



## Holiday Greetings



from the Common Ministry

You may not have heard from us for a while. We have been quietly re-kindling our energy to focus our efforts on restructuring this organization, and finding new ways to reach out to the WSU and local communities.

We are in the process of searching for a part-time program director who is committed to carrying out our mission of providing a safe space for spiritual development through organizing programs for students and community members.

The Common Ministry recently partnered with WSU's Center for Civic Engagement office and sponsored a "Poverty Simulation" event during the Poverty Awareness Week at WSU. We are also planning to partner with various WSU and community organizations to promote equality, social justice, and spiritual development.

Since November's presidential election, this nation seems to be divided in many ways. We are committed to interfaith understanding and promoting cooperation and collaboration to bridge differences in our communities.

We are grateful for our faithful supporters who provide encouragement to our ministry. We will keep you abreast of our search for a new program director.

Wishing you a happy holiday season,

The Common Ministry Council

"Darkness cannot drive out darkness:  
only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out  
hate: only love can do that."

Martin Luther King, Jr.

## Poverty Awareness Week

Nov. 13-19

### Poverty Simulation

Each year before Thanksgiving break WSU Center for Civic Engagement (CCE) organizes **Poverty Awareness Week** to help WSU students and the community become more aware of poverty, its causes, and to figure out what we can do about it. The Common Ministry at WSU was one of eight community organizations that partnered with the CCE to promote the various events.

The Common Ministry provided funding for the Poverty Simulation held on November 14 at St. James Episcopal Church. This event was led by Community Action Partnership from Lewiston. The simulation helped participants to "walk in the shoes" of those in poverty. Each participant was assigned the role of a member of one of fifteen families facing the challenges of getting through a month without enough resources.

This simulation was designed to help people become aware of how our neighbors' lives are affected by lack of resources and to show ways in which society is structured to benefit some more than others. We wanted participants to "see" those who are often invisible. Some participants reported being deeply affected by this simulation.





# THE COMMON MINISTRY AT WSU

PO Box 1138  
Pullman, WA 99163

*The Common Ministry welcomes new members to our interfaith community.*

**Steve Van Kuiken**, the new pastor at *Community Congregational United Church of Christ*, comes from Lake Street Church in Evanston, IL. Before that he served churches in Tennessee, Kentucky, Minnesota, Ohio and Arizona. Steve is committed to LGBTQ equality. He has also been involved with workers' rights, economic justice, immigration, affordable housing, mysticism, meditation and interspirituality.



**Linda Young** serves as Rector of *St. James Episcopal Church*, Pullman, WA. She arrived in Pullman in September, 2016 after serving as Associate Rector of Trinity Episcopal Church in Covington, Kentucky, for five years.

We look forward to partnering with these new faith leaders!



## Save the Date



**Martin Luther King, Jr. Day  
Community-wide Service**  
January 15, 2017, 4 p.m. at  
Community Congregational United  
Church of Christ.

More information will be available through our web site, [interfaith-house.com](http://interfaith-house.com)

## 2016 Common Ministry Council Members:

Jonathan Bliss  
Nicholas Cerruti  
Emi Dickens, President  
Sue Durrant, St. James Episcopal Church  
Roy Johnson, American Baptist  
Nancy Nydegger, United Church of Christ  
Brad Vonhof, Vice President

## Staff Members:

Amelia Craigen, Office Manager

## Keep in Touch!

Please provide your email address so that we can communicate with you via email. This will help us save postage and paper, and help our environment by reducing waste.

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The Common Ministry at WSU

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