

21st Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Prayer Breakfast

30th Anniversary Observance of Interfaith Winter Shelter



Original Design by Hector Navarro, Archbishop Riordan High School

(Developed and Transformed by Kimberley Rodler)

Tuesday, November 20, 2018

7:00 am – 9:00 am

Hotel Kabuki, San Francisco



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

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Welcome to the

21st Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Prayer Breakfast

The San Francisco Interfaith Council welcomes you to the 21st Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Prayer Breakfast. The Council exists to serve and give voice to our City's 800 congregations, their respective judicatories, and the faith-based social service agencies that provide the safety net for San Francisco's most vulnerable residents.

The Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Prayer Breakfast is our major event of the year, when representatives of the faith community, civic leaders and residents come together to give thanks for the gifts bestowed on our City and to pray for the well being of all of our residents.

Each year at this breakfast, we shine the spotlight on the important contributions the religious community makes to the life of San Francisco. This year we observe the 30th anniversary of the Interfaith Winter Shelter and recognize those who provide critically needed safe and welcoming respite as well as lovingly cooked meals.

We are grateful for your presence here today and hope that this experience will inspire you to participate in the many important activities of the San Francisco Interfaith Council.



Opening of Interfaith Winter Shelter Season (November 19, 2017)

Interfaith Statement

This is an interfaith community.

Whatever our individual belief, it can be freely expressed here with no apologies. If we are invited to offer a prayer in this setting, it should be offered according to the tradition with which we identify. If we are invited to speak on a subject from the perspective of our tradition, we are free to do so without fear of offending those who come from another tradition. We come together as people of faith to learn from each other that we might better understand the multiplicity of faith traditions in our city and in our world.

Prayer of St. Francis

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.

30th Anniversary Observance of Interfaith Winter Shelter

At the outset of his term as Mayor, Art Agnos appealed to religious leaders to come to the aid of the City in addressing our homeless crisis. What began as a one-year Emergency Winter Shelter, this year enters into its 30th year. Under the auspices of the San Francisco Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing, sponsored by the San Francisco Interfaith Council, operated by Episcopal Community Services, generously supported by five host sites, 55 meal providing religious and other organizations, and supplemental spiritual staff from the San Francisco Night Ministry, the Interfaith Winter Shelter provides critically needed safe and welcoming respite, as well as lovingly cooked meals, for between 60-100 homeless men from the Sunday before Thanksgiving until the end of March. Today we mark this milestone of service and express appreciation to those whose inspired vision, volunteerism and commitment has made this valued program possible.

SF Chronicle 12/5/1992

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 1992

S.F. Churches Opening Doors to Homeless

By Clarence Johnson
Chronicle Staff Writer

To help blunt a cold winter for the homeless, several San Francisco churches are opening their doors to homeless single men by offering food and shelter.

The Interfaith Emergency Winter Shelter Program of the San Francisco Interfaith Council will begin Sunday and last through March 14. Under the program, six church shelters will rotate duties and provide beds for 60 to 100 men a night.

The council, along with Traveler's Aid, will also sponsor 30 beds for families at the Civic Center Residence Family Center at 44 McAllister Street and other hotels from December 7 to March 16.

"Turn-aways indicate there are more women and children on the street than ever and there are similar turn-away rates for men," said Rita Semel, council vice chairwoman. "This is a hard population to do a census on, . . . but there are more people turning up than can be

accommodated."

According to the mayor's office, city shelters have space for 1,800 of the 6,000-plus homeless people.

"Housing is very expensive," said Semel. "A lot of the homeless are working, but they just can't afford a place to live. There was a cut in welfare money to families with children on November 1, and there will be another cut on December 1. So we can anticipate more homeless men and children."

The single-men's shelter will rotate among the First Congregational Church, St. Paul's Lutheran Church, First Unitarian Church, St. Mary's Cathedral, St. Mark's Lutheran Church and Trinity Episcopal Church.

As part of the family shelter program, congregations will provide some meals, diapers, cribs, mattresses, games and books. Volunteers will be recruited to read to the children and help with after-school facilities.

Help for the Homeless

Editor — Your editorial on the homeless (Chronicle, November 25) is not only appreciated but timely. We are glad that you have recognized the efforts of the San Francisco Interfaith Council as you have applauded the commitment of Mayor Frank Jordan.

I want to add some information to round out the story: This is the fifth year that churches and synagogues have mounted an emergency shelter program; more than 30 congregations provide meals, volunteers and other supplies to the program; we have not only the support of the mayor's office and the Department of Social Services, but also the support of the Koret Foundation, the McKesson Foundation, the Goldman Fund, the Nestle Beverage Company and the Odwalla Juice Company. Episcopal Community Services and Travelers Aid provide the professional staff. This is truly an interfaith and intercommunity effort.

RITA R. SEMEL
San Francisco Interfaith Council

*Special Recognition of Interfaith Winter Shelter
Host Sites and Meal Providers*

1988 – 2018

Host Sites

Calvary Presbyterian Church *

Cathedral of St. Mary of the Assumption #

Episcopal Community Services' Canon Kip Senior Center #

First Congregational Church

First Unitarian Universalist Society of San Francisco * #

Grace Cathedral *

Old First Presbyterian Church *

Old St. Mary's Cathedral *

St. Boniface Catholic Church #

St. Paulus Lutheran Church

St. Mark's Lutheran Church #

Trinity+St. Peter's Episcopal Church

(* First Interfaith Winter Shelter Site)
(# Current Interfaith Winter Shelter Site)

Interfaith Winter Shelter Meal Providers

(2017 – 2018 Season)

Asian Youth Commission of the Diocese of CA
Bethany United Methodist Church
Buddhist Church of San Francisco
Buddhist Tzu Chi Foundation
Calvary Presbyterian Church
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints:
Bay/Golden Gate/ Sunset Wards
The Church Ladies
Congregation Emanu-El
Congregation Sherith Israel
Corpus Christi Church
Episcopal Church of the Incarnation
Episcopal Diocese of California
First Unitarian Universalist Society of SF
Forest Hill Christian Church
Fraternite Notre Dame
Girl Scout Troop 31018
Girl Scout Troop 32567
GLIDE
Grace Cathedral
Holy Innocents Episcopal Church
Ignatian Spiritual Life Center-St. Agnes Church
Knights of St. Francis
Ladies Prayer Group
Mission Dolores Basilica
Missionary Temple CME Church

Morse Lodge 257
Noe Valley Ministry
Old First Presbyterian Church
Old St. Mary's Cathedral
Presbyterian Church in Chinatown
Rotary Club of San Francisco - Castro
SS Peter & Paul Church, San Francisco
St. Boniface Catholic Church
St. Dominic's Friends in Christ
St. Ignatius Parish
St. Mary's Cathedral – SVDP
St. Mary the Virgin Episcopal Church
St. Stephen Catholic Church
St. Teresa of Avila Circle of Light
St. Vincent de Paul Conference
St. Vincent de Paul Parish and School
St. Vincent de Paul St. Augustine Conference
St. Vincent de Paul Society -
St. Mary's Cathedral Conference
Saldana Community Group
San Francisco Interfaith Council
San Francisco Swedenborgian Church
San Francisco Zen Center
Temenos Catholic Worker
12 Adler Museum & Café
Waffles & Honey Jewelry

Central

November 24, 1992

Church Shelters Open

Interfaith Council's program adds up to 100 beds for homeless

By Rachel Gordon

SAN FRANCISCO — Operators of the city's homeless shelters are bracing for a new surge of people seeking refuge from the streets when the latest round of welfare cuts takes effect next week.

