



ST STEPHENS UNITING CHURCH
51 Neil Street, Toowoomba

3rd – 5th November 2023

Downs & Toowoomba Churches Together

Please pray for...

- Abrahamic Faiths Gathering on 1st November
- Theme for next year's Seminar

Report

Our Ecumenical Seminar was held from the 23rd to 25th June at St Ursula's College in Toowoomba. The speakers were Bishop Mark Vainikka, Kathy Matuschka, Dr David King, Pastor Ken Schultz and Anne-Marie Doecke. The theme was "Reflecting on the Church after Covid-19." This was a great time of learning and understanding, topped off with great sharing and fellowship. One of the many highlights was the session where three students expressed their faith. About 30 people attended the Seminar.

The last Abrahamic Faiths gatherings (Christian, Jewish and Muslim) was held at the Garden City Mosque. The subject was "Sacred Places" and the presenters were, Rev Yvonne McRostie, Mohammad Aminul Islam and Ariel Heber. This was a very informative evening with great fellowship.

The next Abrahamic Faiths Gathering will be held at St Anthony's Community Centre on Wednesday 1st November at 5.45pm. The subject is "Peace." I have attached a flyer with further details. You are all welcome to attend.

On the 7th August we gave thanks for the life of Father Brian Sparksman in a Funeral Service at St Patrick's Cathedral in Toowoomba. Retired Anglican Bishop Rob Nolan, Ken von Pein and myself were privileged to take part in the service by reading the scripture and prayers of the faithful. This reflected Brian's wishes for an Ecumenical Service. Brian had an ecumenical heart and was instrumental in promoting Ecumenism, particularly on the Downs.

Recommendations

1. That this report be received.

Report Submitted by:

Name: John Agnew

Mobile: 0417 624 048

Email: agnewjj@yahoo.com.au

If you have questions, please email before the meeting.

Engagements with Abrahamic Religions



Abrahamic Faiths Gathering

Date: Wednesday, 1st November 2023

Time: 5.45pm, followed by light dinner

Venue: St Anthony's Community Centre,
3 Memory Street, Toowoomba Qld 4350

The evening will begin with a short presentation by each faith group on “Peace.”

- Mohammad Aminul Islam, Imam of Garden City Mosque.
- Ariel Heber, President and Community Liaison, Queensland Jewish Community Services Inc.
- Rev Richard Gummow, Minister of St Matthew’s Anglican Church at Drayton.

For further information please contact,

Eric Donges – Phone: 4637 2009 email: opaeric@gmail.com
or John Agnew – Phone: 4666 3225 email: agnewjj@yahoo.com.au

Organised by the Downs & Toowoomba Churches Together