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San Francisco Interfaith Council

**15th
Annual
Interfaith Thanksgiving
Prayer Breakfast**

**Going Green: Honoring
Congregations and California
Interfaith Power & Light for
Their Environmental Leadership**



**Tuesday, November 20, 2012
7:00 - 9:00 AM
Hotel Kabuki**



*Celebrating our diverse faiths
and spiritual traditions,
the San Francisco Interfaith Council
brings people together
to build understanding
and serve our community.*

San Francisco Interfaith Council

Michael G. Pappas, M. Div.

Executive Director

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— Welcome to the —
15th Annual Interfaith
Thanksgiving Prayer Breakfast

The San Francisco Interfaith Council welcomes you to the 15th Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Prayer Breakfast. The Council exists to serve and give voice to the 800 congregations and faith-based social service agencies in the City and County of San Francisco. The Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Prayer Breakfast is our major event of the year when representatives of the faith community, civic leaders and citizens come together to give thanks for the gifts bestowed upon our City and nation and to pray for their well being.

Each year, at this breakfast, we shine the spotlight on one of the many contributions the religious community makes to the life of San Francisco. This year we are pleased to recognize and honor congregations and California Interfaith Power & Light for their exemplary work in environmental preservation and "greening." We have selected eleven faith communities who have shown an especially strong commitment to environmental values. Some have been leaders in "greening" their buildings through lighting retrofits or installing solar panels. Others have made significant contributions through congregational education and advocacy efforts. Still others have planted gardens, or dramatically reduced their landfill waste. Some have done all of these things.

Those we specially honor today are by no means the only congregations in the City who actively pursue environmental goals. Today we salute and celebrate all our diverse faith communities who work to preserve and protect the environment.

We also specially honor today California Interfaith Power & Light, a non-profit organization that has mobilized a strong faith-based response to global warming. CIPL does an outstanding job of educating diverse congregations about energy efficiency and ways they can reduce their carbon footprint. CIPL also brings the voice of faith to important public policy discussions about energy at the national, state, and local levels.

We are grateful for your presence here today and we invite you to participate in the interfaith activities of the San Francisco Interfaith Council.



OUR HONORED CONGREGATIONS



Calvary Presbyterian Church

Calvary Presbyterian Church has made a significant contribution to energy conservation through lighting retrofits. In 2008, Calvary replaced over 260 incandescent bulbs with compact fluorescents, a project that reduced energy use by over 14,000 watts. This fall, the church completed an extensive second phase of the retrofit, replacing some 350 incandescent bulbs with new technology LEDs in the 1,500-seat sanctuary, smaller chapel, and other church facilities. This phase produced an additional energy savings of about 30,000 watts when all the lights are on, bringing Calvary's total energy savings to over 44,000 watts. Calvary's Green Team worked closely with San Francisco's Energy Watch program to complete this important project.

Calvary has had an intensive recycling and composting program for several years. This program has cut Calvary's landfill trash by over two-thirds. Compostable plastic utensils are frequently used for events, and compostable or recyclable paper products are sometimes used in place of chinaware to cut down on dishwashing water usage. Affirming environmental values, the Calvary Foundation has supported the Center for Nature and Christian Spirituality in Sonoma County by awarding tuition grants. In addition, Calvary youth participate in significant environmental projects. For example, on their mission trip last June the youth spent four days in Pawhuska, Oklahoma, preparing a vacant lot for a community garden.

The Cathedral of St. Mary of the Assumption

St. Mary's Cathedral has undertaken energy efficiency and resource conservation improvements in a number of different areas over the past several years. All plumbing for the rectory and public areas of the Cathedral has been retrofitted for water conservation purposes using low flow fixtures. All work areas of the Cathedral have been retrofitted with energy-saving light fixtures and all remaining areas of the Cathedral are in the process of having such lighting installed. St. Mary's has also recently placed a program for the installation of solar panels in their Master Plan and it will be part of the Cathedral's next capital campaign.



Congregation Emanu-El

Congregation Emanu-El is one of the two oldest synagogues in California, and has a long tradition of environmental action. It is also one of the largest congregations in San Francisco, representing over 2,000 families. An initiative called "Green Emanu-El" promotes sustainable Temple operations to reduce its impact on the environment. Green Emanu-El's successful efforts in recycling, composting and particularly with lighting upgrades throughout its entire facility have saved thousands of dollars and reduced greenhouse gas emissions by almost 100 tons per year. Due to these and other efforts, Congregation Emanu-El and Rabbi Stephen Pearce were listed in Newsweek's 25 Most Vibrant Congregations in 2009, and Rabbi Pearce was listed as one of the 50 Most Influential Rabbis.

Episcopal Church of St. Mary the Virgin

An important but overlooked element of good environmental stewardship is the connection between food choices, farming and their impacts on climate. This is something that clergy and lay leaders have recognized and taken the time to educate their congregants about at St. Mary the Virgin. The church hosts a "sustainable feast" each year to demonstrate how eating organically can be healthy, delicious and important to the reduction of any community's carbon footprint. St Mary's also has a "Creation Season" in October each year, when readings and homilies reflect the importance of the congregation's participation in the sustainability of our planet's resources. One Sunday in October the parish celebrates its liturgy together on a local ranch, which demonstrates for children and adults where our food comes from and how they can be nourished in harmony with the land.

