



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

**UPDATE: SEPTEMBER 1, 2025**

**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.

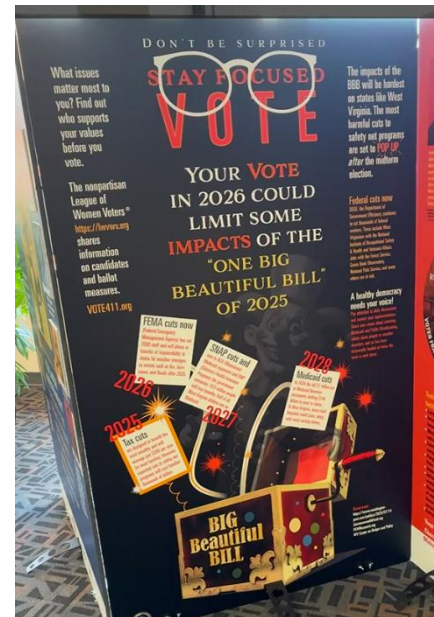
**JOIN US FOR OUR SEPTEMBER POTLUCK PICNIC AT THE KREPPS PARK PAVILION, 1235 PARKVIEW DRIVE IN SUNCREST, ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, FROM 1:00 TO 3:00 P.M.**

All are welcome. We will have a short business meeting as this is our CCSJ annual meeting event, but mostly we just want to get together and enjoy each other's company. We are inviting area social justice and environmental justice groups to join us. We will have our new exhibit panels that Even Faulkes designed that we debuted on August 7th (see photos below).

We will also have copies of our book on *West Virginians' Experiences in Civil Rights: How We Have Been Connected All Along* available for sale for \$15.90, including tax. We can accept cash, checks, and cards for payment if interested. We also have "Coexist" bumper stickers for \$1.00.

**Because of our picnic, there will be no CCSJ Zoom meeting on September 16th. We will resume our monthly Zoom meetings in October.**

**VOTING RIGHTS ACT ANNIVERSARY EVENT WAS AUGUST 7TH:** Thank you to all who joined us on August 7th in person or on Zoom to learn about Coralie Franklin Cook, a graduate of Storer College in Harpers Ferry, West Virginia, and suffrage leader. Ilene Evans of Voices from the Earth gave a powerful portrayal of Cook, and we previewed the new exhibit panels that we then moved to the Morgantown Public Library for the rest of the month of August. The new panels are mounted on the back of three of our original panels. We appreciate the financial support of the City of Morgantown for two of the exhibit panels and Ms. Evans's presentation. We also appreciate the support of First Presbyterian Church, Morgantown; the Morgantown/Kingwood Branch of the NAACP; the Morgantown Human Rights Commission; and Jascenna Haislet, the executive director of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) and the OLLI staff. WBOY-TV and WDTV-TV sent reporters to the program to interview Eve.



**CCSJ TO BE AT SCOTTS RUN STREET FAIR ON SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20.** We will have our new exhibit panels at the Scotts Run Street Fair in Osage.



**CCSJ EXHIBIT ON 60<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF CIVIL RIGHTS ACT AND *WEST VIRGINIANS' EXPERIENCES IN CIVIL RIGHTS: HOW WE HAVE BEEN CONNECTED ALL ALONG!*** If you are interested in hosting the 6-panel exhibit at a library, museum, or other public site, please contact Eve Faulkes at [faulkeseve@gmail.com](mailto:faulkeseve@gmail.com). It "travels" in the back of her car. We also have half-size posters of the six panels to show in smaller spaces.

You can support local businesses and buy the book at:

**Appalachian Gallery**, 270 Walnut Street, Morgantown. The phone number is 304-296-0163. The store is open from 10:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday.

**Barnes & Noble**, 3000 University Town Centre Dr., Morgantown. phone: 304-599-1294. The store is open Sundays from 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m and from 10:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Monday-Saturday.

**Terra Cafe**, 4325 Industrial Avenue, Star City. phone: 304-554-2233. The cafe is open Monday-Wednesday, 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Thursday-Saturday 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., and Sunday 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

The book also is available on Amazon as both paperback (\$15) and Kindle (\$8) versions. The easiest way to find it is to type "Eve Faulkes" in the Amazon search engine.