Meanwhile, a special winter shelter program opened over the weekend to provide temporary overnight accommodations in local churches for up to 100 homeless men.

In addition, 30 more beds for families will be made available at the Civic Center Residence Facility on McAllister Street and a handful of other contract hotels during the upcoming cold-weather months.

The extra beds are helpful, say the homeless and their advocates, but far from enough.

"Of course we aren't going to be able to shelter everyone, but we are doing what we can," said Rita Semel, executive vice chair of the San Francisco Interfaith Council, a coalition of local churches and synagogues, which sponsors the

See Shelters, page 7

Interfaith Shelter Locations

Six churches in the Interfaith Emergency Shelter Program will open their doors to single homeless men during the winter months. These are in addition to the other emergency shelters operated year-round in the city.

Capacity at the churches is limited, so space will be provided on a first come, first served basis. Most shelter sites will open each night at 7 p.m. The only exception is First Congregational Church, which will open at 6 p.m. Dinner and breakfast will be provided.

Following is a list of the churches and the dates they will operate as shelters.

- Nov. 22 — Nov. 28: First Congregational Church, 432 Mason St. at Post Street. Capacity is 100.

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Shelters

from page 1

winter shelter project.

"I'd love to take care of everybody that comes to us, but the places we're using aren't made of rubber. There just isn't room."

Under the program, six churches will open their doors at night for 60 to 100 men — depending on the size of the facility — through March 14.

In past years, the program has been a savior for people whose only other options were to sleep on the streets, in abandoned buildings or in cars.

"What we're doing now is looking for ways to at least help out during the holiday season," said Mayor Frank Jordan, who on Friday gave the city's official blessing to the winter shelter project.

Participating congregations, aided by corporate donations, will provide meals — and, whenever possible, grooming supplies and clothes — for homeless people at the makeshift shelters. Volunteers also are being recruited to read to the children and help out with after-school activities.

"This is the fifth year that the San Francisco religious community has responded by providing additional shelter during the cold and rainy months," said the Rev. Richard Schaper, pastor of St. Mark's Lutheran Church and chair of the Interfaith Council.

"While we want to respond to the emergency needs, we also are looking for ways in which we can help to find permanent solutions to the problems of homelessness, such as transitional and permanent low-cost housing," he said.

An estimated 6,000 to 10,000 homeless people live in San Francisco, according to government officials and social services providers.

Roughly 1,700 emergency beds are available year-round in the city, on top of the winter shelter beds.

The need is expected to increase sometime after Dec. 1, when Aid to Families with Dependent Children benefits will be cut for the second time this year, bringing the total reductions to more than 10 percent since the summer of 1991.

Under the latest cuts, a family consisting of a mother and two chil-

dren, for example, would see its monthly welfare check reduced from \$633 to \$624 — enough to put some families over the edge into financial chaos, say their advocates.

The last major reductions saw demand for emergency shelter rise, as people no longer were able to afford rent.

"I'm sure we'll see similar ramifications from the new round of cuts," said Bill Mack of Independent Housing Services, which tracks the number of people turned away from emergency shelters each month in San Francisco.

The organization's latest report, which included data from the months of June, July and August, shows that 43,150 people were turned away — more than three times the number of people that came up empty in their quest for a bed the year before.

In addition to the welfare cuts, the rumored closing of the Transbay Terminal at Mission and Main streets during late-night hours also has people worried.

The state Department of Transportation, which operates the facility, has threatened to close the building to the public during the middle of the night.

"Unfortunately, a lot of people use the Transbay Terminal and other public buildings as shelter," said Liz Resner, executive director of Travelers Aid, which runs a federally financed homeless outreach program at the site.

"If the Transbay Terminal is closed, there will be a lot of people without a place to sleep, and that's going to have a dramatic impact not only on them, but on the surrounding neighborhood," she said.

Resner estimates that 50 to 200 people lodge at the transit center nightly.

Jordan said he hopes that a couple of new city programs, which are scheduled to come on line soon, will help put a dent in the problem. They include:

- A rent payee program for the homeless mentally ill who receive federal Supplemental Security payments, a type of welfare grant that adds up to more than \$700 a month.

Under the program, rent money for a residential hotel room would be automatically deducted from the participants' entitlement checks to en-

sure that the person has a place to sleep. The idea is to prevent government aid recipients from spending their rent money on such things as drugs and alcohol.

Larry Cruz, the mayor's point man on homeless issues, said the city has earmarked \$435,000 for the program, which would help 400 people at a time. The money would not pay for actual rent, but for case management services for participants, and for administration.

- A County Veterans Services Office, which would help homeless veterans obtain government benefits due them. Jordan estimates that 35 percent of the people who live on the streets served in the military.

Jordan said implementation of those two programs alone could free hundreds of beds in emergency shelters.

"We're trying to find compassionate solutions to an overwhelming problem," said Jordan.

The mayor has been under attack by some of the city's more outspoken homeless advocates for not spending enough resources on getting people into permanent shelter, and for emphasizing police response to people who sleep in the parks and beg on the streets.

The mayor said he's hoping the new Democratic administration in Washington, D.C. will funnel more money into San Francisco and other urban areas to provide homeless people with services they need.

Churches

from page 1

- Nov. 29 — Dec. 12: Trinity Episcopal Church, 1668 Bush St. at Gough Street. Capacity is 60.

- Dec. 13 — Dec. 26: St. Mary's Cathedral, 1111 Gough St., off Geary Boulevard. Capacity is 100.

- Dec. 27 — Jan. 9: First Congregational Church, 432 Mason St. at Post Street. Capacity is 100.

- Jan. 10 — Jan. 30: St. Paulus Lutheran Church, 950 Gough St. at Eddy Street. Capacity is 60.

- Jan. 31 — Feb. 27: First Unitarian Church, 1187 Franklin St. at Geary Boulevard. Capacity is 80.

- Feb. 28 — March 14: St. Mark's Lutheran Church, 1111 O'Farrell St. Capacity is 60.

For additional information, including referrals for women and children and families, call 863-3893.

On Behalf of the Homeless

THERE'S NOTHING new about homelessness ... there's nothing new about organizations and governments trying to do something about it. What is new is the Homeless Community Involvement campaign of the San Francisco Council on Homelessness called, "We're All Under One Roof."

It's new because it not only recognizes that everyone of us is affected by homelessness but also because it gives each of us a tailor-made opportunity to do something about it. That can be as simple as donating a coat or writing a check or offering a job or building affordable housing.

For the first time, there's a way to get involved by making one phone call — 982 HOME — and the trained Homeless Community Involvement project volunteers at the Volunteer Center will connect you to the organization and/or agency that needs and wants whatever it is that you want to do.

