

2015 Annual Regional Conference at Seabeck
 Western Washington Fellowship of Reconciliation
 225 N. 70th Street
 Seattle, WA 98103

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Peace, Justice and Sustainability



Strengthening THE LINKS

2015 Conference Schedule

Thursday	4:00	Registration (till 9:45)	Saturday	7:00	Nature Walk and Meditation
July 2	6:00	Continuous Soup and Salad Bar	July 4	8:00	Breakfast
	7:00	Drop by and Meet Children's Program Leaders		9:00	Sing-Along and Announcements
	8:00	Welcome, Orientation		9:45	Keynote 2
	9:00	Youth Group Meet and Plan		11:00	National Meeting, Reports, and Discussion
	9:00	Ad Hoc Groups and Social Time		12:15	Lunch
Friday	7:00	Nature Walk and Meditation		1:15	Workshop III
July 3	8:00	Breakfast		3:00	Break
	9:00	Sing-Along and Announcements		3:15	Remembrances
	9:45	Keynote 1		4:30	Interfaith Gathering
	11:15	Introduce Workshop Leaders Sign Up for Workshops		5:45	Carpool to Salmon Bake
	12:00	Lunch	Sunday	6:00	Salmon Bake at the Beach
	1:00	Workshop I	July 5	7:15	Talent Show
	2:45	Break		7:00	Nature Walk and Meditation
	3:00	Workshop II		8:00	Breakfast
	4:45	Break		9:00	Pack Up and Clean Up
	5:00	WA and OR Regional Meetings		9:15	Activist Fair
	6:15	Dinner		11:15	Break
	7:15	Ad Hoc Groups and Social Time		11:30	Closing Circle
				12:00	Lunch
				1:00	Leave Seabeck
				1:30	Post-Conference Event?

**Fellowship of Reconciliation
 57th Pacific Northwest
 Regional Seabeck Conference
 Thursday - Sunday
 July 2 - July 5, 2015**



Peace, Justice and Sustainability: Strengthening the Links

What links will we strengthen? Sometimes the links involve values more than anything else: reverence for the dignity of all humans underlies our efforts whether we are working to end CIA torture, improve education, raise the minimum wage, or end police racial profiling. Sometimes the links involve methods: Cannot street theater and other joyful protest help stop wars and foster racial understanding? Sometimes the links involve our philosophy of life, as we apply nonviolent words and methods to our daily interactions as well as to our global solutions. Sometimes the links are clear as we recognize that climate change will hurt the poor the most all over the world and rising oceans will affect coastal peoples of color most directly, from New Orleans to Pacific atolls. Sometimes it takes decades to see the environmental links of the poisons used in warfare, natural resource exploitation or the greed of corporate development and expansion.

As we share the lovely space at Seabeck with its mountain and water views for the 3 days and nights we will be together, we will consider how we can work more effectively for the goals we have, individually and collectively: sharing the world's resources more equitably, creating the inclusive beloved community, saving our beautiful blue and green planet. Let us teach and learn together how better to put our shared values and visions into realistic action.

What is new this year:

An Activist Fair replaces one of the Workshop Sessions. See page 3 for description.
There will be NO SILENT AUCTION this year and the live/oral auction will be different. See page 6.

The Children's Program: The Children's program for 3 to 11 year olds will be led by Nora Walsh and Jamie Martineau. Activities will be geared to the needs and interests of the individual children, and will develop a sense of community through play and mutual problem solving. We celebrate and explore our beautiful surroundings with walks and outdoor games. We rely on adults and youth attending the conference to volunteer their time and talents to assist us. Beyond Seabeck, Nora teaches art with young people in a variety of settings.

