our Local Fest on August 23.
- We met with a state legislator on September 1 to discuss the death penalty.
- We co-sponsored the **big forum on exporting coal and oil** on September 3 at the Olympia Center.
- We are sponsoring an interactive workshop at 7:00 pm on Tues. Sept. 15 at Traditions Café on the topic, "Military 'Solutions' Are Really the Problem! They Escalate Global Violence. Let's Choose Humane, Sustainable Ways for True Security."
- We decided to co-sponsor the **forum about the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) and other "free trade" deals** at the Olympia Center at 6:30 pm on Thurs. Sept. 17.
- We planned to **emphasize the climate crisis** at our weekly peace vigils at Percival Landing on Fridays Sept 18 and 25.
- Our "**Global Days of Listening**" (www.globaldaysoflistening.org) continued connecting people around the world, including Afghanistan (www.ourjourneytosmile.com) and other areas of conflict, on the 21st morning of each month.
- Our "**Confronting the Climate Crisis**" group continued meeting at the Olympia Center at 6:30 pm on the third Wednesday evening of each month. We worked on various strategically useful activities to protect the climate.
- Our "**Committee for Alternatives to the Death Penalty**" continued meeting at 7:00 pm on the fourth Tuesday evening of each month. We researched and wrote new fact sheets about innocence and about racial bias in Washington's death penalty.
- Our **book discussion group** continued discussing books on different topics at 6:00 pm the first Tuesday evening each month.
- We continued **vigiling for peace two times every week** (every Wednesday from 12 to 1 pm in Sylvester Park, Legion & Capitol Way, and every Friday from 4:30 to 6:00 pm near Percival Landing's Kissing Statue, 4th & Water), with highly visible messages of peace and nonviolence. Passing motorists and pedestrians continue to respond warmly to us. Each vigil attracts new people for conversations and sometimes ongoing participation by those who join our vigils and mailing list.
- Our **TV programs** continuously reached out to the general public in the comfort of their own homes. People in Thurston County can watch on TCTV three times a week, and people anywhere can watch through the TV Programs link at www.olympiafor.org. Summertime topics were "Young People Downtown: Realities and Opportunities" (June); "The U.S. Is Risking Nuclear War with Russia over Ukraine" (July), "Racial Justice Insights for White Folks" (August), and "How to Talk Politics with People Different from You" (September).

SEE NEXT PAGE

- We continued publishing bimonthly **newsletters**, mailing copies to hundreds of people, sending .pdf versions to a great many more people, distributing copies to new people, and posting newsletters to our website so people anywhere can read them.
- We sent several e-mail calendar listings of “COMING EVENTS” to Olympia FOR’s e-mail list and some other lists.
- We continued to be a **reliable source of information and networking** for people who contact us for help with a wide variety of issues related to peace, social justice and nonviolence.
- We took the lead in **planning the Western Washington FOR’s annual Fall Retreat** in Lacey for Saturday November 7 with the theme, “Practical Democracy: How Can We Make it Work for All of Us?”

Yes, the Olympia FOR stays continually active in many ways. If you like what the Olympia FOR is doing, we warmly encourage you to support our work. Instead of charging dues or hiring paid staff, we rely on **volunteer labor and voluntary contributions.** Each person can help in whatever ways they can.

Contributions to Olympia FOR are tax-deductible as allowed by law.

Thanks to everyone for helping the Olympia FOR work for social justice, nonviolence and peace!

Sincerely, The Olympia FOR Steering Committee:

*Rozanne Rants (Co-Chair), Glen Anderson (Co-Chair),
Kim Dobson, Kerri Griffis, Holly Gwinn Graham, Bev Bassett, Chris Carson,
Bourtai Hargrove, Audrey Daye, Alex Daye, Kristen Dahle, Andrew Burgess*

YES! *I support the Olympia FOR’s work for nonviolence, social justice, and peace.*

Donations are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Today I’m contributing \$500 \$200 \$100 \$50 \$35 \$20 Other: \$_____

For the next 12 months I pledge \$_____ per quarter \$_____ per month

Print name	Phone ()
Address	E-mail
City	State Zip

Please make check payable to **Olympia FOR.** Send to **Olympia FOR, PO Box 7273, Olympia WA 98507-7273**

Thank You!