

**SHAPING THE FUTURE**

**WITH FAITH AND RESILIENCE... TOGETHER**

**MAY 21  
2023**



# **FUNDRAISING DINNER**

Chinmaya Mission  
4760 Packard St  
Ann Arbor

[www.irtwc.org](http://www.irtwc.org)

# WELCOME MESSAGE



**Bryan Weinert**

Board Chair & Member of Zion  
Lutheran Church-Ann Arbor

**Tasneem Sultan**

IRT Director

Greetings everyone!

As a long-time board member/current board chair and director at the Interfaith Round Table (IRT), it is our honor to welcome you to this evening's celebration. It is our hope that you will experience the compassion, warmth, and positive engagement that we have consistently experienced at Round Table events over the years.

Sadly, humans are too frequently a suspicious, divided, and insular lot that are unwilling or unable to bridge differences to engage in larger, more holistic, and ultimately deeper truths. It is our hope that the work of the IRT will touch you this evening and that you will continue on the journey with us as we move forward together with faith and resilience!

THANK YOU FOR JOINING US!

**CONNECTION  
COMPASSION  
COMMUNITY**

# INTERFAITH ROUND TABLE

## VISION & MISSION



### Vision

To build meaningful relationships among people of diverse religious and spiritual backgrounds and journeys, cultivating a culture of awareness and compassion.

### Mission

Through education, dialogue, and shared spiritual practices, the Interfaith Round Table cultivates an inclusive culture to advance understanding of and appreciation for the diversity of our neighbors.

### Goals

1. To build trust and respect across faiths and cultures to cultivate an understanding and appreciation of all communities of religions and cultures through action-based dialogue
2. To advance social justice and racial equity through the lenses of faith
3. To educate people about the rich traditions of all faiths/cultures in an accurate historical context
4. To empower youth in their respective faith journeys and social/cultural identities
5. To build interfaith solidarity in the community at large.



CONNECTION  
COMPASSION  
COMMUNITY

# OUR PARTNERS



Ann Arbor Friends Meeting  
Baha'i Local Spiritual Assembly  
Beth Israel Congregation  
Bethlehem United Church of Christ  
Blue Ocean Faith  
Chinmaya Mission  
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints  
Church of Scientology  
Episcopal Church of the Incarnation  
Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Ypsilanti  
First Baptist Church  
First Church of Christ, Scientist  
First Congregational Church  
First Presbyterian Church  
First Unitarian Universalist Congregation  
First United Methodist Church  
Journey of Faith Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth  
King of Kings Lutheran Church  
Lord of Light Lutheran Campus Ministry  
Muslim Community Association  
Northside Community Church  
Pardes Hannah  
Shalom Community Church  
St. Andrew's Episcopal Church  
St. Clare of Assisi Episcopal Church  
St. Paul United Church of Christ, Saline  
Small House of Contemplation and Prayer  
Temple Beth Emeth  
Trinity Lutheran Church  
Unity of Ann Arbor  
Unity on Campus  
Zen Buddhist Temple  
Zion Lutheran Church



# MEET OUR BOARD



## OFFICERS

Bryan Weinert, Zion Lutheran Church, Chair

Kaye Foyle, Baha'i Faith, Vice Chair

Keith Koebel, United Church of Christ, Treasurer

Kelly Gauthier, St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church, Secretary

