

Death Café Report – June 29, 2013 Flagstaff, Arizona

From the evaluations: “3 words that describe my experience”



Community, vulnerability, openness

Different, interesting, revealing

Inspiring, deep, thoughtful

Clarify, connect, express

Enlightening, comforting, informative

Renewal, calm, reflection

Fascinating, beautiful, peaceful

Comfortable, explorative, enjoyable

Warm, validating, communion

Expressive, intimate, open

Included, enriched

Deep, calming, open

Inspiring, comfortable, enlightening

Affirming, loving, healing

Comforting, empowering, interacting

Warm, thoughtful, caring

“Going further in”



The Café: It was an extra-warm, sunny morning at the downtown’s Federated Church. The big chalk board outside promised a wonderful event. Our meeting room was set up with refreshments on the side and a large circle of chairs. In the center was a small table with roses, a Death Café candle, and information about Further Shore.

The Wait Staff: Facilitators included Meg Leander, Angela Krupica and Aleia O’Reilly (that’s me). Robert McCarter (that’s my husband) was our tech support guy.



The Patrons: We welcomed 22 people to our Death Café There were 15 women and 7 men present with age ranging from thirty to eighty + and a variety of religious, spiritual and secular views. As folks gathered, they chatted and helped themselves to coffee, tea, chips and salsa, chocolates and dried fruits. We served the gf cakes during our delectable conversation!

Thanks: My deepest thanks to everyone who attended our first Café and especially Meg and Angela for their excellent facilitation and to Robert for his tech support! We are excited to host the **next Flagstaff Death Café on August 10th from 2:00 to 4:30 p.m. at the same location in Flagstaff.** We plan to have activities to welcome new comers, as well as to inspire repeat visitors. We will be sure to have extra set up time and leave the last half hour for open visiting (which was very important to everyone present). As a

facilitator, it feels like I have come home to the work I’ve spent my entire life training for. Thank you, Jon Underwood, for this enormously useful concept and inviting the experience of sharing profound insights about living and dying with our eyes and hearts wide open.

Sincerely, Aleia O’Reilly