

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

UPDATE: AUGUST 1, 2022

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.

Also: Please note that CCSJ is a 501 (c) (3) organization and therefore is non-partisan. While we encourage everyone to vote and participate in the political process, we do not endorse candidates, provide a forum for candidates to campaign, or publicize partisan political statements.

CONTACT Us: Please send your web site suggestions to Mike Attfield at mdattfieldo@gmail.com. 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@gmail.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.

August CCSJ Meeting is Tuesday, August 16th at 7:30 p.m. on Zoom.

Here is the Zoom information:

Topic: Community Coalition for Social Justice August Meeting Time: Aug 16, 2022 07:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81388479072?pwd=T21wOHRoV1lxSWZUWitYRExhc3dOdz09

Meeting ID: 813 8847 9072

Passcode: 699467 One tap mobile

+13017158592,81388479072#, *699467# US (Washington DC)

+13126266799,81388479072#, *699467# US (Chicago)

Dial by your location

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

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+1 646 931 3860 US

+1 386 347 5053 US

+1 408 638 0968 US (San Jose)

+1 564 217 2000 US

Meeting ID: 813 8847 9072

Passcode: 699467

Find your local number: https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kcJLXQg9wZ



"READ ALOUD" PROJECT WITH THE SHACK NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE FINAL PROJECT: We had almost \$500 remaining after purchasing the books for this project so have offered that to the staff of the Shack to purchase seating for the children.

Social Justice Fair Scheduled for September 18th: We are making plans for a social justice/environmental justice "fair" at Morgantown's Ruby Amphitheatre on September 18th from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. to be funded with support from the FirstEnergy Foundation. If you are interested in participating, please contact Mike Attfield at mdattfieldo@gmail.com.

CCSJ To BE AT MORGANTOWN PRIDE BLOCK PARTY: We have reserved a table to be at the block party on Sunday, August 28th, from 1:00 to 7:30 p.m. More details about the weekend's events are below.

BOOK LISTS UPDATED: We have updated our lists of books at the Morgantown Public Library system that focus on social justice topics. These will soon be available under the "Resources" tab of our website at www.ccsjwv.org/resources.html.



MARTIN LUTHER KING, Jr., Day 2023: We are beginning to think about Martin Luther King, Jr., Day 2023 and have signed our contract to be back at the Metropolitan Theatre on January 16th. Our tentative theme is "Telling West Virginia's Stories and Dreams."

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 CIVILIAN POLICE REVIEW AND ADVISORY BOARD UPDATE: We are still waiting for news of appointments to this board. Mike Attfield spoke at the City Council meeting on July 5th to express our interest in City Council making these appointments soon. City Council will be meeting in executive session during a special session before the regular meeting on Tuesday, August 2nd, and appointments to this board is one of the items on the agenda.



MORGANTOWN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION: The next regular meeting will be Thursday, **August 18th** at 6:30 p.m. You can get contact information for the commission, including information on filing complaint forms at www.morgantownwv.gov/272/Human-Rights-Commission.

You can get copies of the agendas and minutes for the commission meetings at www.morgantownwv.gov/government/commissions/human-rights-commission-agenda-minutes/.

You can find a calendar of annual human rights observances at www.morgantownwv.gov/DocumentCenter/View/396/Calendar-of-Annual-Human-Rights-Observances-PDF

Here are the events for August:

August 6: National Night Out – Marks the importance of collaborative efforts in reducing crime and for strengthening neighborhood relationships which help prevent crime and protect persons from criminal activity.

August 9: International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples – Celebrates the richness of indigenous cultures and recognizes the challenges indigenous peoples face today, ranging from poverty and disease to dispossession, discrimination, and denial of basic human rights.

August 12: International Youth Day – Celebrates young people and the integral role they play to create a world fit for children.

August 23: International Day for the Remembrance of Slave Trade and Its Abolition – Memorializes the tragedy of the transatlantic slave trade, coinciding with the anniversary of the uprising in Santa Domingo (today Haiti and the Dominican Republic) that initiated its abolition. Tragically other forms of slavery still persist today.

August 30: International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearance – A day to promote taking a stand against secret imprisonment, forced disappearance and abduction and placing persons in any situation without access to relatives and/or legal representation.



