



Community Coalition for Social Justice
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UPDATE: 1 APRIL 2017

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 on **Tuesday, April 11th, at 6:30 p.m.** We have changed our meeting place to the **Training Room in the Public Safety Building** at the corner of Spruce Street and Walnut Street. Parking is available in the garage attached to the building.

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. You can join or donate by credit card via PayPal on our web site.

CCSJ ANNUAL MEETING FOLLOW-UP: We are still working out details following up our planning session on "What's Next" on Sunday, November 6th. Please email us at ccsjwv@hotmail.com if you'd like to be involved.



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 CITY COUNCIL ELECTIONS STARTING SOON: CCSJ is a nonpartisan organization, but we encourage everyone to vote. The last day to register to vote in the Morgantown City Council elections is April 4th. You may register at the Monongalia County Clerk's office in the courthouse. Call that office at 304-291-7238 for more information.

Early voting runs from April 12th to April 22nd at City Hall and the North Side Fire Station from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, on Saturday, April 15th, and Saturday, April 22th.

Election Day is April 25th from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. For more information, go to www.morgantownwv.gov/2015-election-materials/.

Here are the events for April, which is National Child Abuse Prevention Month, a "time to emphasize the importance of families and communities working together to prevent child abuse and neglect and to promote the social and emotional wellbeing of children and families," and **Sexual Assault Awareness Month**, a "month to promote awareness of sexual assault, harassment, or other abuse to increase prevention efforts to protect all people of all ages."

April 1 Youth Homelessness Matters Day – Part of a campaign to create brighter futures for young people who have faced homelessness and to show them they have the power and opportunity to become whatever they put their minds to.

April 7 World Health Day – Calls for an awareness that without nurture and protection of health, persons are vulnerable to economic and social hardship and inability to fully utilize or engage in human rights.

April 16 Holocaust Remembrance Day – Anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising – Seeks to commemorate the Holocaust by remembering and honoring the victims of the Holocaust which include six million Jews, thousands of Russian gypsies, homosexuals, persons with disabilities, and others.



NOW CHAPTER MEETING APRIL 9: The next meeting of the Morgantown Chapter of the National Organization for Women will be at 4:00 p.m. in the WVU Mountainlair. Parking is available in the Mountainlair parking garage.



GREATER MORGANTOWN INTERFAITH ASSOCIATION (GMIA) MEETING APRIL 2ND:

The next meeting of this group will be at the Tree of Life Congregation, 242 South High Street, Morgantown. The agenda will feature a presentation on "Islam 101, part 2" by Imam Kip Curnutt from 3:00 p.m. to

4:00 p.m. and work groups/planning from 4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. RSVP to Rev. Monica Styron at mstyron2015@gmail.com

The GMIA is also presenting a **program by Ghazala Salam on April 29th** from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. in the WVU Mountainlair, with the room to be announced.

The GMIA announcement says that “Throughout her career, Ghazala Salam has examined and written about religious, cultural, and political factors that contribute to stereotyping of Muslims. She believes that understanding more about our own psychology and biases can help us be more open-minded and learn from one another. . . . In 2015, she was recognized by the Florida Commission on Status for Women as a meritorious woman for her dedication to serving as positive role model and improving the lives of women and girls within the state. She was appointed to the Commission on the Status of Women in Broward where she promotes human rights and elimination discrimination against women. She serves on Broward School’s Human Relations Advisory Board”

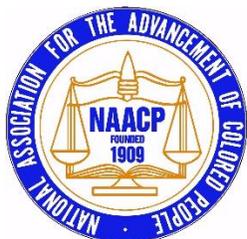
WVU SOCIAL JUSTICE FILMS FROM THE WVU COMMUNITY HUMAN RIGHTS FILM FESTIVAL SPONSORED BY THE WVU DIVISION OF DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION; THE CITY OF MORGANTOWN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION; AND THE WVU HUMAN RIGHTS FILM FESTIVAL PLANNING COMMITTEE:

April 4, 7:00 p.m.: God Loves Uganda: “The feature-length documentary ‘God Loves Uganda’ is a powerful exploration of the evangelical campaign to change African culture with values imported from America's Christian Right. The film follows American and Ugandan religious leaders fighting ‘sexual Immorality’ and missionaries trying to convince Ugandans to follow Biblical law.”