And if you live anywhere in the Bay Area, the folks at the San Francisco number will direct your call to the center where you live. This is an issue for the whole Bay Area.

This campaign is a collabora-

tive effort by the San Francisco Council on Homelessness in cooperation with the Volunteer Center and United Way. It is supported by many of the city's major corporations. How did it come about? It's November, holiday time and we know from experience that the desire to help others is stronger this time of year.

But we wanted people to be involved for more than just a month or two. This concept of year-round involvement, which proposed to dedicate each month to a different aspect of addressing homelessness, was first envisioned by homeless individuals using the services of the Tenderloin Self-Help Center, a program of San Francisco Hospitality House.

Homeless people are an integral part of this Community Involvement program — they will be answering the phones, helping others to be involved.

We believe it is not enough to talk about homelessness, to complain about the homeless on the streets. We believe that given the chance, most people will want to be part of the solution.

Rita R. Semel chairs the San Francisco Council on Homelessness.

Winter Shelters

Editor — It's a simple statement, but a true one: "With faith all things are possible." It's also true that many homeless San Franciscans hunger for simple things. A hot meal. A bed with clean sheets. A shower. A toilet. Clean clothes. A place to keep what little they have left. People who care.

This is what thousands of homeless San Franciscans have found the past 11 years through the united efforts of the Interfaith Winter Shelter Program of the San Francisco Interfaith Council. Every year, from mid-November through mid-March, more than 100 additional shelter

beds are available in San Francisco through a multid denominational outreach effort by Christians, Jews, Muslims, Buddhists, and Hindus. While administered by the staff of Episcopal Community Services (ECS) it's the more than 40 houses of worship who put their faith into action by providing meals, volunteers, supplies, money and support.

Six churches in particular have been faithful in opening their doors for the Interfaith Winter Shelters: St. Mary's Roman Catholic Cathedral, Trinity Episcopal, First Unitarian, St. Mark's Lutheran, St. Paulus Lutheran, and St. Boniface Catholic Church. In these cold, rainy months we also salute this year's shelter and outreach by Third Baptist, Bethel AME and Providence Baptist. On behalf of the more than 6,000 homeless women and men served year-round by ECS, thank you, faith community! Thank you, faithful San Franciscans!

BARBARA SOLOMON
Executive Director
Episcopal Community Services
of San Francisco
Rt. Rev. WILLIAM E. SWING
Bishop
Episcopal Diocese of California
San Francisco

SF Chronicle Nov 5, 1993

SF Chronicle 1/27/2000

Cooking and Serving at the Interfaith Winter Shelter



*Honoring Rev. Lyle Beckman
Night Minister Emeritus
San Francisco Night Ministry*



Rev. Lyle Beckman served as the Night Minister for the San Francisco Night Ministry from 2004 until his retirement on September 1, 2018. Born in Nebraska and raised in Minnesota, he was ordained a Lutheran pastor in 1978. He worked in several inner-city congregations in New Jersey and Connecticut, and served as a chaplain in a county jail; as a mediator for rival gangs; and as the chaplain for the psychiatric wards of two general hospitals while on the east coast. Lyle came to San Francisco in 2001, is a National Park enthusiast and a collector of pottery and bizarre Christmas movies.

San Francisco Night Ministry, now in its 55th year, is a multi-faith organization providing crisis intervention, counseling, referral services and spiritual care every night of the year between the hours of 10:00 PM and 4:00 AM. They staff a Crisis Telephone Line with trained volunteers, and support Night Ministers who literally walk the streets of San Francisco, offering face-to-face conversations to those who are lonely, anxious, and afraid in the middle of the night, when crises are most acute and social services not readily available.

In addition, Night Ministry sponsors three feeding programs, two outdoor worship services, a wellness program, a volunteer street chaplain program, several community-building and educational programs, including Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE), internships, and other programs that extend our outreach to many more people in need.



*The San Francisco Interfaith Council
Extends Heartfelt Thanks
to The Janet and Clint Reilly Family Foundation
for its Generous Gift of \$100,000*



Photos courtesy of Bill Wilson

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Congregations

Annunciation Greek Orthodox Cathedral
Bethany United Methodist Church
Buddhist Church of San Francisco
Calvary Presbyterian Church
Christ Episcopal Church
Community Baptist Church
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First United Lutheran Church
Grace Cathedral
Most Holy Redeemer Catholic Church

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Accomplishments and Plans

of the San Francisco Interfaith Council

2018 – 2019

CONVENING, COMMUNICATING, AND ADVOCACY

The San Francisco Interfaith Council's work centers on civil rights, homelessness, housing affordability, and disaster preparedness. The SFIC convenes and amplifies the voice of our city's faith-based community on these important issues.

OUR MISSION

History teaches us that many of the world's conflicts are rooted in religious strife. Founded in 1988, the San Francisco Interfaith Council (SFIC) seeks to counter this historical trend by "*Celebrating our diverse faiths and spiritual traditions, bringing people together to build understanding and serving our community.*"

WHO WE SERVE

We count as our constituents the 800 congregations in the City of San Francisco, their respective judicatories, sectarian educational and healthcare institutions, and the faith-based social service agencies that provide the social safety net for our most vulnerable residents.

OUR WORK

During this time of social change in San Francisco, civic leaders and the public view the SFIC as the "go-to" organization for mobilizing our City's religious communities. Congregations and faith-based agencies turn to us for resources, referral and representation. Our robust relationships and communications network of over 4,000 e-subscribers allow the SFIC to bring together and mobilize San Francisco's faith-based community to create an effective, combined force for service and issues of public policy, so that we may accomplish together what no single congregation can alone.

ONGOING PROGRAMS

Monthly Breakfast

For over 15 years the SFIC has hosted a free public interfaith breakfast on the second Thursday of each month at St. Mark's Lutheran Church in San Francisco where 100 congregational and lay leaders network and share a meal. Speakers from a variety of City departments, civic agencies, NGOs and philanthropic programs discuss their important work, ask faith communities to help spread the word, and offer volunteer opportunities for congregants. An individual gives a "meditation" from his or her religious tradition, and another presents a personal "faith journey." To appreciate the substantive presentations made we invite you to visit:

<http://www.sfinterfaithcouncil.org/monthly-breakfasts>

Aging & Adult Services

- **Coro Northern California Fellow**

The SFIC welcomed Coro Northern California Public Affairs Fellow, Siena Guerrazzi on September 10, 2018. A native of Sonoma County, who majored in Political Science at UC Berkeley, Siena is a passionate change-maker who has been assigned to assist the SFIC in reaching out to its 800 constituent religious institutions to compile a comprehensive report on programs and services being offered to aging adults, discern how many are accessing City services for that vulnerable population and creating a line of communication that will enable religious and lay leaders in those institutions to convey observations and concerns that will be instructive in formulating policies and programs to benefit our City's aging adults. Communities of faith are traditionally hubs of gathering for aging adults, where they feel safe, valued and are able to overcome social isolation. The SFIC is grateful for the opportunity to collaborate with our cross-sector partners, the SF Department of Aging and Adult Services, SF In-Home Supportive Services, the Metta Fund and Coro Northern California on this important endeavor.

