

# Union County Interfaith Coordinating Council



MAY 2017

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## CHURCH & STATE: THE 1ST AMMENDMENT & RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

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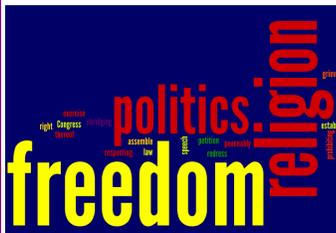
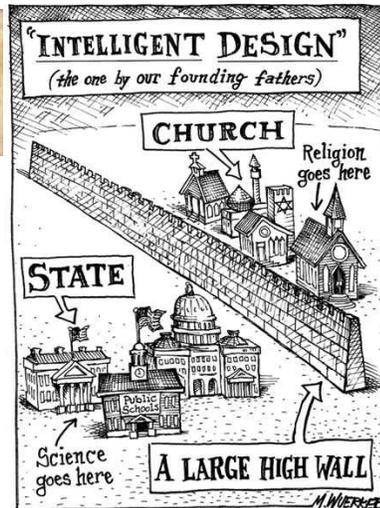
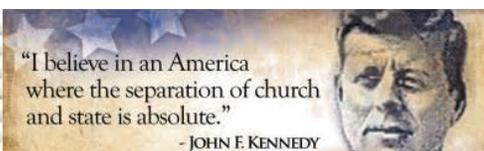
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**THE FIRST AMENDMENT**  
CONGRESS SHALL MAKE NO LAW RESPECTING AN ESTABLISHMENT OF RELIGION, OR PROHIBITING THE FREE EXERCISE THEREOF; OR ABRIDGING THE FREEDOM OF SPEECH, OR OF THE PRESS; OR THE RIGHT OF THE PEOPLE PEACEABLY TO ASSEMBLE, AND TO PETITION THE GOVERNMENT FOR A REDRESS OF GRIEVANCES. PROTECT THE FIRST AMENDMENT. SUPPORT THE CBLDF

UCICC FULL MEETING:  
May 18th 6P—7:30P

Join US as a Representative from the ACLU discusses "Church & State"

See page 7



## About the **Union County** **Interfaith Coordinating Council**

### **Our Mission**

The Union County Interfaith Coordinating Council works to facilitate regular interfaith meetings in order to make way for the building of bonds within the interfaith community.

We respect and encourage the inclusion and welcoming of others regardless of faith, race or disability. We strive to be proactive on social issues.

### **Our Goals**

- To grow the network of faith-based organizations in Union County.
- To encourage representatives from all faiths to join the Interfaith Coordinating Council including those of Catholic, Protestant, Jewish, Islamic, and other faiths.
- To be engaged in:
  1. **Community Building** within faith-based organizations and the general Union County population.
  2. The advancement of **Social Justice**.
  3. The intentional **inclusion** of others regardless of gender, faith, race.
- To be active in activities that are inclusive and community building.

### **Our Objectives**

- Sponsor regular engagement opportunities that facilitate the building of bonds within the Union County interfaith community and their congregations.
- Strengthen Union County religious congregations through involvement, action and education in self-help.
- Build working relationships between Union County religious organizations and Community Access Unlimited that create opportunities for youth and people with disabilities and their support staff.

### **Potential Advantages to Joining the Interfaith Community**

- Develop interfaith solidarity.
- Avail yourself of increased visibility within the interfaith community and build opportunities to share educational and community events with the group.
- Build religious membership.
- Gain exposure for you and fellow congregation members to educational opportunities regarding entitlements, housing, and other services, including but not limited to: programs for seniors, youth, people with physical and developmental disabilities, etc..
- Create full and part time employment opportunities for congregation members with CAU.

### **UNION COUNTY INTERFAITH COORDINATING COUNCIL Steering Committee Members**

**Deacon Tim Williams-Chair**  
First Baptist Church  
Kenilworth

**Pastor E. Crawford—Chair Emeritus**  
Ebenezer AME  
Rahway

**Sidney Blanchard**  
Executive Director of CAU

**Rabbi Joel N. Abraham**  
Temple Shalom  
Scotch Plains

**Ayaz Aslam**  
Muslim Community Center of UC  
Elizabeth

**Pastor H. Bryant**  
Townley Presbyterian Church  
Union

**Denise Fernandes**  
La Via al Exito

**Erich Han William Kussman, Jr**  
Holy Cross Lutheran Church  
Springfield

**Pastor Mertz**  
First United Methodist Church  
Westfield

**Michelle Mobley**  
Director of Youth Service  
Residential

**Pastor Carmine Pernini**  
Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Rahway

**Fr Michael Saporito**  
The Parish Community of St. Helen  
Westfield

**Roderick Spearman**  
CAU Consultant

**Elder Arthur “Skip” Winter**  
Cranford Presbyterian Church  
Cranford

# message

## from the Chairperson Emeritus

### Church & State: The First Amendment and Religious Freedom

“Religion is like a pair of shoes.....Find one that fits for you, but don't make me wear your shoes.” – George Carlin



One of the many joys of being in America is the joy of religious freedom, a privilege not shared by the global world. There should be joy in our ability to walk in the wisdom of God and the conviction of conscience. There should be peace for all of those who choose to follow a divine moral compass—even when that compass leads others in a direction other than yours.

