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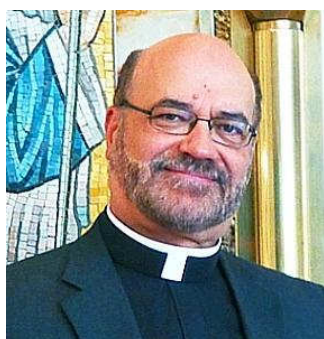
*Message from the Chair
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Utah National Guard breaks ground for new worship

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A Newsletter of the Salt Lake Interfaith Roundtable



Message from the Chair

Embarking on the 2013 – 2014 Interfaith Year

*“You have set a standard and an example in representing
our values of love and respect for all”*

*A personal message from Roundtable
Board Chair Rev. Fr. Elias Koucos*

Dear Roundtable Members,

On behalf of the entire Board, I extend our best wishes and greetings to all as we embark on the 2013-14 interfaith year.

I hope everyone enjoyed a very peaceful and productive summer while taking part in all the blessed opportunities the season affords us. The Board is very excited and enthusiastic about the upcoming year of interfaith events, which include not only our monthly luncheons, but also other great activities.

Once again, I want to express my heartfelt gratitude and appreciation to you all for your dedication and commitment to the Interfaith Roundtable. You have not only added to our organization's growth, but you have set a

standard and an example in representing our values of love and respect for all. I am so blessed to be a part of this wonderful demonstration of fellowship and camaraderie. I am encouraged daily by your diligence in working to promote our common ideals and community, and in the gratitude you express for the great gift of life we have and enjoy.

Throughout the year, the Board will actively pursue its goal of providing an atmosphere of continuing growth, inclusiveness, diversity, and unity. I encourage our members to join me in looking for opportunities for interfaith dialogue. These can include sharing our faith traditions and cultures in settings such as social gatherings, faith practices, community projects, and neighborhoods. In addition, I look forward to planning Roundtable events such as bowling, group bike rides, and other similar fun ac-

tivities as ways of promoting interfaith understanding.

Also this year, the Board will work toward developing initiatives and programs that include youth from all of our faith traditions. We've heard it before, but it is certainly true that our children are the future. Our hope of continuing this great interfaith movement and creating a peaceful world depends upon teaching our youth about the importance of interfaith dialogue and the vital role it plays in their world.

We as a Board are here for you. Please contact any of us with an idea, activity, and/or project you have in mind.

May we all be strengthened by our love and dedication we have for all, and continue to come together to share in that love.

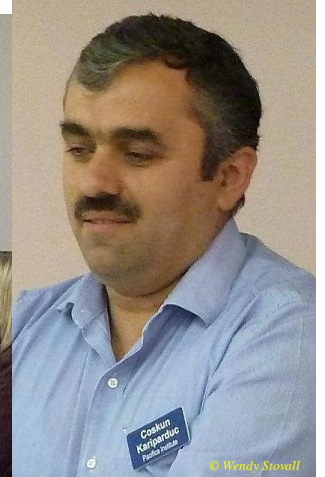
In Love and Service,

– Fr. Elias

Pacifica Institute Hosts May Interfaith Monthly Luncheon

Roundtable Board Vice Chair Josie Stone welcomed members and community guests as she opened the final meeting of the 2012-13 interfaith year on behalf of Fr. Elias Koucos. She thanked Pacifica for hosting the May meeting, as they have done in past years, and for the wonderful food provided. The opening devotional was given by a Pacifica member.

While guests enjoyed the delicious lunch of Turkish cuisine, a slide show of photographs from various 2013 Interfaith Month events was presented.



Coskun Kariparduc



The main speaker was Coskun Kariparduc, President of the Pacifica Institute Utah Branch, who presented a wonderful slide show produced by the Pacifica Institute headquarters, showing the scope and purpose of the institute and the Anatolian culture and faith. The highlights included the institute's speaker forums and cooking classes, which offer an opportunity for different faith groups to experience Turkish foods. The institute favors interfaith outreach and interaction, and they also share their major festivals, including Ramadan.

Afterward, guests rose and introduced themselves and the faith or organization they represented. Some also took the opportunity to talk about their organization's community work and announce upcoming events.

