



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

**UPDATE: DECEMBER 1, 2024**

**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.



**Today – December 1 – is the deadline to order your copy of *West Virginians' Experiences in Civil Rights: How We Have Been Connected All Along* for the first printing. We are sending in the order for the first printing on December 2. You can order online at [www.ccsjwv.org/book%20order.html](http://www.ccsjwv.org/book%20order.html) and pay via PayPal.**

**If you cannot use PayPal, you must email [ccsjwv@gmail.com](mailto:ccsjwv@gmail.com) today and tell us how many copies you want. Then, please, make your check payable to CCSJ and mail it immediately to PO Box 160, Morgantown, WV 26507-0160.**

**The cost is \$15.90, including sales tax, for each book delivered in the Morgantown area. Add \$8.00 for postage and handling for each book if the book must be mailed.**

**See more about the book below.**

**OUR NEXT MEETING IS TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17, AT 7:30 P.M. ON ZOOM. ALL ARE WELCOME.**

Join Zoom Meeting  
[us02web.zoom.us/j/88111778651?pwd=fYQvGs4qaygxYlvtqBaWatrns28Y8u.1](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88111778651?pwd=fYQvGs4qaygxYlvtqBaWatrns28Y8u.1)

Meeting ID: 881 1177 8651  
Passcode: 447084

One tap mobile

+13052241968, 88111778651#, \*447084# US

+13092053325, 88111778651#, \*447084# US

Dial by your location

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• +1 309 205 3325 US

• +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

• +1 646 876 9923 US (New York)

• +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

Meeting ID: 881 1177 8651

Passcode: 447084

Find your local number: [us02web.zoom.us/j/88111778651](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88111778651)

**Update on *West Virginians' Experiences in Civil Rights: How We Have Been Connected All Along*:** With funding from the West Virginia Humanities Council, we are able to reprint the book to offer free copies to libraries, museums, schools, and related organizations and appreciate the support of the West Virginia Association of Museums in our outreach efforts.

At "press time," we have received requests for copies from museums, academic and public libraries, and schools in every corner of the state, as well as in Maryland. We still have free copies available from this funding so let us know if you know of organizations that might be interested.



**WEST VIRGINIA  
HUMANITIES COUNCIL**

It is important to note that *"This project [our reprint] is presented with financial assistance from the West Virginia Humanities Council, the official 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."*

We appreciate the assistance of the League of Women Voters and Morgantown/Kingwood Branch of the NAACP in publicizing the book. We will also offer the book through Amazon.com as a print and digital version and are talking to Morgantown-area businesses to sell it for us. Stay tuned for more information on those outlets when books are available there.

This has been a long project, and we appreciate the support of Rae Jean Sielen and Andrew Rorabaugh of Populore Publishing Co.



**Joan Browning donates copies of her book:** *Deep in Our Hearts: Nine White Women in the Freedom Movement*.

We have four copies for sale at \$35 each if conveyed by hand or \$40 if mailed. If you would like one, you can reserve it by sending a note to Barb Howe at [barbara.howe@mail.wvu.edu](mailto:barbara.howe@mail.wvu.edu). You can pay for it by sending a check to our P.O. Box at Box 160, Morgantown 26507-0160. Or you can pay using PayPal. For details on this go to our "Join Us" page at [ccsjwv.org/join-us.html](https://ccsjwv.org/join-us.html).

**CONTACT US:** Please send your web site suggestions to Mike Attfield at [mdattfieldo@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:ccsjwv@gmail.com). Please send items to share with our membership to Barb Howe at [barbarahowe3@gmail.com](mailto:barbarahowe3@gmail.com).

**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 HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION:** The next regular meeting should be Thursday, December 19, at 6:30 p.m. Contact information for the commission and information on filing complaint forms is 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/).

**The Human Rights Commission will be presenting its annual awards on Sunday, December 8, from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. at the Aull Center (Garlow House), 351 Spruce Street, next to the Morgantown Public Library on Spruce Street. Eve Faulkes will receive the award for an individual, and MAYSP will receive the award for an organization.**

There will be free parking in City parking lots. There will be a violinist for accompaniment, Shairah Sanchez; she is an undergraduate student in the WVU Music Program. Food and beverages are being donated by the Suncrest Towne Center Starbucks, as they were last year. The Starbucks on Beechurst is also joining in. Champion Trophies is engraving the awards at a ‘special price’. The Human Rights Commission appreciates the support from these businesses.

