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August 13, 2006 • Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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## Pastor's Column

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### “Pray and Walk for Peace”

Several months ago Rev. Beth Johnson, Pastor of Palomar Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, which is located just down the street from us on Buena Vista Drive, asked if our Parish would be interested in a monthly “moment of prayer” for peace.

My response, of course, was in the positive. It is always good to pray, and it is always good to pray for peace.

This request to join in prayer was before the present conflict in the Middle East flared up. Prayer for peace is needed more than ever!

Members of the Palomar Fellowship began this monthly event several months ago. They walk from their campus, up Melrose Drive, to our parish campus. They arrive at noon, and on the Plaza, our parish members join them for a moment of prayer for peace, and then, those who are able, walk with them back to their campus. (We, then, can walk back to our campus or accept a ride back from Palomar members who are more than willing to assist in that effort.)

There is no political edge to this prayer event. We simply are praying and walking for peace, seeking God's help for all humanity to live as brothers and sisters.

This prayer event takes place on the third Sunday of every month. The next occurrence will be next Sunday, August 20, at noon.

Everyone is invited to join our neighbors on our Plaza at noon!

In participating, we not only create a moment to pray for peace, but we create an opportunity to live an ecumenical spirit, praying for unity in the midst of our religious diversity.

People often refer to Melrose Drive as “Church Row.” There are many religious affiliations on or near Melrose Drive between Highway 78 and Shadowridge Drive. How good it would be if there would be more interaction between these various congregations!

Theologian Hans Kung once said, “There will be no peace among the peoples of the world without peace among the world religions. There will be no peace among the world religions without peace among the Christian Churches.”

Let us do our part, in our own little corner of the world, to create just a bit more of the peace and unity to which we are called by Jesus!

*F. Mike*