



M inistering Together

“News, comments and events of concern to the religious community”

The Interfaith Council of Contra Costa County

March-April 2009

Coming Events

❖Come and See

Saturday, March 14, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
St. Timothy's Episcopal Church
1550 Diablo Rd., Danville

Genesis, a regional faith and value-based citizens' organization, invites interested persons to attend this introduction to a **community organizing model** that strengthens congregations and communities, builds relationships among people, and works for justice and equity in the region. There is a \$10 donation to cover refreshments and lunch. For more information, contact Mary Gonzales at 510-290-6955 or Michael Ohlrogge at 510-227-0136.

❖Become a Disaster Resilient Organization

Tuesday, March 17, 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.
Animal Rescue Foundation (ARF)
2890 Mitchell Dr., Walnut Creek

Disasters come in all shapes and sizes. Join in a community forum to discuss your organization, be it community-based or faith-based, as it relates to the economic crisis and preparing for disasters. Learn how to partner in your disaster preparation. RSVP to Dale Rose at dale.rose@fritzinstitute.org or 415-538-3317.

❖A Community Response to an Epidemic of Bay Area Gun Violence

Friday, March 27, 6:00 to 8:30 p.m.
Grace Cathedral
1100 California St. at Taylor, San Francisco

Come for a discussion by gun violence prevention experts and a reception honoring Bay Area organizations dedicated to preventing violence and supporting victims. Panel members are Dr. Bill Durston, emergency room surgeon, Dr. Rochelle Dicker, trauma surgeon, and Howard Pinderhughes, Ph.D., of UCSF. Suggested donation is \$25. Hors d'oeuvres and wine will be served. Sponsored by California Brady Chapters.

❖Let's Pretend We're Playwrights

Sunday, March 29 or Monday, March 30, 7:00 p.m.
Grace Presbyterian Church Oak Room
2100 Tice Valley Blvd., Walnut Creek

Milton Matz, Rossmoor's resident playwright, offers this theatrical experience, where you the audience come up with endings for one of his "plays in search of an ending. Reserve your spot by sending a check of \$3.00 to Interfaith Council of Rossmoor, care of Grace Presbyterian Church, 2100 Tice Valley Blvd., Walnut Creek, CA 94595.

❖Sister Helen Prejean

Monday, March 30, 7:00 p.m.
Mt. Diablo Unitarian Universalist Church
55 Eckley Ln., Walnut Creek

The Mt. Diablo Peace & Justice Center presents this appearance by Sister Helen Prejean, a world-renowned advocate for abolishment of the death penalty. Suggested donation is \$20 (\$10 for students). A book sale and signing will follow the presentation. For more information, contact 925-933-7850. This event is being co-sponsored by the Social Justice Alliance of the Interfaith Council.

❖Opening to the Creative Power of God Using the Labyrinth

Friday, April 24, 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
San Damiano Retreat, Danville

Jane and Craig Wirth of Veriditas at Grace Cathedral in San Francisco will present this retreat for new and experienced labyrinth users. Specifics of how to walk the labyrinth and how to set intentions for a walk will be included. The cost is \$75, including a delicious lunch. To register, contact 925-837-9141 or www.sandamiano.org.

❖6th Annual Vaisakhi Diversity Festival

Saturday, May 2, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Todos Santos Park, Concord

All religious groups and the whole community are invited to attend and take part in this musical and cultural fair centered on the new year celebrations of the Punjab region of India. Be part of the high spirits and warm welcome. Corporate sponsorships are available, as well as the chance for groups to rent booths. For more information, contact Dr. Harmesh Kumar at harmeshkumar@sbcglobal.net or 925-356-0122.

❖The Use and Misuse of Religion in Politics

Sunday, May 3, 7:00 p.m.
Congregation B'nai Tikvah
25 Hillcroft Way, Walnut Creek

This speaker and panel discussion event will cover the subject of the proper place(s) of religiously-inspired discourse and action within the sphere of politics. All interested persons are invited to attend. Details will follow by other means of publicity. For information, contact Rabbi Raphael Asher at rabbi.asher@tikvah.org.

If you would like to receive regular email updates from the Interfaith Council of events and announcements in our wider community, please contact eye4cee@aol.com.