



From the President . . .

Just Keep Showing Up . . .

Last week I taught a seminar using the two year old movie Spanglish with its multiple themes of conflict -- marital, parenting, cultural, language, generational. Last week conflict in the Middle East intensified again with overtones of faith communities in conflict. I couldn't help linking the two as I thought about our Interfaith efforts to understand one another and to live in peace.

In one tumultuous scene in the movie, the wife pleads vociferously with her husband "let's talk and talk and talk, until we are exhausted and have nothing more." His response is that he didn't hear her. "There was this big crack in the universe," and then he couldn't hear her anymore. Her actions had affected him so deeply that he couldn't hear her words, and he walks away. Later when he returns, her mother wisely pleads with her to simply say "*I'm glad you are back*" and to leave it at that. Space is provided for a relationship to rebuild.



When we come together as representatives of very divergent faith communities, some of us want to talk and talk and to air all of our similarities and differences with the hope that somewhere along the line we will reach some understanding and thereby a measure of peace or better yet, we will convince the other that we were right all along. Others are so offended and hurt by actions of members of another faith community that they can't "hear" the talk, and see no hope from all the talk.

Just when I think that there are a few glimmers of hope that the language of violence and hatred has been set aside, then there is another "big crack in the universe" as the acts of violence return.

All we can do is "*keep showing up*" and saying to one another "*I'm glad you're back.*" Maybe there is room for relationships to build and grow. We may never totally understand one another and we will certainly never totally agree, but there is always the chance for peace and reconciliation if we can keep showing up and saying to one another "*I'm glad you're back.*"

Peace,
Doug Johnstone



- July 27 **Faith Coalition Potluck**
- July 28th **Townhall Meeting –**
 for Abdul Jabbar Hamdan (See Flyer)
- July 29th. **Morman Pioneer Fair**
- July 30th. **St. Columban Parish Picnic**
- Aug. 3rd **Monthly Meeting**
- Aug. 20th **Palestinian Tragedy**
 Fund Raising Dinner (See Flyer)
- Sept. 7th **Monthly Meeting**
- Sept. 23rd **Walk for Hope**
 El Dorado Park – Long Beach
- May 5th **Eleventh Annual Interfaith**
 Banquet



Food for Thought . . .

**"The battering ram can
demolish a wall;
it cannot heal the breach**

Unknown.

Miscellaneous . . .

-Condolences . . .

To David Shawver, Stanton City Council, on the loss of his mother. Services will be held at St. Polycarp on Friday morning. Call for time: 714-893-2766

St. Columban Parish Picnic. . .

Enjoy a picnic, games, and a wonderful selection of food — Vietnamese, Filipino, Anglo, Hispanic — Try a little of everything. See pictures of our past. Enjoy our community and our friendships as we celebrate and envision our future.



Walk for Hope . . .

is unlike any walk-a-thon you have ever experienced. The purpose of the entire event is to cultivate compassion and to spread more love in the world. The entire walk is free.

Meet the World in Your Own Back Yard
Inspiring quotes — Cool T-shirts — Interactive activities — Entertainment — Food — Opportunity to donate

Sept. 23rd — 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
For more Info: — bethecause.org
call: 714-636-3067

Pioneer Fair . . .

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints invites you to join in celebration of the Mormon Pioneers. Booths and games and a country store. Emergency preparedness skills and materials. Be prepared & be amazed.
Saturday July 29 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
10212 Stanford Ave., Garden Grove

Thanks . . .

Human Trafficking outreach an undisputed success! 51 backpacks with personal care items, phone cards were assembled and received by Cambodian Family. These packs are given to each rescued survivor as they are released to a safe house. It enables them to feel that there are still caring people and the world can begin to be a welcoming place again. These are to be shared with LA and San Diego. Special thanks to *St. Anselm Episcopal, St. Columban Catholic and the Interfaith Council of Garden, Grove Stanton & Westminster* for their providing the materials, finances and workers to make this a reality.

Steve La Fond. . .

Steve is doing amazingly well with his treatment regimen. He is now in phase 3 of treatment and has been able to continue working. Three cheers and keep the thoughts and prayers coming for a full recovery. Steve, there are easier ways to lose weight!

Pat Casey . . .

Well, Pat has been visiting those places again. After 10 days at Anaheim Memorial she is now at Coventry

Court on Euclid past Orangewood. It just can't be the food that keeps calling her back!!! Prayer, kind thoughts, and visits will be greatly appreciated.

Seva Cafe every Saturday Night . . .

Seva Café is an experiment in the joy of giving. It is very different from most restaurants specifically because there are no prices to any of the meals, it is run by volunteers, and every meal is prepared with one single-minded focus: to serve with love. At the end of the meal, every guest is also given the opportunity to participate in the circle of giving. Guests can give from their heart whatever they wish, and those donations are used to pay for future guest's meals. Any remaining profits are used to support charitable projects.

Amazing!!!

Sponsored by *Be The Cause*

Cost: Be the Change you wish to see in the world...

994 Redondo Ave, Long Beach, CA 90804

Elections . . .

Are overdue. More to follow. Nominations now being accepted. Anyone interested should contact our President, Pastor Doug Johnstone.



Ann Nguyen . . .

Congratulations and best wishes as you begin a new position as a family services coordinator for the city of Stanton.

*Ann may be reached at: 714-379-0129
Fax: 714-379-0139*

Note the New number and address for the Interfaith Council on the letterhead.

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: Aug. 3rd

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 —

See you there!!!