



Reflections

By some of participants at the close of the 2014 National Interfaith Forum in Dunedin

"I have enjoyed this forum very much. Lord Leslie Griffiths is an excellent speaker. Dunedin is a beautiful city – this is my first visit to Dunedin. My thanks to the Dunedin Interfaith Council. My thanks also to the LDS Church for providing a wonderful facility to meet in, especially the fact that it is warm and well heated. God bless us all."

"So much energy and good will. Now let it flow, sweep, rise like a tide and change the world."

"A wonderful time of sharing the love of God for all."

"Bigger story is needed to create the arms of embrace."

"A joining of many minds, journeying in one direction. With joined purpose, for all souls of all places of one world."

"And now may the peace of God rest upon you, and upon your houses and lands and upon your flocks and herds and all that you possess, your women and your children, according to your faith and good works from this time forth and forever. Amen. Book of Alma 7:27 It has been wonderful to be with so many people of goodwill this weekend. Thank you and God bless you."

"Great meaning, great significance. True joy. Thank you."

"Before everything, was God. We have a spiritual connection with God which traverses the boundaries between this pre-existence and our mortal journey. God is the horizon of our becoming."

"Making new friendships, breaking down barriers, gaining new understandings, learning, finding commonality."

"Overdue and overjoyed".

"So glad I attended this forum – lovely warm atmosphere, smiley faces. Beautiful floral arrangements appreciated. I learned much. Blessings".

"God's choir – experiencing real harmony".

"Kia ora salaam to Manawa e toku Manawa. Thank you for uniting us in waiata."

"An enjoyable and challenging weekend. A new beginning towards my dreams of a whole world in real harmony."

"Compassion, change, action, peace."

"The vigour of a group I hardly knew existed. The energy of the group. And I know of the great need in our community (city/NZ/world) for the positive interfaith message. Greatly moved, encouraged and supported. Thank you ☺".

"When we worship together and listen to each other from the heart we discover that we are brothers and sisters - we are one. "

"Opportunity to meet with people of different faiths who all have similar reasons for being here. Taking home the joyous welcome afforded me personally and the religion I represent for one and all participants."

"Richness. Reality. Responsiveness. Depth of God, love of God, Hope of God - Peace."

"As we meet each other we broaden and deepen our faith."

"Unity of the heart and soul in peace and love."

"Love is diverse!"

"For me personally it was encouraging and enlightening to see a generational as well as interfaith openness working towards peaceful cooperation. "

"Paz y Luz en todoel mundo siempre! "

"Revealing the common Source of us all."

"Friendship, love, harmony, everyone, every faith, strive for a common goal. Love, peace, harmony in the world."

"Enriching, affirming, great to come together and share ideas and hearts. Thanks for all your hospitality."

"I have been struck by the love and genuine desire to build unity amongst everyone. Thank you. It has been inspiring."

"As ever, a wonderful opportunity to share, encounter and listen and learn. Amen."

"If there is one more gift I ask of you Lord, it will be peace here on earth as gentle as the children's laughter all around. People are growing weary of living in confusion. When will we realise that neither heaven is at peace when we live not in peace."

"A new network! Shared enthusiasm for the task ahead. Great hospitality and open friendliness all round. "

"Reinforcement of the virtues of inclusion and co-operation as better means toward, not just problem solving, but better understanding, knowledge, growth and development."

"Connections. Open heartedness. Shared prayer, song, experience. Hope for the future."

"Reconnecting and meeting new people. The push to visit other faith services and invite others to ours. Do more, work side by side as well as meet face to face."

"I'm beginning to feel there is a chance at least of world peace."

"Meeting people of different faiths and loving appreciating them as fellow humans. A real joy. And looking to the future with hope."

"Luxury. Gift. Worship. Inspiration. Hope. Harmony seems almost to require conflict that is ultimately harmonized out of that very conflict and "confrontation".

"The joy of togetherness and Unity and being together."

"This is my first Interfaith Forum. I have felt a great love and respect for all people and I have a desire to share this awareness with others. Thank you for acceptance and welcome. "

"Gratitude, blessed abundance ... transformation Movement on the waves of love and unity that were moving just beneath my consciousness until now."

"Openness, honesty, tolerance, respect, appreciation, humility."

"The coming together of so many from different faiths shows that we can live together in peace and friendship, accepting and respecting our differences, enjoying what we have in common."

"More love, more understanding, more hope."

"A friendly open gathering. Learning, engagement, transformation – personal, local and much wider. Colin's song is marvellous."

"Acceptance. Heart warming to be making friends of new faiths. Leslie particularly inspiring."

"The Forum gave support and confirmation for my beliefs on interfaith sharing. Thank you for a wonderful experience."

"Peace. Love. Hope."

"The forum has highlighted for me the positive contribution that sharing activities between people from different traditions can make."

"Learning of other faiths."

"I have found it enriching to share with other faiths over this weekend. It is wonderful that NZ has become such a microcosm of the cultures and faiths of the world. I will work to do what I can to enhance the respect, love and learning we can share with each other."

"Hearts opening to the delicious "taste" of interfaith, barriers melting – new horizons opening up."

And

all good reasons

to attend

the next

National Interfaith Forum

..... in 2016

