



# PURE LAND LEARNING COLLEGE ASSOCIATION INC. MULTI-FAITH MULTICULTURAL CENTRE



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



September-October 2024, Issue 127



## TOOWOOMBA INTERFAITH WORKING GROUP SHINES AT THE 75TH CARNIVAL OF FLOWERS PARADE

On 21 September, the Toowoomba Interfaith Working Group proudly took part in the 75th Toowoomba Carnival of Flowers Parade, and it was an experience to remember! The atmosphere was filled with energy, joy, and a powerful sense of unity. The incredible turnout from the community reflected Toowoomba's vibrant and inclusive spirit.



## INTRODUCING THE MEMBERS OF TOOWOOMBA INTERFAITH WORKING GROUP

I am Jagdish Narayan. I am a Christian and belong to Christadelphian Bible Mission. I am also a Justice of Peace (JP) providing voluntary service to the community. My wife and I are engaged with various activities in the community in which we live. Our vision is to promote peace and unity among all people where we can all live together happily and peacefully regardless of our colour, race, gender and religion. In 2012 I was invited to be a member of Toowoomba Interfaith Working Group which provided me with a networking platform. Through the group, I was able to connect with other faith leaders, those who have the same aspiration as me. Here we come together and share our commonalities with each other with the view of promoting peace and harmony in our local community. This is my fundamental objective whereby I am looking to achieve my mission; that one day we all will be able to live together under one umbrella with love and respect for each other.



Mr Jagdish Narayan





**Continued from page 1**



Another benefit I received by being a member of TIWG is the use of their Radio Program called the Voices of Faith which gave me a platform to reach out to much wider communities' especially people living in remote areas. This also allowed me to address my vision in a language which can easily understood by the general audience. This allowed me, as an individual member to present my own personal experiences in a unique way to share my day to day living with others. This is helping me to be able to convey the message of my own religious believes in perspective of peace, unity and love. I consider myself privileged to be associated with the Pure Land Learning College Association where I am able to meet and participate with people from all over the world who have the same vision of peace, harmony and unity among all people. This platform provides me with added opportunity to spread and educate the importance of living in a peaceful society and is done through many conferences including opportunities to travel to countries like France, Hong Kong, to share our work and learning from their experiences.

## TOOWOOMBA UNITES FOR INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE CELEBRATION

On 29 September, Toowoomba celebrated the International Day of Peace with a vibrant event that brought together diverse communities.

Organized by the Heartfulness Institute Australia, the Pure Land Learning College Association Inc., Toowoomba Regional Council, Toowoomba Peace Youth Group, Bunya Scout Group and the community, the event fostered unity and harmony during these challenging times.

The program featured a Welcome to Country & Smoking Ceremony by Shannon Bauwens, performances by Pat Menz & Aunty Liz from the Toowoomba Folk Club, and a children's art competition. Cr Trevor Manteufel representing the Mayor and Clem Campbell OAM from UNAA Queensland delivered inspiring speeches, and Rheanca Lincoln, President of TYP.G, shared the youth voice. The day concluded with a prize draw and thank you to all participants.

This event reminded us of the power of collaboration for peace and compassion. Let's continue spreading kindness and building a peaceful future together!







# PURE LAND LEARNING COLLEGE ASSOCIATION INC. MULTI-FAITH MULTICULTURAL CENTRE



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

September-October 2024, Issue 127



## FAITH EXPLORATION SERIES 'WHO IS MY G-D?'



### AT THE ABBEY MULTI FAITH AND CULTURAL DIALOGUE CENTRE



On 28 September, the Abbey Multi Faith and Cultural Dialogue Centre, in partnership with the Pure Land Learning College Association, proudly launched the inaugural session of its Faith Exploration Series titled "Who is My God?" Representatives from the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, Bahá'í Faith, and the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints shared profound insights on how God is perceived and understood within their respective faith. The event concluded with afternoon tea, where participants engaged in further discussions and built meaningful connections. It was a fantastic start to what promises to be a thought-provoking and enriching dialogue series!



