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## Faith Alliance of Metro Atlanta Celebrates UN World Interfaith Harmony Week

By RCIMedia  
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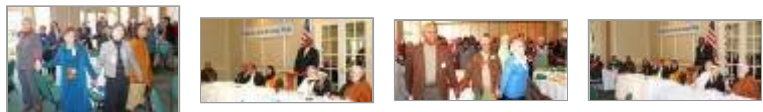
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FAMA attendees singing We Shall Overcome



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The Faith Alliance of Metro Atlanta (FAMA) held its first luncheon event of 2011 on February 2nd at Trinity Presbyterian Church. The focus was on the themes of World Interfaith Harmony Week, celebrating the recent resolution passed by the United Nations.

An interactive dialogue between distinguished interfaith panelists took place, along with discussion with attendees of the event. The invited interfaith panelists were:

- Ambassador Andrew Young
- Archbishop Wilton Gregory (Roman Catholic Diocese of Atlanta)
- Rabbi Dr. Analia Bortz (Congregation Or Hadash, Ahavath Achim Synagogue)
- Tayyibah Taylor (founding editor-in-chief and publisher of Azizah Magazine, the voice of Muslim American women)
- Brother Shankara (Vedanta Center of Atlanta, Vedanta/Hinduism)
- Taiun Michael Elliston (Abbot of the Silent Thunder Order, Atlanta Soto Zen Center, Buddhism)

Moderator: Rev. Dr. Gerald Durley, (Senior Pastor, Providence Missionary Baptist Church)

More than 160 people from all faiths attended, along with a representative from the United Nations and Consuls General from France, Ireland and Germany.



#### About The UN Resolution:

The UN General Assembly passed a resolution in October 2010 deeming the first week of February each year to be 'World Interfaith Harmony Week.' The initiative

was proposed by King Abdullah of Jordan and co-sponsored by 29 other countries. The language in the resolution includes: "Every person of goodwill, with or without faith can and should commit to Love of the Neighbor and Love of God or Love of the

Neighbor and Love of the Good." <http://worldinterfaithharmonyweek.com/newspost/un-creates-annual-world-interfaith-harmony-week/>

#### About FAMA:

Founded in 2001, the Faith Alliance of Metro Atlanta (FAMA) is a nonprofit 501c3 organization that promotes understanding, respect, prayer, interaction and unity among the diverse faiths in the greater Atlanta region.

In these photos (Courtesy of Nassar Madyun, photographer):

1. Archbishop Wilton Gregory (Roman Catholic Diocese of Atlanta); Ambassador Andrew Young; Tayyibah Taylor (founding editor-in-chief and publisher of Azizah Magazine, the voice of Muslim American women);

Moderator – (standing): Rev. Dr. Gerald Durley, (Senior Pastor, Providence Missionary Baptist Church); Brother Shankara (Vedanta Center of Atlanta, Vedanta/Hinduism); Rabbi Dr. Analia Bortz (Congregation Or Hadash, Ahavath Achim Synagogue); Taiun Michael Elliston (Abbot of the Silent Thunder Order, Atlanta Soto Zen Center, Buddhism)

2. Over 160 people from all faiths attended the Faith Alliance of Metro Atlanta panel discussion, Wednesday, Feb 2 to celebrate World Interfaith Harmony Week. After closing prayers, Muslims, Christians, Jews and Hindi joined hands and sang an impromptu round of "We Shall Overcome."

3. The Panelists and Moderator

4. Attendees of the FAMA luncheon, gathering together to sing "We Shall Overcome."



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