



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

**UPDATE: MAY 1, 2023**

**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.

**MAY CCSJ MEETING IS TUESDAY, MAY 16TH AT 7:30 P.M. ON ZOOM.** All are welcome.

Topic: CCSJ May Meeting

Time: May 16, 2023 07:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81625372466?pwd=dERtNXhid2dnbStVaWlUSUFxdjVkdz09>

Meeting ID: 816 2537 2466

Passcode: 124815

One tap mobile

+16468769923,81625372466#, \*124815# US (New York)

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Dial by your location

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+1 309 205 3325 US

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 689 278 1000 US

+1 719 359 4580 US

+1 253 205 0468 US

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Meeting ID: 816 2537 2466

Passcode: 124815

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kcQ4f4mZ3W>

**CCSJ TO BE AT AREA EVENTS:** CCSJ representatives will be at the Morgantown/Kingwood NAACP Branch Community Day at the Marilla Center on Sunday, May 7th, from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. where we will have a chance to network with people from other area groups focused on similar interests.

We will also have a booth at the Morgantown Pride Block Party on Saturday June 24th at the Hazel Ruby McQuain Park and amphitheater. We will look forward to seeing you there.

**CCSJ SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE FAIR TO BE SEPTEMBER 17TH:** We will be back at the Hazel Ruby McQuain Park and amphitheater for our second Social and Environmental Justice Fair on Sunday, September 17th. This will be the first day of WVU's Diversity Week, and we are coordinating with the organizers of Diversity Week to publicize our event and encourage the WVU community to attend. If you are interested in participating this year, please contact Mike Attfield at [mdattfield@gmail.com](mailto:mdattfield@gmail.com).

**CONTACT US:** Please send your web site suggestions to Mike Attfield at [mdattfield@gmail.com](mailto:mdattfield@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](mailto:ccsjwv@gmail.com). Please send items to share with our membership to Barb Howe at [barbara.howe@mail.wvu.edu](mailto: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.



**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:** Morgantown City Council has appointed Bryan Church and Catherine Fonseca to the board. There is still one vacancy. The board has organized and has elected Rich Burks as chair, Rachel Fetty as vice chair, and Nicole Lauffer as secretary.



**MORGANTOWN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION:** The next regular meeting should be Thursday, May 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](http://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/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/DocumentCenter/View/396/Calendar-of-Annual-Human-Rights-Observances-PDF](http://www.morgantownwv.gov/DocumentCenter/View/396/Calendar-of-Annual-Human-Rights-Observances-PDF)

**Here are the events for May:**

**Older Americans Month** – Celebrates progress in protection of older in the United States and recognizes the importance of end-of-life independence and care for older adults.

**Asian Pacific American Heritage Month** – Recognizes the contributions and celebrates the culture of Asians and Pacific Islanders in the United States.

**May 1: International Worker’s Day** – Also known as May Day, it celebrates the social and economic achievements of workers worldwide. The day commemorates the Haymarket Riot of 1886 in Chicago, in which police and protesters clashed following a worker’s strike for an eight-hour day.

**May 3: World Press Freedom Day** – Serves as an occasion to inform the public of violations of the right to freedom of expression and as a reminder that many journalists brave death or jail to bring people their daily news.

**May 15 International Day of Families** – Celebration of two or more persons providing a continuity of support for each other usually in terms of affection, nurture, security and protection.

**May 21 World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development** – Recognizes cultural diversity as a source of innovation, exchange, and creativity, as well as the obligation to create a more peaceful and equitable society based on mutual respect



**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MORGANTOWN-MONONGALIA COUNTY (LWV-MM):** The League of Women Voters is a constituent member of West Virginia Women Vote (WVWV).

The League of Women Voters of West Virginia Invites You to Attend a Special Event During Our 2023 Biennial Convention 'The Fight for Women's Equality, It's Not Over!' In Keeping With Our Theme Our **Guest Speaker will be Author, Historian and Activist Elisabeth Griffith, PhD on Saturday May 13th at 1:00 p.m.** Dr. Griffith is the author of *In Her Own Right: The Life of Elizabeth Cady Stanton*, which was the inspiration for Ken Burns’ s PBS documentary *Not For Ourselves Alone*.

"Betsy Griffith is a consummate storyteller, combining research and riveting narrative to keep alive the political and social struggle for equal rights by American women front and center."