If you buy the book on Amazon, you may be able to leave a review. Go to Amazon.com, search for Eve Faulkes to bring up the book title. Then go to the bottom of the page where it says "Review this product" in the lower left corner for the guidelines.



We still have a few copies of this printing for libraries, museums, schools, and related organizations.

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."*

**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, September 18th 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/).

**Vacancies on Human Rights Commission.** There are currently three vacancies on the commission. "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 September:

**September 1: Labor Day** – Celebrates the historic struggles of workers in the United States to achieve safer working conditions, shorter hours, and humane restrictions on child labor while contributing to productive economies.

**September 8: International Literacy Day** – Supports awareness of the importance of persons being able to read and write in order to participate in today's economic, legal, health and social environments.

**September 17: Constitution Day and Citizenship Day** – Commemorates the ratification in 1787 of the United States Constitution, the organization of government, and rights of citizenship. Also honors all who have become United States citizens.

**September 21 International Day of Peace** – Calls for continual working for peace and reduction of use of violence in attempting to solve problems among individuals and all levels of human interaction.



**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MORGANTOWN-MONONGALIA COUNTY (LWV-MM).** Thanks to Cynthia Nelson, the secretary of the LWV-MM, for this report:

The co-sponsored LWV and Mountain State Spotlight Listening Sessions in Morgantown and Preston County were well attended, especially in the Morgantown sessions. Thank you to the CCSJ members that joined in the conversations. You can read the article following the sessions here:  
<https://mountainstatespotlight.org/2025/08/17/preston-monogalia-listening-session/>

Also note that Mountain State Spotlight has continued to write additional articles on several of the topics that emerged from the sessions.

LWV-MM will be at the Morgantown Library on Spruce Street from noon until 1pm and 5pm to 6pm on Tuesday September 16th. Please stop by and say hello, send anyone you know that would like assistance with voter registration questions and don't hesitate to learn how to confirm your voter registration status. As the State of West Virginia continues to purge voter rolls, never assume your voter registration is current. It is an easy process to protect your voting status with no surprises in 2026!

Tuesday September 17th is Constitution Day/Citizenship Day. West Virginia's Senator Robert C. Byrd, famous for carrying a pocket Constitution on Capitol Hill, introduced the law to commemorate the signing of the US Constitution in 1787. The date is designed to encourage Constitutional literacy and knowledge of your rights and responsibilities as an American citizen.

Follow us on Facebook, on the web at <https://lwvmorgantown.org>, and our Substack ([lwvmorgantown.substack.com](https://lwvmorgantown.substack.com)) and share our free content.

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



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

Carol Roberts executive director of WV Women Work, will be the speaker.



### NAACP

**MORGANTOWN-KINGWOOD BRANCH OF THE NAACP MEETS TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16TH.** This meeting of the membership will be at 5:30 p.m. via Zoom. Contact the NAACP at 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 ONE MEMBER:** The City of Morgantown is currently accepting applications for the one vacancy 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 in person at 10:30 and on zoom. Thanks to Linda Yoder for this report:

Morgantown Church of the Brethren will be celebrating the Season of Creation during worship from August 31 through October 5, with St. Francis in mind.

Also as long as picnic season continues, all are invited to the after-worship picnic in Wiles Hill Park around noon.

We are thinking of creating a seed library, and right now is seed-saving season. If this project interests you, e-mail [Stephen.Lowe@morgantowncob.org](mailto:Stephen.Lowe@morgantowncob.org)

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.

The website is <https://www.morgantowncob.org/>.

The church is a member organization of CCSJ.

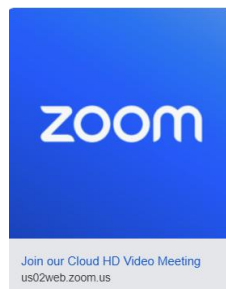
**MONONGALIA FRIENDS MEETING:** First Day meetings are at 11:00 a.m. at 648 E. Brockway, Morgantown.

