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FAITH LINES

People of Faith Uniting to Meet Human Needs

INTER-FAITH MINISTRIES

March 2016

Inter-Faith Ministries' Faith Leaders Breakfast Series kicks off in April

BUILDING A BETTER COMMUNITY: A POSITIVE RESPONSE TO HATE CRIMES

All over the country people are fighting hate, standing up to promote tolerance and inclusion. More often than not, when hate flares up, good people rise up against it - often in great numbers and with strong voices. Race and religion inspire most hate crimes, but hate today wears many faces. It can tear communities apart - and if left unchecked can escalate. **Barry Grissom, US Attorney for the District of Kansas**, will speak about hate crimes and our response to them. Following his talk he will lead a panel discussion. Panelists will include people affected by hate crimes as well as those leading the action against them.

In the face of hatred, decent people must act. What's the appropriate response? What can we do to support victims of hate, how can we nullify hatred and educate those who hate and fear others?

Inter-Faith Ministries is very pleased to have Barry Grissom, US Attorney for the District of Kansas, leading this discussion about a topic that hits home almost every day. The event is free, but registration is required, and seating is limited. [Use this link to register today.](#)

Inter-Faith Ministries
ANNUAL HUMANITARIAN AWARDS DINNER

Humanitarian Award Nominations now open

Inter-Faith Ministries annually salutes individuals, faith groups, organizations and businesses who make the community a better place by giving of their time, talents and resources. We all know people who believe giving back is an essential part of life, of faith and of community. If there is an individual, couple or group you would like to recognize [use this link for the nomination form.](#)

Event details:
Building a Better Community:
A Positive Response to Hate Crimes
9-11 am, Tuesday, April 19
University Congregational Church
9209 E. 29th St. North

Contact Inter-Faith Ministries, 264-9303, if you would like more information or if you want to register by phone.



Elvis Lives!

...At least in the hearts and minds of many of us - and in the persona of Marshall Matthews, who has been described as the premier Elvis Presley impersonator working today. "Elvis," along with the Memphis Kings, brings his incredible music and dangerous hips to the Cotillion Saturday, April 9. The Fabulous Shirtheads, one of Wichita's best bands, and Brian Lee Dunning, rockabilly musician who can also

channel Elvis, open the concert. Proceeds from the concert benefit Inter-Faith Ministries homeless shelters.

Tickets are \$25 in advance and \$30 the day of the event. Doors open at 7, with the show starting at 8. [Reserve your table here](#). Plan now to bring a whole table to enjoy the evening.



Drawing People to the Good

"We draw people to the good not by loudly discrediting what they believe, by telling them how wrong they are and how right we are, but by showing them a light that is so lovely that they want with all their hearts to know the source of it." – Madeleine L'Engle



A board member shared this quote recently at a board meeting. It resonated powerfully with me because I believe we should be that kind of light to others – to our clients, to our

This year, for the first time, we will present a special Youth Award.

"Young people often lead the way," said Executive Director Anne Corrison. "They have a passion for service and the energy and optimism to accomplish great things."

Nominations may be submitted through April 8. Recipients will be honored at the Humanitarian Awards Dinner Thursday, August 18 at the Beech Activity Center.

Memorials and Honorariums

In Memory of

Steven Stroot
Elaine Nigh
Barney Schwan
William E. Harrington
Claire Lorraine Colaw
Mark Hornberger
Keith Bishop
Grace Davis Sipe
Amy Huban
Ivy & Richard Quigley
Forrest C. & Frances H. Lattner
Lyle Albright
Carol Skaggs
Eileen Schmidt
Tammy Gracy & Leonard Tomlin
Rev. William L. Mulford

In Honor of

Rob Brady
Carlisle-Woody Family
Bob & Lois Neace
Sam Muyskens
Anthony J. Sota
Margaret A. Winter
Jack Focht
Arrie Leslie
Dusty Buttram
Joy White
Alissa Unruh
Jeff Donham
Chris and Amanda Eden
Tony Young
John and Barbara Decker
Ted and Marcia Ayers

volunteers, to our donors and supporters, and to the community at large. This year we're hearing from the politicians and the powerful about how they'd change the world. But we all have the ability to change the world for the better in little ways that add up to become great.

What if I thought the best when I meet a stranger instead of the worst?

What if I showed him or her a smile, instead of a scowl?

