



Community Coalition for Social Justice
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www.ccsjwv.org

UPDATE: 4 SEPTEMBER 2019

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 17th**, at **7:00 p.m.** at **Panera's on Patteson Drive**. We have reserved the back meeting room. If the weather is nice, we may meet outside.

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.

2019 ANNUAL MEETING/PICNIC IS SEPTEMBER 8TH: Please join us for our CCSJ annual meeting on Sunday, September 8th, from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. at the Scotts Run Museum at 465 Scotts Run Road in Osage. We will have a very short business meeting followed by time to enjoy the museum and view the video about Al Anderson that the Morgantown History Museum produced. We can also learn about all the community activities centered around the museum.

Our picnic will include a special cake to celebrate our 20th anniversary since we were organized in the fall of 1999! All are welcome.

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY 2020: Our Fourteenth Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Celebration will be on January 20, 2020, and we are pleased to report that the City of Morgantown has again committed funding to support this event.



This year's program will feature **Ilene Evans portraying Harriet Tubman** (1820-1913). "Tubman was born into slavery in Maryland but escaped through the Underground Railroad in 1849. She became the most famous leader of that network, aiding slaves in their escape to free states and Canada. When the Civil War erupted her underground experiences and knowledge of covert operations made her an invaluable resource to Federal officers. She served as a spy, nurse, scout, and guide for Union troops and was present at the ill-fated assault of Fort Wagner by the 54th Massachusetts in South Carolina."

This presentation is a History Alive! program of the West Virginia Humanities Council.



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



MORGANTOWN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION: The next regular meeting will be Thursday, September 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/.

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

Here are the events for September:

September 2: 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 21 attempting to solve problems among individuals and all levels of human interaction.



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS: The League of Women Voters is working with a state and a local group to begin planning for the 100th anniversary of the 19th amendment, which gave all women in the country the right to vote in 2020. If you are interested in participating in the planning, please contact Vicki Conner at vicki_conner@msn.com.

The League joined with the Morgantown chapter of the National Organization for Women for an event in late August to kick off a year of activities related to 2020.

The League’s Fall Membership Meeting will be Thursday, October 17th at 7:00 p.m. Dr. Katharine Antolini, chair of History and International Studies at West Virginia Wesleyan, will be the speaker. She is well known for her research about women’s suffrage.



GREATER MORGANTOWN INTERFAITH ASSOCIATION (GMIA): The next meeting will be September 8 in conjunction with the CCSJ annual meeting/picnic.

You can follow GMIA on Facebook at www.facebook.com/MorgantownInterfaithAssociation/ or on the web at www.morgantowninterfaith.org. The email address is morgantowninterfaith@gmail.com.



“Join us on Sunday, Sept. 15 at 6:30pm for a celebration of LGBTQ History and WVU Diversity Week. Local LGBTQ Organizations will bring greetings and share information about their work in our community.

“Ted Hoover, from the Persad Center in Pittsburgh, will share a presentation entitled 'Still, They Resisted: The Lesser Known Heroes of the LGBTQ Rights Movement' followed by a Q & A Session.

“There will be a reception with refreshments following the event in the church parlor, where local organizations will be available to talk and share information with community members.”



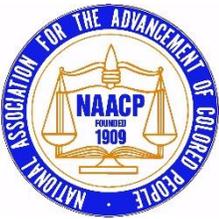
MORGANTOWN NOW CHAPTER MEETS SEPTEMBER 10TH: This meeting will be from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. at the **Morgantown Public Library**, 373 Spruce Street.

“Please note, we'll be meeting at the Morgantown Library for this meeting as we have the unique and exciting opportunity to host a webinar with the Coms Project.

“The Coms Project is committed to increasing collaborative and evidence-based message strategies throughout the reproductive health, rights and justice community.

“If you have something you'd like to add to the agenda, please email items to morgantownnow@gmail.com the Sunday before the meeting.”

Follow this group on Facebook at www.facebook.com/MorgantownNow/



NAACP MEETS SEPTEMBER 18TH: The next meeting will be Tuesday, September 18th, at 5:30 p.m. at the Pines Country Club.