## ENHANCING WELL-BEING: INSIGHTS FROM THE TOOWOOMBA INTERFAITH WORKING GROUP'S MONTHLY MEETING



On 2 October, members of the Toowoomba Interfaith Working Group gathered at the Pure Land MFMCC Faith Gallery for its monthly meeting. We were honoured to welcome Marie-Louise Offner, the Multicultural Development Officer from ADA Australia, who shared valuable insights on enhancing the well-being of older persons, particularly from multicultural backgrounds.

Marie-Louise introduced key services like the ADA Link Care Finder and Aged Care Advocacy programs, designed to help families and communities access the support they need. These programs provide vital pathways to aged care services, empowering individuals to make informed decisions about their care options.







# PURE LAND LEARNING COLLEGE ASSOCIATION INC. MULTI-FAITH MULTICULTURAL CENTRE



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



September-October 2024, Issue 127

## PURE LAND LEARNING COLLEGE ASSOCIATION INC. AND TOOWOOMBA HOSPITAL FOUNDATION RESEARCH GRANTS CEREMONY 2024



For the past two decades, we have been privileged to support the Toowoomba Hospital Foundation, a partnership that has enabled us to contribute to meaningful learning and research opportunities in the healthcare sector. This year, we were particularly honoured to have Venerable Zhiyang from the Pure Land Learning College Association Inc. attend the ceremony. His presence was truly inspiring as he witnessed the presentation of the research grants and graciously shared a few words with the attendees.



## THE PURE LAND LEARNING COLLEGE ASSOCIATION SUPPORTS MOMENTUM MENTAL HEALTH OPEN HOUSE WITH MEDITATION SESSION



On 3 October, we were honoured to be part of the Momentum Mental Health Open House, where Venerable Wuling from the Pure Land Learning College Association introduced the practice of meditation to guests. Venerable Wuling shared the benefits of this peaceful and mindful practice, explaining how chanting helps calm the mind and foster inner peace.

The session concluded with a 15-minute meditation, giving participants the opportunity to experience some moments of stillness and reflection. It was a wonderful chance to share the essence of Pure Land teachings and contribute to the well-being of the community. It ended with a lunch.







# PURE LAND LEARNING COLLEGE ASSOCIATION INC. MULTI-FAITH MULTICULTURAL CENTRE

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



September-October 2024, Issue 127

## UPCOMING EVENTS



### 1. INTERNATIONAL PEACE CONFERENCE 2024



Join us for an inspiring day of connection, dialogue, and peace-building on 16 November 2024 at St. Patrick's Cathedral Centre, 123 Neil Street Toowoomba. This FREE event is open to everyone!

This year's theme is From Inner Peace to World Peace – Social Flourishing through Connectedness.

We are also honoured to feature a special video presentation from Kamlesh D. Patel (Master Daaji), President of Shri Ram Chandra Mission and a leader in Healthfulness Meditation. His journey from Gujarat, India, to becoming a global spiritual guide is truly inspiring, bridging Eastern wisdom with a Western perspective to encourage personal growth and expanded consciousness.

Whether you're seeking new ideas or meaningful conversations, this conference is for YOU! Please register via the link below or scan the QR code, spread the word, and prepare to build peace together!

For free registration:

<https://events.humanitix.com/from-inner-peace-to-world-peace-social-flourishing-through-connectedness-international-peace-conference-2024>

INTERNATIONAL PEACE CONFERENCE  
16th Nov 2024 \* \*

FROM INNER PEACE TO WORLD PEACE -  
**SOCIAL FLOURISHING**  
Through Connectedness

Venue: St. Patrick's Cathedral Centre, 123 Neil St Toowoomba  
Time: 8:30am - 4:00pm

Featuring  
Rev. Charissa Suli, Dr. Wendell Rosevear, Dr. Hoon Chang Yau & Carl Ross Maurer

Free registration:  
<https://events.humanitix.com/from-inner-peace-to-world-peace-social-flourishing-through-connectedness-international-peace-conference-2024>



### 2. COMMUNITY AND FAITH LEADERS FORUM: BUILDING PEACE IN OUR COMMUNITIES



Join us for an insightful evening focusing on discovering inner peace and fostering peace within our communities.

