

INTERFAITH PASSPORT GUIDE

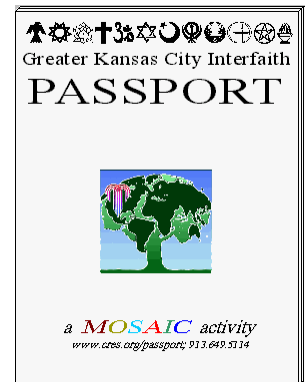
The Kansas City Interfaith Council, in cooperation with other community organizations, offers a 32-page passport-size “Interfaith Passport” to encourage better understanding of faiths practiced in the Kansas City area.

When you visit different faith communities and interfaith events, you can have your Passport endorsed with “visas.” When you have at least one visa on 12 pages for specific faiths and at least five visas for interfaith activities, you will be honored at an awards dinner and receive a reduced Passport rate for the 2004 Interfaith Conference.

The Passport has pages for American Indian Spirituality, Baha’i, Buddhist, Christian, Hindu, Jain, Jewish, Muslim, Sikh, Sufi, Unitarian Universalist, Wiccan, Zoroastrian, and other faiths; and for interfaith events. It also contains the complete text of the 2001 KC area “Gifts of Pluralism” Conference Declaration, information about the sponsors, and reference material.

A visa is simply a stamp, a sticker, or a handwritten notation with the name of the organization or event, the date, and a signature from the organization. There is no charge for visas. The Passport fee is \$5, and may be discounted by cooperating organizations.

To obtain updated information, make a comment, or ask a question, visit the program on-line at www.cres.org/passport/.



Frequently Asked Questions About the Passport Program

1. How do I get a Passport?

Contact one of the three sponsors or any cooperating group, or send \$5 with your request to CRES, Box 45414, Kansas City, MO 64171. If you are affiliated with CRES, Kansas City Harmony, or NCCJ, the fee is \$2 or by mail, \$3.

2. How do I get visas and are there different kinds? What if I don't have a Passport with me?

A visa is evidence of attending an event. It is placed on the appropriate Passport page (Buddhist, Sikh, Interfaith, etc.). A visa can be a handwritten notation, a rubber stamp, or a printed sticker (1½ x 2 inches maximum size).

To be valid, a visa should contain the name of the organization or event, the date(s), and a signature or someone representing the event or organization.

Any faith or interfaith group, even those unfamiliar with the Passport program, can issue visas. We call a visa **generic** if an organization uses it for any appropriate program. Other visas may be issued for specific events. An **interfaith** visa may be issued if the event or program focuses on interfaith issues with people from two or more faiths, or if a program addresses issues from interfaith perspectives.

If you don't have your Passport with you at an event, obtain the visa and affix it to the Passport at a convenient time.

3. How does my religious group or organization register to provide visas?

Any group whose faith is represented on the Kansas City Interfaith Council or acts in the spirit of interfaith exchange may register and be listed on the Passport website by sending CRES an e-mail at passport@cres.org.

While we prefer each group to prepare its own visas (or simply endorse the Passport with the name of the group or event, the date, and a signature, CRES will prepare sticky labels for visas for group or special event use. The charge is \$15 per set-up and \$1 for each page of visas (30 visas per page). CRES cannot supply rubber stamps, but that is a very good option for groups that wish to honor their guests with a method often used by governments.



4. Who is registered to provide visas?

Any faith or interfaith group may provide a visa, as explained in #3 above. Please see our website for a current list of registered groups.

5. What are some examples of interfaith programs?

Examples of interfaith activities include the Mosaic Book Club, the annual Harmony Choral Concert, Congregational Partners, Anytown and Unitown, the annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Sunday Family Ritual Meal, Interfaith Council Task Forces, the Hatebuster's VAN visits, and others listed on the website listed above.

6. Describe the Passport as a physical object.

The Passport is a 32-page, color booklet, 3½ x 5 inches, weighing less than one ounce. Each Passport has a registration number on the back cover, and the issuing organization may record the name of the Passport owner. Inside the front cover is a place for the owner's name and other information as desired. Up to four visas may be placed on each of the 20 visa pages. The Passport contains the "Protocol" for using it; a list of Interfaith Council members; the Concluding Declaration from "The Gifts of Pluralism Conference;" information about Kansas City Harmony, NCCJ, and CRES; and a page for notes.

