Here's to a new year of peacemaking!

"We all come into this world with a gift that we must give to the world."
~Malidona Some

Dear friends,

It's likely that more than a few of us are mulling over possible resolutions for the new year -- things that will make us a better, more improved "us". Many of these have to do with our appearance on the outside or the way our lives are organized and the things we will do. But I would like to encourage us not to forget the inner "us". Eckhart Tolle tells us if we "clear inner pollution, then we will also cease to create outer pollution". There is no arguing that our world is quite full of Tolle's "outer pollution". But what is our part in it and how can we help clear it? What are the things that are standing in the way of you being the more peaceful and loving person you want to be? Those would be great places to start some resolution work so that the gifts you have to give to the world can truly shine. Come join our luminaria peace sign on New Year's eve and light a candle to welcome in that new and improved you!

Looking forward to working with you all in 2018, 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

Calendar

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

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 13, 9:30 am-2 pm, University Center Ballroom. The third-annual **Art of Diplomacy Conference**, hosted by the Maureen and Mike Mansfield Center, returns to Missoula to continue the discussion of how culture is shaping our world. The event will be held in conjunction with Rocky Mountain Ballet's 2018 Ballet Beyond Borders, an international dance competition and film festival held in Missoula, MT. The conference will feature performances from around the world, coupled with engaging panel discussions examining the role of art and movement in science, social justice, youth empowerment, leadership, diplomacy and more. The event is free and open to the public; a light lunch will be served. All attendees are asked to register for the event by January 12th.

Mondays, January 15-February 12, 6-7:30 pm, 210 N. Higgins, Suite 207. Join Patrick Marsolek for an engaging exploration of essential communication skills based on the work of Marshall Rosenberg and the Center for Nonviolent Communication. You can learn the importance of feelings and how they connect with your inner values and needs and direct your actions, communications, emotional expressions and all forms of behavior. You can practice recognizing and valuing other people’s expression of their values and needs. $75 or $140 for two. Register Online here: [http://www.innerworkingsresources.com/CommunicationMissoula](http://www.innerworkingsresources.com/CommunicationMissoula) Contact Patrick Marsolek at: 406-443-3439 or info@PatrickMarsolek.com

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](http://www.innerworkingsresources.com/CommunicationMissoula) for more details and information regarding the Summit.

### Action Opportunities

Roots Action and others are joined together to urge the world to **support an Olympic Truce**. You can sign the petition at [https://act.rootsaction.org/p/dia/action4/common/public/?action_KEY=13181](https://act.rootsaction.org/p/dia/action4/common/public/?action_KEY=13181)

Visit the [Missoula Resistance Library](https://missoularesistancelibrary.wordpress.com/) for great reading lists on topics that are relevant today.

**We accept nominations for peacemaker throughout the year. Now accepting for the 2019 award. Go to** [https://jrpc.org/programs/peacemaker-award/](https://jrpc.org/programs/peacemaker-award/)

### 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.
Ongoing Events and Meetings

**Women in Black**  Fridays, North end of the Higgins Bridge, 12:15-12:45 pm.  missoulawib@montana.com  
**Balanced View Clarity Online Call**  every Sunday, 11am-noon MT time.  Contact: CheyenneRivers@BalancedView.org.  
**Veterans For Peace**  first Monday of each month (September 11), 4-6 pm, JRPC.  406-363-6150 or pvaughan184@gmail.com  
**Citizens Climate Lobby**  2nd Monday of every month, 6pm, Imagine Nation Brewery.  Contact Scott at 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  
**Women in Black of Polson**  Mondays, 12-12:30 pm, Polson courthouse.  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  
**The Cranium**  creates origami delights Wednesdays, 1:15-3:15, JRPC.  bonnie@bonnietarses.com  
**Time Bank Orientation**  Contact info@missoulatimebank.org  for individual and group orientation for new members at a location TBD.  
**Missoula Moves To Amend**  Contact Sue at 543-3254

Articles Of Interest

Christmas in the Trenches Music Video  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QTXhZ4uR6rs  
Kathy Kelly says Let Yemenis Live  https://www.antiwar.com/blog/2017/12/22/kathy-kelly-says-let-yemenis-live/  
Why some Families are Boycotting Presents this Year  https://www.washingtonpost.com/business/economy/our-kids-were-just-so-ungrateful-why-some-families-are-boycotting-presents-this-year/2017/12/22/de9dd9cc-cb37-11e7-b0cf-7689a9f2d84e_story.html?utm_term=.b33a184638a1  

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!

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.

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  

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.
To unsubscribe from this newsletter click here
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