



PURE LAND LEARNING COLLEGE ASSOCIATION INC.

MULTI-FAITH MULTICULTURAL CENTRE

EVERYONE MATTERS - TOOWOOMBA, A MODEL CITY OF PEACE & HARMONY



August 2017, Issue 67

Silence for Peace

Our third 'Silence for Peace' meditation workshop was held at St Lukes on 11 July 2017. It was a cold, but beautifully clear winter's day, and our hearts were warmed by all who were present and the meditations we experienced. And our bodies were sustained by the delicious morning tea provided by the Pure Land Learning College Association (PLLCA)



Venerable Wu Chyuan informed us about Buddhist meditation, and then led us in a walking meditation, chanting as we walked. The rhythm of the chant and our steps flowed together, and brought us together as one. Quiet. Calm. At peace. It was an uplifting experience within the sacred space of St Lukes. Each on their own journey, but never alone.

Enya Rub taught us about the labyrinth, a little of its history, and how to walk its sacred path. Unlike a maze where we can get lost, the labyrinth has one way in, and one way out. It is a journey into ourselves, a walking meditation. Enya also emphasized that the Labyrinth behind St Lukes is the Toowoomba City Labyrinth, and is there for the whole community to use. On the first Sunday of every month at 3.30pm, Enya offers guided walks of the labyrinth.



Kam Athwal spoke to us about Sikh meditation. I had little knowledge of this and found it so interesting. Learning what others practise in their faith, and then being invited to participate with them, opens our eyes to the richness of this world. It is a sharing, not a demand to be like me and do what I do. This sharing leads to a greater understanding and acceptance, and a deeper realization we are one, as we travel our own paths.



What stood out for me on this wonderful morning, were not the differences, but the common threads within our faith traditions. We are one people, with the same needs and desires. We are one.

Peace.

Joanne Anderson
Coordinator, Silence for Peace Workshop

Check out more photos on mmc.Toowoomba - For upcoming activities and programs, please visit www.interfaith-harmony.org - call us at +617 4659 8054, or email us mfmcc.pllc@gmail.com



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Community Engagements

28 June 2017 – Community tea gathering at 4DDB community radio station, with guest speaker Tony Wigan presenting on 'Communicating beyond your community and the benefits'. Every quarter, the Goodwill Committee of Toowoomba (GWC) organizes a community tea gathering as an opportunity to strengthen our spirit of fellowship and community inclusiveness, and to reaffirm our commitment to peace and harmony in our beautiful city of Toowoomba.



15 July 2017 – Dr Leon Moosavi (left) and Dr Mohammed Ilyas (right) presented on the topic of Radicalization and Islamophobia to faith and community members at the PLLCA.



21 July 2017 – Aboriginal Elders coming together for a morning of informal conversation and shared dialogue about our rich culture, spirituality and traditions. Several faith leaders from the Toowoomba Interfaith Working Group (TIWG) shared with the group their respective faith, beliefs, and customs. The dialogue also agreed on exploring ways to organize a bigger forum with the Aboriginal Elders in 2018. This day was organised by the PLLCA in collaboration with Kath Dickson Family Centre, the GWC, and the TIWG.



22 July 2017 – Venerable Wu Chin, Muhammed Haniff, and Meiling presented on the concepts and fundamentals of promoting religious and social harmony at a sharing session at St Francis College on 'Loving our neighbours who are different from us: growing peace and harmony in our shared community'.

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