



*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](http://urbandharma.org/gginterfaith)

April 2005

**From the President . . .**

***I have been very moved . . .***

over these last couple of weeks to have listened to the many people worldwide, both commoners and public figures, who were deeply touched by Pope John Paul II's life and contributions to our world. Like many other people, I mourned the passing of this leader of the Catholic Church and joined with others as we gathered in prayer for the repose of his soul, and the upcoming elections for a new leader.

Among the many remarks I heard about the pope, one that had a profound impact on me came from a Vietnamese Buddhist monk who spoke of John Paul as a Bodhisatva, full of compassion and wisdom. The monk praised the pope for the gift of intellect he left the world through his many writings, and for the gift of forgiveness that he taught us through his own forgiveness of a would be assassin. On listening to different commentaries, I realized that people were truly touched by John Paul's humanity. Despite his office, his title, his prominence, he was most truly a fellow traveler on life's journey, and struggled

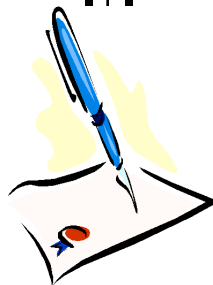


alongside those in pain and rejoiced in people's victories. His joy was most obvious when he was around children. What an amazing sight to see him with the little ones.

As I think of great leaders, I think of those who so willingly can be with the poorest of the poor, or the wealthiest, and see the same potential, the same goodness, and the same heart. The great leader is the one who leads by example, and not simply by word. The great leader is the one whose message inspires hope and possibility.

There are many great leaders out there. Some are leaders of countries, others leaders of families, but they all share a common heart for compassion, understanding and wisdom.

Peace,  
Ann Nguyen



Apr. 23rd **Ahimsa Center Dialog**  
10:00 a.m.

Apr. 30th **Evening in Africa**  
Cultural Awareness

May 5th **Monthly Meeting**  
**Speaker To be Announced**

May 7th **Ninth Annual Interfaith Banquet**  
**Get your tickets now!!!**  
**Celebrate our Diversity**

June 2nd **Monthly Meeting**

**Food for Thought . . .**

*The past is history.*

*The future, a mystery.*

*The here and now is a gift.*

*That is why it's called the present.*

Author Unknown

# Miscellaneous . . .

**-Get your tickets now. \$15.00**

**IFC Banquet — May 7, 2005 . . .**

*An evening  
Food, Fellowship, Entertainment &  
Enlightenment*

Kay Lindahl — Music — Art Auction — Art Contest — Awards —

**CELEBRATE OUR DIVERSITY**

**—We don't have much time left.**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Ninth Annual Banquet . . .**

**Think Globally — Act Locally**

*Interfaith in the 21st Century*

Kay Lindahl, author — consultant, will be our keynote speaker. She founded the Alliance for Spiritual Community, chairs the Religious Diversity Forum, leads workshops on Centering Prayer & the Sacred Art of Listening. This should be an exciting and informative evening.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Meet your Neighbor . . .**

Better still . . . Invite him/her to come to dinner.

*Have an evening out, good food, learn about the "other," enjoy the entertainment, **Act Locally** . . . as our speaker invites us.*

*See the diversity of our community up close. Meet others in an atmosphere of openness and friendship.*

*We are very late getting started this year. Join us. Buy now. Bring a friend (or 10). See you May 7th.*

\*\*\*\*\*

**Banquet Display Tables. .**

*Don't forget to reserve a space for your community. We are all interested in what you have to offer. Note: There is no wall space available. We could use any free standing banners to decorate, however.*

*The faith community displays are always fascinating, especially, to the new attendees. It is usually their first experience of the diversity that is ours.*

\*\*\*\*\*

**Silent Auction . . .**

We have been asked for suggestions. Unique items are always welcomed and popular. Tickets for shows, movies, harbor trips, small electronics, children's items. Items need not be expensive. If you have anything that would be appropriate, please contact:

*Ann at 890-5203 or Barbara at 537-2936*

\*\*\*\*\*

**Unity Table . . .**

Each year we have a special ceremony. We ask each faith community to share with us an object from their own tradition and present it to the group as an expression of community

Remember to bring your item for the "Unity Table" and be prepared to give a 1 minute or less explanation of the



object and it's significance. This is always a special part of this evening.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Thanks . . .**

To Rev. Doug Johnstone for his presentation - "When Faiths Collide." He is always very interesting & informative.

\*\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*\*

**Evening in Africa . . .**

*Be the Cause in coordination with INSAKA and the BAHA'I Community invite you to an Evening of Awareness. The entire event, including attendance, parking and dinner is free.*

*Saturday April 30 from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.*

*Turtle Rock Community Center*

*(1 Sunnyhill Drive, Irvine, CA 92612*

*corner of Sunnyhill & Turtle Rock Drive)*

*RSVP: e-mail michele@bethecause.org or phone 714-636-3067*

\*\*\*\*\*

**Our Heartfelt Thanks . . .**

*The Interfaith community has been a port in a storm to us in the last few months. Our son Jerry was in an almost fatal accident on the night of his brother's CA memorial service. Given the state of his truck the Highway Patrol did not see how he survived. We call it a miracle. He is now recovering slowly at home in TN. — Barbara George & Family*

\*\*\*\*\*



**Ahimsa Center Dialog . . .**

*Dialog and lunch -Three Dimensions of Nonviolence*

*http://www.csupomona.edu/ahimsacenter*

*Begins at 10:00 a.m. Sunday Apr. 24. Call for info or*

*visit web site above.*

*Phone (909) 869 3868*

\*\*\*\*\*

**Board of Directors — 2004-2005**

President: Ann Nguyen  
Vice Pres: Rev. Kusala  
Secretary: Barbara George  
Treasurer: Neil Hicken  
Directors at Large:

Shari Loveland  
Steve LaFond  
Rudy Torres  
Pat Casey  
Judy Cobb  
Esther Friedman  
Naziha Wareh  
Harry Krebs

\*\*\*\*\*

**Next Meeting: April 7th**

**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.**

**Speaker to be announced**

**—Last preparation for banquet**

**See you there!!!**