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THE MORGANTOWN KINGWOOD NAACP HOSTS

VOTER REGISTRATION 101

PRESENTED BY THE WEST VIRGINIA ACLU

FREE EVENT. ALL ARE WELCOMED

WHEN: WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 4, 2019 AT 6P

LOCATION: THE CLUBHOUSE GRILL RESTAURANT

PINES COUNTRY CLUB

3062 POINT MARION ROAD

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

The NAACP will again be hosting an essay contest in conjunction with Martin Luther King, Jr., Day. Dr. Jerry Carr, the Branch president, has reported that the “Essay Committee has already established a theme: ‘What’s Different Today? Civil Rights Before and After Martin Luther King.’

Essays must be a minimum of 300 words and must focus on a civil rights topic (not on Martin Luther King's biography)." More details will follow here.

For more information about the Morgantown/Kingwood Branch of the NAACP, please email Morgantown.NAACP3241@gmail.com or go to www.MorgantownNAACP.org.

UPDATE ON IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT (ICE) ACTIVITY IN MONONGALIA COUNTY: There has been much discussion about reported recent ICE activity in Monongalia County. Lt. Matt Solomon, CCSJ's liaison with the Morgantown Police Department, has provided the email below that Morgantown Police Chief Ed Preston received from ICE about that activity:

From: Walls, Khaalid H <Khaalid.H.Walls@ice.dhs.gov>
Sent: Saturday, August 24, 2019 11:32 AM
To: Ed Preston <epreston@morgantownwv.gov>

Subject: ICE Activity in West Virginia

Good morning Chief Preston,

At the request of the ICE field office leadership, I wanted to share some information about our recent law enforcement activities in the region. If you choose, you can make this information public, as you see fit. We have shared some of this with local media already. Thank you.

During the week Aug. 12, deportation officers with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) arrested seven illegal aliens during targeted enforcement efforts in Monongalia and surrounding counties of West Virginia.

All of these individuals remain in ICE custody pending removal proceedings.

ICE regularly conducts targeted enforcement operations during which additional resources and personnel are dedicated to apprehending deportable foreign nationals. All enforcement activities are conducted with the same level of professionalism and respect that ICE officers exhibit every day. The focus of the West Virginia effort targeted individuals, who in addition to their immigration violations, had criminal histories that included some of the following offenses:

Battery, Drugs-Delivery of a Controlled Substance, Burglary and Breaking and Entering, Domestic Violence, Battery w/ a Deadly Weapon.

Hit and Run, Possession of a Controlled Substance (pending) Domestic Battery.

During ICE enforcement operations, ICE officers frequently encounter other aliens illegally present in the United States. These aliens are evaluated on a case-by-case basis, and, when appropriate, they are arrested by ICE officers.

Khaalid Walls
ICE Public Affairs



SCOTTS RUN STREET FAIR: This annual event will be on September 14th from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. along in Osage. Come for good food, good music, and a chance to visit the Scotts Run Museum.



UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP OF MORGANTOWN PROGRAMS FOR SEPTEMBER:

Sunday, September 1: at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Morgantown, Jim Rye will present “Composting and Pollinators.” This will be one of a variety of programs addresses ways individual families can contribute to a greener planet. Stay for a Labor Day Lunch to share.

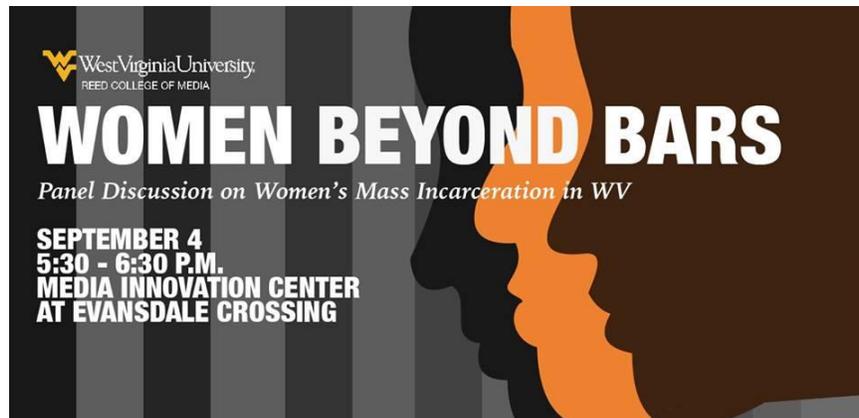
September 8: Rev. O'Kelly with "Gloves are off! Can you take the punch? The Poetry?"