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MORGANTOWN-MONONGALIA COUNTY (LWV-MM): Follow this group on Facebook at www.facebook.com/LWVMM and contact them by email at lwvmorgantown@gmail.com. You can join the League of Women Voters at tinyurl.com/join-lwvmm.

GREATER MORGANTOWN INTERFAITH ASSOCIATION: Follow this group on Facebook at

www.facebook.com/MorgantownInterfaithAssociation.



Morgantown NOW Chapter: The next meeting should be Tuesday, August 9th at 7:00 p.m. No further information was available at "press time."

Follow this group on Facebook at www.facebook.com/MorgantownNow/, which includes information about efforts in the West Virginia legislature to restrict access to abortion. Details and agenda are available through the weekly newsletter or email at morgantownnow@gmail.com.



MORGANTOWN-KINGWOOD BRANCH OF THE NAACP MEETS TUESDAY, AUGUST 16TH: This meeting of the membership will be at 5:30 p.m. via Zoom. Contact the NAACP at 3241naacp@gmail.com for more information and to learn how to participate.

The branch has a Readings on Race and Rights group that is publicized through the NAACP listserv.













If you have lived outside the USA & are unsure of your eligibility to donate, please call the Donor Client Support Center: 1-800-236-3276

Follow the NAACP on Facebook at www.facebook.com/naacp3241/?ref=page internal.



MORGANTOWN CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN-MENNONITE: Follow them on Facebook at www.facebook.com/Morgantown-Church-of-the-Brethren-Mennonite-93776113634_or at www.morgantowncob.org. Sunday services are held at 10:30 a.m. in person and via Zoom, with the link available at www.morgantowncob.org. "We ask that everyone wear a mask inside the building."

Groups are again starting to use the various spaces at Morgantown Church of the Brethren. If you have a community event or meeting that needs a space to gather, contact Wes at 681-209-2029.

The church has a Sharing Box outside the church at 464 Virginia Avenue, where you can drop off extra food you may have or take some if you need it, or swap food.



UNITARIAN-UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP OF MORGANTOWN: Sunday services are currently suspended. Check the website at UUFMWV.org for updated information or contact UUFMWV@gmail.com.

PFLAG: The closest chapter now is in Fairmont, with information available at www.pflagfairmont.org or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/groups/PFLAGFairmont.



DISMANTLING RACISM TOGETHER AUGUST MEETING: Dismantling Racism Together will meet on August 15th at 7:00 p.m. by Zoom. We will listen to a podcast on critical race theory, moral panic and the controversy over what is being taught in the schools called "The Folk Devil Made Me Do It" by Gene Demby. It will be followed by discussion. The zoom link is bit.ly/DRTMonthlyProgram.



MORGANTOWN PRIDE: For information on this group, go to www.facebook.com/MorgantownWVPride/?ref=page_internal or www.morgantownwvpride.org. Morgantown Pride has an Instagram page at www.instagram.com/morgantownwvpride/?hl=en.

Registration has closed for Morgantown Pride's Block Party sponsors and vendors. The parade will be Saturday, August 27th, at 7:00 p.m., and the party will be Sunday, August 28th, from 1: 00 to 7:30 p.m. at the Morgantown Farmers Market.





information.

There is a "Raising Trans Kids" event scheduled for August 13th on Zoom from 2:00 p.m. "The Raising Trans Kids Community for West Virginia parents, guardians, and who are raising transgender or gender diverse any age), or have kids who might be transgender or gender diverse." Email raisingtranskids@gmail.com to get the



to 3:30 Group is families kids (of

meeting



MONONGALIA COUNTY CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER EVENTS:

August 1: MCCAC will host a Tour/Information Night at the Center at 909 Greenbag Road in Morgantown "Join us to learn about MCCAC's services, the Barbara Myers Ambassador Program, and more. Tours will also be available - come check out the new addition!





WVU CENTER FOR BLACK CULTURE AND RESEARCH WELCOMES EVERYONE TO AUGUST 18TH BARBECUE:

Don't miss the Center's first event of the school year - the annual Welcome Back BBQ. Food and beverage along with live music - plus you can meet the CBC&R staff and tour the building. Everyone is welcome.