## MEMBERS AT LARGE

Christine Modey, Ph.D., Director, Michigan Community Scholars Program

Rev. Diane Smith, Journey of Faith Christian Church

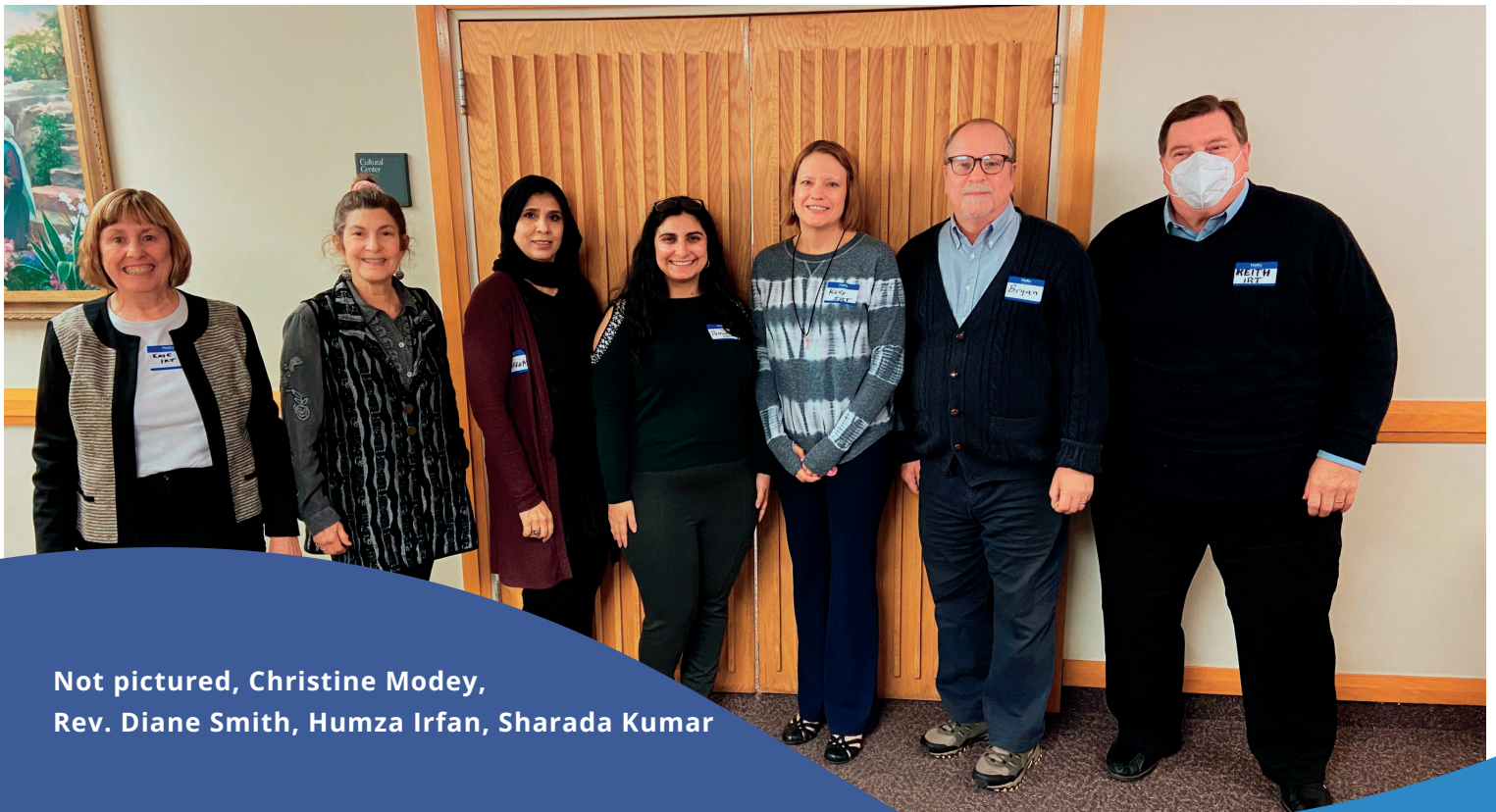
Humza Irfan, Student, University of Michigan

Lucinda Kurtz, M.A., Pardes Hannah

Sharada Kumar, Chinmaya Mission Ann Arbor

## STAFF

Tasneem Sultan, Director



Not pictured, Christine Modey,  
Rev. Diane Smith, Humza Irfan, Sharada Kumar

# PROGRAM OF THE EVENING

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<b>5:05 PM</b>	Welcome <i>Sharada Kumar, Chinmaya Mission</i>
	Interfaith meal blessing <i>Rev. Ernestine Griffin, Unity on Campus</i>
	Dinner
<b>6:00 PM</b>	Transition to hall for short program
	Remarks <i>Rev. Diane Smith, IRT board member</i>
	Dr. Mandy Grewal <i>Supervisor, Pittsfield Township</i>
	Saline High School Choir <i>Sarah Price, Director</i>
	Tasneem Sultan <i>Community Organizer &amp; Peace Advocate</i>
	Chinmaya Youth Performance
	La’Ron Williams <i>Professional Storyteller</i>
<b>6:55 PM</b>	Wrap up and good night! <i>Bryan Weinert, Chair, IRT</i>

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## PERFORMANCE



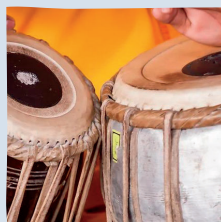
### Saline High School A cappella Group, "Ten Tones"

The Ten Tones are the most selective extra-curricular vocal group at Saline High School out of our six ensembles and include 12 auditioned students in grades 10-12.

