

in this issue >>>

Freedom of Faith

A Message from the Chair

Religious Holidays

Intefaitth Month

Martin Luther King, Jr. Rally and Parade

Issue
TWO



A Newsletter of the Salt Lake Interfaith Roundtable

THE ROUNDTABLE



current topics >>>

Freedom of Faith *A Message from the Director*

Much has been made lately of the importance of promoting Interfaith harmony and understanding. Today more than ever there is a great need to apply the principles that lead to achieving these goals. Respect for diverse religious beliefs and the acceptance that comes with living this out in our daily lives goes a long way in helping us to live in peace and harmony.

Unfortunately, this is not possible in many parts of the world. Too often there are forces that militate against allowing minority religions to practice freely. These forces may be governmental as in the case in Iran where leaders of the Baha'i faith are accused of crimes against the government, forced into long trials during which they remain incarcerated.

Continued on next page

Bahá'ís believe

All humanity is one family.

Women and men are equal.

All prejudice—racial, religious, national or economic—is destructive and must be overcome.

We must investigate truth for ourselves, without preconceptions.

Science and religion are in harmony.

Our economic problems are linked to spiritual problems.

The family and its unity are very important.

There is one God.

All major religions come from God.

World peace is the crying need of our time.

“Let your vision be world embracing...”

—Bahá'u'lláh



Religious freedom march Ehime Prefecture. Protests were reported in every prefecture of Japan, 21,000 participating nationwide.

A Message from the Director / Continued

Church members are not allowed to worship freely and are under constant harassment from the authorities. Members of the Baha'i faith are denied the right to a higher education and children are harassed as they attend schools.

In Japan, there are laws that protect freedom of religion, but authorities look the other way as members of the Unification Church are subject to kidnapping and are forced to undergo conversion techniques that are barbaric and dehumanizing. Authorities refuse to intervene under the pretext that these forced conversions are private family matters.

There are many other conflicts between different faith traditions that are the result of years of cultural and political issues and it is often difficult to label these conflicts as purely religious. However this is not the case in Iraq where Christians are afraid to go to Church and are being forced to leave their homes in the face of constant death threats from radical groups. Coptic Christians in Egypt are attacked in their churches and homes with the intent of forcing them to abandon their faith.

We reach out in prayer to the suffering and pain that is being endured by our brothers and sisters who want to worship

in peace and harmony.

And also to all those who are subject to persecution and harassment simply because they are from a minority faith tradition and find themselves on the opposite side of political and cultural divide. ✦



Rev. Canon W. Ivan Cendese, Ph.D.
SLIR Executive Director
director@interfaithroundtable.org

A Message from the Chair

Dear Interfaithers:

I am very happy that we are issuing our second newsletter so soon. Special thanks to our Executive Director, Rev. Ivan Cendese, Leslie Doris-Jones, and Wendy Stovall. I also want to thank all of our Board members, Chairs and volunteers on Committees.

A lot of people are working very hard to put on our Interfaith Month, the special Interfaith Breakfast on February 3rd, and the Interfaith Musical Tribute on February 20th. While many people have different titles, I like the fact that we all work together for results as a team. We are all equal in the Roundtable.

Therefore, this is a message of thanks and gratitude. I thank all that is holy for all of you and the gift of life.

Blessings,
Alan



January Religious Holidays



1st Feast of St Basil—Christian
St. Basil is a patron saint of Orthodox Christians



1st Gantan Sal—Shinto religious day of prayers for health, prosperity, and renewal



5th Guru Gobinsh—Sikh
Birthday of Founder of Khalsah



6th Epiphany—Christian
Day of arrival of Magi to manger scene



13th Battle for Guru Golindh—Sikh
Forty Sikhs died in battle



16th World Religion Day—Baha'i faith
A day of unity and oneness of all religions



19th -21st Mahayana—Buddhist
New Year celebrating a new beginning



20th Tu B'Shevat—Jewish
Celebrating the New year and blossoming of trees. Ancient way of calculating the age of the trees for tithing purposes.

INTERFAITH MONTH



February 2011

All events are free and open to the public

3

THURSDAY 7 TO 8:30 PM

DEEKSHA: *"Awaken to the Heart of Oneness"*

Sharing a transfer of divine energy and grace
by Certified Deeksha Blessing Givers
SVUUS, 6876 S. Highland Dr., Salt Lake City

10

THURSDAY 7 TO 8 PM

"Doing Ministry in the Multi-Faith Setting"

An understanding of religious and cultural issues for
professionals and volunteers

First Congregational Church - Rev. Michael Chittum
2150 Foothill Drive, Salt Lake City

13

SUNDAY

SIKH: *"Religious Readings and Hymns"*

Scriptures - 9:30 AM Tea - 10:45 AM

Hymns & Closing Prayer - 11:45AM Lunch - 1:15 PM
Sikh Temple of Utah, 4897 Redwood Rd, Taylorsville

"Musicians of St. Mark's in Concert" - 4:00 PM

Cathedral Church of St. Mark
Honoring Black History Month
231 E 100 South, Salt Lake City

17

THURSDAY 12:30 PM

LDS Humanitarian Center Tour
1665 Bennett Road, Salt Lake City

19

SATURDAY 4 TO 6 PM

"Mosaics of Cultures: Turkey"