First Chinese Baptist Church

Located in San Francisco's historic Chinatown district, First Chinese Baptist Church has had a long-time relationship with energy efficiency and renewable energy. Nearly 15 years ago, FCBC had the foresight to replace their old energy-consuming light bulbs with compact fluorescents. The church has installed low flow toilets, helping to contribute to water conservation. Clergy incorporate environmental stewardship themes into sermons and services and the church has worked to encourage other congregations within the Chinese Christian Union to conduct energy audits. Perhaps the most impressive contribution FCBC has made to good energy stewardship is working with Sun Light & Power to install solar panels on its church rooftop.

First Unitarian Universalist Society of San Francisco

First Unitarian Universalist Society of San Francisco has done much to be good stewards of the environment. After completing a lighting retrofit of its facility, a solar task force recommended a 21.5 kW solar system. After many meetings to engage the congregants in the project, Luminalt Solar installed the panels. Improved recycling and composting programs have led to a nearly \$700 reduction in monthly garbage bills, which is put back into church programs.

Currently, First UU is working with PowerDown Lighting Systems as part of a collaborative program with PG&E and the City and County of San Francisco to reduce excess lighting by installing LED light bulbs to replace incandescent and halogen sources. The plans are to install an additional 191 high efficiency bulbs throughout the facility to save over 15,000 kWh per year, or more than \$200 per month.

Additionally, educational programs are scheduled regularly, including speakers, special presentations at worship services and weekly green reminders in the Order of Service for the Sunday worship services. First UU is also very strong in advocating for

common-sense climate and energy policies. The congregation actively worked for the successful Human Right to Water legislation and has participated in San Francisco's Moving Planet Day of Climate Action.

Glide Memorial United Methodist Church

Glide Memorial has performed numerous improvements at its facility over the years in order to be a good steward of energy. Beginning with the support of the San Francisco Department of the Environment in 2005, Glide carried out a lighting retrofit to improve energy efficiency at its church. Glide followed these actions with an extensive recycling program, which recycles glass, white paper, cardboard and plastic. The church also composts all compostable foods and products from its kitchen. Glide converts its waste vegetable oil into biodiesel for use in Glide vehicles and recently purchased a diesel van that it uses for deliveries and pick-ups.

In addition to purchasing only sustainably harvested wood and recycled metal for its renovations and retrofits, almost 90% of Glide's furniture is re-used or recycled. The congregation's "Graze the Roof" is a nationally recognized program that teaches inner city youth about food production, nutrition and sustainability. Glide's garden produces food for their meals program.

The congregation is currently constructing a plan to install electric and hot water solar panels on the roof of Glide at 330 Ellis Street, and a living roof that incorporates the "Graze the Roof" Program as well as a water reclamation system.

Grace Cathedral

Grace Cathedral was among the first congregations to install a solar photovoltaic system in San Francisco. The Rev. Canon Sally G. Bingham, President of California Interfaith Power & Light, helped to bring about a partnership between the Cathedral and PG&E that would be instrumental in financing the project along with rebate incentives from the GoSolarSF program. Solar City performed the installation work. Grace Cathedral was the first organization of its kind to work with the program to install the 10 kW solar system and prove that with proper care and consideration, solar panels can be successfully installed in the most architecturally sensitive of buildings.

The cathedral has also worked for many years on achieving greater energy efficiency. Periodic energy surveys conducted with the cooperation of San Francisco Energy Watch have resulted in the removal of unnecessary halogen lighting and the replacement of incandescent lamps with CFLs. The ventilation system for the parking garage has been converted from an old 24-hour fan operation to a CO sensor/VFD system that runs fans only when required. A kitchen remodel currently in the planning stage will utilize only state-of-the-art energy efficient appliances.

San Francisco Zen Center

San Francisco Zen Center (comprised of City Center in San Francisco, Green Gulch Farm Zen Center in Marin, and Tassajara Zen Mountain Center in the Ventana Wilderness near Big Sur) has been a leader in using renewable energy. Over the past ten years, Zen Center's efforts to reduce its use of fossil fuels have included the design and installation of solar and micro-hydroelectric energy generating systems at Tassajara and the installation of solar panels on the roof at City Center. City Center's roof is also home to four bee hives and a roof top garden. Zen Center has developed environmentally friendly guidelines for purchasing food, cleaning and building materials, and providing educational tours and workshops for its communities.

St. Cyprian's Episcopal Church

St. Cyprian's, a small but active congregation, took a creative approach on a project to green their street corner while educating the broader community. By involving their neighbors and members, St. Cyprian's transformed the hard concrete sidewalks on the corner of Lyon and Turk to a permeable, green landscape. The intent of the project was to allow rain to filter to the aquifer below, reducing the burden of the city sewer system and saving energy. At every step of the way, the project enjoyed community collaboration. The San Francisco *Chronicle* featured this community effort on the front page of its *Home and Garden* section. St. Cyprian's has also formed a collaboration with the University of San Francisco's Sustainability Center and its Community Garden Project and with neighborhood associations to encourage more resilient living in an urban setting.

