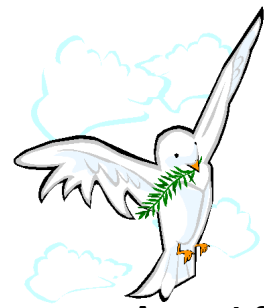




Interfaith Council
of
Garden Grove, Stanton & Westminster
11912 Gary Avenue
Garden Grove, CA 92840



For Web site & Newsletter on Line
interfaithcouncil.info

August 2006

Issue #

From the President . . .

Why are you leaving?

This is the last opportunity I have to lead off our monthly newsletter as president. I am honored that you have elected me as president on three different occasions over the past ten years.

I am not going away, but we have tried to follow a tradition of serving as president for one year consecutively in order to provide a variety of leadership from various faith communities.

Second, although I continue to live in Garden Grove and maintain many contacts and friendships in Garden Grove, I serve a church in beautiful downtown Long Beach. I need to spend more time relating to the interfaith organizations in that community.



And **third**, this summer I was elected to the Board of Directors of our church's regional jurisdiction relating to our 320 churches in southern California, Nevada, and Arizona. I need to measure with some care the time spent outside the congregation I serve. I will still attend and participate in this Interfaith Council with as much frequency as possible.

The work of building relationships, of education, and of peace-making attempted by this and other interfaith councils is no longer simply a pleasant curiosity invented by those with a more liberal bent. None of us can afford to live in the splendid isolation of our own faith and cultural traditions.

We are not here to win a competition or argument in favor of our "product" in some religious marketplace. We do need to give a credible witness to our beliefs and practices for the purpose of exercising the highest ideals of peace and care for other people which our various faith communities espouse in their own special ways.

The alternative is to continue the long, sad history of battle with one another in contradiction of the best guidelines of our own faith. Violence and hatred have an attraction and power. Perhaps we can model the characteristics we value of hospitality, compassion, and peace, so that these have an even greater attraction and power.

Keep showing up and bring a friend.

Pastor Doug Johnstone



Sept. 6th. Human Trafficking
St. Columban

Sept. 7th Monthly Meeting
City Issues and Chaplains Program
Garden Grove Police Dept.

Sept. 28th Substance Abuse Prevention
Showcase of Community Resources

Sept. 23rd Walk for Hope
El Dorado Park – Long Beach

Oct. 5th Monthly Meeting
Faith Communities – Environmental
Ministries

Nov. 22nd Celebration of Thanks

May 5th Eleventh Annual Interfaith
Banquet



Food for Thought . . .

"I shall create!

If not a note, a hole.

If not an overture, a desecration."

Gwendolyn Brooks.
"A Boy Breaking Glass"

Miscellaneous . . .

Pat Casey . . .

Pat is recovering but hasn't got it quite right yet. She missed the part about not needing to get something else while the original problems are responding to treatment. Hopefully she will no longer be visited by aliens in gowns and masks by the time you get this. She is now back at Coventry Court (Euclid just north of Orangewood) and would appreciate visitors, cards or even smart remarks. Isolation is definitely discouraging.

Substance Abuse . . .

Orange County Substance Abuse Prevention Network (OCSAPN) promotes and enhances the quality, quantity and cooperation of positive youth development programs and prevention services in Orange County. See flyer for Showcase of Community Resources on Thurs. Sept. 28. Recommended for youth leaders and peer leaders/students or anyone apt to deal with youth in your community. Over 50 agencies will be showcasing their services!

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

Podcasts . . .

Rev. Kusala is doing podcasts (think ipod) you can download them to your computer and listen at your leisure. Interviews with Buddhists and others, school presentations, meditation, and etc.

If any other communities have something like this let me know. Great opportunity to share with us and the world!

Human Trafficking . . .

Interfaith Representatives needed.

Survivor Kits Project was a wonderful success. We, on the team, are deeply grateful for your generosity. Working on this project was energizing--so much excitement about being able to be of help to those in need. If you would like to be part of our group, please come to the Romito Center on Wednesday, September 6, at 5:30 p.m., and help us to brainstorm. We hope to come up with another project which would help anti-human trafficking efforts.

Ed George . . .

Is recovering from surgery again. This time he developed something that has only occurred a half

dozen times in 18 years. He is home free at last. Thanks for your notes prayers and thoughts.

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 . . .

We will be having elections at the next meeting they are long overdo. Ballots will be available at the meeting and by mail and e-mail for members.

Celebration of Thanks . . .

Our annual Thanksgiving celebration is in the beginning planning stages. We need input from all our members and faith communities. Come prepared to make suggestions, offer assistance and commit a sharing, reading or artistic expression of thanks.



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 — Police Dept. of Garden Grove will give update on city issues and Police Chaplains program.

See you there! ! !

