



interfaith social justice collaborative

History

The Interfaith Social Justice Collaborative (ISJC) was formed in 2005 by a group of lay persons and clergy. We wanted to provide a forum where people involved in the social justice work of different houses of worship could come together to share their ideas, successes and frustrations, and support each others' efforts.

Mission

To network and collaborate as we work to serve and promote systemic change for the common good;
To educate and inspire one another to positive action;
To model interfaith cooperation and to break down barriers as we work together for justice, right relationship, an end to violence, and care for the earth.

Events

Wisdom from many faiths . . .

Baha'i

Abdu'l-Baha: *When love is realized, the whole human race will be uplifted.*

Buddhism

Buddha: *As habits harden into character, watch your thoughts with care. Let them always spring from love born out of a concern for all things living.*

Christianity

Matthew 7:12: *Always treat others as you would like them to treat you. This is the sum of the Law and the Prophets.*

Islam

Qur'an 16:90: *Lo! God enjoins justice and kindness.*

Judaism

Amos 25:24: *Let justice roll down like waters and righteousness like a might stream.*

Sikhism

Adi Granth, Sri Raga, M.5: *The Gracious Lord Declares that no one shall cause another pain or injury.*

2006

- "Working Together in a World at Risk" - the first ISJC Interfaith Social Justice Fair
- "Sharing Sacred Seasons" - an interfaith celebratory collaboration with the Interfaith Alliance and Multi-Faith Exchange

2007

- "Seeking Shelter, an Interfaith Forum on Affordable Housing" - in collaboration with Mennonite Community Church
- "Caring for the Earth, an Interfaith Forum on Climate Change" - in collaboration with the Unitarian Universalist Church
- "Fresno Faith & Mental Health Symposium" - in collaboration with Mental Health America-Central Valley, NAMI Fresno, Fresno County Mental Health Services Act, Temple Beth Israel

2008

- "PACE & BENE" - a training in active non-violence for social change, in collaboration with Center for Nonviolence and eight other partners
- "7 Steps to End War & Save the Planet" - book signing with minister/author, Steve Ratzlaff
- "Chickens-4-the-Soul" - a food distribution project in collaboration with West Fresno Ministerial Association and Foster Farms

2009

- "Remembering Dr. King, Revolutionary Humanitarian" - a community reading of his Riverside Church Speech in celebration of his birthday, a collaboration with Unitarian Universalist Church and the UU Social Justice Coordinating Committee
- **March 15** – Second Interfaith Social Justice Fair

Many participating houses of worship & faith organizations . . .

College Community
Congregational Church

F.I.R.M.

First Congregational Church

Fresno Betsuin Buddhist
Temple

Hindu Temple of Fresno

Interfaith Alliance

Islamic Cultural Center

Mennonite Community Church

Multi-faith Exchange

St. Paul's Newman Center

Sikh Council of Central
California

Temple Beth Israel

Unitarian Universalist Church

Wesley Methodist Church

West Fresno Ministerial Alliance

ISJC Steering Committee

Kristi Cole, Mary Hetherington, Susan Orovitz, Steve Ratzlaff, Helen Siporin, Laurie Tidyman-Jones, Connie Young

For more information (or to be added to the ISJC listserve) contact Susan at sussieg@pacbell.net or Helen at 559.999.6163