



ICGR NEWSLETTER

February, 2010

www.icgr.org

Interfaith Council of Greater Richmond

*"Non-Violence, Truth and Equality lead to
Peace among us all"*

*You are cordially invited to attend
The Forty-third Annual
ICGR Brotherhood/Sisterhood
Youth Awards* Ceremony and Buffet Dinner*

Monday February 15, 2010

Dinner: 5:00 p.m.

Ceremony: 6:30 p.m.

River Road Church, Baptist

8000 River Road

Richmond, Virginia

Keynote Speaker:

Rev. Craig T. Kocher

Chaplain to the University of Richmond



*Entertainment by "Anything Goes" -- the Girls' Show Choir of
James River High School*

** High school seniors are being honored for exhibiting high moral character, for helping to overcome prejudice, and for fostering good and impartial relationships among students of different sex, race or religion.*

[ICGR Members Please See Pgs 2 & 5]



Please join the members of the **Interfaith Council of Greater Richmond (ICGR)** in a Community Service collection. Please bring donations of **Canned Foods** to the Brotherhood Sisterhood Youth Awards ceremony on February 15, 2010. Donations will benefit our neighbors through the **Central Virginia Food Bank**.

Brotherhood/Sisterhood Dinner and Award Ceremony

All ICGR faith groups are asked to provide food or to donate money—please see assignments below:

Lasagna (vegetarian or 3 cheese only - may be purchased at Kroger)

Bahá'í – 4; Baptist – 3; Catholic – 2; Eckankar – 5; Episcopal – 2; Islam – 2; Unitarian Universalist - 3

Green Salad

Methodist – Salad greens

Unity – grape tomatoes cut in half (about 5 - 2 lb packages from Costco or Sams Club)

Sikh – 20 cucumbers, sliced and quartered

Rolls

Jewish – 9 dozen; Lutheran – 3 dozen; Disciples of Christ – 3 dozen; Seventh Day Adventist – 3 dozen

Vegetarian sandwiches

Jain, Sikh & Hindu

Cakes

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints – cup cakes

Cash Donations earmarked for Youth Award dinner

Buddhist

Zoroastrian

We invite all individual members to donate to ICGR and mail checks to the ICGR, P.O. Box 25801, Richmond, Virginia 23261-5801 to support the meal.

Save the Date -- ICGR'S March Meeting

Panel Discussion:

"A History of Religious Segregation, Will We Ever Amalgamate"

Moderator:

Isabelle Kinnard Richman, JD, PhD

Vice President for Education, First Freedom Center

Thursday, March 25, 7:30 p.m.

VCU Student Commons, Richmond Salon

Sponsored by:

Interfaith Council of Greater Richmond

VCU Religious Studies Department

First Freedom Center

Panelists:

Mark Wood, PhD: Associate Professor of Religious Studies at VCU School of World Studies, Coordinator of the Religious Studies Program, Jointly appointed in Religious Studies and African American Studies

Reverend Tyrone Nelson: Pastor of the Sixth Mount Zion Baptist Church, Involved with several community, church, and civic organizations including Richmonders Involved in Strengthening Communities

Marvin Perkins: Co-author of *Blacks in the Scriptures*, Co-founder of the African American Outreach Program, Former Co-chair of LDS Genesis Group Public Affairs and Southern California Public Affairs Council's Director of African American Relations

Brenda 'Aqila Mujahid: Doctoral Student, Clinical Psychology, Argosy University – DC, Member of the Islamic Center of Virginia

Questions? Sandy Willis, 740-5240, sandywillis@gmail.com

ALL ICGR NEWSLETTER RECIPIENTS PLEASE READ

ICGR is being charged \$0.44 for every newsletter that is returned because many of its members have moved and have not reported their change of address.

It is very important that all changes to the ICGR database be reported to the Database Manager, Bob McEachern.

Please report all changes/corrections to your address, telephone numbers, email addresses, type of ICGR Member (Individual, Congregational Rep., Organizational Rep., Friend, etc), your congregation or organization and whether or not you are the Contact Person, if you become a Committee Chairperson or resign from such position, etc. Send email to webmaster@icgr.org, postal mail to 3900 Garden Road, Richmond, VA 23235-1238, or notify by telephone at 804-272-5409.

DISCOVERING MANY FAITHS News from 2009 (by Midge Falconer)

DMF has had two very successful programs in the fall of 2009.

Our October, 2009, opening session, featuring the Hindu Faith, was a huge success. We had between 65-70 attendees – the largest opening session in DMF history. U of R's new Chaplain, Reverend Craig Kocher, gave the opening remarks for this session. He greeted us warmly and set the tone for a successful year. We are looking forward to getting to know him and are grateful for his support.

This was followed by a very engaging and successful gathering in November, 2009, on the Unity Faith. Keller Hall was once again filled with people engaged in dialogue, learning from each other, and sharing and growing in their understanding of Unity. The attendance grew to 80 plus. Both evenings were magical – with the participants so engaged they did not want the evening to end. A special thanks to Sandy Poulsen and Ali Farouk for being such outstanding moderators. Well done! Well done!

