

Sunday, November 19th, 2006

Welcome All

Interfaith Council of Washington's 20th Annual

Praise & Thanksgiving

Interfaith Worship Celebration

We grew closer through our shared experience of interfaith worship and celebration giving thanks and praise to the Ultimate Reality we call by many names—

Absolute, Allah, Brahman, Dharmakaya, Elohim, Father, Great Spirit, God, Goddess, Kami, Lady, Lord, Love, Mother, One, Perfection, Savior, Source, Spirit, Tao...

Program Reminiscences:

Welcome & Opening Blessing

~ Father Patrick Clark
St Patrick Church



Welcome from the Interfaith Council of WA
President Margie Coles

Interfaith Council of Washington Appreciation Award
~ presented to Interfaith Chaplain Sibyl Lundy
by Rev Karen Lindquist Praise & Thanksgiving Coordinator



Interfaith Voices of Youth (IVY) present
"Good Life" by
Jon Ramer, with
additional lyrics by IVY

IVY is an interfaith youth council whose members come from diverse faith communities to develop friendships and leadership skills; promote interfaith, cross-cultural and intergenerational dialogue; work together for social justice; and offer youth perspective to the adult interfaith community. IVY was accompanied by its Co-Directors of Music, Jon and Tova Ramer. For more info, call Keesha Ewers-Morris at 425.369.8736.



'Finlandia'

~ Participatory song with Laura Ash, Music Director,
and the St Patrick Church Choir

'Prayer of St Francis'

~ Liturgical Dance with Betsey Beckman,
accompanied by
David & Laura Ash
and April Sotura



**Greeting
One Another!**



"May we grow closer through our time together."

Faith and Spiritual Community Presentations



THE BAHÁ'Í FAITH ~ presenter, Katy Porray, offered a song, "Glory Be Unto Thee" from a Bahá'í Prayer. Bahá'ís believe the purpose of life is to know and worship God and to carry forward an ever-advancing civilization. For more information, visit website: www.bahai.org.



BUDDHIST (ZEN) ~ presenter, Sibyl Lundy, offered a Zen Koan. A koan is a short story, often a dialog between a student and a teacher, that points towards some essence of the spirit of Zen. Sibyl Lundy was first a Tibetan Buddhist student, later a Zen student, and has studied with Tibetan lamas, Japanese and Chinese Zen masters since 1985. As a member of the Cold Mountain Zendo in Seattle, her current spiritual practice is Ch'an, the Taoist-influenced Chinese form of Buddhism that migrated to Japan to become Zen. For more information, visit: www.wholelifedesigns.com.



CHRISTIANITY ~ "Servant Gospel," In the Gospel according to St. Mark is the story of the disciples arguing among themselves about who is to be at Jesus' side in his kingdom. Jesus explains that the important thing is not to be first but to be servant to all and to give your life for many. This story was told by the St Patrick Junior High and the St Patrick choir, and directed by Betsey Beckman accompanied by Laura Ash Music Director for St Patrick Church. www.stpatsseattle.org.

HINDUISM ~ presenter, Brahmachari Pavitrachaitanya, spoke about Sri Ramakrishna's unique message of the harmony of religions.

Brahmachari Pavitrachaitanya has been connected to the Vedanta Society since 1977, and has been a monk of the Ramakrishna Order since 1991. He tends the grounds of Tapovan, the society's 20 acre retreat in Arlington, Wa. For more information, visit website: www.vedanta-seattle.org, email: "James DeCaire" pavitra@vedanta-seattle.org.



ISLAM ~ presenter, Sister Janice Tufte, recited the first Sura of the Qur'an ~ the Fatiha (the Opening), in Arabic followed by a translation. This most often recited sura enables us to open our hearts to God and to open our lives in service to humanity. Sister Janice is the creator of the Warm for the Winter Campaign inspiring a new kind of activism: creating scarves and hats for the homeless. She may be reached at: 206.675.2672, warmforwinter@yahoo.com. For more information about homelessness in our city and what you can do, visit websites: www.itfhomeless.org, www.cehkc.org, and www.uwkc.org.

JUDAISM ~ presenter, Rabbi Tsurah August, offered and taught the chant "Modah/Modeh Ani", an anchor of Jewish daily liturgy, which offers gratitude for the whole range of human experience that life offers. She also offered a prayer for healing and wholeness. Yosaif accompanied Rabbi Tsurah on guitar. Rabbi Tsurah August is a hospice chaplain for Providence Hospice in Everett. She may be reached at: tsurah@aol.com, 206.330.5691.