For additional information about Coro Northern California please visit: <https://coronorcal.org/>

- **Senior Health Fair at Grace Cathedral**

On April 21, 2018 the SFIC co-hosted with Grace Cathedral the inaugural Senior Health Fair at Grace Cathedral. In total, twenty-two agencies and vendors from all around San Francisco joined to celebrate our seniors. The fair started with keynote speakers, followed by breakout groups and workshops. Link to email blast: <https://conta.cc/2GhMfGO>

For an in-depth look at the Senior Health Fair please visit: <https://www.gracecathedral.org/celebrating-senior-health/>

- **Reimagine End of Life – Conversation Sabbath**

The SFIC was a co-sponsor of "Conversation Sabbath," an initiative of Reimagine End of Life, a City-wide, week-long (April 16 – 22, 2018) collection of events exploring death, dying, and bereavement, and celebrating life through the arts, spirituality, health care, and innovation. Link to email blast: <https://conta.cc/2Ggxlkl>

- **Faith Community & City: Coming Together to Support Older Adults and Persons with Disabilities**

In collaboration with the San Francisco Department of Aging & Adult Services, the San Francisco Interfaith Council hosted a half-day workshop on October 16, 2017, at which congregation leaders shared their challenges and needs for ministering to older adults and persons with disabilities, as well as being briefed on how to access important City services available to these vulnerable sectors in their congregations. Program may be viewed at: <https://goo.gl/P35A8z>

The SFIC created a page on their website with links for information and resources about services for older adults and persons with disabilities. Please visit: <http://www.sfinterfaithcouncil.org/aging-and-disability-resources>

Disaster Preparedness

- **Fleet Week 2018**

Emerging from the aftermath of the 1989 Loma Prieta Earthquake, one of the SFIC's founding missions has been that of disaster preparedness. Because of the critical role communities of faith play, both in providing volunteer support and making available their facilities in times of disaster, SFIC Executive Director Michael Pappas was invited to be part of the Planning Committee for Fleet Week 2018. This year, the SFIC was also invited to participate on a panel, as part of the Senior Leaders Seminar, to discuss the critical role communities of faith play in responding to disaster, with a particular focus on our regional response to last year's North Bay fires. As Fleet Week welcomes a significant number of officers and enlisted personnel to San Francisco's

shores, the SFIC, in collaboration with military chaplaincy leaders, is coordinating opportunities for navy and marine chaplains to preach in local houses of worship as well as providing a roster of faith communities at which officers and enlisted personnel may worship while in San Francisco.

- **Interfaith Response to North Bay Fires (October 2017)**

In addition to radically changing the landscape of Sonoma and Napa Counties, the impact of the October 2017 North Bay fires created a unique opportunity for interfaith regional collaboration. As civic and humanitarian aid entities head-quartered in San Francisco were deploying assistance to the impacted region in the North Bay, the SFIC played an integral role in making time-sensitive introductions to our counterparts in those impacted regions. At the same time, because of air quality concerns of the fires' impact on San Francisco, the SFIC worked in close cooperation with the SF Departments of Emergency Management and Public Health to identify and activate religious institutions to serve as clean air stations. Additionally, as evacuees were given permission to return to their homes, concern was raised about their emotional and spiritual well-being. As such, a regional effort to invite and deploy chaplains to Sonoma County in particular, was undertaken. In the aftermath of this response a constructive debrief hosted by the SF Department of Emergency Management, at which representatives from all of the Bay Area interfaith councils, as well as American Red Cross Bay Area, Salvation Army, Volunteer Organizations Assisting in Disaster (VOAD), and the Southern Baptist Conference were present. This convening resulted in a consensus decision to work collaboratively to train and certify prospective chaplains deploying in future disasters in the areas of cultural and interfaith competency.

Links to email blasts sent by the SFIC in response to North Bay Fires:

- Air Quality Smoke Advisory Issued (10/9/2017) <https://conta.cc/2zbvnP2>
- Red Level Air Quality Advisory Issued (10/12/2017) <https://conta.cc/2xCKO5G>
- Ordained Clergy/Mental Health Professionals Asked to Self Organize as Pastoral Care Teams for Fire Victims (10/17/2017) <https://conta.cc/2ggXV1g>
- Legal Help for People Impacted by California Fires (10/24/2017) <https://conta.cc/2gEuMRp>
- 2017 Northern California Wildfires Helping Handbook (10/27/2017) <https://conta.cc/2yXX1Bp>
- North Bay Fire Assistance with Replacing Identification Documents (11/2/2017) <https://conta.cc/2zeNKVu>
-

Immigration-Related Activities

- On June 21, 2018 the SFIC co-hosted with Grace Cathedral an "Interfaith Vigil to End the Separation of Immigrant Families." Faith partners from diverse traditions gathered in solidarity and prayer at Grace Cathedral's Outdoor Plaza.
- Link to email blast: <https://conta.cc/2I3dpBD>
- Link to program:
<http://www.sfinterfaithcouncil.org/sites/default/files/files/Interfaith%20Vigil%20Program%206-21-2018.pdf>
- Link to op-ed by SFIC founder and past chair, Rita Semel:
<https://www.jweekly.com/2018/06/25/interfaith-vigil-for-immigrants-was-good-action-is-even-better/>
- On April 24, 2018 SFIC Executive Director Michael Pappas moderated a panel discussion regarding "Sanctuary Rising", a film screening by documentary film director Theo Rigby at the San Francisco Public Library addressing the history of the Sanctuary movement in San Francisco. The film and panelists spoke on how San Francisco became a Sanctuary City in the 1980s and how faith-based sanctuary work is being enacted today in the Bay Area and throughout the Country.
Link to email blast: <https://conta.cc/2HpyOcl>
Link to panel video clip: <https://goo.gl/mVz3qc>

- On March 27, 2017, the SFIC was invited by the San Francisco Human Services Network (HSN), an important partner in its work, to sign onto an Amicus Brief, expressing concern for the potential financial consequences that the Federal Government's Sanctuary City Executive Order would have on the San Francisco faith-based social service agencies. Signing on behalf of the "SF Faith Based Social Service Agencies CEO Round Table," the SFIC joined twenty-seven other nonprofits from the counties of San Francisco and Santa Clara. On April 25, 2017, the United States District Court for the Northern District of California ruled in favor of the Plaintiffs, of which this Amicus Brief was included. The Federal Government then appealed the decision to the United States Court of Appeals for the 9th Circuit. The SFIC then signed an identical "Sanctuary Jurisdictions Amicus Brief" filed in the 9th Circuit, on February 12, 2018. On August 1, 2018, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit confirmed that the provision violates the Constitution and upheld the permanent injunction as applied within the State of California.

San Francisco Interfaith Winter Shelter

Entering our 30th year, the SFIC has sponsored and coordinated an Interfaith Winter Shelter for the homeless. This shelter provides a hot, nutritious dinner, breakfast and a safe, warm overnight rest for some 100 homeless men every night from the Sunday before Thanksgiving through the end of February. The SFIC coordinates four host-site congregations, 50 meal-providing congregations, shelter staff from Episcopal Community Services and the San Francisco Night Ministry, with input from the Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing.

