

## UPF Las Vegas' Peace Forum Luncheon attracted 24 participants at the IPEC

Leslie Rigney  
September 21, 2019



A Peace Forum was held at the International Peace Education Center on Saturday, September 21, 2019, with the Luncheon attracting 24 participants from Religious, Political, Social and Family interests.

Following welcoming remarks from Jim and Leslie Rigney, and a prayer by Rev. La'Motte Roundtree of the 'Just Righteousness Foundation' and Pledge of Allegiance, Gary Williams, renowned Chorus Director and Voice Trainer led the group in a beautiful rendition of Amazing Grace.

Leslie Rigney, of UPF Las Vegas showed a short video highlighting UPF efforts throughout the world. A power point was shown with the topic of Principles of Reconciliation. During lunch, participants at each table became acquainted with one another and the work that each was doing in the community.

Three speakers spoke on different areas related to Peace: Karen Ryce of 'Happy Kids Co' spoke about creating peace in the family. Rosemary Flores spoke about how learning the Peace Principles had helped her in her work in the community working with religious and political leaders and creating an event in the community "Waking Up As One Nation".

Manouchehr Mohammadi spoke of his work in Iran with students to bring about a peaceful revolution and the subsequent imprisonment of he and his brother including torture, and for his brother, death. He spoke of how important forgiveness was for him to be able to continue the work and to help others through his foundation: The Akbar Mohammadi Foundation for Civil and Human Rights.

Following the speakers, the participants shared at each table how they were working on peace in their area. The sharing was lively and meaningful, with some wanting 'more time to share'. Many shared how

helpful the sharing was to understand and support one another.



There were 5 guests appointed Ambassadors for Peace. After a group picture, Katherine Duncan encouraged everyone to become a member of UPF. Gary Williams led the group in a circle singing "Let there be Peace on Earth", which ended the program. Sharing continued informally, with interest to meet again in the near future.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Leslie Rigney, Executive Director UPF Las Vegas

