

## **INTERFAITH COMMUNITIES FOR DIALOGUE**

**MISSION:** The mission of Interfaith Communities for Dialogue (ICD) is to build community by promoting understanding, encouraging respect, and strengthening relationships within our culturally and religiously diverse neighborhoods.

The Steering Committee plans, coordinates and carries out ICD activities aimed at furthering the goals of the group. It is composed of volunteers from various faith communities who actively support the ICD mission and are committed to furthering its goals. The following faith communities support our work:

- Congregation Olam Tikvah
- Dar Al Hijrah Islamic Center
- John Calvin Presbyterian church
- Mount Pleasant Baptist Church
- Mustafa Center
- Ravensworth Baptist Church
- St. Albans Episcopal Church
- St. Anthony's Catholic Church
- Fairfax County Faith Communities in Action

**ACTIVITIES:** (1) Organize community dialogues twice a year for 75 to 125 people at various houses of worship. The community dialogues provide a forum for people from different faith traditions to learn about each others' religion and religious practices. These dialogues include speaker presentations—generally by clergy representing the three Abrahamic faiths—and facilitated small group discussions to exchange knowledge, ideas and opinions and explore differences, find commonalities and think together. (2) Organize informal gatherings at the homes of Steering Committee members to discuss issues of mutual interest; (3) Organize an annual interfaith picnic in August; and (4) Organize two book discussions to discuss books which expand knowledge and thought about interfaith and multicultural understanding and respect and (4) Participate in a yearly community service project. We are currently working on an interfaith youth initiative.

### **ROLE OF STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

- Participate in bi-monthly Steering Committee meetings- currently held at 7:30 pm at Ravensworth Baptist Church on Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday evenings (the day changes as need arises)
- Participate in planning, coordinating and carrying out activities of the ICD
- Serve as a liaison between ICD and their faith community
- Publicize and advocate the work of ICD in their faith community
- Provide input and feedback from their faith community to ICD