Youth Program: The Youth Program for 12 to 19 year old attendees will feature workshops following two threads, "The Power in Your Voice" and "What is Youth Driven Activism?" Participants will explore their own perspectives & experiences and express them through writing & performance of poetry/spoken word/hip-hop curriculum. They will also develop a discussion of what is important to their generation and how to be the change they want to see. These workshops will culminate in a poetry/spoken word segment at the Talent Show and a youth-led discussion during the Sunday Activist Fair and a possible family supported direct action after the conference. The Youth Advisors are: Margot Zimsen, returning to our youth program, which she co-led in 2013. She works with the Unitarian Pacific Northwest Conference, facilitating their ongoing intentional youth-created, youth-run community. She is a full time student, becoming a massage therapist. Shane Knode is a community organizer, hip-hop artist, and youth educator. He has worked with youth in the public school, mental health, and prison systems. He is the director of MOBROLL, a Puget Sound festival of music, bicycles, film, & art, and runs a business consultation/event design/project management group called GIANT OCTOPUS. He is an Evergreen graduate, and lives on board his 44 ft. sailboat.

Exciting news this year is that the conference will have dual youth programs. The FOR Mike Yarrow Peace Fellowship program (formerly the Peace Activist Training program) will culminate their week long training at Seabeck. The two groups of young people will have many opportunities to learn from and with each other, sharing fun and social time together.

Volunteer Opportunities

We need your help! To make the children's programs work, we need volunteer assistance from attending adults – both parents and non-parents. We do have children and youth program coordinators and a paid lifeguard, and the Seabeck staff provides our meals from Thursday dinner through Sunday lunch. But we need volunteers of all ages to help with:

- Children's and youth program helpers
- Thursday greeters and registration helpers
- First Aid volunteers
- Bookstore volunteers
- AV/Technical support
- Auction helpers
- Bell ringers

Please indicate on the registration form what jobs you are willing to do. Thanks! There will also be lots more opportunities to volunteer on-site.

DIRECTIONS TO SEABECK

From Canada and Points North via EDMONDS-KINGSTON FERRY: After departing the ferry follow Highway 104. Continue straight onto Bond Road (follow signs to Bremerton/Poulsbo). At the Bond Road-Highway 305 stoplight turn right onto Highway 305 and follow the signs to Highway 3 southbound. Exit Highway 3 at the Newberry Hill Road exit and turn Right onto Newberry Hill Road. When you come to a "T" in the road, turn right onto Seabeck Highway. Follow the signs to Seabeck Conference Center. (Estimated travel time from Kingston: 45 min)

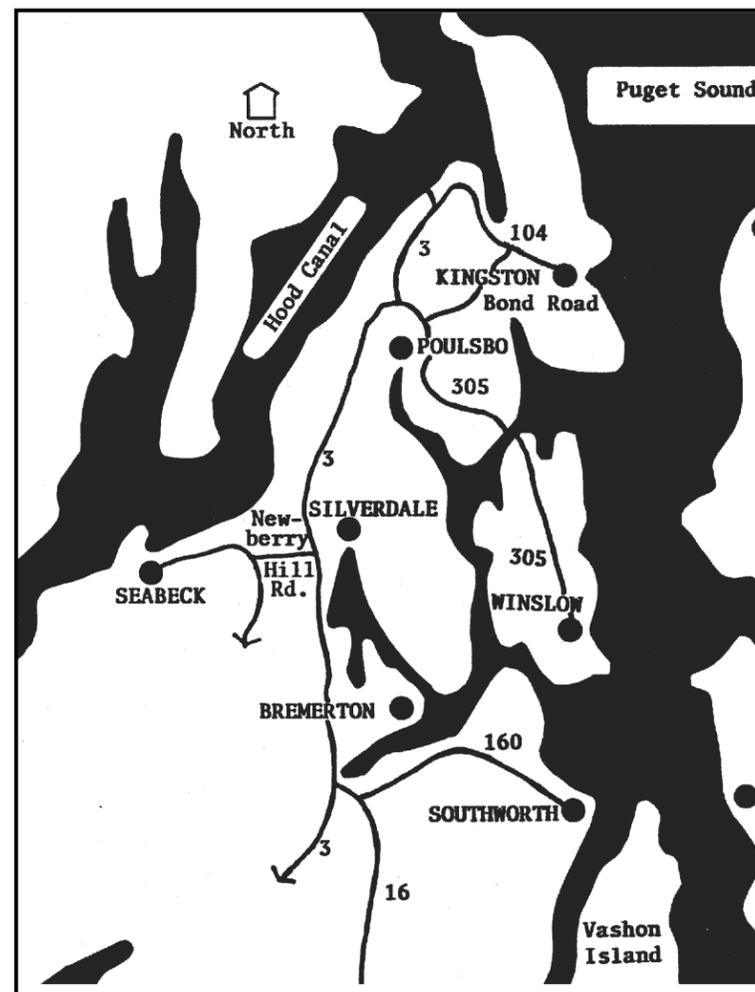
SEATTLE-BREMERTON FERRY: After exiting the ferry tunnel continue west on SR 304/Burwell St, follow signs to SR 3 Silverdale. Turn onto Highway 3 northbound. Exit Highway 3 at the Newberry Hill Road exit and turn Left onto Newberry Hill Road. When you come to a "T" in the road, turn right onto Seabeck Highway. Follow the signs to Seabeck Conference Center. (Estimated travel time from Bremerton: 30 min)