Contact them at [monquakers@gmail.com](mailto:monquakers@gmail.com).

Monongalia Friends Meeting is a member organization of CCSJ.



**DISMANTLING RACISM TOGETHER.** Dismantling racism together will meet on Monday, September 15, at 7:00 p.m. to hear Dr. Joseph Jones, WVU assistant professor of Media, History and Ethics speak on “The Truth About Race: How History is About the Present and Why We Must Get It Right.” Join by zoom for this timely program.



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.

It is a value of First Presbyterian Church that when we gather we welcome one another just as God loves us, without any conditions.

No matter who you are or where you’re from

No matter where you live or work

No matter your family of origin or ethnicity

No matter who you love or how you identify, or wherever you are on your spiritual journey

We welcome you just as God loves you, without any conditions.



Please check the church's Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/FPCMorgantown](http://www.facebook.com/FPCMorgantown) for updates in case of inclement weather.



**FAIRMONT PRIDE MEETS TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16TH:** This will be a general business meeting at 6:30 p.m. at the Frank & Jane Gabor West Virginia Folklife Center. "Join us for our monthly public business meeting and our slate one elections for President and treasurer! Open to the public but only members may vote in business. Bring a friend, allies welcome!"

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



**MORGANTOWN PRIDE:** Morgantown Pride has an Instagram page at [www.instagram.com/morgantownwvpride/?hl=en](https://www.instagram.com/morgantownwvpride/?hl=en). Follow them on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/MorgantownWVPride](http://www.facebook.com/MorgantownWVPride).

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



**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](http://www.facebook.com/MONCOCAC).

Stay tuned for more information on these upcoming events.

**Fall 2025 Quilt Walk & Online Auction - The Month of October**  
**Stone House Giving Event - 10/6-10/12**  
**Halloween Trivia Night - 10/25**  
**Battle of the Bartenders - 11/20**

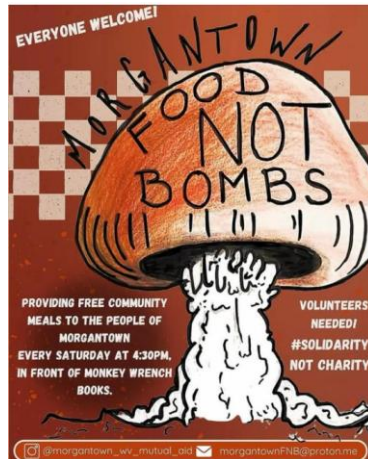
And for "Lights. Glamour. Vegas" – the Girls' Night Out 2026 on Saturday, May 30th, at the WVU Erickson Alumni Center.

**SCOTTS RUN COMMUNITY SING:** This group usually meets the last Monday of the month.



Morgantown WV Mutual Aid

**MORGANTOWN MUTUAL AID:** Follow this group on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/search/top?q=morgantown%20mutual%20aid](https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=morgantown%20mutual%20aid).



This group advertises many community resources on its Facebook page, including:

**APBP PRESENTS...**

**COMMUNITY WRAPPING PARTIES**

HELP US WRAP BOOKS TO SEND TO INCARCERATED PEOPLE IN APPALACHIA

**When?**  
Sept. 10 | Oct. 15 | Nov. 12  
6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

**Where?**  
Ascend WV  
1279 University Avenue

**Questions?**  
Contact us at  
AppalachianPBP@gmail.com

SCAN HERE!

@AppalachianPBP

**WVU NATIVE AMERICAN STUDIES PROGRAM PEACE TREE CEREMONY IS OCTOBER 13TH:** The speaker will be Chebon Ternell. He is a ceremonial leader who has written a lot and is involved in the repatriation of children's remains from the boarding schools. The Carlisle Boarding School in Carlisle, PA, was notorious for mistreating Native American children who were sent there. Remains of children are being sent back to their tribes.

**WVU LGBTQ CENTER:** There are many events for students and the WVU community listed on the Center's Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/WVULGBTQCenter](http://www.facebook.com/WVULGBTQCenter).