The poster and flag exhibition should be open by Wednesday, December 4, and run through Saturday, December 21. The show will be open Monday and Tuesday from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Wednesday-Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., and Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

There will be an art and essay contest for all Morgantown K-12 students. The content must be human rights-related and there will be monetary awards for the best entries. Exhibits may be dropped off at the Aull Center during business hours, or call Annie Cronan Yorick to make arrangements (304) 216-2251.

**Vacancies on Human Rights Commission.** There are currently four vacancies on the commission. According to the City of Morgantown’s website, “Appointments of to the Commission are made by City Council, and all must be residents of the City. All seats are non-ward specific.” Information on applying for the commission is available at [morgantownwv.gov/FormCenter/Boards-and-Commissions-Application-7/Application-to-Serve-on-City-Boards-and--45](http://morgantownwv.gov/FormCenter/Boards-and-Commissions-Application-7/Application-to-Serve-on-City-Boards-and--45).

**Here are the events for December:**

**December 2: International Day for the Abolition of Slavery** – Slavery is not just history but affects over 30 million persons throughout the world today. Its roots are in discrimination, poverty and indebtedness, vulnerability, and the rule of law.

**December 3: International Day of Disabled Persons** – Raises awareness about persons with disabilities in order to improve their lives and provide them with equal opportunity.

**December 10: International Human Rights Day** – On this day in 1948 the United Nations General Assembly adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

**December 16: Bill of Rights Day** – Commemorates the signing into law of the ten original amendments of the United States Constitution in 1791 – including the First Amendment Rights of religion, association, speech, petition, and press.

**December 18: International Migrants Day** – A day to affirm commitment to diverse and open societies which provide opportunities and lives of dignity for all migrants.



**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MORGANTOWN-MONONGALIA COUNTY (LWV-MM):** 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).

The Morgantown/Monongalia County League is a member organization of CCSJ.



**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).

The Tuesday, December 10 meeting will be from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at Pour Choices and Grub, 227 Chestnut Street, Morgantown.



**MORGANTOWN-KINGWOOD BRANCH OF THE NAACP MEETS TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17.** 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 and does its work with a variety of committees, including Education, Political Action, Legal Redress, Criminal Justice, and Health.

Follow the NAACP on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/naacp3241/?ref=page\\_internal](http://www.facebook.com/naacp3241/?ref=page_internal).

We appreciate the fact that the Branch shares this Update with its membership.



**MORGANTOWN CIVILIAN POLICE REVIEW ADVISORY BOARD NEEDS TWO MEMBERS:** The City of Morgantown is currently accepting applications for the two vacancies on the board, and you can get a link to the application and more information by going to [morgantownwv.gov/640/Civilian-Police-Review-and-Advisory-Boar](http://morgantownwv.gov/640/Civilian-Police-Review-and-Advisory-Boar). "The Board shall consist of nine members appointed by City Council. Each member shall be a resident of the city or an active member of an organization that works within the city to promote purposes consistent with the purpose of the Board."

The board meets the second Tuesday of each month at noon at the Morgantown Public Safety Building conference room. For links to agendas and minutes of past meetings, go to [www.morgantownwv.gov/AgendaCenter/Civilian-Police-Review-Advisory-Board-47](http://www.morgantownwv.gov/AgendaCenter/Civilian-Police-Review-Advisory-Board-47).



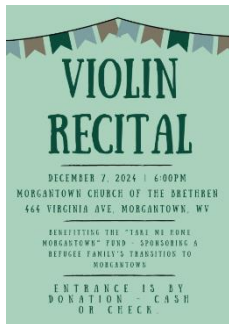
**MORGANTOWN CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN-MENNONITE:** Sunday services are held at 10:30 a.m. in person and via Zoom with the link available at [www.morgantowncob.org](http://www.morgantowncob.org). Everyone is welcome.

There are three important events for December:

**December 7:** Violin recital fundraiser at 6:00 p.m. at the church for Take Me Home, Morgantown, a group that sponsors refugee families. Please bring a cash or check donation to enter.