In December, 2009, DMF had its first disappointment. The featured faith, Buddhism, no longer had an active ICGR representative and our non-ICGR connection to locate a panelist fell through. Instead of trying to put together a program in haste, the DMF committee determined we had to cancel the program. This was a very hard decision for the committee to make. We were all looking forward to hearing from the Buddhist community, so we delayed cancellation in the hope of being able to find a connection – but alas this did not happen. So, with sadness, we contacted the Office of the Chaplaincy to let them know we would not need Keller Hall on December 4, 2009. It is our hope to present the Buddhist Faith during the 2010-2011 season. The remaining featured faiths in 2010 are on track and should be excellent: February 4, 2010 – Disciples of Christ (with Jonathan Zur, of the Virginia Center for Inclusive Communities, as Moderator); March 4, 2010, Zoroastrianism (with Mark Wood, Associate Professor of Religious Studies in VCU's School of World Studies, as Moderator).

Our relationship with the University of Richmond Office of the Chaplaincy is transforming, as Reverend Kocher gets settled in and we work with the new team.

Camisha Jones and Joshua Dickerson are our new contacts with the Office of the Chaplaincy. We are grateful to Matthew White who believed in DMF and recommend the co-sponsorship. Thanks go out to Matthew – we wish him all the best in his new endeavors. The transition to the new team has been flawless. Camisha Jones, Josh Dickerson and Reverend Kocher are all supportive and committed to making each DMF session a success. We greatly appreciate their support and look forward to our future collaboration.

We are in the beginning stages of preparing for the 2010-2011 DMF season, which is shaping up to be another fascinating year for the Richmond Interfaith Community to learn together, share and grow their mutual understanding. Midge Falconer, DMF Chair

The next program will be Thursday Feb. 4, 2010, from 6:30 pm to 9:00 pm featuring the Disciples of Christ Faith. The moderator is Jonathan Zur — *President and CEO of Virginia Center for Inclusive Communities*

We continue to be very excited about this year's programs. This year will be great - our best year yet!!!

REMAINING DISCOVERING MANY FAITHS PROGRAMS FOR 2009-2010

DATE	FEATURED FAITH	MODERATOR
Feb. 4, 2010	Disciples of Christ	Jonathan Zur — <i>President and CEO of Virginia Center for Inclusive Communities</i>
Mar. 4, 2010	Zoroastrian	Mark Wood — <i>Coordinator of the VCU Religious Studies Department</i>

All meetings are on a Thursday from 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.. There will be an invitation to attend a worship service or celebration for each of the featured faiths. The date will be announced during the presentation of each Featured Faith.

Encounter Islam

A program of the Center for Interfaith Reconciliation,
St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

Do you have questions about Islam? Learn more about this faith and culture to build understanding in our community. Join the Rev. Dr. Bill Sachs and Dr. Imad-ad-Dean Ahmad, a national Muslim leader, for this two-day exploration into one of the most important phenomena of our time. During these rapidly changing times, non-Muslims must understand the realities of Islam and Muslims must understand why so many non-Muslims around the globe are suspicious. Muslims and non-Muslims must become more knowledgeable of each other and more responsible for achieving the common good. This is an urgent need in the world today.



- ◆ Friday, Feb 12, 6pm to 8:30pm.. **Dinner is provided.**
- ◆ Saturday, Feb. 13, 8:30am to 3:30pm. **Breakfast and lunch are provided.**
- ◆ Cost: \$45, **includes all meals.**
- ◆ Sign up and pay at www.saintstephensrichmond.net/islam or at Information Central in the Parish House
- ◆ Location: St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, 6000 Grove Avenue, Richmond, Virginia.
- ◆ Questions: contact Taylor Mundy at 288-2867 or tmundy@saintstephensrichmond.net.

501(c)(3) Application/Status and Related Changes to ICGR Bylaws

At the December 4th Board Meeting, Lee Stradtner, ICGR President for Finance, informed the Board that we needed to make 3 modifications to ICGR Bylaws to conform to IRS 501(c)(3) requirements. The board voted and approved three Bylaw changes. These Bylaw changes were presented to the general membership at the January 14th meeting and were approved unanimously. The ICGR Constitution and amended Bylaws will be filed with the State Corporation Commission. The text of existing article III if the Bylaws was changed to section a), and the three additions, as shown below, were added as sections b) c) and d).

Article III b) Board members who received less than a week's notice of a special meeting shall sign a waiver of notice. The Waiver of Notice form will be provided by the Recording Secretary.

Note: Our Board Members without e-mail access will be called about special meetings.

Article III c) Payment/compensation will not be paid to any member of the Board of Directors or Executive Board or his/her family for goods and services by which they directly profit.

Article III d) No board member, affiliate, or member of the organization shall benefit monetarily from any activity sponsored by or participated in by the organization, without prior approval of a majority of the Board. Violations of this policy will result in the expulsion from the organization of the individual and restitution to the organization of any funds gained.