SEATTLE-BAINBRIDGE ISLAND FERRY: After departing the ferry continue straight on Highway 305. Continue on Highway 305 off Bainbridge Island and through Poulsbo onto Highway 3 southbound. Exit Highway 3 at the Newberry Hill Road exit and turn Right onto Newberry Hill Road. When you come to a "T" in the road, turn right onto Seabeck Highway. Follow the signs to Seabeck Conference Center. (Estimated travel time from Bainbridge Island: 50 min)

FAUNTLEROY-SOUTHWORTH FERRY: After departing the ferry turn left onto Highway 160 through Port Orchard and onto Highway 16 westbound then follow Highway 3 northbound. Exit Highway 3 at the Newberry Hill Road exit and turn Left onto Newberry Hill Road. When you come to a "T" in the road, turn right onto Seabeck Highway. Follow the signs to Seabeck Conference Center. (Estimated travel time from Southworth: 45 minutes)

FROM TACOMA: From Interstate 5 take Highway 16 westbound to Highway 3 northbound. Exit Highway 3 at the Newberry Hill Road exit and turn Left onto Newberry Hill Road. When you come to a "T" in the road, turn right onto Seabeck Highway. Follow the signs to Seabeck Conference Center. (Estimated travel time from Tacoma: 1 hour)

If you are lost or need to reach a Conference participant, the phone number for the Seabeck Conference Center is 360-830-5010.



SEABECK CONFERENCE CENTER

Seabeck is on beautiful Hood Canal, fifteen miles west of Bremerton, Washington. Bedding and towels are provided to guests at the Conference Center. Sleeping in RVs is not permitted. Family style meals will be served from Thursday dinner through Sunday lunch. Vegetarian meals will be served, with meat available at some meals. If you have special dietary needs, please indicate this on the registration form. Recreation opportunities include swimming, row boating on the lagoon, tennis, horseshoes, ping-pong, volleyball, basketball, hiking, music, and crafts. Bring swimwear and comfortable shoes. Be prepared for wet, dry, warm, or cool weather.

ACCOMMODATIONS

Seabeck Conference Center's website www.seabeck.org provides descriptions of each housing building and floor plans. Except for 10 single rooms in the Inn Annex, all rooms accommodate 2 or more, and people should be prepared to have roommates. *This is a great way to make new friends.* The registrar will attempt to give couples rooms without other roommates (please indicate whether you are part of a couple on the registration form) and will house families together unless other configurations are requested.

**** Pets not allowed **** *We love our dogs, but pets are not allowed at the Seabeck Conference Center, so please leave them elsewhere.*



ACCESSIBILITY: Buildings are connected by paved sidewalks in hilly terrain. We will provide a motorized cart to be shared by our less mobile participants.

