Focus on the Vote

Tuesday, November 6, is almost here. Thank goodness! Don't forget the human element in elections: our fellow citizens in our communities.

Action: Talk to your neighbors, people in grocery lines, friends, cashiers, and anyone else you encounter. Ask them if they've voted yet and remind them to vote. Here is Jen Hoffman's advice:

While the young woman rang up my copy paper yesterday, I asked her, "Have you voted yet?"

She looked at me blankly and blinked twice. "Uhhh... Not yet." (Oregon votes by mail.)

With a kind smile I added, "But you will fill out your ballot and send it in, right? Your vote really matters."

She perked up. "Yeah. Yeah, I will."

I did repeated this while getting my hair cut. And again at the pharmacy, "Hey, have you voted yet?" Instead of pushing who to vote for, my message was just that they mattered. The people I talked to--most from the younger generation--were at first caught off guard by the question (maybe afraid I would start ranting?). But I just told them they mattered and their vote was important. They grinned and agreed to at least try to find a minute to vote.

So, if you are feeling courageous, join me in mini-canvassing everyone you meet over the next few days--at work, in line at the deli, getting coffee. Give people a boost by reminding them about their power and importance in our democracy.

And, if you are still looking for something additional to do, so you can approach Nov 6 feeling like you've done everything you can, first look at our OI Elections Alert https://www.olympiaindivisible.com/oi-elections-alert.html, which has actions you can take the next three days. Then National Indivisible has two suggestions: volunteer for last minute national get out the vote efforts (https://act.indivisible.org/signup/phonebank-texting-volunteer?t=5&akid=35028%2E274882%2EDhwcsZ)and/or donate to fund that work (https://act.indivisible.org/go/187530?t=7&akid=35028%2E274882%2EDhwcsZ).

Go Blue Wave!!!
A Moment of Gratitude

As we prepare for Tuesday’s all-important election results, the Action Committee felt it is the right time to stop for a moment of gratitude. Despite the darkness of this moment in our shared history, we have come together in our own community to act with one voice to change things for the better. And for that we are grateful. In tangible, real ways, we have made a difference.

A little less than two years ago the first meeting of 30 Olympia Indivisible people has grown into a membership of over 600 people. Together we have become a force with which to be reckoned. From the tireless efforts of Lisa Ornstein and Carla Wulfsberg who got things started, to the steady work of our numerous committees, we have worked hard to make our collective voices heard. We have attended marches and rallies, written thousands of postcards, door-belled and canvased, regularly communicated with our members of Congress, waved signs, registered new voters, coordinated with other organizations, endorsed candidates, researched and followed issues, attended Thurston County meetings and responded to over 90 weekly Calls to Action.

There have been countless moments where we have been uplifted by the person next to us. Their willingness to work hard, to stand in the rain, to stay up late finishing a project, to take a risk and speak out publicly, has given us conviction and strength to add our voices too.

The famous Mr. Rogers once said that “in times of disaster, when bad things happen, look for the helpers, there are always helpers”. Just think of all the neighbors around us that have stepped forward in our time of need.

Will you join us in taking a moment to look to another member and tell them Thank You? Write an email or post a short memory or story on our Facebook page sharing how you have been lifted up by an experience or a member.

We have work ahead of us. Let’s all take a moment to look each other in the eye and say, “I’m grateful.”

COMING SOON

After the Elections, then What? Calling All OI Members to SHOW UP!

STRATEGIC PLANNING BRAINSTORM

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 12 at 6:45pm

Olympia Indivisible Steering Committee asks you (yes, you!) to participate in a brainstorming session on OI’s post mid-term goals and team missions. Here’s what you can do in advance: look at the questions below, look at our current goals and teams (posted on our website) and COME SHARE YOUR IDEAS. We would particularly like team leads to attend this meeting, so we can get your input on what you see as the direction and contribution of your team going forward.
HERE ARE 4 QUESTIONS TO GET YOU STARTED:
1. What should be the top 3 goals for OI for 2019?
2. Why are these important?
3. What is the plan you would recommend for accomplishing these goals?
4. What part are you willing to play in accomplishing these goals?

Let’s use our “hive mind” to help create a wise and effective plan. This informal discussion will take place at TC Courthouse, Building 1, Room 152 (please show up at 6:45pm so we can start promptly at 7pm.)

And be sure to RSVP to olyindirsvp@gmail.com to confirm your attendance at this meeting.

November 9 Friday 6-8:00 pm

Olympia Indivisible Members TGIF Gathering!
Let’s Win! RJ’s Gourmet Grill 318 4th Ave E Olympia

This week’s Call to Action brought to you by Mindy Allen, Steve Cifka, Karen Lichtenstein, Bill Tweit and Tom Dyer. Interested in joining our exceptional team? Contact indivisible.action.oly@gmail.com.