Also, everyone is invited to Our Place:



### STATEWIDE NEWS



**WEST VIRGINIA NOW:** For more information, go to [www.facebook.com/WestVirginiaNow](http://www.facebook.com/WestVirginiaNow) or email Amanda Ray, the state NOW president, at [amandajray@yahoo.com](mailto:amandajray@yahoo.com). The Facebook page has photos of the West Virginia NOW/Huntington NOW celebration of Women's Equality Day in Huntington on August 26th.

Kanawha Valley: KVNOW meets on the 4th Thursday of every month at the Public Library.



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



“Mark your calendars! The annual Fairness West Virginia Institute gala is returning on Oct. 25, and you’re invited! Join us in Charleston as we celebrate Studio 54 and dance our way to a brighter future for LGBTQ+ West Virginians

“Step into the glittering world of Studio 54 for a night of disco, decadence, and dazzling self-expression—all in support of LGBTQ+ civil rights!

“Dance beneath shimmering lights, sip cocktails in style, and celebrate a legacy of resilience and liberation with a community that knows how to party with purpose. From iconic fashion to electrifying music, this gala will transport you to an era where the night was limitless and everyone belonged.”

For more information and to purchase tickets, please go to [fairnesswv.org/2025/08/11/are-you-ready-to-sparkle-like-its-1979/](https://fairnesswv.org/2025/08/11/are-you-ready-to-sparkle-like-its-1979/)



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

The ACLU has published this information for LGBTQ students in West Virginia’s public school system on its Facebook page:

**LGBTQ Students in West Virginia’s Public School System:**

***KNOW YOUR RIGHTS***

Schools can’t discriminate against you on the basis of your sexual orientation or gender identity.

Your school is required to respond to reports of harassment or discrimination.

You have a right to express yourself, including discussing LGBTQ topics.

Teachers are required to “out” students to their parents if a student comes out to a teacher – including asking to be referred to by specific pronouns or by a name other than what is provided to the school.

Schools can’t prevent you from bringing dates of the same gender to school events including prom and homecoming.

You have the right to dress in a way that reflects your gender identity at school and school events.

Multiple courts have affirmed trans students’ right to access separated programs and facilities (like bathrooms) consistent with their gender identity.



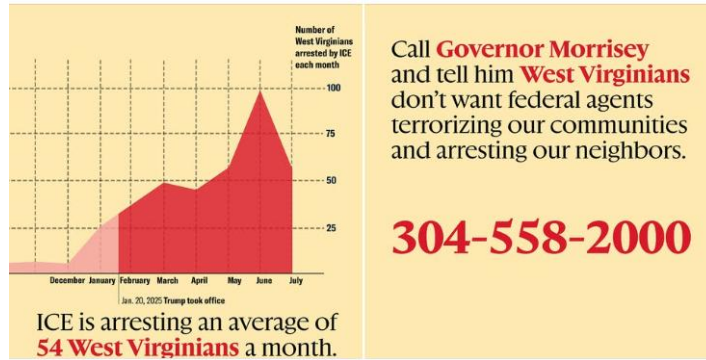
**We’re rooting for you this school year, and we have your back.**

**If you feel your rights have been violated, contact our legal team by scanning the QR code or visiting: <http://intake.acluww.org>**

***KNOW YOUR RIGHTS***

**ACLU WV**

The ACLU is also posting information about ICE arrests in West Virginia:



**2025  
Bill of Rights  
Brunch**  
**Sunday, November 9**



**RAINBOW PRIDE OF WEST VIRGINIA EVENTS:** For more on this group's events, go to [www.facebook.com/RainbowPrideWV](https://www.facebook.com/RainbowPrideWV) or [rainbowpridewv.org](https://rainbowpridewv.org).



**NEW DATE!**  
**Saturday September 13**

"NEW DATE: Saturday September 13th  
9a race time

Get ready for the 2025 Rainbow Run with Rainbow Pride of WV and Covenant House as we Roll, Walk, Run or Sashay our way to raising funds for our Rainbow Pride Educational Scholarship AND bringing about awareness to Kick Smoking's Butt!!

"🖨️Online registration will open soon."



