

Women Transcending Boundaries Monthly Newsletter

Bringing women of faith together after 9/11



All information is also available on our Web site www.wtb.org

SEPT. 2015



OUR REFUGEES STORIES

Sunday, September 27

[Interfaith Works](#)

1010 James Street

Syracuse, NY

3:00 - 5:00

Refugees originate from countries all over the world such as; Syria, Iraq, Liberia, Sudan, Somalia and many more. Over 1000 refugees settled here in Syracuse in the past year. During our September meeting we will have a panel of three refugees. They will share their stories and answer questions. Refreshments will be served.

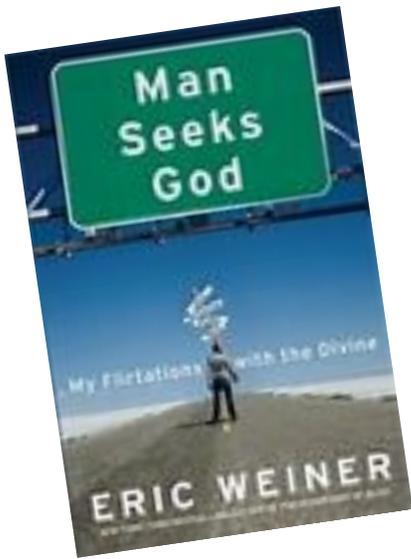


People of many nationalities gather at Hanover Square in 2011 to celebrate World Refugee Day. (Jim Commentucci)

BOOK CLUB

Man Seeks God: My Flirtations with the Divine

by Eric Weiner



**Monday
September 28**

7:00 - 9:00

The meeting will be at the home of Saro. Call her for directions. 457-4498.



“When a health scare puts him in the hospital, Eric Weiner-an agnostic by default-finds himself tangling with an unexpected question, posed to him by a well-meaning nurse. "Have you found your God yet?" The thought of it nags him, and prods him-and ultimately launches him on a far-flung journey to do just that.” Amazon



October 26 The Round House by Louise Erdrich at the home of Cara Steiner
(the Nov and Dec meetings have been combined to an earlier Dec date)

December 7 poems by Wislawa Szymborska (any collection, be prepared to share)
location to be announced



Schmai Time

Come get together with our WTB sisters and friends at [Beer Belly Deli & Pub](#), a quirky little hole in the wall offering great food, awesome service and an outdoor courtyard for al fresco dining before the snow flies! Menu includes both meat and vegan dishes, fried pickles and sweet potatoes with maple syrup.

Where: Beer Belly Deli
[510 Westcott Street](#) (formerly Seven Rays Bookstore)
Syracuse 13210

When: Wednesday, September 16 5:30-7:30

Why: A chance to catch up with friends after a busy summer which seemed both long and short! No need for reservations.....,just show up and introduce yourself. Hope to see several of you there. !



I can't think of a better way to celebrate International Peace Day (9/21) than by attending the Westcott Street Cultural Fair on Sunday, September 20th. The Parade will kick off at noon, starting at the [Westcott Community Center](#) and marching down Westcott to Dell Street. What follows is: lots of treats, music, food, good vendors and a community of warm, loving people. For more information, go to <http://westcottstreetfair.org>

TEACHING REFUGEES TO SEW

The classes will resume on Thursday, September 10, from noon to 2:30 at the [NorthSide Learning Center](#), 501 Park Street. Visitors are always welcome; however the door to the building is locked, so call Jennifer's cell 345-9217 and she will run up and let you in.

We always need volunteers and only the most basic sewing skills are needed, and there are others to ask if help is necessary. Jennifer tries to have one-to-one student-volunteer ratio, as the students' English language skills range from quite good to non-existent. However the students are adults and eager to learn, so the process is fun and friendly. Feel free to drop by the class to check us out any Thursday that the Syracuse City School District is in session (no holidays, vacations, or snow days, If there is no school, our students must be home with their children.)