- *Love is Love is Love is Love: Abbie Betinis*
- *Ain't Gonna Let Nobody Turn Me 'Round: African-American Spiritual arr. J. David Moore*
- *We Shall Overcome: African-American Spiritual arr. Tesfa Yohnannes Wondemagegnehu*
- *Light of a Clear Blue Morning: Dolly Parton, arr. Craig Hella Johnson*
- *Let the River Run: Carly Simon, arr. Craig Hella-Johnson*

### Chinmaya Youth Choir

The Chinmaya Balavihar Music group will be presenting a prayer song followed by a group "Raas" dance (with sticks) by the members of the mission.



THANK YOU FOR JOINING US!

# MEET OUR SPEAKERS



## Dr. Mandy Grewal

Dr. Mandy Grewal is a member of the Sikh faith and Supervisor of Pittsfield Charter Township. A 25+ year resident of Pittsfield Township, she is privileged to give back to her community by way of instituting and implementing a master plan vision that is committed to celebrating the community by promoting agricultural and open space preservation, public gathering spaces, multi-modal transportation, historical and cultural diversity, infill and mixed-use development. She is very involved in the Ann Arbor area community and was recognized as “Volunteer of the Year” by Ann Arbor SPARK in the spring of 2018 for her commitment to community work.



## La’Ron Williams

La’Ron Williams conducts workshops – with schools, business organizations, and non-profits – on the fundamentals of creating inclusive communities across a number of lines of diversity. His workshops are always informative, entertaining, and filled with opportunities for personal growth and organizational development. LaRon is also a nationally acclaimed, award-winning storyteller who, for more than thirty-five years, has toured extensively presenting highly participatory, music-spiced programs composed of a dynamic blend of original and traditional tales.



## Tasneem Sultan

Tasneem Sultan, a Community Organizer and Peace Advocate, has been involved with various ethnic, religious, cultural, and advocacy groups across the U.S. for many years, raising awareness of diverse cultures and religions and promoting dialogue for greater understanding. Her faith and values motivate her commitment to justice, equality, and service to humanity. Tasneem was awarded the “Women of Achievement Award” by the Mercer County Commission and was also recognized in New Jersey’s 2019 State Governor’s Jefferson Honorees for Justice award. Her goal in life is to inspire change that matters and mobilize as many people as possible to speak in the name of justice, human dignity, and peace

# OUR PROGRAMS



## DAY FORUM

Every third Tuesday of the month  
@ 11:45am-1:00pm

Explore turning difficult conversations about race and faith into productive engagement toward change. A series of opportunities for "courageous and compassionate conversations."

## FACES OF FAITH

Faces of faith is a unique way to hear the stories of people from other faith traditions and spiritual perspectives.

## REAL TALK

Real Talk a quarterly series of events/workshops focus on topics of race, ethnicity, religion, and the advancement of justice through the lens of faith. These presentations help us explore various perspectives to build understanding and compassion within the community.

## YOUTH PROGRAM

The youth initiatives bring diverse youth together and engage them in dialogue to explore and share perspectives across interfaith and inter-spiritual traditions while strengthening their own identity and building friendships.

## ANNUAL INTERFAITH FALL CELEBRATION

This annual fall event is hosted by a different faith community each year. A wide array of spiritually oriented people gather to give thanks with inspirational music, carefully considered thoughts, and brief reflections from various faith traditions, with time for socializing.