📅 Friday, 15 November 2024

🕒 5:30 PM arrival for a 6:00 PM start

📍 St James' Anglican Church, 145 Mort Street (corner of Russell Street), Toowoomba

Our incredible lineup of guest speakers includes:

- ◆ Rev'd Charissa Suli – President of the Uniting Church in Australia
- ◆ Professor Dr. Hoon Chang Yau, Director of Asian Studies, University of Brunei Darussalam
- ◆ Mr. Carl Maurer – Manager of Self Reliance and Welfare, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

The panel will be moderated by Rev'd Melissa Conway.

After the forum, enjoy a delicious vegetarian dinner. 🌱

We look forward to your participation in this important conversation!





# PURE LAND LEARNING COLLEGE ASSOCIATION INC. MULTI-FAITH MULTICULTURAL CENTRE



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



September-October 2024, Issue 127

## UPCOMING EVENTS



### 3. 2024 MIDDLE GROUND YOUTH SYMPOSIUM



🎉 It's Official! The 2024 Middle Ground Youth Symposium is HERE! Register now through this link ➡

<https://www.typpg.org/event-details/middleground-youth-symposium>

📅 Date: Saturday, 23rd November 2024

🕒 Time: 9 AM - 3:30 PM

📍 Venue: Micah Centre, 29/33 Lawrence St, South Toowoomba QLD 4350

The Toowoomba Youth Peace Group (TYP.G) invites all young people between the ages of 12-25 to join us for a day of dynamic discussions, workshops, and activities centred around finding common ground and building a better future!

The first session, 'Delving Deep: Mental Health and Inner Self,' will be facilitated by Mr Farid Hamid from, Principal Trainer and Consultant at Ithaca Training and Consultancy in Singapore and Melbourne. Tanja Hagedorn from Together for Humanity will lead the session on 'Self-expression: Diverse Cultures and Languages'.

Lunch will be provided, offering a chance to refuel and network. The afternoon includes a two-part session titled 'Me vs. You: Bridging Social Divides,' facilitated by Simran Monga from UN Youth, followed by a collaborative session called 'Middle Ground'.

Don't miss this fantastic opportunity to connect, share ideas, and make a positive impact in the community!

**MIDDLE GROUND**  
YOUTH SYMPOSIUM

by

9am - 3.30pm  
saturday

**23 NOV**  
2024

venue: Micah Centre 29/33 Lawrence St, South Toowoomba QLD 4350

<https://www.typpg.org/event-details/middleground-youth-symposium>

register here

for more information, find us at:



### 4. QUARTERLY ABRAHAMIC FAITH GATHERING



Join us for an enriching evening of dialogue and understanding, as representatives from different faith traditions come together to share their perspectives on "The Concept of God." This event, organized by Downs & Toowoomba Churches Together, will be held on Wednesday, 6th November 2024, at St Anthony's Community Centre, located at 3 Memory Street, Harristown. The program will begin at 5:45 pm, followed by a light dinner.

The evening will feature short presentations from the following esteemed speakers:

- Mohammad Aminul Islam, Imam of Garden City Mosque
- Ariel Heber, President and Community Liaison, Queensland Jewish Community Services Inc.
- Fr Jamie Collins, Parish Priest at St Anthony's Catholic Church

This is a unique opportunity to explore how different faiths view the divine and foster a deeper sense of interfaith understanding.



### 5. VOICES OF FAITH



Tune in to 102.7FM every Friday and Sunday from 6:00 to 6:30 PM!

Listen on your radio or online at [1027.com.au](http://1027.com.au) for inspiring talks.

Want to share your beliefs and culture? Contact the Multi-faith Multicultural Centre at [mfmcc.pllc@gmail.com](mailto:mfmcc.pllc@gmail.com). Sponsored by Pure Land Learning College – free for all!

**Voices of Faith**