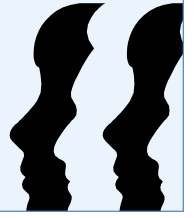




Interfaith Unity Feast

1556 Bell Road - Nashville, TN

We are drops of one ocean, leaves of one tree.



Love is the Answer

- Welcome - Carol Mansour
- Music - Hillary Chapman
- Prayers and Holy Writings

From the Bahá'í Faith

Love is the light that guideth in darkness, the living link that uniteth God with man, that assureth the progress of every illumined soul...Love is the most great law that ruleth this mighty and heavenly cycle...Love revealeth with unfailing and limitless power the mysteries latent in the universe. — 'Abdu'l-Bahá

From the Christian Faith

If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. If I give away all I have, and if I deliver my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient and kind; love is not jealous or boastful; it is not arrogant or rude. Love does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrong, but rejoices in the right. Love bears all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never ends; as for prophecies, they will pass away; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will pass away. For our knowledge is imperfect and our prophecy is imperfect. So faith, hope, love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love.
— *First Corinthians - 13:1-8*

From the Buddhist Faith

May every creature abound in well-being and peace.
May every living being, weak or strong, the long and the small
The short and the medium-sized, the mean and the great
May every living being, seen or unseen, those dwelling far off,
Those near by, those already born, those waiting to be born
May all attain inward peace.

Let no one deceive another; Let no one despise another in any situation
Let no one, from antipathy or hatred, wish evil to anyone at all.
Just as a mother, with her own life, protects her only son from hurt
So within yourself foster a limitless concern for every living creature.

Display a heart of boundless love for all the world
In all its height and depth and broad extent
Love unrestrained, without hate or enmity.
Then as you stand or walk, sit or lie, until overcome by drowsiness
Devote your mind entirely to this, it is known as living here life divine.

— *Blessing of the Buddha*

From the Hindu Holy Writings

Love is the firstborn, loftier than the gods, the Fathers and men.
You, O Love, are the eldest of all, altogether mighty.
To you we pay homage!

Greater than the breadth of earth and heaven, or of waters and Fire,
You, O Love, are the eldest of all, altogether mighty.
To you we pay homage!

In many a form of goodness, O Love, you show your face.
Grant that these forms may penetrate within our hearts.
Send elsewhere all malice!

— *Atharva Veda 9.2.19-20, 25*

From the Islamic Tradition

O My Joy and my Desire and my Refuge, My Friend and my Sustainer and my Goal;
Thou art my Intimate, and longing for Thee sustains me;
Were it not for Thee, O my Life and my Friend,
How I should have been distraught over the spaces of the earth;
How many favors have been bestowed, and how much hast Thou given me
Of gifts and grace and assistance; Thy love is now my desire and my bliss...
And has been revealed to the eye of my heart that was athirst;
I have none beside Thee, Who dost make the desert blossom,
Thou art my joy, firmly established within me;
If Thou art satisfied with me, then,
O Desire of my heart, my happiness has appeared.

— *Rábi'a (a 7th Century Islamic woman)*

From the Jewish Faith

Entreat me not to leave thee, Or to return from following after thee:
For whither thou goest, I will go; And where thou lodgest, I will lodge.
Thy people shall be my people, and thy God my God.

— *Ruth 1:16*

When a stranger sojourns with you in your land, you shall not do him wrong. The stranger who sojourns with you shall be to you as the native among you, and you shall love him as yourself; for you were strangers in the land of Egypt: I am the Lord your God.

— *Leviticus 19:33-34*

From the Bahá'í Faith

Know thou of a certainty that Love is the secret of God's holy Dispensation, the manifestation of the All-Merciful, the fountain of spiritual outpourings. Love is heaven's kindly light, the Holy Spirit's eternal breath that vivifieth the human soul. Love is the cause of God's revelation unto man, the vital bond inherent, in accordance with the divine creation, in the realities of things. Love is the one means that ensureth true felicity both in this world and the next. Love is the light that guideth in darkness, the living link that uniteth God with man, that assureth the progress of every illumined soul. Love is the most great law that ruleth this mighty and heavenly cycle, the unique power that bindeth together the divers elements of this material world, the supreme magnetic force that directeth the movements of the spheres in the celestial realms. Love revealeth with unfailing and limitless power the mysteries latent in the universe. Love is the spirit of life unto the adorned body of mankind, the establisher of true civilization in this mortal world, and the shedder of imperishable glory upon every high-aiming race and nation.

— *'Abdu'l-Bahá*

- Music: Hillary Chapman
- Speaker: Jim Traub
- Closing Remarks
- Refreshments



The mission of the Unity Feast is to bring people from all religions and backgrounds together in a spirit of friendship and understanding in order to explore common spiritual values from all the world's major religions. Our goal is to focus on those things we have in common, so that we can do our part to bring unity to humanity ... one person at a time.

The Unity Feast is sponsored by the Greater Nashville Bahá'í Community

Visit us online at www.unityfeast.org