

*"And this shall be for a bond between us: that we are of one blood you and I; that we have cried peace to all and claimed fellowship with every living thing; that we hate war and sloth and greed, and love fellowship....and that we shall go singing to the fashioning of a new world." William Morris*

Dear Friends,

Yesterday I met with some Bellingham folks who are deeply committed to the "fashioning of a new world". They seek to sensitize us to the gifts of nature, to build a culture that supports a simpler lifestyle, and to awaken us to the seeds of life and hope springing up around us. I've seen so much hope since the last election, as people wake up and organize themselves in support of life. These friends, Dave and Allison Ewoldt and David and Angela MacCleod will be our presenters for our monthly Roots gathering on June 5th, with the theme: *Fossil Fuel Crisis: Catalyst for Transformation*. All are welcome!

In my garden I just ran across several old seed packets, marking seeds that failed to take root...usually because of my neglect in keeping out the slugs and giving them enough water. These days I'm trying to be selective in what I say "yes" to, so that my many projects don't wither and die. Hard to be selective. So much work to do in the garden these days.

So here are some projects I've been excited about. My new cd *Where I Stand* is coming along well. It's taking longer than I'd hoped, but I'm very pleased with the wonderful teamwork of Cary Black, my producer, Phil Heaven of Soundings studio, and so many exquisite musicians. I could still use financial support, so if you'd like to pre-order your cd, please let me know and I'll tell you where to send your order - and donations are always welcome! Thanks so much to so many of you who have helped. We're almost there!

And while I'm on the subject - if you'd like to order a copy of the fabulous CD, *Jen and Kristin*, or Kristin's solo CD, *Helium*, just let me know and their Proud Mama will happily accommodate you.

I've also been working on a brief video that highlights a vocal workshop, keynote address, and songwriting workshop I did at Clark College in Vancouver. That will be available on my web page, for those of you with high-speed access, within the month. Thanks to Larry Babcock for many, many hours of editing work.

Last week I spent 3 days with the fourth graders of Woodridge Elementary, teaching Northwest history through songs. We talked about how families came to Washington, why they left where they were, how people were moved around in Washington. Then we talked about the work people do. An evening concert ended the week, and I found it hard to leave. The kids were marvelous, with such open hearts and minds. If you'd be interested in having me come visit fourth or seventh graders in your area, please do visit this link:

<http://www.lindasongs.com/pages/washington1.htm>

Tomorrow I'm heading for Wisconsin for a college concert with my daughter Kristin. Then I'll be on a local Bellingham radio show, talking about faith and politics, then a classroom visit at Fairhaven College, Northwest Folklife Festival, and teaching at Georgia Strait Guitar Camp in Victoria. I'm also preparing for a week in New York in September, and singing at a Raging Grannies convention. In October I'll be doing a Northwest concert tour celebrating my 60th birthday and the release of *Where I Stand*. For dates and details for these performances, please click here:

<http://www.lindasongs.com/pages/itinerary.htm>

I'll be heading back to California in June for a week-long Intensive at my old school (University of Creation Spirituality, now re-named Wisdom University) as I prepare for Ordination. What a surprising journey school has been! I've just loved every bit of it. When I'm ordained in December, I'll be able to (as my Mom said, recently) "marry 'em and bury 'em".

Here's a book recommendation: [God's Politics: Why the Right Gets It Wrong and the Left Doesn't Get It](#) by Jim Wallis. I'm using it to prepare for my radio talk next week. Here's a quote:

*God's politics is therefore never partisan or ideological. But it challenges everything about our politics. God's politics reminds us of the people our politics always neglect ---the poor, the vulnerable, the left behind. ....God's politics reminds us of the creation itself, a rich environment in which we are to be good stewards, not mere users, consumers, and exploiters. And God's politics pleads with us to resolve the inevitable conflicts among us...without the terrible cost and consequences of war.*

Thanks so much for all you do in the world. May the fashioning of a new world be the bond between us.

Peace,  
Linda

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