

UNITED NATIONS WORLD INTERFAITH HARMONY WEEK

A year to focus on: **GRATITUDE**

February 1-7, 2020



UNITED NATIONS WORLD INTERFAITH HARMONY WEEK 2020

Opening Ceremony and Breakfast *Reflecting on Gratitude*

- 8:00 Please visit the buffet
- 8:10 Welcome Deborah Shnay, Congregation Beth Tzedec
Land Acknowledgement Sheldon First Rider
Blessing Rev. Debra Faulk, MC, Calgary Unitarians
- 8:20 Proclamation and message from Mayor Naheed Nenshi
- 8:40 Puzzle
Representatives* of many faiths will build our Calgary cityscape with words of GRATITUDE from their faith
- 8:50 Musical Response Cantor Russell Jayne, Congregation Beth Tzedec
- 9:00 Calgary Interfaith Council
Invitation to dialogue
- 9:25 Closing Words

* Faith Representatives in Alphabetical Order

Baha'i: Nathan Peters

Buddhist: Sensei Robert Gubenco

Christian (Catholic): Sister Ger Curran

Christian (Protestant): Rev. Bob Mutlow

Hindu: Raksh Joshi

Indigenous: Tony Snow

Jewish (Conservative): Rochelle Rabinovitz, Congregation Beth Tzedec

Jewish (Reform): Ron Bing, Temple B'Nai Tikvah

Muslim: Imam Syed Soharwardy

Muslim: Taner Kocyigit

Muslim: Imam Hadi Hasan

Sikh: Baljit K Joshi

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints: Flora Spackman

Unitarian Universalist: Mary Anna Louise Kovar

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Celebration Dinner *Expressing Gratitude through Music and Dialogue*

Thursday, February 6, 2020 - 6:30pm
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints
2021 17 Avenue SW Calgary, AB

Program:

Master of Ceremonies Larry Spackman

6:30 Welcome and Recognition of Sponsors
 Land Acknowledgement Tony Snow
 Blessing on Evening/Food Imam Fayaz Tilly

6:40 Buffet

7:00 Turkish Children Singers

7:10 Introduction of Dialogue

7:30 Lutheran Praise Singers

7:40 Dessert and Dialogue

Baha'i "In this day, to thank God for His bounties consisteth in possessing a radiant heart, and a soul open to the promptings of the spirit. This is the essence of thanksgiving."

'Abdu'l-Baha *Selections from the Writings of 'Abdu'l-Baha*, p 179

Buddhist Revering the Light of the Buddha, Reflecting upon my imperfect self, I will strive to live a life of gratitude. *Shin Buddhist Life Principle*

Muslim We pray to Allah and thank Him for the love we have in our hearts for Him and His entire Creation

Christian (Catholic) "Prayer is sitting in the silence until it silences us, choosing gratitude until we are grateful, and praising God until we ourselves are an act of praise." *Richard Rohr*

Christian (Protestant) "As Christians we seek to offer a safe place for all backgrounds and orientations to live love and practice gratitude."

Hindu Gratitude holds a very high place in the Hindu tradition. Gratitude is an important human quality regardless of the religious faith.

Indigenous "The Stoney way of life begins with reverence for the Great Spirit (Wakan Tanka) and gratitude for the sacred earth." *Dr. Rev. Chief John Snow Sr., "These Mountains Are Our Sacred Places"*

Jewish (Conservative) "How strange we are in the world, and how presumptuous our doings! Only one response can maintain us: gratefulness ... It is gratefulness which makes the soul great."
Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel (1907-1972)

Jewish (Reform) We are thankful to you, God, forever. We experience your miracles daily, and we forever put our hope in you. *From the siddur*

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints The Book of Mormon teaches: Live in thanksgiving daily. (Alma 34:38)

Muslim (Sufi) For showing our gratitude towards God, even thanking Him twice for every breath we take is not enough.

Sikh "Shukarana accomplishes what the ego cannot. One who works for what he earns, and gives some of what he has." *SGGS Pg 1245*

Unitarian Universalist With gratitude we pray this day that we live by hope, not by our fears, by deeds, not mere words. (Rev Eugene Pickett)