MUSIC: We are privileged to have **Tom Rawson** as song leader. Tom is a folk singer, storyteller, schoolteacher, and long-time activist with FOR. Tom and his friends Bob Morgan, Lynn Graves, and Ellen van der Hoeven have delighted Conference participants at Seabeck for many years. And you are encouraged to bring musical instruments and music for informal gatherings as well as for the Saturday evening talent show.



AUCTION and RAFFLE: The purpose of the auction and raffle is to raise money for the scholarship fund which helps many people come to Seabeck. Please bring donations of suitable items to raffle or auction (that you feel would raise at least \$50). We will auction things and skills or services. **There will not be a Silent Auction this year.**

FIRST AID: First aid services by professionals will be available throughout the conference, coordinated by the conference planning committee.



AD HOC GROUPS AND VIDEOS: Participants are welcome to organize discussion groups and to bring DVDs, videotapes, and CDs on themes of peace and justice. There is a very limited time set aside for Ad Hoc Groups, so consider participating in the 'Activist Fair' as an alternative. We will schedule rooms and equipment, but due to other activities at the conference, it may not be possible to accommodate all requests, particularly those requiring the use of equipment.

BOOKS, MUSIC, AND CRAFTS STORE. A variety of books, CDs, DVDs will be available for browsing and purchase. We will have Guatemalan crafts and fabrics for sale. **Glen Gersmehl** will coordinate the bookstore. He will bring books on a wide variety of topics from the celebrated Peace and Justice Resource Center, which he coordinates. Limited space will be available for petitions and activist literature; any items to be sold must be cleared with the Conference Planning Committee.

SCHOLARSHIPS: We strive to help as many people attend as possible and to have diversity of income level, age, race, ethnic background, spiritual beliefs, sexual orientation, and family situation. We offer low-income discounts on a sliding scale of up to \$100, available on a first-come, first-served basis. We also offer more assistance through scholarships. Residents of WA and BC may apply for scholarship by providing information on the back of the registration form. Residents of OR can apply to Laurie Childers childers@peak.org or 541-757-9025. Please submit whatever partial payment you can make, and indicate what kind of assistance you are requesting.

PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED! Lodging assignments will be made in the order received (with priority given to people staying for the whole conference and consideration of special needs when possible), so please do not delay! Send the enclosed registration form and payment by May 23. After May 23, telephone Louise Lansberry at 206-364-2037 or e-mail seabeck@wwfor.org.

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



Keynote 1: "Transformational Justice: Weaving the Tapestry of a Harmonious Ecosystem That Affirms ALL Lives."

Between corporate domination and pathological individualism, the US society has paved a path wrought with devaluation of nature and humanity. However, there are many signs that people are recognizing that we are headed in the wrong direction and are pushing back against oppression and re-envisioning systems and community. Through intentional efforts toward systems change coupled with local efforts to build cohesive, sustainable communities, hope is emerging that we can transform the harmful economic, political, cultural, and social norms in a way that affirms all lives and our collective interdependence with nature. *Currently the Director of the NAACP Environmental and*

Climate Justice, Jacqui Patterson, MSW, MPH, has served on the Boards of Directors for the US Climate Action Network, Institute of the Black World, and Center for Story Based Strategy and the Steering Committees for Interfaith Moral Action on Climate Change and the Green Group Board Members of Color, as well as serving on the Leadership Circle for the Climate Justice Alliance.



Keynote 2: "Ferguson, Faith and the Future of Democracy"

The **Rev. Osagyefo Sekou** Rev. Sekou has been working on the ground in St Louis since mid August on behalf of the Fellowship of Reconciliation. He will reflect on his time on the front lines of the Ferguson rebellion, the radical remaking of many aspects of traditional activism and the birth of a new civil rights movement. He will discuss the prophetic role of religion in revolutionary struggle and the responsibility of people of faith to move beyond allyship to become freedom fighters working to rebuild a more just America.