We live in a constitutional republic rather than a theocracy—and for good reason. All too often, state-sanctioned churches become puppets of the government, causing the edicts of fallible man to take precedence over the inspired teachings of a Holy Script.

From the very beginning of time, God’s will for humanity was for us, all of us, to have rights, freedoms and privileges – to be persons of free will. After all, Thomas Jefferson called religious freedom “the most inalienable and sacred of all human rights.” Jefferson’s cause was to protect religious liberties from an intrusive government! In no way did Jefferson or any of the other framers of the U.S. Constitution seek to restrict Americans’ religious activities.

Once we have found our faith, let us encourage others to “choose which God they will serve.” Punitive and exclusionary treatment based on religious faiths must never be justified.

Let the government build roads, and let God build people.

*Rev. Dr. Erika D. Crawford*

# Editorial

## **The Separation of Church and State: A Primer for the UCICC's May 18<sup>th</sup> Meeting – ACLU: Church & State**

*by Rev. Carmine Pernini*

The First Amendment reads, “Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.” Therein lie the “establishment clause” and the “free exercise clause” which help define American Democracy on the one hand and American Religion on the other. The establishment clause, according to Cornell Law, “...not only forbids the government from establishing an official religion, but also prohibits government actions that unduly favor one religion over another. It also prohibits the government from unduly preferring religion over non-religion, or non-religion over religion([https://www.law.cornell.edu/wex/establishment\\_clause](https://www.law.cornell.edu/wex/establishment_clause)).” The free exercise clause allows Americans to accept religious belief and expressions but also allows for the violation of laws based on religious reasons. The ambiguity of the establishment and free exercise clauses keeps the courts busy, yet it is the gray areas and resultant tensions therein that American Democracy, not Theocracy, blossoms. Yet another stricture on the delicate dance between establishment and exercise is the 1954 “Johnson Amendment” which prohibits tax-exempt organizations from endorsing or opposing political candidates which extends to churches and other nonprofits organizations with 501(c) tax exemptions.

Debates concerning whether or not religion should have more or less political sway are usually focused on how a religious institution or leader may feel encumbered or “muzzled” regarding political matters. I can only speak now from personal reflection and experience since I am neither a constitutional scholar nor am I an attorney.

I am a Lutheran pastor. My tradition, Lutheranism, has paid a good deal of attention to the affect of political transgression into religious territory and vice versa. In so doing history seems to tell us that both politics and religion, when intimately intertwined, distort each other in significant ways so as to transform both into unrecognizable vestiges where neither “political” nor “religious” accurately describe the new entity that the intermingling has produced. Most religions look down on compelling people to believe. More, the state, when understood as divinely ordained by any religion, has typically produced abominable conditions for believers and atheists alike.

Yet, I find myself, as a religious leader, concerned with the perception of a church, synagogue, or mosque which is funded by a political candidate or party. The specter of such a marriage would inevitably produce unholy offspring. If a religious institution were to accept “dark money” to shill for a politician, which the Johnson Amendment listed above expressly prohibits, then whatever dwindling authority religious institutions have would be diminished even further. As it stands, if a religious leader condemns or praises a policy or politician then you or I have only to be concerned with the critique or accolades without having to worry about whether or not the religious leader is on the take.

The Johnson Amendment was threatened by then candidate Donald Trump during the 2016 presidential campaign. The “wall of separation,” perhaps the one wall that our current president is interested in tearing down, protects the integrity of religious institutions and leaders as well as Democracy and its leaders from being blinded by delusions of divine self-aggrandizement which would consequently result in an even greater lack of humility and critical assessment. Now, I am not suggesting that humility and self-criticism are alien to religion, they are in fact central, but we all know what happens when Presidents start proclaiming, “Deus vult!” If your Latin is rusty I am referring to the battle cry of the Crusades and the crusaders, “God wills it!”

On Thursday, May 18, 2017 at 7pm at First Presbyterian Church, 11 Springfield Ave., Cranford, NJ Rebecca Livengood, an attorney from the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) will present to the Union County Interfaith Coordinating Council on matters of the First Amendment, Free Speech, and Religious Freedom as well as give updates on how the ACLU has been working to defend Civil Liberties in the age of Trump. Please join us!

# Member Spotlight

## **The Reverend Canon Andy J. Moore**

*St. Elizabeth's Church, Elizabeth*



Father Andy Moore was born in Tobago in the Caribbean where he gained his primary and secondary education. He obtained a Bachelor's Degree in Theology from the University of the West Indies after attending Codrington College in Barbados the oldest Anglican seminary in the Western hemisphere. Fr. Andy was ordained a priest in on September 21st 1994 his birthday in the Diocese of Trinidad & Tobago.

His first assignment was assistant Curate at All Saints Church in Port Of Spain Trinidad with a dual focus on youth ministry and Hospital chaplaincy at the Port-Of-Spain General Hospital the largest in the country.

In September 1996 he was appointed Rector of St. Christopher's Parish which comprised of five(5) churches and two church Schools. During his stint, he was able to build a new church in one district while performing major renovation on others. He led a successful stewardship drive which reflected in an increase in active membership.

His pastoral experience was recognized by the United Society for The propagation of the Gospel (U.S.P.G) and was invited in 2000 to join an International team of missionaries in a program aimed at revitalizing churches in England and Wales.

