

St. Petersburg, Russia's days of excursions and interfaith creative meetings

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St. Petersburg, Russia -- In honor of World Interfaith Harmony Week 2019, UPF organized several days of excursions and interfaith creative meetings.

On February 4, UPF supporters and participants of the student project "Bridges of Peace" visited the Kazan Cathedral of the Russian Orthodox Church.

On February 5, the participants were warmly greeted at the Great Choral Synagogue; they also visited the nearby Small Synagogue and learned many interesting facts concerning the everyday and religious life of the Jewish people.

On the same day, the group visited the Lutheran Church of Saint Peter and Saint Paul. The lively sound of the organ immediately brought the visitors into the spirit and mood of the church. The guide explained the huge contribution that the church and its parishioners have made to the development of the city, its culture, charities, and architecture, among other areas.

The group noted that 2019, February 5 was the date of the Lunar New Year. As many countries and cultures celebrate the new year on this day, the group decided to visit those communities for which this day is special.

On February 6, within the framework of World Interfaith Harmony Week, UPF and the social movement Will of Petersburg organized excursions to Buddhist and Hindu temples.

The history of the temples, devotion of the believers, and unique aspects of the traditions aroused keen interest among the participants.

All barriers were completely erased after receiving a friendly welcome and being served refreshments.

UPF is grateful to all the participants for their openness and keen interest in the traditions and cultures of various religious communities, as well as their readiness for dialogue and cooperation.