

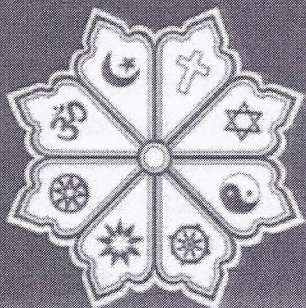
*8th Annual
Mayor's Prayer Breakfast
Nov. 22, 2005*



Serving our City together...

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

**San Francisco
INTERFAITH
COUNCIL**



*Celebrating our diverse faiths
and spiritual traditions*

*Bringing people together
to build understanding*

Serving our community

WHAT DOES THE SAN FRANCISCO INTERFAITH COUNCIL DO?

Second Thursday Gatherings - All members of religious communities in San Francisco are invited to attend our monthly gatherings on the second Thursday of each month (except for July and August) from 8:00 to 9:30 am at St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Franklin and O'Farrell. Come share breakfast, meet religious leaders and learn how we can work together. Each month, a member of the community is invited to share his or her faith journey. Also featured is a speaker from one of our City's many non-profit organizations who are making a difference.

The Winter Shelter - Now in its 15th year, the shelter program helps thousands of men find a safe night's lodging at four different congregation sites. Each night they are hosted by members of thirty different congregations with a hot meal and a warm smile.

Habitat for Humanity Project - Seven Christian, Muslim and Jewish congregations have joined together to help build a house for a San Francisco family. Hopefully, this is just the first in an on-going effort to help relieve the chronic shortage of affordable housing.

The Mayor's Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Breakfast - For the eighth year, San Francisco congregational leaders and members have the opportunity to visit with the City's chief executive, meet each other and pray to make our City a better place for all.

Hunter's Point Violence Reduction Initiative - This initiative is striving to bring together clergy and laity from all parts of the City to work with the clergy and congregation leaders in Bayview/Hunter's Point as they work to make their community whole and their young people safe.

Preparing for Disaster - Working with the American Red Cross, the San Francisco Foundation, the United Way and the Mayor's Office of Emergency Services, the San Francisco Interfaith Council is helping congregations prepare for any disaster which might occur in our City. In a major earthquake, our congregations will play a major role in the immediate aftermath.

*San Francisco Interfaith Council
8th Annual Mayor's Prayer Breakfast*

*November 22, 2005
Cathedral Hill Hotel*

Program

Welcome and Opening Prayer

Pastor Elizabeth Ekdale, St. Mark's Lutheran Church

Music

Lowell High School Choir

Presentations

"Making a Difference" Awards

Song: "Don't Give Up"

Cantor Rita Glassman, Congregation Sherith Israel

Accompanist, Jeff Labes

Introduction of the Mayor

Rev. James DeLange, Chair, San Francisco Interfaith Council

Address

Mayor Gavin Newsom

Prayers

Sr. Chandru Desai – Brahma Kumaris

Soulieman Ghali – United Muslims of America

Closing remarks and "Priestly Benediction"

Cantor Rita Glassman, Congregation Sherith Israel

2005 Co-Chairs:

Rev. Elizabeth Ekdale, St. Mark's Lutheran Church

Abby Porth, Jewish Community Relations Council

San Francisco Interfaith Council
Serving Our City Together ...
"Making A Difference" Award Recipients

1. Providence Foundation of San Francisco—Providence Baptist Church

Recipient: Helen LaMar, Director, Pastor Calvin Jones, and Linnie Carrington, Board member

The Providence Foundation provides support services to the most vulnerable among us, providing shelter to homeless, educational services for children in foster care due to sexual and physical abuse, supplemental educational and leadership training programs for children at risk of educational failure due to poverty, nutritional supplements for needy families and seniors, and preparing youth for college with requisite skills to succeed. In addition, the Providence Foundation built a 50-unit low-income senior housing project; the groundbreaking for this new Senior Housing Project will be January 2006.

2. Caring and Restoration Home—True Hope Church of God in Christ

Recipient: Pastor Aurelius Walker

The Caring and Restoration Home has, for 20 years, provided comprehensive services to adults in the community. It has developed 95 units of affordable housing, and partnered with other organizations to create vocational training, faith-based residential drug rehabilitation, computer technology training, and a Head Start-affiliated child day care.

3. Bayview Mission—joint program of Grace Cathedral and Episcopal Diocese of California

Recipient: Reverend Nina Pickerrell

Bayview mission is a special outreach program located in the Bayview District that provides families with enrichment and support. Grocery bags are given each week to 150 families. In addition, there are baby bags containing baby supplies, diapers, and clothing, and children's bags containing school supplies, globes, and socks that are distributed throughout the community. The mission also runs a library of 2,000 children's books, and each week gives 50 books to participating children to bring home. There is a garden where children raise vegetables to bring home, and special events that enrich the lives of children and families in the neighborhood.

4. Sunrise Community Pantry—Christ Church Lutheran

Recipient: Reverend Steven Sabin

The Sunrise Community Pantry provides free groceries to more than 350 low-income individuals each week, distributing over 234,375 meals in its 3 years to hungry families in the Sunset, Parkside, and surrounding neighborhoods. Sunrise Community Pantry also collaborates with the Community Health Resource Center to provide quarterly health screenings, including blood pressure, osteoporosis, and diabetes testing to pantry clients.