- Ken Burns, documentary filmmaker

"Author and historian Elisabeth Griffith offers an unprecedented survey of the women's suffrage movement that masterfully intertwines two parallel crusades for justice, those of Black and white women."

- Lissa Muscatine, co-owner of Politics & Prose Bookstore, former chief speechwriter to Hillary Rodham Clinton

"Griffith's compelling narrative casts new light on victories but also persistent fault lines in the quest for equality across the social landscape."

- Ann Compton, ABC News White House correspondent covering seven presidents

To register please visit <https://lwvww.org/convention>. You do not need to be a League member to register. The Zoom link will be sent to those who register.

Follow the League on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/LWVMM](http://www.facebook.com/LWVMM) and contact them by email at [lwvmorgantown@gmail.com](mailto:lwvmorgantown@gmail.com). You can join the League of Women Voters at [tinyurl.com/join-lwvmm](http://tinyurl.com/join-lwvmm).



**MORGANTOWN NOW CHAPTER:** Follow this group on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/MorgantownNow/](http://www.facebook.com/MorgantownNow/) or email at [morgantownnow@gmail.com](mailto:morgantownnow@gmail.com).

**NAACP MORGANTOWN-KINGWOOD BRANCH OF THE NAACP MEETS TUESDAY, MAY 16TH:** This meeting of the membership will be at 5:30 p.m. via Zoom. Contact the NAACP at [3241naacp@gmail.com](mailto: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.



"Griffith's compelling narrative casts new light on victories but also persistent fault lines in the quest for equality across the social landscape."

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Follow the League on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/LWVMM](http://www.facebook.com/LWVMM) and contact them by email at [lwvmorgantown@gmail.com](mailto:lwvmorgantown@gmail.com). You can join the League of Women Voters at [tinyurl.com/join-lwvmm](http://tinyurl.com/join-lwvmm).



**MORGANTOWN NOW CHAPTER:** Follow this group on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/MorgantownNow/](http://www.facebook.com/MorgantownNow/) or email at [morgantownnow@gmail.com](mailto:morgantownnow@gmail.com).

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The president and CEO, asked to share our organizational structure with people in another state who were trying to organize around similar issues.

This group is now deciding how to move forward. Follow this group on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/WV.Truth.in.History>.



**MORGANTOWN CHURCH OF THE BROTHERN-MENNONITE:** The church has a Blessings Box outside the church at 464 Virginia Avenue, Morgantown, where you can drop off extra food you may have or take some if you need it, or swap food. Feminine hygiene products are also welcome.

Sunday services are held at 10:30 a.m. in person and via Zoom, with the link available at [www.morgantowncob.org](http://www.morgantowncob.org). “We ask that everyone wear a mask inside the building.”

Morgantown Church of the Brethren will meet for Sunday potluck picnics in Wiles Hill Park after Sunday services (around 11:45 or 12:00). People of the neighborhood and community are warmly welcomed.

Follow them on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/Morgantown-Church-of-the-Brethren-Mennonite-93776113634](http://www.facebook.com/Morgantown-Church-of-the-Brethren-Mennonite-93776113634) or at [www.morgantowncob.org](http://www.morgantowncob.org).



**UNITARIAN-UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP OF MORGANTOWN MAY SCHEDULE:** All services start at 10:45 a.m. at the Fellowship Building, 429 Warrick Street, off University Avenue between Campuses. (Consult the Website for Timely Details on [UUFMWV.org](http://UUFMWV.org))

**Sunday, May 7, 2023.** Life after Death in the Bible and Beyond, with Prof. Bart Ehrman (Vimeo). [vimeo.com/410197700](https://vimeo.com/410197700). The Afterlife in the Classical and Biblical worlds. Books by Prof. Bart Ehrman include *The New Testament: A Historical Introduction to The Early Christian Writings, Seventh Edition*; *A Brief Introduction to The New Testament, Fourth Edition*; and *The Bible: A Historical and Literary Introduction, Second Edition*. He explores a variety of fascinating questions: How did the ancient Greeks and Romans think of life, death, and the afterlife? How are these phenomena depicted in the Old Testament? What were the views of the historical Jesus? How did they change after his death? And how do all these ideas differ from those widely held in the Christian world today?

