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June 2015

## A Prayer for Us All

Like many of you, I was deeply saddened by Tanya Tandoc's murder last week. She was so generous to Inter-Faith Ministries, donating several gallons of her signature tomato basil bisque soup to our annual Souper Bowl event. It was always one of the first soups we ran out of, rich and comforting, just like Tanya's personality.

I thought of other lives lost in our community due to violent acts and how their deaths affect each of us. There is a wound that never completely heals when a life of service, or promise, ends suddenly and tragically.

At this week's City Council meeting I offered the opening invocation, including in it my thoughts about losing our citizens to violence. I am reprinting it here. Each of us has an important part in ending violence by living peacefully. And the only way to do that is to ask God for guidance, daily, in achieving the true peace that comes from knowing and serving Him.

*Gracious God,*

*As our city mourns the recent death of a woman who was a visionary, entrepreneur, chef, business owner, and friend to so many, we pause to reflect on other lives also lost to violence: young children, teenagers, mothers, fathers...citizens whose lives ended too soon. Their loss leaves a hole in our community and in our hearts.*

*Bring us your peace, and along with it a firm resolve to live that peace in the little things we do as we carry out our responsibilities throughout the day. Give us strength to turn away from violence, and to see you in everyone we encounter.*

*Bless and guide our mayor, our City Council, and the city staff today as they work together for the good of the people of Wichita. We ask these things in your name, because it is in you that we live and move and have our being. Amen.*



Anne Corrison



## The Inn Crowd

I considered not writing a column this month. This newsletter is already full of new information and events, and I don't want readers to get bored before they get to the good stuff.

It's just too difficult for me to NOT talk about the Inn. Not only is it the flagship of IFM's homeless services, but working there 24 hours every weekend means I never leave on a Sunday evening without at least one thing to amuse, inspire, frustrate or awe - and often those things happen simultaneously.

Last weekend certainly wasn't the first time I've noticed that it's often the people with the least who are the most willing to share it with others.

This time the sharing was with a fledgling pigeon. Now, I'm a bird nerd, even going so far as to plan vacations around prime birdwatching time at Big Bend or spending a cold, wet day hunkered down along the Platte River for a glimpse of a whooping crane or two. I have never, however, considered pigeons to be anything more than a nasty, poopy nuisance.

The Inn residents thought otherwise. This young bird had fallen from its third floor balcony nest onto the porch. Unable to fly, it hopped around all day. I got continual updates from no fewer than six residents who were encouraging it, feeding it, looking up to try to find momma pigeon, and asking me to look online to see the best thing to do for it.

At my poorest, one of the things I hated most was being unable to contribute to people or organizations I care about.

Executive Director

## Dine Out Help Out: An event to shelter the homeless



In talking with our advisory committee, media and restaurateurs, the comment we've heard most about Dine Out Help Out: An event to shelter the homeless is that it's a win, win, win. Win for the restaurants, win for diners and a win for IFM.

Dine Out Help Out is simple: on Tuesday, September 15, participating restaurants will donate a portion of their proceeds to IFM's homeless shelters. This means that we will do everything we can to get people into those restaurants on that day. If you are going to eat out even once in September be sure to make it on the 15th.

More details will follow in the next few months, but one of the ways we

intend to get people to dine at participating restaurants is by assigning an Ambassador to each one. Ambassadors will urge friends, family, coworkers, churches, social media followers - anyone you know - to eat at YOUR restaurant that Tuesday.

"Every restaurant and media outlet we've contacted so far are very excited about this event," said IFM Executive Director Anne Corrison. "The consensus is that it's a perfect way to raise funds and have fun."

We need about 200 Ambassadors to be able to assign at least one person for each participating restaurant. If you are interested in being an Ambassador please [fill out the form here](#) and return by July 15.

We hope you are as excited as we are by this event and its potential to raise much needed money to support our shelters.

## LAST CHANCE TO REGISTER!

If you are a faith leader, work with local mission outreach, or work in the community, then please plan to attend IFM's Resource Fair and Breakfast.

Several organizations will be on hand to provide information about different services available in Wichita and Sedgwick County to help those in crisis.

The breakfast is 9-11 am, Tuesday, June 16 in the Good Shepherd Hall in the Cathedral of Immaculate Conception, 430 N. Broadway. Use [this link](#) to register. Registration must be received by end of business Friday, June 12.

Thanks to Oxy Fresh Carpet Cleaning for sponsoring the Resource Fair and Breakfast this year.



RESOURCE FAIR AND BREAKFAST  
MEETING FOR FAITH LEADERS

## Results are in!

Thank you to everyone who took the time to complete IFM's Supporter Survey. We particularly appreciate the many comments, both ones praising

Residents at the Inn are good reminders that although I might not be able to contribute as much as I would like, there are always ways to help. I don't need to win the lottery to take an interest in the welfare of a baby bird - or a human - in need.