CONNECTION  
COMPASSION  
COMMUNITY

*Join the  
Conversation!*



# CALENDAR 2023

## JUNE

**Real Talk: *The Migrant and Refugee Crisis***  
Sunday, June 11  
Time: 3:00-4:30 pm  
Social hour: 4:30-5:30 PM  
Venue: Zion Lutheran Church

**Day Forum:**  
Tuesday, June 20  
Time: 11:45 am - 1:00 pm  
Venue: TBD

## JULY

**Summer Break**

## AUGUST

**Summer Break**

## SEPTEMBER

**Workshop:**  
Sunday, Sept. 10  
Time: 3:00-4:30 pm  
Social hour: 4:30-5:30 PM  
Venue: TBD

**Day Forum:**  
Tuesday, Sept. 19  
Time: 11:45 am - 1:00 pm  
Venue: TBD

## OCTOBER

**Real Talk: *Prisoner Re-entry***  
Thursday, October 19  
Time: 7-8:30 pm  
Hybrid event  
Venue: TBD

**Day Forum:**  
Tuesday, Oct. 17  
Time: 11:45 am - 1:00 pm  
Venue: Zion Lutheran Church

## NOVEMBER

**Interfaith Fall Celebration**  
Date: Sunday, Nov 19  
Time: 4:00-6:00 pm  
Venue: TBD

**Day Forum:**  
Tuesday, Nov 21  
Time: 11:45 am - 1:00 pm  
Venue: TBD

## DECEMBER

**Day Forum:**  
Tuesday, Dec. 19  
Time: 11:45 am - 1:00 pm  
Venue: TBD

## JOIN THE CONVERSAION!

IRT provides a wide range of programs. Together they have the objective of seeding courageous and compassionate conversations that elucidate commonalities, honor differences, and empower people to work for the greater good.

*This is a tentative 2023 calendar. More events and programs will be added in the coming months and will be posted on the website.*

# CALENDAR 2024

## JANUARY

**MLK Day**  
Monday, Jan 15  
Time: 7-8:30 pm  
ZOOM

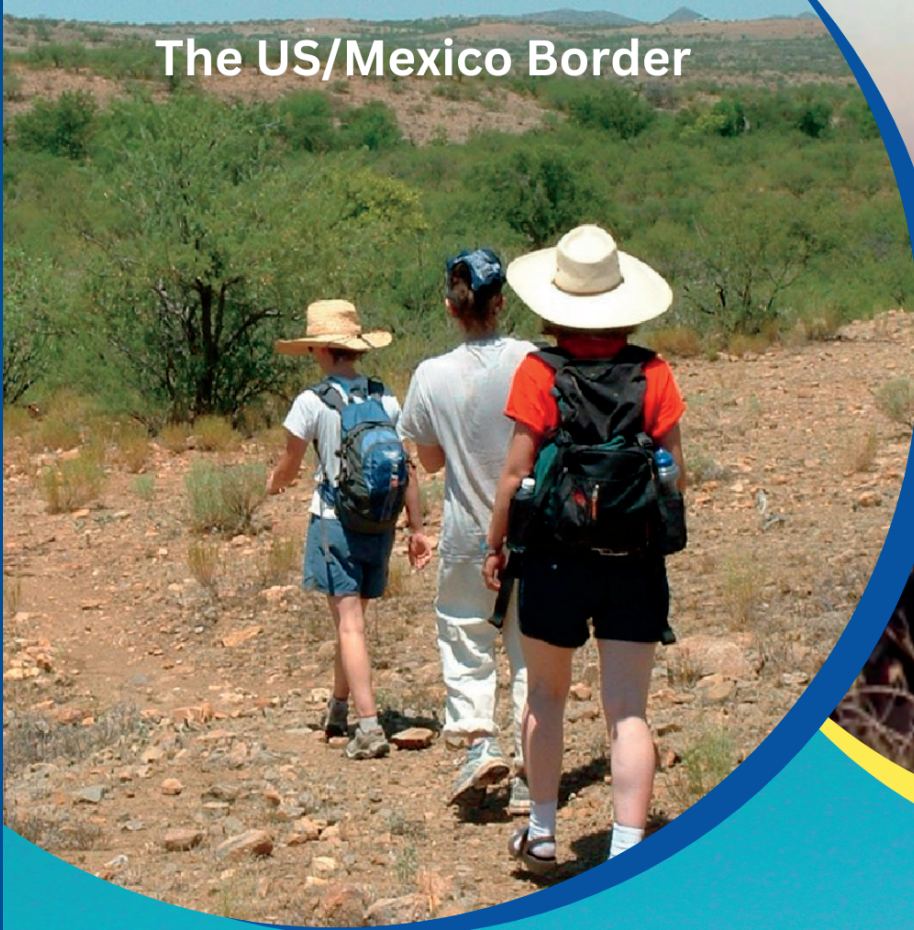
**Day Forum:**  
Tuesday, Jan. 16  
Time: 11:45 am - 1:00 pm  
Venue: TBD