SAVE THE DATE: WVU'S DIVERSITY WEEK WILL BE OCTOBER 9-14: "WVU's annual Diversity Week endeavors to promote celebration, education, and

understanding of different identities and experiences present on our campuses. Its aim is to create an atmosphere that provides the WVU community, including students, faculty and staff, the opportunity to explore different cultures, engage in discussions that bring new perspectives, and celebrate the presence of, and contributions made by, people of all identities and experiences." Details should be forthcoming at cal.wvu.edu/event/wvu_diversity_week_2022.

STATE-WIDE AND AREA EVENTS



WEST VIRGINIA NOW: West Virginia NOW is online at www.facebook.com/WestVirginiaNow and wvnow.org. The Facebook page is another way to track action in the West Virginia legislature about restricting access to abortion.



FAIRNESS WEST VIRGINIA ANNOUNCES HUNTINGTON BANS CONVERSION THERAPY: The Huntington City Council voted on July 11th to ban conversion therapy. This makes Huntington the fourth city in the state to ban this practice.





"The Fairness Prom is for everyone. Whether you loved your prom and want one more night on the dance floor, or if you want a complete do-over without any of the high school drama, we hope to see you there. We'll have food, music, dancing, and a silent auction.

"Join us on Sept. 17 at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Charleston for a night you'll never forget. This black tie-optional party will help us celebrate our efforts to make the Mountain State a better place for LGBTQ people to live, work and raise a family."

Tickets are \$135 and can be purchased at secure.everyaction.com/7hP_0mAaKUqSXpH1rFHCRw2.

Follow Fairness West Virginia on Facebook at www.facebook.com/fairnesswv for information on the federal efforts to protect same-sex marriages and on how access to abortion affects the LGBTQ community.



ACLU of West Virginia: Follow this group on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ACLUWV, especially for information on the West Virginia legislature and access to abortion laws.

Also, on July 18th, the Circuit Court of Kanawha County, West Virginia, issued a preliminary injunction in *Women's Health Center of West Virginia* v. *Miller*, "a case challenging a West Virginia law adopted in the mid-1800s that criminalizes abortion care."

Attorney Kathleen Hartnett from the Cooley law firm argued on behalf of the Women's Health Center of West Virginia and its staff, accompanied by attorneys from the American Civil Liberties Union, ACLU of West Virginia, Mountain State Justice, and the Cooley law firm.



The **ACLU of West Virginia Equity and Justice Fellowship** is open to undergraduate students, graduate students, law students, and nontraditional students or citizen activists who identify as being in a historically marginalized community that is underrepresented in West Virginia advocacy and policy-making spaces.

Depending on fellows' areas of study and career goals, fellows can work with ACLU-WV staff on legal advocacy, policy advocacy, research, communications, community education, organizing, development, or nonprofit management matters.

The application is available at action.aclu.org/webform/wv-fellowship. Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis. There is no deadline to apply.

Please contact Mollie Kennedy at mkennedy@acluwv.org with questions.

DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION CALENDAR FOR AUGUST 2022

From www.diversityresources.com/2022-diversity-calendar/

- 8/4 Birthday of Barack Obama (Black American): Happy Birthday to the United States' first Black president!
- 8/9 International Day of the World's Indigenous People (United Nations): created by the UN, celebrates the cultures of indigenous peoples around the world
- 8/30 Al-Hijri (Islamic): This holiday marks the start of the New Year in the Muslim faith. It begins the prior evening
- 8/15 Feast of the Assumption (Roman Catholic): marks the entry of Mary (mother of Jesus), body and soul, into Heaven
- 8/18 Birth of Lord Krishna (Hindu): also called Janmashtami, this day celebrates the birth of one of the most popular deities in the Hindu faith, celebrated with a great festival
- 8/24 Birthday of Marlee Matlin (People with Disabilities): Marlee Matlin is the only hearing-impaired actor to win the Oscar for best actor/actress
- 8/26 Women's Equality Day: commemorates the American women gaining the right to vote in 1920

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8/31 – Ganesh Chaturthi (Hindu): festival celebrating the birth of Lord Ganesha, the God of new beginnings and a fresh

start