

25th Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Service Held



Presenters at the 2010 Interfaith Thanksgiving Service. From left to right are Reverend Judith Bither (Reno First United Methodist Church), Canon Robert Petrovich (International Community of Christ), Rabbi Myra Soifer, Buddhist priest Dr. William Bartlett, Hindu leader Rajan Zed, Imam Abdul Barghouthi (Northern Nevada Muslim Community), Reverend Stefani Schatz (Trinity Episcopal Church), Roya Galata (Baha'i Faith), and Bruce Brinkerhoff (Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints).

The 25th Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Eve Service was held Wednesday, November 24, 2010, at 7:30 p.m. at Trinity Episcopal Church in Reno. The event, sponsored by the Nevada Clergy Association, an interfaith network of regional religious leaders, marks twenty-five consecutive years of interfaith celebration in Northern Nevada.

The theme of the service, "A Quarter Century of Coming Together in Gratitude," was addressed in the keynote presentation made by the Reverend Judith Bither, pastor of Reno First United Methodist Church. Reverend Bither, a resident of Reno for only two years, opened her talk with

mention of her amazement at the unusual degree of good will and interaction she found among the various religious associations in the Reno area for such a great length of time, then went on to portray the meaning and purpose of being grateful.

The one-and-one-half-hour service was a program of harmonious and peaceful music and prayer. The Sierra Foundation, a local Turkish-based interfaith organization, provided the favorite performance of the program: a whirling dervish performance by their community's children.

Representing the International Community of Christ in the service was the Reverend Canon Robert Petrovich, standing in for Bishop Gene Savoy Jr., who read from the Thanksgiving Scroll of the Dead Sea scriptures for the Benediction. Also present from the International Community of Christ was the Reverend Dr. Bill Bartlett, who delivered the Invocation preceding the service as a representative of the Buddhist community.

Read an online article on the 2010 Thanksgiving Eve Interfaith Service published November 16, 2010 at Moonshine Ink:

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