What if I were more welcoming to those who are outcast or different?

What if I said 'thank you' more often?

What if I were more patient with people who move more slowly than I do – older people and those with disabilities?

What if I gave hope to someone who was discouraged?

What if I shared more of my own wealth – my time, my energy, my earnings – with those in need, because I wanted to?

What if I truly lived what I believe?

Now, more than ever, let's be the light that draws others to the good.

Blessings,

Anne Corrison
Executive Director



The View from the Inn

I believe in perfection. Not every day, all-the-time, never-wrong perfection, but in that perfect moment, that 75 degree February day, the unforgettable evening with friends, those times when all the stars align to make everything just...perfect.

Perfect moments happen a lot when Jenna Farhat is around. Jenna is a senior at Collegiate High School who came to Inter-Faith Inn with her mother, Ranya, several months ago. As I recall, the first time they came bearing food. I say that because Ranya refuses to come without bearing *something*, and it's often some of her fantastic cooking! No matter how much I tell her that seeing her and Jenna is enough, she never arrives empty-handed.

Jenna is interested in journalism and expressed a desire to interview residents and write about their experiences. The



Paul Corn
Chuck Garney
Duane Coyle & Donna Schmidt
John and Barb Fuller
Don and Shirley Beggs
Lucy Young
Ally Wolfe
The Claassen Family
Sandy Swank
Nancy Bennett Nurnberg
B. Kathleen Carlisle
William Winter



Bridges Out of Poverty

Have you ever wanted to help people in poverty but didn't know where to start? "Bridges Out of Poverty" is a day-long training session that both enlightens and informs those of us who wish to serve people in need.

8 am - 3 pm, Saturday, April 2
Derby Presbyterian Church
324 N. Baltimore
Cost: \$20

Please RSVP by March 25 to:
wichitacirclesnetwork@gmail.com
or call Allison Celik at 393-2590

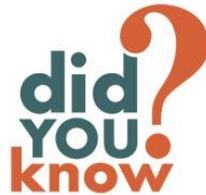
Dine Out Help Out

It's back and it's going to be big! Mark your calendars for Tuesday, September 20 as THE day to dine out in Wichita this year. Restaurants will donate a portion of the day's proceeds to Inter-Faith Ministries homeless shelters.

perfect opportunity came with the arrival of Juliana and Jose, a mother and son staying at the Inn who agreed to talk with Jenna. They sat down in the dining room one day to talk about how they arrived at the Inn, what their plans were, and how being homeless affected their lives. There were tears, there was laughter, and there was an openness about their circumstances that makes me think Jenna has a future in journalism if she decides to pursue it.

[Read Jenna's introduction and her interview with Juliana and Jose here.](#)

Carolyn Kell is Marketing Coordinator for Inter-Faith Ministries and works at Inter-Faith Inn on the weekends. She loves getting someone else to write her newsletter column and blogs for her!



73% of Inter-Faith Ministries expenses are direct program expenses? That means that 73 cents of every dollar you donate go directly to our three homeless shelters, case management and other programs directly related to serving those in need.



Thank you to all the church groups, families, civic organizations, sports teams and others who have helped with the Warming Souls Winter Shelter since November. It's something we simply could not do without the help of volunteers.

While we're ready for a break (and the Spiritual Center is ready for a good cleaning and air conditioning installation), it's always sad to see the Winter Shelter close. Even with the mild winter we've had more than 100 men and women each night, sure evidence that there's great need for more shelter in Wichita.

Innkeepers Club

Watch for more information soon about the Innkeepers Club, your opportunity to become a sustaining monthly donor to Inter-Faith Ministries. Innkeepers Club members will enjoy some special rewards, as well as our sincere gratitude.



It's time to register your Dillon's card to help Inter-Faith Ministries! Dillon's Community Rewards are a great, easy way to make a donation to Inter-Faith Ministries' programs. Just visit the [Dillon's website now](#) to register your card. IFM's program number is 83262.

We can talk!

...and we like to think we can "talk good." If your church, civic organization, sorority or neighborhood association is looking for a speaker please consider Inter-Faith Ministries. Topics include homelessness and its causes/effects, IFM programs and shelters, inter-faith dialogue and cooperation and other issues important to Wichitans today.

Contact [Kathleen Webb](#), 264-9303, to schedule an IFM speaker for your program.

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