7. I want to make a comment, offer a suggestion, or ask a question.

Please help us clarify and improve this wonderful program to further interfaith understanding in the metro area by e-mailing us at passport@cres.org. Thank you.

8. Who is the sponsor of the program?

The program was developed by, and is sponsored by, Mosaic in cooperation with the Kansas City Interfaith Council, a CRES program. (Mosaic is a program auxiliary for CRES.) Cosponsors are Kansas City Harmony and the NCCJ (National Conference for Community and Justice, Kansas City Region).

Here is a sampling of groups Passport holders can visit. Please call locations for their current schedules.

American Indian

Kansas City Pipe Circle¹
(meeting locations vary)
816.356.2070 / 913.362.0904 /
816.697.3880
KaraHawk@aol.com

Bahá'í

Bahá'í Faith of Kansas City
5541 LaFayette Ave
Kansas City, KS 66104
913.287.4856
www.bahai.org

Buddhist

Rime Buddhist Center & Monastery/
Tibetan Institute of Studies²
700 W Pennway
Kansas City, MO 64108
816.471.7073
www.rimecenter.org

Christian—Protestant

Baptist

Metropolitan Missionary Baptist Church
2310 E Linwood
Kansas City, MO 64109
816.923.3689
www.duboislc.org/Churches/MetropolitanMissionary.html

Community of Christ³

Highlands Community of Christ
7615 N Platte Purchase Dr
Kansas City, MO 64118
816.468.7878
www.kchighlands.org

Methodist

United Methodist Church of
the Resurrection
13720 Roe
Leawood, KS 66224
913.897.0120
www.cor.org

Nazarene³

Kansas City First Church of the Nazarene
11811 Stateline Rd
Kansas City, MO 64114
816.942.9022
www.kcfc.org

Presbyterian

First Presbyterian Church of Kansas
City, Kansas
4000 Victory Dr
Kansas City, KS 66102
913.342.7225
www.firstpresck.com

Village Presbyterian Church
6641 Mission Rd
Prairie Village, KS 66208
913.262.4200
www.villagepres.org

Unity³

Unity Village Chapel
1901 NW Blue Parkway
Unity Village, MO 64065-0001
816.251.3590
www.unityworldhq.org/forum/uvchpl/

Christian—Roman Catholic

Cathedral of St Peter
431 N 15th St
Kansas City, KS 66102
913.371.0840
www.cathedral.cc/church/

Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception
416 W 12th St
Kansas City, MO 64105
816.842.0416
www.kcgolddome.org

Christian—Orthodox

Greek Orthodox

Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church
12001 Wornall Rd
Kansas City, MO 64145-1100
816.942.9100
www.annunciation.mo.goarch.org

Christian—Non-Denominational

Full Faith Church of Love⁴
6824 Lackman Rd
Shawnee, KS 66217
913.631.1100
www.fullfaith.com

Hindu

Hindu Temple & Cultural Center of
Kansas City²
6330 Lackman Rd
Shawnee, KS 66217
913.631.7519
www.htccofkc.org

Interfaith Organizations

CRES, Harmony & NCCJ—see page 4

Pathways
Shawnee Library, 13811 Johnson Dr
Shawnee, KS 66216
913.706.6766
<http://www.pathwaysorg.homestead.com/>

Jain

Jain Society of Kansas City²
(at the Hindu Temple & Cultural Center of
Kansas City)
6330 Lackman Rd
Lenexa, KS 66217
816.412.5326 weekdays / 816.333.7717
weekends
gkothari@permacel.com

Jewish

Conservative

Congregation Beth Shalom⁵
9400 Wornall Rd
Kansas City, MO 64114
816.361.2990
<http://www.uscj.org/central/kansascb/>

Congregation Ohav Sholom^{5,6}
5311 W 75th St
Prairie Village, KS 66208
913.642.6460
www.uscj.org/central/prairie/

Hassidic

Chabad House Center of Kansas City^{5,7}
6201 Indian Creek Dr
Overland Park, KS 66207
913.649.4852
www.chabadkc.org

Orthodox

Congregation Beth Israel Abraham
& Voliner^{5,7}
9900 Antioch Rd
Overland Park, KS 66212
913.341.2444
www.biav.org

Reform

Congregation Beth Torah⁸
6100 W 127th St
Overland Park, KS 66209-3683
913.498.2212
www.beth-torah.org