At the request of the Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing the Interfaith Winter Shelter was able to remain open through the end of March 2018. Extending last year's shelter was made possible, in large part, thanks to our partners at Episcopal Community Services and congregations who volunteered to prepare and serve meals. For additional information about the Interfaith Winter Shelter please visit: <https://goo.gl/o3zVdM> and <https://sites.google.com/site/shelterworkingsite/>

The SFIC has created a page on their website with links to resources for the homeless. Please visit: <http://www.sfinterfaithcouncil.org/homeless-resources>

WinterFaith Shelter Walk

Each year the SFIC hosts a "walk against hunger" around Lake Merced. Proceeds from the walk are used to defray the cost of operating the Interfaith Winter Shelter. The 2018 Walk occurred on Sunday, May 6, 2018 around Lake Merced with picture perfect weather and over 100 participants. Sponsorships and pledges raised over \$15,000 for the shelter. For additional information please visit: <http://winterfaithshelterwalk.dojiggy.com>

Annual "Bike to Worship" Week

The SFIC partners with the SF Bicycle Coalition to promote "Bike to Worship," an opportunity that encourages congregants to pedal to their worship services. Employing its large communications network, the SFIC helps to spread the word, share the free "BIKE TO WORSHIP Toolkit," and enlist registrants. Once again, the SF Bicycle Coalition and Walk San Francisco (an organization whose focus is pedestrian safety) joined forces for the 5th annual "Walk & Bike to Worship" Week from May 26 – June 3, 2018. Twenty congregations participated in this annual event. For additional information please visit: <http://www.sfbike.org/worship>

Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Observance and Interfaith Service

For eight years the SFIC has organized the City's annual Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day observance, including a popular march and interfaith service. The march proceeds from the Caltrain terminal over the Lefty O'Doul Bridge to Yerba Buena Gardens (YBG), bringing together "freedom riders" from the South Bay and others from the wider Bay Area. This march pays tribute to the 1965 crossing made by Dr. King over the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, Alabama. Once at the Martin Luther

King, Jr. Memorial at YBG, a large crowd participates in the outdoor interfaith service organized by the SFIC to celebrate Dr. King's legacy. Key religious and civic leaders address the attendees.

The theme highlighted at this year's Interfaith Prayer Service was "*The Urgency of Now.*" The 50th anniversary of the assassination of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was remembered with readings and favorite hymns from the memorials/funeral services held for Dr. King after his assassination. Program may be viewed at: <https://goo.gl/TFsxBw>

The Vigil: Annual Interfaith Homeless Persons Memorial

Every December, collaborating with the SF Night Ministry, the SFIC hosts the "*The Vigil: Interfaith Annual Homeless Persons Memorial*" at the Civic Center. Religious leaders of different faiths offer prayers for the homeless who have died during the past year, and their names are read. Last year's memorial service took place on Thursday evening, December 21, 2017 at the Civic Center Plaza. Program may be viewed at: <https://goo.gl/JMrcpq>

This year's service will take place on Friday evening, December 21, 2018 at the UN Plaza.

Annual Interfaith World AIDS Day Service

Last year's service, "*From Losses to Blessings,*" was held on Sunday, December 3, 2017 at Congregation Sha'ar Zahav and was organized by Calvary Presbyterian Church, Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, Old First Presbyterian Church, and the SFIC. The keynote speaker was Dr. Charles Garfield, Founder of The Shanti Project. Program may be viewed at: <https://goo.gl/zWHzPZ>

Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Day Service

Each year, the SFIC sponsors San Francisco's only Interfaith Thanksgiving Day Service which brings together people of diverse faiths for prayer and thanksgiving. The 13th Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Day Service on Thursday, November 23, 2017 was hosted by Old First Presbyterian Church. The offering collected at this service is used to offset the costs of the Interfaith Winter Shelter. Program may be viewed at: <https://goo.gl/RdWzJ3>. This year's 14th Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Day Service will be hosted by Fifth Church of Christ, Scientist on Thursday, November 22, 2018.

Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Prayer Breakfast

Our major event of the year is the SFIC Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Prayer Breakfast, attended by 400 people on the Tuesday before Thanksgiving. Each year we shine the spotlight on a significant contribution made by the faith community to San Francisco. At the milestone 20th Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Prayer Breakfast on November 21, 2017 the theme focused on "*Communities of Faith Nurturing Education in our City.*" We honored philanthropist Clint Reilly for his efforts in pioneering the "Bay Scholars" program that enables promising low-income students to have access to and flourish in our City's faith-based high schools. We also recognized and honored the significant role communities of faith continue to play in offering educational opportunities to our City's young people. Program may be viewed at: <https://goo.gl/MseQZr>

This year's 21st Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Prayer Breakfast on Tuesday, November 20, 2018 will recognize the 30th Anniversary Observance of the Interfaith Winter Shelter.

Convener of Faith-Based Social Service Agencies ("CEO Roundtable")

For the past nine years, the SFIC has regularly convened the leaders of the 15 major faith-based agencies to provide a forum to address issues of common concern. The SFIC promotes the agencies' collective impact and advocates on their behalf to increase the visibility of the economic challenges faced by non-profits and their clients. Since 2009 the CEO Roundtable has responded with a significant unified voice to issues ranging from dramatic budget cuts and their impact on programs and staff, to San

Francisco's affordability crisis that prompted the displacement of numerous constituent agencies. Currently, focus is being placed on the attraction and retention of staff in light of shrinking availability and soaring housing costs. As well, the Roundtable is developing a strategic response to the significant shift in federal policy priorities and the threat of funding cuts. None of this work could be accomplished by any single agency. Its continued impact has established the CEO Roundtable as a major stakeholder at policy-making tables. For a list of the faith-based agencies please visit:

<http://www.sfinterfaithcouncil.org/social-service-agencies>

Crisis Response Communications

It has been the ongoing practice of the SFIC to issue statements, either on behalf of the SFIC Board of Directors or in collaboration with key faith leaders, on occasions when extremists act violently in the name of religion. In chronological order from the most current, the SFIC has issued the following statements. Access to the complete texts is available by visiting:

