



RESETTING OUR SACRED TABLE

*“Building Bridges
of Understanding”*

November 24, 2024
First United Methodist Church



Art by Andrea M Wilbur-Sigo



Introduction & Welcome

Rev. Corey Passons,
Director of Interfaith Relations with Interfaith Works

Land Acknowledgment

Charlene Krise, Executive Director,
Squaxin Island Museum Library and Research Center

Words of Welcome and Opening Blessing

Rev. Heather Sparkman,
Lead Pastor for First United Methodist Church of Olympia

Musical Interlude

The Jeffords Memorial Handbell Choir and guest musicians,
directed by Leah Wilson,
“Bridge Over Troubled Waters” by Paul Simon,
arranged by Linda Lamb

Squaxin Island Tribal Contributions

Charlene Krise, Executive Director,
Squaxin Museum Library and Research Center,
and Lisa Johns, Squaxin Museum Associate

Musical Interlude

The Jeffords Memorial Handbell Choir and guest musicians,
“Peace” an original handbell composition by Larry Sue

5-Minute Break

“Building Bridges of Understanding”

5-Minute Break

During this break we invite everyone to get up, move to a different pew, and sit next to people you don't know!

Bridge Music Project

After the performance by artists from the Bridge Music Project, break into groups of three with the people directly next to you (*and note that you can spread out throughout the sanctuary, or move your group to the Narthex if you want a quieter space for conversation*).

To begin your conversation, introduce yourself and take a moment to collectively affirm a culture of respect for potential diversity of opinions and orientations to the reflection prompts below.

Please be sure to share time equally; encourage and help each other toward this goal. Also, know that you don't need to answer ALL the questions....just start with whichever one feels right for you and go from there, even if others choose a different prompt than you.

1. Share about any gratitude practices in your life, your family, or your tradition that are meaningful to you. Why are they meaningful to you?
2. Name a value that guides your life. Where or how did you receive this value and how do you nurture it?
3. What traditions or cultures have shaped who you are? How are you aware of or in relationship with these traditions?
4. What do you feel are the greatest challenges facing our society, our collective future and the generations to come? As we face these challenges, where do you see or experience hope in our world? What does building bridges of understanding mean to you, and how might it help us in facing these challenges?



The Bridge Music Project

The Bridge Music Project is a Thurston County-based nonprofit organization that helps youth use songwriting, mentorship, performance, and community as tools to deal with life's challenges. Many of the youth The Bridge serves have experienced circumstances such as foster care, homelessness, and incarceration. The Bridge hosts songwriting workshops at prisons, music venues, and schools throughout the region.

To learn more about The Bridge's work or make a donation, visit www.bridgemusicproject.org.

Artists: Michael Jones, Victoria Standoak, Amanda Foust

Building Bridges of Understanding

(See Insert)

Musical Interlude

The Olympia Peace Singers,
"Bridge Over Troubled Waters" by Paul Simon,
arranged by Kerri Lynn Nichols, and
"Let Your Voice Be Heard" arranged by Kerri Lynn Nichols
with soloist Karen Konrad

Closing Remarks & Appreciations

Reception in the Narthex and Gathering Place



**Additional Resources
in Support of this Event
Interfaith-Works/Resources.org**

Special Thanks
Squaxin Island Tribe
First United Methodist Church
Interfaith Works Staff & Program Council
The Jeffords Memorial Handbell Choir
The Bridge Music Project
The Olympia Peace Singers
Sky Bear Media
Kathy Gilliam

Interfaith-Works.org