



**Community Coalition for Social Justice**  
**PO Box 160**  
**Morgantown, WV 26507-0160**  
**ccsjwv@hotmail.com**  
**www.ccsjwv.org**

**UPDATE: 1 SEPTEMBER 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:** Our next meeting will be on **Tuesday, September 11th**, 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 FALBO**

**THEATER:** 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. The program will honor Sister Mary Agnes Gubert; Anna Fitziu; Phyllis Curtin; Eleanor Steber; WVU alumnae Dr. Ollie Watts Davis, Marcie Ley, Joanie Jackson Brittingham, Dr. Aimé Sposato, and Emily Hastings Keene; and former WVU faculty member Frances Yeend.

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!

Please help us publicize this event with the attached flyer.

**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.

**Hidden Figures For Local Schools:** We are planning to purchase copies of age-appropriate versions of *Hidden Figures*, the landmark study of the African American women who worked for NASA, for Monongalia County's elementary and middle schools.



**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

**CCSJ is a 501 (c) (3) organization so we do not endorse candidates, but please remember that the deadline to register to vote in November's General Election is October 16th. Information is available at [sos.wv.gov/elections/VoterRegistration/Pages/default.aspx](http://sos.wv.gov/elections/VoterRegistration/Pages/default.aspx).**



**MORGANTOWN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION:** The next regular meeting will be Thursday, September 20, 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 September:

**September 3 Labor Day** – Celebrates the historic struggles of workers in the United States to achieve safer working conditions, shorter hours, and humane restrictions on child labor while contributing to productive economies.

**September 8 International Literacy Day** – Supports awareness of the importance of persons being able to read and write in order to participate in today's economic, legal, health and social environments.

**September 17 Constitution Day and Citizenship Day** – Commemorates the ratification in 1787 of the United States Constitution, the organization of government, and rights of citizenship. Also honors all who have become United States citizens.

**September 21 International Day of Peace** – Calls for continual working for peace and reduction of use of violence in attempting to solve problems among individuals and all levels of human interaction.



**GREATER MORGANTOWN INTERFAITH ASSOCIATION (GMIA) MEETING IS SEPTEMBER 9TH:**

The next meeting will be Sunday, September 9th, from 3:00 to 5:00 at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Morgantown, 429 Warrick Street. The guest speaker will be Colleen Harshbarger, who will discuss the Blue Zones proposal.

The GMIA will be participating in the Scotts Run Street Fair on September 15th.

The group will also be sponsoring an event on October 7<sup>th</sup> focused on “Global Citizenship” at the end of WVU’s Diversity week.

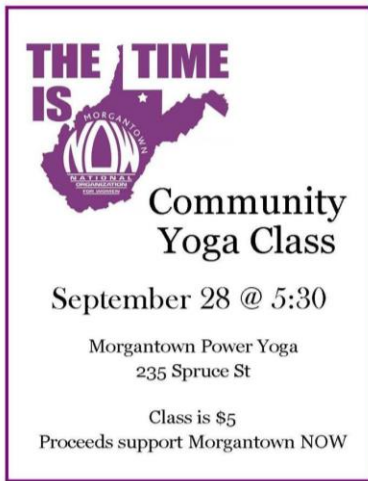
This is a very active group, and you can follow them on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/MorgantownInterfaithAssociation/](http://www.facebook.com/MorgantownInterfaithAssociation/). Action, education, and connection plans are on the agenda.



**MORGANTOWN NOW CHAPTER MEETING SEPTEMBER 11TH:** The next meeting will be Tuesday September 11th from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Monongalia Friends Meeting House, 648 E. Brockway Avenue, Morgantown. The group will be talking about 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, September 9th 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/).



**SCOTT'S RUN STREET FAIR IS SEPTEMBER 15TH:** Please watch the local newspaper or Facebook for details of this annual event.



**NAACP NEXT MEETING SEPTEMBER 18TH:** 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.



**LEAGUE OF  
WOMEN VOTERS OF  
MORGANTOWN-  
MONONGALIA**

**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS EVENTS SEPTEMBER 8TH AND 26TH:** The League will be participating in the **Rise for Renewables event at the Farmers' Market** September 8th from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m.

The Fall membership meeting will be September 26th at 7:00 p.m. in the Aull Center, next to the Morgantown Public Library on Spruce Street. The guest speaker will be Professor Bob Bastress, the constitutional law expert at the WVU College of Law, who will discuss constitutional amendments in general, pros and cons of amending the constitution, the legal meaning of Amendment 1 vs. how both sides are presenting it, and ramifications of Amendment 2.

*– Save the Dates! –*

**DIVERSITY WEEK / SEPT 29 - OCT 7, 2018**

**ONE MOUNTAINEER  
FAMILY**

The schedule for this annual WVU event is not yet available. Check [diversity.wvu.edu/diversity-initiatives/diversity-week](http://diversity.wvu.edu/diversity-initiatives/diversity-week) for updates. There are usually many activities that are open to the public.

**WVU WOMEN'S AND GENDER STUDIES EVENTS:** The Fall schedule includes:

Friday, September 14th, 5:30 p.m.: Welcome Potluck for New Faculty at the home of home of State Delegate Barbara Fleischauer and Professor Bob Bastress.

Thursday, October 11th, 7:00 p.m.: Film "Blackburner Dreams" with presentation by filmmaker Brenda Hayes, 104 Library.

Thursday November 29th, 2:00-5:00 p.m.: Women's and Gender Studies Fair, Mountainlair Ballroom.

For more information, please go to [womensgenderstudies.wvu.edu](http://womensgenderstudies.wvu.edu).



**CONVERSATIONS WITH COPS ON SEPTEMBER 11<sup>TH</sup> AND NOVEMBER 13<sup>TH</sup>:** These programs will be in the WVU Mountainlair Commons Area from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

“Conversations with Cops’ is an ongoing multicultural program series that seeks to foster positive communication between Morgantown law enforcement and the cultural communities that create WVU. The theme of the upcoming program will be, “Women and Law Enforcement”. The discussion will lead with the introduction of law enforcement agencies and a discussion of women’s rights, and then open the floor for a question-and-answer session.

“This is an open forum for students to communicate freely and openly with local law enforcement agencies about any subject. Representatives will be present from the Morgantown Police Department, the WVU University Police, the WV State Police, the Monongalia County Sheriff’s Office, the U.S. Attorney’s Office, and WVU’s Equity Assurance Title IX Office. The event will be moderated by Jason Burns of the WVU Office of Multicultural Programs, Eric Jordan of the WVU Center for Black Culture & Research, and Mariana Matthews of the Title IX Office.

“FREE PIZZA will be served on a first-come, first-served basis.

“Sponsored by the WVU Office of Multicultural Programs, the WVU Center for Black Culture & Research, WVU’s Equity Assurance/Title IX Office, and will include representatives from the Morgantown Police Department, the WVU University Police, the WV State Police, the Monongalia County Sheriff’s Office, and the U.S. Attorney’s Office. For more information, please email: Jason.Burns@mail.wvu.edu or call: 304-293-0890.”

**APPALACHIAN PRISON BOOK PROJECT FIRST ANNUAL WALK FOR JUSTICE ON SEPTEMBER 15<sup>TH</sup>:** This event will be held from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in Morgantown to collect books for people who are incarcerated.

It is a forty-minute walk on the Rail Trail to Stansbury Hall plus a meeting in the Mountaineer Room of the Mountainlair. Start at WVU’s Core Arboretum for a two-mile walk or at the Sixth Street entrance to the Rail Trail for a one-mile walk. Free Parking is available at the WVU Coliseum, and then use the PRT to return to your car after the walk and meeting.

To register go to [docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScfTAH0kkI0eT-pS5Hc54gm1CnIjE3jp80Rw7f3JQJ8AeXSQ/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScfTAH0kkI0eT-pS5Hc54gm1CnIjE3jp80Rw7f3JQJ8AeXSQ/viewform)

Walk Registration is \$10.00. Walk registration with a t-shirt is \$20. Student discount walk registration with a t-shirt is \$15. A t-shirt for long-distance supporters is \$25, and a t-shirt for pickup is \$20.

**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).



For more information about this event, go to [nwvcil.org/](http://nwvcil.org/)

**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).

**NEW BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP STARTING FOR THOSE WHO HAVE LOST LOVED ONES DUE TO THE OPIOID EPIDEMIC:**

Thanks for Ed Horvat for passing on this information:

“Every day 115 people die from an opioid related overdose. Within this epidemic there are a lack of resources for the friends and families of the victims. We here at Harmony, want to provide help during this time of crisis.

“We are starting a support group for those who have lost friends, family, or loved ones to the opioid epidemic. The group will run from 5-6pm every other Thursday, beginning July 19th. The group will be free of charge, but donations are appreciated. Donations from the group will be given to the West Virginia Family Grief Center.

“If you would like to attend please give our office a call so that we can have the appropriate space ready. This group is designed for those who are 18 years and older. If you have any questions, or would like to reserve a spot, please call us at 304-460-5123 Option 1.”

Cole Warner, Harmony/ROOTS, 1005 White Willow Way, Morgantown, WV 26505

Phone: 304-460-5123 ext. 1

[www.grwhealth.com/](http://www.grwhealth.com/)

Harmony & R.O.O.T.S. - Your Ally In Mental Health

[www.grwhealth.com](http://www.grwhealth.com)

“Harmony & ROOTS your ally in mental health. Harmony is a clinic dedicated to treating mental illness. ROOTS is a clinic for treating opioid addiction.”

**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 at the West Virginia Culture Center starting at 6:00 p.m. This year's theme is "Faith is Fairness." "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." Contact Fairness West Virginia at [fairnesswv.org/2018/06/29/tickets-on-sale-for-our-annual-gala/](http://fairnesswv.org/2018/06/29/tickets-on-sale-for-our-annual-gala/) for ticket information.

StoryCorps is coming to Charleston from September 9th through October 7th, and Fairness West Virginia is "partnering with them to help tell the stories of LGBTQ West Virginians! Are you and a partner interested in sitting down for an interview?" Send a private message through their Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/fairnesswv/](https://www.facebook.com/fairnesswv/) or email [billy@fairnesswv.org](mailto:billy@fairnesswv.org) to get added to their interview calendar.



**OUR CHILDREN OUR FUTURE HOSTS 2018 WV PEOPLE'S POLICY SUMMIT SEPTEMBER 18TH:** This event will be held at the West Virginia Cultural Center in Charleston from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Here's the description from [actionnetwork.org/events/2018-wv-peoples-policy-summit-hosted-by-our-children-our-future](http://actionnetwork.org/events/2018-wv-peoples-policy-summit-hosted-by-our-children-our-future).

"Join us at our annual People's Policy Summit on September 18th, where you will:

"\* Learn about 24+ new policy campaigns (including Black Lung Pension Fund, PEIA, and a statewide Substance Abuse Law).

"\* Get trained on how to host a Candidate Forum in your County this Fall.

"\* Help create a statewide VOTER GUIDE.

"\* Witness strategy sessions around Raising the Voices of Poor People, Tackling the Opioid Crisis, and How to Organize a Strike.

"Register now! Better yet, bring a school group or other large delegation. Register now!

"Thanks to all of our partners:

"WV Healthy Kids and Families Coalition, WV Center on Budget and Policy, Our Children, Our Future, Families Leading Change, Young WV, Try This WV, Planned Parenthood Votes! South Atlantic, WV FREE, WV Council of Churches, WV Working Families, West Virginians for Affordable Health Care, WV Citizen Action Group, Prevent Child Abuse WV, Call to Action for Racial Equality, National Association of Social Workers WV Chapter, WV Coalition Against Domestic Violence, American Friends Service Committee,

ACLU-WV, Ohio Valley Environmental Coalition, Sierra Club of WV, RiseUp WV, WV Fair Shake Network, and the list is growing...”

For more information, please contact Stephen at [stephen@ourfuturewv.org](mailto:stephen@ourfuturewv.org).

**WV GRASSROOTS STRATEGY GATHERING, SEPTEMBER 8TH AT WVU JACKSON’S MILL:** This event will be from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Jackson’s Mill is at 160 Jackson Mill Road, Weston, WV 26452-8011. More information is at [jacksonsmill.wvu.edu/](http://jacksonsmill.wvu.edu/).

Here’s the event information from [docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeLgiBiB7fXmtuW-6p8I6BwL820WIBZuG43nL\\_d5afN9vd23A/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeLgiBiB7fXmtuW-6p8I6BwL820WIBZuG43nL_d5afN9vd23A/viewform)

“It’s time to solidify our network and work together to really build power!

“Leaders of West Virginia grassroots organizing groups, including those who have received OCOF Safety Net Campaign Mini-Grants, are invited to this Grassroots WV Strategy Gathering. Come join us for a group strategy session as we:

- “ - Share and unpack lessons learned from recent fights
- “ - Build skills in campaign strategy design
- “ - Learn about each others' issue campaigns and map out shared goals
- “ - Brainstorm creative ideas for campaigns or actions we can coordinate together
- “ - Discuss upcoming training events (including a conference event in December) and other ways to support each other
- “ - Explore how to build a larger, more inclusive movement in our communities

“This gathering is part of OCOF's Federal Safety Net Campaign to protect West Virginians’ access to food, healthcare and other basic rights, and to defend against attacks on Medicaid, SNAP, TANF, CHIP, the ACA and other “safety net” programs that support families through hard times. Attendance at this meeting is required for those have receive OCOF Safety Net Campaign Mini-Grants, but we're inviting other grassroots leaders as well.

“An optional no-cost lodging option is available for those who wish to arrive the night before. We'll have \$25-50 gas cards for those who need them.

“\*\* For those who arrive the night before there will be a BONUS Early Bird Mixer, Sept. 7 at 7pm. Come hang out, mingle, share stories and have fun! \*\*

“(Note: This is a 501(c)3 event, meaning we will not be discussing partisan political campaigns or strategies for supporting specific candidates. However, we can collaborate on nonpartisan strategies like issue-based voter education.)”



**“HEALING JUSTICE” SCREENING AND DISCUSSION SEPTEMBER 19<sup>TH</sup>:** This event will be at Destiny Baptist Church, 115 North Raleigh Street, in Martinsburg. Contact Michele Barnes at [michele.barnes@ftr.com](mailto:michele.barnes@ftr.com) for more information. The film “explores the causes and consequences of the current American justice system and its effect on marginalized communities. This powerful documentary addresses the school-to-prison pipeline, the need for comprehensive criminal justice reform, and the importance of healing and restorative practices.”

**WV CRIMINAL JUSTICE LISTENING PROJECT MEETING SEPTEMBER 29<sup>TH</sup>:** The meeting will be at 9:00 a.m. at Covenant House in Charleston. For more information, please contact Lida at 304-356-8428.

### **RELIGIOUS HOLY DAYS IN SEPTEMBER 2018 FROM PETER CLARK**

For Native Americans, September marks the season of Genuuqwiikw, the season of mountain trails and the beginning of the fall hunt for game; the Iroquois Green Corn Ceremony, a time of renewal involving dances, fasting, offerings, and readings from the code of Handsome Lake; and the Jicarilla Apache Ghost Dance in New Mexico.

Saturday, September 1

\* First Parkash – Sikhism

The commemoration of the installation of the Adi Granth, the first edition of the Sikh scriptures, in the Golden Temple by Arjan Dev, the fifth Sikh guru, in 1604 C.E.

Monday, September 3

\* Sri Krishna Jayanti or Krishna Janmashtami – Hinduism

A festival celebrating the birth of Krishna, the eighth incarnation of the god Vishnu, whose purpose was to destroy the demon Kansa who was responsible for evil’s increase in the world.

Thursday, September 6

\* Paryushana-parva begins [until Thursday, September 13] – Jainism

The holiest period of the year for the ascetic Shvetambara sect, this festival celebrates Jain ideals through fasting, worship, and reading the life-story of Lord Mahavira from the Kalpasutra. Believers impose restraints on their daily activities by fasting, meditation, and prayer. The last day of Paryushana is called Samvatsari (Thursday, September 13) and is a solemn occasion for examining one’s thoughts and feelings, and for asking forgiveness for offenses committed against others through deeds, words, or thoughts.

Saturday, September 8

\* ‘Izzat – Bahá’í

The beginning of the tenth month of the Bahá’í year, meaning “might.”

\* Nativity of the Mother of God [Theotokos] or Birth of the Blessed Virgin – Christianity

This festival celebrates the birth of Mary, the mother of Jesus of Nazareth. In Eastern Orthodox churches she is known by the honorific of Theotokos.

Sunday, September 9

\* Rosh Hashanah begins – Judaism

Beginning at sundown is New Year's Day for the year 5779 and the anniversary of the creation of the world. Jews celebrate Rosh Hashanah with the blowing of the shofar (ram's horn) and apples and honey, marking it as the first of the Ten Days of Awe [or Repentance].

\* Festival of Ksitigarbha (Jizō) Bodhisattva – Buddhism

Celebrating Ksitigarbha (Jizō) Bodhisattva, the savior of beings who suffer in the hellish realms, as well as the guardian of expectant mothers, travelers, and deceased children in Japanese culture.

Monday, September 10

\* Ra's al-Sanat al-Hijriyah: Islamic New Year [First of Muharram] – Islam

Commemorating the migration of the prophet Muhammad and his small band of followers from Mecca to Medina in 622 C.E., in order to escape persecution and to establish the first Muslim community. The Islamic year 1440 begins at sundown.

Tuesday, September 11

\* Ethiopian New Year – Rastafari

A sacred day for Rastafarians because they consider Ethiopia to be their spiritual homeland, to which they aspire to return.

Wednesday, September 12

\* Ghambar Paitishahem – Zoroastrianism [through Sunday, September 16]

This festival celebrates the creation of the earth and the summer harvest.

Thursday, September 13

\* Ganesh Chaturthi – Hinduism

A festival celebrating the birth of Ganesh, the elephant-headed god and son of Shiva and Parvati who removes obstacles and brings luck.

Friday, September 14

\* Elevation or Exultation of the Holy Cross – Christianity

This day recognizes the Cross as a symbol of Christ's love for humankind and God's victory over death. It also marks the finding of the Holy Cross by St. Helen after it had been stolen in the 7th century C.E. Orthodox churches begin their commemoration at sundown on the preceding day. In the Ethiopian Orthodox tradition, this day is known as Meskel and is marked on September 27th.

\* Das Laxanā Parva [Daslakshan Parva] begins – Jainism

The Festival of the Ten Virtues, celebrated over ten days by the Digambara Jains, helps believers to recall and practice forgiveness, tenderness or humility, honesty, contentment or purity, truth, self-restraint, austerities, charity, celibacy, and non-attachment.

Saturday, September 15

\* Anant Chaturdashi – Jainism and Hinduism

For Hindus this day celebrates Anant, one form of Lord Vishnu. If a devout Hindu vows to honor Vishnu and keeps that vow for 14 years, it is believed that she or he will see wealth. This is also the last day of Ganesh Utsav, a 10-day Hindu celebration. Statues of Lord Ganesha are carried to bodies of water to be submerged, accompanied by devotional songs and dancing. Jains celebrate this day with special worship services and processions to the community's main temple.

Tuesday, September 18

\* Yom Kippur [Day of Atonement] – Judaism

The holiest day of the Jewish year. To reestablish their relationship with God, Jews ask for forgiveness and forgive others [Kol Nidre], and then they can confess their sins and ask for divine forgiveness. Prayer and fasting begin at sundown on this day and continue through the following day.

Friday, September 21

\* 'Āshūrā' – Islam

Sunni Muslims celebrate this day as the anniversary of Noah's departure from the Ark on Mount Ararat and the freedom of the children of Israel from Egyptian bondage. Shi'a Muslims mark this date as the anniversary of the martyrdom of Husayn, the Prophet Muhammad's grandson, in 680 C.E.

Saturday, September 22 autumn equinox

\* Shuki-sorei-sai – Shinto

A memorial service similar to the March equinox service (Shunki-sorei-sai), this day is marked by the cleaning and purification of gravesites and the reverence of ancestors as kami, or divine spirits.

\* Ohigon – Buddhism

A celebration of the equinox that is of particular importance to Japanese, Korean, and Tibetan Buddhists. During this festival, the six Paramitas [virtues] are emphasized: generosity, morality, wisdom, honesty, endeavor, and patience.

\* Autumn Feast – Native American spirituality

A day to honor the harvest end and the coming and going of the seasons, including prayers, songs, and the telling of tribal stories.

\* Mabon [Harvest Home] – Wicca

Marking the second or continuing harvest, this festival celebrates life's encapsulation as a seed to survive the cold winter, as well as the Harvest of the Vine, which symbolizes the divine power to transform the nectar of youth into the wine of elders' wisdom and spiritual maturity.

Sunday, September 23

\* Sukkot [Festival of Tabernacles] begins – Judaism

Also known as the Festival of Booths and the Harvest Festival, Jews celebrate this time as a pilgrimage feast and time of thanksgiving. The booths or huts remind Jews of the tents used by the Israelites during their years wandering in the wilderness, as well as the dwellings used by Jewish farmers at harvest time.

\* Ksamavani – Jainism

A day of universal forgiveness, in which Jains ask forgiveness of others for wrongs committed during the previous year, and they also forgive those who have caused them suffering.

Tuesday, September 25

\* Pitr-paksha or Mahalay Paksha – Hinduism

The beginning of a two-week period during which Hindu adherents perform shraddha rites to gratify the spirits of their deceased ancestors, including giving food or other donations as a form of charitable service.

Thursday, September 27

\* Mashí'yyat – Bahá'í

The beginning of the eleventh month of the Bahá'í year, meaning "will."

Friday, September 28

\* Birth of Confucius – Confucianism

The birthday of the philosopher Confucius [K'ung-tzu] in 551 B.C.E. in the Chinese state of Lu, known today as Shandong Province.

Saturday, September 29

\* St. Michael and All Angels – Christianity

A celebration of the archangel Michael and all angels (from the Greek angelos, “divine messenger”) mentioned in the Bible.

\* Navaratra or Navaratri Dusserha – Hinduism

The beginning of a nine-day festival of the divine mother, honoring Shiva’s wife Durga and seeking her blessings. It is also observed as a celebration recalling the days of Lord Krishna. Fasting and prayer are practiced.

Sunday, September 30

\* Shemini Atzeret [Eighth Day of Assembly] – Judaism

This eighth day of Sukkot [Festival of Tabernacles] features prayers for rain and a good harvest in the coming year. It begins at sundown.

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 and Inclusion Office, the University of Victoria Faculty of Law (British Columbia, Canada), 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.