“Rainbow Pride’s Annual BIG GAY COOKOUT is back and hotter than your uncle’s grill 🍷🍔🍌”  
 “Sunday, SEPTEMBER 14 2025 at Coonskin Park in Charleston there will be food, friends, games, music, drag, and all the queer joy your heart can handle 💖”  
 “Bring your chosen fam, your lawn chair, and a dish to share. Mark those calendars now... you do not want to miss this one!”  
 ➡️ Event details to come! 🌈”



**WEST VIRGINIA TRANS COALITION:** Follow this group at [www.facebook.com/wvtranscoalition/](https://www.facebook.com/wvtranscoalition/).

**DIVERSITY CALENDAR FOR SEPTEMBER**  
[www.diversityresources.com/september-diversity-calendar-2025/](https://www.diversityresources.com/september-diversity-calendar-2025/)

**September 1: Labor Day** – Celebrated in the U.S., Labor Day honors the contributions and achievements of workers, recognizing the importance of labor rights. It’s a day for relaxation and appreciation of the workforce’s role in economic and social progress.

**September 10: World Suicide Prevention Day** –This day promotes global efforts to prevent suicide, raise awareness, and reduce stigma around mental health issues. It encourages open conversations and support for those struggling with mental health challenges.

**September 11: Patriot Day** –Observed in the U.S., Patriot Day remembers those who lost their lives in the tragic events of September 11, 2001. It’s a day of reflection and unity, honoring both victims and first responders.

**September 16: National Working Parents Day** – This day recognizes the dedication of working parents who balance career and family responsibilities. It’s an opportunity to appreciate their contributions at work and at home, acknowledging the challenges they face.

**September 18: International Equal Pay Day** – A United Nations observance, International Equal Pay Day advocates for closing the global gender pay gap and achieving equal pay for equal work. It highlights the importance of economic equity and gender equality in the workforce.

### September National Months 2025

**National Hispanic Heritage Month:** Observed from September 15 to October 15, this national month celebrates the culture and contributions of Hispanics and Latin Americans to the United States.

The anniversaries of many Latin American countries are held on or around September 15 hence why the start of the month starts mid-month. Take time to acknowledge how these communities impact society and foster understanding of their unique heritages.

### September Awareness Months 2025

**National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month:** September is a time to remember the lives lost to suicide and people who are living with depression. In the United States, it's a leading cause of death and is an important topic to discuss with loved ones. Take time to raise awareness about mental health by sharing resources with loved ones or colleagues this month. It's also a great time to share inspirational stories of hope too.

**World Alzheimer's Month:** This international campaign focuses on acknowledging the challenges of people living with Alzheimer's and dementia, their families, and those who care for them. Unfortunately, the number of people who live with these diseases is expected to triple by 2050. This makes it that much more important to recognize the risk factors associated with developing it and steps to take toward reducing your risk of developing it in the future.

### September Interfaith Calendar 2025 Highlights

**September 5\*: Islamic: Mawlid al-Nabi** – Mawlid al-Nabi commemorates the birth of the Prophet Muhammad, celebrated by many Muslims with prayers, gatherings, and charitable acts. It's a time to reflect on his teachings and contributions to the Islamic faith.

**September 11: Coptic Orthodox Christian: Nayrouz** – Nayrouz marks the start of the Coptic New Year, honoring martyrs and saints who upheld their faith. Coptic Christians observe this day with prayers and celebrations that emphasize renewal and resilience.

**September 22: Hindu: Navratri** – Navratri is a nine-day festival dedicated to the goddess Durga, celebrating her triumph over evil. Hindus observe it with fasting, prayers, dances, and ceremonies, each day honoring a different aspect of the divine feminine.

**September 22\*-Pagan and Wiccan: Mabon** – Mabon, the Autumn Equinox, is a celebration of balance and gratitude for the harvest. Pagans and Wiccans mark the day with rituals, feasts, and reflection on the cycle of life and nature's abundance.

**September 23\*: Jewish: Rosh Hashanah** – Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year, is a time for introspection, prayer, and beginning anew. Jewish communities gather to hear the shofar, enjoy festive meals, and reflect on goals for the year ahead.

\*=begins at sundown the night before.