



# Jeannette Rankin PEACE CENTER

Jeannette Rankin Peace Center  
519 S Higgins  
Ave. Missoula, MT 59801  
Ph. 406.543.3955  
peace@jrpc.org  
Monday-Saturday, 10 am-7 pm  
Sunday, 12 noon-5 pm  
[www.jrpc.org](http://www.jrpc.org)

[Support the Peace Center](#)

JRPC Staff and Volunteers  
spreading peace and good  
cheer at the Downtown  
Association Holiday Party!



And here's a [greeting](#)  
from our Director

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***"Let there be peace on Earth, and let it begin with me."***

Dear friends,

The song "Let There be Peace on Earth" has become a global anthem for peace. Despite the violence and injustice that surrounds us, we continue to sing this song, and in the singing, affirm our optimism, hope, and continued belief that peace is possible. Perhaps, most importantly, the song acknowledges our own responsibility for bringing this possibility to light. On this Solstice morning, that light is more needed than ever. Remember Robert Fulghum's book, *All I Really Need To Know I Learned In Kindergarten?* Perhaps in the same way, we can best learn how to be beacons of peace in the world by "learning" from our Christmas cards...

- Take time to listen.
- Make time for family and friends.
- Share what you have with those less fortunate – time, money, talent and attention.
- Enjoy the simple pleasures of life.
- Reach out to others – next door or around the world.
- Seek harmony, understanding and patience over anger and conflict.
- Forgiveness and redemption are possible.
- Practice kindness and goodwill toward ALL.
- Look for the best in ourselves and each other.
- Celebrate and protect the wonder of the natural world.
- Cherish our children and care for all creatures great and small.
- Be a star – a light in the darkness.
- Figure out the gifts you have to give to the world and do so generously.
- Speak up and say the things that need to be said.

These ideas are not convenient or easy, but they are the call we have chosen to follow and the beginnings of peace. There are plenty of people in our neighborhoods and around the world who need our kindness and goodwill. Let us see the good in the world as we realize the ways we can let a little peace begin with us in 2018.

Whether you are celebrating Christmas, Hanukah, Kwanza, Solstice or some other holiday this season, I wish you opportunities to let peace begin with you. And on behalf of the Jeannette Rankin Peace Center Coordinating Council and myself, I thank you for continuing to sing this hopeful song, and for all the ways you support us. We hope we continue to earn your support.

In hope and peace, Betsy

**And just in case you were wondering...here's some ways you can "gift" the JRPC:**

- Remember us in your end of year giving -- we are raising money to bring our mission home to pay our own employees a living wage!
- Join JRPC, if you haven't already. And if you have -- give a gift membership or donation in someone's honor.
- Become a Rankin file sustainer. contributing \$5 or more each month to help

sustain us.

- Add a luminaria to our lighted peace sign on First Night – see below.
- Sign up to volunteer with us on a committee, in our store or on events
- Get your JRPC License Plate and help us spread the message
- The JRPC is fortunate to have received the Missoula Project for Nonprofit Excellence grant from the Missoula Community Foundation this year. (Thanks to everyone involved -- and to our wonderful consultant Terry Kendrick) As part of that we will be meeting in January to do some strategic planning for the organization and want to give you the opportunity to give us input. Tell us what is important to you at <https://goo.gl/forms/wO8DzboHCtvqfWjA2>

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## Calendar

Thursday, December 21, 5:30 pm, Caras Park. The **2017 Missoula Homeless Persons' Memorial** to remember our homeless friends, family and neighbors who have passed this year.

**December 31, 4 pm-midnight, Caras Park.** Make time in your first night evening to stop by Caras and add a luminaria to the peace sign we make each year to usher in a new year and a new wish for peace. Volunteers needed -- contact us at [volunteer@jrpc.org](mailto:volunteer@jrpc.org)

Saturday, January 6, 208 E. Main (2nd floor Union Hall Building) **New Year Aikido Intro for Beginning Adults.** Try the martial art of harmony with an orientation followed by four guided basics classes. For more information visit <http://www.AikidoMissoula.com>, call 549-8387 or come by the dojo. Preregistration required by January 3.

Monday, January 8, 11:30 am-1 pm, Doubletree Hotel. City Club of Missoula Presents: **Reaching Home: Missoula's 10-Year Plan to End Homelessness.** Reaching Home coordinator Theresa Williams, and Eran Pehan, director of the city's Office of Housing and Community Development, will review progress over the last five years and outline plans for the future.

Saturday, January 20, noon, Downtown Missoula, there will be a **Women's March in Missoula**, as well as Helena and Billings and other cities and towns in numerous states. The march will go from the Red XX's to the Wilma at noon. Then a rally will take place in the Wilma - with songs and speeches. The Montana Women's Chorus Missoula with Director Beth Youngblood will be there. Make plans now to attend.

Saturday-Sunday, February 17-18, UM. **Black Solidarity Summit: Reflecting on the Past, Preparing for the Future: Laying the Groundwork for the Next 50 Years.** This February marks the 50th anniversary of the University of Montana's Black Studies program, the third oldest program in the United States. The Black Solidarity Summit will bring together representatives from Black Student Union's, African Student Associations, and Black Studies programs around the United States to support one another and engage in discourse about vital issues impacting black students. Please visit the [Black Solidarity Summit website](#) for more details and information regarding the Summit.

