"THE FIRST DUTY OF LOVE IS TO LISTEN." - PAUL TILlich

"I showed up at the shelter to do intakes one day...I spent the next three hours with little children screaming for their parents. - Maite Garcia, a Florence Project attorney

Friends, we have all heard the heart-breaking news of children separated from their parents at our southern border. And I am sure we have all wondered what we can do to reconcile this national crisis. The Florence Project is an answer. In the last 9 months, they have worked with 661 children forcibly separated from their parents -- children who couldn't tell them a parent's name to help locate them, only Mommy or Daddy! Many families have been reunited but there are few victories. Toxic stress will follow these children throughout their lives affecting generations to come. The Florence Immigrant & Refugee Rights Project (FIRRP) is on the front lines in Florence, Arizona representing parents and children and fighting for the rights of both. A Paul Tillich quote tells us the "first duty of love is to listen". It is important for us to hear these stories, but these families need more and the need grows daily as more displaced families arrive at the border fleeing violence. Next week, the JRPC, Soft Landing, Montanans for Immigrant Justice and St. Paul Lutheran Church are sponsoring an evening of music from some of our most inspiring voices. Together we can raise money to support the FIRRP so they can represent more families, add social workers and other support staff and keep working to end this crisis. Please join us on Thursday, March 21 at 7 pm at St. Pauls for an amazing evening. I can assure you the voices of the Montana Women's Chorus, Missoula chapter, the Pura Vida Chorus and the Congolese Choir will inspire you -- and we will ahve the opportunity to open our hearts and be part of the solution...Betsy

Calendar

Saturday, March 16, 9 am noon, Home Resource. Come join local climate advocate groups in illuminating collective paths forward and making sure that path is equitable and affordable at 100% Clean Energy: A Livable Missoula for All. The priority registration deadline is this Sunday. Cost: Free and food and childcare is provided with registration! Sponsored by: Montana chapter of the Sierra Club, Climate Smart Missoula, 350 Montana, Forward Montana, Home ReSource, Missoula Urban Demonstration Project, and the UM Climate Action Collective. You can register here. Session will be repeated on Monday, March 18, 5:30-8:30 pm, Missoula Public Library.

Saturday, March 16, 9-12 am, MT State Capitol. The House Human Services Committee will hear House Bill 425, which would lift the Medicaid expansion sunset, and protect the healthcare of nearly 1 in 10 Montanans in Room 152. MT Human Rights Network will hold a rally at noon in the Capitol Rotunda.

Sunday, March 17, 11 am-5 pm, University Center. UM’s Global Engagement Office and International Student Association invite you to The 27th annual International Festival to promote internationalism, multiculturalism, and intercultural awareness and appreciation among the UM and wider Missoula community. Enjoy 5 hours of contemporary and traditional
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enjoy a range of contemporary and traditional international performances at the International Culture Show, an interactive Children's show with over 15 activities, a global Expo with over 40 booths featuring community and campus groups with a diverse range of global cultural focuses (including JRPC!), a newly expanded food truck section and much more!

Monday, March 18; April 22; May 20 and June 17, 7 pm, The Roxy. Join the Spring World View Film Series: Cultures in Harmony sponsored by Arts Missoula and partners.

- March 18, Afghan Star [Afghanistan] Sponsored by: Jeannette Rankin Peace Center
- June 17, The Singing Revolution [Estonia] Sponsored by: The International Choral Festival

Tuesday, March 19, 4-8 pm, 5 on Black Missoula Locations. Have a great healthy meal for peace! Let the servers know you are dining for peace and JRPC will get a portion of the proceeds. Thanks!

Tuesday, March 19, 7pm, Lewis and Clark Library, Helena. Film "Occupation of the American Mind: Israel's Public Relations War" https://www.facebook.com/events/341958353082286/ sponsored by the Helena Service for Peace and Justice/SERPAJ

Tuesday, March 19, 6 pm, Studio 5, PARTV building, UM campus. South & South-East Asian Studies and the School of Dance are organizing a classical Indian dance (Bharata Natyam) performance with Ganesh Vasudevam. Bharata Natyam is an ancient, athletic and androgynous dance form, in which the dancer, of whatever gender, takes the roles of males, females, Gods, Goddesses and other beings. He will also take a master class on 20 March at the same venue. This will focus on choreography in the Bharata Natyam ballet he composed, called Life of Pi. Observers are welcome. This is free and open to the public.