## FEBRUARY

**World Interfaith  
Harmony Week:**  
*Faces of Faith*  
Sunday, Feb. 4th  
Time: 3- 5 pm  
Venue: TBD

**Day Forum:**  
Tuesday, Feb. 20  
Time: 11:45 am - 1:00 pm  
Venue: TBD

The US/Mexico Border

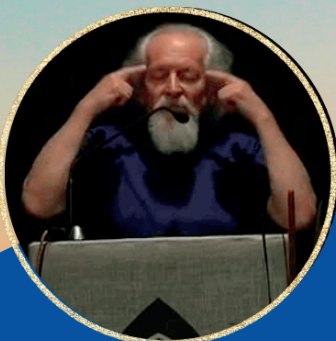


West Bank



We put the tools of violence de-escalation into the hands of ordinary people, creating a safer and more just world.

*Join us!*



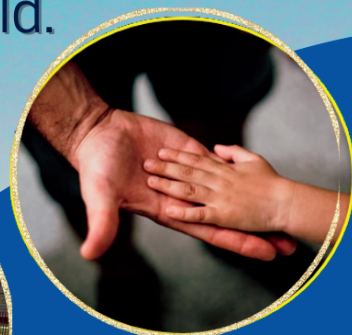
Education



Skills Training



Peace Teams



Networking

[MetaPeaceTeam.org](http://MetaPeaceTeam.org)

[MetaPeaceTeam@gmail.com](mailto:MetaPeaceTeam@gmail.com)



# FIRST UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF ANN ARBOR

**Grounded in Community**  
**Centered on Justice**  
**Lifted by Love**

Celebrating the Inherent Worth and Dignity of All People since

1865

## Sunday Services: In Person and Online

September – May (9:30AM & 11:30AM)

June – August (10:30AM)



### Visit us in person at

4001 Ann Arbor Saline Rd.  
Ann Arbor, MI



### Or online

[www.uuaa.org](http://www.uuaa.org)

## Ann Arbor Friends Meeting (Quaker)



### ACTIVELY SEEKING

- \* A Peaceful World
- \* Equality and Justice
- \* Kindness to the Planet

**Come worship with us!**  
[www.annarborfriends.org](http://www.annarborfriends.org)

Friendly rooms for groups  
Large, Med, Small, Kitchen access  
1420 Hill Street, Ann Arbor  
Rentals & Info: 734-761-7435

## HONORING ALL SPIRITUAL PATHS & TRADITIONS



### Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth

704 Airport Blvd. Suite 1  
Ann Arbor, 48108

### SUNDAY CELEBRATION SERVICES 10:45-12:15

In person and via live stream on Zoom  
& Facebook

Monthly Concerts, Weekly Study groups & gatherings.

734-327-0270

<https://interfaithspirit.org>



# Beth Israel Congregation

## 2000 Washtenaw

734-665-9897

[www.bethisrael-aa.org](http://www.bethisrael-aa.org)

### Shabbat Services

Friday, 6:00 pm

Saturday, 9:30 am

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An egalitarian congregation that connects people to Torah, to one another, and to the world through Jewish practices, texts, and activities, balancing tradition and innovation.

## ZEN BUDDHIST TEMPLE OF ANN ARBOR

**Public Services**  
Every Sunday, 10am

[annarbor@zenbuddhisttemple.org](mailto:annarbor@zenbuddhisttemple.org)

1214 Packard St.  
Ann Arbor, MI 48104

## THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE INCARNATION ANN ARBOR



[www.incarnationannarbor.org](http://www.incarnationannarbor.org)



## PARDES HANNAH

The Jewish Renewal Community of Ann Arbor, sends congratulations to the Interfaith Round Table of Washtenaw County for your positive work furthering meaningful dialogue between people of all faiths in our community.

