

The Interfaith Center offers a number of interfaith education and dialogue programs to the Greater Philadelphia community. All programs offered by the Center are uniquely designed and tailored to the needs and interests of the community or group requesting this programming. Programs can be made available to a single faith community or to multi-religious groups.

Encountering Other Faiths

Encountering Other Faiths is an interactive program series that enables participants to:

- ✚ Share the faith expressions they live by
- ✚ Assess their encounters with people from other traditions
- ✚ Understand the meaning of dialogue, identify areas of difference, and discover common ground
- ✚ Explore the many avenues of interreligious collaboration



“This experience has given me the foundation that I needed in order to move forward in the learning and be able to have dialogue with those of other faiths. I am very blessed to have participated in the group and to now be able to continue on with what has come out of that experience.”

-Revered Margaret Powell, Olney Clergy Ministerium

Religious Communities of Our Region

The Interfaith Center offers a number of opportunities for communities to learn more about different religious traditions. These opportunities include, but are not limited to:

- ✚ Beliefs, values and practices of one or more religious traditions;
- ✚ Sacred texts, worship and history of one or more religious communities in our region;
- ✚ The diverse spiritual and cultural traditions of adherents of a particular religious community;
- ✚ Opportunities to visit faith communities to experience worship services, holidays and festivals



“Every participant emerged from this course with a deeper commitment to continue such interreligious conversations in the various arenas of their lives.”

-Susie Smith, Pastor, United Christian Church, Levittown, PA

Interfaith Dialogue

This six-session series of face-to-face discussions among lay members of neighboring religious communities is offered in conjunction with the Philadelphia Archdiocese's Office for Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs. The series consists of:

- ✚ An open and non-judgmental forum for rich dialogue among 15-20 participants;
- ✚ An opportunity for participants to share their own religious practices, beliefs and family/community traditions, as well as to ask questions of one another;
- ✚ A session in which clergy from the participating religious communities meet with participants and respond to their questions.



“Interfaith work is like a journey in which one climbs a mountain. The pinnacle of this mountain is the discovery not that ‘you are like me,’ but that ‘I am you.’ Out of this discovery and, hopefully, the mutual discovery of what is divine in each of us, and the mutual discarding of what is not, together we can work for the common good.”

-Imam Muhammad Abdur-Razzaq Miller, Bawa Muhaiyadeen Mosque and Fellowship:
Chair, Board of Directors, Interfaith Center

Leadership Skills Training

All of the Interfaith Center's programs are designed to enhance interfaith understanding, trust, and collaboration in the 21st century. The Interfaith Center places a high priority on the training of facilitators for:

- ✚ Educational programs and text-based learning;
- ✚ Dialogue facilitation and deep listening skills;
- ✚ Addressing controversial issues and creative conflict resolution.

Training workshops are developed by the Center staff, often in conjunction with the expertise of other local groups. Leadership training sessions are tailored to the needs of interested constituencies.

“I recommend this engaging yet easy-to-facilitate program to rabbis, ministers, priests, educators and lay leaders across North America who want to guide their congregants by taking that first step, together.”

-Jane West Walsh, Jewish educator and consultant with expertise in interreligious education

