



THE SEON CENTRE INC. Rev. Chi Kwang Sunim

DATE

26th Feb 2013

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**2013 UN World Interfaith Harmony Week Testimonial**

Dear Interfaith Friends,

May I forward a few words sharing my own experiences in respect of the Interfaith Centre of Melbourne and the work of Reverend Helen Summers. Again this year's UN World Interfaith Harmony Morning Tea at Parliament House was greatly appreciated and the launching of the DVD 'Harmony', was viewed by tens of thousands of people. It's illustrations of people, places and sacred artwork, surrounding Interfaith relationships and spiritual friendships, attracted many conversations and smiles. It was shown on the Big Screen at Federation twice daily for eight days.

I have spoken and offered prayers on various occasions for the Interfaith Centre of Melbourne and felt deeply and profoundly touched by these experiences. There was the interfaith prayer and Chant Ceremony for the People of Japan (after the Tsunami) and *The Art of Living and Dying*, both very emotional, yet engaging profound and deeply personal dialogue. However this years UN World Harmony event, titled *the 'Love of God and Love of the Neighbour and Love of the Good and Love of the Neighbour (from interfaith/ Christian and an interfaith/ Buddhist perspectives)'*, left us feeling very still and connected in the true *Love of thy Neighbour*. Along with 75 other religious and community leaders, we enjoyed morning tea in the grand and stately Queens Hall, in Parliament House, whilst absorbed in Bishop John Bayton personal journey in *The Love of God....*

Helen was also an integral leader in organizing the Interfaith Arts and Cultural events for the WPR, where the Melbourne Convention Centre, the Town Hall, Federation Sq and many other inspiring and artistic spaces, gathered large crowds of global faith groups.

With over 15 years of commitment to her Interfaith Ministry, Reverend Helen Summers brings the richness of her wisdom and genuine kindness, to leading the Interfaith Centre of Melbourne. With open and sincere inquiry, she is grounded in the sound knowledge of her own Anglican and other faith traditions. And so too, gaining the trust of many faith leaders, she leads us to celebrate the causes and conditions for greater understanding and respect between world's religious and spiritual communities, as we address what differs and that which is often challenging for us all, but through kindness, dialogue and friendship we grow closer.

Sincerely yours,

Chi Kwang Sunim