Wednesdays, March 20-April 24, noon-12:50 pm, UM Campus. The Mansfield Center announces its spring schedule for the Mansfield Dialogues, a community lecture series that reflects the center’s mission to promote an understanding of Asia, public affairs and ethics and the theme, Challenges to a Peaceful World in 2019. The dialogue sessions are free and open to the public. For more information and extended session descriptions, visit http://www.umt.edu/mansfield/events/mansfield-dialogue.php or call 406-243-2988.

- March 20, Mansfield Library Theta Rho Room: “Beyond the Cyber Hype: What We Know and What Is New About the Politics of Cyber Security,” presented by Dr. Eva-Maria Maggi, visiting assistant professor in UM’s Department of Political Science.
- April 10, University Center Room 332: “Yemen’s Spiraling Humanitarian Disaster,” presented by Owen Sirrs, adjunct faculty, UM’s Mansfield Defense Critical Language and Culture Program.
- April 24, University Center Room 330: “Conflicting Claims: The Challenges of Managing Shared Natural Resources,” presented by Fellows in the U.S. Department of States’ Young Southeast Asian Leaders Initiative.

Wednesday, March 20, 6:30 pm, Gallagher Business Building Room 123. The sixth annual Global Public Health Lecture Series tackles some of the most pressing global health issues facing the world today. Tonight hear Breanna Barger- Kamate, MD, "Montana to Mali and Back Again: One UM Grad's Journey to a Career in Global Health". Free and open to the public. For additional information visit http://hs.umt.edu/globalpublichealth, or contact Kelly Yarns at 406-270-0869 or kelly.yarns@mso.umt.edu.

- 4/3 -- Chris Siegler, "The Secret Ingredient in International Development"
- 4/10 -- Deborah Goldman, CNM, ARNP, MPH, "Addressing High Maternal Mortality & the Right to Safe, Respectful Maternity Care"
- 4/17 -- Leigh Taggart, MPH, BSN, "Sustainable Community Development in Morocco’s High Atlas Mountains"
- 4/24 -- Jonah Attebery, MD, "The Head & the Heart: What Global Health Research has to Teach us About Healthcare in Montana". Plus, 8 pm, Spring Celebration in Brantley Hall.

Wednesday, March 20, 7 pm, The Roxy. In celebration of Women's History Month, every Wednesday there will be films directed by women, starring women. This week will feature PERSEPOLIS

Wednesday, March 20, 7-9 pm, Missoula Senior Center. Local musicians perform to benefit the Missoula Senior Center (MSC), all come with appropriate refreshments (from baklava to pasties to hamantashen). Admission is $10 each ($5 for MSC members) Tonight Chutzpa shares the music of Klezmer from Eastern Europe to the Middle East.

Thursday, March 21, 7 pm, St. Paul's Lutheran Church (202 Brooks). The Montana Women's Chorus of Missoula, Pura Vida Community Chorus and the Congolese Chorus present a benefit concert for those seeking asylum on our southern border. Proceeds will go to The Florence Immigrant & Refugee Rights Project. Founded in the 1980’s in Florence, AZ, the 501(c)3 non-profit provides free legal and social services to immigrant men, women and children under threat of deportation. Suggested donation is $15/person and $25/family. Additional donations are welcome. Please join us for an evening of music and solidarity for migrants at the border.

Wednesday, March 27, 7 pm, The Roxy. In celebration of Women's History Month, every Wednesday there will be films directed by women, starring women. This week will feature WAITRESS.

Wednesday, March 27, 7-9 pm, Missoula Senior Center. Local musicians perform to benefit the Missoula Senior Center (MSC), all come with appropriate refreshments (from baklava to pasties to hamantashen). Admission is $10 each ($5 for MSC members) Tonight Basses Covered serves up favorites from the 50s to the present.

