

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 **Tuesday, June 9**, at **6:30** p.m. We will meet in the back room although, if the weather is nice, we may be on the patio. All are welcome.

Please send your web site suggestions to Mike Attfeld at attfeld@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.

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., DAY 2016: Our tenth annual event will be at the Metropolitan Theatre on January 18. Dr. King once said that "We may have all come on different ships, but we're in the same boat now." We will use this quote as a theme to highlight the diversity of this community. Please let us know if you want to help us plan this event.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS AWARD TO CCSJ: Vicki Conner presented CCSJ with one of the League's 2015 Democracy in Action awards at the May 13th annual meeting for our Martin Luther King, Jr., Day celebrations. Al Anderson, one of the founding members of CCSJ, accepted the award on our behalf at the meeting. Nora Sheets, who took the photo at left, and Susan Brown also attended as CCSJ representatives, and Barb Howe was the keynote speaker on "The Road to the Vote." To see the award and the press release, go to our web site. Other recipients were John Sonnenday for his work with the Coordinating Council on Homelessness and Lyndell Millechia, a long-time League member.



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, June 18, 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/.

LEARN ABOUT HUNTINGTON'S DISEASE: On Saturday, June 6, at 6:30 p.m., an important film on Huntington's Disease will be shown at Monongalia Friends Meetinghouse, 648 E. Brockway, in Morgantown. Produced by Barbour County

native Chris Furbee, the soundtrack features West Virginia traditional musicians including Mike Furbee, Bob Shank, Rachel Eddy and others. Traditional music fans may recall that singer-songwriter Woody Guthrie died with Huntington's Disease. This film showing in Morgantown is an initiative of Mike Furbee, remembered by many in Morgantown as a wonderful fiddler.

The Fair Housing Action Network is recruiting volunteer testers to help fight housing discrimination. NWVCIL recently was awarded another FHIP grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Through this grant award, the NWVCIL is establishing a testing program. Testing is a legal means used to determine if unequal or discriminatory treatment is taking place. Volunteer testers pose as potential renters or buyers of apartments or homes, and document their experiences. The Fair Housing Action Network's testing coordinator will then compare the experiences of people searching for housing to determine if discrimination is occurring.

The NWVCIL needs volunteer testers of all genders, races, colors, religions, national origins, and abilities. If you are interested in combating housing discrimination, please volunteer. Testers will be compensated \$50 per completed test.

To make a difference, call: The Fair Housing Action Network (headquartered at the Northern West Virginia Center for Independent Living) at 304-296-6091 or e-mail: cchantler@nwvcil.org. Follow Claire and the Fair Housing Initiative on twitter: twitter.com/#!/wvfairhousing.

PRISONER VISITATION AND SUPPORT INFORMATION SESSION ON JUNE 14: Because there is a great need for people to visit prisoners in the federal prisons in West Virginia, the Monongalia Friends (Quakers) Meeting is hosting an information session on Prisoner Visitation and Support (PVS) at the Monongalia Friends Meetinghouse at 648 E Brockway Ave., Morgantown, WV 26505 on Sunday June 14, 2015 at 1:00 pm. Meeting for Worship is at 11:00 a.m., potluck lunch is at the rise of meeting, and the information session is at 1:00 p.m. The greater West Virginia community is welcome.

PVS is the only nationwide, interfaith visitation program with access to all federal and military prisons and prisoners in the United States. Sponsored by 35 national religious bodies and socially-concerned agencies (consisting of Protestant, Catholic, Jewish, Muslim and secular organizations), PVS seeks to meet the needs of prisoners through an alternative ministry that is separate from official prison structures.

PVS was founded in 1968 by Bob Horton, a retired Methodist minister, and Fay Honey Knopp, a Quaker activist, to visit imprisoned conscientious objectors. In its first five years of service, PVS volunteers visited over 2,000 conscientious objectors. PVS was encouraged by the war resisters to visit other prisoners and, today, PVS visits any federal or military prisoner wanting a visit. PVS has 350 volunteers who visit at more than 90 federal and military prisons across the country. The visitors make monthly visits to see prisoners who rarely, if ever, receive outside visits. PVS visitors also focus on seeing those prisoners with an acute need for human contact: those serving long sentences, those frequently transferred from prison to prison, and those in solitary confinement and on death row.

NORTHERN WEST VIRGINIA CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING: The Center has several group meetings every week! There's a Support for Wellness Group, Self-Advocacy Support System, and more! Contact Paulette for more info at plivengood@nwvcil.org or at 304-296-6091.

STATE NEWS

FAIRNESS WEST VIRGINIA ANNOUNCES MARCH ON JUNE 6: "If you've never been to a WV Rainbow Pride March at Haddad Riverfront Park in Charleston, pick this year to be your first! Register to march now!

"There are so many reasons to join us when we proudly hold our banner high and march with fair-minded advocates and allies.

"At this year's Pride, we march to celebrate the updates to West Virginia's DMV laws that now allow transgender people to change the gender marker on their driver's licenses by simply providing a letter from a medical professional. Thanks to the bipartisan support of fair-minded legislators, the Mountain

State made history this year when it joined 32 other states by taking action on an issue that greatly impacts transgender Mountaineers.

“We march to celebrate the state-wide support for nondiscrimination principles that was demonstrated by the literal thousands of letters, emails, phone calls, and meetings generated during the West Virginia Legislative Session.

“We march to show that even though marriage equality is the law here at home, we won't stop until LGBT West Virginians can live their lives openly and honestly in their workplaces and their communities.

“We march to show bullies like Steward Butler, the Marshall University running back who assaulted two innocent gay men in Huntington, that we will not back down on our path to full equality where every LGBT Mountaineer is free to live openly.”

You can register for this march at

http://equalityfederation.salsalabs.com/o/35039/p/salsa/event/common/public/?event_KEY=3420.

Fairness West Virginia also has Fairness 2015 t-shirts available from Kin Ship Goods. The proceeds of t-shirt sales are split equally between Fairness and this “local West Virginia business that proudly champions LGBT equality!” The shirts are \$26.00 and can be ordered at <http://www.kinshipgoods.com/collections/unisex-tees>.

RELIGIOUS HOLY DAYS IN JUNE 2015

FROM PETER CLARK

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.

Monday, June 1

- 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.

Friday, June 5

- Núr – Bahá’í

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

Sunday, June 7

- 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.

- 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.

Friday, June 12

- Sacred Heart – Christianity [Roman Catholic]

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

Tuesday, 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 17

- 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 17th.

Thursday, 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.

Friday, 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.

Sunday, 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.

Wednesday, June 24

- Rahmat – Bahá'í

Saturday, June 27

- 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.

Monday, 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 Friday, 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 UCSF Medical Center 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), and www.interfaithcalendar.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.