Temple B'nai Jehudah⁸
12320 Nall
Overland Park, KS 66209
913.663.4050
www.bnaijehudah.org

Traditional

Kehilath Israel Synagogue^{5,6}
10501 Conser
Overland Park, KS 66212
913.642.1880
www.kisyn.org

Muslim

Al-Inshirah Islamic Temple^{2,7}
3664 Troost Ave
Kansas City, MO 64141
816.960.0475

Islamic School of Kansas City
10515 Grandview Rd
Kansas City, MO 64137
816.767.0001
www.iskc.org

Islamic Society of Greater
Kansas City^{2,6,7,9}
8501 E 99th St
Kansas City, MO 64134
816.763.2267
www.isgkc.org

Pagan (Including Wicca)

Heartland Spiritual Alliance
PO Box 3407
Kansas City, KS 66103
www.kchsa.org

Sikh

Sat Tirath Ashram
3525 Walnut St
Kansas City, MO 64111
816.561.5337

Sikh Gurdwara^{2,7,10}
6834 Pflumm Rd
Shawnee, KS 66216
913.631.5947

Sufi

Shining Heart Sufi Community²
Body & Soul Yoga Studio
649 E 59th St
Kansas City, MO 64110
816.531.1266
www.shiningheartcommunity.org

Unitarian Universalist

All Souls Unitarian Universalist Church
4501 Walnut St
Kansas City, MO 64111
816.531.2131
www.allsoulskc.org

Hindu—Vedanta

Vedanta Society of Kansas City¹¹
8701 Ward Parkway
Kansas City, MO 64114
816.444.8045

¹ Shoes are optional.

² Remove shoes to enter worship area.

³ Included because the Interfaith Council recognizes official observers from the three Protestant denominations with world headquarters in the metro area.

⁴ Included because of its co-sponsorship of Pathways.

⁵ Men are required to wear provided yamakas.

⁶ First time visitors are requested to call before visiting.

⁷ Men and women are seated separately.

⁸ Men are invited to wear provided yamakas.

⁹ Women are requested to wear scarves over their heads.

¹⁰ Men and women are requested to have their heads covered.

¹¹ Included because Vedanta has an official observer on the Interfaith Council.



ABOUT CRES

promoting understanding among peoples of all faiths



VISION

CRES envisions the greater Kansas City area as a model community honoring interfaith relationships

? as a way of deepening one's own tradition and spirituality, and

? where the wisdom of our many faiths meaningfully addresses environmental, personal, and social crises of our often fragmented world.

MISSION

To experience, honor, and share the many paths to the sacred in greater Kansas City and beyond

THE CRES MOTTO

Primal Faiths: restored with nature

Asian Traditions: the self made whole

Monotheistic Religions: community in covenant

Liberation Movements: finding the sacred afresh

THE FOUR REASONS – We offer *Four Reasons* for interfaith work: ? We are kin. ? We understand ourselves better by understanding others. ? Genuine interfaith encounter leads to mutual purification and the deepening of our own traditions. ? We need each others' insights to respond to the crises of our age.

THE WORK OF CRES IS TO

- ? promote interfaith dialog and cooperation
- ? support and enhance the goals and programs of existing KC area religious and educational organizations
- ? interpret religious dimensions of American and international culture
- ? enrich and refresh the life of the individual
- ? deepen awareness of our participation in the natural environment

OUR PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

CRES programs include: ? The Kansas City Interfaith Council which recently held the first interfaith conference in the region's history with 250 people from 15 faiths, American Indian to Zoroastrian ? Our monthly newsletter, *Many Paths* ? Our extensive website and archives ? Our annual Thanksgiving Sunday Interfaith Family Ritual Meal

? The services of a professional staff that includes **Dr Vern Barnet** who writes the "Faiths and Beliefs" column in *The Kansas Star* FYI section each Wednesday ? Other programs, consultations, networking, and resources requested by community groups ? MOSAIC

VALUES

Our guiding question is *What is sacred? – what is so important, so meaningful, that my life depends upon it, that I live for it and would die for it – and what may I do to understand, honor and share it?*

Asking this question reveals these values:

- ? **Kinship** – We are kin to all persons; we seek inclusiveness in relationships.
- ? **Mutual understanding** – We understand ourselves by understanding others.
- ? **Mutual respect** – We recognize that others have a right to their own faiths and we have a deep respect for others' traditions.
- ? **Mutual development** – Genuine interfaith encounter leads to mutual purification and the deepening of our own traditions.
- ? **Mutual assistance** – We need each others' insights to respond to the crises of secularism.