Sunday, March 31, 1-3 pm JRPC. Earth Within flowers invites Mothers and Daughters to come weave Spring Flower Crowns inspired with a selection of flowers and herbs. To Reserve your spot please RSVP register at https://earthwithin.com/workshops/. Donations accepted at the door.

Monday, April 1, 6:30-8 pm, UC Theater. Refuge in a Changing World: Climate Change, Migration and Homeland Security with author Todd Miller. There will be discussion after and a chance to buy signed books. Sponsored by JRPC, Climate Smart Missoula, Soft Landing Missoula, and UM History, Climate Change and Journalism Depts.

Saturday, April 6, 6 pm, Blessed Trinity Catholic Community (1473 Eaton Street). Celebrate the long-awaited, authorized biography A DISARMING SPIRIT: The Life of Archbishop Raymond Hunthausen (www.tschajpublishers.com) at a reading and conversation. Read his obituary and the Governor's Proclamation about him. Other similar events are:

- Sunday, April 7, 11 am, Blessed Trinity Catholic Community
- Wednesday, April 10, 7 pm, Fact and Fiction Book Store

Monday-Friday, April 8-12, SALAM is proud to hold its annual Celebrate Islam Week featuring a banquet on Monday, 5:30 pm at First Presbyterian Church (tickets available here) with keynote speech "Heart-Love: A Muslim Mother's Journey Into America" with Asmaa al-Bakr, a refugee advocate and caseworker, and a Syrian refugee herself. Other events include:

- Tuesday, 4/9, 12 noon-2 pm, University Main Hall, "Women in Interfaith: Finding a Place in Religion" panel discussion
- Wednesday, 4/10, 7 pm, LA 011, "Me and the Mosque" film
- Thursday, 4/11, 6-8 pm, Rankin Hall 202, "How Islamic Faith and Cultural Identity Affect Muslim Refugee Wellbeing" presentation by Diana Diakow
- Friday, 4/12, UC331. "An Evening of Calligraphy and Cultural Arts"

Saturday-Friday, April 13-19, The Roxy. Wildlife Film Festival has many great selections, including The River and the Wall, about the impact of a USA-Mexico border wall on wildlife. Migratory corridors would be eliminated, dispersal events could no longer occur, and access to the Rio Grande River would be cut off for both wildlife and humans. Last year it was a hshot and this year a full-length documentary screening Sunday April 14, 7 pm and Tuesday, April
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16, 7:30 pm. Hope you can join us

**Wednesday April 17, 5:30-7 pm, Western Cider.** Join Earth Within Flowers to create a locally-sourced succulent centerpiece that symbolizes the renewal of Spring-time. $55 by 4/1 and $65 after. [https://earthwithin.com/workshops/](https://earthwithin.com/workshops/)

**Wednesday, April 24, noon-5 pm, JRPC.** Join the Missoula Human Trafficking Task Force for the second annual Red Sand Project, a participatory artwork that uses red sand in sidewalkcracks to create opportunities for people to question, connect and take action against vulnerabilities that can lead to human trafficking and exploitation.

**Thursday, April 25.** Imagine Nation Brewing Co. The Missoula Human Trafficking Task Force is having a tap room dialogue on Human Trafficking in Montana and Missoula. The panel includes MPD Detective Guy Baker, CVA Erin Shrader and Ivan MacDonald from the Missoula Urban Indian Health Center.

**Sunday May 5, 1-3 pm, Western Cider.** Make Spring Wreaths with Earth Within flowers using locally sourced fresh flowers and foliage that will dry nicely! $55 by 4/1 and $65 after. [https://earthwithin.com/workshops/](https://earthwithin.com/workshops/)

**Friday-Sunday, June 14-16, Har Shalom.** Shabbaton Weekend to celebrate Har Shalom's future and Rabbi Laurie Franklin's ordination. [http://www.har-shalom.org](http://www.har-shalom.org)

