



Spirituality and Faith

A quiet and safe space for all -
be still and ponder or reflect and pray.

Interfaith information:

www.bbc.co.uk/religion www.interfaith.org.uk

Age UK: www.ageuk.org.uk 0800 169 6565

Alcoholics Anonymous: alcoholics-anonymous.org.uk
0845 769 7555

Bereavement: www.cruse.org.uk 0844 477 9400

**Care First (advice & counselling service
for NEC Group Staff):** 0800 174 319

Citizens Advice Bureau:
www.citizensadvice.org.uk 03444 111 444

Coping with dementia:
www.alzheimers.org.uk 0300 222 1122

Debt Counselling:
Christians Against Poverty
www.capuk.org 01274 760720 & 0800 328 0006

Depression/Suicide:
www.samaritans.org 08457 90 90 90

Gay and Lesbian issues:
www.stonewall.org.uk 08000 502 020

Neonatal death & bereavement:
www.lullabytrust.org.uk 0808 802 6868

Mental Health:
www.mind.org.uk 0300 123 3393

NSPCC:
www.nspcc.org.uk 0808 800 5000

Papyrus:
Suicide helpline for Young People, Family & Friends
www.papyrus-uk.org 0800 068 41 41

Relationship, Parent and Family Counselling:
www.relate.org.uk 0300 100 1234



Interfaith CHAPLAINCY

An oasis for friendship and support

nec group



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If you would like a conversation call:
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Lead Chaplain – Interfaith Chaplaincy
NEC Group
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“ The NEC Group values its visitors, customers and staff immensely, and to reflect this we invest in many aspects of the business including the Chaplaincy, while the Methodist Church reciprocates with investment of commitment and faith. This ethos is now a very well established part of the NEC client experience and staff well-being, welcoming people of all faiths, or those expressing no faith at all.

“We’re proud of our relationship with the Chaplaincy, and in particular, the fact that our model of working alongside the Methodist Church in Britain has encouraged others in the live events industry to follow suit.

Paul Thandi. CEO NEC Group

The NEC Group offers an Interfaith Chaplaincy facility to all staff, business partners and visitors. This has been a pattern since the early green-field site almost 40 years ago from before HM The Queen cut the 'opening ribbons'.

As the NEC Group weaved its business and staff well-being pattern and heightened visitor experience, our Interfaith Chaplaincy team has maintained a diversifying presence within the business.

Interfaith Chaplaincy at the NEC Group is a confidential people-focused service for all staff, business partners and visitors. Interfaith Chaplaincy is a flexible and intrinsic part of the NEC Group with permanent Prayer Rooms in the Piazza at the NEC and at The ICC along with a presence of Chaplains in the business.

The term 'Chaplain' is often confused with an origin of the word 'Chapel' (a place of prayer and reflection). The term Chaplain has its roots with 'Martin of Tours' who was Bishop of Tours around 300AD and whose shrine in France became and remains, a famous stopping-point for pilgrims on the road to Santiago de Compostela in Spain. Martin of Tours offered half his cloak to someone in need and in those days a cloak was called Cappellanu which became known as 'Chaplain'.

Our Lead Interfaith Chaplain is an Ordained Minister and is supported by a team of professional and kind hearted Chaplaincy Volunteers. Some of the Chaplaincy Volunteers are also Ordained and or recognized Leaders in their Faith tradition.

When are the Prayer Rooms open? The Prayer Rooms are generally open all day, every day.

When is the Chaplaincy available? By dialing +44 (0) 121 767 2911 it will connect you with the NEC Lead Interfaith Chaplain.

Our Interfaith Chaplains travel around events and shows greeting staff and visitors, attending meetings so a telephone call is helpful and can secure a prompt appointment on or off site.

What do the Chaplains look like? They look like you and me. They are a mix of men and woman, differing ages and backgrounds. They will always have their NEC Group Security Badge for presentation and often wear NEC Group Chaplaincy branded clothing.

Is everything I say to an Interfaith Chaplain confidential? Yes absolutely (except Safeguarding issues).

Are the Interfaith Chaplains NEC Group employees? No. The Interfaith Chaplains are independent but value being an intrinsic part of the NEC Group, reporting via the NEC Group HR Director. Chaplaincy also sits within People Forum.

Is there a time limit to meet? Some meetings take a few moments, others can take an hour or so. It depends on your question and or concern. We are here to help.

What does 'Signposts' mean? We often signpost staff to 'Care First' or the most appropriate support for business partners as we recognize that a discreet connection can be helpful if we discern counselling is appropriate. Therefore we offer some helpful 'signposts' gained from our encounters with staff and visitors. (See back page).

Our Interfaith Chaplaincy logo with various Faith symbols, communicates diversity to staff and visitors who positively comment on the inclusive 'open-door' icon depicting, 'all are welcome in this place'.

Quotations of staff/visitors;

- “Simply thank you for this beautiful space, now we can do business, and pray.”
- “The Chaplaincy team listened to me like I have never been listened to before - ever.”
- “The Chaplaincy team really helped me when my friend committed suicide. I still don't understand why it happened but Chaplaincy helped me find help and start to accept.”
- “We wanted to get married but we were uncertain of the process. The Chaplain explained everything so easily and it all fell into place beautifully.”
- “My mother died suddenly and our Chaplaincy team was immediately helpful and helped not just me, but the whole of my family plan the thanksgiving.”
- “Work just got on top of me and the quiet chats I had with Chaplaincy saved my life and my job!”
- “Our clients wanted an Interfaith Prayer Room in their main event for their own staff. Our Chaplaincy just did it! A Gold Award!”