[Learn More](#)

<https://pardeshannah.org>

## Celebrating 50 Years of Interfaith Partnership



St. Clare's Episcopal Church • Temple Beth Emeth

[genesisa2.org](http://genesisa2.org)



# Focused on your financial goals

Getting your finances in order isn't always easy. That's why I'm here. Together, we can assess your financial picture and personalize your strategy. I can help connect you to the following solutions:

- Financial services
- Education funding
- Retirement savings
- Investments and mutual funds
- Insurance
- Annuities
- Charitable giving solutions

Let's connect to get you where you want to go.

Advice | Investments | Insurance | Banking | Generosity



*Thrivent was named as one of the "World's Most Ethical Companies" by Ethisphere for 12 years in a row.*



**David N Granner**  
MBA, CFP®, FIC  
Wealth Advisor  
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734-996-8811

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20328 R3-23

# ANN ARBOR CROP HUNGER WALK

YOU CAN HELP TRANSFORM COMMUNITIES AROUND THE BLOCK AND AROUND THE WORLD



SIGN-UP, START A TEAM, OR DONATE TODAY AT [CROPHUNGERWALK.ORG/ANNARBORMI](http://CROPHUNGERWALK.ORG/ANNARBORMI)

For nearly half a century, caring committed members of our community have come together each year to end hunger locally and around the world through the Ann Arbor CROP Hunger Walk! Join us!



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15 AT ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

1501 W Liberty St  
Ann Arbor, MI  
Registration: 1pm  
Send-Off: 2pm





# RUDOLF STEINER SCHOOL OF ANN ARBOR

Taking Students Beyond the Textbook and Into the World



## THIS IS A CLASSROOM!

Offering a broad curriculum with each topic enriching the others, deepening students' understanding of all subjects. Encouraging discovery, building resilience, and preparing students for countless opportunities.

[SteinerSchool.org](http://SteinerSchool.org) • 734-995-4141



## 2023 Metro Detroit Stroll for Epilepsy™ June 17 at the Detroit Zoo



*Learn more and register today!  
(Zoo admission included!)*

Join the Epilepsy Foundation of Michigan for a fun, family-friendly event with live music, prizes, inspiration, and go inside our huge, inflatable Big Brain, as we stroll for the nearly 109,000 people living in Michigan with epilepsy!



Have questions about epilepsy? Would you like to connect?  
Call our Here for You Helpline at (800) 377-6226 or visit [epilepsymichigan.org](http://epilepsymichigan.org)



# GOOD NEIGHBOR FARM

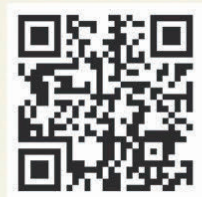
ORGANIC VEGETABLE SUBSCRIPTIONS 2023

WINTER SPINACH

SPRING SALAD

JUNE

SUMMER/FALL



We Deliver! Or pick up in Ann Arbor,  
Ypsilanti, Chelsea, or Farmington :)

[WWW.GOODNEIGHBORFARMA2.COM](http://WWW.GOODNEIGHBORFARMA2.COM)

Little smiles. Big care.

[ANNARBORSMILES.COM](http://ANNARBORSMILES.COM)

# Smiles

PEDIATRIC DENTISTRY





# Hope for Tomorrow

A CAMPAIGN TO MAKE LIVES BETTER



Learn more and make an investment in Hope.



23,000 people in our area lack access to adequate mental health services.

Through the Hope for Tomorrow campaign, Hope Clinic will double the number of behavioral & mental health patients we serve.

The campaign committee is chaired by Mark & Heather LePage (Trintiy/IHA), Alonzo & Suzanne Lewis (Trinity St. Joe's), Tony Denton, and Lori Pierce (Michigan Medicine). Already the campaign is over 80% funded.