Sunday Morning Activist Fair: A Quasi Open Space Session

This is a session for us to share information, express opinions, accomplish quick actions, and plan actions that will occur after the conference. Attendees of all ages are invited to participate. Let's use this opportunity to strengthen the links between us and between the issues we care about.

- ◇ Some issue you'd like to tell others about? Perhaps it hasn't been included in any workshops. Set up a table with informative literature and invite all to hear about it. Why is it important and how does it relate to other issues?
- ◇ Want to share opinions about some activist issue? Set up with some chairs and invite others to sit and discuss.
- ◇ Bring out our creative writing side with an invitation to write haiku? Need a respite from the heavy issues? Make a circle for shared story telling, each person offers a single word (bonus points for activist themes!). Or lead some other fun activity.
- ◇ Or is your way of expression nonverbal? Set up an art booth, or lead a dance or exercise.
- ◇ Have an instant action? Take some table space for letters, postcards, petitions, or other good work.
- ◇ Want to build on the ideas of a workshop or talk or video shown earlier in the conference? Brainstorm ideas and exchange contact info for post-conference continuations.
- ◇ Or just come and circulate, discuss, read, write, dance, and whatever else you want to do. Collect literature, ideas, and inspiration; take some instant actions or plan for the future.

How is this going to work? You can sign up in advance for table space by sending a description of your activity; email the coordinator via seabeck@wwfor.org or leave a message at 206-789-5565; you can also sign up during the conference. We will try to accommodate everyone who wants space, but it will be first-come, first-served!