**December 21:** 7:00 p.m., "Longest Night" gathering at Morgantown Church of the Brethren.

**December 24:** 7:00 p.m., Christmas Eve service with candles and music at Morgantown Church of the Brethren.



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.

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).

The church is a member organization of CCSJ.

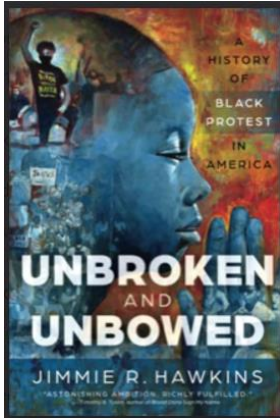


**GREATER MORGANTOWN INTERFAITH ASSOCIATION:** If you are interested in this group, please contact Eve Faulkes at [faulkeseve@gmail.com](mailto:faulkeseve@gmail.com).





**DISMANTLING RACISM TOGETHER:** This group will meet Monday, December 16, at 7:00 p.m. by zoom. John Bolt will present Monongalia County Schools data on school discipline for the 2023 - 2024 year. The zoom link to join is [us02web.zoom.us/j/85962493623](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85962493623).



The community is invited to join Dismantling Racism Together and First Presbyterian Church in a community-wide read of *Unbroken and Unbowed: A History of Black Protest in America*. In this compelling and informative volume, Jimmie R. Hawkins walks the reader through the many forms of Black protest in American history, from pre-colonial times through the George Floyd protests of 2020.

Hawkins will be in Morgantown, Sunday, February 9, at 2:30 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church to discuss elements of his book with the community. Please join us by registering for the event. Each week you will receive an email with questions for reflection and a reminder for the February event. Register for the Community Read at [wvu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_2rgmfVmcB8ReA3c](http://wvu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_2rgmfVmcB8ReA3c). The book is available at First Presbyterian Church or through online vendors such as

Thrift Books, Barnes and Noble, Amazon, or Westminster John Knox Press.

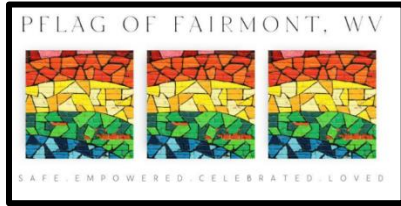
Follow this group on Facebook at

[www.facebook.com/search/top?q=dismantling%20racism%20together%20morgantown](https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=dismantling%20racism%20together%20morgantown).



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, MORGANTOWN:** The church is located at 456 Spruce Street. Adult Sunday School is at 9:30 a.m. Online worship is at 10:00 a.m., and in-person worship is at 11:00 a.m. The church's Facebook page is at [www.facebook.com/FPCMorgantown](https://www.facebook.com/FPCMorgantown) and has details about the many activities. The church is a member organization of CCSJ.





**FAIRMONT PFLAG:** Information is available at [www.pflagfairmont.org](http://www.pflagfairmont.org) or [www.facebook.com/groups/PFLAGFairmont](https://www.facebook.com/groups/PFLAGFairmont). There are many events listed on the Facebook page.



**MORGANTOWN PRIDE EVENTS:** There will be a virtual PRIDE public meeting on Friday, December 6, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. The link is at [us02web.zoom.us/j/88075181798](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88075181798) (PASSCODE: 035276).

There will also be a virtual public meeting on Friday, December 27, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. The zoom link is [us02web.zoom.us/j/88075181798](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88075181798) (Passcode: 035276).

For information on Morgantown PRIDE, go to [www.facebook.com/MorgantownWVPride/?ref=page\\_internal](https://www.facebook.com/MorgantownWVPride/?ref=page_internal) or [www.morgantownwvpride.org](http://www.morgantownwvpride.org). This is a very active Facebook page so check it regularly for updates and more events.

Morgantown Pride has an Instagram page at [www.instagram.com/morgantownwvpride/?hl=en](https://www.instagram.com/morgantownwvpride/?hl=en).

**PROJECT RAINBOW:** Follow this group on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/projectrainbowwv](https://www.facebook.com/projectrainbowwv).



**RAISING TRANS KIDS GROUP:** Anyone interested in joining the meeting for the first time or to get more information can email [raisingtranskids@gmail.com](mailto:raisingtranskids@gmail.com).