**Sunday, May 14, 2023:** The People’s Advocate, Sir David Attenborough at the COP26 Conference (YouTube). The COP26 summit will bring parties together to accelerate action towards the goals of the Paris Agreement and the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. [youtu.be/qjq4VWdZhq8](https://youtu.be/qjq4VWdZhq8)

**Sunday, May 21, 2023:** UUFM ANNUAL MEETING. Details to follow. Agenda in preparation. See also: [UUFMWV.org](https://UUFMWV.org)

**Sunday, May 28, 2023:** Tackling biodiversity loss and climate change with Greta Thunberg | Natural History Museum (YouTube ~ Premiered on November 24, 2022). Join Greta Thunberg and the Natural History Museum for an online event to discuss biodiversity loss - one of the themes of Greta’s new book, *The Climate Book*. Find out the importance of tackling biodiversity loss alongside climate change and how the solutions are linked. [youtu.be/\\_IWnB4gWjP0](https://youtu.be/_IWnB4gWjP0)

Contact the Fellowship at [UUFMWV.org](https://UUFMWV.org) or on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/The-Unitarian-Universalist-Fellowship-of-Morgantown-WV-367256688732](https://www.facebook.com/The-Unitarian-Universalist-Fellowship-of-Morgantown-WV-367256688732) or email [uufmwv@gmail.com](mailto:uufmwv@gmail.com).

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



**DISMANTLING RACISM TOGETHER MEETING MAY MEETING:** Meeting plans were not yet confirmed at “press time.”

Follow this group on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/search/top?q=dismantling%20racism%20together%20morgantown](https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=dismantling%20racism%20together%20morgantown).



**MORGANTOWN PRIDE UPCOMING EVENTS:**

# Morgantown Pride

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**Mini Golf Night @  
Mountaineer Mini Golf**  
May 4th | 6 PM to 9 PM  
Pride or Star Wars gear recommended.



**Pride Read Aloud Day**  
Saturday, May 27th 9:30am - 11:30am  
Morgantown Public Library  
Meeting Room A

Join the Morgantown Pride Board as we read  
LGBTQ- family-friendly children's books! Lights  
snacks and refreshments provided

A background with a colorful tie-dye pattern.

**Tie-Dye Night with  
Morgantown Pride**

Friday, May 19th / 6pm - 8pm  
Turtle Park - 1545 Woodland  
Dr., Morgantown, WV

Bring your own articles of clothing  
that you would like to tie-dye!

We will be providing drinks, snacks,  
and tie-dyeing materials!



## Morgantown Pride Pride Parade & Block Party

*Y'all are welcome here.*



**JUNE** 2023 | Hazel Ruby  
McQuain Park



Registration for the parade and block party is now open at [docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfSGP2CXncyl\\_kwhouMlsBKFIImungMMRj9KU1YYk6Utymy3w/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfSGP2CXncyl_kwhouMlsBKFIImungMMRj9KU1YYk6Utymy3w/viewform).

For information on this group, go to [www.facebook.com/MorgantownWVPride/?ref=page\\_internal](https://www.facebook.com/MorgantownWVPride/?ref=page_internal) or [www.morgantownwvpride.org](https://www.morgantownwvpride.org). Morgantown Pride has an Instagram page at [www.instagram.com/morgantownwvpride/?hl=en](https://www.instagram.com/morgantownwvpride/?hl=en).



**MONONGALIA COUNTY CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER GIRLS' NIGHT OUT" IS MAY 19TH:**



The next MCCAC ““Take a Vacation to the Tropics with MCCAC at Tropics in Cheat Lake. Join us for another fun night of dinner, dancing, auctions, and more!”

Tickets are available now: Early Bird ends May 5<sup>th</sup>: \$75.00 +\$6.88 Fee / +\$5.73 Sales Tax

Sales end on May 5, 2023

General Admission sales start on May 5<sup>th</sup>: \$100.00 +\$8.55 Fee

/ +\$7.60 Sales Tax

Tickets include dinner, entertainment, pampering providers, and access to the cash bar, live auction, and raffle items. There is a link to purchase tickets at

[www.facebook.com/photo?fbid=541670181398072&set=a.510768277821596](https://www.facebook.com/photo?fbid=541670181398072&set=a.510768277821596).

“Sponsorships are also available. If you have any questions, please reach out to Taylor: 304-598-0344 or [tshultz@moncocac.org](mailto:tshultz@moncocac.org).”

“From January 2023 to March 2023, MCCAC has served 222 clients and conducted 46 forensic interviews. We have also provided 206 therapy sessions and 1,673 family advocacy services.”