St. Mark's Lutheran Church

St. Mark's Lutheran Church made a green leap of faith six years ago when they recycled their 1895 building. Rather than demolish their seismically challenged brick structure and send it to landfill, they met the City's challenge to strengthen their unreinforced masonry building and give it a second life, preserving the old-growth timbers in the roof and reducing the carbon footprint of the retrofit to a fraction of that associated with new construction. St. Mark's was also able to incorporate new energy-efficient building systems as part of the project and replaced antiquated electrical, mechanical and plumbing systems with new equipment and components such as: insulated piping for domestic water and hydronic heating; low-flow toilet and urinals; and lighting controls and dimming systems that reduce energy consumption and extend lamp life. The building's brick walls, now thickened with additional concrete, provide thermal mass that reduces heating and cooling requirements. The mechanical system captures hot air near the ceiling of the sanctuary and recirculates it to reduce heating loads on cool days. Supplementing the original hydronic radiators with ducted air circulation brings fresh air into the building and improves the quality of the interior environment.

St. Mark's has containers throughout the building for recyclables and collects compostable materials. Outside, the congregation has planted trees and groundcover plants, installed a drip irrigation system, and with the help of congregants and primarily senior residents from the next-door Martin Luther Tower, developed a vegetable garden on the south side of the church building. In the coming months, St. Mark's will install bicycle racks and is researching options to replace incandescent lamps with LEDs that produce less heat and conserve energy.

CALIFORNIA INTERFAITH POWER & LIGHT

Based in San Francisco, and led by the Rev. Canon Sally G. Bingham, California Interfaith Power & Light (CIPL) is mobilizing a religious response to global warming through the promotion of renewable energy, energy efficiency and conservation. Currently, CIPL has over 560 congregations as members throughout the state. CIPL is the first of 40 state affiliates of Interfaith Power & Light, which reaches 14,000 congregations nationwide. Throughout the United States and here in California, CIPL is educating people of faith, taking action on clean energy and bringing the voice of faith to climate and energy policy discussions at all levels of government.

Reducing our CO2 emissions and using renewable energy are important ways to respond to the moral issue of our time. CIPL's 560 congregations have collectively prevented 117 million pounds of carbon dioxide from entering the Earth's atmosphere through their actions. That is equivalent to 1.25 million gallons of gasoline.

CIPL helps its congregations to become good energy stewards by offering resources on energy efficiency and solar power, and engaging them in campaigns such as the annual Cool Congregations challenge to help communities green their facilities and cut carbon pollution.

CIPL offers theological and worship resources, books and films, sample sermons and many other resources to help faith communities. CIPL also actively supports public policies to reduce U.S. emissions to a sustainable level, promote renewable energy, and build an equitable clean energy economy.

If your faith community is not yet a member of CIPL, please join by signing the "Congregational Covenant" and help protect the earth's ecosystems, safeguard the health of all Creation and ensure sufficient, sustainable energy for all. There are CIPL brochures at each place setting this morning. Please take a look at the materials and sign up your congregation today.




California Interfaith Power & Light San Francisco Members




The following congregations are members of CIPL. CIPL invites all congregations to make a commitment to address climate change by becoming a member and signing the Congregational Covenant included in the CIPL brochures on the tables.

Allen Chapel AME Church
 All Saints Episcopal Church
 Bethany Center Senior Housing, Inc.
 Brahma Kumaris Center
 Calvary Presbyterian Church
 Cathedral of St. Mary of the Assumption
 Chinese United Methodist Church
 Christ Church Lutheran of San Francisco
 Christ Episcopal Church Sei Ko Kai
 Church of the Epiphany
 Community of St. Francis
 Congregation Emanu-El
 Congregation Sha'ar Zahav
 Congregation Sherith Israel
 Ebenezer Baptist Church
 Ebenezer Lutheran Church
 The Edge-Campus Christian Ministry
 El Buen Samaritano
 Episcopal Church of St. John the Evangelist
 Episcopal Church of St. Mary the Virgin
 First Chinese Baptist Church
 First Unitarian Universalist Society
 Forest Hill Christian Church
 Franciscan Friars
 Gethsemane Baptist Church
 Glide Memorial United Methodist Church
 Golden Gate Spiritualist Church
 Grace Cathedral
 Grace Tabernacle Community Church
 Holy Innocents Episcopal Church
 Hope United Methodist Church
 Interfaith Center at the Presidio
 Islamic Society of San Francisco
 Jones Memorial United Methodist Church



Latvian Lutheran Church of Northern California
 Lincoln Park Presbyterian Church
 Mercy High School
 Metropolitan Community Church of San Francisco
 Mt. Zion Baptist Church
 Noe Valley Ministry
 Our Lady of Fatima Russian Byzantine Catholic Church
 Our Lady of Lourdes Church
 Pine United Methodist Church
 Providence Baptist Church
 San Francisco Friends Meeting
 San Francisco Interfaith Council
 San Francisco Muslim Community Center
 San Francisco Night Ministry
 San Francisco Towers Episcopal
 San Francisco Zen Center
 Second Church of Christ Scientist
 Second Wind
 Seventh Avenue Presbyterian Church
 Sisters of the Holy Names
 Sisters of the Presentation
 Sojourn Chaplaincy
 St. Aidan's Episcopal Church
 St. Christopher's Episcopal Church
 St. Cyprian's Episcopal Church
 St. Francis Lutheran Church
 St. George's Episcopal Church
 St. Gregory of Nyssa Episcopal Church
 St. Ignatius Catholic Church
 St. James Episcopal Church
 St. John's Presbyterian Church
 St. John's United Church of Christ
 St. Luke's Episcopal Church
 St. Mark's Episcopal Church
 St. Mark's Lutheran Church
 St. Mary and St. Martha Lutheran Church
 St. Paul of the Shipwreck
 St. Paulus Lutheran Church
 St. Peter's Episcopal Church
 St. Teresa Catholic Church
 St. Thomas More Church/Campus Ministry
 Temple United Methodist Church
 Third Baptist Church
 Trinity Episcopal Church
 United Muslims of America





OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL GOOD WORKS

Annunciation Greek Orthodox Cathedral

The Annunciation Cathedral has recycled for many years. Several months ago, we completed a lighting retrofit. Participating in a program with PG&E, we changed our florescent and gym lighting fixtures to low-usage fixtures and all spots to low wattage LEDs. The spots, of which we have hundreds, each burned 100 watts, whereas now we have none that consumes in excess of 17 watts.

Congregation Sherith Israel

Sherith Israel has made significant strides in reducing use of paper communications. The religious school has not mailed paper communications in two years, and the vast majority of other congregational communication is electronic as well. Sherith Israel also practices "gleaning" of materials – that is, diverting useful items from the waste stream. We rarely purchase cardboard, paper, or other items for religious school art projects, but re-use these materials. In addition, our two meals programs – Hamotzi and Chicken Soupers – use some food that might otherwise be thrown away, such as day-old baked goods from Safeway and "end lots" from various vendors. All of these efforts significantly reduce contributions to the waste stream.

Islamic Society of San Francisco

The Islamic Society uses biodegradable paper plates and dishes, and recycles all plastics. We have replaced all our older light bulbs with new energy-efficient bulbs. We have also restored and maintained large skylights in our building which provide some heat from the sun, reducing our use of non-renewable energy sources. In addition, when cooking a weekly meal for our Tenderloin neighbors, we use some locally sourced produce from the farmers' market.



Saint Francis Lutheran Church

St. Francis installed solar panels on the south side of their roof in August. Approximately 50 panels were put up with a capacity of 12.24 kW. So far the average reduction in the electricity bills has been 60%.

San Francisco Baha'i Faith Community

For the past three years, adult and youth volunteers from the San Francisco Baha'i Community have been monthly participants in the SF Department of Public Works "Community Clean Team." One Saturday morning each month from February through October, our group meets at a designated location in the City selected by SFDPW. Volunteering includes a wide range of service activities such as: litter abatement and trash removal, graffiti abatement and removal, tree planting and landscape maintenance, painting, and beautification of public spaces.

The SF Baha'i Community has also just begun volunteering this month to maintain and beautify the area around Lloyd Lake/Portals of the Past in Golden Gate Park under the direction of the SF Recreation and Parks Department. We are planning to do this service project again in February 2013. In addition, the SF Baha'i Community completed an extensive lighting retrofit in cooperation with the City and PG&E when we replaced almost all of the old style lights in our building with compact florescent and other energy saving bulbs. Besides lowering electrical consumption, the new lights are more environmentally friendly in general and will last ten times longer than the old ones.

St. Dominic's Catholic Church

St. Dominic's Church has planted numerous flowerbeds and planter areas around the church grounds. Parishioners of the Gardening Group take care of these green areas on a weekly basis. We also have purchased additional recycling containers and started a recycling program with the help of

our Community Life Commission. Staff has also attended a workshop on recycling at the City's recycling facility.

St. Nicholas Orthodox Church

The Little Red Hen Community Garden is adjacent to our church. The garden's leadership and members hold their meetings in the Church Hall and recently hosted a garden tour and luncheon for the American Community Gardening Association using our church facilities. The San Francisco Police Academy's planter is devoted to growing crops for St. Nicholas Church's Day Care & Preschool based on our chef's suggestions – bush beans, carrots, lettuce and zucchini. One of the gardeners donated her three wine barrels to St. Nicholas and the following crops were planted: Mediterranean oregano, rosemary, and thyme; dragon purple, nutra-red, yellowstone orange and white carrots; and marble red and walla walla onions. All crops in these planters are organic and are taken to the church when mature for use by our chef.

The collaboration between St. Nicholas Orthodox Church, the San Francisco Police Academy and the Friends of Glen Canyon Park has turned a waist-high weeds, plagued 2,500-square-foot patch of land next to St. Nicholas into the thriving Little Red Hen Community Garden.

Young Adult Interfaith Network

On Saturday, November 17th, the Young Adult Interfaith Network in collaboration with Friends of the Urban Forest planted trees on 22nd Street and Douglas in Noe Valley.

The Young Adult Interfaith Network brings together adults (ages 20-30) from multiple faith and non-faith traditions in San Francisco. Realizing the great need in this city, the network builds interfaith relationships by offering various service project opportunities every month. These projects include volunteering with a wide variety of organizations such as Friends of the Urban Forest, the San Francisco Food Bank, CAIR, Habitat for Humanity, and Glide.