September 15: Ceremony at Heritage Village at 10:30 a.m.

September 22: Cricket Hall on the Changing of the Seasons

September 29: Musick-Williams presenting on the General Assembly 2019, with a potluck to follow.

Except where noted, all events are at the Fellowship building at 429 Warrick Street at 10:45 a.m. unless otherwise noted. All are welcome. The Fellowship is a member organization of CCSJ.



“Join the WVU Reed College of Media on Wednesday, **September 4th from 5:30 – 6:30 pm** in the Media Innovation Center for a panel event, ‘Women Beyond Bars.’ Three formerly incarcerated women, as well as Lida Shepherd, who leads a team of formerly incarcerated people working for justice reform in West Virginia, will share their experiences. This panel is part of a larger reporting and advocacy communications project between the WVU Reed College of Media and the University of Oklahoma’s Gaylord College of Journalism and Mass Communication.”



Please join us for the Morgantown PFLAG September Events!

September Meeting

Tuesday, September 10, 2019 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.
Colonial Park Community Room
Colonial Park Apartments
3292 University Ave, Morgantown, WV 26505

September Social Gathering

Saturday, September 21, 2019 @ 9:00 a.m.
Panera Bread - Downtown
207 Willey Street, Morgantown WV

Other Community Events of Interest: Please Attend/Spread the Word!

**Morgantown Pride is Hosting
A Back To School 90s Party**

Saturday, September 7, 2019 8:00 p.m. – 2:00 a.m. (\$5.00)
123 Pleasant Street
123 Pleasant Street, Morgantown, WV

**Community Coalition for Social Justice
Annual Meeting & Picnic**

Sunday, September 8, 2019 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Scotts Run Museum
465 Scotts Run Road, Osage, WV

**First Presbyterian Church of Morgantown Presents
WVU Diversity Week Discussion & Film**

“Still, They Resisted - Celebrating LGBTQ History”

Sunday, September 15, 2019 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
First Presbyterian Church
456 Spruce Street, Morgantown, WV

Future Social Saturdays will be at the same time, same place, on October 19th and November 16th.

Follow PFLAG on Facebook at www.facebook.com/pflagmorgantown/ or www.pflagmorgantown.org.



MORGANTOWN PRIDE: This group “provides social and educational resources for the LGBTQ+ Community, Friends and Allies in Mon. County.” Follow this group’s activities on Facebook at www.facebook.com/MorgantownWVPride/.

BACK TO SCHOOL ‘90S PARTY IS SEPTEMBER 7TH. This event will be from 8:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m. at 123 Pleasant Street. “Throw on your best flannel and join Morgantown Pride as we kick off the school year and party like it's 1995! This event will feature live music from local artists Goodwolf, Haley Slagle and The Hard Way, and Before I Sleep Official! Stick around after the bands as we dance into the night with top hits from the 90's!”



“Tickets are \$5 at the door, doors open at 8pm, music begins at 9pm.

“We'd like to thank our sponsor, 123 Pleasant Street, for helping make this event possible!”



WVU DIVERSITY WEEK IS SEPTEMBER 15-21: “Diversity Week is an annual, week-long event sponsored by the Division of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. The events occurring during the week provide opportunities for individuals to come together in unity to celebrate the rich diversity of our University community.

“Although we endeavor to celebrate diversity every day, one of the goals for these week long events is to promote the different spectrums of diversity that are continuously growing on the WVU campus. It is structured in a way to bring the campus together and to share student differences and similarities through a variety activities and venues.

“The Division of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion is committed to accommodating all attendees with disabilities and adheres to the guidelines set forth in the Americans with Disabilities Act ADA.”

There are far too many events to include here, but **the schedule is available** at diversity.wvu.edu/diversity-initiatives/diversity-week/2018-diversity-week-schedule. Many are free and open to the public.

For questions regarding Diversity Week, please contact Kirsten Brown-Barnicle at 304-293-7470 or by email at kbrown30@mail.wvu.edu.

WVU NATIVE AMERICAN STUDIES PEACE TREE CEREMONY AND LECTURE ARE SEPTEMBER 26TH: The ceremony will be at 11:30 a.m. at the WVU Peace Tree outside Elizabeth Moore Hall on the downtown campus). The rain location will be announced later.