**AN EXHIBITION BY WVU ART IN THE LIBRARIES IN PARTNERSHIP WITH WVU NATIVE AMERICAN STUDIES IS OPEN.** This exhibit will be available through May 2023 (print and online) at the WVU Downtown Library.

For further information, please contact Sally Brown Deskins, WVU Libraries' Exhibits Coordinator, at [sally.brown1@mail.wvu.edu](mailto:sally.brown1@mail.wvu.edu) or 304.293.0369.

This project is being presented with financial assistance from the West Virginia Humanities Council, a state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities. Any views, findings, conclusions or recommendations do not necessarily represent those of the West Virginia Humanities Council or the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Other sponsors are the WVU Office of the Provost and Humanities Center, The Antero Foundation, The Oakland Foundation, MPB Print & Sign Superstore, Marshall University Libraries and Online Learning, Appalachian State University University Libraries, and West Virginia Library Commission.





**WVU CENTER FOR BLACK CULTURE AND RESEARCH ANNOUNCES JAVIER MCCOY AS INTERIM DIRECTOR:** A WVU press release announced this appointment: “A higher education administrator with experience in student and intercultural engagement will usher in a new era for the West Virginia University Center for Black Culture and Research.

Javier McCoy, who currently oversees campus-wide initiatives as the assistant director of Inclusive Leadership and Intercultural Engagement in the Division of Student Life’s Student Engagement unit, will become CBC&R’s interim director as Marjorie Fuller retires this summer, according to Dean of Students Corey

Farris.

“Javier has established a great rapport with our students’,” Farris said. ““And while he brings a variety of necessary skills to the position, I believe Javier will also bring to this new role the energy and open-door approach he’s become known for to seize on new opportunities for the Center’.”

“McCoy previously served in Residence Life, and before joining WVU, he was the inaugural coordinator of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion at Wheeling Jesuit University.

“McCoy earned his bachelor’s degree from West Virginia State University and a master’s degree in Higher Education Administration from Salem University. He is a proud brother of Alpha Kappa Psi Professional Business Fraternity, Inc., and Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., where he serves as the executive director for the District of West Virginia and chapter president for the Alpha Zeta Lambda Chapter.

**WVU LGBTQ+ CENTER:**

**LGBTQ+ TASK FORCE  
COMMUNITY  
FRIENDSGIVING PICNIC**

**MAY 7  
2:00 - 4:00 PM  
DORSEY'S KNOB  
PAVILION**



The LGBTQ+ Center Facebook page includes this photo from the Evansdale Black Bear Burritos at 3119 University Avenue.

## STATE-WIDE EVENTS



**WEST VIRGINIA NOW:** West Virginia NOW is online at [www.facebook.com/WestVirginiaNow](https://www.facebook.com/WestVirginiaNow) and [wvnow.org](http://wvnow.org).



**FAIRNESS WEST VIRGINIA:** Follow Fairness West Virginia on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/fairnesswv](https://www.facebook.com/fairnesswv).



Fairness is starting to publicize events for this summer. To schedule an event and see what is already planned, please go to [fairnesswv.org/pride/](http://fairnesswv.org/pride/).

At “press time,” the following events were scheduled for Morgantown and Fairmont:

**June 3rd: Omnipresence** — A Charity Concert

218 Walnut Street, Morgantown, WV. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. The Sexuality and Gender Acceptance (SAGA) Initiative is hosting an all-ages charity concert at the Morgantown Art Party on Saturday, June 3rd. The show features two up-and-coming West Virginia musicians: Emmalea Deal and KARMA. Doors are at 6:30 and tickets are \$15.

Forty percent of proceeds from the concert fund Gender Affirming Care Packages (GAC Packs). GAC Packs are entirely customizable on The SAGA Initiative website and can include chest binders, trans tape, padded bras, tucking underwear, hair removal products, and perfume or cologne. The SAGA Initiative provides GAC Packs to transgender youth living in West Virginia at no cost with shipping and handling fees covered by the organization.

The other 60 percent of proceeds go toward the Morgantown Art Party — another nonprofit involved in advocating for the LGBTQ+ community — and paying the outstanding artists performing at the event (30 percent for both parties respectively).