In 2001, Fr. Andy and his wife, Natalie, migrated to the U.S.A where he assumed duties as chaplain of St. Joseph's Church school in Queens NY, in the Diocese of Long Island. In 2003, Fr. Andy became the first African American to be appointed as Director of the International Seafarer's Center of The Seamen's Church Institute of NY&NJ, an Episcopal affiliated ministry. He managed staff and volunteers who provided extensive ministry to the thousands of seafarers arriving within the largest Port complex on the east coast of the U.S. During his stint he was able to expand ministry to the newly developed Passenger Cruise Ship Terminals.

In search of new goals, he accepted the call as Rector of St. Elizabeth's Church located in the Historic city of Elizabeth N.J. He was installed as the third Rector of the church on April 19, 2009. Father Andy was installed as a Canon by the Diocese of Trinidad & Tobago in 2014.

Canon Andy is married to Natalie, who is the Clinical Nutrition Manager at the Veteran Affairs Hospital in East Orange, NJ, and is the proud father of Jerome, Adia, and Zara.

# May Spotlight on Faith: Episcopal

**The Rev. Canon Andy J. Moore, Rector**

*St. Elizabeth Episcopal Church - 305 N. Broad Street – Elizabeth, New Jersey*

The mission of St. Elizabeth's Church is to grow deeper in faith to serve the risen Christ in all that we do in addition to growing and supporting our congregation and community. We are a multicultural church committed to worship and prayer in the Anglican tradition, developing leaders of faith through the study of scripture, support spiritual development of our youth, the build our community, witnessing of faith, and services to others.

We believe we are uniquely located at the corner of Broad and Chestnut Streets were we illuminate our community. Central to our ministries proclaiming the love of Christ Jesus in meaningful and practical ways, *we provide a wealth of resources to engage and inform residents and transform lives. Among the many programs we offer:*

## **Mentoring for Teenage Mothers**

This outreach is championed by our Episcopal Church Women (ECW) to provide household items and toiletries, mentoring and counseling services to teenage mothers who currently reside in a community home in Elizabeth.

## **Operation Warm Heart**

In partnership with other church the Elizabeth Coalition to House the Homeless, we serve as a monthly host site during the winter months for homeless individuals in need of shelter, food and clothing. Each winter the program serves well over 100 individuals through Operation Warm Heart, and has been able to effect lasting changes in many lives. The Coalition provides intensive case management in order to move clients from the streets to more traditional shelter, with the goal of permanent housing with social supports.

## **Adult Computer Literacy**

A significant part of the Mission of St. Elizabeth Church is to provide educational activities that will enable individuals the opportunity to develop economic self-sufficiency. This is the motivating reason St. Elizabeth implemented a Computer Literacy & Employment Readiness Program for the residents of our community.

## **English as a Second Language (ESL)**

At St. Elizabeth's, the ESL program is dedicated to Haitian refugees who arrived in the U.S. following the devastating earthquake. To date we are serving over 60 participants from various diverse nationalities such as Africa, Turkey, Iran, Ecuador, Uruguay, Haiti and El Salvador. The purpose of the ESL program is to increase the English language proficiency helping individuals develop their speaking, reading, writing, and listening skills.

## **Thanksgiving Meal**

Every year we provide thanksgiving meals for multiple families in our community through donations of groceries and canned goods.

## **Toys for Tots**

Every year we collect toys to bring the joy of Christmas to under-privilege children in our community during the birth of Christ celebration.

Other opportunities to engage the community include regular hospital and prison visitations, flea markets, International Food Festival, Advent luncheon, Shrove Tuesday pancake supper, youth events, jazz festivals and gospel concerts, and prayer breakfasts hosted by the Episcopal Church Women and Men's Club.



***Save the Date!***  
***May 18, 2017***

***You are Invited to Join the Union County Interfaith Coordinating Council for:***

**A brief time of Interfaith Prayer**

**Followed by a discussion on the topic:**

**Church & State:  
The 1st Amendment & Religious Freedom**

**First Presbyterian Church  
11 Springfield Avenue • Cranford, NJ**

**6:00P—7:30P**

**Light Refreshments will be provided ~ Sign-in begins at 5:30P**

**Special Guest Speaker:**

**Rebecca Livengood**  
*(Attorney, ACLU)*



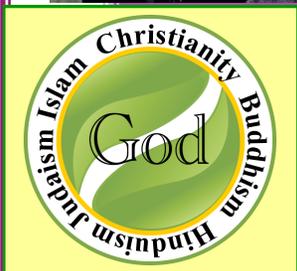
80 West Grand Street  
Elizabeth, NJ 07202  
(908) 354-3040