SPONSORS FOR TODAY'S BREAKFAST

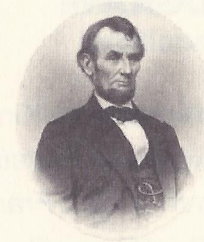
Table Sponsor—\$500

Archdiocese of San Francisco
 California Pacific Medical Center
 Calvary Presbyterian Church
 Camilla Smith, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
 Catholic Charities CYO
 Congregation Emanu-El
 Congregation Sherith Israel
 Glide Memorial United Methodist Church
 Grace Cathedral
 Jewish Community Relations Council
 Most Holy Redeemer Catholic Church
 My Dutch Uncle
 Providence Baptist Church of San Francisco
 San Francisco District Attorney's Office
 San Francisco Zen Center
 The Salvation Army
 University of San Francisco

**SPONSORS
FOR TODAY'S BREAKFAST**

Sustaining Sponsor—\$250

The Honorable Willie L. Brown, Jr.
Rev. Paul & Mrs. Jan Chaffee
Rev. James DeLange
Betsy Dodd and Jim Boddy
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Mo' MAGIC
Old St. Mary's Cathedral
St. Vincent de Paul Society of San Francisco
The San Francisco Foundation
St. Cyprian's Episcopal Church
Tzu Chi Foundation
United Educators of San Francisco



**President Abraham Lincoln's
Thanksgiving Proclamation**

October 3, 1863

It is the duty of nations as well as of men to own their dependence upon the overruling power of God; to confess their sins and transgressions in humble sorrow, yet with assured hope that genuine repentance will lead to mercy and pardon; and to recognize the sublime truth, announced in the Holy Scriptures and proven by all history, that those nations are blessed whose God is the LORD.

We know that by His divine law, nations, like individuals, are subjected to punishments and chastisements in this world. May we not justly fear that the awful calamity of civil war which now desolates the land may be a punishment inflicted upon us for our presumptuous sins, to the needful end of our national reformation as a whole people?

We have been the recipients of the choicest bounties of heaven; we have been preserved these many years in peace and prosperity; we have grown in numbers, wealth and power as no other nation has ever grown.

But we have forgotten God. We have forgotten the gracious hand which preserved us in peace and multiplied and enriched and strengthened us, and we have vainly imagined, in the deceitfulness of our hearts, that all these blessings were produced by some superior wisdom and virtue of our own. Intoxicated with unbroken success, we have become too self-sufficient to feel the necessity of redeeming and preserving grace, too proud to pray to the God that made us.

It has seemed to me fit and proper that God should be solemnly, reverently and gratefully acknowledged, as with one heart and one voice, by the whole American people. I do therefore invite my fellow citizens in every part of the United States, and also those who are at sea and those who are sojourning in foreign lands, to set apart and observe the last Thursday of November as a day of Thanksgiving and praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the heavens.



PROGRAM



Buddhist Ceremonial In Kin Bell
The Rev. Ronald Kobata
Buddhist Church of San Francisco

Reading from the Koran
Imam Abu Qadir Al-Amin,
SF Muslim Community Center

Prayer of Thanks for the Meal
Rev. Stephen H. Kyriacou, Dean
Annunciation Greek Orthodox Cathedral

~ Breakfast is served at your table ~

Welcome by Breakfast Co-Chairs
Betsy Dodd, Calvary Presbyterian Church
Mary J. Zamboukos, St. Nicholas Orthodox Church

President Lincoln's Thanksgiving Day Proclamation
(page 19)
Joshua and Daniel Rechtschaffen
University High School and Congregation Emanu-El

Introduction of Public Officials
Rita Semel
Chair, San Francisco Interfaith Council

Remarks
Mayor Edwin Lee



PROGRAM (continued)



Remarks
Rita Semel

Song: "The Prayer"
by David Foster and Carol Bayer Sager
Sister Elizabeth Padilla
Accompanied by Sister Kyoko Kimura
The Brahma Kumaris Community

Remarks and Introduction of Keynote Speaker
Michael G. Pappas, M. Div.,
Executive Director, San Francisco Interfaith Council
and Member of Grace Episcopal Cathedral

Keynote Speaker: The Rev. Canon Sally G. Bingham
President, The Regeneration Project,
Interfaith Power & Light Campaign

Presentation to Honorees
Rita Semel and Michael G. Pappas

Songs: "You Are the One" by Debbie Freeman
"Plant a Radish" from the Fantastics
Cantor Roslyn Barak, Congregation Emanu-El
Accompanied by Mike Greensill



PROGRAM
(continued)



Honoring Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi
for 25 Years in Congress
Rita Semel

Response
*The Honorable Nancy Pelosi, Democratic
Leader of the House of Representatives*

Prayers for the Environment
(pages 23-25)

Closing Prayer: The Prayer of St. Francis
(said by all – page 26)
*Led by Father Paul Zirimenya,
St. Benedict Parish for the Deaf and Hearing Impaired
SSG Brad Hatton, CSMR Recruiter - Interpreter*

Song: "Våren" (Spring) by Edvard Grieg
Eric Huseth
Intern, SFIC and St. Mark's Lutheran Church
Accompanied by Tim Zerlang
(English translation page 27)

Closing Remarks by Co-Chairs



PRAYERS FOR THE ENVIRONMENT



Baha'i Prayer

By Baha'u'llah

Reader: Cecilia Mostaghim, Baha'i Center of San Francisco

Blessed is the spot, and the house
And the place, and the city,
And the heart and the mountain.
And the refuge, and the cave,
And the valley, and the land,
And the sea, and the island,
And the meadow where mention
Of God hath been made,
And his praise glorified.

