

# SHINING BRIGHTLY

## INTERFAITH BRIDGE BUILDING

*“Why do this work?”*

1. When we are united, there's no place left for hate.
2. We become stronger when we trust our neighbors, whatever their faith may be.
3. It's healthy: Interacting with neighbors is a proven social determinant of health.
4. It's practical: Building bonds in good times prepares us for bad times.
5. It's in our roots: The ancient patriarch Abraham welcomed strangers into his tent.
6. Jews teach the goal of tikkun olam, repairing and healing our world.
7. Muslims teach that God made us different so that we will learn from each other.
8. Christians teach that we are to protect vulnerable minorities.
9. Buddhists, Hindus and virtually all the great religious traditions teach harmony.
10. Hospitality toward “others” is an opportunity to live out the core values of our own faith.
11. Interfaith bridges help us to rediscover the unique value of each life, including our own.
12. As we learn more about other faiths, we learn more about our own traditions.
13. It's a multi-generational opportunity for the whole family.
14. It's fun: We wind up with deep and lasting friendships.
15. The world tastes better when we share our traditional foods.
16. And, we all have more holidays to celebrate!
17. (add your answer here) \_\_\_\_\_
18. (add your answer here) \_\_\_\_\_

*Please feel free to share the PDF copy of this list with friends and colleagues. The list was prepared by Howard Brown, author of Shining Brightly, to spark helpful reflection and discussion. You might enjoy using this list in a class, discussion or community group.*

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