Only 2 Weeks Left to Register!!

Check out our special tour of South Vietnam with Marilyn Marler & Carla Abrams

Feb 22-March 9, 2018

You are invited to join us on this intense 13-day hiking and biking field adventure to Dong Nai Biosphere Reserve.

https://jrpc.org/vietnam2018

Sign up by December 15!

"If we are to teach real peace in this world, and if we are to carry on a real war against war, we shall have to begin with the children." ~Mahatma Gandhi

Dear friends,

The holidays are especially exciting for children. Is it the lights, the treats, the traditions, the parades, the events, or is it instead about the stuff we give and get. I don’t have children but I do appreciate my relationship with my grown step-son and my young nieces and nephews and all the love and lessons I cherish with them. At their various ages, they are exposed to lots of ideas and are developing their own perspectives and opinions. Each year, the holidays present a challenge for me to find ways to live my values and also respect their developing desires and personalities. Molding responsible future citizens is a daunting task, but one that is critical for all of us as a community. Parents and teachers are perhaps the greatest keepers of peace and justice because of their role in shaping young minds. And the holidays can present us all with opportunities to practice – and teach what we believe.

Of all the things that the Peace Center has done over the years, one of my very favorites is Kid's Night each December where we open the store to young shoppers. They bring a list of folks to shop for and a budget. Our volunteers help them one-on-one select the perfect fair trade gifts. Then there is the wrapping that makes it even more special. Our young peacemakers get to practice a little independence while learning a bit about fair trade. And parents get a little time alone! With a store full of youngsters and volunteers, it can be pretty overwhelming. But it is also one of the most rewarding nights of the year. It's been happening each year since the mid-1990’s, and I can tell you it makes an impact. One of our young shoppers is now a member of our Coordinating council and many come back to be volunteers.

Kid's Night at the Peace Center -- tomorrow night from 5 to 7 pm. Do you have young peacemakers who might enjoy this experience? We would love to help them and celebrate the future...Betsy

Speaking of young peacemakers -- hats off to Ella Seaver and Mary Jaeger
for their work on the successful campaign to name the new Missoula School after Jeannette Rankin. She would be SO proud of you -- as we are. And we are looking forward to ways to collaborate with the new Jeannette Rankin Elementary School!

Calendar

Thursday, November 30, 5:30 pm, Masquer Theatre. Lecture: ‘After One Hundred Years: Montana and the Great War’ presented by UM professor Harry Fritz as part of the Montana Museum of Art & Culture exhibit “Over There! Montanans in the Great War.”

Friday, December 1, 5-7 pm, JRPC. Time once again for First Friday Kids Night! -- fair trade shopping night for children of all ages. Each year, we invite parents to drop their children off at the store to shop for their family’s holiday presents. Let us know how much they have in their budget and who they need to buy for and our volunteers will help them pick out the perfect gift -- and wrap it in recycled papers and bows! It is a fun night for the kids, who learn about fair trade items, and the excitement around choosing that special something for their loved ones. We hope to see you and your family there!

Wednesday, December 6, Details TBA. Join Women's Voices For The Earth for a showing of the film, Tomorrow. This is an inspiring film that highlights innovative solutions to the number of issues our world is currently facing with a strong emphasis on community development. YouTube trailer here.

Thursday, December 7, 5-8 pm, Imagine Nation Brewing. Climate Smart Missoula's Year 2 Celebration. Join Climate Smart in the INBC taproom and community room for a fun, festive celebration of our second full year! Come say hello, hear what we've been up to this past year and what's on the agenda for the next, and help us honor the "Smarty Pants" who are helping us build a climate smart community (5:30 awards). Snacks, INBC beverages, raffle, sweet solar lanterns for sale, and a great opportunity to support our work to address climate change in Missoula. Family friendly with kids activities. See you there!

Thursday December 7, 7:30-9 pm, Open Way Mindfulness Center (702 Brooks). Mindful Community Conversations Series will feature a discussion on Grief and Loss led by Greg Grallo. Format: Sitting meditation (10 minutes), Speaker (30 minutes), Open sharing/questions. 549-9005 or openwaysangha@gmail.com

Saturday, December 9, 5 pm, U of M Ballroom. The Annual Missoula Gay Men's Chorus Christmas Cabaret, the single fund raiser for the Chorus. Besides dinner and musical entertainment, there is also a raffle. Tickets are $50 and available by contacting Gary Bowman at Morgenroth Music Store.

Wednesday, December 13, 12 noon, JRPC (2nd and 4th Wed. every month). Patrick Marsolek leads a free practice group for those interested in learning to use Nonviolent Communication Techniques more effectively. 2nd and 4th Wednesday each month. Join him to learn more about this critical skill. www.InnerWorkingsResources.com

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.

Action Opportunities

Tips for Hosting Greener Holiday Gatherings https://www.womensvoices.org/2017/11/17/tip-of-the-month-greener-holiday-gatherings/ Plus remember, JRPC has a dish pantry so you can borrow cloth napkins, plates, silverware and even candle holders and vases -- for a small donatino or free for members of JRPC!

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-
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

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@bonnietareses.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


**A SURPRISING SURGE OF HOPE: 12 SPIRITUAL LEADERS ON THE YEAR AFTER THE 2016 ELECTION** http://auburnseminary.org/surprising-surge-hope-12-spiritual-leaders-year-2016-election/

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.