

# WWFOR Fall Retreat November 21, 2020

## What's Next . . .

### ~ Moving Into The Great Turning ~

Through the lens of Active Hope

Joanna Macy's *Three Stories and the Work That Reconnects*



## ~ Because We Are The Ones We've Been Waiting For ~

Participate and listen to leaders working for racial justice, climate action, the end of nuclear weapons, and an equitable, sustainable society. A four hour Zoom schedule is being planned, beginning at 9am, running until 1pm with “breakout sessions” and a musical interlude included. Speakers will include FOR-USA Director, Rev. Dr. Emma Jordan-Simpson, equity and social justice consultant Dr. Karen Johnson, and Backbone Campaign co-founder Bill Moyer.

Review non-violent strategies to implement our principles in public action.

Connect with other activists, to share our visions and make them a reality!

Access resources made available by the various groups present at the Retreat.

### SCHEDULE FOR THE DAY

8:45. Welcoming, hellos

9:00. Introduction **The Three Stories** - Joanna Macy [video @ 7 min]

**The Work That Reconnects**—Carolyn Treadway

9:30 Presentation #1. Rev. Dr. Emma Jordan-Simpson, Executive Director of FOR USA

10:10 Breakout groups

10:30 Speaker #2. **Backbone Campaign**—Bill Moyer

11:00 Responding to the Present Time.

11:15 Music - Holly Gwinn Graham [original songs before & after lunch]

Lunch Break (in same breakout groups)

11:45. Speaker #3. Dr. Karen Johnson. Q&A

12:25 Youth Panel: "**Voices of the Future**" [Moderator—Joanne Dufour of OCANW]

12:55 Closing Song - ***We Shall Be Known*** by Ma Muse, sung for us by Susan McRae

1:00 - 1:15. Goodbyes among all still on the Zoom board.

Please find organization info and bios of presenters on next page.

Register and get Zoom connection information by phoning or texting Sandy at (360) 870-8068 or  
Visit WWFOR site and click on **Zoom Fall Retreat** logo on their home page or

Email [wwfor@wwfor](mailto:wwfor@wwfor) with “Fall Retreat” in the subject line

Optional donation suggested: \$10 via [wwfor.org](http://wwfor.org) or send check to WWFOR, 225 N 70th St, Seattle WA 98103.

**The Rev. Dr. Emma Jordan-Simpson** is the 26th Executive Director of Fellowship of Reconciliation (FOR USA), the US branch of the International Fellowship of Reconciliation (IFOR). Ordained by the Concord Baptist Church of Christ in 1989, she has been a member of the pastoral team since 1995. She is the President of the Board of American Baptist Churches Metropolitan New York, and Vice Chair of the Federation of Protestant Welfare Agencies.

**Dr. Karen A. Johnson (Dr. J)** (she/her) provides expert-level equity and social justice consultation in government, non-profit, and faith-based markets, and conducts leadership and self-care workshops across the nation. Dr. J lives her legacy by unapologetically championing and preparing others to embrace, emulate, and embed a culture where everyone commits to collectively value, include, hear, and respect each other so that individual and organizational excellence is realized. She holds a bachelor's degree in occupational therapy, a master's in public administration, and doctorate in Urban Services. Dr. J says, "I will work toward liberty and justice for all... until justice rolls down as waters."

**Bill Moyer** co-founded the Backbone Campaign in 2003 with friends from an artist affinity group. Bill and his Backbone colleagues have designed and produced hundreds of creative nonviolent protests and trained thousands of change agents across the country. They introduced the world to kayactivism during the sHellNo! campaign to stop Arctic drilling. Bill co-authored the book **Solutionary Rail**, a people-powered campaign to electrify America's railroads and open corridors to a clean energy future. He is proud to provide this strategic tool for unifying Americans in otherwise divisive times. As he says, our "No" is only as powerful as our "Yes" is compelling. Write [bill@backbonecampaign.org](mailto:bill@backbonecampaign.org)

Members of the youth panel include:

**Dora Hamilton**, Capitol High School, Olympia Climate Club, addressing **Climate Action and Intersectionality**  
**Kimaya Mahajan**, Mike Yarrow Peace Fellow, Bellevue WA, addressing **Climate Justice The Green New Deal**  
**Hari Nath**, MYPF, Western Washington University, addressing **Racial Justice and Education Equity**  
**Lila Woodard**, MYPF, Santa Barbara, CA, addressing **Nuclear Weapons Abolition**

**The Mike Yarrow Peace Fellowship** endeavors to recruit and train high school and college age youth in the theory and practice of active nonviolence on issues of peace and environmental and social justice in the traditions of Martin Luther King and Mahatma Gandhi. The MYPF program includes an Intensive Training program to "kick-start" an effort by each Yarrow Peace Fellow in the subsequent year to engage in a nonviolent campaign or project of their choice with mentors and further resources. Applicants may choose their topic of interest and then receive support and guidance in how to take action on that issue during the intensive training program and throughout the program year.

## The Charter for Compassion

*The principle of compassion lies at the heart of all religious, ethical and spiritual traditions, calling us always to treat all others as we wish to be treated ourselves. Compassion impels us to work tirelessly to alleviate the suffering of our fellow creatures, to dethrone ourselves from the center of our world and put another there, and to honour the inviolable sanctity of every single human being, treating everybody, without exception, with absolute justice, equity and respect.*

*It is also necessary in both public and private life to refrain consistently and empathically from inflicting pain. To act or speak violently out of spite, chauvinism, or self-interest, to impoverish, exploit or deny basic rights to anybody, and to incite hatred by denigrating others - even our enemies - is a denial of our common humanity. We acknowledge that we have failed to live compassionately and that some have even increased the sum of human misery in the name of religion.*

*We therefore call upon all men and women ~ to restore compassion to the center of morality and religion ~ to return to the ancient principle that any interpretation of scripture that breeds violence, hatred or disdain is illegitimate ~ to ensure that youth are given accurate and respectful information about other traditions, religions and cultures ~ to encourage a positive appreciation of cultural and religious diversity ~ to cultivate an informed empathy with the suffering of all human beings, even those regarded as enemies.*

*We urgently need to make compassion a clear, luminous and dynamic force in our polarized world. Rooted in a principled determination to transcend selfishness, compassion can break down political, dogmatic, ideological and religious boundaries. Born of our deep interdependence, compassion is essential to human relationships and to a fulfilled humanity. It is the path to enlightenment, and indispensable to the creation of a just economy and a peaceful global community.*

The Charter began building a partnership of individuals and organizations around the world working to bring compassion to life. Over the first few years, the number of Partner organizations globally grew slowly, and then began to explode in 2013. By the summer of 2014, over 400 organizations have signed on as Partners for the Charter. The Charter currently is available in more than 30 languages and has been endorsed by more than two million individuals around the globe.