Workshop Descriptions

- 1 - **10 Ways YOU Can Advance a Sustainable Planet that Uplifts All Rights for All People!** Whether it's our full time job, a group to which we belong, an activity we do occasionally, and/or the way we live our lives, we all have a role to play in creating and sustaining an equitable and sustainable planet. This workshop will provide guidance on large, medium, and small ways we can each contribute to the society in which we want to live, including sharing examples of ways that communities, groups, and individuals are already executing these roles and activities! *Jacqueline Patterson*
- 2 - **The Gospel Is Not a Neutral Term.** How can people of faith radically oppose the systematic oppression of infrastructural racism? How do we spread the gospel of disruption and resistance while relying on a deep abiding love for our fellow man within brutal - often lethal - structures of institutional racism? The **Rev. Osagyefo Sekou** will explore concepts of liberation theology and the practicalities inherent in siding with the oppressed, positing we follow Jesus's role as a non-violent revolutionary.
- 3 - **Artful Activism & Creative Tactics.** Explore ways that creativity can be integrated into your activism to grow your group, mobilize your community, earn media attention, and build power for a society that honors humans, community, nature, and our obligations to future generations as sacred. You will get hands-on experience with materials and equipment used to make giant banners, do light projections, and make identity building art. *Bill Moyer co-founded Backbone Campaign in 2003. After studying music as a percussionist and sound designer, the G.W. Bush administration inspired him to apply lessons of the arts to social change. He designs and produces creative political actions and provides trainings in grand strategy and creative tactics around the country. Visit their website at backbonecampaign.org to see the scope of their work.*
- 4 - **Love Wins: Lessons in Grand Strategy for Nonviolent Social Movement.** There are lessons from the study of conflict which we can directly apply to nonviolent movement building. This workshop is an interactive presentation on Grand Strategy, moral conflict, and application of lessons for nonviolent social movement from classic text *The Art of War* and its reinterpretation by Col. John R. Boyd. We will explore the diverse manifestations of agency and how they are all essential for shifting "political" calculus" and movement power for a paradigm that honors humans, community, nature, and our obligations to future generations as sacred. *Lisa Marcus and Bill Moyer. will present.*
- 5 - **Seizing a Hopeful Nonviolence Moment.** Will we grasp the huge opportunity in the 'Campaign Nonviolence' goal of 500 nonviolent actions nationwide in Sept. 2015? In this session, we'll share and discuss amazing stories, brief videos, and creative insights from 2014's FOR-supported 238 nonviolence actions and record-shattering climate change march. We'll brainstorm ways to use this moment to build nonviolence skills and action, connect the dots, and strengthen FOR. *Glen Gersmehl has sparked dialogue and action on nonviolence, justice, and climate change through 450 workshops, hundreds of articles, and 80 interviews (e.g. NPR's "All Things Considered"). Resources, leaders' guides, and computer activities written by Glen have been used by a million people. He's led many nonviolence projects, played a key role in passing major peace legislation, and served as U.S. delegate to UN Decade for Peace planning meetings held in India.*
- 6 - **Got Privilege?** Come join in this courageous conversation. We'll use a powerful dialogue process to create a supportive environment to explore white privilege: how it shows up in our world, our experiences and feelings around it, how to use it to be active, effective, anti-racist allies – and how to bring the conversation to other white friends. Everyone is welcome to this workshop. *You will be guided by Susan Partnow, Co-Founder of Conversation Café, Global Citizen Journey and Seattle Restorative Justice, seasoned Sr. Facilitator of Compassionate Listening.*
- 7 - **Idle No More ~ The Seventh Fire.** Learn about our Native perspectives and traditional practices. Learn how to go beyond western cultural mindsets and make your engagement more holistic. Explore how working with Natives toward common goals of social and environmental justice involves letting go of unconscious racism and privilege. Learn what it means to be a good ally, and how working with indigenous activists and community leaders will benefit us all. *Sweetwater Nannauck: Sweetwater is an Idle No More activist that advocates for the protection of the fragile environment of the Northwest Coast, for tribal sovereignty rights, and the traditional way of life of Native people. She is a long-time community organizer, activist for police accountability, and for Native artist's rights.*
- 8 - **Poems in Pursuit of Justice.** Dorothy Day, co-founder of the Catholic Worker movement, said "Words are as strong and powerful as bombs, as napalm". Poetry can be especially powerful in the pursuit of justice. During this workshop we will look at several approaches to writing poetry. We will write some poems and for those interested, I will follow up during the following few months to critique and encourage more poems. Our goal will be to write enough poems to create a book that can be printed and sold as a fund-raiser for WWFOR. *Larry Kerschner, until recently the editor of WWFOR's newsletter Pacific Call. Larry has self published two books of poetry "Grave Lines" and "Rimed Love"*
- 9 - **Integrating Mind, Body and Community: and Manifesting Creative Fun.** We will stretch and honor our bodies and voices as important threads in the tapestry of sustainability. Through guided exploration of easy, accessible movement and vocal play---alone, in dyads and groups---new connections emerge. An experiential workshop that will, at the outset, establish safety and trust, and lead to deeper "in-body-ment" and expression of self within community, reflecting the themes of this conference. *D'vorah Kost is currently retired from 30 years as a Clinical Social Worker She has co-created and performed mime and choreo-poetry addressing such themes as the nuclear arms race and Middle East peace.*

