



CENTER FOR INTERFAITH PROJECTS

Promoting Understanding and Respecting Differences

March E-Newsletter: March 2012 David B. Myers, Executive Director

Meet the Mormons event: On Saturday afternoon, March 24, the Center hosted three Mormons: Joel Ransom, Julie Wright, and Brad Leaser. They discussed the history of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, its organizational structure, and its doctrines. The presentations were lucid and well organized. Audience members respectfully raised good questions, and the panelists gave clear, thoughtful answers. The Center's aim was to provide an opportunity to better understand the Mormon faith. One of the greatest misunderstandings of Mormonism, according to the speakers, is that Mormons are not Christians. [A 2011 Pew Research survey found that nearly one-in-three Americans (31%) express the view that Mormons are not Christians; 45% of white evangelicals hold this view.] Given the centrality of Jesus Christ to Mormonism, Mormons believe that they deserve to be recognized as Christians. For comprehensive information about the Mormon faith, please visit LDS.org.

Upcoming Events

Interfaith Panel on Forgiveness: This event, originally scheduled for February 26, was cancelled because of weather. It is rescheduled for Sunday, May 20, 2-4p.m (Fargo Public Library). Representatives of six traditions will explain what their faith has to say about forgiveness. The traditions and their spokespersons are: Hinduism (Vijay Sethi), Buddhism (Mary C. Struck), Judaism (David B. Myers), Christianity (Rev. Sue Koesterman), Islam (Dr. Ahmed Afzaal), and the Baha'i faith (Rick Henderson).

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We welcome your ideas:

Do you support our mission of increasing understanding and respect between those in different faith communities? Do you have ideas about how we might increase interfaith understanding, ideas for bringing people together for interfaith dialogue, and ideas about how we might create opportunities for faith communities to work together for the common good? If so, I invite you to come to the Center to share your ideas with me. You can contact me at centerforintefaitprojects@gmail.com or call me at 701 388-7368.

Facebook: We still need someone to help keep our Facebook page up to date.

Donations and fundraising: We depend on your contributions for our work. Checks should be made out to Center for Interfaith Projects. They can be sent to 111 Broadway, Fargo, ND 58102. If you have ideas about fundraising, please contact me.

Library resources: is there a particular religion you want to understand? Are you searching for a faith or practice that best fits your spiritual needs? if so, we have resources to help you?

Mission Statement of *Center for Interfaith Projects*

The mission of the *Center* is to:

- Educate the community about different faiths**
- Increase understanding and respect among people of different faiths**
- Foster cooperation among local faith communities to solve common community problems**
- Help individuals in search of a spiritual home**

Location:

111 Broadway

Fargo, North Dakota 58102

If you wish to visit the Center, call for an appointment: 701 388-7368.

Executive Director: David B. Myers, Judaism

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