<http://www.sfinterfaithcouncil.org/social-justice-statements>

- SFIC Extends Invitation to Participate in Vigils Against Hate (10/27/2018)
- Stand With You! SF Bay Area Religious Leaders Stand in Support of Survivors of Sexual Assault (10/5/2018)
- SFIC Proud Co-Signer of Know Your Neighbor Multifaith Encounters Coalition Statement on Today's Supreme Court Decision on Muslim Ban (6/26/2018)
- SFIC Stands with our Partner, the Brady Center, to Respond to Las Vegas Shootings (10/4/2017)
- Communities of Faith Respond to DACA Decision (9/11/2017)
- SF Faith Leaders Stand United Against Hate in Charlottesville and Our Backyard (8/15/2017)
- Bay Area Muslims Condemn Attacks on Coptic Christians SF Chronicle Op Ed (4/17/2017)
- SF Religious Leaders Denounce Massacre of Coptic Christians (4/11/2017)
- A Message from SFIC Founder and Former Chair Rita R. Semel (2/27/2017)
- SFIC Joins Interfaith Partners Nationwide in Support of Our Muslim Neighbors (1/27/2017)
- SFIC Denounces Bomb Threats at Bay Area Jewish Schools (1/19/2017)
- SF Bay Area Faith Leaders Denounce Incidents of Hate Targeting Religion (12/1/2016)
- SFIC Statement of Support for Pacifica Institute (10/13/2016)
- All Lives Are Precious and Irreplaceable (7/8/2016)
- SF Communities of Faith Mourn Victims of Istanbul Terrorist Attack (6/30/2016)
- Communities of Faith Issue Statements in the Aftermath of the 6/12/2016 Orlando Massacre (6/22/2016)
- SF Communities of Faith Share in Grief of Orlando Massacre (6/13/2016)
- SF Faith Leaders Denounce Anti-Muslim Hate Speech (12/11/2015)
- Church Desecration Denounced by Coalition of SF Faith Groups (9/2/2015)
- SF Faith Leaders Respond to Racist Acts of Violence and Destruction (7/2/2015)
- SFIC Issues Social Justice Statement (3/12/2015)
- SFIC Condemns Vicious Anti-Muslim Bus Ads (10/16/2014)
- SFIC and Religious Leaders Speak Out Against ISIS Religious Persecution (9/17/2014)

In the aftermath of the terrorist attacks at the *Charlie Hebdo* magazine and anti-semitic killings in Paris, the SFIC, Jewish Community Relations Council, and Islamic Networks Group (ING) sent an interfaith delegation to the Consul General of France in San Francisco, to express concern and offer support from San Francisco's diverse faith communities.

Following the terrorist attacks in Paris in November 2015, the SFIC leadership participated in a moving interfaith service for peace at Calvary Presbyterian Church.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Commemoration of the 100th Anniversary of the World War I Armistice (November 11, 2018)

The San Francisco Interfaith Council collaborated with the San Francisco Veterans Affairs Commission, the American Legion Eighth District Council, the San Francisco World War I Armistice Commemoration Committee, the Archdiocese of San Francisco and the Interfaith Center at the Presidio in commemorating the 100th Anniversary of the World War I Armistice with an Interfaith Memorial Service at the Norwegian Seamen's Chapel. The SFIC also encouraged congregations throughout the City to join citizens and organizations across the nation to ring bells in their communities 21 times at 11:00 am local time on Sunday, November 11, 2018 in remembrance of when fighting ceased.

Vigils Against Hate in Response to Pittsburgh Tree of Life Congregation Shooting (October 28, 2018)

The San Francisco Interfaith Council extended an invitation to the greater community to gather for vigils at Congregation Emanu-El on Sunday, October 28, 2018 and the Contemporary Jewish Museum on Saturday, October 27, 2018. It was important to come together as community with our Jewish sisters and brothers, to demonstrate our solidarity and resilience and reject the normalization of violence against the Jewish community or any community in our country. Link to email blast: <https://conta.cc/2OcTLWK>

Global Climate Action Summit (September 12 – 14, 2018)

In San Francisco, on September 12-14, 2018, Governor Jerry Brown hosted a summit to bring sub-nationals, business leaders, and civil society together to collaborate and commit to more ambitious goals to curb carbon pollution and protect our climate. The Global Climate Action Summit was intended to inspire leaders from around the world to "Take Ambition to the Next Level." It was a moment to celebrate the extraordinary achievements of states, regions, cities, companies, investors and citizens with respect to climate action. It was also a launchpad for deeper worldwide commitments and accelerated action from countries – supported by all sectors of society – that can put the globe on track to prevent dangerous climate change and realize the historic Paris Agreement. The decarbonization of the global economy is in sight. Transformational changes are happening across the world and across all sectors as a result of technological innovation, new and creative policies and political will at all levels. States and regions, cities, businesses and investors are working to push down global emissions by 2020, setting the stage to reach net zero emissions by mid-century. Religious institutions and faith communities are leading the way, and many low-to-no carbon congregations are right here in San Francisco in the network of Interfaith Power & Light.

The SFIC participated on the Planning Committee for the inspiring and historic Global Climate Action Summit Multi-Faith Service and Workshops hosted at Grace Cathedral to inaugurate the broader convening. Additionally, SFIC Executive Director Michael Pappas was invited to emcee "Faiths Rise," an interfaith service held at Ferry Park prior to the Climate March at which 30,000 people participated. Please visit: <https://conta.cc/2CocQVg>

The SFIC also devoted as the theme of its September Monthly Breakfast: "Global Climate Action Summit and Contributions by Communities of Faith" Please visit: <https://conta.cc/2NqC35z>. Guest speakers featured founder and past President of Interfaith Power & Light, The Rev. Canon Sally Bingham as well as California Interfaith Power & Light Program Manager, Liore Milgrom-Gartner.

9/11 Day of Service

The SFIC was an integral partner for the 9/11 Day of Service and Remembrance's Inaugural Bay Area event on September 11, 2018. This nationwide effort to turn 9/11 from a day of tragedy to a day of service, unity and peace hosted like efforts in New York City, Los Angeles, Phoenix and San Francisco. Collectively, over 8,000 volunteers came together to pack 1.6 million plus

non-perishable meals for distribution by local food banks. Here at San Francisco's Pier 35 over 1,000 Bay Area volunteers, joined by Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi and Mayor London Breed, in packing an estimated 300,000 of those meals. The SFIC was instrumental in making introductions to the SF-Marin Food Bank, the San Francisco Veterans Affairs Commission, sf.citi as well as to key civic officials and members of the media. Additionally, the SFIC extended invitations to faith leaders across the religious spectrum who commenced each meal pack shift with poignant blessings. Please visit: <https://conta.cc/2Bfr1vs>

Interfaith Prayer Service for Mayor-Elect London N. Breed

On Monday, July 9, 2018 the SFIC and the historic Third Baptist Church co-sponsored an Interfaith Prayer Service for Mayor-Elect London N. Breed at Third Baptist Church with many diverse communities of faith participating. Link to email invitation: <https://conta.cc/2J2oZ07> Program may be viewed at: <https://goo.gl/f2Mh2K>

2020 Complete Count (Census)

Every 10 years, the U.S. Census counts every resident in the nation. A complete and accurate count of California's population is essential to the state because the data collected by the Census determines the number of seats each state has in the U.S. House of Representatives and is also used to distribute billions of dollars in federal funds to local communities. More than 70 federal programs that benefit California, including education, health and human services, use Census numbers as part of their funding formulas. Communities of faith are central to the count as they comprise trusted institutions and leaders that are able to identify and convey the importance of the count to marginalized and "hard-to-find" residents (e.g. undocumented immigrants and the homeless). A key challenge surrounding the upcoming count is the transition from paper to electronic surveys and related confidentiality and security concerns. SFIC Executive Director Michael Pappas was selected to participate among community stakeholders on San Francisco's highly successful 2010 Complete Count Committee and is being designated to assist in the 2020 effort. An expanded role he will play will be to coordinate census efforts of regional religious communities participating in the The San Francisco Foundation's FAITHS Program.