5. Wednesday Night Suppers--Most Holy Redeemer Roman Catholic Church

Recipient: Patrick Mulcahey, Director

The Wednesday Suppers were started in 2001, and are an all-volunteer project where up to 160 homeless from the neighborhood are invited into the hall of Most Holy Redeemer Catholic Church to enjoy a three-course meal, a lunch to take away, donated toiletries, clothing, a haircut, consultation with a volunteer registered nurse and/or medical doctor, a movie or other program, and occasionally given flu shots, a legal clinic, garden barbecue, syphilis testing, door prizes, and even baby showers. The program emphasizes that it is about fellowship and the purpose is to cultivate relationships with homeless living in the Castro.

6. Friends of St. Francis Childcare Center—St. Francis Lutheran Church

Recipient: Sally Large, Director, and Flo Nagar, who is a teacher there celebrating 25 years of service

Friends of St. Francis Childcare Center is a 26 year-old program providing young children from culturally and economically diverse populations with comprehensive, educationally based services. The program promotes physical, intellectual, and emotional well being in an environment that encourages active parental participation, community cooperation, and holistic services. Teachers are highly qualified; daily activities are balanced between teacher and child-initiated tasks; the curricula is varied and comprehensive; and the program is inter-generational, with lively seniors from the Family Service Agency's Foster Grandparent Program providing enrichment opportunities with the children.

7. OMI Senior Center—Catholic Charities CYO

Recipient: Patty Clement, Program Director

The OMI Senior Center is a multi-purpose community center that brings seniors together for hot nutritious lunches as well as daily recreational activities, nutrition classes, exercise classes, blood pressure screening, arts and crafts programs, and socializing. On-site case management services ensure a holistic approach to enable seniors to continue to live independently, active, and supported.

8. HaMotzi Program--Congregation Sherith Israel

Recipients: Nancy Sheftel-Gomes and John Dellar

Since its inception in 1993, HaMotzi has been feeding 100 people each Sunday at two shelters—CATS and Compass Family Center—providing nutritious, hot, multicourse meals cooked and delivered by volunteers. For these 14 years more than a dozen volunteers from all ages and walks of life come together to sustain this vital program that is funded entirely by donations from local businesses.

9. Heart to Heart—Schools of Sacred Heart

Recipient: Sheryl Davis, Director

Heart to Heart is a community outreach program that serves more than 500 children and families each year through various activities such as career days, after-school and summer programs. Students receive real world experience, working with other community based organizations, schools, local government agencies and individuals to make a difference in the lives of children in San Francisco.

10. Gum Moon Women's Residence Center—Chinese United Methodist Church

Recipient: Gloria Tan, Executive Director, and Steven Louie, President

Gum Moon Women's Residence Center has 127 years of experience providing services to the Asian immigrant community in San Francisco, particularly transitional housing facilities for women who have been affected by violence or trafficking. Today, Gum Moon provides a wide range of services for low to moderate-income monolingual, and bilingual immigrant Asian women, men, youth, and children, including opportunities for cross-cultural experiences, self-improvement and leadership development which are open to all members of our community. Additional services include English, citizenship, parent-child development, summer school and after-school, employment training, and other important classes.

11. Raphael House Residential Program—Orthodox Church of America/Holy Trinity Cathedral

Recipient: Father David Lowell, Executive Director, and Carol Field, Volunteer Director

The Raphael House Residential Program provides 3-6 month temporary shelter to homeless parents and their children. The program offers comprehensive services through residential care, case worker management, financial management assistance, children's programs, and after care for youth. It stabilizes families, helping them rebuild their lives in a dignified and responsible way.

12. Marian Residence for Women—St. Anthony Foundation

Recipient: John Bartolome, Director of Social Services Group, Martha Sainz, Manager of Marian Residence for Women, and Father John Hardin, Executive Director of St. Anthony Foundation

Marian Residence for Women is a shelter and transitional program for nearly 60 homeless women. It provides a safe environment for women with mental health issues who are homeless. Case managers work one-on-one to provide residents short and long term goal planning to meet their mental health, housing, physical health, substance abuse, legal and other needs. The ultimate goal is to achieve independent housing for all of the Residence's guests.

Don't Give Up

*Don't give up 'til the miracles come to you
Don't give up 'til the miracles appear
Don't give up 'til you've won your toughest battle
And don't give up before you know that God is here*

*I know about the darkness that blotted out the light
I know about the time you fell and couldn't stand to fight
I know when you cried out in pain, and your voice could not be heard
There wasn't any beauty then, and hope was just a word*

Don't give up...

