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## ONE STRING OF BEADS IGNITES CURIOSITY

*Real Stories about Real People living Real Life*

**Myrtle Beach, SC** – The creation of *One String of Beads: Stories of Divine Love, Hope and Diversity* began from the discussions of authors Elizabeth Diebold of Albuquerque, NM and Patrick Wayne Mumford of Myrtle Beach. “The concept grew out of Wayne’s interest in the subject of death, how people felt about it, and how faith of any kind is a part of what they think happens after death,” says Diebold. After many discussions between the two authors, Mumford and Diebold decided to interview individuals of different faiths, posing the question “What do you think happens after death?”

Mumford says that he never imagined that the idea would grow to the extent that it has. The book was planned as a small local guide to the different religions found along the Grand Strand of South Carolina, but as the list of questions expanded and the number of interviewees grew, *One String of Beads* was born.

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“This book inspires authentic discussion,” says Nancy Hartman, one writer featured in the book’s Forward.

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Pulling from the vast melting pot that is the Grand Strand, Mumford began the interviews. Forty-three individuals from twenty-two different religions were asked about their faith (a leader and a follower from each faith whenever possible). Once completed and transcribed, the interviews were given to Diebold, who then composed a short story based on each individual’s life. After nearly three years, many rounds of editing, and final approval from each interviewee, *One String of Beads* has been released in both book and electronic versions.

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“We made every effort to preserve the thoughts and stories of the interviewees, as well as their overall voices, which I think added a tremendous richness and authenticity to the book,” says Diebold.

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Mumford and Diebold have high hopes for *One String of Beads*. Both authors believe that the more we know about one another, the more we will respect those who believe differently than we do. Mumford believes that in this way “we are more likely to find peace on this planet.” Mumford and Diebold believe that this book will create discussion, spark interest, and spur readers to delve further into those religions they find interesting. They hope to break down the walls of misunderstanding and create more respect within and among various religious communities.

For more information about the book and its authors, and to purchase the book, visit the book’s website ([www.onestringofbeads.com](http://www.onestringofbeads.com)), like the Facebook page (One String of Beads), and follow Mumford and Diebold on Twitter (@wayne\_pwm).

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