Buddhist Prayer

By The Most Venerable Thich Nhat Hanh

Reader: Sally Wei, Tzu Chi Foundation

Water flows from high in the mountains.
Water runs deep in the Earth.
Miraculously, water comes to us,
and sustains all life.
Water flows over these hands.
May I use them skillfully
To preserve our precious planet.

Christian Prayer

From St. Thomas Episcopal Church, Medina, Washington

Reader: Fr. Tom West OFM, St. Anthony Foundation and St. Boniface
Catholic Church

Gracious God, you have given us much this day: the wheat and
grapes which found our feast, the wit and will to transform them
into bread and wine, and the precious presence of your Son who
transfigures and redeems all that we have broken and lost. Send
us out now to care for this fragile earth, our island home. Grant
us the wit and the will to transform the toxic, irreverent ways we
live, and the saving presence of your Son, Jesus Christ, who
goes before us and calls us into this world you love. To him, to
you, and to the Holy Spirit be honor and glory, now and forever,
Amen.

Hindu Prayer

Reader: Sr. Sukanya Belsare, Brahma Kumaris Center

Waters, you are the ones who bring us the life force.
 Help us to find nourishment so that we may look upon great joy.
 Let us share in the most delicious sap that you have, as if you were loving mothers.
 Let us go straight to the house of the one for whom your waters give us life and give us birth.
 For our well-being let the goddesses be an aid to us, the waters be for us to drink. Let them cause well-being and health to flow over us.
 Mistresses of all the things that are chosen, rulers over all peoples, the waters are the ones I beg for a cure.
 Soma has told me that within the waters are all cures and Agni who is salutary to all.
 Waters, yield your cure as an armour for my body, so that I may see the sun for a long time.
 Waters, carry far away all of this that has gone bad in me, either what I have done in malicious deceit or whatever lie I have sworn to.
 I have sought the waters today; we have joined with their sap.
 O Agni full of moisture, come and flood me with splendour.

Jewish Prayer

Reader: Nancy Sheftel-Gomes, Congregation Sherith Israel

How wonderful, O Lord, are the works of your hands!
 The heavens declare Your glory,
 the arch of sky displays Your handiwork.
 In Your love You have given us the power
 to behold the beauty of Your world
 robed in all its splendor.
 The sun and the stars, the valleys and hills,
 the rivers and lakes all disclose Your presence.
 The roaring breakers of the sea tell of Your awesome might;
 the beasts of the field and the birds of the air
 bespeak Your wondrous will.
 In Your goodness You have made us able to hear
 the music of the world. The voices of loved ones
 reveal to us that You are in our midst.
 A divine voice sings through all creation.

Muslim Prayer

By Rumi

Reader: Ildus Amadullin, Pacifica Institute

Lord, the air smells good today, straight from the mysteries
 within the inner courts of God.
 A grace like new clothes thrown
 across the garden, free medicine for everybody.
 The trees in their prayer, the birds in praise,
 the first blue violets kneeling.
 Whatever came from Being is caught up in being, drunkenly
 forgetting the way back.

PRAYER OF ST. FRANCIS

(said by all)

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

"Spring"

By Edvard Grieg

Yet once again I see winter's cloak fade with springtide
advancing; hedgerows a-greening bear flow'rs white as
snow, spring's vistas enhancing.

Yet once again I see winter retreat, the landscape
relinquished; ice swiftly melt, swelling waterfalls and
streams, the snowfields extinguished.

Grasses of em'rald again reappear, fired blooms 'midst them
burning; once more, the heralding lark song I've heard all
summer's returning.

Zephyrs so lightly at play can be seen o'er green slopes
a-prancing, butterflies soaring sail, gliding aloft, like blos-
soms a-dancing.

Fresh life in spring which I one more time behold soon ebbs
into past time; sad thoughts awaken, and questions I must:
could this be the last time?

Let come what may, for life's rich rewards mine, far more
than awaited; all things must end, and such joys all are past,
my parting belated.

One day then, here, in this realm of the spring, my eye yet
entrances, I'll find at last my harmonious home, in nature's
expanses.

Each blessing springtime has brought as a gift, each flow'r
that I cherish, has been but sign of my forebears', very
souls, which never shall perish.

Thus it befalls me 'midst birches and bow'rs, spring's
myst'ries to ponder; thus at the sound of the flute I have
carved, my soul weeps in wonder.



ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND PLANS OF THE SFIC 2012-2013

The San Francisco Interfaith Council is increasingly seen by civic leaders and the public as the go-to organization to contact and mobilize the religious communities of our City. Further, congregations and faith-based agencies look to the SFIC for resources, referrals and representation. Building on our 2011-2012 accomplishments, we have strengthened our relationships with key civic and NGO agencies which will enable us to enhance our core missions of congregation-based work regarding homelessness and disaster preparedness.

We bring the faith-based communities together to address areas of need and observance they cannot address alone.