April 11, 7:00 p.m.: America Divided: “Norman Lear explores the housing divide in New York City, where he is confronted by one of the nation's starkest images of Inequality: a record number of homeless people living in the shadows of luxury skyscrapers filled with apartments purposely being kept empty. The creator of ‘All In the Family,’ ‘Good Times’ and ‘the Jeffersons’ speaks with tenants, realtors, homeless people, housing activists, landlords and city officials - investigating the Big Apple's affordability crisis, hedge fund speculation on residential housing, and a legacy of racist discrimination that still persists today.”

April 26, 7:00 p.m.: Making a Killing: Guns, Greed and the NRA: “This powerful documentary tells the stories of tragic shootings through the eyes of survivors and family members and how National Rifle Association (NRA) has lobbied for gun manufacturers who pay their bills and set their agenda.”

All films are free and open to the public and will be shown in the Gluck Theatre of the Mountainlair.



NAACP NEXT MEETING APRIL 18TH: The Morgantown/Kingwood Branch of the NAACP meets every third Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. at the Red Cross offices, 1299 Pineview Drive, Suite 300, Morgantown.

The NAACP Education Summit is April 17th at the Holiday Inn on Pineview from 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

COMMEMORATION OF YOM HASHOAH HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY IS APRIL 3RD: In Commemoration of Yom Hashoah Holocaust Remembrance Day, WVU Hillel, with the support of the Departments of Political Science and History, will present a talk by Dr. Rita Goldberg at 6:30 p.m. in room G21 Ming Hsieh Hall on the WVU Downtown Campus.

“Dr. Goldberg is the author of *Motherland: Growing Up with the Holocaust*. A groundbreaking second-generation memoir of the Holocaust from the goddaughter of Otto Frank, *Motherland* is the culmination

of a lifetime of reflection and a decade of research. It is an epic story of survival, adventure, and new life.”

MORGANTOWN FEMINIST FIGHT CLUB (MFFC) EMPOWERMENT DAY IS APRIL 4TH: Join the group for a day of empowerment related activities, discussions, and artistic expression from 1:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in the Shenandoah Room of the WVU Mountainlair. The schedule is as follows:

1:00 p.m. to 1:45 p.m.- Yoga and Wellness with Colleen H.

2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.- Empower Your Health Fair, a health fair with topics including: women's health screening and symptoms to look for, STI information, contraception and sex education, Morgantown Period Project, ACA information, Mental Health Information, Pre- and postnatal Care, Abuse and Domestic Violence

3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. - Local Empowered Organizations will have tables set up to chat about all the awesome things they are doing within our community and how you can get involved!

4:30 p.m. to 5:15 p.m.- Empowerment through the Arts, includes poetry readings and special music.

5:15 p.m. to 5:45 p.m.- Special Guest Speaker

6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.- World Cafe Style Empowerment Round Table Discussions, topics include: Wage Gap and Wage Negotiations, LGBTQ Rights in the Work Place and How to Be an Ally, Sexual Harassment in the Work Place, Women in Politics, and Financial Empowerment.

MONONGALIA COUNTY CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER GIRLS NIGHT OUT SET: The theme is “Denim & Diamonds.” This will be a “night of dancing, dining, and donating” on **April 7th**, starting at 6:00 p.m. at the Waterfront Place Hotel. General admission tickets are \$50, and VIP tickets are \$100. More information is available at the event’s Facebook page: www.facebook.com/morgantowngno. The MCCAC would appreciate donations of basketballs, footballs, an air pump for balls, Frisbees, subscriptions to child-friendly magazines, and copy paper.

WVU WOMEN’S AND GENDER STUDIES EVENTS: The **Women’s & Gender Studies Fair** is **April 10th** from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. in the WVU Mountainlair Ballrooms. The **Honors & Awards Ceremony and Capstone Colloquium** is **April 27th** from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in the Mountainlair Mountaineer Room.

WVU LGBTQ+ CENTER LAVENDER GRADUATION APRIL 30TH: This event will be in the Erickson Alumni Center, Ruby Grand Hall at 3:00 p.m., with a reception beginning at 2:30 p.m. The program honors LGBTQ+ undergraduate and graduate students “for their accomplishments and for contributing to WVU’s diverse community of gender identities, gender expressions, and sexualities.” Tim Valentine, assistant director of alumni relations at New York University, will be the alumnus speaker.