***Please Reserve Now!***  
E-mail or phone your RSVP to:  
UCInterfaith@caunj.org  
(908) 354-3040 x4324

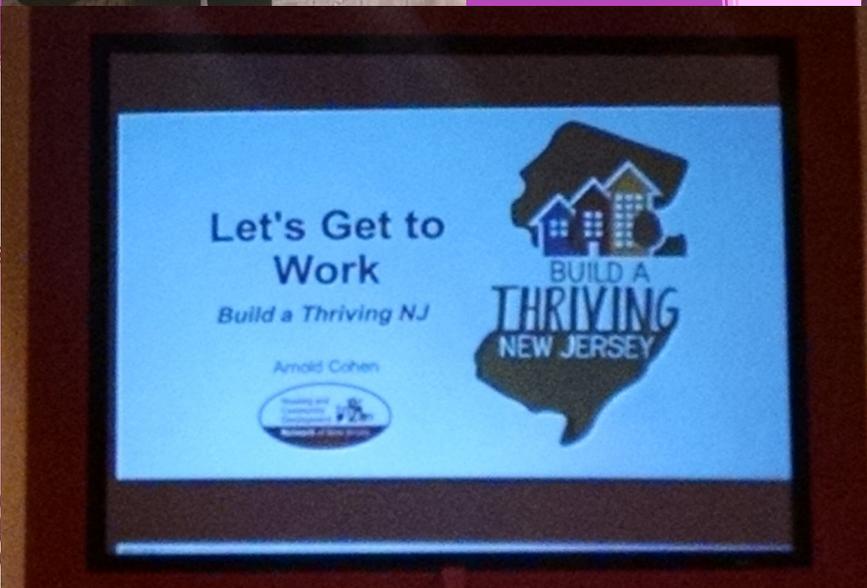
Members of UCICC join other members of the community for several social justice rallies during the month,

# FAITH IN ACTION!

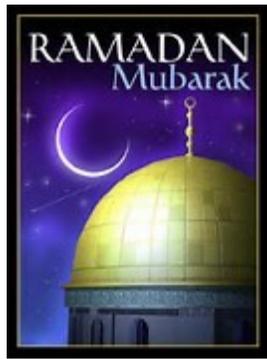
No importa de dónde eres, estamos contentos que seas nuestro vecino.  
No matter where you are from, we're glad you're our neighbor.  
هم اين ولدتم، ولكننا بعداء انكم جيراننا.



**UCICC hosts and supports the Union County Housing Summit on March 29th at Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Springfield.**



Email your photos and a summary caption to [UCInterfaith@caunj.org](mailto:UCInterfaith@caunj.org) by the 11th of each month.



## *All About the Holy Month of Ramadan*

by Abdus-Samad Ali Siddiqui

Muslim Community Center of Union County, Elizabeth, NJ

You may have heard the term *Ramadan* at some point in your daily lives. Perhaps you have a colleague or an acquaintance who is Muslim, or perhaps you've heard the term on the news. If you don't really know what *Ramadan* is, but you'd like to know, keep reading!

*Ramadan* is the ninth month of the Islamic calendar, and Muslims believe that it was in this month that the Holy Qur'an was revealed to the Holy Prophet Muhammad (upon whom be peace). In commemoration of this miraculous event, Muslims abstain from all food and drink (including water), as well as intimate relations during daylight hours. Muslims also abstain from any poor behavior at this time, as well. Muslims believe that Satan is locked away at this time and the gates of Hell are closed. This means that any bad actions that someone performs are purely their own responsibility, but fortunately the Lord is most generous with his infinite Mercy during this time.

Basically, the idea is to be the best version of yourself and to seek forgiveness for any sins you may have committed during the remaining months of the year.

Fasting is meant to be a spiritual purification through physical means. By keeping oneself focused on their Creator while denying themselves the basic necessities of survival, one may possibly achieve an elevated spiritual connection with their Creator. Muslims pray their five daily prayers, perform remembrance of their Lord through *zhikr* (repeating short devotional phrases a set number of times using prayer beads, in a manner similar to the Holy Rosary in Catholic traditions) and many try to read the entire Qur'an (all 114 chapters spread across 30 sections) before the end of the month. It is also customary to perform supererogatory (voluntary) prayers. One of these prayers, called *Taraweeh*, is performed after the night prayer, *'Isha*. It usually takes one to one and a half hours every night.

Fasting during the month of *Ramadan* is incumbent upon all those who have reached puberty, provided that they have no medical issues that prevent them from doing so safely. There are categories of people who are excused from fasting—those that have a reason of medical necessity (those that are diabetic, pregnant, breastfeeding, or menstruating), children that have not reached maturity, those that are traveling, and the very old who cannot safely fast due to their advanced age. Those that cannot fast may perform expiation for missed days by making up the days missed after *Ramadan* is over, or by feeding a poor person daily for the number of missed days.

The Islamic calendar is lunar—similar to the Hebrew calendar, which is lunisolar—and so, Muslims eagerly await the sighting of the new moon signifying the start of *Ramadan*, and they greet each other with the phrase *Ramadan Mubarak*, which means “have a blessed Ramadan”.

Muslims wake before dawn to eat breakfast (called *suhur* in Arabic). They are permitted to eat and drink anything that is normally permissible during this time, until dawn, when they make the intention to fast for that day. During the day, Muslims who are fasting go about their daily business as usual. Part of the significance of fasting for Muslims is that, from outside, nobody should be able to tell that they are fasting. At sunset, Muslims break their fast with another meal (called *'iftar* or *fatoor* in Arabic). During the hours of the night, they may eat and drink as they wish. Intimate relations are permitted between husband and wife, but many Muslims will stay awake during the night to perform voluntary acts of worship.

