

Take time to experience diversity in your life

This feature, coordinated by The Post-Standard and InterFaith Works of Central New York, provides daily inspiration and reflection from religious and spiritual leaders and faithful followers in our community. We welcome your feedback or involvement; email features@syracuse.com for more information.

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CONTRIBUTING WRITER



For the past 11 months, this column has introduced you to people of faith from around the world. Now, InterFaith Works and

Women Transcending Boundaries invite you to meet people of different faiths. Today, 13 different faith traditions will gather at Temple Concord to share the practices that give them spiritual fulfillment.

As a reader of this column, you probably share our conviction that, despite differences of doctrine, people of faith share a spiritual core and recognize the dignity of all people. But this value is abstract and cold unless we get to know individuals of other faiths such as Christians of other denominations, Muslims, Baha'is, Hindus, Sikhs and others. Today, you have an opportunity to meet fellow Syracuse residents of all of these faith traditions and more.

The details

What: Interfaith Harmony Celebration.

When: 3 p.m. today.

Where: Temple Concord, 910 Madison St., Syracuse.

Information: Call 449-3552, ext. 101.

Women Transcending Boundaries was formed to bring together women of many different religious and cultural traditions. We present programs and events designed to nurture mutual respect and understanding by sharing our personal experiences with one another. In meetings, we have shared the significance of fasting during Lent, during Ramadan and during Yom Kippur.

We have shared our traditions related to major life events such as birth, coming of age, marriage and death. These experiences make me appreciate those elements of my own faith tradition I have taken for granted. This brings new depth to my own Roman Catholic practice.

Although my own life history has included very little diversity, my friends who are Jewish, Muslim, Hindu, Baha'i and Wiccan have enriched my life and my spirit. Today's celebration of Interfaith Harmony can do the same for you.

Jennifer Roberts Crittenden, a retired teacher, is the current president of Women Transcending Boundaries, an interfaith organization that brings together women of many religious and cultural traditions.