The guest of honor will be Jamie Jacobs (Tonawanda Seneca). In addition to representing his tribal nation, Jacobs is a cultural educator and artist and works for the Rochester (NY) Museum and Science Center, Rock Foundation.

His lecture, "The Seneca and the Great Law of Peace," will be at 7:00 p.m. in the J. Gluck Theater of the Mountainlair Student Union. A welcome reception begins in the theater foyer at 6:30 p.m.

Both events are free and open to the public.

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 or email kanawhavalleynow@gmail.com.

West Virginia NOW has a Facebook page at www.facebook.com/WestVirginiaNow.



**A FAIRER
FUTURE**

10th Anniversary Gala!

FAIRNESS WEST VIRGINIA GALA IS SEPTEMBER 28TH: This annual event will be at the Beni Kedem Temple in downtown Charleston.

"Fairness West Virginia has been fighting for the Mountain State's LGBTQ community for 10 years. We hope you will join us on September 28th to celebrate this milestone

anniversary.

"The event features live music and dancing, a selection of wine and beer, and a buffet-style gourmet dining experience.

"This year's keynote speaker will be world boxing champ Christy Salters.

"Tickets are available online at <https://act.myngp.com/Forms/94559768389158912> at \$125 apiece. You must have a ticket to attend. If you're interested in being a sponsor or having an ad in our program, please call Andrew Schneider at 304-806-2220.

"We hope you'll join us to celebrate 10 years of Fairness WV!"

More information will be available at www.facebook.com/fairnesswv/ and [fairnesswv.org](https://www.fairnesswv.org).

There is also a new "**Name and Gender Change Guide for West Virginia Residents**" available at [fairnesswv.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/WV-Name-Gender-Change-Guide.pdf](https://www.fairnesswv.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/WV-Name-Gender-Change-Guide.pdf).



ACLU OF WEST VIRGINIA IS HIRING IMMIGRANTS’ RIGHTS COORDINATOR: “The American Civil Liberties Union of West Virginia, the state’s leading civil liberties and civil rights organization, seeks a full-time Immigrants’ Rights Campaign Coordinator to build upon our past work and implement an effective campaign to help educate, organize and advocate in support of immigrant communities in the Mountain State.

“The ACLU of West Virginia seeks a dynamic, innovative, and passionate individual to serve as its full-time Immigrants’ Rights Campaign Coordinator. This is a newly created, grant-funded position with responsibility for creating and implementing a plan to help educate, organize and advocate in support of immigrants’ rights in West Virginia. The Immigrants’ Rights Campaign Coordinator will play a lead role in building a coalition of impacted community members, activists, faith leaders, business leaders and service providers to create space and help immigrants in the state come out from the shadows.

“The ACLU of West Virginia’s main office is in Charleston. However, the Immigrants’ Rights Campaign Coordinator will be working statewide. The job will require significant in-state travel and likely occasional out-of-state travel. The Immigrants’ Rights Campaign Coordinator will report directly to the ACLU of West Virginia’s Executive Director and will work in close collaboration with the ACLU of West Virginia’s Community Outreach Director, as well as policy, communications, and legal staff.

“This is an ideal opportunity for a talented organizer and communicator to have a significant impact on civil liberties and civil rights in the Mountain State. The professional who holds this position will have the opportunity to mobilize activists and help grow a recognized leader of the resistance to the attacks on our civil liberties.

“This position is primarily grant-funded, with a minimum commitment for two years of funding.”

More information is available at www.acluww.org/en/jobs/immigrants-rights-campaign-coordinator.

The ACLU is also hiring a part-time administrative assistant. More information on that position is available at www.acluww.org/en/jobs/administrative-assistant-part-time.

RELIGIOUS HOLY DAYS IN SEPTEMBER 2019 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.

Sunday, 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 2

· 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.

Tuesday, September 3

· 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.

Sunday, 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.

Monday, September 9

· ‘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.

Thursday, September 12

· Ghambar Paitishahem – Zoroastrianism [through Monday, September 16]

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

· 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.

· Ethiopian New Year – Rastafari

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

Saturday, 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.

- 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.

Sunday, September 15

- 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.

Monday, September 23 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.

Thursday, September 27

· Mashí'yyat – Bahá'í

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

Saturday, 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.

Sunday, September 29

· Rosh Hashanah begins – Judaism

Beginning at sundown is New Year's Day for the year 5780 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].

· 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.

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.

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