"We grew closer through our time together!"

Faith and Spiritual Community Presentations



SACRED FEMININE: presenters, The Convocation of the Divine Feminine. *This Moving Meditation honored the Sacred Feminine, Co-Creatrix, Divine Mother of us all. The song "Mother Earth" and movements adapted from Full Body Blessing: Praying with Movement, by Betsey Beckman. Participants: Anastasia Lindquist, Karen Lindquist, Sibyl Lundy, Suzanna McCarthy, Linda Stern. Vocals with vocals and guitar by Isla Ross. For more, visit website: www.interfaithcommunitychurch.org.*

SILENCE: the Contemplative Mystical Core of All Traditions ~ "Expressing Gratitude in a Moment of Silence," presenter, Tim Malone, M.Div. *Tim coordinates prayer experiences for the Ignatian Spirituality Center offering retreats, spiritual direction, and resources on prayer and meditation responding to the spiritual hunger of people of all faiths. Tim leads visits to houses of worship called "Interfaith Explorations." For more information, visit website: www.timmalone.org, www.ignatiancenter.org, phone 206.329.4824 x1*



SISIWISS "Sacred Breath" ~ the Spiritual Tradition of our Northwest Coastal First People, presenter, Laurel Boucher and family, shared a Fall Healing Song. This song is only shared in the fall of the year and is sung in a 'round.' Laurel invited us to receive healing for ourselves or for another by holding them in our thoughts. *Laurel facilitates the Red Cedar Circle with Johnny Moses. For more information, email: laurel_symon@hotmail.com.*

WICCA ~ presenter, Lila Rapcewicz. In praise of the elements, Lila offered two chants that encompass the connection with the Spirit in all things. "Air I Am" and "Return." *Lila was born into a family with Magical roots. Her Grandfather was a country doctor and an herbalist, and she has an aunt who is a Priestess of Santeria. Lila became interested in the occult in her teens and joined her first coven in 1990. She is also an active member of Interfaith Community Church. Lila may be reached: lrapcewi@starbucks.com.*



BLESSING SCARVES for the HOMELESS: Father Patrick Clark, Rabbi Tsurah August, Sister Janice Tufté offered a story of help, support or compassion toward another from their respective Christian, Jewish and Muslim traditions with a statement of blessing from Rev Bill Kirlin-Hackett.



The many beautiful hand made scarves gracing the sacred space is the result of a visionary and practical project created by Muslim Sister Janice Tufté. Her 1000 Scarves, "Warm for Winter Homeless Campaign" calls attention for the need to end homelessness within our city. Each handmade scarf or hat represents a home that is needed for an individual or family; We need to create nearly 1000 low income housing units each year for the next ten years to house the 8,500 people currently on the street. For more information, email itfjanice@yahoo.com.

We concluded our program with a Social with delicious homemade cookies compliments of the Bahá'í Faith Community of Seattle with tea and coffee provided by St Patrick Church. We used this social time to meet someone new from a tradition other than our own!

"We grew closer through our time together!"

We extend praise and gratitude to the many individuals and communities who shared from their hearts to make this celebration a success!

*We especially thank the St Patrick Church community for hosting this year's gathering!
We also would like to express our appreciation for all the musicians, volunteers who selflessly contributed to the creation of this program.*



The 20th Annual
Praise &
Thanksgiving
Interfaith
Worship Celebration
is a tradition
of the



Interfaith Council of Washington

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Vision

We see a world where all faith traditions and communities are honored, respected, and celebrated.

Mission

To support and promote interfaith cooperation, understanding, social interaction and spiritual growth through education, service and celebration.

Goals

- Discover common ground among faith traditions.
- Understand and respect the differences between faith traditions.
 - Build relationships between faith traditions.
- Inspire participation in interfaith programs and events.
 - Celebrate, enjoy and learn from one another.



To learn about
diverse faith traditions,
visit www.interfaithcouncil.com and click on
"Resources."

This annual Praise & Thanksgiving Interfaith Worship Celebration is a collaboration of two Cooperation Circles of the United Religions Initiative,

the *Interfaith Council of Washington* and the *Interfaith Circle of Love*, the URI CC of Interfaith Community Church.

The United Religions Initiative is a global organization whose purpose is:

to promote enduring, daily interfaith cooperation,
to end religiously motivated violence,
and to create cultures of peace, justice and healing for the Earth and all living beings.

Visit www.uri.org to learn how to start your own URI Cooperation Circle!