- 10 - **Songs of Labor, Justice & Peace** If you like to sing, this is the workshop for you! Lou will provide lyrics and information about each song. *Lou Truskoff has been a labor and justice activist in the Seattle area for the past 40 years, with a special interest in the songs of those movements. He is a founding member of the Seattle Labor Chorus*
- 11 - **Empire As A Way Of Life (moving on?)** Profits for a few through expansion at ANY cost = empire. With the premise that our national origin is derived from forceful dispossession of others, justified through a myth of exceptionalism, and built on lie after lie, we are now on the eve of a very painful era of accountability and inevitable collapse of industrial civilization. We will explore our grotesque plundering and entitlement with a lens on the potential to access our survival through ancient archetypes of cooperation, mutual respect, local community, bioregional cooperative food and simple tool economy. *S. Brian Willson is a Viet Nam veteran, trained lawyer and long time activist advocating for domestic and global justice. He has been a tax refuser since 1984. He is the author of "On Third World Legs" (Chicago: Charles Kerr, 1992); "Blood On The Tracks: The Life and Times of S. Brian Willson" (Oakland: PM Press, 2011). His essays can be found at brianwillson.com*
- 12 - **Military 'Solutions' Are Really the PROBLEM.** Choose humane, sustainable ways for TRUE Security. In our daily lives, we know better than to think violence solves problems, but at the national level the U.S. government routinely threatens and uses military violence all over the world. Militarism makes problems worse, so why does the government keep using militarism? Who benefits from this? We could achieve more profound, holistic "national security" by renouncing violence and promoting peace and fairness. This highly participatory workshop will encourage participants to share their information and insights. *Glen Anderson has worked consistently for many issues related to peace, social & economic justice, and nonviolence since the 1960s. He engages people to help them think creatively and organize at the grassroots.*
- 13 - **Immigration Rights to be announced later (check the website www.wwfor.org)**
- 14 - **Trade Agreements: Moral, Social, Political Documents** The US Constitution expresses the moral, social, and political values of the 18th Century, emphasizing individual rights, separation of powers, and checks and balances. The word "corporation" doesn't appear once in the Constitution. That document determined how life was organized in America for generations. We will explore how trade agreements express a different set of moral, social, and political values as well as these trade agreements will determine how society is organized in 2050. *Gillian Locascio is Campaign Coordinator for the Washington Fair Trade Coalition. She lived in rural communities in Central America, where she also served as a human rights observer. Stan Sorscher is President of the Washington Fair Trade Coalition, and is on staff at SPEEA, the engineering union at Boeing.*
- 15 - **Interfaith Work for Justice and Peace in Washington State & the Middle East"** Carol will discuss the work of the Faith Action Network, a statewide 501(C)(3) interfaith organization involving thousands of persons and 90 faith communities in advocacy for the common good. Ron will discuss work with Jews, Christians and Muslims for Mideast peace. *Rev Carol Jenson and Ron Young - Carol is a long time peace organizer. She is a founder and Co-Chair of the Faith Action Network, and Pastor of St. John United Lutheran Church in Seattle. Ron and Carol lived in the Middle East 1982-85, and regularly visited Israel, the West Bank and Gaza, Egypt, Jordan, Syria and Lebanon. Ron's led a dozen interfaith trips to the region, and currently is Consultant for 35 Jewish, Christian and Muslim national religious leaders working together for Israeli-Palestinian peace. Ron was FOR's National Youth Secretary 1965-72. Ron's memoir, "Crossing Boundaries in the Americas, Vietnam and the Middle East", was published in October.*
- 16 - **Organizing for Living Wages from SeaTac to Seattle.** Discuss the lessons learned from SeaTac to Seattle living wage campaigns including research to frame our messages, faith, community and small business organizing to pass local policies. Engage in group exercises to develop strategies for planning economic and racially just campaigns. *Nicole Valletero Keenan is Policy Director at Puget Sound Sage and worked on 2013 SeaTac living wage campaign research, message framing and small business organizing. In 2014 she served on Mayor Murray's Income and Inequality Task force. Claudia Alexandra Paras is Lead Organizer at Puget Sound Sage and organized faith, community and small businesses for 2013 SeaTac living wage campaign. Currently she staffs the Interfaith Economic Justice Coalition.*

Further Information

Western Washington FOR: [206-789-5565](tel:206-789-5565) wwfor@wwfor.org www.for.org
Oregon FOR: Janet Hawkins [503-453-2903](tel:503-453-2903) janetchawkins@msn.com www.ofor.org
To contact the Conference Registrar directly: Louise Lansberry [206-364-2037](tel:206-364-2037)
or seabeck@wwfor.org

ONLINE REGISTRATION: Online registration is available. Go to <http://www.wwfor.org> and click on Seabeck.