*You told me how you lost your faith
You'd never have your dreams
But you were just beginning then,
Beginning to break free
If we come together everyone
And we lend a helping hand
The world will see a better day
And love will heal this land*

*So don't give up 'til the miracles come to you
Don't give up 'til the miracles appear
Don't give up 'til you've won your toughest battle
And don't give up before you know that God is here*

*Don't give up 'til you've kept all those promises
Don't give up 'til you've faced every fear
Don't give up 'til you've healed your broken heart
And don't give up before someone answers your prayer.*

*Words and music by Rita Glassman
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Prayer For Mankind

My God, Whom I worship and adore! I bear witness unto Thy unity and Thy oneness, and acknowledge Thy gifts, both in the past and in the present. Thou art the All-Bountiful, the overflowing showers of Whose mercy have rained down upon high and low alike, and the splendors of Whose grace have been shed over both the obedient and the rebellious.

O God of mercy, before Whose door the quintessence of mercy hath bowed down, and round the sanctuary of Whose Cause loving-kindness, in its inmost spirit, hath circled, we beseech Thee, entreating Thine ancient grace, and seeking Thy present favor, that Thou mayest have mercy upon all who are the manifestations of the world of being, and deny them not the outpourings of Thy grace in Thy days.

All are but poor and needy, and Thou, verily, art the All-Possessing, the All-Subduing, the All-Powerful.

-Bahá'u'lláh

Submitted by the Baha'i Community of San Francisco



The Metta Sutta

*May everyone be happy and safe, and
may their hearts be filled with joy.*

May all beings live in security and in peace.

*Beings who are frail or strong, tall or short, big or small, visible or
not visible, near or far away, already born or yet to be born.*

May all dwell in perfect tranquility.

Let no one do harm to anyone.

Let no one put a life in danger.

*Let no one out of anger or ill will,
wish anyone any harm.*



ZEN HOSPICE PROJECT

(Metta is a Pali word meaning loving-kindness, friendliness, good-will, benevolence, fellowship, amity, and non-violence. Metta is the strong wish for the welfare and happiness of others.)

A Prayer for Our City of San Francisco

Heavenly God, in your Word you have given us a vision of that Holy City to which the nations of the world bring their glory: Behold and visit, we pray, our city, San Francisco. Renew the ties of mutual regard which form our civic life. Send us honest and able leaders as you send our mayor, Mayor Gavin Newsom. Enable us to eliminate poverty, prejudice and oppression, that peace may prevail with righteousness, and justice with order, and that men and women from different cultures and with different talents may find one another the fulfillment of their humanity, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Submitted by the Chinese Christian Union of San Francisco

天父啊，主藉聖言賜給我們天上聖城的異象，世上萬國要把他們的榮光獻給它：懇求主眷顧和臨到世上的城市，特別是本市，三藩市；更新城市生活裡公民間的彼此關懷和互相連繫。賜給我們誠實幹練的領導者如我們的市長－紐森；使我們能消除貧窮、偏見和壓迫；使和平中有公義，正義中有秩序；使來自各種不同文化背景與才能的人，能在彼此的關係中求得人性的完美；這都是靠著我們的主耶穌基督。阿們。

由三藩市華人基督教聯會提供

Gracious One,
we give you thanks for this city
and all who live and work here.

We thank you for the rich diversity of cultures we enjoy,
for the generous spirit of tolerance that prevails,
and for enlightened leadership
that seeks creative, life-enhancing solutions
to the challenges we face.

We are not a perfect community,
and so we ask you to meet us at our growing edges,
inviting us to a fuller trust,
a deeper wisdom
and a wider hospitality.

~The Rev. Whitney Roberson
Associate Pastor, Grace Cathedral

Dear God,
We are confused.

We confuse you with land,
We confuse you with looks,
We confuse you with money.

Your outrageous generosity
confounds us.
Your steadfast love
challenges us with new horizons.
Your justice demands of us
a table from which no-one is turned away.

Your image, confronting us
In every one we meet,
challenges us with
the mystery of the "other,"
and pushes us deeper
into the terror and joy of solidarity.

Your presence in the flesh,
reveals that we are one body ?
everyone a brother and a sister.
No "ifs" or "buts", no exceptions.
No room for negotiation
when it comes to love.

When we touch and handle one another
we touch and handle you.
When we abuse another because
Of color, race or creed,
We do violence to you.

You are that close.

You touch us in everyone we meet
and would make us into one Family –

(even a kind of Holy Family)
of such diversity and love
that, when we get it right,
we catch a glimpse of heaven.

Come, Holy Spirit, and burn us
with your outrageous generosity and
make us new.

It's time.
We need you.
Come!

~The Very Rev. Alan Jones
Dean, Grace Cathedral

Sponsors:

*Interfaith Center at the Presidio
St. Mark's Lutheran Church
St. Francis Lutheran Church
United Muslims of America
Calvary Presbyterian Church
Jewish Community Relations Council
Grace Cathedral
Chinese Christian Union of SF
Spiritual Assembly of the Baha'is
Catholic Charities CYO
Congregation Emanu-El
Glide Memorial United Methodist Church*

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Jewish Community Relations Council and Jewish Coalition for Literacy
Cantor Rita Glassman, Congregation Sherith Israel and Jeff Labes
Office of the Mayor
Lowell High School Choir
Sister Chandru Desai
Soulieman Ghali
and the Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco*