



**Community Coalition for Social Justice**  
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**www.ccsjwv.org**

**UPDATE: 1 JULY 2018**

**MISSION STATEMENT:** The Community Coalition for Social Justice is a coalition of organizations and individuals dedicated to promoting the principles of social, environmental, and economic justice and respect for all persons. We oppose discrimination and hate-motivated violence in Morgantown and surrounding communities.

**STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING AND MEMBERSHIP:** We are NOT meeting in July. Our next meeting will be on **Tuesday, August 14th, at 6:30 p.m.** at **Panera's on Patteson Drive**. We will try to reserve the meeting room, but Panera has changed its policy. If it is really nice, we might be outside on the patio. *Note that we will not meet if Monongalia County schools are closed for the day or close early due to inclement weather.*

Please send your web site suggestions to Mike Attfield at attfield@comcast.net. Please contact any of the steering committee members to volunteer to help and to share your suggestions for our work or e-mail us at ccsjwv@hotmail.com. Please send items to share with our membership to Barb Howe at barbara.howe@mail.wvu.edu.

**PLEASE ALSO REMEMBER TO SEND YOUR DUES** - \$10 for individuals and \$25 for organizations – to CCSJ, PO Box 160, Morgantown, WV 26507-0160. You can join or donate by credit card via PayPal on our web site.

**CCSJ ANNUAL MEETING IS SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 23RD AT 6:00 P.M. AT WVU'S CREATIVE ARTS CENTER:** The program for our annual meeting will be a recital by Janis-Rozena Peri of unsung (pun not intended) West Virginians - i.e., women classical singers – as a way of presenting social justice challenges and ideas. Janis taught voice at WVU for many years and has been a member of the CCSJ steering committee, so we are very pleased that she offered us this opportunity partner with her. The recital will be in the Bloch Recital Hall of the Creative Arts Center and will be sponsored by the WVU Community Music Program. Barb Howe will provide commentary on the musicians. There will be a short business meeting following the recital because the people elected to three-year terms on our steering committee were elected in 2015. All are welcome!

**MLK DAY 2019 PLANS STARTING:** We have reserved the Metropolitan Theatre for our MLK Day 2019 event on January 21. We are pleased to report that the City of Morgantown has budgeted \$1,740 to help cover

our expenses for this event. Our focus will be on the role of children/youth in the civil rights movement, but please let us know if you have ideas for a theme or participants.



**FIND US ON FACEBOOK!** Just look for “Community Coalition for Social Justice” under “Groups” and become our friend. Thanks to Mike Sharley for being our group “leader.”

## LOCAL NEWS



**“TOWARD A GREATER MORGANTOWN” TOWN HALL IS JULY 14TH AT METROPOLITAN THEATRE:** Morgantown’s City Council is sponsoring this town hall on Saturday, July 14th, from 9:00 a.m. to noon at the Metropolitan Theatre, 369 High Street. Parking will be free on High Street during the duration of the event, and there will be stickers available for those parking at the Spruce Street Parking Garage.

Morgantown’s Deputy Mayor Mark Brazaitis says “The Morgantown City Council wants to hear from you (city and county residents) about what our community needs. We will present possible options to pay for them. We will have a Q & A to answer as many questions as we can. Be imaginative, be courteous, be there!”



**MORGANTOWN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION:** The next regular meeting will be Thursday, July 19th, at 6:30 p.m. in the Public Safety Building Conference Room on Spruce Street. You can get copies of the agendas and minutes for the commission meetings at [www.morgantownwv.gov/government/commissions/human-rights-commission/human-rights-commission-agenda-minutes/](http://www.morgantownwv.gov/government/commissions/human-rights-commission/human-rights-commission-agenda-minutes/).

You can find a calendar of annual human rights observances at [www.morgantownwv.gov/wp-content/uploads/Annual-HR-Observances.pdf](http://www.morgantownwv.gov/wp-content/uploads/Annual-HR-Observances.pdf).

### Here are the events for July:

**July 4 Independence Day** – Anniversary of the United States Declaration of Independence in 1776, which led to the creation of a new union and new rights for citizens.

**July 11 World Population Day** – Emphasizes awareness that the world’s #1 problem is too many people using too many resources and creating too much unsustainable waste. Excesses impact current climate, energy and support systems.

**July 26 ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) Day** – Commemorates the 1990 signing of the Americans with Disabilities Act, which guarantees equal opportunity for people with disabilities.



**GREATER MORGANTOWN INTERFAITH ASSOCIATION MEETING IS JUNE 3RD:** The next meeting will be Sunday, July 8th, from 3:00 to 5:00 at the First Presbyterian Church, 456 Spruce St.

First Presbyterian's new pastor Zac Morton will address the group on "Nature: God's Native Tongue." Most religious traditions begin with an experience of the divine in some specific natural context. Pastor Zac will draw upon Christian and other

traditions to demonstrate how the natural world is and has always been our primary experience of the divine.

This is a very active group, and you can follow them on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/MorgantownInterfaithAssociation/](http://www.facebook.com/MorgantownInterfaithAssociation/). Action, education, and connection plans are on the agenda.

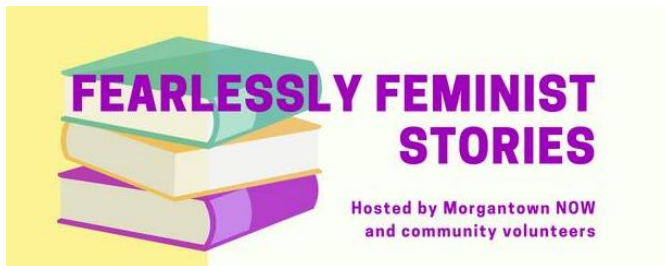


**MORGANTOWN NOW CHAPTER MEETING IS JULY 10TH:** The next meeting will be Tuesday July 10th, at 7:00 p.m. at the Monongalia Friends Meeting House, 648 E. Brockway Avenue, Morgantown. The group will be talking about our plans around GOTV (Get Out the Vote), Amendment 1 (on the ballot in November regarding abortion), Events and the 2019 Legislative Session.

If you have something you would like on the agenda, please email items to [morgantownnow@gmail.com](mailto:morgantownnow@gmail.com) by Sunday, July 8th at 5:00 p.m.

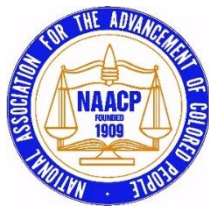
Also, please let them know if you require childcare.

Learn about this group's activities at [www.facebook.com/groups/375050676186301/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/375050676186301/).



The next event will be Saturday, August 4th, at 10:00 a.m. Check the NOW Facebook page at

[facebook.com/groups/375050676186301](http://facebook.com/groups/375050676186301) as more information is posted.



**NAACP NEXT MEETING JULY 17TH:** The Morgantown/Kingwood Branch of the NAACP meets every third Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. at the Pines Country Club on Point Marion Road, Morgantown.

**WVU CENTER FOR BLACK CULTURE AND RESEARCH 2018 ACADEMIC STARS PROGRAM:** This program is running through July 28th and is to introduce African American incoming first-year students to WVU. STARS stands for Students Achieving and Reaching Success.

**MOMS DEMAND ACTION FORMING IN MORGANTOWN:** For more information and to be added to the mailing list, please contact Kathie Reilly at [k.reilly0001@gmail.com](mailto:k.reilly0001@gmail.com) or Susie Donaldson at [Susie.donaldson@outlook.com](mailto:Susie.donaldson@outlook.com).

**MONONGALIA COUNTY CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER BIRTHDAY CLUB:** "For a minimum donation of \$25, you can honor your friends or family on their birthday and support a young victim of abuse on theirs. By joining the MCCAC's Birthday Club, you will ensure that a child abuse victim in Monongalia County will receive a

card and present on his/her birthday. If the donation is made in honor, or memory, of a friend or family member his/her birthday will be recognized on the MCCAC Birthday Calendar and they will receive a card informing them of the donation in their honor. This is a great opportunity to support a great cause and ensure that a young child abuse victim has a happy birthday!" For more information on this opportunity go to [www.moncocac.org](http://www.moncocac.org).



**NORTHERN WEST VIRGINIA CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING ARTISTS' "DIFFERENT VOICES & COMMON EXPERIENCES" OPENING NIGHT RECEPTION:**

There will be a free public reception on Friday, August 3rd, 2018 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Monongalia Ars Center, 107 High Street, Morgantown. Participating artists and the community are encouraged to attend to enjoy the visual and performance art with wonderful company. Refreshments will be available. The exhibit will be open through August 25th.

*For questions call or email Christine Wilcox @ 304-296-6091 or email: [cwilcox@nwvcil.org](mailto:cwilcox@nwvcil.org).*

**STATE-WIDE AND AREA EVENTS**



Information about the **Kanawha Valley NOW** chapter is available at [www.facebook.com/Kanawha-Valley-NOW-1976287046030339/?ref=br\\_rs](https://www.facebook.com/Kanawha-Valley-NOW-1976287046030339/?ref=br_rs) or email [kanawhavalleynow@gmail.com](mailto:kanawhavalleynow@gmail.com).

West Virginia NOW has a Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/WestVirginiaNOW/](https://www.facebook.com/WestVirginiaNOW/).



**FAIRNESS WEST VIRGINIA GALA IS SEPTEMBER 15TH:** According to the Fairness West Virginia web site ([www.fairnesswv.org](http://www.fairnesswv.org)), "This year's gala will be held on Saturday Sept. 15 at the West Virginia Culture Center starting at 6 p.m. We hope you will take the time to register and book your rooms ASAP.

"Our special discounted rate for rooms at Charleston's Embassy Suites of \$110/night for singles and \$120/night for doubles is available through Aug. 15. Please call 304-347-8700 and use promo code FWV.

"We also have a limited number of tickets available for a discounted price of \$100 for an early bird special. That's a \$25 discount from the regular price of \$125! Purchase your discounted tickets by July 15.

“We welcome you to join us as advocates, legislators, and Fairness allies from across the state come together to celebrate the progress we’ve made in recent years and look forward to the fight ahead. We’ll have entertainment, a superb meal, silent auctions galore and a full, open bar. Register now to join us for the event.”

The full list of sponsors is also available on the Fairness West Virginia website.



**ACLU OF WEST VIRGINIA IS HIRING:** The ACLU of West Virginia is hiring a staff attorney/legal director. More information is available at [acluwv.org/](http://acluwv.org/).

### RELIGIOUS HOLY DAYS IN JUNE 2018 FROM PETER CLARK

For Native Americans, July marks the season of the Mountain Spirit Dances for the Mescalero Apache people of New Mexico; the Hopi Snake Dances, marking a sixteen-day ritual of purification; the Green Corn Ceremony or Stomp Dance, performed by Seminole and other Oklahoma tribes as a time of renewal and purification; and the Sun Dance, observed by Plains peoples (Arapaho, Cheyenne, Shoshone, Arikara, Crow, Sioux, and others) as a time of penitence and sacrifice. It is also known as Xmaay, the season of big berries when summer fruit is ripe for harvesting.

Sunday, July 1

- Jashn-e Tirgan – Zoroastrianism  
The festival of water.

Tuesday, July 3

- Ghambar Maidyoshem ends – Zoroastrianism  
Ending the celebration of the creation of water, the sowing of summer crops, and the harvesting of grain.

Thursday, July 5

- Birthday of Gurū Hargobind Sahib Ji – Sikhism  
Celebrating a renowned martial artist who was named the 6th of the 11 Sikh Gurūs (1595 – 1644 C.E.).

Friday, July 6

- Birthday of the XIVth Dalai Lama – Tibetan Buddhism  
Celebrating the 83rd birthday of His Holiness Tenzin Gyatso, born in 1935 C.E. in northeastern Tibet. The Nobel Peace Prize laureate is the spiritual leader of the Tibetan government in exile and is revered as the fourteenth in a succession of manifestations of Avalokiteśvara, the enlightened being (bodhisattva) who embodies compassion in Buddhist practice.

Tuesday, July 10

- Martyrdom of the Báb – Bahá’í  
Anniversary of the martyrdom of the Báb, the forerunner of Bábá’u’lláh, in Persia in 1850 C.E. The Báb and 20,000 of his followers were killed because of their religious convictions throughout the mid-1800’s. Work is suspended on this day.

Wednesday, July 11

- Feast Day of St. Benedict – Catholic Christianity

Celebrating the life of St. Benedict of Nursia (480 – 547 C.E.), the founder of Western Christian monasticism whose Rule is still widely read and practiced even now.

Friday, July 13

- Kalimát – Bahá'í

The beginning of the seventh month of the Bahá'í year, meaning “words.”

- Ullambana – Buddhism

A day when Buddhists make offerings to the Triple Gem—the Buddha, the Dharma [teachings], and the Sangha [monastic community]—on behalf of their ancestors.

- Obon – Buddhism

A Japanese festival to honor deceased ancestors, usually involving the lighting of bonfires, traditional meals, paper lanterns, and folk dancing. Locally this festival is celebrated at various times in July and August.

Saturday, July 14

- Feast Day of St. Kateri Tekakwitha – Catholic Christianity and Native American spirituality  
Celebrating the life and ministry of Kateri Tekakwitha (1656 – April 17, 1680), a Mohawk-Algonquin woman who is the first Native American to be canonized by the Roman Catholic Church. She was so recognized by Pope Benedict XVI in 2012, over three hundred years after her death.

Saturday, July 21

- Tisha B'Av – Judaism

A solemn day of mourning and fasting for the destruction of the First and Second Temples in Jerusalem, as well as other tragedies in Jewish history coinciding with this date, beginning at sundown.

Sunday, July 22

- Feast of St. Mary Magdalene – Roman Catholic, Orthodox, Anglican, and Lutheran Christian churches

Also known as the Penitent, Mary Magdalene is celebrated as one of Jesus' earliest and most faithful disciples, after being healed by him. She is also recognized as a witness to Jesus' death and the first recorded witness of his resurrection on Easter.

Monday, July 23

- Chaturmas – Hinduism and Jainism

This day marks the beginning of a four-month period (ending in November) during which time devotees observe some form of vow. Penance, fasting, and other religious observances mark this period. It is considered an inauspicious time for weddings or thread ceremonies.

- Birthday of Emperor Haile Salassi I – Rastafari

Celebrating the birth of Ras [prince or chief] Tafari Makonnen (1892 – 1975 C.E.), who ruled as Emperor of Ethiopia from 1916 to 1974 (officially from 1930 to 1974), and who is professed by faithful Rasta believers as God incarnate.

- Birthday of Gurū Har Krishan Sahib Ji – Sikhism

Marking the birth of the 8th and youngest of the 11 Sikh Gurūs (1656 – 1664 C.E.) in the Nanakshahi calendar.

- Khordad Sal – Zoroastrianism

The birth anniversary of the prophet Zarathustra (Zoroaster), according to the Qadimi calendar.

Tuesday, July 24

- Pioneer Day – Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints  
Celebrated annually as the anniversary of the entry of LDS pioneers into the Valley of the Great Salt Lake, in Utah in 1847 C.E., after a historic trek across 1,300 miles of wilderness.

Friday, July 27

- Gurū Purnima – Hinduism, Jainism, and Buddhism  
This day celebrates the ancient Hindu sage Krishna Dvaipayana, also known as Veda Vyāsa, who is credited as the compiler of the sacred Vedas, the author of the Eighteen Puranas (supplementary texts), and credited with writing the Sanskrit epic Mahābhārata. The term “gurū” refers to a teacher or remover of darkness. Jains and Buddhists also mark this day as an opportunity to thank their teachers.

Saturday, July 28

- Dharma Day (Asalha Puja Day) – Buddhism  
This day commemorates the historical Buddha’s first sermon, called “Turning of the wheel of Dharma (Dhamma),” following his own enlightenment. The following day marks the beginning of the three-month Vassa or “Rains Retreat” for Theravadin Buddhist monks and nuns. This period is a time for training in Dharma studies, meditation practice, and giving religious services to the people.

Sunday, July 30

- Oharai-taisai – Shinto  
A purification ceremony to cleanse believers from offenses committed during the first half of the year. A large ring of woven grasses and reeds is placed at the entrance to Shinto shrines, and people walk through the ring as a symbol of inner purification.

If you want more information about any of these holy days, please contact UCSF Health Spiritual Care Services at 415-353-1941 (Rev. Dr. Peter Yuichi Clark).

Our thanks to the Council of Religious Leaders of Metropolitan Chicago, the Multifaith Action Society of British Columbia (Canada), BBC’s Religion Website, Peel Schools District Board (Mississauga, Ontario, Canada), the Arizona State University Provost’s Office, the NCCJ of the Piedmont Triad, the Anti-Defamation League, Project Interfaith (Omaha, NE), the University of British Columbia’s Equity & Inclusion Office, the Center for Spiritual and Ethical Education, and [www.interfaith-calendar.org](http://www.interfaith-calendar.org)

To subscribe to this calendar and sync it with your Google, Outlook, or iCal calendars, visit <http://ucsfspiritcare.org> and select the “Resources” menu.