Annual San Francisco Ramadan Interfaith Iftar Dinner

On May 23, 2018 the SFIC was once again a co-sponsor of the Annual San Francisco Ramadan Interfaith Iftar Dinner at Calvary Presbyterian Church. SFIC Executive Director Michael Pappas moderated an interfaith panel featuring The Rev. Victor Kazanjian, Jr., Executive Director of United Religions Initiative, Maha Elgenaidi, Founder and Executive Director of the Islamic Networks Group, and Jessica Trubowitch, Public Policy and Community Building Director of the Jewish Community Relations Council. Link to email blast: <https://conta.cc/2KekzEp> Program may be viewed at: <https://goo.gl/uyV2ki>

Interfaith Blessing: Opening Ceremony for Salesforce Tower

Salesforce CEO Marc Benioff extended the invitation to the SFIC to offer an interfaith blessing on the occasion of the "Opening Ceremony" of the new Salesforce Tower. This edifice is the tallest structure west of Chicago. On May 22, 2018, six prominent faith leaders offered prayers from their respective traditions. Together, a final blessing for all who undertook this monumental effort as well as for those who will labor and visit the structure was prayed in unison by those clergy. Link to email blast: <https://conta.cc/2wZbtto>

An account of this event and the role played by the SFIC's executive director and constituent leaders may be found in the following ABC7 News video: <http://abc7news.com/business/ceremony-held-for-grand-opening-of-san-franciscos-salesforce-tower/3508208/>

San Francisco Religious Leaders Mourn the Death of Mayor Edwin M. Lee

On December 12, 2017 the San Francisco Interfaith Council issued a statement on behalf of San Francisco's religious leaders expressing condolences on the passing of Mayor Edwin M. Lee. Full statement may be viewed at: <https://goo.gl/ff5K9y>

UN International Day of Peace Interfaith Service

On Friday, September 21, 2018, the San Francisco Interfaith Council, in collaboration with the Interfaith Center at the Presidio and United Religions Initiative, planted a native oak seedling outside of its offices in the Presidio Chapel to commemorate the UN International Day of Peace. Program may be viewed at:

<https://goo.gl/yvoT81>

The SFIC's Engagement with San Francisco Law Enforcement

SFPD Chief William Scott invited SFIC Executive Director Michael Pappas, as a community leader and subject matter expert, to join the department as an external senior advisor to offer external perspectives on best practices in strategic planning and policy trends. More specifically, the work of this team will focus on the SFPD's multi-year process with the U.S. Department of Justice called the "Collaborative Reform Initiative" (CRI). The CRI mandates over 270 individual changes to the SFPD and how it operates.

Collaboration with the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA)

As San Francisco braces itself for a significant increase in residential and corporate building, the impact new structures and increased inhabitants will have on our City's transit system is a growing concern. Over the past three years the SFMTA, in collaboration with the SFIC, has engaged congregations along the Dolores/Guerrero Streets corridor to help address issues related to median parking in that neighborhood. As a result of those efforts, the SFMTA Board of Directors recently voted to institute a pilot study along that corridor. Recognizing the SFIC's role as advocate for its constituent congregations, the Director of the SFMTA has initiated a regular, bi-monthly "check-in" with the SFIC Executive Director regarding the impact of SFMTA policies on faith communities throughout the City.

Convener of the "SF Interfaith Essential Housing Task Force"

With the growing scarcity of housing and skyrocketing rents, low paid/middle income workers who provide essential services for the City are leaving San Francisco. By developing religious institutions' underutilized parcels for affordable rental housing, our faith communities will help stop the outmigration of our essential services workers.

The SFIC convened the City's key religious leaders and the CEOs of the major faith-based social service agencies on September 11, 2014, for the purpose of developing a response to income inequality and the housing affordability

crisis. At that meeting, the group decided to form the "SF Interfaith Essential Housing Task Force." The Task Force agreed to work with the City to identify parcels of property owned by religious institutions that could be developed for rental housing, using private funding, for low paid workers who provide essential services to the City. These employees work in the fields of health care, social services, education and the arts, and public safety.

SF Mayor Ed Lee directed staff in the Mayor's Office of Housing and the SF Office of Economic and Workforce Development to advise the Task Force on its mapping efforts, site recommendations, and funding strategies and to make introductions to prospective developers. A select number of parcels have been identified and are currently under serious consideration for development.

In addition, during the 2015 election cycle, the City asked the Task Force to endorse and advocate for passage of a \$310 million Housing Affordability General Obligation Bond. Due in part to the Task Force's diligent efforts, the measure was approved.

Most currently, the real estate consulting team collaborating with the Task Force is both preparing feasibility and financial analyses on the properties under consideration as well as developing realistic funding strategies and options that will make these sites viable prospects for streamlined development.

At the request of SPUR (San Francisco Bay Area Planning and Urban Research Association), SFIC Executive Director Michael Pappas, along with lead DCG consultant, Landis Graden, and a key staff person from the Mayor's Office of Housing, presented on the work of the Interfaith Essential Housing Task Force at that organization's regular noontime panel discussion "What Land is Left?" on September 13, 2017. Link to email blast:

<https://conta.cc/2vS4sFJ>

Commonwealth Club of California

The SFIC's Executive Director has moderated several panels for the Commonwealth Club's Middle East Forum and other programs at the Commonwealth Club. On December 15, 2017, Michael Pappas moderated a presentation that featured the critical work of founder and CEO of "Roots of Peace," Heidi Kuhn, who for 20 years, has worked tirelessly to eradicate landmines worldwide. The audio podcast is available at: <https://goo.gl/rPhKy4>. Michael Pappas moderated a panel "Diplomatic Righteous Among the Nations" on April 13, 2018 at the Commonwealth Club. The audio podcast is available at: <https://goo.gl/hDht2e>. Hosted by the Commonwealth Club's Middle East Forum on October 26, 2018, SFIC Executive Director Michael Pappas moderated a discussion with Ejaz Naqvi, author of "The Three Abrahamic Testaments: How the Torah, Gospels and Qur'an Hold the Keys for Healing Our Fears." Naqvi is a practicing physician and serves on the Board of the Interfaith Council of Contra Costa County. The audio podcast is available at: <https://goo.gl/BeWY7M>

SFIC in the News

For further articles and other media related to the SFIC, we would direct your attention to the following link:

<http://www.sfinterfaithcouncil.org/sfic-news>

Broad Civic Engagement

Because of the important stakeholder role the SFIC plays in many arenas, the SFIC has been invited to take a place at many tables. Executive Director Michael Pappas currently serves on the SF Aging & Adult Services Commission, the SF Disaster Council, and The San Francisco Foundation FAITHS Leadership Council.

The accomplishments listed above are the work of two full-time staff (Executive Director, Michael Pappas and Program/Administrative Associate, Cynthia Zamboukos), an active Board of Directors, the tireless volunteer efforts of our Past Chair, Rita R. Semel, and other dedicated volunteers. Thanks to a grant from the Metta Fund, a database of religious institutions claiming non-profit status in the City and County of San Francisco, and a pro bono donation of software from Salesforce, the SFIC is currently engaged in updating, streamlining and creating its comprehensive database. We gratefully acknowledge the funding provided by congregations, judicatories, agencies, individuals, and foundations which makes these achievements and others not listed here possible.