In addition, Beth Ehrhardt of the St. Joseph Villa Foundation for Charity Care announced that the foundation will be changing their name soon in order to give greater clarity about their mission in the community. The Roundtable Board was the 2012 recipient of the foundation's annual Continuum of Caring Award, which recognizes the accomplish-

ments of community leaders who have demonstrated strong support of the senior population in caring for the elderly and their related issues, needs and causes.



Mary Lou Prince



Beth Ehrhardt of the St. Joseph Villa Foundation for Charity Care

Utah National Guard Breaks Ground for New Worship Center

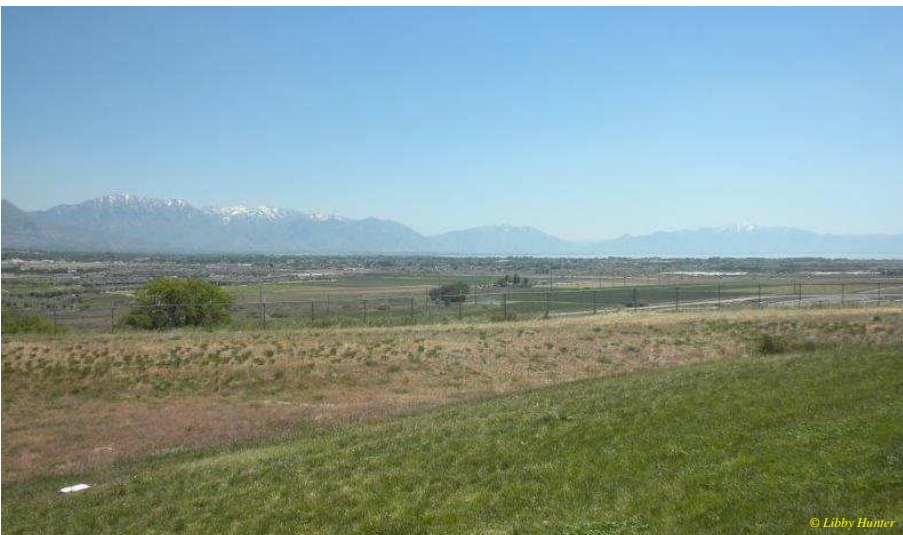


Roundtable members were invited by the Utah National Guard to attend the groundbreaking of the new Camp Williams Sunrise Hall Worship Center, Wednesday, June 5.

Major Gen. Jefferson Burton, Utah National Guard adjutant general presided over the groundbreaking ceremony, which included an approximately 200 dignitaries, uniformed soldiers and friends on a hot summer afternoon.

The actual breaking of ground was carried out by 17 individuals, each equipped with a gold-painted shovel, who together lined up facing the flags of the United States, state of Utah and the Utah National Guard.

Among the Roundtable members who participated in the actual groundbreaking by plunging their shovels into the loose dirt were Osman Ahmed, Islamic Society of



Greater Salt Lake; Libby Hunter, Deacon, St. Mark's Cathedral; and Rev. Matt Seddon; St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, West Valley.

The new worship hall will overlook Utah Lake, with the Wasatch Mountains as a backdrop.

The existing chapel at Camp Williams has needed to be replaced for several years. Because National Guard funds cannot be used for the building of military chapels, donors were sought to help finance the \$2 million needed for the new construction. The principal donors include the Larry H. Miller Group of Companies, Zions Bank, Bott Pantone Architects, Stallings Construction and the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Interfaith Summer Picnic at Sugarhouse Park's Hidden Hollow

Roundtable Chair, Fr. Elias Koucos welcomed members to an evening interfaith summer picnic in Sugarhouse Park's Hidden Hollow, June 26.

Members and their families and friends gathered in small groups and chatted while waiting for everyone to arrive, then gathered together in a large circle and introduced ourselves to each other. Guests were pleased by the surprise arrival of Roundtable Director Emeritus, Rev. Ivan Cendese, in town from Page, AZ, where



he is serving a two-year appointment as priest-in-charge of St. David's Episcopal Church. Guests also welcomed Air Force Col. Kolbe and her family, and also the chaplain from Utah's Hill Air Force Base.

Fr. Elias offered a prayer over the wonderful catered Greek meal of lamb, vegetarian shish-kabobs and salad. Members of the Roundtable provided a variety of delicious desserts.

Everyone enjoyed the mouth-watering food along with stimulating conversations about each other's beliefs and life stores.

Mike and Wendy Stovall had the opportunity of chatting with Janet and Tony Healey and hearing some of Tony's military stories. The Stovalls also chatted with Dave and Carol Sharp, learning about the healing aspect of music.

