



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
AUGUST 6, 2021

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Fourth Annual Festival of Faith Programming Announced *“Compassion Through Action: We’re In This Together” Theme Focuses on Community and Unity during August 22-28 Virtual Event*

CINCINNATI, OH – The Greater Cincinnati community will once again unite during the Fourth Annual Festival of Faiths event, held virtually this year from August 22-28, 2021. EquaSion, the organization formerly known as the Bridges of Faith Dialogue, this week announced the full programming for the weeklong virtual Festival.

The Festival is free and open to the public and features faith-based conversations, dialogues, workshops, meditations, and music programs. More than 30 faith organizations representing 13 world religions are represented in the week’s activities, which are led by this year’s Festival Co-Chairs Penny Pensak, Afreen Asif, Bishop Marvin Thomas Sr., and Jaipal Singh as well as volunteers from various diverse groups.

“Our theme, *“Compassion Through Action: We’re In This Together,”* is especially poignant given the challenges our communities have faced over the past year from COVID-19, racial injustices, social uprisings, and more,” said Chip Harrod, Executive Director of EquaSion. “This year’s Steering Committee has worked hard to create an opportunity for people of all backgrounds, religions, traditions, and faiths to come together and celebrate one another in a safe and welcoming environment. It’s our hope that individuals and families everywhere feel invited to join us.”

For the first time, the Festival is honoring a local individual as Honorary Chair of the Festival. To inaugurate this recognition, the EquaSion board selected James P. Buchanan, Ph.D., the recently retired Executive Director of the Brueggeman



Center for Dialogue at Xavier University. Dr. Buchanan, a widely recognized scholar and civic leader, has devoted twenty years to promoting interfaith education, dialogue and collaboration both locally and nationally. He is currently the director of Interfaith Cincy and A Blessing to One Another and serves on the boards of numerous charitable organizations.

Public programming begins on Sunday, August 22, 2021, and runs through Saturday, August 28, 2021. All events and services are free and open to the public, but advanced reservations are required for participation. The entire Calendar of Activities and links to register for all events during the 4th Annual Festival of Faiths is available at www.cincifestivaloffaiths.org.

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About EquaSion: EquaSion is a nonpartisan civic association whose mission is to promote Compassion through Action: acting on our compassion, we engage people of all faiths to discover their shared humanity and spirituality and to work together for an equitable and just community for all. Its signature program is the Cincinnati Festival of Faiths. For more information on EquaSion's interfaith community and the Cincinnati Festival of Faiths, visit www.equasion.org.