## TASNEEM & THE INTERFAITH ROUND TABLE

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PASSION & DEDICATION TO BUILDING CULTURAL AWARENESS & COMPASSION

~Your friends and partners at the Interfaith Council for Peace & Justice (ICPJ)

The Interfaith Council for Peace & Justice (ICPJ) **centers racial and economic justice** as we address the root causes of violence from oppression, poverty, environmental devastation, patriarchy, and war. We **wage love and practice nonviolence** in all its forms through **education, community organizing, advocacy, and direct action**. We unite across our differences and empower leadership in people to **create the change we need** for a more peaceful and just world.

[www.icpj.org](http://www.icpj.org)



# THANK YOU SPONSORS!

We are thankful to all our friends who sponsored the Interfaith Round Table fundraiser.

We really appreciate you supporting us and being part of the IRT community!



# HIGHLIGHTS



## UPCOMING TALK JUNE 11

**REAL TALK... THE MIGRANT AND REFUGEE CRISIS**

Interfaith Round Table of Washtenaw County

**DANIEL SOZA**  
Capacity Builder for Samaritas Refugee Youth Services

**EMMELINE WEINERT**  
Co-founder & President of Washtenaw Refugee Welcome

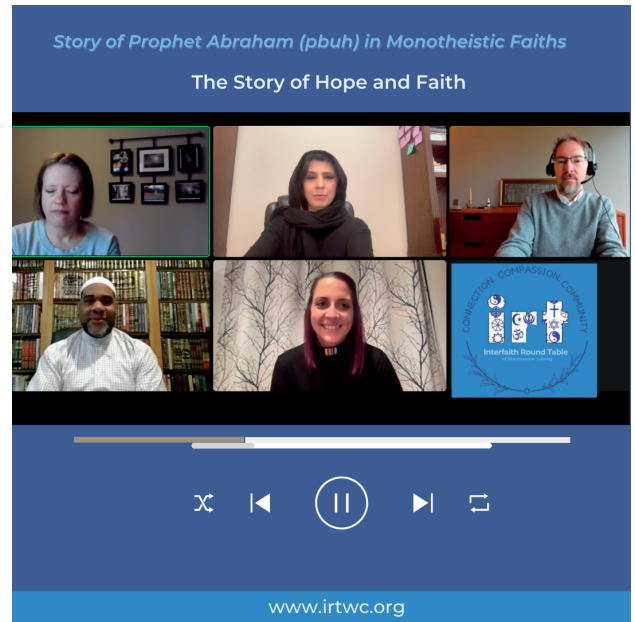
**RYAN FAHEY**  
Domestic Programs Manager Mercy USA

Join us for a panel and community conversation on Sunday, Jun 11. Panelists would share who immigrants are, why they come to the U.S., what are their current needs during this antagonistic climate towards immigrants, how faith communities are responding to this need, and what our shared responsibility is to address the issue.

**SOCIAL HOUR 4:30-5:30 PM**  
After the discussion, attendees will have a social hour to strengthen community relationships. Please bring a dish (preferably vegetarian) or snack to share if you can. IRT will provide some refreshments.

**SUNDAY, JUNE 11 3:00-4:30 PM**  
**REGISTER HERE** <https://bit.ly/refugeestalk>

Zion Lutheran Church  
1501 West Liberty St.  
Ann Arbor



**WE NEED DIALOGUE!**

**Join the Conversation!**

**Build Understanding**

**Build Empathy**

**Build Relationships**

Spirituality

Dialogue

Shared Values

Diversity

Compassion

Respect

Engagement



Interfaith Round Table

BUILDING A CULTURE  
OF INCLUSION

 [www.irtwc.org](http://www.irtwc.org)

 @irtwc

 @irt\_connections

 [interfaithwashtenaw@gmail.com](mailto:interfaithwashtenaw@gmail.com)

Special thanks to Sharada Kumar and Chinmaya Mission for hosting the IRT fundraiser and providing the meal!

# THANK YOU

*for being part of IRT community!*

## **SUPPORT OUR WORK**

Interfaith Round Table is a registered 501(c)(3) organization that functions through generous donations from the community. Please consider becoming one of our valued monthly supporters. Your recurring donation allows us to focus better on the work to continue building bridges among diverse communities and creating spaces for safe and compassionate conversations. Your donations are tax-deductible.