Brotherhood Sisterhood Details and Schedule

The 43rd Annual Brotherhood Sisterhood Youth Award recognition ceremony will be Monday, February 15, 2010. Forty-five schools have responded by naming wonderfully talented and giving young people. We are honored to have Reverend Craig Kocher, Chaplain at the University of Richmond join us as the keynote speaker. The James River High School Girls Show Choir "Anything Goes" will favor us with choral selections. We are grateful for the continued support of River Road Church, Baptist, their staff and members. All events will take place at River Road Church, 8000 River Road. The schedule of events is as follows:

- ◆ 12:30 – 1:00 pm Meet and Greet and Registration – Students and BSYA Committee
- ◆ 1:00 – 3:30 pm Lunch and Meet and Greet – Students and BSYA Committee
- ◆ 3:30 – 5:00 pm Student group photography – students
- ◆ 2:00 – 5:00 pm Dinner preparations by ICGR Hospitality Committee — **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**
- ◆ 5:00 – 6:15 pm Dinner in the Fellowship Hall for Students, Families, School Administrators, ICGR and BSYA
- ◆ 6:15 – 7:30 pm Dinner clean up — **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**
- ◆ 6:30 – 8:00 pm Youth Award Ceremony in Church Sanctuary

Food assignments – **Please deliver food to the church by 4 pm. Lasagnas should already be baked.** If you have scheduling and delivery problems, please contact Ginny McEachern to work out arrangements. Her phone number is 272-5409 or yamac@comcast.net. We are expecting 45 students, plus parents, school counselors, principals and some superintendents. Thank you in advance for providing our guests with a wonderful meal to celebrate these wonderful students.

We have included an adequate number of meals for ICGR members but we really need you to tell us if you are coming. Please call or email Ginny McEachern if you plan to eat the meal.

WEATHER POSTPONMENT – In the event of inclement weather the February 15 events will be rescheduled to the same times on Thursday, February 18. Decision to reschedule will be based on the closure of Henrico County Government offices and police advisories. Since February 15 is a federal holiday and Henrico County Schools are closed anyway on that day, please check the website at www.ICGR.org or call Sharon Clayton at 598-5952. I will do my best to field all the calls.

MODIFIED BRIEF PROGRAM SUMMARY FOR REMAINDER OF 2009-2010

Date	Program	Time	Location
2/15/2010 (Monday)	Brotherhood/Sisterhood Awards , Dinner provided by all ICGR faiths	5:00 p.m.	River Road Church, Baptist, 8000 River Road at Ridge Road, Richmond, Virginia
3/25/2010	Reconciliation panel: " A History of Religious Segregation: Will We Ever Amalgamate? ", Moderator: Isabelle Kinnard Richman, no meal	7:30 p.m.	VCU Student Commons, Richmond Salon (UPDATED)
4/7/2010	Clergy Breakfast —map at www.icgr.org/u-of-r-tyler-haynes-commons-map.htm	7:30 a.m.	U of R, Tyler Haynes Commons, Alice Haynes Room
4/15/2010	Music and the Spoken Word: Threads of Love , Potluck Dinner	6:00 p.m.	The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 5600 Monument Avenue, Richmond, VA
TBA	President's Dinner & Annual Meeting , Catered Dinner	6:00 p.m.	TBA

Programs are on Thursday unless otherwise stated.

INTERFAITH COUNCIL OF GREATER RICHMOND
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“Let peace encircle all the world, Let us walk hand in hand, A living bond of unity, A voice from land to land.”

Interfaith Calendar for February, 2010 (By Del Krueger at www.interfaithcalendar.org)			
2	• Candlemas - Christian	14	• Saint Valentine's Day - Christian
2	• Presentation of Christ in the Temple - Anglican Christian	14	• Transfiguration Sunday - Christian
2	• Saint Brighid of Kildare - Celtic Christian	15	• Nirvana Day ** - Buddhist
2	• Imbolc - Lughnassad * - Wicca - northern and southern hemispheres	15	• Great Lent - Clean Monday - Orthodox Christian
3	• Setsubun Sai - Shinto	16	• Shrove Tuesday - Christian
7	• Meatfare Sunday - Orthodox Christian	17	• Ash Wednesday - Lent begins - Christian
7	• Four Chaplains Sunday - Interfaith	18	• Orthodox Sunday - Orthodox Christian
12	• Maha Shivaratri ** - Hindu	26	• Mawlid an Nabi * ** - Islam
14	• Chinese New Year - Confucian/Daoist	26	• Intercalary Days through March 1 - Baha'i
14	• Cheesefare Sunday - Orthodox Christian	28	• Purim * - Jewish
* Holy days usually (Jewish—always) begin at sundown the day before this date;			
** Local or regional customs may use a variation of this date.			

Remaining ICGR Board Meetings for 2009-2010

- **LOCATION:** The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 5600 Monument Avenue, Richmond, VA (corner of Monument Ave. and Peachtree Blvd.). go to www.icgr.org/lds-richmond-church-map.htm for a map.
- **DAYTIME:** Thursdays, 1:30 P.M. - 3:00 p.m. – February 25, 2010, April 22, 2010.
- **EVENING:** Thursdays, 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. – March 18, 2010.
- All meetings are the fourth Thursday except March 18, 2010 which is on the third Thursday.