The month of *Ramadan* is divided into thirds, called *asharas* (Arabic for “tens”). The first ten days are the days of divine mercy. The second ten days are of divine forgiveness, and the last ten days are divine protection from the fires of Hell. Muslims will perform different supplications during the different *asharas* of *Ramadan*. As the end of the month approaches, Muslims increase the number of acts of worship they perform, especially at the apex of the month, which is the 27th of *Ramadan*, called *Lailat-ulQadr* (the Night of Power). Muslims believe that staying awake and praying on this night is better than praying for 1,000 months!

Around the 29th day of *Ramadan*, the same people that sighted the new moon signifying the start of the month try to sight the new moon for the end of Ramadan. If the new moon is not sighted on the 29th night, then fasting ends after the 30th day of the month. Preparations for the feast at the end of Ramadan, called Eid-al-Fitr (Festival of Fast-Breaking) begin near the end of the month. On the day of Eid-al-Fitr, families will invite each other for an elaborately laid breakfast and friends will visit each other throughout the day. A prayer service is held early in the morning. Parents and older relatives give gifts to younger children, and people wear their best clothes. Women from Pakistan and India will decorate their hands and feet with mehndi (henna dye). It is a time of great celebration and joy for everyone involved.

If you know or see a Muslim during the month of Ramadan, feel free to give them the traditional greeting of Ramadan Mubarak, as well as wish them a safe and productive month with a satisfying conclusion. If you have the opportunity, participate in a communal 'iftar' or try fasting with a Muslim friend for a day! You may see what makes Ramadan so special firsthand. We thank you for your support and appreciate the fact that you have taken the time to learn about such an important part of our faith (and our lives) every year.

*Remembering and Celebrating  
All Mothers this  
Mother's Day.*

*May 14, 2017*



## *A Mother...*

When you're a child,  
She walks before you,  
To set an example.

When you're a teenager,  
She walks behind you,  
To be there in case you need her.

When you're an adult,  
She walks beside you,  
So that as two friends,  
You can enjoy life together.

*Author Unknown.*

*Happy Mother's Day!*

... for my nation ...



first thursday of may  
[www.nationaldayofprayer.org](http://www.nationaldayofprayer.org)

**Thursday,  
May 4, 2017**

**Join with  
millions  
in prayer for  
America!**

## SALAM-PEACE-SHALOM!

Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in *Stride Toward Freedom: The Montgomery Story*, "Where Do We Go From Here," said, "Human progress is neither automatic nor inevitable. Even a superficial look at history reveals that no social advance rolls in on the wheels of inevitability. Every step towards the goal of justice requires sacrifice, suffering, and struggle; the tireless exertions and passionate concern of dedicated individuals. Without persistent effort, time itself becomes an ally of the insurgent and primitive forces of irrational emotionalism and social destruction. This is no time for apathy or complacency. This is a time for vigorous and positive action."

Ours is a time for vigorous and positive action. Ours is a time of resistance. So many people, from seasoned organizers to first time demonstrators, have taken to the streets, picked up the phone to call elected officials, and begun the long sojourn of four to eight years of faithful resistance.

As people of faith, we have a moral imperative to give voice to the voiceless, stand for those who have been beaten down, and shine light into those places of darkness in our communities.

**Faith in New Jersey** has had a leading role in providing outlets for religious leaders and faith communities to live out their moral mandate to embrace the stranger and care for the immigrant, the refugee, the forgotten, and the disenfranchised. From organizing sanctuary cities, congregations, and communities of support to bringing over one-hundred and fifty clergy, US senators, and people of conscience together to help stay the deportation of Catalino Guerrero, an undocumented immigrant from Union City, NJ who has lived in the US for over twenty years, **Faith in NJ** has embraced King's call for vigorous and positive action.

**The time for prophetic resistance and concerted action is now!**



Presents

# NO ONE STANDS OR FIGHTS ALONE

500 Clergy leaders and members of many faith traditions will be sharing, testifying, and advocating to advance immigration reform, racial and socio-economic justice towards the realization of the beloved community. Lift up your voice so that our community, public officials and families can hear our prophetic witness during this time of "irrational emotionalism and social destruction."

BETHANY BAPTIST CHURCH  
275 W. MARKET ST – NEWARK, NJ  
THURSDAY, MAY 4, 2017  
7:00PM – 9:00PM

*Faith in New Jersey works with clergy, faith leaders, community activists and allies in the Camden County, Middlesex County, Essex County and statewide to educate, organize and resist. We focus on local, county and statewide issues of economic, racial, immigration and social justice.*

Faith in New Jersey • 2770 Federal St Camden NJ 08105 [www.faithinnewjersey.org](http://www.faithinnewjersey.org)



**NEW BRUNSWICK**  
**THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY**

# THE WARREN DENNIS METRO-URBAN LECTURE SERIES

Building Transformative Ministries  
for a 21st Century Metro-Urban Context:  
The Next Steps

**Saturday • May 6 @ 10:00 am–2:00 pm**

**Keynote Speaker:**

**The Rev. Dr. Katie Day,**

Charles A. Schieren Professor of Church and Society  
The Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia

The ministerial needs of the metro-urban community create great demand for leaders who are skilled and equipped to address the various issues that prohibit human flourishing in urban communities. This year's Warren Dennis lecture will address these issues and provide pastors, institutional chaplains, and not-for-profit urban practitioners with new ideas for addressing the challenges encountered in a metro-urban context.