The Reverend Vern Barnet, DMn, minister in residence
vern@cres.org; www.cres.org
Box 45414, Kansas City, MO 64171; 913.649.5114

KANSAS CITY HARMONY

*Putting the Power of
Difference to Work!*



Harmony is a resource and catalyst in and for the metropolitan K.C. community to improve race relations, increase appreciation for cultural diversity, and eliminate intolerance.

Harmony builds interest and capacity within individuals and institutions to make changes that reflect value for diversity and create "level playing fields" for people against whom personal or institutional prejudices and discrimination are experienced.

WAYS TO GET INVOLVED!

• **Community Building Programs** network individuals and organizations with tools, ideas and resources – Congregational Partners, Roundtable for Middle & High Schools, Community Conversations, Business Roundtable, Independence Harmony & the Blue River Glade Project

• **Education Programs** develop and enhance empathy, respect and skills for functioning effectively in a diverse society – Diversity University™ Lending Library, Dinner & Dialogue Series, Diversity Training Film Festival, Multicultural Curriculum, Youth Empowerment Summit, Harmony 101™ Diversity Awareness – Harmony 201™ Skill Building & Customer Service for All™ Workshops

• **Celebrations** promote diversity appreciation – M.L. King Jr Youth Day & Interfaith Choral & *Euphonia!* Concerts

Diane Hershberger, Executive Director
dh@kcharmony.org; www.kcharmony.org
2700 E 18th, #243, KCMO 64127; 816.231.1077



The National Conference
for Community and Justice

Kansas
City
Region

The National Conference for Community and Justice (NCCJ), founded in 1927 as The National Conference for Christians and Jews, is a national human relations organization dedicated to ending bias, bigotry and racism. NCCJ promotes understanding and respect among all races, religions and cultures through advocacy, conflict resolution and education.

The mission encompasses all people. The organization finds all forms of oppression, prejudice and discrimination to be wrong – racism, sexism, homophobia, classism, xeno-phobia, and discrimination based on physical and mental disabilities.

NCCJ aims to transform communities to provide fuller opportunity and to be inclusive and just – through institutional change – by empowering leaders. NCCJ's programming facilitates community dialogue, provides workplace consultations, youth leadership development, and educator training.

Two of the programs offered by the regional office are especially well-known: Anytown, a one-week leadership institute for high school students that not only lets them imagine a world without oppression, but empowers them to create it – and Unitown, a cultural diversity prejudice reduction program for high school youth.

Juan M Rangel Jr, Executive Director
jrangelj@nccj.org; www.nccj.org
8301 State Line Road, #203, KCMO 64114; 816.333.5059

Kansas City Interfaith Council

- American Indian
The Rev Kara Hawkins
- Bahá'í
Barb McAtee
- Buddhism
Lama Chuck Stanford
- Christianity, Protestant
The Rev Wallace S Hartsfield
- Christianity, R Catholic
George M Noonan
- Hinduism
Kris Krishna
- Islam
A Rauf Mir, MD
- Judaism
Rabbi Danny Horwitz
- Paganism
Caroline Baughman
- Sikh Dharma
Karta Purkh S Khalsa
- Sufism
Ali Kadr
- Unitarian Universalism
The Rev Kathy Riegelman
- Zoroastrianism
Daryoush Jahanian, MD

Official Vedanta Observer – *Uma*
Convener – *The Rev Vern Barnet, DMn*
Chair – *The Rev David E Nelson, DMIn*

Observers from World Headquarters

The Rev W Grant McMurray, Community of Christ
The Rev William C Miller, Church of the Nazarene
The Rev Sharon Connors, Unity School of Christianity

THE KANSAS CITY INTER- FAITH COUNCIL'S MISSION —

1. to develop deeper understanding among members of the Council of each other's faiths and traditions, and to foster appropriate bilateral and multilateral inter-religious conversations

2. to model religious values (especially mutual respect and cooperation) in a society which often seems non-religious and intolerant

3. to provide resources, networking, and programs to increase appreciation for religious diversity, and

4. to work with media and with educational and religious leaders and groups in promoting accurate and fair portrayal of the faiths.

Fundraising and political or social action activities are not normally the focus of the Council, though the Council may refer suggestions about such matters to other, more appropriate organizations.