Some of the wars and conflicts of the past and present were fought over land and resources, but many have been over religious differences. In this past century, a global interfaith movement has been growing, helping to raise consciousness about the need for tolerance and understanding between different cultures and religions. This movement has helped highlight the common goals that most religions share, such as the Golden Rule, which is at the heart of nearly all religious traditions. At the same time, many throughout the world are discovering that ‘spirituality’ -- a deep connection to a greater purpose for humanity -- is an important driving force in their lives, even if they aren’t religious.

UNESCO, working with religious and spiritual NGOs, is currently developing an action plan for Interfaith Cooperation for Peace. Interfaith Day, June 22, is an opportunity for all who value spirituality in their lives to connect and unite in our wish for a more peaceful, just and sustainable world based on values grounded in our deeper spiritual connection to each other and the world around us.

World Spirituality Day, December 31, is another opportunity to celebrate our spiritual diversity and rededicate our priority to follow our spiritual paths.

**Do One Thing for a Better World**

1. Learn about a faith different from your own
2. Hold an interfaith event
3. Contribute to organizations promoting interfaith spirituality

**Interfaith Promoting Organizations**

- The Inerfaith Alliance (interfaithalliance.org)
- Interfaith Center of NY (interfaithcenter.org)
- Interfaith Youth Core (ifyc.org)
- Network of Spiritual Progressives (spiritualprogressives.org)
- Temple of Understanding (templeofunderstanding.org)
- United Religions Initiative (www.uri.org)
- World Peace Prayer Society (worldpeace.org)