*Marketing Coordinator Carolyn Kell works at Inter-Faith Inn on weekends - and still doesn't like pigeons.*

## Final Friday



## GALLERY

Join Inter-Faith Ministries for Final Friday.

The artwork of First Metropolitan Community Church is featured this month, 5:30-8:30 pm, Friday, June 26 at at the Art of Faith Gallery, 829 N. Market. Plan to be here!

## ► Events and Highlights

If your organization has a special event to include in our calendar please send to: [ckell@interfaithwichita.org](mailto:ckell@interfaithwichita.org).

June 14: Mark Swinney at Botanica  
2 pm, Sunday, free admission to Botanica for "Come Explore Reality" with Mark Swinney.

June 16: Resource Fair and Breakfast  
9-11 am at the Good Shepherd Hall, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. For more information call Kyle Gibson, 264-9303.

June 20: Ye Shaam Mastani  
5:30-10:00 pm, Mary Jane Teal Theater, Century II. A salute to bollywood music benefiting the Hindu Temple

our programs and ones suggesting ways in which we can improve our services to the faith community and the community at large.

Our three homeless shelters were all considered "very important" by the large majority of responders. We concur; Inter-Faith Ministries provides more overnight shelter than any organization in Southcentral Kansas, *and* we are the only organization sheltering couples or single women who are not victims of domestic violence.

Every organization should examine itself from time to time to ensure that programs offered meet the needs of participants. While IFM's primary focus is helping the most vulnerable in our community, we also want to continue to be truly inter-faith, to be a place where we can come together to celebrate, discuss and heal. See the story directly below for news about the Inter-Faith Summit meetings, one way we plan to keep open communication among different faiths.

### Inter-Faith Summit premieres June 23

Faith leaders or other representatives from congregations are encouraged to attend Inter-Faith Summit meetings beginning Tuesday, June 23 in the Art of Faith Gallery at Inter-Faith Ministries. Meetings will begin at 10:00 am and will last at most an hour and a half.

Summits will be an opportunity for attendees to share congregational events, for IFM to highlight our events and programs, and to discuss issues of importance to people of all faiths

of Greater Wichita.

### June 23: Inter-Faith Summit

10:00-11:30 am, Art of Faith Gallery. Faith community representatives are invited to discuss IFM activities, congregational events, and faith leadership and cooperation.

### June 26: Final Friday

5:30-8:30 pm, Art of Faith Gallery. The art of First Metropolitan Community Church

### July 11: Project Care Pet Clinic

1-4 pm, Safe Haven Gazebo

### August 20:

### Humanitarian Awards Dinner

Join IFM in recognizing local citizens for their volunteer efforts. Call Linda Wren at 264-9303 for more information.

The countdown is on to the unveiling of Inter-Faith Ministries new website, made possible by a generous donation.

We're excited about the updates, which include an expanded section on volunteer opportunities and blogs by several staff members.

The name will stay the same: [interfaithministries.org](http://interfaithministries.org), but the content will be fresh, exciting, and easy to follow.

Be sure to check it out in a couple weeks and let us know what you think.

### You Can Help



Current needs (aside, of course, from money, which is *always* a current need!): bath towels, eggs, butter, and gardening tools,

**M S M T**  
[MILE SUR MERA TUMHARA]

presents

*Ye Shaam Mastani*  
A tribute to bollywood music

Saturday, June 20, 2015  
At  
The Mary Jane Teall Theater  
Century II Performing Arts & Convention Center | 225 W. Douglas | Wichita KS 67202

<p>Dinner &amp; Social Hour - 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Musical Event - 7:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Late Evening Snacks - 9:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.</p>	<p>V.V.I.P - \$200 (Reserved front row seats) V.I.P - \$100 (Reserved seats) Adults - \$25 Children age 5 to 12 - \$15 Children under 5 - Free</p>
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Sponsorship: \$500 and above  
(Reserved front row seats and honorable mention in the event booklet)

For Tickets or Sponsorship contact:

Nayan Patel (316) 371 5676	Mahesh Rolesiya (316) 708 8827
Ragu Tirukonda (316) 640 3586	Tamtam Perlekar (316) 305 4188
Dhananjay Joshi (405) 762 0515	Ninad Sharma (316) 691 5348
Prasanna Bhonge (305) 725 5542	Nishad Prabhu (316) 200 6127

Email for tickets and other inquiries: ticketshtgw@gmail.com

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A Fundraiser for Hindu Temple of Greater Wichita



especially loppers and a long handled pruner.  
[help IFM by clicking here](#)

Get your "Love One Another" bumper sticker now for only a \$1 donation to IFM!



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It's never been easier to help IFM! All you need to do is register your Dillons card here: <https://www.dillons.com/communityrewards>, (IFM's number is 83262), use your card when shopping, and our programs benefit. What better way to help the homeless and hungry than when you're buying food!

829 N Market - Wichita, KS 67214-3519 - 316.264.9303

[Visit IFM's Website](#)