Faith in Action: New Year's Resolutions

<u>A World Interfaith Harmony Week Event</u>

Tuesday, February 7, 2023 at 7:30 pm via Zoom

On Tuesday, February 7, 2023 we have our first **Interfaith Circle** event of the year **"Faith in Action: New Year's Resolutions"** in participation of the World Interfaith Harmony Week (Theme: <u>Faith in Action</u>). We had an intimate dialogue with 12 participants who represented a wide range of religious traditions, including Roman Catholicism, Judaism, Islam, Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, Hinduism, Scientology, Zen Buddhism, and the United Church. It was truly a diverse dialogue united in how we can be beacons of the world by <u>living out our faith</u> more authentically.

This is yet another event organized by the Interfaith Circle in participation of the World Interfaith Harmony Week (WIHW). We have been consistently organizing events to celebrate WIHW for at least the past 3 years.



Collaboration

The planning team of Interfaith Circle who organizes this event represents a wide range of faith/no faith organizations and traditions from around the world including Roman Catholic, The Church of Scientology, University of Toronto, Judaism, Islamic Relief Canada, Intercultural Dialogue Institute, Sri Matha Ganapahy Temple (Hinduism), and the INAMORI Art Project Group (no faith) in Tokyo, Japan.



Participants shared their own goals and experiences of resolutions in the past, the ones that went well and others that were not as successful. They also shared different reasons and ways they were unsuccessful or successful.



There were many different ideas that came forth to suggest how one could both set and achieve their resolutions. Some of these ideas included having a underlying value to the goals, making the resolutions easy to achieve, creating an actionable plan, taking small steps towards the goal every week or month, having ways of holding oneself accountable, tracking progress from the beginning to the end and acknowledging that progress, practicing self compassion or forgiveness to self if the resolution was not completely achieved or put aside, and ways of recommitting and taking the goal forward again.



Several participants shared their personal or collective goals for the year and some goals they were inviting others to participate in as well. Some of these included holding the resolution for world peace. Some participants shared some initiatives they personally or their faith group were involved in such as supporting women and children, etc.

Celebrating and Promoting World Interfaith Harmony Week

Their efforts in living out these resolutions truly live out the call to love God and love their neighbor, which is what World Interfaith Harmony Week promotes.



The evening ended with a positive and hopeful note with methods of how to achieve the resolutions set and how to evaluate the progress later in the year. This is truly an event that puts our "Faith into Action."