

IFC meeting of 6/23/2015

Attended:

Michele Epstein, Pam Derish, Dick Heiman, Judy Maller, Joyce Share, Jennifer Benilli, Judy Miller, Joel Miller, Judy Bloom, Rabbi Callie Schulman, Phil Strause

Ramadan Iftar –

- 178 signed up so far. Planning for 200, so do we cut it off?
- Lots of volunteers responded, so we are well covered.
- Plenty of volunteers for cooking and serving. Volunteers from every faith house.
- 24 different faith houses.
- Reached out to 13 news organizations per Dick H.
- Maybe some post event publicity.
- Maybe Leah Garchik from Chron.
- Judy Maller & Dick H will put facts and pics together.
- What is the hook:
 1. Surprise announcements.
 2. This event is unique as there are 24 different faith houses,
 3. Also the guest speaker is well-known and has one foot in each world.
- Michele will send an invite to Trinity Baptist as apparently they were not on the distribution list.
- **Details and timeline;**
 - Welcome and opening song by Rabbi Callie
 - Pacifica welcome with a Ramadan video
 - Speaker will talk for about 45 minutes. Then call to prayer
 - Then all will come into fellowship hall for dinner with assigned seating.
 - Dinner
 - Then a presentation by Pastor Connie to Rev. Kristi honoring her.
 - After dinner, another song or prayer. Dinner won't start until sundown.

Peace Village - Rabbi Callie.

- No peace village this summer but a plan is in place.
- Raj Rambob (formerly with Home & Hope) has started "Village Relations" and they possibly might do something - perhaps a winter camp. New Year's week?
- Next summer a peace village with help from a grant
- Charging more money for campers \$200 each to make it self supporting.
- Perhaps have more than 3 faith houses involved.
- Usually, Jewish, Christian, & Muslim.
- Perhaps some funds avail for scholarship and perhaps some more grant money.
- Bonnie? is back at CCSM and she may assist in this.

Dinner in the Sukkah. Sunday, Sept. 27th.

- In response to recent events regarding the UCC vote to adopt BDS, we are reviewing our invitations to Succoth.
- Please join us for a planning meeting on Thursday, July 30 at Judy Bloom's home.
- We will start at 11 followed by a not to be missed lunch prepared by Judy.
- Which faith house should be invited?.
- Maybe a capacity of 115 or so in the Sukkah.
- Last year, it was St. James, St. Andrews and Pacifica.
- Previous year was St. Barts.
- Perhaps this year: CCSM, College Heights, Pacifica, CC Belmont
- Perhaps have a relationship with Muslim mosque in San Mateo (Rihanna) or even invite them to Sukkah.
- Rabbi Callie will reach out to Pastor Penny at CCSM.
- Michele will contact Rev. Kristi.

- Not sure who to contact at College heights
- Event will start around 5PM.
- Michele & Judy Maller will look at last year's invite and create a new invitation.
- Format : Need a small working group to plan out details as far as programming, music, etc.
- Potluck at this event - probably vegetarian.

Other

- Map out the coming year and what can be done.
- Review of who we connected with this year:
- St. Andrews; St. James AME; Pacifica, Trinity Baptist; St. Paul's; Mormon Church;
- Perhaps a Methodist partner?
- Maybe a Buddhist contact - Pastor Henry.
- Maybe Hindu org such as Dilip's org - Santin Mandir
- Judy B talked briefly about JCRC and they plan to do more outreach plus townhall meetings and a whole new level of communications
- How to talk about Israel? JCRC will help by providing input into Israeli based organizations.
- This committee (IFC) will not take the lead in this. It may be up to PTBE Clergy and Board.
- Rabbi Melissa Weintraub from Setting the Table may be one who can help in discussing Israel.

Pulpit exchange:

- on unplugged shabbat.
- Rabbi C will check on PTBE calendar.
- Do we want to assign people to specific faith house or do the relationships exist already?
- 4 Friday nights where we invite a different faith house.
- Perhaps have another visioning meeting and perhaps table this until after Iftar event.

PMC Update - Dick H.

- Getting good at what groups do - such as MLK Day and Education .
- IFC does good at personal and PMC does good at the group level.

Next Meeting:

- Task force meeting July 30th at 11pm - Succoth group.
- IFC meeting on August 18th - Tuesday at 7PM