Everyone had a wonderful experience and expressed their appreciation to Fr. Elias for hosting this wonderful event.



Christian Science Lecture

"The Miracle of Military Chaplaincy: People of Faith Uniting to Pray for our Members in Military Missions"

July 19, 2013

Retired Colonel and former Army Chaplain Janet Horton addressed a multi-denominational audience at Salt Lake's Christian Science Church Second Church. Guests were welcomed with a complimentary boxed lunch.

Roundtable member and Second Church member Scott Hansen introduced Col. Horton, the first woman promoted to colonel in the Army Chaplain Corps and the first woman assigned as a Division or Corps Chaplain.

She began her talk by helping listeners to understand the necessity of chaplains in the military, especially since personnel are assigned to places around the world where an individual's faith may not be represented or there may be a language barrier. She broke her stories down into examples of seeing, hearing and feeling from a spiritual point of view. As a Christian Scientist, she related stories of the power of healing as well as prejudices she experienced as a result of her faith.

As an Executive Director of the Armed Forces Chaplains Board, she was asked to



Retired Colonel and former Army Chaplain Janet Horton

mon asked for wisdom, and so she turned to God for guidance. She explained that, "In America, nothing is more sacred and personal than an individual's relationship with God ... and that we consider our military stronger and more effective when everyone was able to worship and practice their prayer disciplines in the manner they treasured."

She went to explain how in the Albanian mission she was able to convince the leaders to have dedicated worship spaces in their task force, and also how they assembled a deployable chapel on which soldiers volunteered to work additional hours to complete, despite having already worked inordinate hours in combat.

She also told guests that in the Kosovo mission she helped the General understand why the United Arab Emirates needed a separate place to pray. A place was created for the Muslims to pray, which made an impression on the Muslims in the Allied forces involved in the peacemaking missions. The Bosnians began to grasp that the desire to understand each others' love for God, had united them.

She continued with many stories during the lunch hour, which helped listeners to see the power of God working in all aspects of life, whether it be the healing of a cut on the finger, a prayer to bring a dog back to life, or helping a classmate with changing his relationship with his daughter by simply taking the time to really listen to her. The lecture was followed by time for questions and answers.



Views expressed in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the views of each member or member organization. The Roundtable encourages open discussion and dialogue.

Executive Board Appointments for 2013 – 2014

The Salt Lake Interfaith Roundtable made the following appointments effective Monday, May 6, 2013:



Rev. Fr. Elias Koucos, Board Chair

"First of all, I want to thank the Salt Lake Interfaith Roundtable Board for placing their faith in me by asking me to serve as their new Chair. I am truly humbled and honored to be serving in this capacity. I will have big shoes to fill as I follow the very capable and accomplished people who have performed so admirably in this capacity before me."

Rev. Fr. Elias was one of the original members of the Salt Lake Winter Olympics Interfaith Roundtable, created in 1999, and is a member of the Roundtable Board. "Since the founding of the Salt Lake Interfaith Roundtable in 2002, we have experienced a steady growth in membership. This has helped lead to an increasing recognition of our interfaith work, in Utah and around the country. I especially appreciate that I have the assistance of past chairs and the current board to rely on as we continue forward in this very vital and worthwhile mission of inclusion and unity."

Rev. Fr. Elias is a Utah native who was raised in Salt Lake and has been an ordained clergyman for 20 years. He fulfilled his first three years of service in Pocatello, Idaho and has served the Salt Lake Greek Orthodox Church community for the last 17 years. In addition to his Pastoral responsibilities, he is the church's Youth Director and is involved with the Boy Scout Council and Coalition of Religious Communities (CORC). He is also an Interfaith Advisor at the University of Utah.

He and his wife are the parents of two adult children.

Josie Stone, Board Vice Chair

Josie has chaired the Roundtable's Interfaith Month Committee since 2011, a position she will retain in addition to her new duties. "I am very honored to be named Vice Chair of the Roundtable. I look forward immensely to continue working with our many diverse, talented, and giving members in this new capacity."

Josie has lived in Utah for almost 10 years and is an active member of Salt Lake's St. Mark's Episcopal Church. She is a Registered Nurse and a Pediatric Nurse Practitioner who has several years of experience in various medical fields. She owns her own educational consulting company, which provides clinical education and marketing programs to institutions both nationally and internationally.