WVU CENTER FOR BLACK CULTURE AND RESEARCH EVENTS: WVU NAACP Image Awards program will be held on **April 6th** at 7:00 p.m. in the WVU Mountainlair. “The WVU NAACP Image Awards is a public event that honors and recognizes individuals or organizations that uplift the West Virginia University community. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. The show begins at 7:00 p.m.” For more information, contact Yasmeen Stubblefield at 304-400-1787 or wvunaacp1909@gmail.com. The **Paul Robeson Mahalia**

Jackson Gospel Choir Spring Concert will be held **April 12th** at 7:00 p.m. in the Gluck Theater of the WVU Mountainlair.

STATE-WIDE EVENTS

NAACP SPRING MEETING AND MEMPHIS TENNESSEE GARRISON LUNCHEON IS APRIL 29TH: This event will be in Charles Town. Please contact Debbie Robinson at naacp.morgantown3241@gmail.com for tickets, which are \$15 each.

NAACP STATE CONFERENCE AUGUST 11TH AND 12TH: This will be at the Holiday Inn on Pineview Dr. in Morgantown.



OUR CHILDREN OUR FUTURE YOUNG WV: POWER BUILDING CONFERENCE SEPTEMBER 8TH TO 10TH: Are you aged 15-25? Want WV to be the coolest place to live, go to school and work? Then this conference at Marshall University in Huntington is for you! Join a statewide movement of young people committed to making waves of change in WV!

At the Young WV conference, you'll find:

Youth-led breakouts on voter engagement, racial justice, mental health, LGBT advocacy and more!

Young WV Policy Challenge

A chance to meet other young people from across the state

\$Mini-grant\$ opportunities for statement student chapters

Info on how to create a Young WV chapter in your school or organization

Scholarships are available!

Go to www.ocofwv.org/youngwv/ for information on registration, scholarships, information on volunteering, becoming a sponsor to support low-income students to attend, information on lodging, submitting policy ideas, etc.

Like Young WV on Facebook to stay in the loop and follow on Twitter at [@_YoungWV](https://twitter.com/_YoungWV)

RELIGIOUS HOLY DAYS IN APRIL 2017

FROM PETER CLARK

April marks the season of Maaal, which is when the rivers open, and of the Eagle Dances, when people of the Arizona Pueblo tribes dance to dramatize their communities' relationship with the Sky-World.

Wednesday, April 5

* Ramanavami – Hinduism

A celebration in honor of the birth of Rama, the seventh incarnation of the god Vishnu. Hindus read the Ramayana, a Hindu epic, and religious dances called Ramalila are performed to depict scenes from his life.

* Qingming – Chinese traditional

Often called Tomb Sweeping Day, it is a day to honor one's ancestors and visit their grave sites, as well as to welcome the coming of the spring season.

Thursday, April 6

* Anniversary of the Church's Founding – Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

Saturday, April 8

* Lazarus Saturday – Christianity (Eastern churches)

A commemoration of Jesus' miracle of raising his friend Lazarus from the dead, celebrated on the eve before Palm Sunday.

* Jalál – Bahá'í

The beginning of the second month in the Bahá'í calendar, "Jalál" means "glory."

Sunday, April 9

* Palm Sunday – Christianity (Western and Eastern churches)

The remembrance of Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem, when crowds spread palm fronds on the ground as Jesus rode into the city. Palm Sunday marks the beginning of Holy Week.

* Mahavira-jayanti – Jainism

Celebrating the birthday of Lord Mahavir (Great Hero), the 24th Tirthankara (and last of this time cycle). Jains remember their most important prophet by decorating their temples with flags, with prayers and fasting, and by making offerings of rice, fruit, milk, and other items.

* Shrimad Rajchandra Dehvilay – Jainism

This festival marks the day of the emancipation (death) of Shrimad Rajchandra, a prominent Jain philosopher, in 1901 C.E. He was an influential spiritual guide for Mohandas Karamchand (Mahatma) Gandhi.