Explore Turkish History, Cultural Diversity, and Geo-
graphic Opportunity
Multicultural Arch Foundation
363 West 2720 South, Suite A, Salt Lake City

25

FRIDAY 7 PM

TAIZE Service: Center for Spiritual Living
Music, Meditation, Silence, Reading and Prayer
1111 East Brickyard Plaza, Suite 202, Salt Lake City

7

MONDAY 6 TO 8 PM

HINDU: *"Visit a Utah Hindu Temple -*

Understand the Culture and Religion of Utah Hindus"
Sri Ganesha Hindu Temple of Utah
1142 W. South Jordan Pkwy, South Jordan

12

SATURDAY 9 AM TO 12:30 PM

"Bridging Religious Divide / An Interactive Workshop"

Interfaith dialogue for all faiths to work together
in harmony

Human Rights Education Center of Utah
231 E. 400 South, #345, Salt Lake City

15

TUESDAY 4 TO 6 PM

FAMILY PROMISE: Day Center Tour and Reception

Interfaith Network Serving Homeless Families
814 West 800 South, Salt Lake City (www.fpsl.org)

16

WEDNESDAY 6:30 TO 8:30 PM

"Jewish Sabbath Foods"

Help Make Challah Bread and Cholent Stew
Kol Ami Synagogue, 2425 E. 2760 South, Salt Lake City

18

FRIDAY 5:30 TO 7:20 PM

"Islam and the Media" - 6:30 PM Social and Prayers before
Khadeeja Islamic Center, Imam Muhammed Mehtar
1019 W. Pkwy Ave. (2495 S.), West Valley City

20

SUNDAY 6 TO 7:30 PM

INTERFAITH MUSICAL TRIBUTE

Doors open at 5 PM.
Salt Lake Tabernacle on Temple Square
Greek Orthodox Choir, Quaker Harp, Jewish Children
Dance, Thai Buddhist Children
Dance, New Pilgrim Baptist Choir, Earth Harp and
Women's Chorus, Buddhist Taiko Drum,
Hindu Dance, One Voice Children's Choir, Holy Scrip-
tures of Islam, Sikh Prayer & More!
Tickets available at www.lds.org
[Interfaith Month Poster](http://www.interfaithmonthposter.org)
More at www.interfaithroundtable.org

final thoughts...

"I have a dream that one day every valley shall be exalted, every hill and mountain shall be made low, the rough places will be made plain, and the crooked places will be made straight, and the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together."

Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
August 28, 1963

Pacifica Institute Utah Branch lecture series

"Judaism and Faith Cooperation"

~ Alan Scott Bachman

Saturday, January 22, 2011 6:00 pm - 8:00
Utah Turkish American Center
363 West 2720 South, Suite A
South Salt Lake City

Pacifica Institute Utah Branch (formerly known as Multicultural Arch Foundation) has as its mission to promote mutual understanding, respect, appreciation and cooperation among communities of diverse backgrounds in the Salt Lake Area through extending hospitality, raising awareness of different cultures and faiths, providing moral leadership, and offering educational opportunities. <http://www.pacificainstitute.org>

The Salt Lake Interfaith Roundtable has a new home!

Come visit us above Caputo's market
at 300 South 314 West, Suite 250,
downtown Salt Lake City



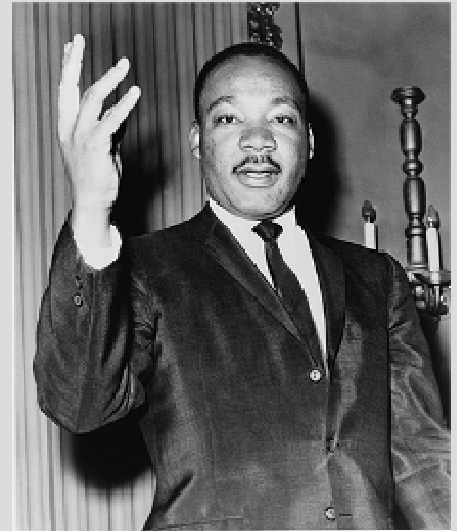
A must have!

E-mail info@interfaithroundtable.org to order our new **Salt Lake Interfaith Calendars!**



**Increasing Harmony and Understanding
in our Communities**

Find us at www.interfaithroundtable.org



Martin Luther King Jr. Day Rally and March/Parade

Greetings friends and colleagues,

The University of Utah is sponsoring a Martin Luther King Jr. Day Rally and March/Parade and has invited First Baptist Church to participate by offering an opening prayer. I had suggested that it would be great to have clergy from many faith traditions standing together for the prayer to show broad support from all faiths for the issues of social justice and civil rights. They thought that was a good idea.

January 17th at 2:00 pm the "Marade" will begin at East High Auditorium. There will be a short program followed by a march to the University of Utah. I would like to invite all the clergy to join me for the opening prayer in our vestments or whatever is appropriate from your faith tradition. After the rally we will then march together the 1.3 miles to the Presidents Circle at the University.

I would also extend an invitation to the people from your communities to join us as well. Please feel free to e-mail or call me with any questions (801) 582-4921. pastorcurtis@firstbaptist-slc.org

Grace and Peace,
Rev. Curtis L. Price, Pastor
First Baptist Church
Salt Lake City