**Wednesday-Sunday, July 10-14, Camp Mimanagish, Boulder River Valley, Montana, PRIDE Camp** for LGBT+ families and children, couples, children, individuals, or any combination of LGBT+. It will encompass a spiritually broad based program to assist families, children and their families, and individuals to connect with a God of their own understanding without fear of judgment or condemnation for whom they are. [https://www.mimanagish.org/pride](https://www.mimanagish.org/pride)

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**Action Opportunities**

Footloose Montana asks us to contact our state representatives and urge them to **vote against HB 552** which would remove setbacks for wolf traps on roads seasonally closed by gates, cable and other temporary structures and eliminate FWP’s authority to restore trap setbacks along these decommissioned roads! HB 552 has one last vote in the full House of Representatives. Contact your representative at [https://leg.mt.gov/legislator-lookup/](https://leg.mt.gov/legislator-lookup/) And write all members of the house and the House Appropriations, House Business and Labor, House Judiciary, House State Administration, and House Taxation committees at [https://leg.mt.gov/web-messaging/](https://leg.mt.gov/web-messaging/). As extra insurance, also urge Governor Bullock to veto it if it passes the House. [governor@mt.gov](mailto:governor@mt.gov)

Climate Smart Missoula has a resolution to Missoula's city and county governments to commit to **100 percent clean electricity by 2030**. City Councilors and County Commissioners are poised to consider the resolution at their meetings the first week of April. So it's coming right up. Sign a letter-of-support here: [http://threefiftymissoula.modwest.com/lists/lt.php?id=bUtVAA dJVQgASgRTAw](http://threefiftymissoula.modwest.com/lists/lt.php?id=bUtVAA dJVQgASgRTAw)

JRPC is collecting money to plant a tree in Jeannette Rankin Park in honor of Mike Chessin. Please contact us if you would like to donate!

We accept nominations for peacemaker throughout the year. Now accepting for the 2020 award. Go to [https://jrpc.org/programs/peacemaker-award/](https://jrpc.org/programs/peacemaker-award/)

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**Fair Trade News**

Missoula's only all fair trade store, a program focused on JRPC's international peacebuilding efforts. Who wouldn't love a gift that brings more peace and justice to the world!!!

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**Ongoing Events and Meetings**

**Climate Smart Missoula.** Second Tuesday of every month. Topics vary. 5 - 7 pm, Imagine Nation Brewing Co.

Contact: [amy@climatesmartmissoula.org](mailto:amy@climatesmartmissoula.org)
Women in Black & Veterans For Peace Fridays, North end of the Higgins Bridge, 12:15-12:45 pm. missoulawib@montana.com
Balanced View Clarity Online Call Sundays, 11am-noon, or Mondays 5-6pm. Contact: CheyenneRivers@BalancedView.org. Visit http://www.Bright.how.
Veterans For Peace first Monday of each month, 4-6 pm, JRPC. 406-363-6150 or pvaughan184@gmail.com
JRPC Coordinating Council Third Monday of every month, 5:30 pm at JRPC. All are welcome to attend!
Women in Black of Polson Mondays, 12-12:30 pm, Polson courthouse. e211p110@earthlink.net
Knitting For Peace every Tuesday, 1–3 pm, JRPC. 543-3955.
Jewish Reading Group: one Wednesday evening a month, usually the 3rd Wednesday. The next date is February 27. readingjewsmissoula@gmail.com
Nonviolent Communication Practice Group Second and Fourth Wednesdays, 12-1 pm, JRPC info@patrickmarxolek.com
The Cranium creates origami delights every 1st, 3rd and 5th Wednesday, 1:15-3:15, JRPC. bonnie@bonnietarjes.com
Time Bank Orientation Contact info@missoulatimebank.org for individual and group orientation for new members at a location TBD.
Montana Moves To Amend statewide phone calls 4th Tuesday of each month. Contact Sue at 543-3254

Articles Of Interest

How To Tell High School Students About War and Peace

Have you read a good article that you'd like to share? Send us a link and we'll take a look!

Ways to Help JRPC

- We want to reimagine our community room space and we are looking for folks to help. If you have ideas or creative energy to share, please call us.
- We are starting the planning for our fall Peace Party -- and we need you!! Give us a call!

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.

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