The Raising Trans Kids community group is for West Virginia parents, guardians, and families who are raising transgender or gender diverse kids (of any age), or have kids who might be transgender or gender diverse.



**MONONGALIA COUNTY CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER (MCCAC).** Follow this group at [moncocac.org/news/](http://moncocac.org/news/) or on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/MONCOCAC](https://www.facebook.com/MONCOCAC).

**Save the Date for upcoming events:**



**Girls' Night Out** – May 30, 2025. The 2025 theme is “Roaring ‘20s.” The event will be held from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. at the WVU Erickson Alumni Center.



**Golf Tournament** – July 26, 2025. Registration starts at 8:30 a.m. at the Mountaineer Golf Course.

**SCOTTS RUN COMMUNITY SING IS MONDAY, DECEMBER 23:** This group will meet at 6:00 p.m. at the Ferry House, 88 Lazzelle Union Road, Maidsville. It is right across from the railroad bridge entering Scotts Run. You do not have to be from Scotts Run to participate. It is for everyone, from anywhere, and for all ages!



Morgantown WV Mutual Aid

**MORGANTOWN MUTUAL AID FAIR IS THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12:** This event will be from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church Gym, 456 Spruce Street, Morgantown. “Individuals will be able to get assistance with basic resources and outreach services. Have services or resources to offer? We are seeking applications for outreach services and items that might be helpful to low to no income individuals. Contact Brian Butcher via email at

brian@wvhousingjustice.org or send us a direct message.” Follow this group on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/events/26398354889810327/26398354896476993/](https://www.facebook.com/events/26398354889810327/26398354896476993/).

**MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., AWARD NOMINATIONS OPEN:** Nominations for the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Achievement Award are now open. The deadline to nominate is December 13th by 5:00 p.m. through WVU Engage. A nominee must reside in West Virginia, have established record of community involvement, and have demonstrated record working to fulfil the dreams and ideas of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. The nominator must submit a completed nomination form to include a two page statement of support and two additional letters of recommendation. The recipient will accept the award at the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Please scan the QR code or use this link MLK Achievement Nomination Form: [wvuengage.wvu.edu/submitter/form/collectsubmitteridentity/2d295662-32f7-497d-8e4e-aa95efa2f1a9](https://wvuengage.wvu.edu/submitter/form/collectsubmitteridentity/2d295662-32f7-497d-8e4e-aa95efa2f1a9)



**MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., DAY BREAKFAST TICKETS AVAILABLE:** The Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Unity Breakfast will be **Saturday, January 18, 2025** at 9:30 a.m. in the WVU Mountainlair Ballrooms. Please note the change of day to Saturday, instead of Monday, January 20, in anticipation that people may have wanted to be in Washington, DC, for Inauguration Day. Union Leader and Community Organizer Tiffany Dena Loftin will be our Keynote Speaker. The Breakfast is free; however you must reserve your ticket. Tickets are available now. Please scan the QR code or use this link MLK Unity Breakfast Tickets: [www.eventbrite.com/e/west-virginia-university-dr-martin-luther-king-jr-unity-breakfast-tickets-872790518937?aff=oddtcreator](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/west-virginia-university-dr-martin-luther-king-jr-unity-breakfast-tickets-872790518937?aff=oddtcreator).





**RDVIC (RAPE AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE INFORMATION CENTER) SEEKING ENTRIES FOR 'ZINE:** We were pleased to welcome Kay Powney, the prevention educator for RDVID, to our November meeting. She is taking submissions until February of poetry, artwork, questions, and prose for a 'zine entitled *A Common Guide for Ending Sexual Violence*. April is Sexual Awareness Month. Kay's email is [kaylam@rdvic.org](mailto:kaylam@rdvic.org).

#### STATE-WIDE EVENTS



**WEST VIRGINIA NOW:** For more information, go to [www.facebook.com/WestVirginiaNow](https://www.facebook.com/WestVirginiaNow) or email Amanda Ray, the state NOW president, at [amandajray@yahoo.com](mailto:amandajray@yahoo.com).



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

In mid-November, “members of the Wardensville Town Council voted unanimously to adopt our local fairness law, an ordinance that protects its residents from anti-LGBTQ+ discrimination in employment, housing and public spaces.

