

Report 4:

Brunch Fellowship and Singing Together

The Musical Brunch Fellowship is an event of coming together to eat, sing songs of love, hope, faith and compassion. The simplicity of the event is to sit at the same table and take part of the same moment as the one next to you is experiencing. Enjoy the things that unite us across our diversities, which at this moment is our love of food and love of music.

As we had done in earlier activities during the month in February, we felt it important to talk about the reason of our coming together. Camilla Henriksen gave the necessary introduction on the history and reason behind UN World InterFaith Harmony Week. Elizabeth gave information about the new partnership we have with Haderslev Diocese in celebrating WIFHW 2020, further giving information on the remaining activities to which, they too, were invited.

The brunch table was full of delicious food from kitchens all around the world represented by participants from different countries of origin: Thailand, Philippines, Iran, Eritrea, Hungary, India, Iceland, Denmark, Kenya, Lithuania and Syria. Food can be a great conversation starter that also gives great insight into a person's cultural or religious background.

The day was full of music. The Danish church pianist, Ejvind Amorsen, played the piano; Charles Angelo from Ghana, played the drums, Elizabeth from the Philippines played the guitar and the people joined in singing. Participants were free to choose a song they would like us to sing together and tell the reason behind their choice of a song. We sang in different languages. We sang songs of different genres: folk songs, pop, religious songs, Negro Spirituals, Danish folk songs and other international songs, inspired by the principles of love, peace, joy, faith and harmony, which the global observance of WIFHW has reminded us. Our organist, Ejvind Amorsen could play every tune with or without given chords or written-down notes. We spent more than an hour of singing which made us smile and laugh. There were those who came that they wished to have another Musical Brunch again in the schedule.

Reflection:

There is something good about eating together when people bring food. It allows people to be active participants in the event, they have something to do, something they could show and share with others as part of themselves, a part of their life or as part of their tradition. They are part in the ownership of the event.

In eating together around tables, they can stumble on those whom they meet for the first time. They are required to talk, to greet the person beside them, use their language, express kindness and keep the patience to understand and to be understood. The kind answer to a question or statement not well heard and understood, "I do not understand, can you please say it again." builds a bridge of friendship, kindness and hospitality.

To sing is human ability across cultures and religions. There maybe those who say they cannot sing. But often when they join a flock that sings, they have also the tendency to open their mouth and sound out a tune or melody. Singing brings joy to the human heart. Singing is also one way of fellowship building. We are humans with a voice. Songs tell a common human story of love and hope, of pain or sorrow. Songs humanize us and lead us to see that we are one humanity with precious life to share, to enrich or to bless each other.

Enclosures:

www.simonpeterskirke.dk click på international, English version

Brunch as Event on Facebook (see the link)

Photos

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