

Special thanks to Bethlehem Baptist Church for hosting this years' Interfaith Thanksgiving Gathering to all the volunteers who have made this evening possible!

Tonight's Offering...

Benefits Associated Ministries' **Family Emergency Fund**

The **Family Emergency Fund** helps at-risk families with unique needs when other agencies cannot. To help families keep their homes and jobs, this fund enables Associated Ministries to respond to emergency needs such as offering safety from family violence; screening fees to obtain housing; assistance with obtaining proper identification; uniforms, certification classes and/or supplies for employment or school; medical supplies and occasional prescription assistance; and other unique needs in the community. To many of us, these expenditures are small or at least not substantial enough to put in debt. Yet to individuals and families living in poverty, these expenses are impossible to meet without assistance and can put families at risk of becoming homeless or unemployed.

SAVE THE DATE!

**Martin Luther King Jr. Interfaith Service—
Redeeming the Prophetic Vision**

Sunday, January 15, 2017, 2:30-4 p.m. | Urban Grace Church

Women's Interfaith Conference

“Building Bridges of Interfaith Unity”

Saturday, March 4, 2017, 9a-5p | Curtis High School

National Day of Prayer Interfaith Service

Thursday, May 4, 2017, 7:00 p.m. | Location TBD

*Undivided in Faith ~
Annual Interfaith
Thanksgiving Gathering*



**Bethlehem Baptist Church
4818 Portland Avenue East
Tacoma, WA 98404**

November 22, 2016

Order of Gathering

Welcome Music

Welcome
Rev. Dr. Eric Jackson
Bethlehem Baptist Church

Opening Song (All) "Reach Out and Touch (Somebody's Hand)"
Page 3 Led by Bethlehem Baptist Choir

Procession of Light

Prayer
Rabbi Bruce Kadden
Temple Beth El

Prayer
Fr. Jerry Burns
St. Andrew's Catholic Parish

"Feel the Blessing"
Center for Spiritual Living
CSL Ensemble

Reading/Chant
Rev. Kojo Kakihara
Tacoma Buddhist Temple

Reading/Prayer
Ziad Abusamah
Islamic Center of Tacoma

Offering
Michael Yoder
Executive Director, Associated Ministries

Song
Traditional Gospel Song
Bethlehem Baptist Choir

Procession of Light

Each faith tradition present is represented by a member of their faith tradition, being a bearer of light, representing harmony, hope and thanksgiving.

Prayer—Khatum (Sufi Tradition)

O Thou, Who art the Perfection of Love, Harmony and Beauty.
The Lord of Heaven and earth,
Open our hearts that we may hear Thy Voice,
which constantly cometh from within;
Disclose to us Thy Divine Light,
which is hidden in our souls,
that we may know and understand life better;
Most Merciful and Compassionate God,
Give us Thy great Goodness;
Teach us Thy loving forgiveness;
Raise us above the distinctions and differences which divide us;
Send us the peace of Thy Divine Spirit,
And unite us all in Thy Perfect Being.
Amen

All Sing:

Send us the peace of Thy Divine Spirit
and Unite us all, Unite us all
In thy perfect being. Amin Amin (which is Arabic for Amen).

Musical Talent

“Reach Out and Touch” by Nickolas Ashford/Valerie Simpson

Bethlehem Baptist Choir

Soloist: Elaine Patterson

Led by Tracie Davis

“Feel the Blessing” by Michael Stillwater

Center for Spiritual Living Ensemble

Led by Mario Lorenz

Traditional Gospel Song

Bethlehem Baptist Choir

Led by Tracie Davis

“Precious Lord” by Thomas Dorsey, arrangement by Jack Schrader

La Voz de Paz Interfaith Choir

Led by Karla Jo Tupper

“I Need You to Survive” by David Frazier

Bethlehem Baptist Choir

“We Are Marching (Siyahamba/Caminando)” African Spiritual

Thanksgiving Interfaith Choir

Led by Karla Jo Tupper

Thank you to the Planning Committee!

Rev. Dr. Eric Jackson, Bethlehem Baptist Church

Tracie Davis, Bethlehem Baptist Church

Rev. Linda Hart, Tahoma Unitarian Universalist Congregation

Rev. Kojo Kakihara, Tacoma Buddhist Temple

Momo Moussa, Islamic Center of Tacoma

Karla Jo Tupper, Baha'i's of Pierce County-Peninsula

Fr. Martin Yabroff, St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

Mike Yoder Associated Ministries

Sandy Windley, Associated Ministries

Order of Gathering, con't.

Prayer

Andi Perrycook

Baha'i Faith

Prayer “Khatum”

Rev. Farishta Lindsay

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Sufi Ruhaniat International

“Precious Lord”

La Voz de Paz Interfaith Choir

Song (All)

“I Need You to Survive”

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Led by Bethlehem Baptist Choir

Closing Prayer & Benediction

Rev. Linda Hart

Tahoma Unitarian Universalist Congregation

Closing Song

“We Are Marching (Siyahamba/Caminando)”

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Thanksgiving Interfaith Choir

Join us for a reception immediately following in
Bethlehem's Fireside Room!



As a courtesy to one another, please **POWER OFF** all cell phones
Additionally, to hold the sacred space we share, we ask that there
be no applause during the service.

Thank you!

Congregational Opening Song

“Reach Out and Touch”

Lyrics by Nickolas Ashford & Valerie Simpson

CHORUS (ALL):

**Reach out and touch
Somebody's hand
Make this world a better place
If you can
Reach out and touch
Somebody's hand
Make this world a better place
If you can**

(Just try) Take a little time out of your busy day
To give encouragement
To someone who's lost the way
(Just try) Or would I be talking to a stone
If I asked you
To share a problem that's not your own
We can change things if we start giving
Why don't you

CHORUS

(Just try) If you see an old friend on the street
And he's down
Remember his shoes could fit your feet
(Just try) Try a little kindness you'll see
It's something that comes very naturally
We can change things if we start giving

Why don't you
Reach out and touch
Why don't you (Why don't you)
Reach out and touch somebody's hand

CHORUS

Congregational Closing Song

“I Need You to Survive”

Lyrics by Daniel Frazier

I need you, you need me.
We're all a part of God's body.
Stand with me, please stand with me.
We're all a part of God's body.

It is his will, that every need be supplied.
You are important to me, I need you to survive.
You are important to me, I need you to survive.

I pray for you, You pray for me.
I love you, I need you to survive.
I won't harm you with words from my mouth.
I love you, I need you to survive.

It is his will, that every need be supplied.
You are important to me, I need you to survive.

“We Are Marching” (“Siyahamba”)

African spiritual

We are marching in the light of God
we are marching in the light of God.
We are marching, marching,
we are marching, marching,
we are marching in the light of God.

*Alternate text: praying, singing