Following the keynote, there will be a panel discussion of representatives from organizations who are doing innovative ministry in the areas of hunger, poverty, homelessness, criminal justice, environment, and healthcare.



Admission is free, but registration is required. Lunch will be Served.  
Please RSVP to [deansoffice@nbts.edu](mailto:deansoffice@nbts.edu) by Friday, April 28.

New Jersey Campus: 35 Seminary Place, New Brunswick, NJ 08901 • 732.247.5241  
[www.nbts.edu](http://www.nbts.edu) • [fb.me/1784nbts](https://fb.me/1784nbts) • [@nbts1784](https://twitter.com/nbts1784)



Mayor Adrian O. Mapp  
 Plainfield City Council  
 Plainfield Division of Parks and Recreation



# Faith Leaders as Champions of Change:

**ADDICTION IS NOT A MORAL FAILING, BUT AN ILLNESS**

A two part series workshop on Drug Addiction and the Family

**PART I: THURSDAY, MAY 11, 2017**

2.0 CEUS WILL BE AWARDED

**PART II: THURSDAY, MAY 25, 2017**

2.0 CEUS WILL BE AWARDED

6:00 PM TO 8:30 PM

**NEW COVENANT CHURCH**

225 EAST 7TH STREET, PLAINFIELD, NJ 07060

GUEST PRESENTER

**DERRICK WATKINS, MSW**

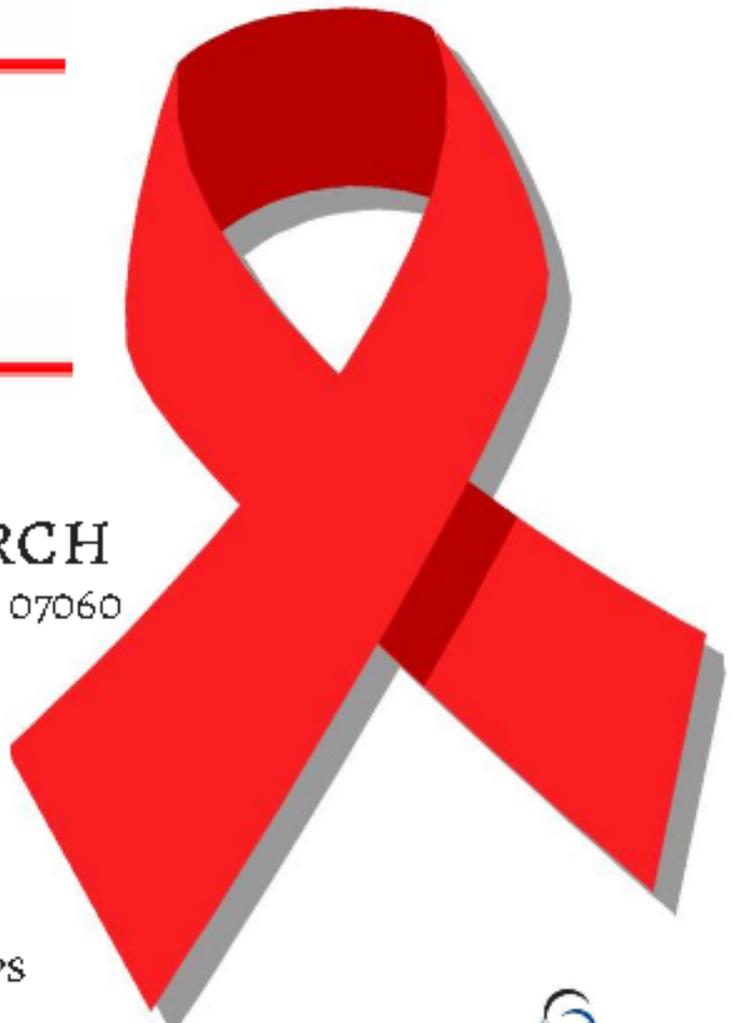
REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED

RSVP BY MAY 4, 2017 TO PAUL PHILLIPS

908-753-3097

## A PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN

- New Covenant Church • Plainfield Municipal Alliance
- Plainfield Office of Community Development
- Plainfield Division of Parks and Recreation
- Plainfield Office of Community Relations and Social Services