Special Thanks

Catering Department and Staff
Hotel Kabuki

Neva Turoff
Sign Interpreter

San Francisco Interfaith Council Board of Directors

2018 - 2019

Kaushik Roy, Chair, *The Shanti Project*
Mario Paz, Vice Chair, *Good Samaritan Family Resource Center*
Rabbi Lawrence Raphael, Treasurer, *Congregation Sherith Israel*
Nancy Nielsen, Secretary, *Lutheran Social Services*

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The Rev. Dr. Ellen Clark-King, *Grace Cathedral*
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Dr. Mary Wardell, *University of San Francisco*
Dr. Sally Wei, *Buddhist Tzu Chi Foundation*



San Francisco Interfaith Council

OUR MISSION: History teaches us that many of the world’s conflicts are rooted in religious strife. Founded in 1988, the San Francisco Interfaith Council (SFIC) seeks to counter this historical trend by celebrating our diverse faiths and spiritual traditions, bringing people together to build understanding, and serving our community.

Convening, Communicating, and Advocacy

The San Francisco Interfaith Council’s work centers on civil rights, homelessness, housing affordability, and disaster preparedness. The SFIC convenes and amplifies the voice of our city’s faith-based community on these important issues.

WHO WE SERVE: We count as our constituents the 800 congregations in the City of San Francisco, their respective judicatories, sectarian educational and healthcare institutions, and the faith-based social service agencies that provide the social safety net for our most vulnerable residents.

OUR WORK: During this time of social change in San Francisco, civic leaders and the public view the SFIC as the “go-to” organization for mobilizing our City’s religious communities. Congregations and faith-based agencies turn to us for resources, referral and representation. Our robust relationships and communications network allow the SFIC to bring together and mobilize San Francisco’s faith-based community to create an effective, combined force for service and issues of public policy, so that we may accomplish together what no single congregation can alone.

CIVIL RIGHTS:

San Francisco Pathways to Citizenship
Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
Observance and Interfaith Service
Implicit Bias Training for Congregation
Leaders

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS:

Biennial Disaster Preparedness
Workshop for Congregations

HOMELESSNESS AND HOUSING AFFORDABILITY:

San Francisco Interfaith Essential
Housing Task Force
San Francisco Navigation Center
Interfaith Winter Homeless Shelter
Annual Walk Against Hunger
Annual Interfaith Memorial for the
Homeless Dead

CONVENING AND ADVOCACY:

Monthly Interfaith Breakfast
Crisis Response Communications
Faith Based Social Service Agencies
CEO Roundtable
Annual Walk & Bike to Worship Week
Interfaith Thanksgiving Prayer Breakfast &
Thanksgiving Day Service
Interfaith World AIDS Day Service
Annual Interfaith Observance Calendar

**We invite you to join in our work.
Please contact us to find out more.**

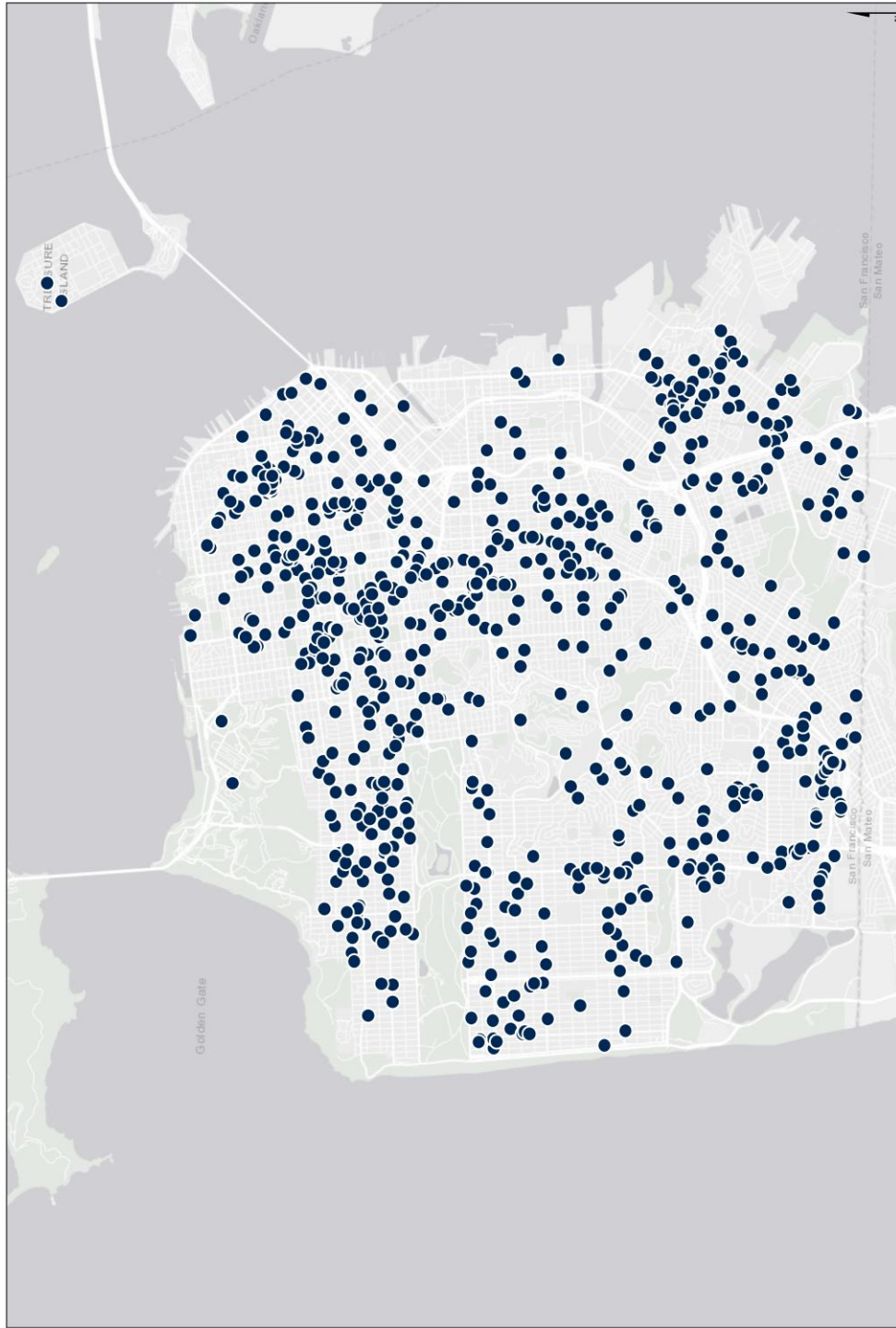
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Executive Director: Michael G. Pappas, M.Div.



Religious Organizations



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In Memorium

Mayor Edwin M. Lee
(1952 – 2017)



Photo courtesy of Alain McLaughlin

San Francisco

INTERFAITH

COUNCIL



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