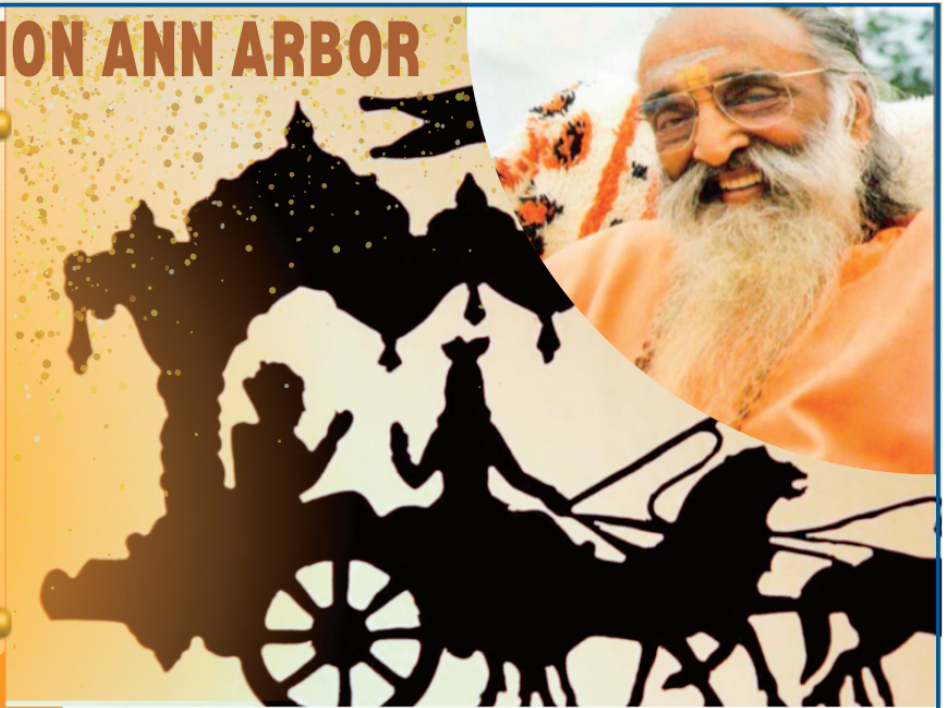
## **DONATE**

[www.irtwc.org/donate](http://www.irtwc.org/donate)

**BECOME A MONTHLY  
SUPPORTER!**

# CHINMAYA MISSION ANN ARBOR

**Our Mission:** To provide to individuals, from any background, the wisdom of Vedanta and practical means for spiritual growth and happiness, enabling them to become a positive contributor to the society.



## About us

As a spiritual organization, we aim for inner growth at individual and collective levels. The mission offers a wide array of Vedanta study forums for all ages, promotes Indian classical art forms and operates numerous social service projects. To date, millions worldwide have benefitted directly or indirectly from Chinmaya Mission's numerous centres, ashrams, classes, events, services and projects.

Mrs. Sharada Kumar, the president of the mission, has been directly trained by Swami Chinmayananda. She has been providing spiritual teaching/guidance for the past **50+** years!! The teachers are highly dedicated and knowledgeable sevaks of the mission, who are regular participants of one or more of Chinmaya Mission study groups of scriptural texts. There are more than 20 study groups spread in Ann Arbor and the metro Detroit area.

## Balavihar

### Preschoolers to High schoolers

Bala Vihar is a nationwide program envisioned by Swami Chinmayananda to expose our children to the rich heritage of India and Hinduism.



## Chinmaya Youth

### College to young professionals

Main aim for this group is to create a network to help enable them to mould their personality and harness their inner potential along constructive channels. They organise and execute cultural, social and spiritual programmes along with study of scriptures.



## Adults to Senior citizens

Group studies and discussion on scriptural texts offers the seeker a systematic exposure to Vedanta. Devi Groups (*exclusively for women*) meet for devotional singing and a variety of cultural and social activities. Some joining the musical choir for devotional music and discover its hidden joy of infinitude. The "Women to Women mentorship" program is aimed at helping families in the Washtenaw community area. The program for senior citizens provides a vision to make their life comfortable, purposeful and happy. It's motto is - Graceful Aging through Spiritual Living!!



**4760 Packard Road,  
Ann Arbor, MI 48108**



[www.chinmayamission-aa.com](http://www.chinmayamission-aa.com)