A SERVICE OF THE UNION COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS



**UNION COUNTY**  
*We're Connected to You!*

PROCEEDS BENEFIT LOCAL CHARITIES

## Music with a Mission!



### SALEM Roadhouse CAFE

#### 2017 SHOW LINEUP



- FEBRUARY 11 - MICHAELA McCLAIN BAND** Original rock/pop tunes with a jazzy overtone, her music is hot, intelligent and extremely well crafted. Amazing musicianship on the part of each member of the band.
- MARCH 11 - PIKTORS METAMORPHOSIS** Fusion jazz/rock ala Weather Report & others, technically brilliant with a HUGE sound, these guys define fusion. To see it performed right in front of you is a treat!
- APRIL 8 - RICH KUBICZ, DAMN THE TORPEDOES & FRIENDS** Various rock performers in an energetic show that is always fun and exciting. Tom Petty tributes plus Rich's originals and covers of other classic rock tunes.
- MAY 13 - JAMES DEAN'S WHISKEY CAFÉ JAZZ QUARTET** Pure jazz quartet with big band sound, these are some very seasoned jazz musicians who come together to bring out some of the finest big jazz band sounds.
- JUNE 10 - JOE LISA & QUARTET** High quality modern jazz with some fusion overtones—more details coming!
- JULY 8 - GEOFF GALLANTE & TRIO** Geoff's fourth return to the Roadhouse, this young star mesmerizes audiences with his naturally talented trumpet playing accompanied by an all-star backup band.
- AUGUST 12 - RIVA JEAN TRIO**, the thinking mans trio, with opening by vocal sensation **SAM BRADY**. Riva Jean brings a big Broadway sound to the small stage with amazing composition and performance.
- SEPTEMBER 9- RAY POWERS AND FRIENDS** Original and covers, rock, pop and other styles, Ray and friends always deliver a fun, exciting and energetic show. This years show will have talented players from all around to liven up the stage.
- OCTOBER 14 - MELANIE MITRANO** Brazilian/Portuguese jazz that's cool, sassy and sexy. Melanie has captured the essence of the Brazilian Bossa Nova style, with a salsa overtone. Melanie says that she will have musicians from Brazil on hand to accompany her and the band.
- NOVEMBER 11 - TBA** We're working on something really big here, keep watching.

*Shh!* The Roadhouse may be the best-kept secret in Northern New Jersey — the area's best jazz, rock, and even the occasional folkie in an intimate coffeehouse venue. The Roadhouse only opens to the public on the second Saturday evening of the month. It's where the area's musicians go to hear other musicians, and you might find yourself sitting next to a famous jazz drummer or a vocalist from Australia. You never know.

Musicians love the audience that takes the time to find the Roadhouse, and when musicians love their audience, they play their hearts out. Why does it take time to find the Roadhouse? We've cleverly hidden it in a church basement, where audience and musicians are within touching distance of each other. The acoustics are great.

The Roadhouse serves real coffee and tea — it's a *coffeehouse*, not a bar, after all. Hot and cold snacks and desserts are included in the admission. There's art, too, because art and music go together. You can sip your coffee while perusing original works available for purchase at the Roadhouse Fine Arts Gallery. Works change with each opening. Show proceeds always benefit local charities. Union TV34 records the shows for broadcast — so check out past shows on cable. Ask around. You might be surprised to find who knows about the Roadhouse.



**UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED, ALL SHOWS BEGIN AT 8:00 PM, DOORS OPEN AT 7:30 PM**

**SALEM Roadhouse CAFE @ Townley Presbyterian Church**  
829 Salem Road, Union, NJ 07083 Ph: 908-686-1028  
E-mail: salemroadhouse@gmail.com Website: www.roadhousecafe.org  
Facebook: facebook.com/salemroadhouse

*No importa de dónde eres,  
estamos contentos que seas  
nuestro vecino.*

No matter where you are  
from, we're glad you're  
our neighbor.

لا يهم اين ولدتم، و لكننا  
سعداء انكم جيراننا.



Perhaps you have seen these signs  
scattered around on the lawns of  
houses of worship, social service pro-  
viders, or private citizens...

We are living in a time when more  
than ever we must show our love for our neighbors in the face of an in-  
creasing climate of hate.

Signs are available for order locally for \$15, a portion of which will sup-  
port efforts of sanctuary in New Jersey.

More information about the signs can be found at  
<https://www.facebook.com/welcomeyourneighbors/>

**“We’re glad you’re our neighbor” signs — \$15**

**Available from Pastor Kathryn Irwin**

**PastorKatIrwin@gmail.com**

**610-780-0141**

*A portion of each sign sale goes to support sanctuary efforts in New Jersey.*

**SAVE THE DATE!**

# Day of Prayer and Reflection: Unifying Our Community Through Prayer

## Union County Day of Prayer

October 24, 2017

7:00 PM - 8:00 PM

The Parish Community of St. Helen  
1600 Rahway Avenue, Westfield, NJ



*Working to facilitate the building of bonds within the interfaith community,  
promoting the respect, inclusion and welcoming of others.*

Sponsored by:  
Union County Interfaith Coordinating Council  
and Community Access Unlimited

## Faith Community and Hate Crimes: Taking Action

If your faith community becomes the recipient of hateful actions, including letters, e-mails or phone calls of concern, which may be considered a bias incident or hate crime:

1. Call local police
2. Call FBI 973 793 3000
3. Call OHSP's (Office of Homeland Security) Counter Terrorism Watch at 609- 963-6817 or John Paige at 973- 277-0651

If you receive overseas email from unknown sources, please use caution and wear gloves when opening up mail.

**MAKE INTERFAITH WORK.**

**PLEASE SHARE THIS IMPORTANT INFORMATION  
WITH FAITH GROUPS IN YOUR COMMUNITY.**



## JOIN OUR TEAM!

Community Access Unlimited welcomes those with a big heart! Due to our continuing expansion, there are a number of **full time** and **part time** openings for those interested in guiding people with disabilities and youth at risk who are on the road to independence.

For those looking for part-time positions, CAU offers available house on the weekends and overnights! Minimum requirements are:

- Valid driver's license
- Access to vehicle daily to use for work purpose
- Original High School Diploma/GED/College Degree

Experience working with individuals with developmental disabilities and/or youth at risk are a plus! Of course compassion for the work and a flexible schedule is also required when providing support to our members.