**June 10th: PFLAG Fairmont-** Fairmont Greenspace, Adams Street and Monroe Street. *Connect with PFLAG Fairmont on Facebook for more details!*



**ACLU OF WEST VIRGINIA UPDATES:** The ACLU-WV announced that Danielle Walker is the new executive director. There is an open letter from Ms. Walker to the “ACLU of West Virginia Family” <https://www.acluww.org/en/news/open-letter-our-new-executive-director-danielle-walker>



“The ACLU-WV is thrilled to announce that we will be continuing our **Appalachian Queer Youth Summit in 2023!**”

“This free camp will bring together young West Virginians either identify as LGBTQ+ or come from LGBTQ+ families from across the state, and give them the tools they need to organize and advocate for the issues they care about.

“Campers will learn how to talk to legislators, run effective meetings, tell powerful stories, and more, and will participate in a collective action to better the lives of LGBTQ+ people after the camp concludes. Perhaps most importantly, AQYS campers will get to be themselves for a week around people who understand them.

“The 2023 Summit will take place in Morgantown (campers will be provided with additional details upon acceptance) **from late morning on August 9th to the afternoon on August 13th.**

“Follow AQYS on Facebook for updates, and stay tuned for our applications which will be opening soon.

“Please contact Mollie Kennedy at [mkennedy@acluwv.org](mailto:mkennedy@acluwv.org) with any additional questions.

“\*Note: We know that COVID is still a reality and may require us to adjust our planning. At this time, we are hopeful that we can safely hold an in-person summit this summer. We will be following guidelines from the state as well as the CDC and other public health experts, and will provide updates throughout the process.”

Follow this group on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/ACLUWV](http://www.facebook.com/ACLUWV).



**WEST VIRGINIA TRANSGENDER COALITION:** “The West Virginia Transgender Coalition is a grassroots organization that works to ensure the wellbeing, safety and lived equity of all trans, nonbinary, and gender expansive community members within the state of West Virginia.”

For more information, please go to [www.facebook.com/wvtranscoalition/](http://www.facebook.com/wvtranscoalition/).

#### **DIVERSITY CALENDAR FOR MAY**

[www.diversityresources.com/may-diversity-calendar-2023/](http://www.diversityresources.com/may-diversity-calendar-2023/)

**Mental Health Awareness Month:** It’s Mental Health Awareness Month. The observance raises awareness for this May diversity topic, and those living with mental and behavioral issues. So during May, support those who live with mental health challenges, as well as their families and loved ones. They are also affected by mental illnesses. Some great ways to support others with mental health difficulties include staying calm, being patient, avoiding judgment, and maintaining social contact.

**Older Americans Month:** In 1963, Older Americans Month was established. This May diversity month celebrates Americans over 65 and how they contribute to society in the U.S. When it was founded, only 17 million Americans had reached their 65th birthday, and about a third of those people lived in poverty. Acknowledging their contributions and creating programs to meet their needs is critical to ensuring everyone is cared for.

**Jewish American Heritage Month:** This May heritage month honors American Jews and their contributions to the United States. If you've never celebrated Jewish American Heritage Month before, consider participating by visiting a Jewish museum or a site of historical interest, making a Jewish recipe, or listening to a Jewish podcast.

**Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month:** In 1990, the U.S. government established Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month. This May diversity holiday seeks to recognize the achievements and contributions of these individuals. We recommend celebrating AAPI Heritage Month by watching a documentary about Asian American History or buying books from AAPI-owned bookstores.

**May 5: Cinco de Mayo:** Some think of Cinco de Mayo as the day to eat tacos and drink margaritas, but this multicultural May holiday has real significance for Mexican Americans. It celebrates Mexico's defeat of the French Army. Read the real story and support a Mexican business in your community as a way to celebrate.

**May 17: International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia, and Biphobia:** May diversity days include this event, which aims to raise awareness for the rights of LGBTQ+ individuals worldwide and incidents of LGBTQ+ rights violations. May 17 was chosen because it was the date that the World Health Organization removed homosexuality from the International Classification of Diseases. Celebrate this day by raising awareness and fostering inclusiveness with our online LGBT Training in the Workplace

**May 19: Malcolm X's Birthday:** May diversity events include a Happy Birthday to Malcolm X! The Muslim minister and civil rights activist was assassinated in 1965. Spend today remembering his famous words, "A man who stands for nothing will fall for anything," and reflect on how you can incorporate this sentiment into your life.

**May 26: Buddha's Birthday:** Happy Birthday to the founder of one of the world's most practiced faiths! The Buddha was born Siddhartha Gautama. This May diversity celebration is also called Buddha Jayanti. It's the day of his enlightenment and a celebrated Buddhist festival in most of East Asia and South Asia.