“Wardensville became the 20th community in West Virginia to adopt a local fairness law, and it is the first community in Hardy County to do so. According to Census data from 2020, less than 300 people live in the town.”



**ACLU OF WEST VIRGINIA UPDATES:** Follow this group at [www.acluwv.org](http://www.acluwv.org) or on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/ACLUWV](https://www.facebook.com/ACLUWV).

#### **ACLU-WV Bus to Washington, D.C. - Skremetti SCOTUS Case**

We're headed to D.C. to rally for gender affirming care and we want you to join us!

On December 4, the Supreme Court will hear oral arguments in the Skremetti case. Samantha and Brian

Williams of Nashville, TN and their 15-year-old transgender daughter are challenging a Tennessee law banning gender-affirming care for transgender people under 18. Tennessee is home to over 3,000 transgender adolescents and the health care banned by this law is supported by the entire mainstream of the medical community.

Join some fellow West Virginians on the bus to D.C. on December 4 and make your voice heard. The bus will pick up passengers in Charleston (approx. 1:30 am) Morgantown (approx. 4:30 am) and Martinsburg (approx. 7:30 am) and driving into D.C. for the rally. The bus will depart D.C. at 3 pm and make stops in the same locations (Martinsburg approx. 5 pm, Morgantown approx. 7 pm, Charleston approx. 10 pm). If you would like to meet the West Virginia group in Washington, D.C. please complete the form and select 'meet the group in D.C.' where applicable so we can stay in touch and connect in D.C. \*The bus is ADA accessible.

The URL for the form to reserve a seat on the bus is very long. The easiest way to access it is to go to the ACLU of WV Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/ACLUWV> and click on the link in the first comment under the November 21 post for this trip. The form was still available at “press time,” which we assume means the bus was not yet full at that time.



**RAINBOW PRIDE OF WEST VIRGINIA EVENTS:**

For more on this group’s events, go to [www.facebook.com/RainbowPrideWV](http://www.facebook.com/RainbowPrideWV) or [rainbowpridewv.org](http://rainbowpridewv.org).



SAVE THE DATE for Charleston’s hottest New Year’s Eve celebration — Rainbow Pride’s Inaugural Glitter Ball! This isn’t just a party; it’s THE party.



When: December 31, 2024

Where: Element EDGE on Charleston’s West Side

Mark your calendars. Details and tickets coming soon.



**WEST VIRGINIA TRANS 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 DECEMBER**

[www.diversityresources.com/december-diversity-calendar-2024/](http://www.diversityresources.com/december-diversity-calendar-2024/)

**December 1: World AIDS Day**-World AIDS Day is observed annually to unite people worldwide in the fight against HIV, show support for those living with HIV, and commemorate those who have died from an AIDS-related illness. Founded in 1988, it was the first ever global health day. Participate in local events or wear a red ribbon to show your support.

**December 2: International Day for the Abolition of Slavery**-Slavery isn't just something from the past. Nearly 40 million people across the world are in modern slavery and live in forced labor and marriages or human trafficking. The UN created this diversity day to raise awareness on how to work to eradicate this modern slavery form.

**December 3: International Day of Persons with Disabilities**-Today, we promote the well-being and equal rights of people with disabilities. This call-to-action day aims to improve their living conditions and raise awareness about how to work toward accessibility in every aspect of society. We hope to better understand the challenges they face while focusing on breaking down barriers and building a more inclusive world for everyone.

**December 20: International Human Solidarity Day**-Today is dedicated to raising awareness of the importance of solidarity to help advance the eradication of poverty. The first day featured a keynote address from Lech Walesa, the former president of Poland and the cofounder of the labor union Solidarity, which inspired this movement.

**December 25: Christmas**-Christmas is one of the most cherished Christian holidays commemorating the birth of Jesus Christ. Observed by millions around the world, both religiously and culturally, this day is marked by attending church services, exchanging gifts, and festive family gatherings. Decorations include Christmas trees, lights, and nativity scenes that symbolize joy and peace.

**December 26 – January 1, 2025: Kwanzaa**- The week-long celebration celebrates African American heritage and culture. Each day features a different principle including unity, self-determination, collective work and responsibility, cooperative economics, purpose, creativity, and faith.