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## Action Opportunities

Montana Campus Compact is looking for volunteers for **Montana's 6<sup>th</sup> Annual MLK Read for Peace event**. MLK Read for Peace is a statewide service project that places volunteers in kindergarten through fifth-grade classrooms to read students age-appropriate books about Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. as well as lead them through an activity about peace and equality. We have reading times available January 12<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>. Interested volunteers may sign up on our [Volunteer Google Sheet](#).

**War Abolition 201: Building the Alternative Global Security System.** World Beyond War is offering this course online from January 29 to March 19, 2018. It will include video and text, discussion forums, assignments, and feedback from the best instructors. It will not involve any scheduled live events; rather, you can do the course on your own schedule. This is the course to take if you've already taken our beginner's course on ending war, or if you simply want to focus on replacing war with systems of peace. Details are being added, but **you can read about it here and be the first to sign up.**

Visit the **Missoula Resistance Library** for great reading lists on topics that are relevant today.  
<https://missoularesistancelibrary.wordpress.com/>

We accept nominations for peacemaker throughout the year. Now accepting for the 2019 award. Go to <https://jrpc.org/programs/peacemaker-award/>

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Fair Trade News



Do you have any area rugs or pieces of fabric that you would be willing to donate to The Olive Branch for use in the store? We would love them to jazz up the store a bit. Please call or e-mail our store manager, Jenny Zaso, to let her know! E-mail [store@jrpc.org](mailto:store@jrpc.org) or call (406) 543-3955.

We are all decked out and stocked with great gift ideas -- with more things arriving every day! We hope to see you in the store this holiday season for all of your gift giving needs. There is nothing more rewarding than giving a fair trade gift or giving someone else the experience of shopping fair trade with a store gift certificate. Make sure your shopping matches your values at The Olive Branch -- or our neighbor Upcycled!

Check out our **online store** at <http://the-olive-branch.shoplightspeed.com>

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### Ongoing Events and Meetings

**Women in Black** Fridays, North end of the Higgins Bridge, 12:15-12:45 pm. [missoulawib@montana.com](mailto:missoulawib@montana.com)  
**Balanced View Clarity Online Call** every Sunday, 11am-noon MT time. Contact: [CheyenneRivers@BalancedView.org](mailto:CheyenneRivers@BalancedView.org).  
**Veterans For Peace** first Monday of each month (**September 11**), 4-6 pm, JRPC. 406-363-6150 or [pvaughan184@gmail.com](mailto:pvaughan184@gmail.com)  
**Citizens Climate Lobby**. 2nd Monday of every month, 6pm, Imagine Nation Brewery. Contact Scott at [sebovard@gmail.com](mailto:sebovard@gmail.com)  
**JRPC Coordinating Council** Third Monday of every month, 5:30 pm at JRPC. All are welcome to attend!  
**350Missoula Coal & Renewables Committee** third Monday of each month, 5:30 pm, Imagine Nation Brewing. [leemet@bigsky.net](mailto:leemet@bigsky.net)  
**Women in Black of Polson** Mondays, 12-12:30 pm, Polson courthouse. [c211p110@earthlink.net](mailto:c211p110@earthlink.net)  
**Knitting For Peace** every Tuesday, 1-3 pm, JRPC. 543-3955.  
**Nonviolent Communication Practice Group** Second and Fourth Wednesdays, 12-1 pm, JRPC [info@patrickmarsolek.com](mailto:info@patrickmarsolek.com)  
**The Cranium** creates origami delights Wednesdays, 1:15-3:15, JRPC. [bonnie@bonnieters.com](mailto:bonnie@bonnieters.com)  
**Time Bank Orientation** Contact [info@missoulatimebank.org](mailto:info@missoulatimebank.org) for individual and group orientation for new members at a location TBD.  
**Missoula Moves To Amend** Contact Sue at 543-3254

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### Articles Of Interest

Read this manifesto for **Transformative Social Innovation**: <https://tsimanifesto.org/> (#TSImanifesto). It was compiled with hundreds of activists, entrepreneurs, policy-makers and researchers in studying how social movements are aiming to change the world for the better.

**New Report Tracks Anti-Islam Activities in Montana**. <http://lastbestnews.com/site/2017/12/new-report-tracks-anti-islam-activities-in-montana/>

Have you read an article that inspired you? Share it with us so we can share it with others!!

Check out the Library at JRPC for lots of great resources. Donations are always welcome!

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### Ways to Help JRPC

Consider a gift membership or honor donation as a great "green" holiday gift for that hard to buy for person on your list!

And we would be honored to have you consider a donation to JRPC as you plan your end-of-year giving.

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*Jeannette Rankin Peace Center has been in Missoula since 1986, working to build non-violence, social justice and sustainability. We are pleased to be a member of the Montana Shares Network, a partnership of Montana-based nonprofit groups devoted to improving the*

quality of life in communities throughout the state. Give to JRPC through your workplace. [www.montanashares.org](http://www.montanashares.org)

The JRPC e-newsletter is sent to our listserv each Thursday. Deadline for calendar items is noon, Wednesday. We always appreciate your contributions, comments and suggestions. If you would like to be taken off our mailing list, please unsubscribe below. To sign up, click this link.

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