

Community Coalition for Social Justice
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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 at Panera's on Patteson drive on Monday, June 9, at 7:00 p.m. If the weather is nice, we may be meeting 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. We have added PayPal to our website so you can join or donate by credit card if you wish to do that.

BUMPER STICKERS FOR SALE: CCSJ has diversity-related bumper stickers for sale. The large ones (Celebrate Diversity and Coexist) are \$3.50 each, the "Olympic circles" one is \$2.00, and the "Teach Peace" one is \$1.50, which includes postage.

If you'd like one, please send a check made payable to CCSJ to PO Box 160, Morgantown, WV 26507-0160, and indicate which one you'd like.

CCSJ PROMOTING TEACHING TOLERANCE MATERIALS: We want to reach out to community groups to see if they are interested in using the Southern Poverty Law Center's Teaching Tolerance materials. These are available free of charge to educators, which can include leaders of youth groups, not just school teachers. Those using the materials could order them online at www.tolerance.org, and we would pay for the postage. If you are interested in this project, please email us at ccsjwv@hotmail.com.

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY 2015 CELEBRATION: The City of Morgantown has allocated \$1500 for our 2015 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Celebration and Arts Mon reception. We will soon begin planning these events, so let us know if you wish to be involved. And many thanks to City Council and Jeff Mikorski, city manager, for this support!

Local news

MORGANTOWN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION: The commission is still sponsoring a needs survey for residents of the City of Morgantown. According to their web site, “The Morgantown Human Rights Commission needs your assistance in identifying human rights needs for its preparation of a community action plan to help Morgantown to become a more ‘inclusive city’.

“We are interested in receiving responses from residents who live within the city of Morgantown.

Your name is not needed and responses will be treated with confidentiality. A summary report will be available to the public in summer 2014. [TAKE THE SURVEY](#)

“If you need assistance in completing this survey form or have questions, please contact a member of the Human Rights Commission by e-mail at dspencer36@comcast.net or by phone at (304) 284-7405. Braille and large print formats are available upon request.

“If you wish to submit this survey by mail, please send to: Human Rights Commission, 389 Spruce Street, Morgantown, WV 26505.”

The next regular meeting of the commission will be Thursday, June 19, 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 <http://www.morgantownwv.gov/government/commissions/human-rights-commission/human-rights-commission-agenda-minutes/>.

Religious Holy Days in June 2014

With thanks to Peter Clark of the University of California-San Francisco

For Native Americans in the Pacific Northwest, June marks **Miso’o**, the season of Sockeye salmon, which is the most important food source for the coming year. In Arizona, this is also the season of the **Hopi Kachina Dances**, in which long lines of dancers (representing various spirit-powers) perform in the open plazas of Hopi pueblos.

Tuesday, June 3

- Shavuot [Feast of Weeks] – **Judaism**

A two-day festival, beginning at sundown, that celebrates the harvest of first fruits and the giving of the Law (or Torah) to Moses at Mt. Sinai. The name Shavuot derives from the Hebrew words for “seven” and “week,” because it marks seven weeks following Pesach or Passover.

Thursday, June 5

- Núr – **Bahá’í**

The beginning of the fifth month of the Bahá’í year, meaning “light.”

Sunday, June 8

- Pentecost Sunday – **Christianity (Western and Eastern churches)**

A celebration of the Holy Spirit’s descent upon the Apostles following Jesus’ ascension into heaven, Pentecost [which derives from the Latin for “fifty,” because it occurred fifty days after Easter] is often known as “the birthday of the Christian Church.”

Thursday, June 12

- Laylat al-Bara’at or Nisf Sha’bān – **Islam**

According to Muslim tradition, Allah approaches the earth on this night (the middle day of the eighth month in the Islamic calendar) to call humanity to repentance and grant forgiveness of sins.

Sunday, June 15

- Trinity Sunday – **Christianity (Western churches)**

Marking the celebration of God manifested in three Persons: as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

- All Saints – **Christianity (Eastern churches)**

Celebrating the lives of those saints, known and unknown, whose prayers and exemplary lives have a positive influence on the lives and Christian faith of others. Western Christian churches celebrate this festival on November 1st.

Monday, June 16

- Martyrdom of Gurū Arjan Dev Ji – **Sikhism [Nanakshahi tradition]**

The first Sikh martyr and the fifth gurū, Arjan (1563 – 1606 C.E.) built the Harimandir (Temple of God) in the town of Amritsar with door facing all four directions, in order to emphasize that the Sikh way was open to all regardless of their socio-economic status. He also compiled the Sikh scriptures known as the Gurū Granth Sahib.

Wednesday, June 18

- Anniversary of Jamyang Khyentse Chökyi Lodrö – **Buddhism [Tibetan tradition]**

A celebration of the Tibetan lama (ca. 1893 – 1959) whose mastery of several lineages and insights have had a profound effect on numerous currently teaching lamas.

Thursday, June 19

- Enlightenment of Kwan Yin Bodhisattva – **Buddhism [Mahayana Pure Land tradition]**

A celebration of the enlightenment of the bodhisattva of compassion—an enlightened being who vows to attain final, supreme enlightenment in order to save all sentient beings from suffering. In the Pure Land tradition, this bodhisattva frequently accompanies Amida Buddha in icons and other depictions.

- New Church Day – **Swedenborgian Christianity (Church of the New Jerusalem)**

Annual commemoration of the visionary document *The True Christian Religion*, written by Emanuel Swedenborg in 1770 C.E.

Saturday, June 21 *Summer solstice*

- Summer Feast – **Native American spirituality**

A day to honor the coming and going of the seasons, celebrated with songs, prayers, and story-telling.

- Litha [Midsummer's Eve] – **Wicca**

A celebration of the consummation of the sacred marriage, in which the male divine energy is poured out in the service of life.

Sunday, June 22

- Corpus Christi – **Christianity [Roman Catholic]**

Named for the Latin phrase “Body of Christ,” this festival is a time when Catholic Christians express their faith in Christ’s real presence in the elements of Holy Communion.

Tuesday, June 24

- Rahmat – **Bahá'í**

The beginning of the sixth month of the Bahá'í year, Rahmat means “mercy.”

Friday, June 27

- Ramadān begins – **Islam**

A holy month of fasting and prayer, in which all adult and physically competent Muslims abstain from food, water, and sexual relations from dawn to sunset. Ramadān ends on July 27th.

- Sacred Heart – **Christianity [Roman Catholic]**

A devotional feast during which Catholic Christians reflect on God's compassionate love, symbolized by Christ's heart.

- Anniversary of the Martyrdom of Joseph Smith – **Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints**

Recalling the assassination of the prophet Joseph Smith and his brother Hyrum while they were incarcerated in Carthage, Illinois, in 1844 C.E.

Sunday, June 29

- Ghambar Maidyoshem begins – **Zoroastrianism**

A celebration of the creation of water, the sowing of the summer crops, and the harvesting of grain. This festival continues through Thursday, July 3rd.

- Feast of the Apostles Peter and Paul – **Christianity (both Western and Eastern churches)**

Celebrates the two apostles who preached the Christian gospel in Rome. In Eastern churches this festival begins at sundown.

*If you want more information about any of these holy days, please contact
Spiritual Care Services at 415-353-1941 (Rev. Dr. Michele Shields)
or 415-353-2319 (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, and www.interfaithcalendar.org

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