

Cragsmoor Peace Celebration

Speakers representing four of the major world spiritual traditions will lead an interfaith peace service at the **Stone Church** in Cragsmoor, **11 AM, Sunday, September 7th**.

"A Celebration of Peace, Hope, and Compassion" will mark the second anniversary of the events of September 11, 2001. Presenters will offer prayers for the peaceful evolution of the human family by drawing upon some aspect of their own beliefs, which will lead to a greater understanding of the common elements in all of these traditions. The Islamic presentation will be made by David-Iman Adler. He is a frequent speaker on Islam and is affiliated with the *Abode of the Message* in Lebanon, New York. Together with his wife, he has presented workshops for Muslims and others to understand the inner spiritual meaning of the Islamic prayers. He is the Imam for Berkshire Medical Center and has also served several other communities in eastern New York and western Massachusetts.

Christian prayers will be offered by the Reverend Doctor Joan Campbell, Director of Religion at the Chataqua Institution. Last year, she organized a lecture program called "Paths of Transformation" which explored the three Abrahamic faiths – Judaism, Christianity, and Islam – as a source of transformation and hope for peace. Up until 1999, she served as General Secretary of the National Council of Churches for ten years. During that time she worked closely with such luminaries as the last four US presidents, Nelson Mandela, and Desmond Tutu. She was responsible for the rescue of three American soldiers from Belgrade during the bombing there in 1998, and is perhaps best known as the American most responsible for helping reunite Cuban child Elian Gonzalas with his family in the spring of 2000.

Another speaker will be the Venerable Guo Yuan, vice president of the Dharma Drum Mountain Buddhist Association of the United States. He is also head monk at the Chan Meditation Center in New York City and the *Dharma Drum Retreat Center* in Pine Bush. He has assisted at intensive retreats in Russia, England, Germany, and Mexico. He also lectures and guides meditative practice in the United States and Canada, and has participated in numerous interfaith dialogues.

Rabbi Tsurah August will also make a presentation. She is the New York site director for Transitional Keys, a program for improving the quality of life for elders living in communal settings through ritual and the arts. She has also worked in acute and long-term healthcare facilities and in her home community of Woodstock and served as the advisor to the Jewish students at Vassar.

The program will include prayers and comments from the congregation, candle lighting, and music by Helga Koenig on the Indian Flute and Charles Matz on the organ. This event is in keeping with the mission of the *Friends of the Stone Church* to share this sacred space with believers of other spiritual traditions, in order to find the common ground that unites them all. All are welcome at this event, which will take place in this hundred-year-old church set on the edge of the Shawangunk Ridge in the historic district of the Cragsmoor art colony. It commands inspiring views of the Catskills and the Rondout Valley and is proximate to the famous hiking trails on the 5,000-acre **Sam's Point Preserve**. Cragsmoor is off **Rte. 52**, between Ellenville and Pine Bush. Take **Cragsmoor Road** for two miles to the Post Office. Continue straight and follow signs to the **Stone Church**.


Call **647-6384** for additional information. 



Music Benefit at Stone Church

On **Sunday, September 7th**, at **3:00 PM** Zoe B. Zak (*above, left*) and Steve Gorn (*above, right*) will be performing their special brand of music at the **Stone Church** in Cragsmoor. The *Chapel of the Holy Name*, most commonly called the **Stone Church**, is a welcoming, century-old, community-oriented, Episcopal church that hosts a wide variety of musical concerts in an intimate, beautiful, and acoustically-excellent space.

Zoe B. Zak is an accomplished singer, keyboard player, accordionist, composer, producer, arranger, and bandleader. Steve Gorn is a master on the bansuri bamboo flute and soprano saxophone and has played in concerts and festivals throughout the world. Together with Dean Sharp, Zak and Gorn recorded the CD "Conference of the Birds" in 2002. Zak has been intimately involved in the creation of over a dozen CDs (singing, playing keyboards and accordion, producing, and composing). Zak has led her ensemble in many concerts in the area, combining avant-garde piano improvisations with folk-rock, mixing elements of Zydeco with texts and melodies of three thousand-year-old religious traditional music. Gorn has been featured on several recordings with such greats as Paul Simon, Krishna Das, Karsh Kale, Richie Havens, and Anant Jesse. Gorn has composed numerous works for theater, dance, and television. Zak and Gorn have appeared on WAMC's *Dancing on the Air* (Jay Unger and Molly Mason). This is Gorn's second musical visit to the **Stone Church** – his first was a very beautiful and well received solo concert.

A **\$10** donation for admission is suggested. Proceeds will go to the restoration of the **Stone Church**. For info about the concert, call **647-6384**. 



Browsers peruse the bargains at the **Cragsmoor Book Fair**, held August 9th at the Cragsmoor Historical Society. Food, crafts, art, and second-hand items were also available.