Monday, April 10

* Eve of Pesach [Passover] – Judaism (ends on April 18)

The beginning of an eight-day festival celebrating God's deliverance of the Israelites from slavery in Egypt. The story is told during a Seder meal at sundown, including readings from a book known as the Haggadah. Some Jews refrain from work on the first two and the last two days of this holiday.

Tuesday, April 11

* Theravadin New Year – Buddhism

The New Year festival for Theravadin Buddhists, celebrated for three days beginning on the first full moon day in April.

* Hanuman Jayanti – Hinduism

A celebration of the birth of Hanuman, the faithful servant of the god Rama who can assume any form in order to conquer evil. Believers visit temples and apply sindoor (red powder) to their foreheads, since Hanuman is often portrayed as a red half-monkey, half-human.

Thursday, April 13

* Maundy Thursday [Holy Thursday] – Christianity (Western churches)

The remembrance of Jesus' last supper with his disciples and his institution of the "love commandment" (the term "Maundy" comes from the Latin word for "commandment") while he washed their feet as a servant.

* Eve of Great and Holy Friday – Christianity (Eastern churches)

At sundown Eastern churches commemorate Jesus' death by crucifixion, followed by an observance of the Great Sabbath, in which believers remember Christ's burial and await his resurrection on Holy Pascha, or Easter morning.

Friday, April 14

* Good Friday or Great and Holy Friday – Christianity (Western and Eastern churches)

A commemoration of the passion of Jesus of Nazareth, i.e., his death by crucifixion. At sundown some churches begin the Easter vigil either this evening or on Holy Saturday (April 15).

* Vaisakhi – Hinduism

The first day of the solar year and an important harvest festival in northern India.

* Vaisakhi [or Baisakhi] – Sikhism

On this date in 1699 C.E., Gurū Gobind Singh, the tenth Guru, created the Khalsa Panth, the Brotherhood of the Pure. Khalsa brothers are given the name Singh (lion), and sisters are named Kaur (princess).

Sunday, April 16

* Easter Sunday or Holy Pascha – Christianity (Western and Eastern churches)

Celebrating God’s raising of Jesus of Nazareth from the dead, this day is the oldest and most central festival in the Christian year and initiates the fifty-day period culminating in Pentecost.

* Yaqui Deer Dance – Native American spirituality

A ceremony that integrates ancient rites of the Yaqui people of Arizona with the Christian Easter rituals.

Tuesday, April 18

* Birthdays of Gurū Angad Dev and of Gurū Tegh Bahadur – Sikhism

Gurū Angad Dev (1504 – 1552 C.E.) was the second and Gurū Tegh Bahadur (1621 – 1675 C.E.) was the ninth of the Sikh Gurūs.

Wednesday, April 19

* Eve of Ridván – Bahá’í (continues through Monday, May 1)

Commemorating the twelve days that Bahá’u’lláh spent in the garden of Ridván during his exile in Baghdad and when he proclaimed himself as the one announced by the Báb, which occurred in 1863 C.E. On the first (4/20), ninth (4/28), and twelfth days (5/1) of this festival, work is suspended. The festival begins at sundown.

Saturday, April 22

* Laylat al-Isra’ wa al-Mi’rāj – Islam

The commemoration of the Prophet Muhammad’s night journey from Mecca to Jerusalem, his ascent into heaven and return on the same night, and his receipt of Allah’s commandment of the five compulsory daily prayers. This celebration begins at dusk.

Monday, April 24

* Yom Ha-Shoah (Holocaust Day) – Judaism

A day of remembrance for the six million Jews who died because of Nazi atrocities during World War II. The date chosen is the closest date on the Jewish calendar to the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising in 1943.

Thursday, April 27

* Jamál – Bahá’í

The beginning of the third month in the Bahá’í calendar, “Jamál” means “beauty.”

Friday, April 28

* Akshaya-tritiya [Immortal Third] – Jainism

A day celebrating when Lord Adinatha or Rishabhadeva, the traditional founder of the Jain faith and the first tirthankar (a being who helps others to cross the great ocean of worldly life and achieve liberation), broke his first year-long fast by drinking juice from a sugar cane.

Sunday, April 30

* Ghambar Maidyozarem begins – Zoroastrianism (continues through Thursday, May 4)

Celebrating the creation of sky and the harvesting of the winter crops.

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), the University of Victoria Faculty of Law (British Columbia, Canada), 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.