

## OUR PRINCIPLES



- We will appreciate, learn and grow from each other: not to change the other.
- We will enter into our dialogue with sincerity and honesty but also with consideration
- We will seek first to understand . . . Then to be understood.
- We are not individually the spokesperson for our entire faith and tradition or are to know all there is to know of our own faith.
- We will be able to admit confusion or uncertainty we may have if a puzzling question arises.
- We will not prejudge in advance where a point of disagreement will exist.
- We will assume good intent with one another.
- We will build trust with one another.

## OUR VISION

Learn from each other's faith and values and how it effects our lives.  
We will more fully understand each other's faith journeys and be inspired by our commonalities of faith and learn and celebrate our differences.  
By sharing our faith stories, we will garner respect and mutual trust.  
We will look for ways to cooperate with our neighbor.

## OUR MISSION

### **Daughters of Abraham**

gathers together a group of Christian, Muslim and Jewish women to have thoughtful and meaningful dialogue. We will explore our commonalities while understanding and respecting our differences, as well as mutual trust and collaboration.

It is not a religious class but rather sharing personal stories of our faith. This is not the definitive discussion of doctrines but sharing stories by lay people.

Each session will have a theme, where we will share our faith stories which will be identified in advance. We will end each session with a lesson/s learned. The meetings will comprise of speakers and breakout sessions that are co-mingled religions ending with a light refreshment. We will limit the group to 30-36 (10-12 women from each faith) in order to create an opportunity for meaningful dialogue. Our intention is to create a community where we can build on our understanding and trust. To accomplish this we ask if possible, please attend most sessions.



## FOUNDERS

### MOJDEH HASSANI

Mojdeh Hassani is a passionate teacher who has been teaching in the field of early childhood, special education since 1986. She attained her first Master's degree in Developmental Psychology and her second Masters of Education in the field of Early Childhood Special Education, both from Teachers College, Columbia University.

She began her teaching career with home-based services for developmentally delayed infants and toddlers, and gradually moved to elementary level services. She has worked in private special education schools, NYC's District 25, and—for the past 18 years—North Shore School District.

Her passion and dedication to children is only matched by her spirituality and the belief that finding the common threads that bring people together serves a greater good. Ms. Hassani was raised with traditional Muslim principles that emphasized equity, compassion, and charity. Those are the qualities she has instilled in her daughters and the very same qualities she brings to the classroom. She was born and raised in Tehran, Iran and moved with her family to the United States in 1976. Her Muslim upbringing taught her to appreciate diversity in thought and experience, and to assist people in finding their spiritual path through positive practices, such as charity and the daily rituals of prayer and meditation. Her mission is to continue to educate herself and others on these practices that unite humanity in genuine and healing ways.

[mojdehassani@aol.com](mailto:mojdehassani@aol.com)

### LISA LARSEN HILL

Lisa is a published author and the President of a nonprofit Seeds of Faith for Women, encouraging women's faith journeys. She is a Certified Lay servant since 1999 leading worship services at Sea Cliff, Lake Ronkonkoma and Port Washington Methodist Churches and UCC Church in Manhasset. She is a member of the ecumenical Network of Biblical Story Tellers; whose mission is to learn and encourage telling biblical stories. She served as chair of several committees for Kiwanis "Serving children around the world." including Klothes for Kids and the Annual Mini Mart in Sea Cliff. She enjoys conducting women's and Lenten seminars.

Lisa climbed the Corporate ladder of Sodexo, an international Fortune 500 company serving as National Senior Vice President of Sodexo's Marketing and Creative services. With a team of more than 100 employees that won a combined 28 Spirit of Sodexo awards, 15 Diversity Awards, and twice won the prestigious Best Concept award from Food Management Magazine. Lisa was featured in "Seven People to Watch in the Industry" in Restaurants and Institutions Magazine.

" I now turn to fulfilling a vision of supporting women in their spiritual growth journeys."

Lisa is excited and passionate about joining her sisters in creating a safe place for an interfaith dialogue of our stories of faith.

[lisalarsenhill.com](http://lisalarsenhill.com)

[lisalarsenhill@gmail.com](mailto:lisalarsenhill@gmail.com)

### FREDDA KLOPTER

Fredda is a "retired" educator who spent her career in the North Shore Schools as a special education teacher and principal of the Glen Head School. Since retiring seventeen years ago, Fredda was a literacy consultant and volunteered to head the religious school at Congregation Tifereth Israel in Glen Cove.

Fredda has always been fascinated by religion and minored in it in college. A seminal experience was when she took a course in religions in America which encompassed the multitude of faiths embraced by people in this country. The course required students to attend services of different faiths, something which she vividly remembers although it was almost 60 years ago.

Although Fredda's passions include mentoring students, book groups, hiking, writing, and involvement in her synagogue, creating an interfaith group to foster understanding has long been a dream.

[fmklopter@gmail.com](mailto:fmklopter@gmail.com)

