



NOVEMBER 2025 **NEWSLETTER**

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- Interfaith Thanksgiving Dinner
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- Compassion Week - Service Day 2025
- 2nd "Seeking God Together" Gathering
- Halloween Joy at Family Supportive Housing

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THIS MONTH WITH BAYCC

This month, BAYCC shares upcoming opportunities to serve and connect, including an online fundraiser for refugees in Greece, an Interfaith Thanksgiving Dinner, and a Risale-i Nur Reflection Workshop. We also celebrate recent events like the 5th West Platform Civic Convention, Compassion Week Service Day, the "Seeking God Together" Gathering, and a joyful Halloween at Family Supportive Housing.

ABOUT US

Founded in 2002 by volunteers from diverse professional backgrounds, BAYCC harnesses the power of interfaith dialogue, community engagement, and education to promote the well-being of the community and foster stronger connections.

Visit baycc.org to learn more.

UPCOMING EVENTS



HELP REFUGEES IN GREECE! ONLINE FUNDRAISING

Join us for an Online Fundraising Event supporting refugee families in Greece, organized by Pacifica Institute in partnership with Embrace Relief and other non-profits across the Western U.S. As winter nears, thousands of refugees face food insecurity and hardship—your participation can help deliver essential food packages and hope to those in need. This virtual gathering will unite compassion and action for a vital cause.

DATE:
November 8,
2025

TIME:
7:00 PM

TO JOIN:
[Zoom Link](#)



INTERFAITH THANKSGIVING DINNER

Join us for an Interfaith Thanksgiving Dinner, hosted by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Centered on the theme "A Feast of Friendship and Gratitude: Building Community Together," this gathering will bring together neighbors from diverse faiths to share a meal, stories, and the spirit of thankfulness. All are welcome to RSVP and take part in this celebration of unity and gratitude.

DATE:
November 15,
2025

TIME:
6:00 PM

LOCATION:
The Church of
Jesus Christ of
Latter-day Saints
1300 Grant Rd, Los
Altos, CA 94024

TO VOLUNTEER:
[Click Here](#)

RSVP:
[Click Here](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS



RISALE-I NUR REFLECTION WORKSHOP

Join us for an interactive Risale-i Nur Reflection Workshop exploring the First 8 Words through symbolic stories, animations, and visuals. This **ladies-only** program will combine learning with engaging activities to deepen spiritual reflection.

DATE:

November 16, 2025

TIME:

10:45 AM

LOCATION:

BAYCC

4701 Patrick Henry Dr BLDG 18, Santa Clara

RSVP:

[Click Here](#)

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5TH WEST PLATFORM CIVIC CONVENTION

The 5th West Platform Civic Convention brought together over 200 Hizmet volunteers and community leaders from 13 Western states for a weekend of reflection, collaboration, and renewal. Hosted at Embassy Suites Milpitas and BAYCC under the theme "Legacy in Action: Building Hizmet's Future," the event explored how the spirit of vefa—faithful remembrance and gratitude—can guide the next generation of service, education, and dialogue.

From heartfelt keynotes and inspiring breakout sessions to the moving Spiritual Legacy Program and Hizmet Awards, the weekend combined learning with sincere connection. Cross-state teams exchanged ideas

OCTOBER 4-5, 2025

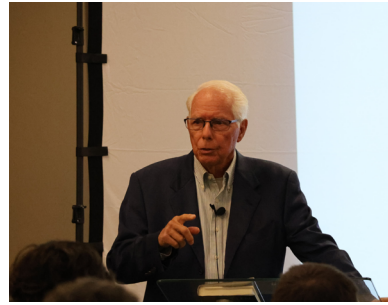
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on youth leadership, education, dialogue, and digital outreach, while thoughtful hospitality—from family-friendly spaces to shared meals—made the experience feel like a reunion with purpose.

Beyond the individual sessions, the summit directly advanced BAYCC's broader goals:

- Community Cohesion and Belonging
- Youth Development and Leadership
- Dialogue and Public Good
- Education and Cultural Transmission
- Capacity Building
- Inclusivity and Access

The convention closed with a collective sense of hope—proof that Hizmet's legacy continues to live on through action, compassion, and community.



COMPASSION WEEK - SERVICE DAY 2025

On Sunday, October 12, Pacifica Institute proudly hosted the annual Compassion Week Service Fest in Santa Clara, honoring the legacy of Fethullah Gülen and his lifelong dedication to service, education, and peace. This community-wide initiative brought together members of all ages from local faith communities and partner organizations, including BayCC, Youthlink, and Rebekah Children's Services, to serve unhoused

OCTOBER 12,
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and underserved neighbors through hands-on projects.

Volunteers participated in a variety of service activities, including:

- Creating fleece blankets for local shelters
- Assembling hygiene kits for unhoused neighbors
- Packing backpacks for students in transitional services
- Sewing pillowcases and crafting bracelets for unhoused youth



Youthlink members also prepared school backpacks for local elementary students, helping children start the year with confidence. The day began with a remembrance of Gülen's vision of kindness and social responsibility, followed by an afternoon of collaboration, reflection, and community spirit. Volunteers and families left inspired, reminded that acts of service, big or small, strengthen the bonds within our community.



**OCTOBER 18,
2025**

2ND "SEEKING GOD TOGETHER" GATHERING

On Saturday, October 18, 2025, Pacifica Institute, Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers, and the Peninsula Multifaith Coalition co-hosted the second Seeking God Together Interfaith Gathering at the Miwok Picnic Shelter in Huddart Park, Woodside, California. The event focused on the theme "Exploring God's Beautiful Attributes Across Faith Traditions", bringing together participants from multiple faith backgrounds for dialogue, reflection, and fellowship.

The day began with a shared charcoal-prepared BBQ lunch, creating a

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warm and welcoming atmosphere for conversation and connection. Six distinguished faith and community leaders then offered presentations on the divine attributes in their traditions, highlighting universal values such as compassion, mercy, love, and justice.

Participants continued the discussion in reflection circles and group dialogues, exploring how these qualities can inspire personal growth and strengthen community bonds. The event concluded with an optional nature hike, providing a quiet moment for contemplation amidst the natural beauty of Huddart Park. As the second gathering in this series, the event reaffirmed the importance of interfaith dialogue in fostering understanding, peace, and connection across communities.

**OCTOBER 24-
25, 2025**



HALLOWEEN JOY AT FAMILY SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

On Friday, October 24, BAYCC volunteers brought the Halloween spirit to Family Supportive Housing, decorating the center with balloons, pumpkins, spider webs, and festive touches. The next morning, Saturday, October 25, over 40 children and their families joined in a cheerful celebration that included breakfast, games, face painting, costumes, and creative Halloween activities.



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Volunteers and participants shared laughter, joy, and connection, creating a warm atmosphere that highlighted the compassion and community spirit central to BAYCC's mission. The event reminded everyone that small acts of care can brighten hearts and strengthen bonds within the community.

To read about these events in more detail:
VISIT [BAYCC.ORG/EVENTS](https://baycc.org/events)