Structure for Your Conversation

Decide the frequency of your meetings and what topics you will consider. Claiming the credibility and dignity of your voice and wisdom is what matters most.

Possible Topics for Your Conversation

Self: Am I able to say no when necessary, to set firm and gentle boundaries? Do I believe my voice, my thoughts, and my wisdom are worthwhile? What is my experience of God? What is my response to hurting and impoverished women and children?

Family: What does marriage mean in today's world? What exactly are family values? What truly makes a family? Same sex marriage? How do I see myself as a woman in the family? Is religion of any value? What are the pressures affecting family life? Abuse, addiction, divorce, poverty? What is the impact of social media?

Community: What do I truly think about such issues as: environmental concerns, public education, voting rights restrictions, homelessness, issues with police and public safety? Do racial issues impact me? Is there a human right to food, shelter, health care, clothing and security?

<u>Country:</u> Do we have a responsibility in the World for the security and well-being of others? Is war ever justified? What constitutes foreign relations in our time? Are governmental programs such as low income housing, food assistance and job training part of our responsibility to care for the common good?

<u>Care of the Earth:</u> Do we have a responsibility to care for the Earth? How do I understand environmental concerns and sustainability issues? What is the future of food: the GMO issue, processed products, equitable distribution?

After you have had the opportunity to participate in these conversations, we would like to hear from you so that we can use our resources to make your voices heard! Please send us a summary of what you've learned about yourselves, ideas, breakthroughs, etc. We will post these on our website and possibly find other avenues to make your voices heard as we move forward with this project.

You may send your responses to: interfaithpeaceproject.org/programs/iwd/feedback-form or to: peace@thomaspbonacci.net

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Preparing for The United Nations International Women's Day March 8

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Creating Peace Through Interfaith Understanding

The International Women's Day Observance March 8

The observance of the International Women's Day, March 8, provides for us an opportunity to celebrate the achievements women have made for the benefit of humankind. The day also brings attention to the continued inequality, injustice, and harm women face in the pursuit of their freedom and human dignity.

The Interfaith Peace Project recognizes and respects women's voice in ancient times and contemporary society. We believe the rise of women's voice in recent time is facilitating major change and development in human awareness and consciousness.

In observance of the International Women's Day, we are extending an invitation to have your voices heard. We are encouraging women from all over the world to have significant, honest, and open conversations with other women concerning topics that are important to them and to the world. We are asking women to gather together in their homes, coffee shops, or houses of worship to raise their voices and lead the way toward a world free of poverty, violence and war. Your voice is precious. Your wisdom is essential for the future of the World.

We invite men to discover their own experience of women's voice: the wisdom of a mother or grandmother, the voice of compassion in the midst of conflict, or the voice in their own hearts they have feared to hear.

We encourage you to engage in these conversations whenever you can. Be attentive to your own wisdom. What have you always wanted to say but fear and / or lack of opportunity prevented you?

With the rise of Women's Voice a new age is beginning to emerge. We trust it will be a time when compassion and mutual respect will bless the World as never before.



Claim Your Dignity!
Find Your Voice!
Stand up for what is
True, Good and Just.

Rosa Parks



"If I can sit down for freedom, you can stand up for children."

Rosa Louise Parks (1913 -2005) was an African-

American civil rights activist, whom the United States Congress called "The First Lady of Civil Rights" and "The Mother of the Freedom Movement." Rosa is known for the Montgomery Bus Boycott in which she refused to obey a bus driver's order that she give up her seat in the colored section to a white passenger, after the white section was filled. Parks' act of defiance and the Montgomery Bus Boycott became important symbols of the modern Civil Rights Movement. What might Rosa ask us to take a stand for?

For more Biographies and Information visit: interfaithpeaceproject.org/programs/iwd/

Rosie the Riveter



We Can Do It! Rosie is a cultural icon of the United States.

Rosie represented women rising up to meet the challenges of working in industrial labor factories during World War II. These

women kept their communities financially sound and maintained family relationships. What might the "Rosies" ask us to consider to preserve and sustain our own communities?

Mother Teresa



"Peace begins with a smile."

Six years after her death John Paul II beatified Mother Teresa calling her

"one of the greatest missionaries of the 20th century." What might Mother Teresa ask us to consider to better serve those less fortunate, the sick, the oppressed, and the marginalized?

Peace Pilgrim



She walked the earth for peace!

She was the first woman to walk the entire

Appalachian Trail in one season. She walked the

entire United States at least eight times giving lectures and seminars about how to live a simple life with peace in your step! What would Peace Pilgrim ask us to consider for peace today?

Maya Angelou



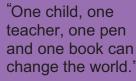
"We may encounter many defeats, but we must not be defeated."

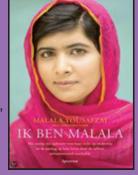
Maya has charmed us with her dancing, writing, acting, and singing

along with being active in the Civil Rights movement. Maya even wrote, produced, and directed plays and public television programs. Her legacy continues to inspire us today. What might Maya ask us to consider? Have you danced your dance today?

"Your wisdom is essential for the future of the world."

Malala Yousafzai





Malala is a Pakistani young

woman known for her activism in rights to education for girls and women. An assassination attempt by the Taliban brought on an international deluge of support and fame to Malala. She is an example of courage and strength for people everywhere. What might Malala ask us to consider? Have you educated the children?

