



Sacramento  
**CALL TO ACTION**

Inspire Catholics, Transform Church

Sunday, Jan 5, 2020 -- 2 - 4 p.m.

St Mark's U Methodist Church, 2391 St Mark's Way, Sacramento

**Healing Justice: The Scales are Tipping Towards Justice  
after Decades of Mass Incarceration**

**Speaker: Laura Magnani, Healing Justice Program Dtr, AFSC**

We will gather to learn about the Healing Justice Program of the American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) in Oakland that works to reduce reliance on incarceration and other punitive approaches and replace them with restorative/healing practices. Their concentration is on four areas: mass incarceration, long term isolation, police militarization, and the promotion of healing alternatives.

In coalition with [Californians United for a Responsible Budget \(CURB\)](#), AFSC helps influence and monitor implementation of the U.S. Supreme Court decision requiring California to reduce its prison population; proposes sentencing policy changes that will reduce the number of people in prison; and promotes evidence-based programming that reduces recidivism. The Healing Justice Program is also part of the [Prisoner Hunger Strike Solidarity Coalition \(PHSS\)](#), that works to drastically reduce the number of people held in isolation, institute due process, and address conditions of confinement. AFSC advocates implementation of the five demands of hunger strikers, and serves on the Mediation Team and Legislative Teams to advocate for policy changes.

AFSC also promotes healing and wholeness approaches as alternatives to violence and punishment. Program staff develop relevant curricula and have influenced community-based programs in at least two counties.

**Our speaker will be Laura Magnani, Healing Justice Program Director** for AFSC's West Region, who has worked on criminal justice issues since the

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1970s, including serving as the lobbyist for the Friends Committee on Legislation in Sacramento.

Laura is author of *America's First Penitentiary: A Two Hundred Year Old Failure*, (1990) and co-author of *Beyond Prisons: A New Interfaith Paradigm for Our Failed Prison System*, (2006), a comprehensive analysis of the racial, social and economic underpinnings of the criminal justice system. She also authored the 2008 report [\*Buried Alive: Long-term Isolation in California's Youth and Adult Prisons\*](#).

Over the years, Laura has used art to educate the public on prison issues, convened a women's group at the federal women's prison in Dublin on Women Healing from Violence, and spent decades organizing against solitary confinement. She also serves on the mediation team for hunger strikers at the Pelican Bay state prison that began with massive hunger strikes that swept the California prison system.

She holds an MA from the Pacific School of Religion (1982) in Religion and Society. She is a Quaker, and a member of the Strawberry Creek Friends Meeting in Berkeley.

There is no charge for most of our presentations, but we do accept "At Will" donations to help offset our expenses. Thank you.

Location: St. Mark's Methodist Church, 2391 St. Mark's Way, Sacramento, CA 95864

For more information and/or reservations please respond to [graycall@volcano.net](mailto:graycall@volcano.net) or 209-295-2151. Although we appreciate RSVPs, we welcome all even if you haven't been able to respond.

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