Working at CAU is not just a job but a career! We offer promotional opportunities for employees, competitive salaries and a comprehensive benefits package to full time employees!

Please take the time to visit our agency website [www.cauni.org](http://www.cauni.org) for more information and current openings. Community Access Unlimited is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

**CAU Hosts a weekly Open House Mondays from 4 PM -6 PM**

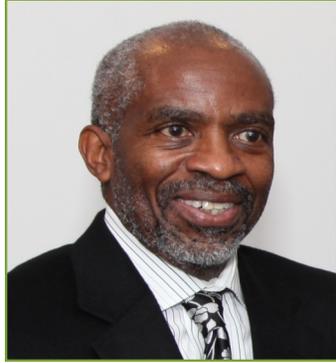
The Cafeteria at 80 West Grand Street, Elizabeth, NJ 07202  
Don't forget your resume and come prepared to fill out an application

To make an appointment, please call an HR representative at (908) 354-3040 ext 203. If you are unable to attend the open house, please fax resume to (908) 354-0283 or email to [rwright@cauni.org](mailto:rwright@cauni.org).

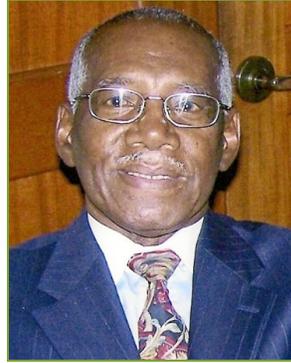
# UCICC Outreach Coordinating Team



*Sidney Blanchard,  
Executive Director  
Community Access Unlimited  
sblanchard@caunj.org*



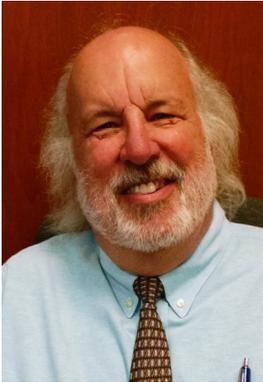
*Roderick (Rod) Spearman  
UCICC Interfaith Coordinator  
rspearman@caunj.org*



*Pastor Howard A. Bryant,  
UCICC Interfaith Coordinator  
hbryant@caunj.org*



*Pastor Carmine Pernini  
UCICC Interfaith Coordinator  
cpernini@caunj.org*



*AH 'Skip' Winter  
UCICC Steering  
Committee Member*



*Michelle Mobley  
CAU Director of Youth  
Service Residential  
mmobley@caunj.org*



*Cynthia Manno  
UCICC Administrative Assistant  
cmanno@caunj.org*

## Join & Be Active Today!

- Attend monthly meetings.
- Invite other community leaders to attend our meetings and events.
- Support or host fundraising programs to support the Record Expungement Grant Program.
- Sign up for our mailing list.
- Share useful information about your organization.

### Advertise in the UCICC Newsletter!

Have an exciting event or program happening?

Reach out and build bonds with members of the interfaith community in Union County by advertising in this newsletter!

Please send all print-ready ads to Rod Spearman at [rspearman@caunj.org](mailto:rspearman@caunj.org) by the **13th** of every month to save a space!



Union County Interfaith Coordinating Council c/o Community Access Unlimited  
80 West Grand Street, Elizabeth, NJ 07202  
Phone: (908) 354-3040 x4324 • Email: [UCInterfaith@caunj.org](mailto:UCInterfaith@caunj.org)

[www.facebook.com/UnionCountyInterfaithCoordinatingCouncil](http://www.facebook.com/UnionCountyInterfaithCoordinatingCouncil)



NON-PROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
**U.S. POSTAGE**  
**PAID**  
PERMIT 225  
Elizabeth, NJ

80 West Grand Street  
Elizabeth, NJ 07202  
Phone: 908-354-3040 TTY/TTD: 908-354-4629  
Fax: 908-354-2665 www.caunj.org

**Community Access Unlimited's Mission:** *To provide community access through effective and comprehensive support services for people with disabilities and at-risk youth, giving them the opportunity to live independently and to lead normal and productive lives in the community.*

## UCICC & STEERING COMMITTEE UPCOMING EVENTS

### **UCICC Steering Committee**

May 4, 2017 at 10:00am  
80 W Grand St  
Elizabeth NJ 07202

### **UCICC Steering Committee**

June 1, 2017 at 10:00am  
80 W Grand St  
Elizabeth NJ 07202

### **UCICC Steering Committee**

July 6, 2017 at 10:00am  
80 W Grand St  
Elizabeth NJ 07202

### **Full UCICC Event**

**ACLU: "Church and State"**  
May 18, 2017 - 6 -7:30 PM  
**First Presbyterian Church**  
11 Springfield Avenue Cranford, NJ

### **Full UCICC Event**

**Prison Ministry: Reaching the Forgotten**  
June 15, 2017 - 6 -7:30 PM  
**Fountain Baptist Church**  
16 Glenside Avenue Summit, NJ

### **Full UCICC Event**

**Interfaith Outdoor Prayer Service**  
July 20, 2017 - 6:30PM—7:30PM  
**First United Methodist Church**  
117 Ferris Place Westfield, NJ



Rod Spearman  
Union County Interfaith Coordinating Council  
c/o Community Access Unlimited  
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