

Common Ground Vision



Common Ground is a bridge connecting leaders of the faith community with leaders of the secular (i.e. lay) community with a focus on improving the health and wholeness of our Fox Cities. [Common Ground Mission - 2018 Strategic Plan]

Put another way, Common Ground's objective is to facilitate the collaboration of faith leaders and community leaders for the betterment (health and well-being) of the Fox Cities.

The Vision of Common Ground is religious and community leaders of all faith traditions in our community coming together to:

1. Provide education (2-3 times/year) on community issues that impact all of us, and to
2. Be the "convener and host" of large community sessions that explore key community issues that have the potential to unite or divide us.



The Golden Rule is Common to Many Faiths

As we look at this time of social and political divisiveness, we believe the Golden Rule provides guidance for our thoughts and behaviors. The “Golden Rule” is common to most if not all faith traditions. As such, a collective gathering of local faith and community leaders can offer significant value.

FAITH	QUOTATION	SOURCE
Judaism	“What is hateful to you, do not do to your neighbour. This is the whole Torah; all the rest is commentary”	Hillel, Talmud, Shabbat 31a
Islam	“Not one of you truly believes until you wish for others what you wish for yourself”	The Prophet Muhammad, Hadith
Baha’i Faith	“Lay not on any soul a load that you would not wish to be laid upon you, and desire not for anyone the things you would not desire for yourself”	Baha’u’llah, Gleanings
Hinduism	“This is the sum of duty: do not do to others what would cause pain if done to you”	Mahabharata 5:1517
Buddhism	“Treat not others in ways that you yourself would find hurtful”	The Buddha, Udana-Varga 5:18
Confucianism	“One word which sums up the basis of all good conduct...loving-kindness. Do not do to others what you do not want done to yourself”	Confucius, Analects 15:23
Taoism	“Regard your neighbor’s gain as your own gain, and your neighbour’s loss as your own loss”	Lao-Tzu, T’ai Shang Kan Ying P’ien 213-218
Sikhism	“I am a stranger to no one; and no one is a stranger to me. Indeed, I am a friend to all”	Guru Granth Sahib, p. 1299
Christianity	“In everything, do to others as you would have them do to you; for this is the law and the prophets”	Jesus, Matthew 7:12
Unitarianism	“We affirm and promote respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part”	Unitarian principle
Native Spirituality	“We are as much alive as we keep the earth alive”	Chief Dan George
Zoroastrianism	“Do not do unto others whatever is injurious to yourself”	Shayast-na-Shayast 13.29
Jainism	“One should treat all creatures in the world as one would like to be treated”	Mahavira, Suttrakritanga

Source: Pflaum Publishing Group, Paul McKenna 2000