- As we have done for the past 22 years, we continue coordinating with 35-40 congregations to provide shelter at four sponsor sites and meals for 75-100 homeless men throughout the winter months. The ongoing economic crisis has amplified the need for our work on behalf of the most vulnerable, who find themselves slipping through the safety net.
- On May 2, 2012, in cooperation with our stakeholder partners, the Red Cross, SF CARD, the SF Neighborhood Empowerment Network, and the City Department of Emergency Management, we held our fourth Biennial Disaster Preparedness Workshop for Congregations: Resilience Beyond our Walls. This highly successful workshop boasted 200 registrants from a broad cross section of neighborhoods and congregations throughout San Francisco. Speakers from the US Department of Homeland Security to the local Department of Emergency Management and law enforcement opened the half-day workshop. A table top exercise developed by the City's Neighborhood Empowerment Network made its debut at the event. An engaging panel focusing on response to the December 2011 Western Addition fire as well as the importance of ongoing disaster preparedness training capped off the event. The role of the SFIC as a major stakeholder in this arena was recognized further this year with the mayoral appointment of our Executive Director to the City's Disaster Council.



- For the second year in a row, in what is quickly becoming a San Francisco tradition, the SFIC assumed primary responsibility for organizing the City's annual Martin Luther King, Jr. observance. Our role was to coordinate the annual march, interfaith service, transportation, participation of neighboring museums and affiliated cultural activities. The Mayor and other key civic and noted dignitaries were in attendance. Engaging the local NAACP chapter and other organizations in the City and South Bay, this year's observance at Yerba Buena Gardens attracted an estimated 10,000 people.
- In recognition of the importance of the interfaith community's historic involvement and ongoing commitment to human and civil rights, the Mayor appointed SFIC Executive Director Michael Pappas to a seat on the San Francisco Human Rights Commission. Most recently, he assumed leadership of the Commission's LGBT Advisory Committee, which was independently chartered after the assassination of Supervisor Harvey Milk. This appointment is significant, as both the Mayor and Commission Director are seeking greater relations and collaborative work between the faith and LGBT communities.
- The SFIC was the first and primary interfaith entity engaged by the Mayor's Office to participate at roundtable discussions on the OCCUPY Movement. When the Interfaith Allies of OCCUPY, the loose coalition faith component of OCCUPY, emerged, they were invited by the SFIC to present at a monthly breakfast.
- In our role as "Convener" of the CEOs of the ten major faith-based social service agencies to address common concerns, the SFIC has not only provided these important leaders an arena for professional collaboration, but also, in the midst of this era of major budget cuts, facilitated a united voice to advocate the impact such cuts will have on their clients.

- When the SFMTA proposed metered parking on Sundays, the SFIC was called upon to rally the interfaith community in opposition to the measure. Speaking out at SFMTA hearings, in direct conversations with its director, to the print, radio, television and online media and through consultations with public officials, the SFIC sought and seeks to sensitize those in decision-making authority to the adverse impact such a measure will have on congregations who are not only struggling to exist, but give back so much to the City.
- Recipients of a generous grant from the One Nation Bay Area Fund (a collaboration of The SF Foundation, Marin Community Foundation, Silicon Valley Foundation, Asia Pacific Foundation and Russell Foundation), the SFIC is hosting this fall a series of dinners at various congregations to examine the issues of education, racial profiling, gender equality and immigration as they impact Muslims.
- Each month, the SFIC hosts an Interfaith Breakfast that brings together nearly 100 religious leaders to network, share a meal, hear a speaker and an individual's faith journey. We invite speakers from agencies and programs that can engage faith community participation. The monthly meeting takes place at St. Mark's Lutheran Church.
- Our major event of the year is our Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Prayer Breakfast, attended by some 400 people on the Tuesday before Thanksgiving Day. Each year we shine the spotlight on a contribution of the faith community to the life of San Francisco. This past year, in recognition of her many contributions to the City, including her role in founding the SFIC, we honored our beloved Executive Vice Chair Rita R. Semel. Among the luminaries fetting her were Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi, Mayor Lee and legendary journalist/civil rights activist Belva Davis. This year we honor the many congregations that have undertaken "greening" of their facilities, and California Interfaith Power & Light.

- The San Francisco Interfaith Council was one of 15 host sites chosen by the Tony Blair Faith Foundation to host two Faiths Act Fellows to work with our Executive Director, Michael Pappas from September 2011 through July 2012. The Fellows diligently labored to develop an interfaith young adult network called "Bay Area Against Malaria," supporting their core work related to the United Nations Millennium Development Goals. They also were intimately connected with the SFIC's ongoing work and assumed key leadership for the incredibly successful April 29, 2012, Multi Faith CROP/Hunger Walk around Lake Merced. Exceeding all expectations, their work resulted in a record number of teams of walkers and revenues that will benefit international humanitarian aid organizations and the SFIC's Interfaith Winter Shelter. To sustain and grow the important work they accomplished, the SFIC has taken on a student intern from the Lutheran Theological Seminary, who was briefed by the Fellows and commenced work with the SFIC in August.

This narrative represents only a part of our work. We have been able to do all this with just one full time staff person, our Executive Director, Michael Pappas, a half-time administrative assistant, the volunteer efforts of our Chair Rita Semel, Vice Co-Chairs Rev. Maggie Henderson and G.L. Hodge, and others. We have become increasingly aware of our need to increase staff time to assist our Executive Director in following up on the many details that are necessary for the work of the Council. The funding provided by individuals and congregations has attracted further support from foundations and businesses. This support has made all of this possible.

