

## IAPD-USA Has Convened 120 Faith Leaders in Its Weekly Online Prayer Series

Michael Jenkins  
January 7, 2021




Interfaith Prayer  
for the Nation  
and the World

Executive Program Committee



**Dr. Michael Jenkins**  
Chairman  
UPF-North America



**Archbishop George A. Stallings, Jr.**  
Founder, Imani Temple  
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**Tomiko Duggan**  
Senior Vice President  
UPF-USA  
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United States -- On January 7, 2021, the Interreligious Association for Peace and Development-USA (IAPD-USA) completed 40 consecutive weekly programs in its ongoing Interfaith Prayer for the Nation and the World.

This program was held on Zoom every Thursday beginning on April 9, 2020. Abrahamic faith leaders -- Jewish rabbis, Christian pastors, Muslim imams -- along with Buddhist monks and Hindu leaders participated in the programs.

1<sup>st</sup> Interfaith Prayer, 04/09/20 – 1000 Viewers





Ven. Katugastota Uparatana Maha Thera, Buddhism

Rev. Dr. Wintley Phipps  
Seventh-day Adventist

Imam Mohammad Ali Elahi, Islamic House of Wisdom

2<sup>nd</sup> Interfaith Prayer, 04/16/20 – 956 Viewers





Ven. Dr. Phramaha Thanat Inthisan, Wa Thai Washington, DC

Pastor Dante King  
Forward Church

Imam Talib M. Shareef  
The Nation's Mosque

3<sup>rd</sup> Interfaith Prayer, 04/23/20 – 392 Viewers





Rabbi Mark Raphael, Hospital chaplain

Bishop Dr. Edward Barnett, Greater Grace Family Ministries

Minister Amar Nath Gupta, Head Priest at the Hindu Capital Temple

4<sup>th</sup> Interfaith Prayer, 04/30/20 – 184 Viewers





Rabbi Susan Grossman, Beth Shalom Congregation in Columbia, Maryland

Bishop Dr. Shirley Coleman, First Church of Love and Faith

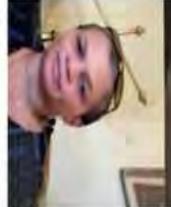
Imam Safiullah Shirzadi, Mustafa center

When the COVID-19 pandemic rapidly spread in early spring 2020 saw immense suffering and death across the globe, fear, hopelessness and despair infected many communities. No people or nation was immune. People were becoming more isolated because of lock-down procedures that closed most places of social and public gatherings and houses of worship where support and comfort could be provided.

In response to this worldwide spiritual as well as medical crisis, IAPD-USA National Chairman Archbishop George A. Stallings, Jr., UPF-USA Senior Vice President Tomiko Duggan, and Chairman of UPF-North America Dr. Michael Jenkins committed to sponsoring a prayer program on the Zoom platform that emphasized the importance of faith leaders in communicating the essential importance of faith in God, the fundamental unity of all human beings as children of that common Parent, and a love for all others as brothers and sisters regardless of faith tradition, sect or denomination, culture, race or

economic status.

A total of 120 rabbis, pastors, imams and other spiritual leaders have participated and offered their prayers in this endeavor. They reinforced UPF's belief that the importance of greater unity among leaders and communities of all faiths is a required response to the challenging time of the COVID-19 epidemic. It is vital to strengthening hope and maintaining our appreciation of the relationships that bind us together and inspire understanding and love.

<p>5<sup>th</sup> Interfaith Prayer, 05/07/20 – 995 Viewers</p>  <p>Ven. Katugastota Uparatana Maha Chaplain at the American University</p>  <p>Rev. John Watts Kingdom Life Church</p>  <p>Iman Mohammed Zafarullah The Ahmadiyya Muslim Community of Chicago</p>			<p>6<sup>th</sup> Interfaith Prayer, 05/14/20 – 968 Viewers</p>  <p>Rabbi Dorit Edut Detroit Interfaith Outreach Network</p>  <p>Bishop Dr. Keith G. Allen Baltimore's Rehoboth Church of God in Christ Jesus</p>  <p>Imam Arif Huskic Common Word Alliance Clergy Interfaith Organization</p>		
<p>7<sup>th</sup> Interfaith Prayer, 05/21/20 – 430 Viewers</p>  <p>Kahu Pohaleo Loko'olu Quintero Hawaiian Church of Hawai'i Nei</p>  <p>Minister Staci Hylton Las Vegas Center for Spiritual Living</p>  <p>Imam Naeem Baig DAR AL-Hijrah Islamic Center</p>			<p>8<sup>th</sup> Interfaith Prayer, 05/28/20 – 340 Viewers</p>  <p>Dr. Apostle Cesar Wilbur International Pastors of America</p>  <p>Dr. Apostle Jacquelyn Powell Powerhouse International Ministries</p>  <p>Imam Matiullah Joyia Ahmadiyya Muslim Community in Hawaii</p>		

These interfaith leaders have expressed their gratitude in learning from the insights, openness, spiritual generosity and kindness of faith leaders committed to different traditions, ritual practices, scriptures and theologies. They deepened and enlarged their appreciation of the universal need for God in all our lives.

Whatever name they use to call God, the Zoom participants all expressed that we stand on a common ground for peace, forgiveness, tolerance, love for humanity, and devotion to a higher purpose. We are all tasked to work together in building lasting peace and creating a society where we can live as "One Global Family Under God."

<p>9<sup>th</sup> Interfaith Prayer, 06/04/20 – 1,100 Viewers</p>  <p>Rabbi Reuven Khaskin Jewish Explorer, NY</p>  <p>Bishop Glen A. Staples Temple of Praise</p>  <p>Imam Mohamed Qatanani Islamic Center of Passaic County</p>			<p>10<sup>th</sup> Interfaith Prayer, 06/11/20 – 670 Viewers</p>  <p>Ven. Bhante Chao Chu Los Angeles Buddhist Union and Center for Buddhist Development</p>  <p>Dr. Andre Hunter Unity of Faith Christian Ministries</p>  <p>Imam Muhammad Shahidullah Interfaith Center of USA</p>		
<p>11<sup>th</sup> Interfaith Prayer, 06/18/20 – 670 Viewers</p>  <p>Rabbi Moshe Michael Abraham The Beit Din of Queens, New York</p>  <p>Rev. Dr. Sharon S. Anderson Temple of Praise</p>  <p>Dr. Daoud Nassimi Adams Center</p>			<p>12<sup>th</sup> Interfaith Prayer, 06/25/20 – 503 Viewers</p>  <p>Rabbi Michael Finkel Chabad community in Jerusalem</p>  <p>Pastor Dennis Williams WAVA Radio</p>  <p>Imam Jamal Kakar Madina Islamic Center</p>		