Wendy Stovall, Board Secretary

Wendy has contributed to the Roundtable for several years as the Administrative Assistant. She and her husband Michael are the editors of "The Roundtable" newsletter, and members of the Roundtable Board. They have been involved with the Roundtable since 2006.

"I was very surprised and honored when I was asked if I would accept the nomination as Secretary for the Roundtable. I look forward to continuing the good work already accomplished by Elaine (Emmi)."

Wendy has participated in Interfaith/interdenominational activities in Utah since 1993, when she was pastor for the local Unification Church, now known as the Family Federation for World Peace and Unification. Her husband is currently the local pastor.

Executive Board Appointments for 2013 – 2014



Indra Neelameggham, Treasurer

Indra is a Roundtable Board Member. She immigrated to the United States in 1983 and is known as Indramami or Indra Aunty to most young people of Indian heritage living in Utah. She and her husband Neale have been very involved in the Sri Ganesha Hindu Temple and India Cultural Center of Utah in South Jordan. She is much sought-after speaker on the subjects of Indian culture and Hinduism.

She is believed to be the first woman and the first Hindu to pray during the inauguration of a Utah governor. She offered the invocation during the inauguration of Gov. Gary Herbert on Jan. 7, 2013. "I thought it would be a little private ceremony in the governor's office." As it turned out, it was a big ceremony, attended by hundreds of people in the Capitol rotunda.

Andalin Bachman continues as the Web Mistress. Over the summer, she and her daughter Sara Lambrinos, web designer and owner of Sites by Sara, diligently worked together redesigning the Roundtable's website in time to launch the 2013-14 interfaith year. The Roundtable is deeply grateful for the many hours of hard work that has gone into creating the new updated site.

Alan S. Bachman, Community Outreach Chair

After serving as the Roundtable's Board Chair for the last three years, Alan is now looking forward to taking on the role of Community Outreach Chair.

In this newly created position, he will work on bringing new faith groups into the Roundtable, and assist with public relations with the various current member faiths.



"After serving several years as Board Chair, I have a personal interest in wanting the mission of the Roundtable to be achieved: that of Peace and Harmony among the various faiths and belief systems."

Other appointments effective May 1:



Joy Jelte will serve as Chair of the newly created Young Adult Committee

Janet Healey is Josie Stone's new Assistant Interfaith Month Chair.



Executive Board Appointments for 2013 – 2014



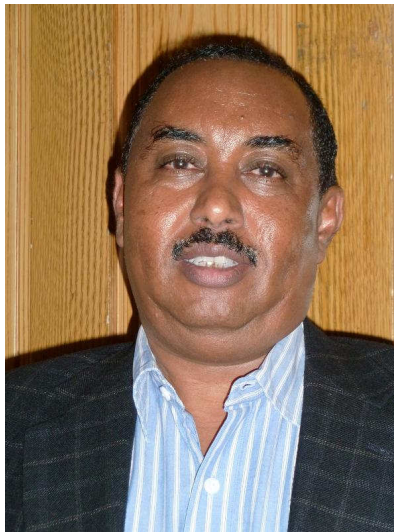
Leslie Dorius-Jones continues as Recording Secretary.



Dave Sharp will serve a second year as Tribute Concert Chair.



Elaine Emmi will continue in her familiar role as the Roundtable's e-mail maven and coordinator.



The Roundtable also welcomes new Muslim community representative **Osman Ahmed**, taking over for Aden Batar.

Colleen Scott enters her third year as Media and Educational Chair; and Brian Farr will continue as the Peace Initiative Chair.

We appreciate all the time, effort and support that each of these Roundtable members has given in fulfilling their roles on the board and in other Roundtable appointments.

In addition, the LDS Church has appointed **Jim Jardine** as its new Roundtable representative, succeeding John Nielson who has completed his assignment.



**Increasing Harmony and Understanding
in our Communities**

The **Salt Lake Interfaith Roundtable** is a Non-Profit 501(c)(3) organization. Your tax deductible contributions are very much appreciated and help to make our work of faith cooperation and event planning possible. We could also use donations of office supplies, such as stamps and copy paper.

Go to www.interfaithroundtable.org and click on the "Donations" tab to pay through PayPal™ or mail your check or money order to: Salt Lake Interfaith Roundtable, P.O. Box 112016, Salt Lake City, UT 84147



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