**WE THANK THOSE WHO HAVE
SUPPORTED THE SAN FRANCISCO
INTERFAITH COUNCIL IN 2012**

CONGREGATIONS

Calvary Presbyterian Church
Congregation Emanu-El
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
First United Lutheran Church
Jewish Community Relations Council
Most Holy Redeemer
Old First Presbyterian Church
Old St. Mary's Cathedral
Providence Baptist Church of San Francisco
St. Dominic's Church
St. Francis Lutheran Church
St. Ignatius Church
St. Mark's Lutheran Church
St. Mary's Cathedral
St. Paul of the Shipwreck Church
St. Paulus Lutheran Church, ELCA
Unity Church of San Francisco

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The George and Judy Marcus Family Foundation
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Walter and Elise Haas Foundation

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California Pacific Medical Center

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Catholic Charities CYO
Community Living Campaign
Episcopal Community Services
Jewish Vocational & Career Counseling Service
The Northern California Board of Rabbis
The San Francisco Council of St. Vincent de Paul
San Francisco Night Ministry
St. Anthony Foundation

INDIVIDUALS

Nick Andrade
Tessa R. Callejo and William J. Black
Rev. James DeLange
Friar Paul Gawlowski
Iftekhhar Hai
Rev. Maggie Henderson
Frances M. Johns
Loretta Litke
Fred and Cheryl Merrick
Richard and Madeline Morten
Marlene Olivencia
Daniel J. Rosen
Jean Wright
Cynthia Zamboukos

JUDICATORIES

Archdiocese of San Francisco
The Episcopal Church in the Diocese of
California

Missionary Society of St. Paul The Apostle in the
State of California Paulist Fathers

SCHOOLS

Archbishop Riordan High School
Sacred Heart Cathedral Preparatory
The University of San Francisco

**RITA R. SEMEL ENDOWMENT FUND
FOR INTERFAITH WORK
2012 SUPPORTERS**

Alfred and Ardis Breslauer

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You may contribute to the Rita R. Semel Endowment Fund using the envelope in your program. For more information about making a gift to the Fund, including estate and tax advantaged gifts, please contact the SFIC office at (425) 474-1321 or email Erica Ernst at ebernst.sfic@gmail.com.

**San Francisco Interfaith Winter Shelter
2011-2012**

Site Providers

First Unitarian Universalist Society
St. Boniface Church
St. Mark's Lutheran Church
St. Mary's Cathedral

Meal Providers

Bethany United Methodist Church	Presbyterian Church in Chinatown
Brahma Kumaris	Salvation Army
Buddhist Tzu Chi Foundation	San Francisco Stake LDS Bay Ward
Calvary Presbyterian Church	San Francisco Stake LDS Golden Gate Ward
Church of the Advent of Christ the King	San Francisco Stake LDS Sunset Ward
Church of the Incarnation	SFIC Board of Directors
Congregation Emanu-El	St. Aidan's Episcopal Church
Congregation Sherith Israel	St. Boniface Catholic Church
Corpus Christi Church - St. Vincent de Paul	St. Cyprian's Episcopal Church
Episcopal Community Services Board	St. Dominic's Catholic Church
First Unitarian Universalist Society	St. Ignatius Church
Forest Hill Christian Church	St. James Episcopal Church
Girl Scout Troop	St. Luke's Episcopal Church
Girl Scout Troop 30727	St. Stephen's Catholic Church
Grace Cathedral	St. Teresa of Avila Catholic Church
Knights of St. Francis	St. Vincent de Paul, St. Mary's Cathedral
Mission Dolores	St. Vincent de Paul, Stuart Hall High School
Most Holy Redeemer Catholic Church	Swedenborgian Church
Noe Valley Ministry	Trinity†St. Peter's Episcopal Church
Old St. Mary's Cathedral	Zion Lutheran Church
Park Presidio United Methodist Church	

PLANNING COMMITTEE

INTERFAITH THANKSGIVING PRAYER BREAKFAST

Greg Bedard, Program Director, California Interfaith Power & Light

Betsy Dodd, Calvary Presbyterian Church

Michael G. Pappas, Executive Director, SFIC

Joan Rinde, Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church

Lloyd Rinde, Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church

Rita Semel, Chair, SFIC

Nancy Sheftel-Gomes, Congregation Sherith Israel

Cynthia S. Zamboukos, Registration Coordinator,
St. Nicholas Orthodox Church

Mary J. Zamboukos, St. Nicholas Orthodox Church



SPECIAL THANKS

Cantor Roslyn Barak
Soloist,
Congregation Emanu-El

Rev. James DeLange
SFIC Board Member,
St. Francis Lutheran Church

Erica Ernst,
SFIC Administrative/Program Assistant

SSG Brad Hatton
CSMR Recruiter, Sign Interpreter

Eric Huseh
SFIC and St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Intern

Hotel Kabuki
(today's environmentally friendly breakfast includes cage free
eggs and organic produce)

Ely Huerta Ortiz
Community Programs Manager, Presidio Nursery
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Thanksgiving Coffee Company



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