



*We declare our covenant with God to walk upon Earth for the greatest good of all creation.*

**Hindu Prayer**

Oh Lord God almighty, may there be peace in celestial regions. May there be peace on Earth. May the waters be appeasing. May herbs be wholesome, and may trees and plants bring peace to us...May all things be a source of peace to us. And may thy peace itself bestow peace on all, and may that peace come to me also.

--from *Peace Seeds*, [www.peaceabbey.org](http://www.peaceabbey.org)

**Connecting Earth Care and Social Action**

The Northwest Earth Care team is engaged in revisioning our purpose. We would like to know if there is sufficient interest to form a Spiritual Social Action task team in our region. If you have an interest in spiritual social action and would like to be part of the conversation, please contact Kathy O'Connor at [unityearthcare@yahoo.com](mailto:unityearthcare@yahoo.com).

**Fruits of the Work – Walking for Peace**

This quarter, we feature activities that use “sacred space” to foster inner peace and a peaceful planet.

**Labyrinth Walks**

Labyrinths are ancient—and modern—symbols of transformation. In medieval times they were walked in lieu of making pilgrimages to holy sites. Unlike mazes with false turns, a labyrinth has only one meandering path. Tradition suggests that as we walk to the center and back again, we reflect on the path of our life and pray for guidance from Spirit. It may also be a “walking meditation.”

This September, members and friends walked the outdoor labyrinth at Unity Church of North Idaho, to celebrate peace within and peace for all humanity. By lamplight they “journeyed inward” on the labyrinth, to the music of harp and native flute performed by a local artist. At dusk the group moved indoors for a ceremony of prayers and songs to honor world peace, based on a service held annually at the Fuji Peace Sanctuary in Japan. (To learn more, go to [www.byakkoblog.typepad.com](http://www.byakkoblog.typepad.com).)



An ivy-festooned cloth labyrinth (pictured above), created by church member Mary Ladwig, graces the youth ministry space at Unity Church of Spokane. On Sundays the children are invited to walk the labyrinth during free time (and when they need to expend extra energy!). They also decorate it with art and nature objects. Mary observes the labyrinth is a “walking prayer” that is quieting for the youth and plants seeds of inner peace for the future.

**Peace Poles Pilgrimage**



Peace poles, intended to foster worldwide peace consciousness, began in Japan as a response to the destruction of WWII. For this fall’s “11 Days of Global Unity,” members of Spokane’s many faith communities gathered at seven (of 17) peace poles dotted around the city. (Unitarian-Universalist pole is pictured at left.) After sharing prayers from each of the major faith traditions, a progressive dinner was

held at the last three sites, at Unity Church of Spokane, Center for Spiritual Living, and Clare Retreat Center. Fellowship and good food were abundant! Go to [www.onepeacemanypaths.org](http://www.onepeacemanypaths.org) for more about Spokane’s “11 Days” celebration.

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See more photos at [www.unitynwregion.org](http://www.unitynwregion.org), select /Programs/EarthCare.