



Interfaith Council
of
Garden Grove, Stanton & Westminster
8100 Chapman Avenue
Stanton, CA 90680
714-890-5203



Issue #

For Web site & Newsletter on Line
urbandharma.org/gginterfaith

January 2005

From the President . . .

Someone handed me a quote . . .

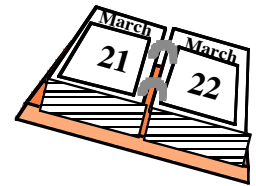


• from Pierre Teilhard de Chardin which said "We are one, after all, you and I; Together we suffer, together exist, and forever will recreate each other." It made me think of the many opportunities we miss to see ourselves as one. I often think how easy it is to say we are one, we are all brothers and sisters, we are family, we are the world. It is a much harder thing to live those words.

Last week was a perfect example of putting Teilhard de Chardin's words into practice. Some in our community came together across religions, across ethnicities, to join as one in our common grief, and our desire to put our prayers, thoughts and resources together to support our brothers and sisters who are trying to recreate themselves and their lives since the Tsunami hit on December 26, 2004. So often when we utter the words, we are one, we imagine ourselves as better than those to whom we are reaching out. When we say we are one, we sometimes think that we have to be the same, share the same beliefs, speak the same language, look the same.

When I think of being one, I think of my own family. We are four very different individuals, we share many things in common, but we do have differences. Our oneness is created from our understanding of the fact that we don't have to be the same, to live together, to work together, to be together. We agree to disagree on those areas that we don't share common ground, and we work on those things that we have in common. We see ourselves as a microcosm of the world. If we want a happy life, we will work in unity, and listen to each other. We understand that sometimes it is hard to live as one, but it is always about trying to make an effort to communicate with each other. Let us spend our time in working on building up the concept of ONE. I hope that we as an Interfaith community attempt to really make an effort to work across faiths to show the world how to live as one.

Peace . . .
Ann



A Great Opportunity !!!

- Jan. 29th Stuffed Animals for Tsunami Children**
- Feb. 3rd Monthly Meeting**
Megan Burke — New Cross Generational Program.
- Feb. 5th Free Mammograms**
- Feb. 9th Ash Wednesday**
- Feb. 9th Tet — Year of the Rooster**
- Feb. 10th Islamic New Year —**
- Mar. 3rd Monthly Meeting**
- May 7th Ninth Interfaith Banquet**
Saturday — Save the Date



Food for Thought . . .

...
it's only by living completely in this world that one learns to have faith. By this-worldliness I mean living unreservedly in life's duties, problems, successes and failures, experiences and perplexities

Bonhoffer

Miscellaneous . . .

Newsletter . . .

To have news published please send by the 20th of the month. Items always welcome. If you are getting this by snail mail and would like to have e-mail please send me your address.

Reply to: barbarageorge@highstream.net

Ninth Annual Interfaith Banquet . . .

Time to save the Date. May 7th, 2005. It is always an uplifting and broadening experience. Tickets will be on sale in February. We urge you to pre purchase a block of 10 tickets for your community at that time.

Art Contest . . .

**“Peace and Understanding
through the eyes of a child”**



What is more needed.....

The Children are our future!

Do you know a child? — A group of Children?

The contest will be judged in age/grade groups.

Cash prizes will be awarded. All art work will be displayed at the banquet. This is always a moving experience. Winners art work will be matted and framed. Encourage your group/ child to participate.

Membership Renewals . . .

Memberships for 2005 are now due.

If you are considering a new membership and

would like to know more please contact

Ann at 890-5203 or Barbara at 537-2936

Stuffed Animals for Sri Lanka . . .

Be the Cause

is having a stuffed animal donation drive on

Sat. Jan 29, 2005.

We are looking for stuffed toy donations, adults to help with donation collection kids to volunteer and create handwritten notes to be attached to each stuffed animal.

The goal is to collect 1000 stuffed animals.

Animals can be dropped off at

FSC, 8100 Chapman Ave. Stanton on Friday or at

Be the Cause Warehouse (behind Dollar store)

1440 E. Wilshire Ave. Santa Ana, 92705 between 9 & 3.

Singapore Airlines will ship these animals to Sri Lanka and a local organization, Sarvodaya will distribute them.

Over 9,000 children in Sri Lanka

have been affected by the tsunami.

For further info call Michele at 714- 630-5027



Tsunami Prayer & Info . . .

Many thanks to those who made this a success. Our wonderful speakers brought us closer to the incredible losses. Those who offered prayer and readings expressed the hope that we wish for the survivors. The compassion of a 5 year old boy who saved his money for the victims and presented a box of \$3.57 in change is heartwarming. — And a child shows the way.

Spirit in Action Award . . .

Every year the Interfaith Council awards four Spirit in Action Awards to people in the community who are making a difference. We invite nominations from our members for people that they believe are really making an effort to create a better world. The individual or organization nominated should be committed to local, national or international concerns. Please return the attached form by fax (714) 893-9956 or by mail to the Interfaith Council, 8100 Chapman Ave., Stanton, CA 90680

barbarageorge@highstream.net



Family Support News . . .

Sat. Feb. 5 YWCA Encore Plus will be doing free mammograms for women over 40 who are low income and do not have health insurance. Testing will be done at McLaughlin Hall, St. Polycarp, 8100 Chapman Ave. Stanton. Appointments are from 9 to 12. Please call ahead at 890-5203 to make appointment.

Thanks . . .

Thanks to Rev Kusala for his presentation on the Buddhist approach to health care, death & life.

Board of Directors — 2004-2005

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Next Meeting:

Garden Grove Community Center

11300 Stanford Ave., Garden Grove, 714-741-5262.

12:00 — Bring your own lunch & meet new friends.

Meeting 12:30 — 1:30 p.m.

February 3rd.

Megan Burke from the office on Aging in Santa Ana will be speaking at our February Meeting. Megan will be talking about an Intergenerational Program that the Agency is establishing.

See you there! ! !