Zonta International is an international service organization with the mission of advancing the status of women.

We are still collecting **bras** for Zonta and now also **jello**. The Jello is a joint project with Syracuse Federation of Women's Clubs. They get together 8,000 boxes of Jello for the Salvation Army Christmas holiday gift baskets given out in December.



One of our young refugees has written a book.....



A TASTE OF JULY

A poetry collection written by Noella Mpinga



ABOUT THE AUTHOR: There is not much to say about myself. I have been writing since third grade, probably, but haven't been seriously writing until eighth grade. Some story ideas from before eighth grade I tend to go back to and try to improve it and try to incorporate my recent style into it. I am moving from novel writing into screenwriting and poetry. Though from time to time I shall write a novel or two (I have three different trilogies/ series ideas that I have developed over the years). I have written a few screenplays already and am going to continue down that path with poetry being my other main priority. I have a collection in progress (had started it before *A Taste of July*) and will continue adding onto it until I have reached the age of twenty six, making the project a ten year progress. Once senior year begins, I will begin another collection that will conclude once senior year ends. After that, I shall release a poetry collection every year until the ten years is up and will release the collection which is titled *Always and Forever*. That is all I can say right now.



On Thursday, September 10, World Day of Prayer, [Unity Church](#), 300 W Seneca Turnpike, Syracuse is having a prayer vigil with sign-up for 1/2 hour sittings. There will be an Interfaith Prayer Service from 6pm to 6:45pm. Rev. Edith Washington is leading this.



INTERFAITH DINNER DIALOGUES

InterFaith
works Affirm Dignity Ahmad & Elizabeth El-Hindi
Center for Dialogue

Thursday, September 17

6:00 - 8:30 p.m.

“WHAT IF” we all are able to attend a Dinner Dialogue, learn about and with each other, and respect everyone for who they are, regardless of what they look like and who they pray to. Join us as we celebrate together our diversity.

I had invited 2 New American friends from Darfur to Dinner Dialogues 2013. Unity Church was hosting 2 tables of guests, including our 2 friends from Darfur. Our host Rev. Edith Washington called me with a message that extra guests from Darfur were waiting to be seated. As I walked in the church community room, there were 15 well-dressed young men standing along a wall.. Introductions were made, another table was set up, plenty of food had been prepared, and the dinner started.

To sign up: www.interfaithworkscny.org click on **EVENTS**



SEPTEMBER EVENTS

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| Thursday, 10 | World Day of Prayer |
| Thursday, 10 | Sewing Classes begin |
| Thursday, 17 | Interfaith Dinner Dialogues |
| Sunday, 20 | Westcott Street Fair |
| Sunday, 27 | Monthly Meeting: Our Refugees Stories |
| Monday, 28 | Book Club |

We have an exciting year of programs this coming year. We're planning another of our fabulous international dinners for April, with delicious international food. Our programs range from learning more about human trafficking to literacy. We'll again participate in the WCNY Tel-Auc, celebrate diversity at a World Interfaith Harmony Assembly and host a garden tour as a fundraiser at Sycamore Hill Gardens in Marcellus. New this year will be participation in the Festival of Trees at the Everson Museum in December.

Please join us as a member, if you haven't already.



Membership

You support WTB by becoming a member. You pay dues if you can afford to. You are committed to making our community, our country, and our world a better place for all people. Religious and cultural diversity are important to you, even if you can't attend our programs. You help educate yourself and others about the variety of cultures and religious groups that call CNY home. You foster mutual respect and promote dialogue to combat fear, intolerance and extremism. And you enjoy the activities that introduce you to other women who believe as you do and build lasting friendships.

Listserv

If you are receiving this newsletter via email, then you are on the WTB listserv. That means that you have expressed interest in our many activities, local, national, and international. You are curious about interfaith activities and want to be informed.

Please consider stepping up to the next level of commitment by becoming a WTB member. [This is the form to complete and send in.](#)