An Amazing Opportunity for Interfaith Growth and Learning

The Reverend Rock Fremont of Shepherd of the Hills United Church of Christ in Phoenix, Arizona, in cooperation with SEMA Foundation of Chandler, Arizona hosted Islam’s Jesus with Professor Zeki Saritoprak, marking World Interfaith Harmony Week. An offshoot of an idea first discussed at a bi-monthly Interfaith Coffee Klatch, the purpose of this event was to extend an Invitation to Islamic Art, Science and Culture in the Southwest United States, and to tear down walls and build bridges of understanding, coming together around the things Muslims and Christians have in common, seeking understanding about what we do not have in common, and engaging somewhere in the middle.

To quote Professor Saritoprak,

**“I am confident that focusing on Jesus as a major figure in Islamic theology will be of interest to contemporary Christians, Muslims, and all people interested in Interfaith endeavors.”**

— PROFESSOR ZEKI SARITOPRAK

As described in Professor Saritoprak’s book,

At the core of all the faith systems and traditions, is the recognition that we are all in this together, and that we need to love and support one another to live in harmony and peace.

With that principle in mind, one Muslim scholar wants to talk about what we all have in common; Jesus.

We had just over 100 attendees from many faith traditions at our afternoon event, many of whom enthusiastically asked thoughtful questions of Professor Saritoprak on the topic at hand.

Many thanks to HM King Abdullah II, HRH Prince Ghazi bin Muhammad of Jordan, and the Organizers of World Interfaith Harmony Week for this wonderful occasion. We look forward to hosting many more events like this throughout the year.

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